

Gold Boats on The Swan

The Story of Ben Stanley Revett, Gold Dredger

By Belle Turnbull*

At the time that the material for use in writing about Revett was first examined, a number of papers were kept for reference. Of other papers, notes were made and the papers returned to Mrs. Melissa Hayden. At the time, since the objective was to use the notes for background in a story, notes were made sometimes without much attention to dates and sources, though they were kept in chronological order by year, only.

For color and background the author is deeply indebted to the following, not one of whom is still living in 1962: George Robinson, dredgemaster, and later County Treasurer of Summit County and Mayor of Breckenridge; Mrs. Melissa Hayden, widow of Revett's secretary, and herself Clerk of the District Court for many years; and George Robert Johnson, mining engineer, who permitted my presence on a gold dredge against the wishes of his swing shift crew, to whom a woman on board was anathema. Mr. Johnson's explanations of the operation of a gold dredge were lucid and helpful, even to a woman author.

Thanks are also due to Gordon Goodridge, who dug in the Summit County records for data on placer grounds.—*Author.*

In the history of deep mining for gold in Colorado, Ben Stanley Revett ranks as First Gold Dredger. Not only was he the first to carry through the financing, the building, and the management of the first dredge in Colorado to dig for gold; his resourcefulness and bulldog tenacity drove him on, year after year, to finish what he had begun: to find the best possible method of driving to bedrock and to bring up the gold. And against every obstacle that gold dredging in the high Rockies presents to those who attempt it, that was what he did.

The gold was there, all right. To quote from F. L. Ransome's definitive work on the geology of the Breckenridge District: "Virtually every gulch in the . . . District leading down from auriferous deposits has yielded gold. . . . On the Swan and the French creeks thickness of gold-bearing gravel is hardly over 50 feet to bedrock."¹

It was a long road that Revett traveled from its beginning in Asia to its end in Colorado. He was born in 1858 in Calcutta, where his father was a chaplain in the British Army in India.²

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¹Belle Turnbull, though a native of Hamilton, New York, and a graduate of Vassar College, long ago adopted Colorado as her home state. She retired early from teaching English in the Colorado Springs High School and in 1940 moved to Breckenridge, Colorado, a small mining town in the high Rockies. Since then three books by her have been published: *Goldboat*, a narrative poem; *The Far Side of the Hill*, a novel; and *The Tenuile Range*, a collection of poems. Now in her later years she reads, says she plays "a noxious form of solitaire," and works double-crosses more than she writes.—*Editor.*

²Frederick Leslie Ransome, "Geology and Ore Deposits of the Breckenridge District, Colorado," Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey, Professional Paper No. 75 (Wash.: G.P.O. 1911), 9.

³Trevor G. Thomas, "The Revett Story," *Summit County Journal*, May 29, 1953.

His mother, born Isabel Bruce, was a Scotswoman, in direct line of descent from the redoubtable Robert Bruce. His first journeys were forth and back from India to England, where, following the usual custom of English gentlefolk abroad, he was sent to school. It is probable that his vocation in life was self-chosen. He was graduated from the Royal School of Mines in London, though his choice was bitterly opposed by his music teacher, who was training his excellent tenor voice for a career in opera.³

The date of Revett's first appearance in North America is not of record, but according to Trevor F. Thomas he came to inspect the Cashe Placer, sent by an English company.⁴ From that time on Revett was frequently associated with English folk who had interests in gold mining all over the world.

His first association shown in the Revett papers was in 1889, as manager of the Twin Lakes Hydraulic Mining Syndicate, Limited, a London corporation. Its offices were at Granite, a somewhat grim hamlet between the Arkansas River and the Sawatch range on the southern edge of Lake County, Colorado.⁵ The workings of the syndicate were several miles upstream, just west of the Twin Lakes; its purpose, to wash down the terrace gravels of that location.

In that same year of 1889, Revett visited the Breckenridge District of Summit County, where the search for values had never more than hesitated since the days of the Fifty-niners, and not seldom with spectacular results.⁶ It was early in the year of Revett's visit that a rich strike was made in the Ontario mine on Farncomb Hill, at mention of which even now old-timers prick up their ears. Here was a challenge to a young mining engineer of courage and imagination. Here, at bedrock must lie gold in gravels yet, because of their depth, unexplored, pushed in the Glacial period from the Hill downward along old channels.

Revett went back to his job with the Twin Lakes Syndicate to bide his time.

Letters from the Syndicate's office in London dated from 1890 to 1893, run from high hopes to liquidation; the later ones indicate dissatisfaction on both sides.⁷ A letter, three-paged,

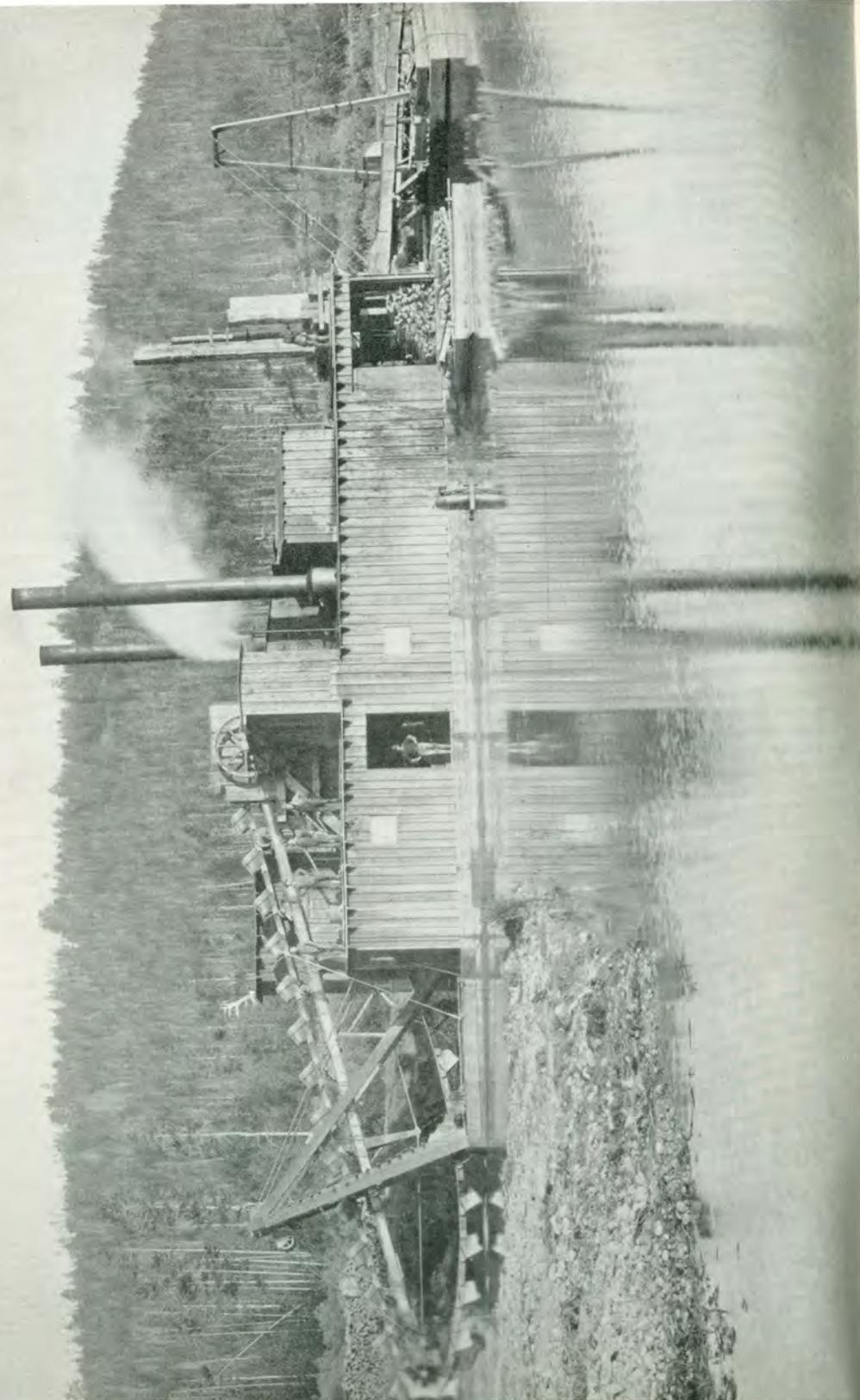
³ *Ibid.*

⁴ Ed Auge, "History of Mining in the Breckenridge District," Mss.

⁵ Granite, (50 population), Chaffee County, an old gold-mining camp, dates from the late 1860's; it was surveyed in 1876 by W. H. Bradt, and recorded February 17, 1883. The town was probably named for the barren, rocky granite outcroppings in the vicinity. In 1868, it was declared the seat of Lake County; and in 1879, after the formation of Chaffee County, it was chosen as temporary seat for the new county.—"Place Names in Colorado," *The Colorado Magazine*, Vol. XVIII, No. 2 (March, 1941), 67.

⁶ Revett Papers, 1889 ff.

⁷ The Revett Papers contain a host of letters received, but few copies of replies.





Ben Stanley Revett with a "customer" coming off Farncomb Hill

dated March 3, 1892, and addressed to B. S. Revett, Western Hospital, Fulham, England, written in the handsome clerkly longhand of the period on the paper 8½ by 14 inches, contains among other matters rebuttal of Revett's charges that he was underpaid. There also is a long-winded criticism of his too soft handling of a case of high grading from the sluices (in which gold was saved). The letter makes no mention of the reason why their manager was in an English hospital, but letters from a friend, then, and in later years, refer to his "knee trouble."

Revett's resignation from the managership of the Twin Lakes Syndicate was early in 1893, the syndicate being then in liquidation. A letter of acceptance of his resignation was dated March 8, 1893. It was signed by V. H. Smith, Liquidator, registered, and addressed to Mr. B. S. Revett, Passenger, per RMS Majestic of Queentown.

Travels from Georgia to Alaska

There is nothing in the letters to indicate what was Revett's next move. Mrs. Melissa Hayden, widow of his secretary, was of the opinion that he went directly from England to inspect placer grounds in British Columbia. But there are letters received by him during that year of 1893 and from then on, ranging from Georgia to Alaska. These letters teemed with offers to let him in on fabulous discoveries of precious metal.

Other letters received by him that year show that he had

under consideration operations in certain placers around Murray, Idaho. There is no evidence to show that he became associated with these properties, one of which was named the Blossom Lake placer. Toward the end of the year he accepted managership of the Coeur D'Alene placer, but for unknown reasons did not take that office.

Instead, he was for most of 1893, and for an unidentified time longer, the manager of John Champion's⁸ holdings on Farncomb in the District. He also was associated with the Griffin brothers of San Francisco, Frank and Maurice, members of a prominent family of San Francisco, in two great gold mining operations, the Boss and the Wapiti. He had become friends with them on a visit to the California placer grounds. During a visit which their charming sister, Mary Griffin, made to her brothers on the Hill, Revett met her for the first time. They were married in 1898.

If Mary was a charmer, Revett, according to his Breckenridge admirers, was magnetically attractive. He was no beauty in the conventional sense; his height was five feet seven, and he was pretty nearly as wide. But like many other men of that build he carried himself with such dignity as to emphasize his importance. His face was large and nobly featured, his hair and small mustache, golden, and cut in the grand style and together with his habit of dress meticulously groomed, even in those untidy places—tunnels, shafts, dredges—where gold is hunted down. Always in such places and in cities, too, he was marked by his white Stetson, his favorite wear, except for occasions of grandeur.⁹

Among the Revett records there is an enlarged photograph of himself driving a visitor down the steep and unimproved road off the Hill in a buggy built for two, drawn by two large white horses. Revett, in the togs of a mining engineer, weighs down the driver's side, and beside him, riding high and stiff in manifest discomfort, sits a personage in conventional black topped by a hard, black Derby hat.

Still another relic of Revett's avoirdupois is the account, highly savored by a fellow traveler, name withheld, of one of his sallies into Mexico hunting gold. Examination of a prospect was in progress, with Revett in the van, proceeding with his customary spacious tread. It so happened that a Mexican laborer quite near him, at work in a prospect hole, dropped his pick to watch the spectacle and uttered: "Holy Mother of God, when this hombre meets his death may it be near the graveyard."

⁸ John Francis Champion, one of the outstanding mining men of the West, came to Leadville about 1879. Many mining properties passed through his hands. He was General Manager of the Ibez Mining Company, a director of the Carbonate National Bank of Leadville, vice president of the Denver National Bank and of the Denver, Northwestern and Pacific Railway.

⁹ Descriptions by Mrs. Melissa Hayden and George Robinson.



Breckenridge, about 1890

Turns to Dredging

There is no direct proof in any of the surviving material that Revett's attention was turning to dredging for gold in the Breckenridge District until 1894, though there is little doubt that he had it in mind, since deep digging in a Montana field had begun in 1891.¹⁰ By that time every other method had been used in the Breckenridge District: by arastra, by panning, by rocker, by sluice and riffle, by boom, by tunneling, drifting, milling, and by Giants that washed down whole river benches. But as for using a dredge to bring up the precious stuff, that was considered unprofitable in a high mountain country crammed with rocks not only huge, not only packed by glaciers, but so deep in ancient channels as to resist whatever power then was in use in North America.

But Ben Stanley Revett had been cast in a different mould. He believed that this new method could be brought about. For all his smooth facade, he was a bulldog for tenacity, and unlike the bulldog he was resourceful and persuasive. And, besides all that, he knew a man who was working along the same line that he himself proposed to take. This man, who signed his letters "S. S. Harper," was managing the Bannock gold dredge. Harper, though a cautious man, thought such a venture as Revett proposed just might be successful, even under harder conditions than those he was working with.

Harper and Revett joined forces early in 1894, for the building and operation of deep mining.¹¹ Revett was chief promoter for their undertaking. Harper furnished his experience and acted wherever possible as a brake to his partner's enthusiasms. Two other partners are sometimes mentioned in Harper's letters, but by first name only. On April 14, 1894, a title bond was drawn up and duly signed by Ben Stanley Revett as party of the second part, for the sale of the Bedrock and the Williams placers in the Swan Creek placer grounds.¹² Other placer grounds mentioned in letters and elsewhere are the Rentheim, the Salt Lick, the Whipple, which last was still hanging fire in 1898, and may never have been acquired by Revett's company.

