



CARBONATE CAMP

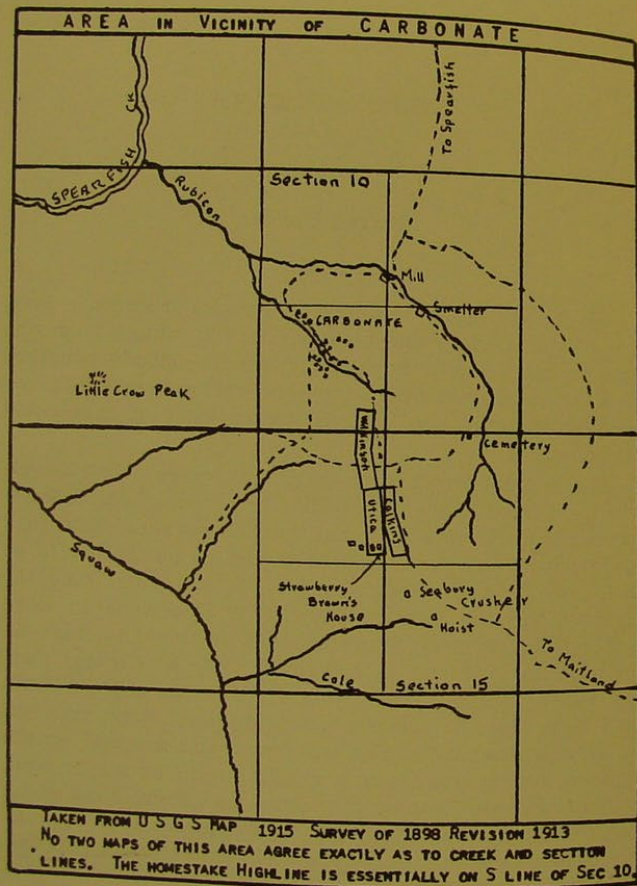
by

Mildred Fielder

We found Carbonate Camp on a series of summer days, and walked straight into history. The old mining town was dead as far as activity was concerned--nobody breathed there, no mine was operating--but everywhere we looked we saw the evidence of a living enthusiasm that could not be buried.

We had known it was there, of course. Most people who have lived in the Black Hills any length of time know where old Carbonate was, but there is not much of a road leading to it any more and they just do not bother to go that deep in the woods. To find it, you must take the highway through Central City from Deadwood to Lead rather than highway 85 as marked on the map, turn up the road to Maitland at the lower edge of Central City, and follow that dirt road almost as far as the old Maitland Mine. Just before you reach Maitland Mine, turn left on a two-rutted trail. You will know you are still on the right road when you reach a small dam higher up the trail, called Columbia Dam or the Homestake Dam. Keep going past the dam, even though the road doesn't look too good. The trail is kept open only because it leads to electric power lines.

Eventually, if you drive long enough, you will come to the top of a hill marked by a high wooden skeleton of a mine head frame. This is the first evidence that you have reached Carbonate. If you want to explore Carbonate you must abandon the grand-trunk trail then, and take to the woods on barely perceptible passages, difficult to traverse.



Is it necessary to mention that modern cars are not the proper vehicle for such a jaunt? If you would go to Carbonate, then use a pick-up truck, a jeep, or a car at least twenty years old with considerable clearance.

We went there, anyway, and paused on top of the hill

where the bare skeleton of a mine headframe marked an empty shaft.

A rusty wheel lay idle in the crusher building, exposed to the elements. A few crumbling cabins nearby flapped pieces of tar paper in the breeze. Near one of the homes we kicked an old shoe and stopped to examine it more minutely. It was small, but not a child's shoe because it was too graceful for a child's boot. Buttons closed the side, ankle high, and the black of the cloth shoe top and leather lower portion was faded to a rusty gray. It must have been a woman's shoe. What woman wore it? What miner's wife had new shoes and tossed this one away?

Down the hill and around a couple of corners were more sections of the biggest silver boom in the Black Hills. In one protected valley several cabins were in fairly good state of repair. One was built sturdily from whole logs trimmed and squared. Others collapsed in the eaves, wind-owless, doors swinging from broken hinges or no doors at all. These cabins looked new compared to the ones farther down the road where the wind and the snow had more of a sweep. We found a cabin there that had fallen in a heap in the middle of itself, a beautiful hideaway for chipmunks. Not too far from the heap was a shed still standing upright to protect the remains of an old blacksmith forge. The bellows were rotten and useless, but parts of them showed what they had been.

Down in the gulch a bit farther was an open meadow which must have been the center of the town, but here the wind swept unmolested from the west and the storms of winter and summer had demolished everything but the foundations of the old homes. Even here where so little remained, the ghosts spoke. In the shade of an aspen grove an old well held clear water, spring fed and mountain pure. Nearby was the broken floor of a home partially protected by the trees. An iron stove of ancient vintage lay rusting on its side. We wandered curiously, and one of us pointed to an empty bottle. On its side, pressed into the glass, were the words 'Mustang Liniment.'

We laughed. Horse liniment was something very strong but how powerful must mustang liniment have been?

Then we found the graveyard. Mankind had forgotten that it was there, but nature was treating it with a living hand. Bright purple shooting stars grew around the graves. Modest blue violets snuggled close by. Scattered around the terrain were the dark blue of larkspurs and the sunshine yellow of oregon grape blossoms. The pines loomed high over all, lending their quiet peace to the scene. The headboards were of wood carved in cathedral-window shape weathered gray by time and leaning haphazardly to do their memorable duty as well as they could. Some of the graves were sunken, others mounded by rocks. One could tell that this one was short, a child's grave; this one was larger, a man's. The heart catching part was that of the eleven graves still marked, several were children's.

Weeks later we found the smelter in Rubicon Gulch. The black slag along the creek bed marked it as a one-time smelter, but the remains of ore chutes and other-building were nothing but crumbling kindling. Skirting around the edge of the hill was a narrow gauge railway, the old rails partially there, the hand-forged square railway spikes lying loose along the little incline or waiting to be pulled out of their sockets by the merest child that might come along.

It had been a long time since the smelter in Rubicon Gulch had processed ore from Carbonate Camp. Sixty five years, to be exact.

In sixty-five years a ghost town either must vanish like smoke or its history must be written, because time does not wait any longer.

To know Carbonate, one must know where it is and something of what led to its beginnings.

The Black Hills are on the far western edge of South Dakota with a small portion of them lapping into Wyoming. Carbonate Camp was in the greater South Dakota part. These hills lie in a great plains area, an island of pine clad mountains completely surrounded by prairies. They

are old, geologists say and for that reason offer geology students a field day of rare interest, but in the matter of white man's invasion they are fairly young.

All the great Dakota Territory, including North and South Dakota, Montana and a large part of Wyoming, had known white men roaming through its lands ever since Lewis and Clark went up the Missouri river in 1804. A few were there earlier, but the explorers opened the way to the fur-traders. Military posts followed as a matter of course, and time brought settlers and ranchers and farmers. The Black Hills was still an isolated island. It was Indian country. The government was trying to keep it Indian country.

