

## -- DICTATION --

BY FRANK E. PIERCE E.M. TO ROBERT W. WOODBURY JAN. 29th 1898.

**LOCATION:-** STUNNER is situated 40 miles from Monte, Colorado, in the SAN LUIS VALLEY.

It is most readily reached from that point from which is a very good road. CONEJOS, the County Seat is 45 miles distant with a fair road. The Altitude of Stunner is near 10,000 ft., and in winter the snow is from 6 to 8 feet deep (on the level), tho likely to be late in falling. In summer time the locality is attractive and trees abound. I do not know of any one now residing in Stunner but work is being done not very far distant.

On this Mammoth Mine belongin to D.M. Hyman a long tunnel is being driven THIS MINE IS ON THE SAME VEIN AS THE EURYDICE according to Miners, who have traced it over the interveining two-miles, and a great deal of valuable ore has been taken from it. One car netting about \$10,000.00. An Option to accept an offer of \$100,000.00 was declined by the owner.

**DEVELOPMENTS:-** I was at the Eurydice Mine when the work was finally closed down in 1893 and the shaft was then 300 feet deep or a little over. Its size was about 4x6 $\frac{1}{2}$  feet. The first level that I had any thing to do with the management of, was that which was known as (No-2-)-at a depth of 164 feet, or very near to that. I am not positive as to its being exact. We drifted 675 feet to the South, and perhaps 30 or 40 North. The vein is only exposed North of the shaft by North Drifts.

**MACHINERY:-** The Engine is not a separate one, but is a part of the hoister. The sinking Pump is a No. 6 Cameron which was capable of relieving the mine of its water. The Station Pump was a No. 8 Cameron and was capable of handling the water from the 300 foot level. The Pumps and piping are stored near by. The boiler was not in a good condition and would require new flues. They were calked by me several times while I was there. The water supply for the shaft house and machinery was piped from a small Creek near by, and not from the Alamosa River.

**THE DUMP:-** There are two dumps, one being for ore and the other for waste. I should think that in the two combined there must be 25,000 tons. I ran a drift in on the Waste Dump 3 or 4 feet to obtain a general sample from which to ge an idea of its average value and it assayed \$16.00 per ton. The Assayer followed a different method to determine the same question. He gathered a large number of samples from all over the surface and sides and from this general sample obtained an assay of \$23.00 per ton. My opinion is that the waste Dump is as valuable as the ore dump, for it contains considerable tellurium that was taken from the drifts and shafts and dumped there, because at the time the Foreman was unaware of its value.

**SIZE OF VEIN:-** A succession of ore and Porphyry streaks is shown in the workings, and the shaft is sunk between two ore streaks. In my opinion the vein is between 40 to 50 feet wide and no side walls were ever exposed in any of the workings. I think Mr. Dimmick never knew any thing about the width. In excavating for the Engine I found that the timber rested on the edge of the vein and that the width there must be about 45 feet. In the main drift Mr. Dimmick found a stringer that had the appearance of quartzite and followed it about 20 feet east. He stoped some ore from it I think about one or two cars, and which I think assayed about \$300.00 per ton. The stope was timbered afterwards, but it could be readily opened. This is the same stope that Mr. Anderson must have referred to in his late letter to you. At the end of the main drift South a winze was sunk that required the taking out of some 20 (Twenty-Foot) in width, the whole of which is good for about \$20.00 a ton. A streak of quartz came in at the place where the winze was sunk, running high in gold and silver.

REPORTS\*-BY FRANK E. PIERCE TO ROBERT W. WOODBURY JANUARY 29th 1898.

ORE VALUES:- The quartz is very hard, but the prophyry is easily worked. The ore is generally sulphides-iron and copper. There is no antimony or zinc that I ever heard of in the ore. At the bottom of the winz, at the South end of the main level, is about 30 inches of high grade ore, an assay of which gave a value of \$1600.00 per ton. In the roof of the lower drift South are about 8 inches of ore in one streak, three assays of which taken by me, along a distance of about 20 feet gave returns of \$1217.00-the value being about one-half Gold and one-half silver. I took out a piece of tellurium from the main drift--South-that looked like white iron, which assayed over \$40,000.00 to the ton. Some times we would take pieces of this kind of ore and sweat out the gold upon the surface, which it would cover in globules, and which assayed would have given a higher value than that one mentioned above.

In a small Creek a short distance above the upper opening are to be found large chunks of rich tellurium ore, that are \$100.00 a ton. This "Float" has rolled down from the higher ground, as the vein has been eroded, in the levels are streaks of porphyry and decomposed quartz running paralell. It is not strictly prophyry but we call it so in counterdistinction to the white quartz. Our few tests showed that it would run about \$12.00 straight thru. About 500 feet from the Louisa tunnel and shaft the claim is crossed by a large vein called the "Cornucopia"\*(This is one of the Sheridan Group). At Depth this crossing should develop a large and rich body of ore. Down by the river is a quartzite 12 to 20 feet wide that seperates the granite formation on the side of the mine from the diorite, this dyke carries about \$8.00 in Gold.

WORKING THE PROPERTY: - In the summer of 1896 Judge Crump of Monte Vista, Colorado, who had a Mill at Jasper, wrote me for permission to take a few tons from the Dump to try in his Mill. I do not know how much he took but I think it was considerably in excess of 10 tons. He wrote me that the result of concentration was to put from 3 to 5 tons into one, and a concentrate of \$45.00 a ton. He wanted to lease the whole dump, but I declined. I was afterwards informed by a man who claimed to know the facts that Judge John W. Crump made concentrates worth \$166.00 a ton, instead of \$45.00, and that he produced one ton in 24 hours. Mr. E.F. Brown and David Swickheimer both examined the property and both expressed the opinion that it was the best Milling proposition that they had ever seen in Colorado. That is my own opinion also. Everything that comes from the shafts and drifts is a Milling proposition, and I do not know of a mine in the country that I would so soon go to as this, if I could have my own way. I believe the property can be made a great dividend payer, and that this can be shown by the ore on the Dump, before undertaking to lift the water from the mine and work the Mine at all. I would advise the putting up of a small concentrating plant to operate on the Dumps, and if the values there can be saved no other question as to the practical value of the property will remain to be solved. The DUMPS will provide the funds afterwards required to further develop and operate the Mine.

The vein can produce any amout of concentrating ore, for everything carries value. The shaft when reopened should be enlarged and retimbered. It is so small that the air is bad, and the timbers tho large are 6X8 long. The enlarging and retimbering would require from three to four months but would not be especially expensive.

I would concentrate every thing in the Mine that was not know to be of so high a grade, that the loss in concentrating would more than equal the expense of shipping and smelting. The River is only about 300 yards from the shaft, with plenty of water. For a quarter of a mile the fall is not very great but 200 or 300 fall can be obtained 1000

feet distant by tapping the side streams. These would require bed-rock sinking to procure a supply during the winter season when the surface water would be frozen.

I would advise that any temporary Mill would be placed at the river, where a larger and permanent one would be located, and to which the ore could be easily delivered by Tramway. The River Bluff on the bank is steep and about 50 feet above the water.

Copied from the Records of Robt. W. Woodbury,

President of the International Finance & Development Co.,  
Denver, Colorado.

May 26th 1903.

This report is on File in State Mine Commissioners Office,  
State Capital,  
Denver, Colorado.