These purchases and others required a strong backing, and this backing was forthcoming. The list of persons ready and willing to furnish stately sums for Revett's projects would, if not destroyed, fill many pages. For in the art of promotion Revett was an adept. The background of his success in that line was at least threefold: first, as is well-known in the District, Revett never promoted a sale of stock in any undertaking which was not founded on proof of excellent prospects, or in which he did not believe himself. Second, he dealt only with

¹⁰ First dredge in use October 7, 1891, according to *Daily Independent*, Helena, Montana.

¹¹ Harper letters in Revett Papers.

¹² This bond is the only legal paper in the records now at hand which records the purchase by Revett or others. Recording of such transactions in county records was not required by placer law until 1905.



Rocky Mountain News
Benjamin Stanley Revett
Gold Dredge King

whom he called *strong people*. And third, his appearance of solidity and honorableness was not belied by results.

This does not mean that no criticisms were made from time to time by his associates as other traits in his character became apparent during the working out of his purposes. One of these was that his belief in whatever he was undertaking made too bright a glow, obscuring probable difficulties. A few words from an early prospectus issued undated should throw light on this trait of his:

As the process of dredging consists merely of raising gravel from bedrock to surface and washing same into short sluices, man will thus continue the design of Nature in the simplest manner and aid to a successful completion the work of enriching the world.

"Consists merely"—what words for even the least elaborate of the processes which the early gold dredges went through in order to bring up a digger full of gravel!

And there were other traits in Revett's character that will be dealt with later in this paper, which were displeasing to his associates.

Difficulties Arose

No dredging was done; no dredge, even begun in 1895. The whole year was taken up with examination of the ground. Difficulties arose, even in that process, that were not foreseen in any prospectus. One of them was the encounter with mammoth rocks that slowed up shafting operations. Though during that year exploration shifted to the use of an oil drill, the main objective—to reach bedrock at the mouth of Galena Gulch, where there must be rich deposits—was not reached.¹³

¹³ Revett Papers.

Colorado's First Gold Dredge

So it was not till 1896 that the first gold dredge to dig in Colorado ground was built and put into operation. It was a Risdon Company production. Its vital parts were made ready in the company's California plant, and since the Risdon company held stock in the dredge, it must have been the very best they could do at that time. Parts for the dredge were shipped from the San Francisco plant, by wide gauge to Denver; by narrow gauge from Denver to Dickey, a way station on the Blue, whose little stone building has now been scrapped to make way for Denver's new reservoir on the Western Slope; and by ox team from Dickey to their destination on the lower Swan.

Lumber for the building of the dredge was Oregon fir¹⁴ since no native timber was tough enough to take the terrific shaking which a dredge continually had to take. The dredge was built, and its machinery assembled in a pit dug for it close to the lower Swan. The boat was floated up as the pit filled and became a pond, fed by a ditch from the Swan, that furnished also the water for the boat's hydraulic system.

The Risdon, after the manner of gold dredges, was not built to move ahead at will; it was moored to the bottom of the pond by a spud driven through the back of the boat, and it was further held in place by cables running from its sides to the dead men, great logs buried in the banks to its left and right. On the command of the dredgemaster to *step*, the spud was hoisted and the cables to the dead men loosened, and the boat floated ahead to the distance determined upon, when it was again anchored and the digger, a huge shovel, set to work again.

To all concerned, from manager to dredgemaster to winchman to crew, and to the watchers on the shore, it was a tremendous day when the machinery was set in motion and the digger dipped for the first time and came up dripping and dribbling its first load of soil and rock and dumped it on its divided paths, to save the gold or to return via the stacker to the pond.¹⁵

The rejoicing was short-lived. Not for nothing is the area known as a hard rock district. Its rocks are igneous and strongly fused and right down to the gold-bearing gravels they are present. All too soon it was abundantly clear that the Risdon was too light for digging to bedrock. It bucked at thirty feet and could dig no deeper. Also, in spite of the testholes, which had shown bedrock as running from 10 to 30 feet down, actually it varied at from 30 to 50 feet.

That wasn't all, either. The stacker at the back of the dredge, that was supposed to dump the gangue and the disposable rocks

¹⁴ According to Revett Papers this was spelled "Oregon fur."

¹⁵ Revett Papers.

well away from the back of the boat, so as to form a tail behind it, was too short; the discarded stuff rolled back into the sump directly under the boat and raised the water line. The extent of the trouble was shown by the fact that the Risdon never made a cleanup. A copy of a telegram from Revett to his company read: "After three months we have been unable to reach bedrock tailings are unhandleable length of stacker must be doubled."

Nothing daunted by this failure, Revett induced his backer to put up the money for the financing of two new dredges furnished by the Bucyrus Company at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. It was still 1896, when these boats were set to digging. S. S. Harper's letters continually urged the sending of samples of free gold picked up from the test holes to the company's office. Whether this was done or not is not on record.

It is, however, suggested in an account set down verbatim by some unknown person, which contains a proposal that Revett send on to his backers samples of gold from a California placer to impress the company with a show of great results from the Swan diggings. That would have been not only dishonest but silly, since the gold of the Breckenridge District was entirely different from any California specimens.

The new dredges had stackers double the length of the first effort, and other improvements were made as the need for them came up, including increased steam power. But still results did not come up to expectation. As a consequence, clean-ups were made irregularly. One reason for this was, of course, that far too much gold went out through the stacker and was lost in the rock piles, for the simple mechanism of the early boats failed to save a high percentage of the gold.

In 1897, S. S. Harper transferred his holdings to Revett and withdrew. No reason for this move is in the records, and no further letters from him have been kept. One statement made by him in an early letter to Revett stands as one possible indication of a reason: "*Placers are the slowest sellers on earth.*" Certainly the whole history of Revett's ventures into deep mining sheds light on the matter. George Robinson, once Revett's winchman, said: "He (Revett) was always hard put to it to find money for running expenses." He added, "Probably Revett should not have built such an expensive house as Swan's Nest for his birds."

Home Life at Swan's Nest

It was on the first day of January, 1898, that Ben Stanley and Mary Griffin, the sister of Frank and Maurice Griffin, were married, and during that same year Revett built Swan's Nest, a handsome home for his wife, overlooking the Swan where it turns northwest for a short distance before entering

the Blue River. That house is known, for it still stands, as the house of the wide doors—not the usual folding doors that were still popular in the 1880's, but single doors, each wide enough so that the dignity of its owner need not suffer by his having to pass through its doorway sidewise. The house throughout is wide to match its master, with spacious rooms. The living-room, or hall, as it was called after the English manner for country estates, boasts a large fireplace. The tiles which framed it were of porcelain, each one fired to preserve the head of some famous Indian painted on it by Mary or her Stanley—her name for her husband.



Swan's Nest (1962) Built by Revett and Structurally Unchanged.
Now Hidden Valley Boys' Camp.

It was a costly house, the materials for which were brought from far places. Its billiard room, to name another splendor, boasted one slab of slate throughout its noble expanse. But for all this elegance the house fronts west to a hill that cuts off completely the view it should have of the valley of the Blue and the whole length of the Tenmile range beyond. Instead of that grandeur, it faces the long vista of rockpiles that hide even the Swan's final dash to meet the Blue. The inference is that what its owner most liked to see was one of his dredges digging gold.

From the time that Swan's Nest was ready for, and on during the whole of the Revetts' occupancy, they entertained

largely and lavishly. Their house was noted for the eminence of its guests and the elegance and richness of its dinners. Revett himself was a more than hearty eater, though not a heavy drinker. Choice wines were served in their proper sequence at their table, and Havanas that Breckenridge folk never fail to mention as having "cost a dollar each," were passed without stint.

Often after dinner there would be billiards for those gentlemen who preferred the game, or there would be music, with Revett's mellow tenor, enjoyed not only by his guests, but by patrons of the Denver Hotel bar in Breckenridge, four miles away. For Swan's Nest had a telephone, and so did the Denver Hotel bar, the din of which would stop when the proprietor, letting the receiver dangle from its place on the wall behind the bar, announced, "Gentlemen, Mr. Revett will now sing for you from Swan's Nest."¹⁶

The record of Revett's enterprises in the Breckenridge District shows a remarkable number of changes in the names of the companies that financed his undertakings and put their stock on the market. The first of these, the Colorado Gold Dredging Company, formed in 1895, was followed in 1898 by the American Gold Dredging Company of Boston. In November of that year a bond was issued and placed in escrow in the First National Bank of Denver for further work on the Swan placers.

In 1898, two dredges were still using hydraulic power. Most important of the improvements made at that time was the installment of a second elevator in each boat. Cleanups were made from time to time, according to the richness of the take, but the results were guardedly admitted to be not yet living up to the expected yield. This reticence, characteristic not only of the manager, but of most such operations, at least in the District, was noted by Ransome in 1911, in one of his asides: "Tenor, owing to some local tendency to exaggerate and to reluctance to publish results of an operation, is not a matter of common knowledge."¹⁷

The Cleanups

The reason that the time between cleanups in the District was liable to vary was that the paystreaks in the channels were not continuous and the depth of bedrock also varied. In general a cleanup occurred whenever the dredgemaster decided it should be done. The dredge would dig long enough and deep enough to warrant stopping the boat for the process, which might take all of two days. Riffles on the gold-saving tables were first removed. A hose then washed the coarse gravel over the stops, leaving amalgam and black sand. This deposit was

¹⁶ All background information furnished by Summit County friends of Revett, chiefly by Melissa Hayden and George Robinson.

¹⁷ F. S. Ransome, *ibid.*

gathered in by scoops and dumped into a bucket, then fed into the hopper of a Long Tom rocker. Quicksilver was then drained off, leaving the gold in a finely divided state. It was then melted in cupels, run into bricks and sent to the Denver mint.¹⁸ The nuggets, flattened against the bedrock, were kept separate and most of them were used as specimens.

Not all the gold was saved by any means. Some of it went out over the stacker and was lost in the rock piles. And, as for the black sand, which is composed of small grains of gold oxidized with certain other minerals, since it is of the same specific gravity as gold, it never quite stopped being a problem, though much has been saved in the modern boats by the addition of ball mills.¹⁹

Following is a list of a few of the difficulties coming up in the operation of gold dredges, most of them leading to a shut-down. Each should present its own picture of life on a dredge-boat:

Cracks develop in all four tumbler arms.

Flanges and bushings break.

Sluices fill and break down, replacements costing \$10,000.

Spud holding the boat breaks.

Leak develops in hull.

The whole boat fills and sinks to bottom of the pond.²⁰

According to George Robinson, winchman, "After the bucketline was introduced in the Bucyrus boats, the bucket chain would wear out. It would break and writhe into the pond. Or the lip of a bucket that held some monster rock would tear off."

There were, of course, accidents to the men, terrible ones: a head cut right off by the hopper that ground the usable rock; a man who leaned too far and fell afoul of the bucket coming up, was drowned. A man going off shift was seen by the winchman to start up the plank leading to the shore. But just then the boat bucked and neither the winchman, who operated in a sort of hut high in the front of the boat, nor any of the men on shift saw him land. In a few minutes there was a terrific jar, and the first thing the men knew a big red, three-cornered thing was floating on the pond. It was the man's liver.²¹

The year 1899 was memorable for the entrance of an operation called the Blue River Company, the first competitor in the field of gold dredging in the District. There followed the usual trouble between rival companies. In a telegram,²² Revett informed his co-workers that the new dredge, supposed to be working on the Blue, "turned around and headed up the Swan,

¹⁸ Process described by George Robinson, and more or less the same on earlier boats.

¹⁹ Statement of an electrical engineer, dredgemaster.

²⁰ Culled from members of crews and from records.

²¹ Ed Auge, chronicler of the District's mining history.

²² Telegram copy in Revett Papers.

planning on digging 180 feet of our ground before they dry up. It has already been digging . . . on our ground." There is no further mention of the matter among the Revett papers.

Then there was that second sinking of one of the company's boats, mentioned earlier in a list of drawbacks. In those early days of error and correction, the dredges, lacking the power to buck thick ice, had to lie idle in their frozen ponds through the long winters of the high mountain country. Then if a thaw set in, as happens in the District, when the chinook blows for days and even weeks at a time, there could be real trouble. This particular sinking happened on February 28, 1899, during what Summit County people call the "February thaw." The cause, as recorded in a telegram from Revett to the company's president in Boston, was the development of two leaks, which a careless watchman had not noticed, plus a hatchway which he had left open, plus more water on top of the ice than the boat could take.

At the time of this predicament Revett was on one of his numerous sallies outside the District. He sent a telegram, a copy of which has been saved, without the address of person to whom it was sent. It said: "Take out slowly outlet gate upper dredge dam—lower water to raise dredge—pumping out dredge not practical."²³

Hardrock Mining as an Offset

The year 1899 also was a year of ups and downs: the not-too-good success of the digging was a disappointment. But the manager was not one to give up trying for his goal. In that same year he leased the Jessie mine, a pretty solid producer of rich ores since 1885. Besides developing a new tunnel rich in gold ores, he added concentrating tables to the equipment of the Jessie's mill, to his own great advantage. It is evident from the whole history of his dealings that he used hardrock mining as an offset, a feeder to his dredging interests, for over and over again he transferred large sums from his private bank account, sums that his salary could not have covered, into the company ventures.

In 1900, the Globe First National Bank of Boston failed. Whether Revett himself lost money in that failure is not of record, but some of his associates in the company were badly pinched and so were the company's funds.

As a result of this failure the company passed into the hands of a receiver and a new company was formed. This time it was the American Gold Dredging, with Revett as trustee.

Two boats, a Bucyrus and a Risdon, continued to work the Swan placers with varying success. Two major innovations were carried out under Revett's direction. Steam power was used to heat the stacker, which was further protected by a canvas cover. From that time on the company's dredges worked

²³ Telegram copy in Revett Papers.

all winter though critics maintained that owing to constant need of replacements and repairs, resulting in too many shut-downs, not to speak of weather conditions at high altitudes, it was hardly worth while to keep the boats digging through the winter.²⁴

A further important advance was the introduction of a chain drill. This innovation in exploration of the ground was a great timesaver and a reliable one. And each of these additions, not to speak of minor improvements, registered another step toward Revett's goal of saving every possible grain of gold that could be scraped off bedrock.