Gold miners rushed past the mountainous area in frantic hords to reach the California '49'er gold rush, and they whipped by again in 1864 to swarm toward the Idaho gold fields, but they did not stop at the Black Hills.

Men had wandered into the piney forests of the hills, though. As early as 1823, Jedediah Smith and a small group of men were in the southern edge, but they found the going rough and not much to be accomplished, and left. The Ezra Kind party of seven men rode into the deep valleys in 1833, filled their packs with gold, and were killed before they could get out again. Ezra Kind scratched his story on a sandstone slab before an Indian arrow got him, and nobody outside knew the gold was there.

A scientific survey headed by Dr. F. V. Hayden got as far as the edge of the Hill in 1855, and he reported to the Dakota Historical Society in 1866 that he thought gold might be there.

General George A. Custer, the fair haired boy, was the man who finally convinced the world that the Black Hills was worth invading. On an official military expedition to explore the Black Hills, he led a fantastic collection of wagons, military men, cattle, a marching musical band and two practical prospectors into the heart of the hills, during the summer of 1874. Custer stopped the cavalcade at the edge of the hills while he climbed a high

mountain with the impossible name of Inyan Kara and gazed over the land he meant to conquer. As far as he could see, the hills rolled pine darkened against the sky. They marched through Floral Valley, where flowers were so thick that they twined them around their horses' ears and stopped to play a musical air for the benefit of the soldiers. They climbed granite-topped Harney Peak, the highest spot between the Rocky Mountains and the Alleghenies on the east coast, and while Custer and his picked group of officers were doing that, the two prospectors found gold on French Creek in the heart of the hills.

Back by the Missouri River, the Collins-Russell party was already planning to enter the forbidden Indian hills, and when the Custer expedition returned to Fort Abraham Lincoln in North Dakota with the first verified news of gold in 'them thar hills' the Collins-Russell party headed for the Black Hills. They traveled by a circuitous route to avoid the soldiers because they knew they were evading the law that said 'Keep Out', but they made it. Annie D. Tallen's book, *LAST HUNTING GROUND OF THE DAKOTAS*, tells their story in as entrancing a fashion as any could wish. But they were against the law, and when word leaked out that the Collins-Russell party was in the hill and prospecting for gold, soldiers followed them and escorted them out. The damage was done. The world knew that there was the makings of another gold rush in the Black Hills, and no treaty with Indians nor government soldiers could stop them.

The anxious ones walked into the hills in 1875, group by group or singly. When the area was declared open to the white men in 1876, the gold rush really began. They came from everywhere and built their houses and sluiced the streams. Custer, Hill City, and then booming Deadwood.

Carbonate was born of the gold rush to the Black Hills, and the strange part of the whole thing is that Carbonate boomed as big as the rest of the Hills towns, but Carbonate was silver. One other village in the Black Hills, Galena, grew around silver, but gold was the mineral that built

the Black Hills towns of today. Carbonate and Galena are the two stepchildren of the Black Hills, and Carbonate is dead.

Sleeping? Not dead? Maybe.

It is difficult to get the whole history of Carbonate Camp, but from scattered references we can assemble a rather clear picture. It began with a trickle, then became a boom in silver mines which was cut so sharply that the bulk of the town just packed up and left. There was a recurring interest by a few old prospectors, one lonely man living long after the rest were gone, and then nothing but the wind and the rain and the decaying wood.

Names color its history. It is hard to say who was there first. One historian says Rasberry Brown came in 1874 and lived there the rest of his life until he died in 1939...but there was no Carbonate Camp in 1874. Credit for its beginnings is given to James Ridpath and his son, L. B. Ridpath, of Virginia, horticulturists who came to plant apples. They settled around the Carbonate district. When everybody down Deadwood way grew wild with gold frenzy, Ridpath and son staked out a gold claim alongside their apples. They called it the Virginia Mine, or WEST Virginia Mine, and registered it right and proper.

That started it.

No matter where some prospector found gold, others followed him and did a little prospecting beside him. When summer rolled around again, R. D. Porter climbed the hill to investigate its possibilities. January 11, 1878, he located a silver mine and named it the Red Cloud Mine. In a way then, maybe Porter started Carbonate Camp because the district is built on silver, not gold, though some of the mines yielded both metals and others besides the Virginia were gold. But you can't give the credit to Porter, by evidence of the old timers themselves. In those first early years the settlement was known as West Virginia after Ridpath's mine. The name appeared on old records and deeds. Later we find it referred to as 'West Virginia

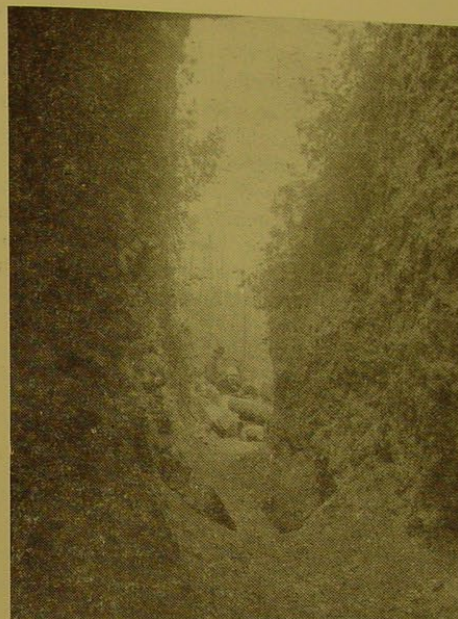
or Carbonate', and then the final name of 'Carbonate,' alone. There can be no doubt. Ridpath was there first

Josiah Craig came next. Joe Craig was one of the breed of prospectors in whom the search was the thing of importance. He had located the Badger Mine near Bald Mountain a few miles south of Carbonate, September 28, 1879, then moved east and claimed the Silver King mine on November 21, only three months later. Either he was just following his prospector's nose or he might have heard about Porter's mine. He worked north until he reached Porter's Red Cloud, walked just beyond and started to prospect. He located the Iron Hill Mine that summer of 1880, the biggest of them all. He should have been satisfied, or maybe he didn't know the extent of the Iron Hill, but he kept looking.

Somebody must have talked. Suddenly they began coming from every where.

Miners dug in every small cranny of Carbonate district, their picks and shovels busy and the gleam in their eyes searching the ground as they worked. Everywhere one looked in 1881 were claims, locations, booted and shiskered men. That year was the first big year for Carbonate Camp. Between June 22, 1881, when Frank Bryant located the Spanish R mine and August 1 of the same summer, at least nine mines were found and claimed one after the other. Bryant was another prospector typical of the day. Like Craig, he looked for a rich strike and having found it, looked again.