A Daughter Is Born

In December, 1900, the Revetts' only child was born, a daughter christened Frances. It was Frances who provided Summit County residents with significant anecdotes. According to Mrs. Hayden, during the summers of their occupation of Swan's Nest, the Revetts entertained a noted geologist whose name she did not recall. This gentleman and the young Frances, then between four and five years of age, became great pals. One morning young Frances proposed that they two should visit a spring a little way uphill behind the house. Hand in hand the two friends made the short climb, but as they reached the spring they discovered that neither had brought a cup. Frances offered to get one, but the geologist suggested that they kneel and scoop up the water in their hands. They did, and found the water icy cold. Frances made a face. Frowning, she said, "Did you get any?"

"Not much," the man said. "Did you?"

She said, "Not one damn drop!"

That night at dinner (dinners at Swan's Nest, following the custom of English gentlepeople, did not include the young fry) the geologist told with gusto the incident at the spring. Revett roared his enjoyment, but his wife just gasped. "Now Stanley," she said, "you see what happens when you try to bring up a child properly in this rough country!"

Mrs. Hayden's comment was that the incident seemed to her indicative of the trend the Revetts' family life was taking in the Breckenridge District, where Mary Revett never came to feel at home.

Revett was spending more and more time away from the District in consultation with other deep mining companies and in inspection of possible placer grounds. For by 1900, his reputation as the most knowledgeable man in his field was fully established. Indeed, he was often hailed as "the greatest gold dredger in the Americas."

He also made at least two trips to Oldham, Hampshire, to

²⁴ Letter from a man calling himself "a disinterested party," in answer to an inquiry from a man in the East, apparently one of Revett's "prospecs." The writer refers to deposits at bedrock as "veins," thus showing his ignorance of mining parlance.

visit his parents, his father having been retired from his post in India.

From the end of 1900 to the end of 1903, the boats, still belonging to the American Company and still running under the supervision of the liquidator, kept going along the Swan with varying success. But there is evidence in the Revett papers that Revett was not satisfied to jog along with matters as they stood. In the group dealing with events in 1903, are three documents of particular interest to students of affairs in the mining world. Among these papers is a single sheet headed, "Notations From Diaries of B. S. Revett," and dated Jan. 3, 1903 to Nov. 1, 1909. It is the only extract of its kind in the available records. It gives with dates and short notations the course of private transactions leading to the formation of a new mining development: the undertaking of the French Gulch deep placer mining.

Items in 1903 are chiefly concerned with meetings with possible associates in the project, but under date of March 4, 1904, a notation reads: "Got Deed For Ground." This was the purchase of the Corkscrew, the Magnum Bonum, and the French Gulch placers in French Gulch, the first to be recorded in the Summit County Clerk's office as being bought by B. S. Revett.²⁵

Ground Rich in Gold

The second document is a copy of a nine-page letter dated May 15, 1904, and unsigned, addressed to a prospect in Washington, D. C. It refers to Mr. Revett in the third person. The letter enumerates the American Company's holdings up for sale, "including all its placer grounds and ditches on Swan and French Creeks, two dredges . . ., 320 acres of bottom ground in French Gulch, probably the richest in the United States, adjoining the Mecca Placer. . . . Also an option on three hundred and twenty acres of ground in French Gulch of patented ground which I consider to be among the best ground in the district. . . . Mr. Revett has consented to undertake the management of these boats until such time as their operation shall have proved profitable."

Incidentally, these statements about the French Gulch placers turned out to be pretty close to fact. In the first place, the placers under consideration did lie below the great Mecca placer, from which more gold had been washed by the enormous hose called Giants than any other terrace in the District. And a few miles farther upstream on the south face of Farncomb Hill is an area known as the Wire Patch (wire gold, that is), which has been raked down and gouged out so thoroughly that it is a little desert on which even now nothing grows but a few young pines and a weed or so.

As for the bottom lands down gulch, enriched by the undertow from the Wire Patch and other rich deposits, they were

²⁵The new patent laws, passed in 1905, were responsible for this record. The earlier purchases of the Swan placers are not so recorded.

still virgin ground when Revett and his associates took over. There was, by the way, another reason for his success in getting this enterprise its buyers: the Breckenridge District was having one of its periodic booms. A neat little pamphlet issued by the town fathers in June, 1903, claims over a thousand inhabitants of Breckenridge, with fifteen ore mills in operation and the following companies dredging gold: American, Gold Pan, Peabody, Iowa, and the Oro Grande, centered at Valdoro.²⁶

The third document of special interest in this connection is a copy of a letter to the same prospective buyer in Washington, D. C. It is complete with Revett's signature. It reads in part: "I have no hesitation in being identified with it as I regard it as the cleanest legitimate mining investment I know of in the country—controlling the richest and easiest worked ground in this district."

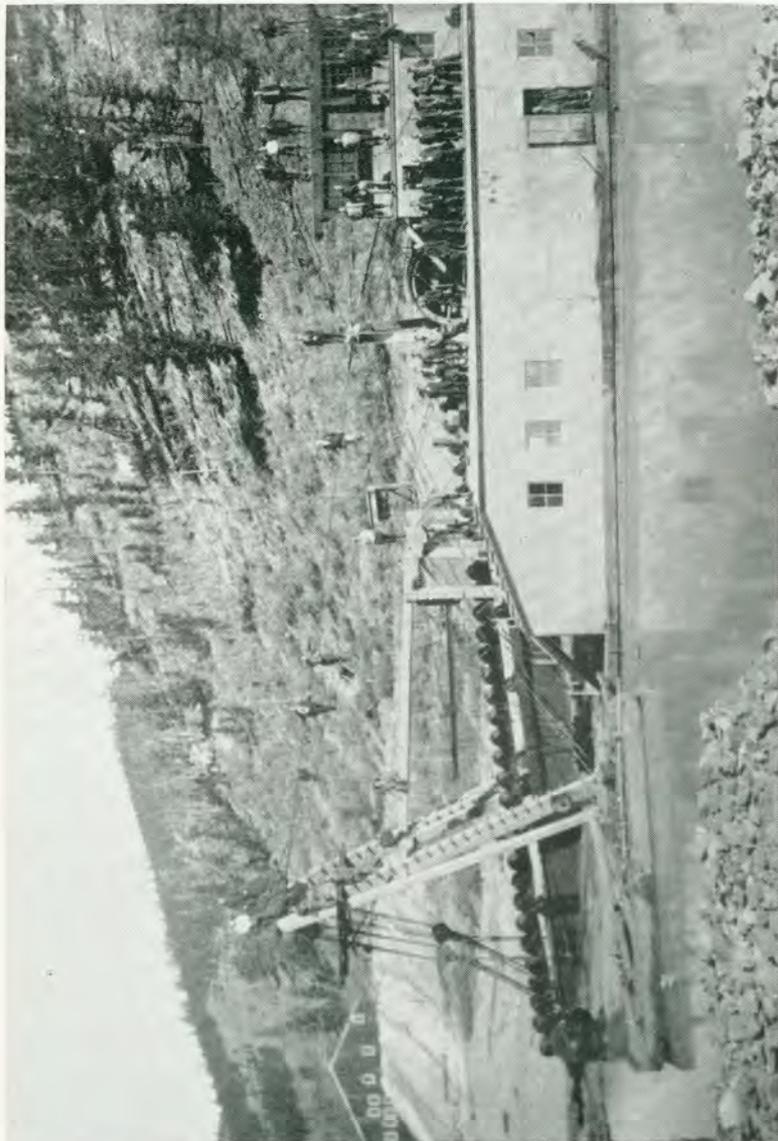
There is another paragraph in the letter, to which Mrs. Hayden referred as an instance of Revett's integrity. It is about the American Company: "The original capitalization was one hundred thousand shares at \$10.00 a share, the stock was kited to \$44.00 per share before we reached bedrock . . . and when the Globe National Bank failed the Company owed \$35,000, now there is not a dollar of indebtedness. . . . I was offered \$35.00 a share for ten thousand shares of stock but would not sell as I had given my word to my associates that I would not do so."

French Gulch Operation Under Way

By 1904, the French Gulch operation was under way, financed by a group which Revett insisted should not be incorporated; it included people in both the United States and England. Revett was their trustee, and it was agreed that he should also act as manager until such time as their dredges were working satisfactorily under the newly installed electric power. A third dredge was built, following throughout Revett's plan for it. In the Revett papers and elsewhere in the records one of them was usually called the Reliance dredge and the other two were called the French Gulch dredges, but this distinction was not always made. Reliance was an appropriate name, for its buckets brought up the gold from the bedrock of three of the richest bottom grounds in the District, and their tailings filled, and still fill French Gulch for miles.

In answer to a request for an account of the most spectacular damage done to any dredge within the time when George Robinson was winchman, he described an incident that happened to one of these boats. A fault in a casting of a ladder jaw threw the casting, boxes, upper tumbler and its shaft right into the dredge pond. He said it rained nuts and bolts and parts for quite some time before anybody could figure out what was going on.

²⁶Valdoro was at that time a little group of buildings downstream from Swan's Nest. The Oro Grande was sponsored by Revett.



Revett's Reliance Gold Dredge, French Gulch About 1908.

One of the gadflies to plague Revett as acting manager of the French Creek boats was ditch trouble. Revett had plenty during the time of his lease. Anybody who leases twenty-five miles of ditch is asking for trouble. He leased the Gold Run ditch, which in an earlier day had brought water to the Gold Run terrace gravels from the point where Spruce Creek enters the Blue, about three miles upstream from the south end of Breckenridge. An unsigned copy of a letter dated February 7, 1908, in answer to Revett's complaint that the ditch water had been turned off on November 14, 1907, quotes a statement from S. L. Dearing, ditch tender. Under affidavit Dearing contended that he turned the water out at the French Gulch flume on November 12, in order to save the ditch from breaking. The letter contains a long dissertation in justification of its manager to the effect that the Gold Run ditch could not be expected to flow later than November anyway.

The outcome of this controversy does not appear in the papers; it is given here as an example from the long list of troubles that plague those who presume to dig to bedrock at such altitudes.

The Reliance Company Is Formed

Early in 1908, Revett's associates in the French Gulch operation prevailed over his continued objection to the formation of an incorporated company and the association became the Reliance Company, with Revett as its trustee. Electric power for its dredges was from then on furnished by a power house close to where Spruce Creek enters the Blue. This station had been built for use by the Gold Pan Company, in which Revett later had an interest.²⁷

By 1910, serious trouble between Revett, as trustee of the Reliance Company, and his associates had occurred over the use of the company funds. It had become increasingly clear that Revett was not cut out for the administration of large sums of money. More than one true friend of his has stated that he was an honorable fellow, but was not a financier; that he did not understand money; that when he saw what he considered to be a primary need to spend the company sums in a different way from what had been laid down for a specific purpose by his directors he did not consider himself accountable to them for the way it should be used. Indeed, he was known to borrow on his own hook for such a purpose, and was sometimes unable to meet his obligations when the time came for repayment. He is said by men who worked with him in the District, as well as by others who were his friends, to have won and lost three fortunes.²⁸

A Suit in Equity

Lawsuits had been threatened against him and had been dropped, but in August, 1910, a suit in equity actually was filed

²⁷ Ransome, *idem.*, 181.

²⁸ Trevor Thomas, *ibid.*

against him. According to the *Denver News*, February 2, 1911:

United States Commissioner Hinsdale is hearing testimony in a most novel suit in equity that will later be presented to Judge Lewis for decision. It involves rich placer beds in French Gulch, near Breckenridge, and more than \$300,000 already taken out.

Benjamin Stanley Revett, dredging mining expert, who is known in South Africa, Siberia and in the remotest regions of South America, is the defendant. C. W. Franklin, almost equally well-known, and Allen G. Fairbairn of England are parties to the suit.

The first action was instituted by Fairbairn. He claimed to have paid to Revett \$43,450 for the placer beds. Revett, attorneys for Franklin and Fairbairn declare, was to form a stock company and put the stock on the market. He was to deliver to the English representatives their proportion for the money they put in.

Instead, they allege, Revett started operations at French Gulch with the money from the English investors. Then he took out enough gold to buy a dredge costing \$125,000. In two years, they maintain, he took out \$300,000 in gold. He paid out \$195,000 for labor and other expenses, of which \$10,000 each year he took as his salary, it is alleged.

When Fairbairn instituted suit there was a misunderstanding between Revett and Franklin, it is said. Neither could agree what was the share of the other. Then Franklin instituted the present suit for a division.

Yesterday Revett was on the stand. He admitted getting the money from Fairbairn. He admitted working the placer beds. He also said he had taken out \$300,000 in gold and that the persons across the big pond had not received a cent. The hearing of the present case will take sixty days. Dorsey and Hodges are attorneys for Revett. Macbeth and May represented the English interests.²⁹

The suit, begun in 1909, dragged on until October, 1912, when it was settled as follows: public sale to be made of the Reliance grounds and properties; creditors first to be satisfied; Revett then to have the remainder as salary of trustee. Other points in a notation in Revett's records include a division of shares: Revett to have 60%, Franklin, 40%. What shares these were is not mentioned in the notation. But, since only one bid was made at the required public sale, and that bid was so low as to be completely unsatisfactory, no sale was made.

Meanwhile the dredging in French Gulch went on, uninterrupted by the law's delays. Among the Revett papers of that period (exact date not given) is a typed document, copiously interlined with notations in Revett's unforgettable hand. It is titled, "The Dredging Industry in the United States." It compares deep gold dredging in California with the same industry in the Breckenridge District. It is undoubtedly leveled at the administration of the Colorado Gold Dredging Company,³⁰ with a slant toward impressing them with the need for bigger and more powerful boats. It is chiefly important at this point as

²⁹ See also: *Denver Republican*, Feb. 19, 1911.

³⁰ The Colorado Consolidated Mining Company Incorporated appears as such without explanation as to whether it was a totally new company or was consolidated from the Reliance Company and the Gold Pan holdings first worked in 1901.

throwing light on Revett's constant efforts to improve the operation of his favorite industry. Excerpts from the text follow:

The cost of handling (these boats) varies from 8 to 10 cents per cubic yard in the Breckenridge District to less than 3 cents per cubic yard in the California fields, with their . . . improved type of dredge. While the tenor and the gold content per cubic yard . . . in the Breckenridge District are much higher than those in California the mammoth dredges which have been built there in the past 5 years . . . have increased in size from 5 cubic feet per bucket, open connected, to 16 feet per bucket, close connected.

There is nothing in the Revett papers to show just when bucket lines were installed or when the first big boat was put to digging, but old timers are of the opinion that it was soon after the Reliance suit was settled in 1912. If not then, it probably was in 1913, as the following recorded transaction implies.

On September 7, 1913, a copy of a night letter, in Revett's hand, to the President of the Colorado Consolidated Mining Company Incorporated in Lawrence, Michigan (under whose placer laws most of Revett's undertakings were incorporated) announced an offer for sale under court decree of the Reliance property and dredge. The sale was held in the same year with the one offer unsatisfactorily low. The night letter continues: "An interested party has offered a more satisfactory purchase. Have people now ready to purchase all outstanding stock and indebtedness and build large modern dredges."

Another notation states that in 1913, stockholders of the Reliance Company were paid its principal plus interest 3%. The company's indebtedness was paid and the master in chancery appointed by the court dismissed. And, it should be added, a dream came true, though not quite as the dreamer wanted it.

Another event of 1913, not mentioned, however, in the Revett papers, was the final departure of Mrs. Revett and Frances from Swan's Nest. A friend of the family in speaking of this move said that the decision was only partly due to a heart strain which Frances was said to have developed. Mrs. Revett died in San Francisco, in 1952. In that year, Frances, who had married a lawyer, was living at Crystal Bay, Nevada, where she had a studio.³¹

Revett's Last Dredging in Breckenridge District

The last gold dredging operation with which Revett is known in Breckenridge to have been associated was the Tonopah Placers Company, which began dredging in 1915 with three boats at work, and ran for fifteen years. Of this company Revett was consulting engineer. The only Revett papers remaining of this period are: a copy of a report (signed by the superintendent) to the president of the company of the take, digging hours, time, yardage, and so on. It is dated October 23, 1915.

³¹ Trevor Thomas, "The Revett Story," *Summit County Journal*, May 29, 1953.

During the rest of his life Revett spent a good part of his time, when not traveling about to inspect deep mining projects and operations, at the Bohemian Club of San Francisco or at the Denver Club, both of which he was a member. If it is true, as has often been said, that his third fortune and his last had by then been lost, still toward the end of his life he was backed by his strong friends of many years, who saw to it that he wanted for nothing, and that he lived in high style at his clubs and in the best hotels until he died in 1927. It is said that in his last days, though plagued by illness, he was promoting the organization of a company to work over the long expanses of rock piles in the District in search of the gold that had gone out over the stackers of the dredges that had dug there.

With Ben Stanley Revett's exit from the field of gold dredging, a certain verve and polish vanished with him. True, the work went on; the last dredge to dig in the District was the Blue River boat, that dug south along the Blue till the price of labor and materials made it unprofitable to continue. The country's need for baser metals stripped the remaining hulks right down to the water line, till now nothing is left in the ponds but rotting timbers, and beyond them the long and barren mounds of tailings that fill the valley bottoms and the gulches, all but obliterating even a glimpse here and there of great stretches of the Swan, the French, and the Blue.

First Ladies of Colorado Josephine Evans Elbert

(Governor Samuel Hitt Elbert—1873-1874)

By Helen Cannon*

Among the valued possessions of the family of Colorado's second territorial governor, John Evans, and the Archives of the State of Colorado may be found this letter:

Fisher's Office
Monday Morning 183(7?)

Dear Miss Canby,

Who that has ever felt the power of pure unfeigned affection would not excuse this mode of conversation; who that has ever loved truly sincerely, that cannot describe my condition and pardon my diffidence?

Dear Hannah, I talk to you in language never before used, for dare I use the freedom, language could not be too strong to express my feelings. Therefore, permit me to ask the following question:

Were I to offer myself to you as a candidate for your affection, —as a suitor, might I entertain any hope of success?

Most truly and affectionately, your sincere friend and ardent admirer,
Please answer
immediately.

Jon E.¹

The impatient author of the letter and its beloved recipient were the parents of Josephine Evans Elbert, wife of the sixth territorial governor of Colorado, Samuel Hitt Elbert. At the time it was written, John Evans, the twenty-three-year-old son of David and Rachael Evans of Waynesville, Ohio, was a student in Lynn Medical College in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he had recently met Hannah Pedrick Canby, the twenty-four-year-old daughter of Dr. Joseph and Lydia Pedrick Canby of Bellefontaine, Ohio. Just how immediately Miss Hannah answered the proposal is not known, but an excerpt from a letter written about a year later by the poetical new doctor shows that the answer was in the affirmative and that a wedding was in the offing:

Hennepin, June 8th, 1838

My dearest Hannah,

... Next fall or winter—just so soon as I can come—you may look for me in your Buckeye land, yes, and ready to enter into the solemn pledge to love you for life, just for the return of the compliment. You may, if it should please you shape your course for that calibration. Shall we accept of Uncle Thos' proposition and marry after the fashion of the Quakers and Quakeresses? All this shall be as you may choose. The braid?—

O yes, I've got your braid of hair,
And wear it next my heart,
For surely at the present hour
It does a ray of bliss impart.
But never, never like the leaf

*Copyright by Helen Cannon, 1962. This is the fifth in a series of articles on First Ladies of Colorado being written by Miss Helen Cannon, Associate Professor of Home Economics, University of Colorado.—*Editor*.

¹*The John Evans Collection*, Courtship Letters to Hannah Canby, Letter No 1. Division of State Archives and Public Records, Denver, Colorado.



Josephine Evans With Her Father,
John Evans, About 1850.

John's calibration for the date of the wedding was approved by Miss Hannah and it was solemnized on December 24, 1838, in Bellefontaine. The next summer they settled in Attica, Indiana, where Dr. Evans quickly established a large medical practice, launched several successful business enterprises, and attracted wide and favorable attention for his writings in the medical journals. Soon other attractive professional and business opportunities came to him, taking the family to Indianapolis in 1845 and to Chicago in 1848. Unfortunately the semi-invalid Hannah did not live to share these and future successes of her husband. She died of consumption in Chicago on October 9, 1850,⁴ and was taken back to Attica by wagon to be buried in the old city cemetery with her three sons, Joseph Canby, David, and John, all of whom died in infancy.

Josephine, the beautiful and delicate only surviving child of this happy and congenial marriage between John Evans and Hannah Canby, was born in Attica, Indiana, on September 30, 1844, but she spent her childhood and girlhood in Chicago and

² *Ibid.*, Letter No. 7.

³ *Ibid.*, Letter No. 5.

⁴ The marker on Hannah Canby Evans's grave gives the place and date of her birth as Lebanon, Ohio, June 9, 1813; and the place and date of her death as Chicago, Illinois, October 9, 1850.

Can it be cast away,—
In pain or sorrow, joy or
grief
'Twill be a friendly stay.
Yes, from the gentle hand
that wove
For me the little prize
'Twill be a sacred pledge of
love
I n'er will sacrifice.²

May you enjoy the summer cheerfully; may the pleasures of home delight you; may the opening flowers of spring lend their beauty and fragrance to contribute to your enjoyment; may the soft airy music of the feathered songsters of the grove fall delightfully upon your ear, and while you enjoy the present look with delight upon the past and upon the future with hope. . . .

Jon Evans³

later Evanston, Illinois, the town named for her distinguished father. On August 18, 1853, when she was almost nine years old, Dr. Evans married Margaret Gray of Bowdoinham, Maine, a sister-in-law of Orrington Lunt, who was his friend and a co-partner in many philanthropic projects, including the founding of the Methodist university, Northwestern. The Lunts' daughter, Cornelia, became Josephine's life-long devoted friend and companion, and their home in Evanston often served as her second home. She was also an intimate friend of the daughters of Bishop Matthew Simpson of the Methodist Church and likewise a frequent visitor in their home. As the eloquent and persuasive Bishop Simpson had stirred the religious fervor of John and Hanna Evans in their days in Attica, converting John from Quakerism and Hannah from Swedenborgianism to Methodism, he awakened in their daughter the strong, calm religious faith which marked her personality and made Methodism one of the dominant interests of her short life.

In the spring of 1862, President Lincoln offered the governorship of the Territory of Colorado to Dr. Evans and the family moved to the West that year with the exception of Josephine who remained in the East until she completed her education at Wesleyan Academy in Wilbraham, Massachusetts. Wesleyan Academy was a Methodist coeducational college preparatory and normal school. The Academy's records show that Miss Evans graduated in the class of 1864—one of eight ladies, that she was a diligent student of literature and the classics, and that on December 11, 1863, she became a member of the "Ladies of the Athena," a literary society of the school. Her schooling completed, she joined the family in Denver on January 29, 1864. The next day, the *Daily Commonwealth* reported that Governor Evans had returned by stagecoach from a trip East accompanied by his invalid daughter whose health was much improved by the trip out.

While a student at Wesleyan Academy, Josephine Evans met Samuel Hitt Elbert. A native Ohioan, a graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University, and a lawyer by profession, he had been appointed Secretary of the Territory of Colorado at the time Dr. Evans was appointed Governor. A young man with a vigorous, constructive mind and an earnest Methodist, he soon won the respect and friendship of Governor and Mrs. Evans. During the winter of 1863, while on official business in the East and at the request of Governor and Mrs. Evans, he paid Josephine a visit at Wilbraham. Under the date of March 14, 1863, the day of his return to Denver, Mrs. Evans noted in her diary: "I must write Jo and advise her what to do about corresponding with him as he suggested. It is a responsibility which I feel very much."

Josephine married Samuel Elbert in June 1865 in the Evanston home where she had spent so many happy years of her



Josephine Evans Elbert

John Evans, II



Samuel H. Elbert

girlhood. The wedding was held in the late afternoon on the lawn between the house and Lake Michigan. Bishop Matthew Simpson performed the ceremony, and General George Armstrong Custer⁵ and Cornelia Lunt served as best man and maid of honor. From the maid of honor's delightful little book, *Sketches of Childhood and Girlhood*, comes this description of the occasion:

The sun flashed its last rays of splendour over the Lake, and, as it slipped out of view in the west, light still lingered in hovering films of colorful clouds deepening to orange and rose, and tones of ever changing loveliness till they died into the night, as music dies into silence.

The sky and the lake were vying with each other, the waves breaking on the shore—audible strains of a fading symphony for the central figure of that beautiful scene. The music on the balcony of the little cottage was not so sweet as the wash of those waves, the rustle of those leaves that canopied the Wedding Party. We stood under the group of tall oaks that made bower

⁵ Cornelia Gray Lunt, *Sketches of Childhood and Girlhood*, Evanston, Illinois, 1925, p. 212.

and background of verdure. There was a sort of unearthly beauty in that hour and place, and who could dream that her young feet were set tomb-ward, that the Invisible Hand was soon to tighten its grasp and the night of silence to enshroud her.⁶



Home of Samuel H. Elbert, Denver, May, 1864.

It has been said that Secretary and Mrs. Elbert made one of the handsomest bridal couples ever seen in Denver. "Sweet little Josie," as she was affectionately called, was very fair and petite with a certain luminousness that sometimes surrounds the death-marked, while he was large and very dark. Amiable and a brilliant conversationist, though retiring in manner, she was a social favorite. They lived in a quaint little red brick cottage surrounded by a white picket fence located on E Street (Fourteenth Street) between Arapahoe and Lawrence Streets. Their son, John Evans ("Johnnie") was born in the little house and died there four months and fourteen days later on August 10, 1868. Also, two months later in the little house, Josephine lingeringly died of consumption on October 22, 1868. Shortly before her death when her father told her she must die, she smiled and said: "I have no pain and no fear." Likewise, her funeral service was held in the little house and she was dressed in her white satin wedding gown. Both she and Johnnie were buried in Denver in the old City Cemetery and later removed

⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 215.

to Riverside Cemetery where Governor Elbert is buried.

Josephine's death outwardly moved and deeply saddened her father. One of the decisive factors in John Evans's decision to accept the governorship of Colorado in 1862 was the hope that the dry climate would improve Josephine's health and prolong her life. Five years after her death, he started the building of the Evans Memorial Chapel in the city of Denver on now Thirteenth Avenue and Bannock Street which was dedicated on October 10, 1878, to the memory of Josephine Evans Elbert and deeded as an outright gift to the Methodist Church of Colorado. When progress encroached, "the little jewel of a church" was moved for safe keeping to the campus of the University of Denver, the second great Methodist university John Evans was instrumental in founding, and rededicated on April 22, 1960, to the memory of this First Daughter of Colorado who, like her mother, Hannah Canby Evans, did not live to be one of Colorado's First Ladies. There it stands in full view of mighty Mount Evans, an enduring symbol of the love of a father for his daughter and of the fulfillment of a pledge made to her mother on December 4, 1837:

Forget—Forget—No, not though years may pass away
 'Till life's last sun is set
 And this frail frame shall see decay
 I never can forget.⁷



Evans Memorial Chapel

⁷ *The John Evans Collection, op. cit.*, Letter No. 4.



Colorado Mountain Club Anniversary. James Grafton Rogers, first president, cuts 50th Anniversary cake, April 5, 1962, with Kenneth Wright, 1962 president, looking on.

The Colorado Mountain Club

By William L. Myatt

On August 19, 1962, the Colorado Mountain Club sent 200 members in climbing parties to scale Colorado's fifty-three peaks higher than 14,000. This was to commemorate the club's 50th anniversary. These mountaineers from the club's eight branches carried mirrors to signal to friends on near-by peaks, and those who reached the peak tops by noon, hoisted the Stars and Stripes.

This day of peak-climbing was only one of many activities of the Colorado Mountain Club during its Anniversary Year of 1962. This year the club has blazed the first section of a 650-mile foot trail from Wyoming to New Mexico; some members enjoyed a two-weeks outing in Mt. McKinley National Park in Alaska; and others spent a similar period in an outing in the Crestone Peak area in Colorado. The Golden Anniversary celebration was concluded with a state convention held from September 1 to 3, at Estes Park.

Fifty-one years ago on August 1, James Grafton Rogers, a Denver attorney, sent a letter to *The Denver Republican*, which was published on Thursday morning, August 3, 1911. It read:

Mountain Climbing Club For Colorado Suggestions Which It Is Hoped Will Meet Approval In Its Organization

Denver, Aug. 1.—Within the last few weeks considerable mention has been made upon your editorial page, both in letters of correspondents and in editorials proper, of a proposed Colorado Mountain Climbing Club.