The record doesn't say whether Josiah Craig sold the Iron Hill at once or later (the Calkins Brothers owned it in 1883) but at any rate Craig was joyfully hunting for a strike again, as was Frank Bryant. The South Dakota Place Names say that Craig found the Greenland Mine on July 6, named Greenland because it was the only claim in the nearby area with green trees growing on it. An old fire had stripped the forest around the diggings. The Bryants (Frank B. and Mary Walton are just as certain



—Property of Robert M. Bryant, Belle Fourche, S. Dak.

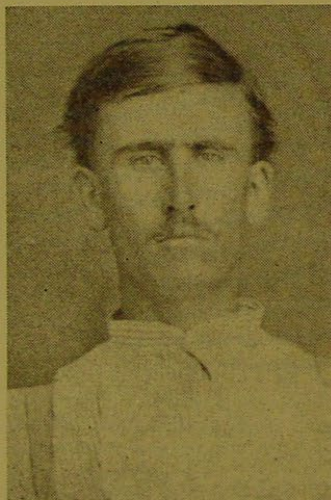
Spanish R Mining Company, first opening (located June 22, 1881, this photo must have been taken along toward the end of that summer. The Spanish R was located by Frank Bryant.

that the Greenland was their father's claim, with no assistance from Craig.

The next day Charles Miller and A. Danielson located the Adelphi Mine, and found both gold and silver in it. Three days later the Jefferson Mine (silver) was claimed by Solomon Jefferson, Andy Johnson and Thomas Milligan. Jefferson stock was being sold six years later, and the mine was still being worked in 1891 by Sol Jefferson, but it may not have been in continuous operation. Frank Bryant's son, Frank B Bryant, a mining engineer at Landusky, Montana at the present time, remembers that the Jefferson was about fourth in production during the boom years of Car-

bonate Camp, being led only by the big Iron Hill, the Seabury-Calkins, and the Spanish R. 'Sol Jefferson figured that he had another Comstock,' the younger Bryant wrote.

Almost a week went by with no new strikes, and then on the sixth day, July 16, 1881, three mines were located. Joe Craig joined forces with Huger Wilkinson and William Williamson and located the Wilkinson Mine, which seemed good but never produced much. G. H. Collingwood and J. H. Lapsley filed a claim on the Little Iron Mine, so named to differentiate it from the nearby Iron Hill Mine, both of which showed silver ore stained with iron rust,



—Photo property of Mrs. Mary Bryant Walton,
Belle Fourche, S. Dak.

Frank S. Bryant, prospector and mining man in Carbonate district from 1881 to 1889. He was responsible for locating and developing more mines in that area than any other one man. Date of photograph, 1870, five years before Bryant came to Black Hills.

Frank Bryant, still prospecting like mad, located the Little Ellen Mine. According to the authors of the South Dakota Place Names, Bryant named the Little Ellen after

a little girl at the mining camp boarding house, but his daughter Mrs. Walton said that was not the truth. Bryant named his mine after his wife Ellen and oldest daughter Elenora

There was a big boarding house already in operation, however. Jake Ringley's boarding house was well established in the growing town of Carbonate. In its time, Carbonate Camp had three boarding houses of magnificent service, Jake Ringleys, the Tuller House which was established about 1882, and the Iron Hill Boarding House which came into being around 1886. Ringley's and the Tuller House fed from one hundred fifty to two hundred men daily, and the Iron Hill Boarding House around one hundred.

There was still time to locate one more silver mine in July. On the 27th the Endymion was found by Harry Dalton.

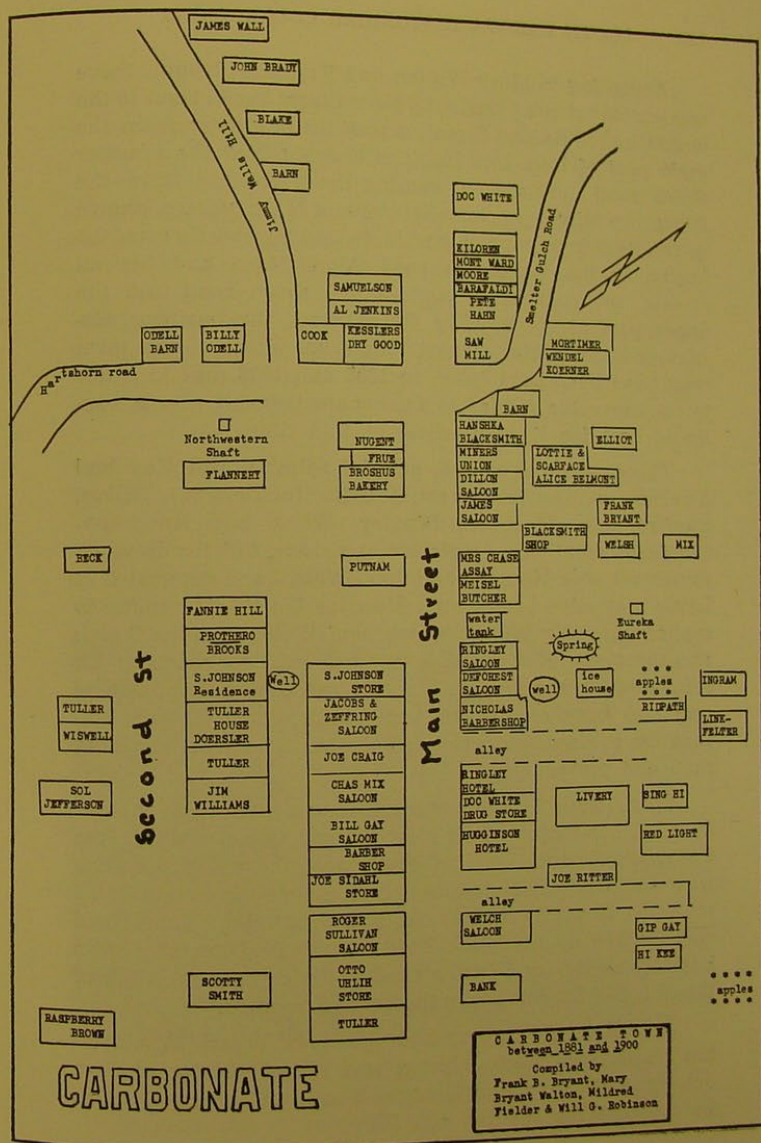
... The last location of that hectic summer was the Far West Mine, located August 1, 1881, by Joe Hattenbach, G. Cunningham, and B. Wolf. It was said that the Far West was named after one of the early Missouri River steamboats that moved up the Missouri and Yellowstone rivers, upon which Joe Hattenbach, one of the owners of the mine, had traveled on his way to the Black Hills. If so, it was named after a brave boat. The Far West was the steamboat that carried the tragic news of Custer's last stand back to civilization with the wounded from the battle of the Little Big Horn, a distance of 920 river miles in fifty-four hours—one of the most remarkable runs ever made on the upper river. Though the Far West Mine was not a big producer, its stock certificates brought buyers at least five years later.