The project is one that has been in my mind for some time and the discussion has very much interested me. I have recently been in correspondence upon the subject with Mr. Enos A. Mills, of Estes Park, who is unquestionably the natural leader in Colorado of this sort of a project, and in accordance with my correspondence with him and with the approval of three or four other chronic mountain climbers, I write to make the following suggestions and to bring the matter to a focus.

As we have worked out the proposed organization, it would consist of active and associate members, very much after the manner of the Artists' club of Denver—one of our most useful and successful civic organizations. Active membership might be restricted to those who had exhibited sufficient interest in Colorado mountain climbing to have made some little attainment in it—say, for example, who have climbed on foot one of our peaks over 14,000 feet high. Associate membership would be extended to all persons interested. It would be the general purpose of the club to collect, record and publish information in regard to the trails and the geography of the mountains in this region, to gather all possible information on botanical and natural history matters, to improve the trails, establish camps and provide guides on our most interesting peaks such, for example, as Long's Peak, Mount Evans, Blanca and the La Platas, to give encouragement to the protection of the forests from fire, etc., etc., and to advertise and excite the interest of the public in one of the most genuine and enduring of Colorado's resources.

Bulletins might be issued from time to time, and the state has for some time been in need of a little volume describing some of our typical peaks and giving maps and directions for their ascent. Mrs. Bird's little book on "Trees and Peaks" is the only book I know on this subject, and while this is an interesting little volume it is not adequate to our purpose. A well written book of this sort would more than pay its own way. Colorado is the geographical

crest of the United States. We have perhaps 200 named and unnamed peaks over 14,000 feet high, and while the highest peak in the United States lies in California and not in Colorado, viz.: Mt. Whitney, it is comparatively isolated and at that is less than 80 feet higher than our own highest peak, Mt. Elbert.

If this general review of the subject appeals to your readers I will ask that they send me their names and addresses with the idea of sooner or later issuing a call for the formation of an organization of the character described. There is already a considerable group of young men here in the city who are interested in the project and this office can furnish the clerical and other assistance necessary for organization.

No call for a meeting will be made until the vacation period is over, but there is necessarily a good deal of preliminary work and it would be the idea not to give the project to the public generally until this preliminary work has been done. This letter is written with the purpose of bringing the question to an issue. The project seems to me important and thoroughly worthwhile.

Please address me at my office in the McPhee building.

Very sincerely yours,
James Grafton Rogers

Among the thirty persons who replied to Mr. Rogers' letter was Mary S. Sabin, a former teacher of his, who though she was not a mountaineer was much interested in the formation of a mountain climbing club. On November 5, 1911, Miss Sabin wrote to the *Denver News* as follows:

It is strange that no mountain club has been formed in Colorado like the Appalachian Club of New England or the Sierra of California and the Alpine of the Canadian Rockies. Besides the interest in mountain climbing there is work for such a club in naming the mountains, many of which still have no fixed recognized name, and in marking trails by blazing trees or forming cairns and building shelter cabins at timber line. There is a clearly marked trail up Gray's Peak, made originally, I believe, by Mr. Forbes of Georgetown, to the foot of the peak and up the mountainside. . . .

It seems to me that the time is ripe for forming a club of men and women who are interested in mountain climbing. Thousands climb in Switzerland because of good roads and comfortable inns. Here in Colorado mountain climbing is infinitely safer on account of the climate and can be made practical and comfortable by the efforts of an organized club.

I understand that Mr. James Grafton Rogers and Mr. Enos A. Mills are starting such a club for which there is certainly a great need.

With Miss Sabin's article there appeared photographs of Mr. Rogers and Mr. Mills. This article brought in a dozen or more names of interested persons.

How a club was founded the following spring and how it has functioned through the past half-century is told in the following article written by William L. Myatt. Mr. Myatt, who is a member of the State Historical Society, is a Qualified Life member of the Colorado Mountain Club, having belonged for forty-eight years. He was on the C.M.C. Board for ten years and participated in fourteen outings. For many years he handled the commissary for the outings.—*Editor*.

A love of our mountains and a fervent desire to preserve their scenic beauty and to protect the flowers and wild life prompted seven young men and women—Mary S. Sabin, James Grafton Rogers, Elsie Seelye Pratt, Ethel M. V. Fraser, Ellsworth Bethel, John R. Henderson, and Lucretia Vaile—to meet April 3, 1912, to discuss the formation of an organization to

carry out their wishes. Soon afterward on April 26, 1912, twenty-five enthusiasts' met in the art gallery at the home of Mrs. Junius F. Brown and formed the Colorado Mountain Club "to unite the energy, interest, and knowledge of the students, explorers and lovers of the mountains of Colorado, to collect and disseminate information regarding the Rocky Mountains in behalf of science, literature, art and recreation; to stimulate public interest in our mountain area; to encourage the preservation of forests, flowers, fauna, and natural scenery; and to render readily accessible Alpine attractions of this region." This excerpt from the club's constitution explains the purposes of the organization and although the constitution was modernized in 1953, this fundamental remained intact.

Officers elected were: James Grafton Rogers, president, who served with distinction in that office for five terms; Professor John R. Bell, vice president; Mary S. Sabin, secretary; and George C. Barnard, treasurer. The Board of Directors, in addition to these, comprised Charles Partridge Adams, Frank N. Bancroft, Dr. Ethel M. V. Fraser, Dr. E. J. A. Rogers, and Roger W. Toll.

The club was launched and was a vigorous, lusty infant in the spring of 1912. In January, 1913, the club already had an enrolled membership of 108, including some in Massachusetts, Illinois, New York, and California. By April, 1913, there were 140 members. On January 1, 1915, the club had grown to 275.² At that time no initiation fee was required and the membership dues were set at \$3.00 per annum.

The club's first publication, a printed leaflet, issued in March, 1913, was called "First Administrative Bulletin No. 1." It stated that "Persons who have climbed a 14,000 foot peak in the State are to be specifically enrolled as 'Qualified' members, but the Club is not primarily a climbing organization."

It was, indeed, an ambitious program outlined by these pioneers, including lectures, climbs and hikes, photography, publishing, nature protection, nomenclature, and an annual two-weeks outing in the mountains. One of the important early projects was the work in cooperation with Enos A. Mills, Estes Park author and naturalist, and a charter member of CMC,

¹ The Charter Members of the Colorado Mountain Club in the order in which they signed were:

Mary Sabin	George C. Barnard
Lucretia Vaile	Henry W. Toll
Frances M. Rogers	Charles Partridge Adams
Rose Lee Smith	Mrs. Geo. E. Burr
M. Ethel V. Fraser	James Grafton Rogers
Ruth S. Rogers	Henry F. Brooks
John R. Bell	Cora P. Rogers
Roger W. Toll	Louise Brooks (Mrs. H. F.)
Will P. Smedley	Elsie Seelye Pratt
Edmund J. A. Rogers	Frank N. Bancroft
W. H. Wolfersberger	Ellsworth Bethel
Clark Blickensderfer	J. Clarence Hersey (by E. Bethel), Leadville
	Enos A. Mills (by M. S. Sabin), Estes Park

Of these original founders, six are still living and maintain an interest in the club.

² Membership in 1962 is 1,347, forty-two of whom are forty-year members.



Edmund B. Rogers

connected with the establishment of Rocky Mountain National Park, formerly known as Estes Park Project. The bill creating the park was passed by Congress and signed by President Woodrow Wilson on January 26, 1914. Bulletin No. 2 of CMC commented: "If the Club has done nothing else than contribute what it did to this project it would have justified its existence."

L. C. Way of Arizona was appointed first superintendent of the newly created Rocky Mountain National Park and after serving four years was succeeded by Roger W. Toll, a charter member of the Colorado Mountain Club, who had been a superintendent of Rainier National Park. After

nearly eight years at Rocky Mountain National Park, Mr. Toll was transferred to Yellowstone National Park as superintendent. He was succeeded in Colorado by Edmund B. Rogers, younger brother of James Grafton Rogers and a member of CMC. He served nearly seven years until February 25, 1936, when he was appointed superintendent of Yellowstone National Park to succeed Mr. Toll, who lost his life in an automobile accident.³ The wisdom of the Park Service comes into focus in choosing not only experienced mountain men but dedicated, capable Western men for these most important park posts.

The first scheduled mountain club trip was a strenuous trek to Cheesman Park under the leadership of Mr. Ellsworth Bethel, a teacher at East High School, Denver, the idea being to become better acquainted with the Front Range skyline as seen from the eastern slope. In 1914, a brass graph was installed at the pavilion at Cheesman outlining the Front Range from Pikes to Longs and indicating the elevation of the more prominent peaks visible from there. The graph, still there, carries the legend: "Erected by the Park Board, surveyed by Ellsworth Bethel and James Grafton Rogers for the Colorado Mountain Club, built by Paul Weiss."

The club insignia adopted early in its history was the Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep (*Ovis canadensis*). Nearly fifty years later, on May 1, 1961, Governor Steve McNichols signed into law Senate Bill 294, making this sheep the official state animal of Colorado.

³ Edmund B. Rogers served eminently as superintendent at Yellowstone for twenty years, retiring to take up other duties for the National Park Service.

Enos Mills, who established Longs Peak Inn, gave the first club lecture on June 3, 1912, entitled "Above Timberline," in the auditorium of the Public Library. Four additional lectures completed the first year's program, and lectures became standard practice. They were open to the public without charge and attracted many nonmembers. They introduced to interested people the aims and aspirations of the club and resulted in an increased membership. Lectures were illustrated with black and white glass slides, later replaced with colored glass slides, and now with the modern film slides.



Front row: J. G. Rogers, George C. Barnard, (—?), Dr. E. J. A. Rogers, Frances M. Rogers, Ruth G. Rogers (Lacy), Elizabeth Smedley.
Back row: Ellsworth Bethel, Cora P. Rogers, Dr. William P. Smedley.

During the first summer—1912—eleven one- and two-day hikes and climbs were scheduled, including one up Pikes Peak, which was cancelled due to weather. The highest climb was James Peak (13,283 alt.).⁴

Over the years these trips have become the most popular activity of CMC and appeal to a greater number of members than any other single activity, as they include such varied interests as bird, flower, and geology trips, historical tours, tree

⁴ For 1962 some 200 trips were scheduled, many of them, however, were combination trips of one or more groups.



Summit Hooker Mountain
CMC Trip, 1914

planting in cooperation with the U. S. Forest Service, easy hikes as well as strenuous rock-climbing workouts, and ascents of 14,000-foot peaks, and in winter, ski and snowshoe adventures. Trips are scheduled on weekends and holidays and are of one, two or three days' duration, depending on the location and target.

Of later years an airplane tour for views of high peaks along the Continental Divide has proved attractive.

The vigorous young club pursued outdoor activities from the start and went into then remote and wild regions, using pack horses and horse-drawn vehicles to get in supplies for weekend trips and the annual outings. The first annual camp was held the full week of August 26, 1912, at the foot of Mt. Evans (14,264). The total expense for the twenty-eight partici-

pants, including transportation from Denver, was about \$15.00 per person. The whole party, including two children, made the ascent of Evans.

It was natural after Mt. Evans to seek another region near Denver, so for 1913 the area near Longs Peak (14,256) was chosen for the second annual summer outing.

THE outing which for less courageous souls could have ended *all* outings, was the moving-camp experiment in 1914, an outing crammed with a series of unusual and, at the time, tragic events. The plan called for a three-day camp at Grand Lake, a move to Shipler Park, eighteen miles north, for three days, camp overnight on Milner Pass, then to Fall River for two days, thence to Horseshoe Park, Estes, and return to



Upper: "Squeaky Bob" Wheeler's Cabin, Shipler Park, 1914.
Lower: Flapjacks in the Rain, Grand Lake Outing, 1914.

Denver. The plans went awry at Shipler Park where in breaking camp, in spite of an experienced packer, Shep Husted, the pack train after being loaded, stampeded due to a terrific hail-storm. Dunnage bags, tents, and equipment were scattered all over the landscape. Some bags landed in the creek and weren't recovered until some time after our return to Denver. There was a minor dispute in the cook's department resulting in a stabbing (not serious), and later, while in the Fall River camp, a lightning storm on the pass proved fatal to a visitor (not of our group). Shep, accompanied by the widow and small son, brought the body strapped to a pack horse, through our camp.

Due to the mishap with the pack train, we didn't camp on



Upper: Dining Tent, Grand Lake Outing, 1914.
Lower: The Campfire, Elk Mountains Outing, 1917.

Milner Pass but pushed on far into the night, to the Fall River Camp. Uncooperative weather and lack of equipment (including some sleeping bags) added to the tragicomic situation. Time has erased the pain and anguish as time usually does, and those of us who participated and were part of the historic happenings look back forty-eight years with poignant but not unpleasant nostalgia. Among other things we remember "Squeaky Bob" Wheeler of the Never Summer Range, a home-steader, so named because of his high, thin voice, especially when he was excited. He was most cordial to us.⁵

This outing boasted fifty-nine CMC members and twenty-nine members of the Prairie Club of Chicago. CMC then was just over two years old.

At summer outings all enjoyed the campfire, Mother Nature's hearthstone. After the evening meal, members gathered to swap yarns, recount the experiences of the day, sing and listen to talks by various members on the flora, fauna, and geologic formations of the region. Also entertainment of infinite variety was manifested in home talent shows. The campfire also gave the leaders an opportunity to explain the program for the next day, supplementing the camp bulletin board. Usually some members brought musical instruments, mandolin, uke, guitar, or mouth organ, which helped in the campfire programs. Songs included "The Santa Fe Trail," and "Dolores," composed by President James Grafton Rogers.⁶

These outings, summer and winter, provided an economical and enjoyable camping-out in the mountains. Summer ones were usually of the two weeks' duration and generally in Colorado or Wyoming, although they have been held in Montana's Glacier National Park, in California (Sierras), Washington (Mt. Rainier), and in 1962 one was held at Mt. McKinley National Park in Alaska. There's a 1963 outing planned in Peru.