By this time the district was teeming with people. Everything was wide open and booming. Houses were being built along the gullies and mountainsides. Saloons and gambling houses appeared.

Those who remember Carbonate say that the main street of the settlement ran up and down the meadow that is marked now only by sunken foundations and debris of a

past age, all overgrown by tansy. Old deeds mention town lots on the Yankee Lode, which would seem to indicate that Frank Pecks map marking the Yankee location would also mark the approximate location of the main part of the business district.

In the summer 1955, Mary Bryant Walton and Robert Bryant accompanied Will Robinson (South Dakota Historical Society Secretary). Ronald Fielder (my husband) and myself to the site of old Carbonate. Mrs. Walton came to Carbonate at the age of two in 1884, and grew through her childhood to the age of seventeen in 1899, when the family moved away. Robert Bryant never lived in Carbonate, having been born in 1901, but his interest in Carbonate continued through the family's connections with the town and his own mining interests in the vicinity in later years. Mrs. Walton's brother, Frank B., wrote a letter and map corroborating Mrs. Walton's memories. He was two years younger than Mary, but remembered his childhood spent in the old mining camp. While their memories of locations cannot go so far as to state when many of the building and homes appeared, their childhood memories of Carbonate days are keen and there is no doubt that their help in re-building the Carbonate map has been of extreme value.



According to Mary Walton and Frank B Bryant, there was another street paralleling Main Street back closer to the woods, called Second Street, a trail leading down from the main part of town into Rubicon Gulch called the Smelter Gulch road, and a road coming down the hill from the Hartshorn Mine to connect Second and Main Streets, known as the Hartshorn road. Along Main and Second Streets, the known as the Hartshorn road. Along Main and Second streets, the connecting part of Hartshorn road and the upper part of the Smelter Gulch road, the business district and residential district clustered. Much of the town may have been built later, in 1885 and 1886, but in order to introduce the reader to Carbonate town, it seems easier to describe it as a whole at this time.

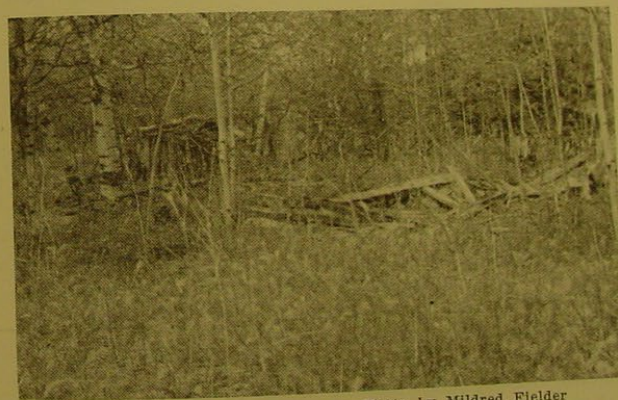
There were, of course, several saloons. Bill Gay had a saloon, and Ike de Forrest, Zeffring (or Zerfing), Dillon, Charles Mix, Jacobson, Ringley, Welsh and Randolph. Old deeds mention a Lewis Welsh saloon, but the Bryants remember only Maurice and John Welsh, and suggest that Lewis may have been Lewis Maurice Welsh. The name is spelled variously Welch, Walsh, and Walch besides Welch and the name Maurice also spelled Morris, but they all refer to the same family. Maurice ran that saloon, but he was also busy on various real estate deals, if one will take the evidence of registered deeds. John was a mining man and prospector.

There were at least three Chinese laundries, that of Sing Hi, Gip Gay, and Hi Kee. A bank, a newspaper (the Carbonate Mirror), a school house were there. George Cook was the first school teacher, and at one time taught as many as 75 pupils in that old school building. The school was farther up the road, however, away from the main business section and on the road to the cemetery on top of the hill. Ida Diedrich was the second teacher.

John Broshus' Bakery had wonderful bread, Mrs. Walton remembers. Sam Johnson was the proprietor of Sam Johnson's Grocery and General Store, and was helped in its management by his son Billy.

Dr. White had a drug store and the first postoffice. Frank B. Bryant wrote that Doc White 'was sent to Leavenworth for irregularities in the postoffice', but that 'his daughter Lily was a lovely girl.' Her name was really Sydney White, Mary Walton says. After Doc White disappeared, the postoffice was moved to Sam Johnson's store, and Sam added that to his duties. Doc White's residence, Bryant added, 'was by far the nicest residence in camp.'

There was a butcher shop, a sawmill, a water tank, a blacksmith shop, a carpenter shop and a couple of livery stables. Three red-light districts existed, one run by Fannie Hill on Second Street, another on the corner of Main and the Smelter Gulch road where Lettie and Scarface Alice Belmont lived, and a third unidentified by name. A Tent Dance Hall was owned by Horace Marshall, and later a big hotel called Carbonate Hotel or Hugginson's Hall because of its really pretentious banquet hall used for eating or dancing. That was about eight years later than the 1881 boom, however, and maybe we're getting ahead of our time in even mentioning it this early.



—Photo by Mildred Fielder
Sunken foundation and shed at Carbonate Camp—1955.
Remains of the Prothero cabin, in the town of Carbonate, on the north side of Second Street.

Houses were grouped around the business district, and more cabins and shacks were scattered through the woods.

To get back to 1881, old deeds transferring town lots in 'West Virginia' show a considerable flurry of excitement in the late summer and fall of 1881. An August 1 deed transfers the lot 'opposite John Gildersleeve's lot' from S. A. Hoag to George Bertschey, who in turn sold a lot to Clark Mather a couple of weeks later. Josiah Craig sold a town lot to Mrs. John H. Owings, and H. W. Williams sold one to Mrs. H. J. Simpson, which indicates that ladies had a finger in the activities already. Among others, L. G. Fuller sold his West Virginia lot to M. W. Dillon on October 1, 1881. What was happening that such a quick turnover of lots occurred so early in the game? For one thing, it looks like Dillon was just setting up business. He built a good sized building of two stories, and used the first story for a saloon.

It was around then that the Tuller family appeared and built the hotel called the Tuller House. Little Nettie Tuller (later Mrs. Minor Blow) was about ten years old, she remembers and even with her child eyes she saw that the camp was wild with enthusiasm.

The Tuller House could feed one hundred men, and generally did so. A few of the men could be given rooms in the unfinished upper story of the boarding house but most of them depended on the Tullers only for food. The whole Tuller family pitched in and helped with the work, the three Tuller girls and Mr. and Mrs. Tuller and finally a couple of hired girls. Mary Tuller was the oldest of the three girls, and then Addie, and finally young Nettie who was at least old enough to help with the dishes, she says. Mrs. Blow remembers that the population of Carbonate was a shifting one with men coming and going from day to day. Sometimes the drifters left with their Tuller bills unpaid, leaving unannounced in the middle of the night.