In recent years two summer outings have been held, usually in August, one for "advanced" mountaineers and the other for those who want to take it more leisurely. A cook and waiters relieved members of kitchen chores, thus leaving them time for the pursuit of things in which they had a special interest, such as climbing, hiking, nature study, photography or meditation (glorified loafing), and in some cases, fishing. No firearms were permitted on any trips. CMC said "Shoot with a camera instead of a gun." Members of other mountain clubs were invited to participate and all CMC outings had such guests along.

⁵ Robert E. Wheeler, an Englishman, came to Colorado in 1885. He learned ranching from his brother Luke, who had an outfit in North Park. Later Robert took up a 160-acre homestead in Phantom Valley near the west end of Milner Pass, about twenty miles north of Grand Lake. He built a cabin at the head of Big Creek, just two miles from the Lake. After batching for thirty years, "Squeaky Bob" in 1908, started a summer resort. He was host, cook, and companion to his guests. He died in Denver in 1946.

⁶ Mr. Rogers also wrote allegorical plays, including "Golden Rod Lode" and "Fire of Romance," produced by the Cactus Club of Denver on their summer programs at Rilliet Gulch near Lookout Mountain.

Members looked forward to these outings but as the attendance continued to grow, the committee in charge was burdened with more and more responsibility. The committee had to scout the proposed region as soon as weather permitted, usually in early June, seeking a suitable campsite with water and wood accessible, and with sufficient ground space for tents, dining table, cooks' quarters, etc. Then two or three days prior to the official opening, the committee, cooks, and waiters, together with any member volunteers, formed the advance party. They went to the site and set up the sleeping tents, prepared the campfire space, located washrooms, and built the dining tent



Summit of Mt. Thorodin, 1914.
Morrison Shafrath, Leader.

consisting of a long wooden table covered with a fly for weather protection. It was loads of fun (yes, really) going in with the advance party.

In later years, as many of the outings paid return visits to previous campsites, the scouting trips weren't necessary.⁷

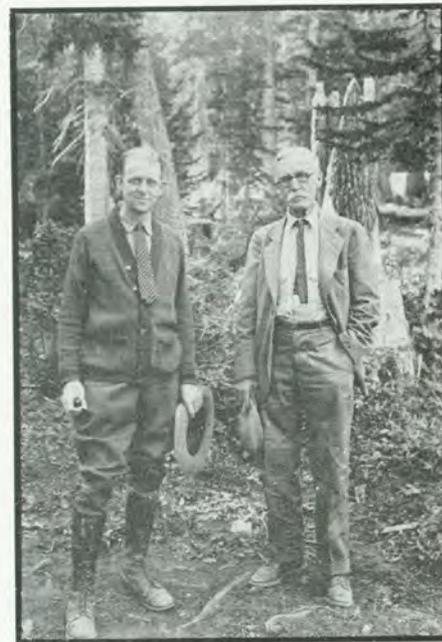
Where possible, outings were held in the vicinity of 14,000-foot peaks so members could "qualify," and campsites were located in tree-protected areas just below timber line. (It gets cold at 8,000 to 10,000 feet, even in mid-August.)

Winter outings ran from a weekend to a week and were primarily skiing expeditions, although tobogganing, snowshoeing, and skating had a place when conditions were favorable.

⁷ CMC has held five outings in the San Juans (Needle Mts.) and six at Snowmass.

CMC took to skiing long before that sport was as popular as at present. In fact, one member, as early as 1913, fashioned his first skis from oak barrel staves, and they served admirably. Skiing is now big business, and CMC winter outings as originally held (one week) have been replaced by personal trips as so many desirable skiing areas are accessible.

The outings attracted nationally prominent persons who, in addition to their love of the outdoors, wanted to "get away from it all." A few that come to mind are Dr. Florence Sabin,⁸



L. R. Kendrick and William H. Jackson

sister of Mary, then at Johns Hopkins (1917); Huston Thompson, then chairman of the Federal Trade Commission (1922); William K. Cooper, then National Y.M.C.A. Secretary (1922); and William H. Jackson (then 85), the artist and official photographer of the Hayden Survey, who first visited Snowmass Lake in 1879. Mr. Jackson was on the 1928 Snowmass Lake Outing as a guest of L. R. (Jack) Kendrick. He was also on the 1930 Wind River Wyoming Outing as Mr. Kendrick's guest. Jackson had visited the Wind Rivers in the 1870's and wished to make a return trip.

⁸ Dr. Florence Sabin was born in Central City, Colorado, November, 1871. After retiring from her professional career, she became Denver's Manager of Health and Hospitals and was active in public health campaigns. Dr. Sabin died in October, 1953. She was the first Colorado resident honored by a place in Statuary Hall, Washington, D. C.

With careful planning any 14,000-foot peak in Colorado could be climbed in a maximum of four days from Denver or Colorado Springs and many in two, and some in one day. A one-day trip was a long day's task. Usually if a three- or four-day trip was planned, the climbers or most of them could get two to four "fourteens" as in many localities these "fourteens" sort of like their own company. Red Cloud and Handies; Yale, Harvard, and Columbia; Sunshine and Handies, are familiar examples.

Each summer a schedule was prepared by a hard-working committee, listing local trips, leaders, approximate walking distance and elevation gained. Leaders were very definitely in command of the party and responsible for its safety. The club insisted, "Let the leader lead."

Ropes were rarely needed in climbing Colorado's "fourteens," but were essential equipment in rock work at any elevation.

Accidents in climbing mountains have occurred and reflected unfavorably on this excellent outdoor activity. American Alpine Club's fourteenth Annual Report of accidents in North America mountaineering described and analyzed forty-seven mountaineering accidents which occurred in the United States and Canada during 1960. Sixteen of the reported accidents occurred in Colorado, more than in any other state. In these, thirteen persons lost their lives and nine were injured. It is fair to say many of those involved were inexperienced persons who had received little or no formal mountaineering instruction. True, five of these fatalities were due to lightning. CMC has always instructed members and cautioned them on this powerful manifestation of nature. Nevertheless, these accidents create the erroneous impression that mountain climbing in Colorado is hazardous.

Club trips were classified in the schedule one to four, plus a technical class. In the latter only those approved by a technical climbing committee or chairman of the Rock Climbing Section were eligible and the number of participants was limited. Individual members were also classified, first, for the purpose of safety and, second, to further the pleasure of trips. Classifications numbered one to four, plus technical classification. To attain technical rating, a member had to be able to satisfy the Technical Climbing Committee.

From the earliest days CMC placed metal registers on the 14,000-foot peaks in Colorado. The register, designed by Roger W. Toll, consisted of a metal tube $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter, 8 inches long, capped with cover and clasp designed after the radiator cap of the early Packard automobile. It contained a notebook and pencil and was usually chained to the cairn on top of the peak. Several times in later visits these chains were

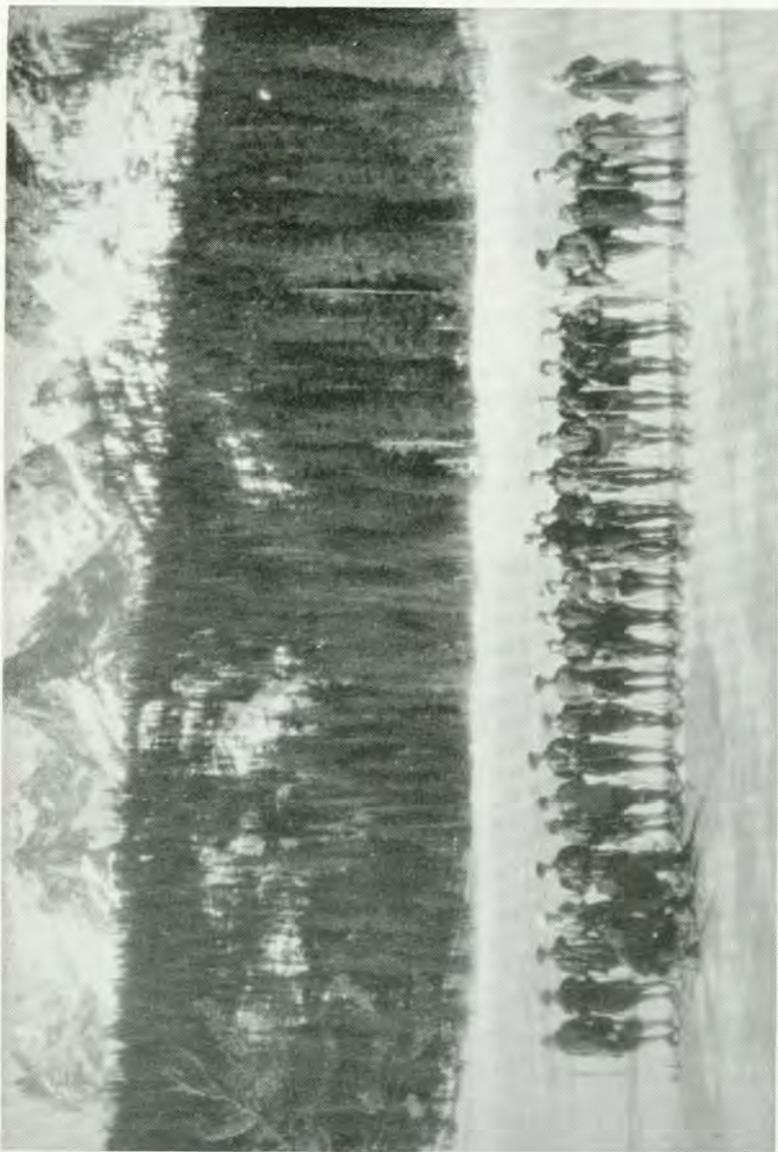
found melted by severe lightning storms. In remote regions the books have yet to be filled. There is room for 500 names but sometimes a note of interest or some incident on the trip is added, and such books fill rapidly. The register on Crestone Peak (14,291), not too easily climbed, was brought to the club rooms in 1959 after thirty-seven years of service. It listed 422 names, largely CMC members, as the club had held two outings in the region and had also had several weekend trips there.

This year the register from Capitol (14,137), also difficult to climb, as well as being remote in Pitkin County in the Elk Mountain Range, was brought in by a Junior Group, some of whom hope to make all the "fourteens" this year. The register wasn't nearly full, although it had been on the peak some thirty years. The register from Pyramid (14,018) in the Elk Mountains, brought in contained, among others, the names of Harold W. Clark and Percy Hagerman, who climbed the peak August 31, 1909. The names were found in a tin can on the summit and were added to the register at the time it was placed. Harold Clark became a member of CMC in 1917 and rendered invaluable service as a committee member on several outings held in the Aspen region. A practicing attorney in Aspen, he found time to pursue his hobbies—fishing, camping, and mountain climbing. In fact, on his sixtieth birthday, he made a solo climb of Pyramid.

For the past three summers CMC has been trying plastic containers originated by Elwyn A. Arps, a past president of the club. They appear to be satisfactory, but more time is needed to determine how they withstand the elements. They have the obvious advantage of lightness and seem to survive lightning as they have very little metal and are fastened to the cairn by a nylon and cotton cord. For a time iron tubing with a screw cap was used but there were instances in which lightning fused the cap to the tube, rendering it useless. This is one reason many new tubes are needed. The main reason, however, is that the containers are carried off by two-legged pack rats, taken as a souvenir or as evidence to convince skeptical friends back home that the climbers actually were on the summit of a 14,000-foot peak.

Many members have explored and climbed the mountains of other states, including Alaska, and foreign countries—Africa's Mt. Kenya (17,058) and Kilimanjaro (19,340), Mexico's Popocatepetl (17,887), the Swiss Alps, peaks in Greece and Peru, and at least two members (Elizabeth Cowles, the first woman on a Himalayan Expedition, and Dr. Charles H. Houston) have participated in exploratory Himalayan expeditions.⁹

⁹ Edmund Hillary, a member of the British Himalayan Expedition led by Sir John Hunt, who reached the top of Mt. Everest (29,028) in 1953, and who was knighted for that feat by Queen Elizabeth II, camped in various spots in the United States this year (1962), including Colorado's Routt and Arapahoe National Forests.



Winter Outing of Colorado Mountain Club, Rocky Mountain National Park, 1922.

CMC has had no litterbugs. The club has always stressed neatness and carefulness in use of the outdoors. We put out our fires and clean up generally upon leaving a spot. This policy so impressed Forest Inspector Hutchinson, that on the site of the 1917 Ashcroft Outing, after we left, he posted the following notice: "Sixty members of the Colorado Mountain Club camped on these grounds for two weeks. Note the shape in which they left their camp and follow their good example. U. S. Forest Service."

Sometimes overzealousness prompted CMC perhaps to go too far in promoting preservation and beauty of our mountain areas. Many years ago, as an illustration, a committee promoted the idea of saving our wild flowers by jotting down the license numbers of autoists bringing loads of flowers from the colorful hillsides and then writing the owner a diplomatic note explaining that many of these flowers would disappear permanently if the practice persisted. The immediate reaction was explosively unfavorable so the project was scrapped.

CMC has obtained results in conservation and has joined with other groups in the suppression of unsightly billboards and objectionable advertising signs in our beautiful hills, and in the promotion of wilderness areas and other projects as the constitution says "to encourage the preservation of forests, flowers, fauna and natural scenery."

As the membership increased and expanded to many areas beyond Colorado, the directors deemed it advisable to provide a means of communication, hence in 1918, a leaflet was prepared and sent once a month to members replacing one titled, "An Annual Mountaineering Review In Picture." The new, illustrated leaflet was appropriately named, "Trail and Timberline." From a four-page leaflet it has grown to a twenty-four-page magazine. The first editor, the late Annette Badgley, a teacher at East High School, handled the assignment admirably and in 1920 turned the infant publication over to George H. Harvey. It continued its healthy growth and was "Entered as second class matter February 1, 1922, at the Post Office in Denver, Colorado, under the act of March 3, 1879."

Officers and committee members all served on a voluntary basis but the continued growth and increased burden of "paper work" prompted CMC to establish in May, 1923, an office in the Chamber of Commerce Building then on Champa Street, Denver, with a paid secretary in charge. The office was moved to the ninth floor of the Mining Exchange Building in July, 1937, and in June, 1951, to the A.A.U.W. Building at 1400 Josephine Street, where it has four rooms, one of which houses a comprehensive mountaineering library of maps, books, pamphlets and the like.