Nettie Tuller knew Eva Ringley, daughter of the proprietor of the other big eating place, Jake Ringley's Boarding House. She and Eva were about the same size. Eva

had two brothers, Jay and Roy (Both died early), and a younger sister, Myrtle, born in 1886. Eva married Edward Ritter when both grew up. The Ritter family lived about four houses up the street. Her sister Myrtle became Myrtle Richards, the bride of Arthur Richards who was working for the Seabury-Calkins Mine in later Carbonate years.



—Photograph property of Robert M. Bryant,
Belle Fourche, S. Dak.

Myrtle Edna Ringley (Mrs. A. E. Richards) Born Nov. 20,
1886, Carbonate, South Dakota, in Jake Ringley's Boarding
House.

There were two barbershops, one of which was called the Sim Nicholas Barber Shop. And people. Everywhere were the people, coming and going and talking and laughing, people to be fed, people with their stories of big strikes, people with their complaints and their joys and their sorrows. The estimate made by one historian of 'several thousand people' must cover the ones who were there at different times in Carbonate's history, as other references speak of lesser figures, but there must have been a lot of humanity even then. A complete record of names is

impossible. Newspapers and old records, death notices, marriage notices, other sources give names, but relatively few can be checked.

Old timers mention names that do not appear in ordinary sources but are remembered for personal reasons. Billy Rogers was one. When his wife came from England to join him, the whole town threw a big dance to welcome her. That was something to remember. Billy Rogers' granddaughter, Mrs. Antonne Giachetto, Lead, identifies him as William T. Rogers. He came to Carbonate in 1883, she says, and his wife Elizabeth came from England to Carbonate in 1885 with her two children, William Alfred and Carrie.

There was a Doersler family, Isaac and Margaret, who lived for a while in the town, then later moved to a cabin higher on the hill owned and abandoned by the Wilkinsons. They lived in the Wilkinson cabin for the rest of their lives, and died there, Mrs. Walton says. She remembers Margaret Doersler as a strong willed woman of inflexible W.C.T.U. convictions, who kept boarders. Isaac worked for one of the mines.

Thomas D. Murrin was a very young man in Carbonate for a short time. Murrin acted as secretary for the Transit Mining Company in 1886, before he left to work for the Homestake Mining Company in Lead.

Carbonate Camp was high in the hills. Railroads were no closer than Deadwood, twelve miles away. Though a smelter was built later, in those first boom days the ore was hauled by heavy dray horses to smelters down the gulch. A great part of that first ore may have gone to the Golden Reward smelter in Deadwood, old timers believe. Some of the ore went farther. Frank B. Bryant writes that it was his understanding that the Spanish R and Jefferson 'shipped ore to Swansea Wales at first and then later on to Argentine, Kansas.' He adds that oxen hauled a lot of it down the gulches and out of the hills.

'I can remember Bell's bull outfit loading ore at the Spanish R,' he says, 'remember that long horned buck-

skin bull on the lead and I remember that terrible whip. The Spanish R was my fathers's property.'

Old photographs exist that show a ten horse team of heavy built work horses pulling a huge boiler perched on a wagon. The driver sits on the front end of the boiler high above his horses, and the narrow mountain trail twists ahead of him through the trees. The wonder is that such immense pieces of equipment could be hauled across rugged forest lands and primitive mountain areas.

There was a lot to be said for living in a booming town in the heart of the hills. Berries were there to be picked by any who might want them, and fool hen (grouse) nested in the woods. It was said that one of the old timers was particularly adept at bringing in the fool hens, and finally someone followed him to find how he did it. The answer was camouflage. He began with a heavy belt around his waist and stuck branches in it to make himself look like a walking bush. Attired thus, he could walk directly to the fool hens and kill them easily.

The town began to look dignified, especially when a few of the business establishments hauled in bricks to make brick facades. One can find a few of those bricks scattered on the ground in the townsite of Carbonate, and Black Hills historians say they were there, but Mary Bryant Walton said she could not remember them and Frank B. mentioned that 'most of the buildings were frame structures.' The bricks would have been no problem at all as far as haulage is concerned when one considers the size of the mine machinery snaked over the rough mountain roads.

The year 1883 was important primarily because Joe Craig sold his Iron Hill holdings to the Calkins (sometimes spelled Caulkins) brothers, S. H. Calkins, George S. Calkins. Charlie Calkins, and Sherm Calkins. Sherm was the beau of the camp, the one bachelor Calkins of them all. Joe Craig hadn't bothered to develop the property. He was busy prospecting again, and in January he staked out the Mutual Mine. The same mine had been located twice before and abandoned, first called the Bester, then the Gooden-

ugh. Maybe Craig saw possibilities that had been overlooked. If so, he wasn't the only prospector who gave consideration to someone else's forgotten property. Nine years later stock certificates were being issued for the Goodenough Mine once more, not by Joe Craig.

The Calkins brothers located the Seabury Mine and Segregated Iron Hill Mine in 1883, and with the three mines balancing each other, they began to dig in earnest. They had something that outlasted any other mine in the district and yielded more silver bullion than any other location, though for a while not many realized the fact.



—Photo by Mildred Fielder
Skeleton of Seabury-Calkins Head Frame — 1955

Frank Peck's 1904 map shows a section marked 'hoist' adjacent to a claim 'Adelphi' to the west, with the three claims Carbonate, Antietam, and Utica to the east. The Bureau of Mines Black Hills Mineral Atlas (1954 Information Circular 7688) states that Iron Hill's 'main shaft, 460 feet deep is located near the center of the Utica claim... An exploration drift on the 300 foot level extends to the bottom of the New Titanic shaft 450 feet to the west,' which would seem to indicate that the 'Hoist' on the Peck map would be the New Titanic shaft of the Iron Hill holdings, and the relic headframe that is still visible. Actually the Iron Hill shaft as located by Mary Bryant Walton is a slight hundred feet west of the relic headframe, caved in now to fifteen feet of the surface. The headframe that is still standing is that of the Seabury-Calkins Mine, one of the last mines to remain in operation.

Peck's map showing the Ultimo claim marks what was originally the Segregated Iron Hill, according to the Bureau of Mines.

Not too far away, the Spanish R Mine was going good. One historian says that Abbie (Albe) Holmes 'located' it in 1883, but it is the same mine that Frank Bryant had located in 1881. Bryant was president of the Spanish R Mining Company in 1886, and he was still in full control in 1889. J. B. Irving, in his 1904 publication of 'Economic Resources of the Northern Black Hills', says that it was worked by the Seabury, the Iron Hill, the Segregated Iron Hill, and the Adelphi mines. That might have explained the Spanish R success, except that the 1954 publication of the Bureau of Mines says that it was not a westward extension of that crevice. However, the Adelphi mine had a drift that joined the Iron Hill mine on the 300 foot level.