Today CMC has eight groups or branches with Denver the largest. In 1919 a group known as the Cheyenne Mountain Club affiliated as the first out-of-town group of CMC. It was natural

for Boulder to have an outdoor club interested in the near-by easily accessible hills and valleys with their many scenic and climbing attractions and there existed a study and hiking group organized as the High Hikers which was largely interested in an annual trip to the Arapahoes, the first of which was conducted in 1910, antedating CMC. Later the High Hikers became the Front Range Club and on May 25, 1920, largely through the efforts of George C. Barnard, then CMC president, merged with CMC, thus creating the second out-of-town group. Quickly Fort Collins affiliated in 1922 with the largest initial membership of the three groups.

Merging became popular. The Huerfano group, formed in 1932 as the Huerfano Outing Club of Trinidad, and the Western Slope Group (Grand Junction) completed the adult group. In 1962, the Los Alamos Mountaineers voted to become affiliated members. (This is a limited membership.) In 1930, a Junior Group was formed in Denver and in 1959, a Junior Fort Collins Group was formed.

Although not a group division of CMC, the AdAmAn Club was founded in Colorado Springs in 1922, by members of the Pikes Peak Group of CMC, Fred and Ed. C. Morath, the late Fred Barr, Harry L. Standley, and Willis Magee, now a Colorado Springs banking executive. Their target is a climb to the summit of Pikes Peak to set off fireworks celebrating the New Year on each New Year's Eve. The assault at such a time is sometimes gruelling. The trip starts the day before and the final climb is made New Year's Eve, usually requiring skis or webs (snowshoes). The first trip with the five mentioned men was made in 1922. The name was coined as the club adds only one new member each year—"Add a man." There are many more applicants than can be accepted. Each year a limited number of guests are invited to participate and the new member is selected from these. The fireworks are sent to the summit on the last cog train of the fall season and stored until December 31. On a clear night the display is visible some 100 miles east, north, and south. Admiral Byrd and the late Roald Amundsen are honorary members of the AdAmAn Club.

The CMC *Bulletin Number 3* (number one revised) of November, 1914, lists in Colorado forty-one peaks 14,000 feet or over. The list today indicates fifty-three such peaks. Last year (1961), fifty-four were listed. Elevations do not change appreciably but surveys do, although in their recent book, "The Mountains: Life Nature Library," Lorus and Margery Milne, Time, Inc., say "mountains do change; some rise, some shrink, due to pressure deep in the earth." One sentence, too, reads "There is also the fact that the earth is spinning around on its own axis at the rate of 1,050 miles an hour at the equator and



Mary A. Cronin (1927)

that its thin crust, solid and rocklike as it may seem to us, simply is not solid enough to withstand all that activity." (Pressure.) Also, "It even moves with the tides, the immovable continents actually rising and falling about six inches every day under the influence of the moon. . . . Thus every recorded measurement of a large mountain may be from half a dozen to a few hundred feet in error." The authors might have included the possibility of human error, too. No wonder surveys vary.

There's a club within CMC known with pride as the "53 Club" or the "52" or "54," depending on the vintage; the qualification for membership in this exclusive group is simply to have climbed all the 14's in Colorado. The 53 Club (1962) now has seventy-one members. The first woman to attain the then 51 Club (Mt. Oxford, 1934) was Mary A. Cronin, now living in Seattle. The first man and wife team to qualify in the then 54 Club is Paul and Ruth Gorham of Denver. Mr. Gorham is a past president of CMC. There's no time limit on attaining these summits and usually several summers are needed, although at least one member accomplished this in one summer.

There is also another small group in CMC consisting of forty-two members, each with forty years' membership. Members are presented with certificates honoring them and reminding them that their annual dues have ceased. They are then in fact, Life Members. With a club only fifty years old and with a membership of some 1,350 this number of forty-year members is a tribute to the esteem and value in which members hold their organization.

The automobile has done much to help more people see more of our mountains, and to get superb views of the high peaks, and to enjoy the grandeur of an aspen grove in the fall. But to appreciate the more intimate aspects one should travel on foot away from the beaten paths. From an auto can one see the velvety anemone (pasque flower) boldly peeping through the early spring snow, the fringed gentian nodding in the breeze, the colorful Oregon grape or the bright kinnikinnick in the fall,

a dainty water ouzel darting in and out of the spray along the banks of a clear, cool creek or approach within a few feet of the almost tame ptarmigan near timber line or hear the squeak of a cony (pika) gathering hay for nest and food above timber line or glimpse a bighorn standing in all his majesty at a distance? I fear not often.

Through the years there has been fostered a mutual respect and a desire to cooperate, a condition that has come to be known as the Mountain Club Spirit, intangible, yet so evident. It thrives on association with fellow members enduring hardships and toil together, helping the novice become better acquainted with our objectives, and sharing the joys of our mountains.

On the sentimental side, many warm and lasting friendships and numerous happy and enduring marriages have emerged from membership in CMC, which is perhaps natural in an organization where kindred souls meet.

It is interesting to note that of the nine official board members of our State Historical Society, six are members or former members of the Colorado Mountain Club.

May both organizations continue to progress in the interest of the cultural and esthetic life of Colorado.



Carpenter---Ghost Town

By Ed Helmick and Mike Kelly

Several books and many, many articles have been written about Colorado's Ghost Towns by mature writers, but two Grand Junction teenagers are the first to capture on paper the story of the ghost town of Carpenter, Mesa County, Colorado.

While jeeping around the hills of their homeland these two young men discovered enough "remains" to pique their curiosity. They interviewed old-timers, dug into court records, took photographs, and studied old newspaper files. On May 21, 1962, *The Daily Sentinel* of Grand Junction published an article about their findings entitled, "Ghostly Whispers."

We are pleased to publish in *The Colorado Magazine* an original manuscript prepared by these ghost hunters, Ed Helmick and Mike Kelly, eleventh grade students at Grand Junction.—*Editor*.

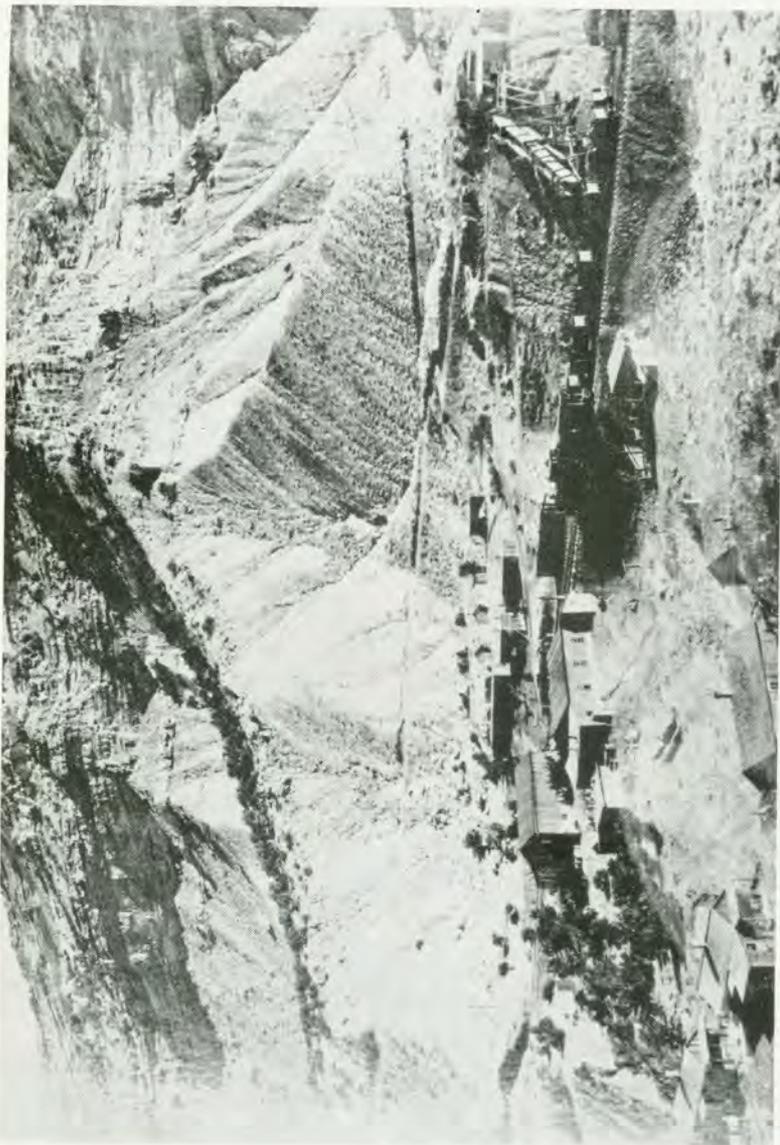
The land upon which the remains of the town of Carpenter stand today was bought for the first time on June 13, 1892, for the sum of \$30,050.00 from the United States Government. The deed for a coal entry of 152.54 acres was made to Susan Carpenter. Here was developed the Book Cliff mines and the coal was transported from the mines to consumers by the Little Book Cliff Railroad, later called the Book-Cliff Railroad.

During the life of the town the place was bought and sold a number of times by local interests and companies. The town, in fact, even belonged to Princeton University for a time. It was left to Princeton in an estate. When a fire started in the mine, Princeton failed to have the flames extinguished and the State of Colorado had to place a Writ of Attachment on the property. After the fire was put out, a price tag between \$18,000 and \$19,000, the cost of extinguishing the blaze, was placed against the property.

The Book Cliff Railroad was an eleven-mile run from its depot in Grand Junction, where the Biggs Kurtz Company is today, to its depot in Carpenter. The railroad ran along North First Street to Book Cliff Avenue, which incidentally was named after the railroad. After reaching First and Book Cliff it ran along the avenue to present Tenth Avenue, then turned north to run to its destination.

Records of the Post Office Department show that a post office was established at Carpenter, Mesa County, Colorado, on June 11, 1890. It was discontinued on August 3, 1891.

In its more productive days, Carpenter had a church, store, and school house, and at one time, a population of 1,400. The Carpenter and Book Cliff mines were the source of income for the people of the town. There was a tramway constructed from above the Carpenter mine down to the tipple and blacksmith shop. The miners, according to one source, produced eighty tons of coal by hand per day.



Carpenter, Mesa County, 1900

The coal veins of the area were formed by the joining of the Mancos and Mesa Verde formations. The rock tunnel leading to the vein, which is all that remains, was about 750 feet long, with many tunnels.

In April, 1925, the Monument Investment Company bought Carpenter for salvage and literally cleaned the place off the map.

Many men lost their lives in the area around Carpenter, but on the other hand there was much pleasure to be had there, too. William Phillips, Jr., a one-time director of the coal company and railway, constructed a large house on a hill just back of Carpenter. From this house on weekends came the laughter of many happy people, as Phillips gave many wonderful parties. He brought many fine horses from his native land, England, and maintained a saddlery.

A story often told is that a miner took his life's savings of about \$1,000 in gold and buried the treasure in or near Carpenter. Only he knew about the gold. Ironically enough, the man was killed the following day at the mines, so his secret is in the hills for some lucky hiker to find—perhaps.

The site of old Carpenter is now owned by H. L. Price of Grand Junction, who knew the place when it was productive, and who bought the land at a tax sale about 1927.

If you go out there today you can see a few quite complete structures and a great number of foundations. The mine shafts can be seen and the road winding around the mountain. These remains signify a once glorious past, a past with such hope that at one time someone said that Carpenter would outdo Grand Junction in size and population.

According to Research by the Historian's Office

Susan Carpenter was the wife of W. T. Carpenter, who figured prominently in many pioneer business ventures in Mesa County. It is presumed that Mr. Carpenter may have been the purchaser of the Carpenter town acreage, but put it in his wife's name.

W. T. Carpenter was president of the Mesa County Bank, organized in 1888, with a capitalization of \$50,000. He was said to be a very progressive citizen. His home, "Fairlawn," on First Street, Grand Junction, was the finest residence of the town when it was built.

According to Hall's *History of Colorado*, Vol. IV, p. 222, Mr. W. T. Carpenter built a "cog-wheel railroad" from Grand Junction to the Little Book Cliff Coal mines, some thirteen miles distant. The well-developed mines of Newcastle and Jerome Park were "but a short distance away."

Records in the office of the State Coal Mine Inspector in Denver show that W. T. Carpenter was the first operator of the Book Cliffs Coal Field, producing 4,200 tons up to and including 1890. Total production of the mines from 1890 through 1923 was 333,897 tons of bituminous coal. During the peak year



Some Remnants of Carpenter, 1962.

—1914—fifteen men were employed and the production during 41½ days of work was 14,176 tons. The only larger coal mine operation in the county was the Cameo. The Book Cliffs field was in the Uinta Region and the coal mined was in the Cameo bed.

Railway Incorporation Papers

In the State Archives and Records office in Denver, incorporation papers on file show that:

Little Book Cliff Railway Company was incorporated on September 11, 1889, by the following Grand Junction residents: W. T. Carpenter, W. A. Marsh, Charles F. Caswell, W. J. Quinn and N. N. Smith. The object of the company was "to construct, equip, operate and maintain a railway and telegraph and telephone lines connected therewith, to hold, sell and convey real property including coal and other mines, deposits and quarries and other property along, upon or adjacent to the route of the

line or lines." The articles also stated that "The Railroad of this company shall be constructed as follows, commencing at a point on the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad at Grand Junction and running thence by the most feasible route to the BOOK CLIFFS to a point northeast of said town of Grand Junction and near the Book Cliff and The Grand Valley Coal Mines." The capital stock of \$200,000 was divided into 2,000 shares of \$100 each.

On November 2, 1894, W. T. Carpenter and Thomas E. Sanford signed incorporation papers for The Colorado Wyoming and Great Northern Railway Company. Other incorporators were: Criss F. Lass, Melvin O. Whitehead and James Nesbitt, all residents of Grand Junction.

The object of this railway was "To build, construct, complete, equip, manage, operate, and maintain a line or lines of railroad in Colorado, Territory of Utah, State of Wyoming and in other states and territories."