All of the mines were close, of course. The story is told of the Seabury Mine that it once went a little too far underground and drove a drift into a nearby mine to haul out \$5,000 worth of silver before the neighbors noticed the difference. Naturally a hullaballo went up about that, but the only thing that happened was that the drift was boarded

off with a man-tight spite fence. The story goes that later justice caught up with the neighbor mine and underground fire threatened to trap the miners. They managed to escape only by hacking their way through the Seabury board wall and going up the Seabury shaft. The Seabury was also called the Seabury Coffin Mine, but whether that nickname had any connection with the fire incident is not known.

By the end of the year the Black Hills Daily Times noted that there were 'hundred of locations' around Carbonate. This was enough for Nathan Hattenbach to announce that he was figuring on setting up a small smelter in the gulch, and the prospectors thought it a mighty fine idea.

The Calkins brothers meant business. Before the first week of January 1884 was over they had night and day shifts going at Iron Hill with Ed Little as foreman. By the end of the month they had three shifts working and two engineers on the job, making a total of eight employees in the mine. Outsiders didn't hear much at first of the activity there. Dick Richards, Deadwood, submitted a report in March 1884 to the Black Hills Daily Times in which he spoke contemptuously of the 'little water-hole or prospect shaft' called Iron Hill Mine.

That was the summer when Frank Bryant completed a home in Carbonate, a neat little 'one story log house of four rooms' and brought his wife, Ellen, and two year old daughter, Mary, and three weeks old son, Frank B., to Carbonate. They had lost two babies besides these two whom they cherished, baby John who died when only twelve days old, and baby Matilda Elenora at five months of age.

Prospectors were still working around the camp. On May 10, 1884, Henry C. Daly located the Silver Queen Mine; and less than a month later on June 5, John McKean, Thomas Edwards, and John Murray staked out the Outward Bound Mine. The next recorded location was that of the Transit Mine, claimed by Thomas H. White on December 4, 1884. White was a civil and mining engineer, historians

say, and he named his mine after the instrument that he used constantly in his work as an Engineer.

W. J. Ringley, proprietor of Jake Ringley's Boarding House started to dabble in mining that year when he acquired a mining deed from Peter Hann. The deed named a lot on Main Street in Carbonate, but was unequivocally a mining deed.

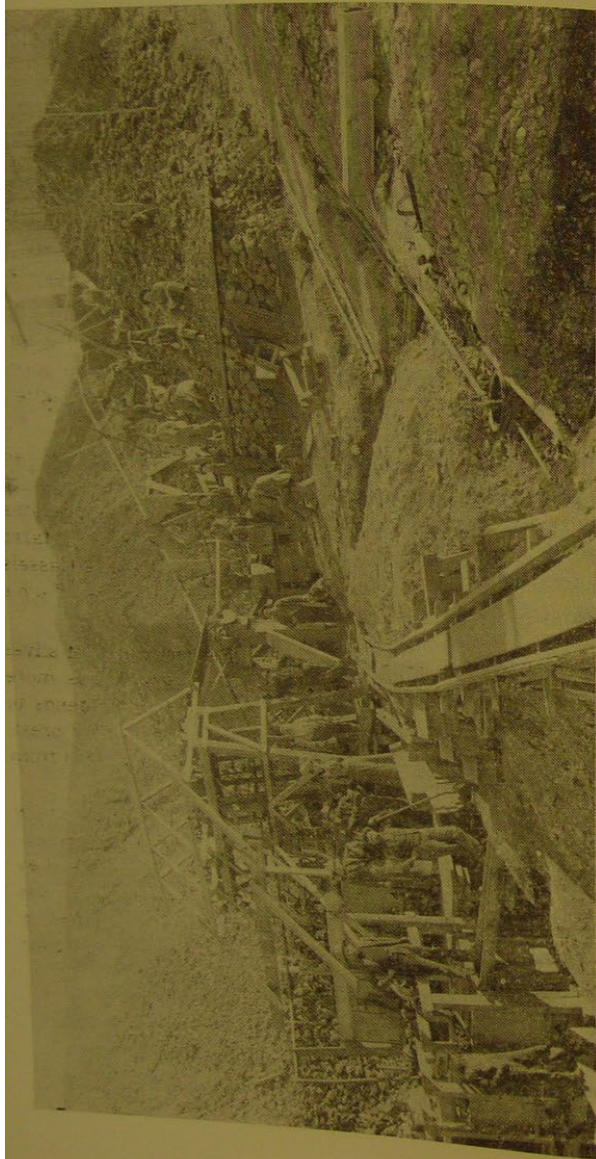
Sometime during 1885 the Iron Hill Mine ran into its rich galena ores and began to make money hand over fist.

The story of Carbonate Camp revolves around the Iron Hill, leads up to it, swings with it, dies in its death. A lot of names were involved, and a lot of cash. It made money but it quit flat broke. Old records and newspapers give us only a bare outline of what happened.

It was incorporated into the Iron Hill Mining Company from the first. That seems fairly certain. Directors and officers of the corporation through the years of its operation 1883-1891 included D.A. McPherson, W. S. Remer, Harris Franklin, Seth Bullock, Robert W. Cooper, George Cassels, Robert Graham, H. T. Cooper, L. W. Valentine, John Baggaley.

One historian says it produced \$660,000 worth of silver between 1885 and 1891. Jesse Simmons says it was more exactly \$736,000 of which \$162,250 was paid in dividends to stockholders. By its own directors' report signed by president Seth Bullock in 1890, its receipts on June 3, 1890 from 1883 to that date were \$885,519.92.

J. B. Irving gives a breakdown of production figures for the Iron Hill from 1885 to 1891 with the exception of 1889 and 1890. He speculates that the mine may have been idle during those two years. According to the 1890 directors' report, but it was put back in operation early in 1890 and its smelter was used for a couple of weeks that summer. Irving's figures are as follows



—Photograph property of Robert M. Bryant, Iron Hill Mine workings. Date must be sometime around 1886. Wm. S. Remer is the man second from left, and Mrs. Remer stands sixth from the left side of photo.

Belle Fourche, S. Dak.

CARBONATE CAMP

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Production of Iron Hill mine, Carbonate camp:

1885	\$13,394
1886	372,120
1887	259,942
1888	15,000
1891	6,762
Total	\$667.21

He added a brief geologic description of Iron Hill formations "The country rock that carries the ore in the Iron Hill mine is the gray carboniferous limestone in which sills, dikes, and irregular masses of porphyry have been intruded. The ore bodies are of two kinds: large, irregular bodies of lead carbonate, which pass in places into more or less unaltered galena, generally in close contact with porphyry masses; and partially filled crevices which resemble in a general way the verticals of Ragged Top

The first type of deposit, he noted, was found in the Iron Hill mine, and the second or irregular crevice type typified principally in the Seeabury mine and continuing through the Iron Hill, Segregated Iron Hill and Adelphi Mine with a possible continuation in the Spanish R.