The main line of the road was to commence "at Grand Junction, in Mesa County, Colorado, thence in a North Westerly direction to Douglass Creek Summit in Garfield County, Colorado, thence down Douglass Creek in a Northerly direction to Rangely, in Rio Blanco County, Colorado, thence by the most feasible route to the Green River, thence up said Green River in a Northerly direction to Green River City on the Union Pacific Railroad in the State of Wyoming; also, a branch railroad commencing at the point where the above described main line leaves the White River, thence down the White River in a Westerly direction to the Ouray Indian Agency, in the Territory of Utah, thence up the DuChesne River in said Territory, in a Westerly direction to the junction of Strawberry Creek with said river, thence up Strawberry Creek in a Westerly direction to Heber City, Wasatch County, Utah, thence in a Westerly direction to Park City, Utah; also a branch railroad commencing at Rangely on the White River in Rio Blanco County, Colorado, thence up the White River in an Easterly direction to Meeker in said county."

The principal business of the company was to be carried on in the counties of Mesa, Garfield, Rio Blanco, and Routt in Colorado. The principal office was to be in Grand Junction. Other offices, however, according to the incorporation papers, "may be established in the City of Denver." Capital stock was \$1,000,000 with 10,000 shares of \$100.

Notes taken by Ed Helmick from the Carpenter Abstract show warranty deeds, trust deeds, receiver's deed, decree of foreclosure, and various legal transactions in which the Colorado Wyoming Great Northern Railway Company, W. T. Carpenter, and the Little Book Cliff Railway Company were involved from 1894 to 1897. It would require a long and careful study of the original instruments to give a detailed history of

the various operations of the coal town and its railway during that period.

It is clear, however, that on January 14, 1899, The Book-Cliff Railroad Company was incorporated with the principal office at Grand Junction and another office in Boston, Massachusetts. Incorporators were: Isaac C. Wyman of Salem, Mass.; Clarence H. Mayo, Arson Adams, Jr., Charles F. Caswell, Guy V. Sternberg of Grand Junction. The object of the new corporation was to "acquire The Little Book Cliff Railway Company, including the depot and depot grounds at Grand Junction and all its line of railroad, its cars, rolling stock and railway equipment, coal lands, coal mines, and all improvements thereon." The capital stock of \$40,000 was divided into 2,000 shares of \$20.00 each.

This company was dissolved at a meeting held on Feb. 8, 1926, in Princeton, New Jersey. The dissolution article was signed by George C. Mintinger, President, and Frederick L. Hutson, Secretary.



Site of Carpenter

Old Mine Tunnel

1962

Law and Order Come to Montezuma

By Verna Sharp*

(Continued from July issue)

Montezuma Colorado May 13, 1882

The Board of Trustees met at the office of L. R. Vredenburg Jr. at half past Seven O Clock P M this 13th day of May 1882

Maurice Wolf Presiding

All the members of the Board answering to their names when the Clerk called the roll except Hugh R. Steele and Jonas Conwell—The Committee on Ordinances made the following report (by L. R. Vredenburg Jr.) That there was drawn up by the Town Attorney an Ordinance concerning the appointment of a Town Marshall, his duties and Fees

Also, An Ordinance Concerning the appointment of a Police Magistrate, his duties and fees—

Also, An Ordinance to amend an Ordinance concerning Offenses in the nature of Misdemeanors

Which report was adopted—

Whereupon the following Ordinance was read and on motion of Stewart Pouder was adopted by the following named members voting Aye when their names were called by the Clerk—Stewart Pouder, George Fiedler, Maurice Wolf and J. W. Swisher

An Ordinance concerning the appointment of a Town Marshall, his duties and fees—

Be it Ordained by the Board of Trustees of the Town of Montezuma

Sec 1 That there shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees of the Town of Montezuma at the first meeting thereof after the organization thereof in each year or as soon thereafter as practical, One Town Marshall, who shall hold such office during the pleasure of the Board of Trustees—

Sec 2 Before entering upon the duties of his office The Town Marshall shall give bond with sufficient sureties to be approved by the Board of Trustees in the penal sum of Five Hundred Dollars; conditioned that he will faithfully perform the duties of his office and that he will deliver over to his successor in office, or to any person entitled to receive the same, all moneys and property in his custody belonging to Montezuma or pertaining to said office; and shall also take and subscribe the same oath of office as required of other officers of Montezuma which bond and oath shall be filed with the Town Recorder

Sec 3 The Marshall shall be the principal ministerial officer of the Corporation and shall have the same power that Constables have by law co-extensive with the county in cases of violation of ordinances of the Town of Montezuma and for offenses committed within the limits of the Corporation. He shall execute the process of the Mayor, perform such duties and shall exercise such powers as may lawfully be required of him by the Ordinances of Montezuma—

Sec 4 When a warrant shall be issued by the Police Magistrate for the arrest of any person or persons for a violation of any ordinance of said Town it shall be the duty of the Marshall to at once execute the same, and where such violation shall come within his own knowledge and observation it shall be his duty

*Mrs. Leland Sharp of Montezuma, a Life Member of the State Historical Society of Colorado, has been instrumental in preserving many valuable historical photographs and records. Both Mr. and Mrs. Sharp are members of pioneer Colorado families.—*Editor.*

to forthwith arrest such offender without a warrant and the offender so arrested either with or without a warrant it shall be his duty to bring forthwith before the Police Magistrate unless such arrest shall be made in the night time when the person or persons so arrested may be taken to the Calaboose and there kept until the following day when it shall be the duty of the Marshall to take such person or persons before the Police Magistrate to be dealt with according to Law.

Sec 5 The Marshall is hereby authorized to appoint one or more deputies and at pleasure to dismiss the same; but every appointment of a deputy by the Marshall shall be in writing approved by the Mayor and filed with the Recorder; and whenever the Marshall shall dismiss a deputy he shall file with the Recorder a notice of the same; Provided that the deputy or deputies so appointed shall receive no salary from the Town of Montezuma but may be entitled to receive such proportion of the fees allowed the Marshall for performing various services under the ordinances as may be agreed upon between him and them.

Sec 6 The Marshall be the Keeper of the Jail or Calaboose and shall receive and safely keep any and all persons who may have been arrested by any officer of Montezuma. He shall have charge of the Police Officers of the Town of Montezuma and assign them to their respective duties. He shall report to the Mayor any dereliction of duty or improper conduct of any Police Officer of Montezuma.

Sec 7 The Marshall shall receive such compensation as the Board of Trustees shall from time to time determine

Sec 8 The Marshall or officer making arrests with or without process shall receive upon conviction of the offender the following fees (in addition to his salary) to be taxed as other costs in the case; to wit for serving each warrant and summons and making arrest—one dollar—for attendance on court Two dollars for mileage—per mile Twenty cents—for all other legal business the same as is allowed constables of this County of Summit under the laws of the State.

Approved May 13th, 1882

Maurice Wolf, Mayor

Attest

J. W. Swisher, Clerk & Recorder

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of an Ordinance passed by the Board of Trustees of Montezuma May 13 A D 1182 and is now on file in the Clerks office

J. W. Swisher, Clerk & Recorder

The Town Attorney then read the following ordinance entitled An Ordinance concerning the appointment of a Police Magistrate his duties and fees—Stewart Pouder moved that it be adopted. Whereupon the Clerk called the roll and there were Four Ayes and no Noes. The following named members voting Aye Stewart Pouder George Fiedler Maurice Wolf and J. W. Swisher. Where upon the Mayor declared the Ordinance adopted as read. The Ordinance adopted is as follows—

An Ordinance concerning the appointment of a Police Magistrate his duties and fees—

Be it Ordained by the Board of Trustees of the Town of Montezuma

Sec 1 That at the first meeting of the Board of Trustees after its organization in each year or as soon thereafter as practicable said Board shall designate one of the Justices of the Peace of said Town who shall have exclusive Jurisdiction in all cases arising under any of the ordinances of said Town

Sec 2 Before entering upon the duties of his office the Justice of the Peace so designated shall give bond with sufficient sureties to be approved by the Board of Trustees in the penal sum of Five Hundred Dollars conditioned that he will faithfully perform the duties of his office and that upon going out of office, or at any other time when requested by the Board of Trustees he will account for and deliver over to his successor in office or to any person entitled to receive the same, all moneys and property in his custody belonging to Montezuma or pertaining to said office; and shall also take and subscribe the same oath of office as requested of other officers of said Town, which bond and oath shall be filed with the Town Recorder.

Sec 3 The Police Magistrate shall keep a docket wherein shall be entered the proceedings had before him in every case arising under the ordinances of said Town of Montezuma and at each Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees shall report in writing to the Board the fines and penalties collected since the last report.

Sec 4 All moneys belonging to the Town of Montezuma and coming into the possession of the Police Magistrate shall be paid into the Town Treasury on the Second Saturday of each and every month unless the same shall have been paid in before such time.

Sec 5 The Police Magistrate upon the conviction of any offender against any ordinance of said Town shall receive the following fees, to be taxed as costs in the case and collected from the defendant with fine or penalty.

For Summons or Warrant	One Dollar
" trying each cause where defendant pleads guilty	One Dollar
" trying each cause where defense is offered.....	Two Dollars
" taking recognizance	One Dollar
" administering each oath	Twenty Cents
" each Mittmus	Fifty Cents

I hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance is a true and correct copy of an ordinance entitled an ordinance concerning the appointment of a Police Magistrate his duties & fees. Passed and approved by the Board of Trustees of Montezuma May 13, 1882 and is now on file in the clerks office—J. W. Swisher.

Attest
 J. W. Swisher, Clerk & Recorder
 Maurice Wolf, Mayor

The Town Attorney then read an ordinance entitled An Ordinance to amend an ordinance concerning offenses in the nature of Misdemeanors approved April 12, 1882
 Be it ordained by the Board of Trustees of the Town of Montezuma

Sec 1 That there is hereby added to said ordinance, a section which shall be known as Section 9, as follows—If any person or persons shall within the Town of Montezuma carry concealed upon his person any pistol, bowie knife, dagger or other deadly weapon, such person shall upon conviction thereof be punished by a fine of not less than five nor more than one hundred dollars, provided, that this section shall not be construed to apply to the Marshal, Sheriff Constable or other officers of the peace while on duty.

Approved May 13, 1882
 Attest
 J. W. Swisher, Clerk & Recorder
 Maurice Wolf, Mayor



Theodore Newman

I hereby certify the foregoing is a true and correct copy of an ordinance passed by the Board of Trustees May 13 1882 now on file in the Clerks office—

J. W. Swisher,
 Clerk & Recorder

On motion the ordinance was passed by the following vote when the Clerk called the roll. Pouder Fiedler Wolf and Swisher voting Aye. The Mayor declared the ordinance adopted.

On motion the Board proceeded to the election of a Police Magistrate. The clerk appointed Teller — there were four votes for T. R. Newman⁸ for said office & he was declared elected He was present and was duly qualified by the Mayor The Board approving the bonds which are on file in the Clerks office—

Mr. Pouder moved that we proceed to the election of a Town Marshall — Carried— W C Moore was nominated and elected there being four

votes in favor and none against. He was declared elected—He thereupon appeared and presented his bonds which were accepted and he was duly qualified by the Mayor.

On motion it was resolved that the Committee on Public buildings be instructed to draw plans and specifications for a Calaboose, subject to the approval of the board, and advertise for bids for the building of the same—Adjourned to meet next Thursday at 2 O clock P.M.

Approved
 J. W. Swisher, Clerk & Recorder
 Montezuma Colo May 18, 1882

The Board met at L R Vredenburgs office—
 There being no quorum present adjourned to meet next Saturday at half past Seven O'clock.

J. W. Swisher, Clerk & Recorder
 Montezuma Colo May 20 1882

Board of Trustees met in Vredenburgs office at ½ past 7 o'clock P.M. Mayor Maurice Wolf presiding. Members present Wolf, Steele, Pouder and Swisher. Minutes of the last meeting read and approved—The Committee on Public buildings reported progress and desired farther time—which was granted—Stewart Pouder moved that the pay of the Town Marshall be fixed at Twenty Five Dollars per month—carried—

On motion the Board adjourned to meet on next Saturday Eve—
 J. W. Swisher, Clerk & Recorder

⁸Theodore R. Newman was my husband's great-uncle. He came to Denver from Farmington, Iowa on March 15, 1879, and went to Montezuma a few months later. He mined in both Montezuma and Sts. John, and at one time operated the Rocky Mountain House, one of Montezuma's early hotels. He was elected Police Magistrate by the first Board of Trustees; was elected a member of the Board of Trustees in 1885; and was elected Mayor in 1888. In the early 1890's, he moved to Washington Territory and from there to British Columbia.—V.S.

Montezuma Colo. May 27 1882

Board of Trustees met in Vredenburg Jr's Office at ½ past 7 O'clock P.M. Mayor Maurice Wolf in the chair. Members present Wolf Steele Conwell and Fiedler—Minutes of the last meeting read and approved. There being no business an informal talk was indulged in and on motion the Board adjourned one week to meet at ½ past 7 P.M. Next Saturday Eve—

James W. Swisher, Clerk & Recorder

Montezuma Colo June 17 1882

Board met in Regular Session in Vredenburg's office at 8 O'clock P.M. Maurice Wolf Mayor presiding. All the members present except Fiedler & Steele—Minutes of the last meeting of the Board read and approved—The Com on Pub buildings made a verbal report and further time was granted

The Committee on Ordinances reported an ordinance concerning the appointment of a road overseer as follows.

An Ordinance concerning the collection of the Road Tax in the Town of Montezuma:

Be it ordained by the Board of Trustees of the Town of Montezuma

Sec 1 That the duly elected and qualified road overseer of road District No. 4 in the County of Summit and State of Colorado is hereby authorized and empowered to demand and collect by all lawful ways and means, such road Tax as may have already or may hereafter become due and owing from any citizen of Montezuma and to accept two days labor in lieu of such tax.

Sec 2 The tax so collected shall be accounted for and paid into the town treasury on the second Saturday of each month

Sec 3 The money so received shall all be expended upon the public highways by said road overseer, under the instructions of the Committee on Streets Alleys and Bridges and when labor is rendered in lieu of such tax, said labor shall also be performed according to said Committee instructions

J W. Swisher Clerk & Recorder Adopted June 10 1882
Mayor

On motion of Stewart Poudler the ordinance just read concerning the Collection of Road Tax in the Town of Montezuma was put upon its passage and adopted by the following named members voting Aye when their names were called—Wolf conwell poudler and Swisher 4 voting Aye Noes none—The ordinance was declared adopted.