The galena ore discovery at Iron Hill brought a second influx of people. Word of the rich galena strike got around in a hurry, and the Iron Hill had jobs for men. The name of Seth Bullock, first sheriff of Lawrence county, is involved in the organization of the Iron Hill Mining Company and in the building of the first silver mill in camp. He served as president of its board of officers for several years.

Alvin Brooks showed up in town with his young wife Anna, newly married. They opened the Iron Hill Boarding House near the mine in 1886, and fed about one hundred men a day. When their first son, Charlie, was born, the exuberant mining camp blew all the whistles to celebrate his birth.

Anna Brooks' daughter Mary (Mrs. C. A. Syverson) later recounted some of the old days at Carbonate Camp

as her mother told the stories to her. She said that the miners slept in small cabins scattered around the camp but the mining enthusiasm and primitive living conditions appealed to more young single men, she said, and they were dependent on the ministrations of the few women in camp. Many times Mrs. Brooks or one of the other married women were called to put a mustard plaster on a sick miner when he had contracted pneumonia, or to carry meals to a man too sick to leave his shack. Doctors were far away in those days and when one was summoned he rode horse back from either Lead or Deadwood, ten and twelve miles distant. His fee was a flat ten dollars, which seemed a lot to those who paid and doubtless barely adequate to the doctor making the trip.

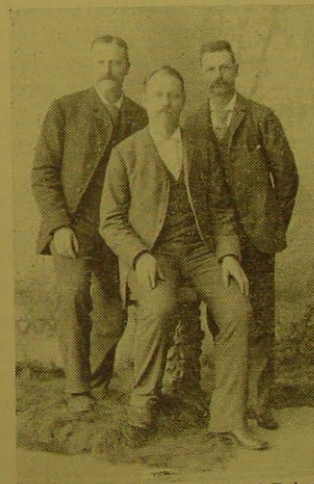
Men were not always sick, however, and when the men were not working they found plenty to do. Baseball games were popular. One old story recounts the fact that the baseball diamond in current use was found to have its home plate over a bed of ore, so they had to move the game to allow for the sinking of the Homerun shaft.

The Iron Hill Boarding House was situated on top of the hill, and Anna Brooks remembered that the quantities of water for the boarding house were brought from the depths of the mine as being closer than any hill springs or creeks that might be in neighboring gullies. Men were working at the harder jobs, so Anna had to manage the water with only the help of the negro yard man who would not "get in a hole that I cannot see out of". There was nothing to do but get his help in putting the barrels on the cage, ring the bell to go down into the mine with the barrels, carry water from the underground spring to the barrels still set on the cage, ring the bell to be raised and come up again. Anna went down the mine shaft with the barrels and the negro yard man waited at the top to manage the heavy barrels when the cage came up. It wasn't so bad Anna remembered. She had a yoke across her shoulders with a buckets balanced each other.

Even as late as then, the late 1880's, there were Indian scares, Anna Brooks said. The mine served another purpose when the Indians threatened. Women and children were bundled into the mine until the scare was over.

A closer and more intimate scare was hers when Mrs. Brooks went berry picking during service berry time. Hearing a rustle on the other side of the bush, she spoke cheerily, thinking it was one of the other ladies in the party. No answer. She looked, and stared straight into the face of a black bear. There is no report of who ran the fastest, Anna Brooks or the bear, but one of the men from camp went to look for the bear later and brought it home in a more suitable dead state.

Raspberry Brown was there, prospecting some of the time and picking raspberries to sell to the housewives.



—Photo property of Robert M. Bryant,
Belle Fourche, S. Dak.

Charles "Raspberry" Brown, center front, old resident of Carbonate. This picture was taken in New York in 1892, at the time he returned to New York to collect a legacy. Other men in photograph identified only as Lot (on right) and James (on left), apparently no connection with Carbonate.

Doubtless Mrs. Brooks would have missed the black bear if she had let Raspberry Brown do the job, but she would have missed a good story to tell to her grandchildren, too.

Mary Brooks Syverson says she remembers Raspberry Brown. Nettie Tuller Blow remembers him. Mary Bryant Walton remembers him, calling him 'a lovable idler'. Everybody who knows anything at all about Carbonate remembers Raspberry Brown, but there seems to be some disagreement as to when he actually arrived. The Deadwood Pioneer Times said that he was in the Carbonate area 'for many years' and that he was a resident of the Black Hills since 1875 and in this section since earliest days'. The authors of the South Dakota Place Names claim he was in the Carbonate area since 1874. Nevertheless, Mrs. Walton says that while he came to the hills in '75, she did not remember that he settled in Carbonate earlier than about 1889. That would seem late in view of the fact that the town was a hustling camp long before that, and with the name of Carbonate, but by his own statement to Mrs. Walton the camp was booming before he came there.

He lived on the high side of Second Street in Carbonate at first, and later moved to the cabin of square-cut logs between Carbonate and the Iron Hill shaft. From time would spend some of the cold winter months in a shack on the edge of Blacktail, miles from Carbonate and nearer to civilization, but he always went back to Carbonate.

He had a garden and grew elegant carrots, but used a lot of his day time hours in just sleeping. He was a friend to all children, often giving them crisp carrots from his garden to munch. He lived by the Golden Rule, Mrs. Walton remembers, and she speaks of him yet with friendship in her voice.

He was a harmless old fellow,' she says, and got along fine with everybody but Sol Jefferson." The reason for his enmity with Sol, he told Mrs. Walton, was that once Sol came to visit him and stole two spools of thread from his home.

An old letter to Raspberry from his aunt, Mrs. P. M. York, might shed some light on his lonely life. It was dated May 25, 1894, mailed to Charles Brown at Carbonate and delivered to him in Bear Gulch Creek, South Dakota.

After a lengthy discussion of neighborhood news, the aunt finishes the letter by saying, "Charlie, I hope you write to your Mother, let the past be forgotten and cherish that love for the one who has tenderly watched over you from the cradle to manhood, overlook all faults, and let them be a thing of the past, all that is bad to be overlooked and forgotten. Do you ever hear anything from Sim, I wish you might accidentally run on to him, if you do give him one good shaking up for me, I will stand all damages. I am out of patience to think he didn't answer my letter...P.S. Be sure and answer at your earliest convenience without fail.'

What was his life? Who knows? Somewhere there may have been misunderstandings and anger and a boy leaving home to go as far as he could go. The distance from New York to Carbonate, Dakota Territory, was a long long ways. He went back east in 1892 to collect a legacy, but he never told anyone what the legacy was nor who had willed it to him.

Aunt Brown's reference to Sim is interesting because of the presence of Sim Nicholas in camp and the fact that Sim is rather an unusual name. One is treading on dangerous ground to connect the two, still the fact remains that Sim Nicholas is remembered by some Carbonate old timers with bitterness.

As for Raspberry himself, later in his life when both he and Mary Bryant Walton were older, Brown told her some of the events that brought him from New York to Carbonate. He was born May 7, 1851, in Barker, Broome county, New York, eleven miles from Binghamton (called the Parlor City), and left New York when he was twenty years old, heading for Manhattan, Kansas.

"Such a peculiar place," he told Mrs. Walton, Look forever and see no fences. I missed the stake and rider fences of New York.'

He herded hogs and tended corn for Reverend Moore, a Methodist preacher at Whiterock, then spent the winter with Sam and Seth Hoags in Jewell county. When spring came he went on the road, looking for work. He chopped wood, milked cows, worked for the railroad, herded cattle. People were friendly, he said, and each job was better than the one before. West of Kansas he headed for the St. Joe and Denver Railroad, night-herded thirty mules for a while then helped with the haying. From there he went to Sidney, Nebraska, moving north. D. C. Tracy hired him to unload charcoal, but Brown remembered Tracy chiefly for the fact that he made Brown wash up pretty clean' before going to eat at the hotel because 'there was an Iowa girl in there.'

He put up hay again for a while, then helped Tom Hall on a milk ranch near Ft. Laramie, Wyoming. He saved some money there and managed to buy a yoke of range cattle to haul wood for Ft. Laramie at \$7 a cord. It was good pay if you could find the wood, he told Mrs. Walton.

His wood hauling job eventually brought him to the Black Hills. Brown heard that the government agency at Red Cloud wanted wood for the post, and with thirty others he went to Red Cloud. From there he could see the black horizon of the Black Hills. A friend of Brown's Tom Huffman, was with him, and they decided to join an expedition to the Black Hills, in 1875.

In Mrs. Walton's words, "They sent to Cheyenne for two hundred pounds of Snowflake flour, sugar, coffee, and provisions. They put the stuff in a prairie schooner, also a big roll of blankets, pick, shovels, gold pans. They came through Red Canyon, through Custer, by Jenny's Stockade."

Twenty-one men were in that expedition, of whom eight came to know each other rather well. Besides Brown and Huffman (who owned two yoke of cattle) they were Jack McAleer, Bill Trainer (an old man), Ben Keller, Frank Tool from Iowa, Tom Carey (an old soldier) and Frenchy, a small man whose name was unknown (he owned a wagon). Bill Trainer was a 'touchy old guy', Brown told Mrs. Walton.

Charlie Brown had no bedding, and after they had crossed the Cheyenne river, Trainer asked Brown to sleep with him.

They prospected around Deadwood. Raspberry located several claims, then sold his ground for \$500 and bought a yoke of cattle that subsequently strayed so far they were never found. He had made up his mind to stay in the logging business for a while though, so he bought another pair of cattle and went to Brownsville (near Roubaix in the northern Black Hills) to make mining timbers.

He heard of the boom in Carbonate, came to prospect, and stayed.

Charles Raspberry Brown was a quiet man though, and not the fanciful character that little Bobby Nugent was. Bobby Nugent was one of the vanished race of hills prospectors of pioneer times, short, whiskery, seldom contacted by soap and water, always on the move in the backwoods. He had a mine of his own in those late '80's, Mrs. Syverson says, though it is lost in the files somewhere as far as name is concerned. Bobby was one of Mrs. Brooks's staunchest friends just because she was kind to him.

Even in mining camps, women have scruples about keeping a clean house and a clean family. Poor little Bobby was doubtless given the word to move on from more than one housewife. Mrs. Brooks would talk to him, her daughter says, and let him tell her his troubles. She usually gave him a silver dollar, too, since Bobby Nugent's mines never amounted to anything. Nugent would accept the dollar gravely, go to the nearest saloon to drink up the whole dollar in whiskey, and trot off to his diggings again.

He lived in Terry for a while, some distance from Carbonate, but occasionally he would walk over the hills and gulches to call on Mrs. Brooks. once he told her in all seriousness. "Those ladies at Terry, they think I'm crazy. I want them to think so, too. They ask me, when are you going to strike it rich, Bobby? And I run away from them as fast as I can."

He really did think he would strike it rich someday. He promised Mrs. Brooks that when he did, he would take her back to Ireland with him because she was his good friend.

He moved to Annie Creek and other spots, always a rover. There is mention of him as late as 1895 in mining circles. Years later when Carbonate Camp was forgotten and Mrs. Brooks was working as matron of the Homestake Plunge in Lead, Bobby Nugent came to see her, a little gray ghost out of the past.

Other knew him, too, and remember him for his littleness, his dirtiness, his quaintness. Years after the Carbonate collapse, Marion and Bill Lutey, Lead, were riding ponies through the deep gulches and trails of the northern hills, Mrs. Lutey says, and saw him in an unexpected manner. The day was the Fourth of July, 1916. They were newly married, young and full of energy, and they intended to ride to Squaw Creek from their home in Lead for a days outing. They approached an abandoned bridge over a deep gulch near a sand dump, and Mrs. Lutey started her pinto across it. The bridge must have been one of the earliest built in the hills. As the pony stepped, the weathered planks began to break. The pony was not a small horse, and Mrs. Lutey's slight weight did not help the situation.

She says she was immediately frightened. She was on the bridge past the point of return and the bridge was breaking under her. She urged the pony forward, and with the instinct of an animal under stress, her horse began to hurdle the rest of the crumbling bridge with great leaps. Behind her the bridge tumbled in pieces, but Mrs. Lutey and the pinto had gained the other side.

Then she says she heard a commotion in the weeds and a man's voice. There, not too far from her trembling stance, stood little Bobby Nugent not much higher than the weeds around him. His hands were stretched straight toward the sky, she remembers, and with a voice shaking with emotion he was saying, "On, my Gott Oh, my Gott"

Bobby had been using the bridge. He was light in weight and the bridge had held him with no trouble.

On the other side of the canyon Bill Lutey had to ride half a mile down stream to find a place where he could cross to join his young wife.

Estimates vary as to Nugent's size. Mrs. Lutey remembers that one of his cabins was about the size of a 'ticket office', and suggests that he might have been between four and five feet tall. Others thought he was shorter. He was not a dwarf though, they insist, being a well proportioned small man. He was just tiny. As for washing, he told Mrs. Brooks frankly that he washed at least once a year in the creek, and that had to do. Others who remembered him said he did not appear to have washed that often.

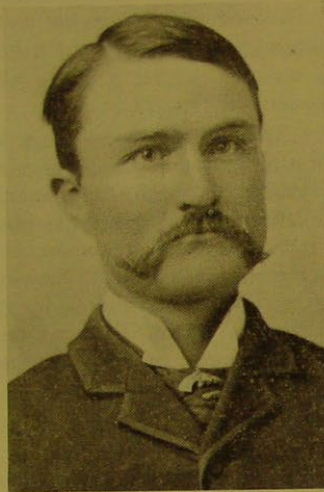
Most folks were more sedate and respectable than either Raspberry or Bobby.

David R. Thompson came to Carbonate Camp in the summer of 1885, bringing his bride, Carolyn Johnstone. They made their first home in the high mining town. Like many of the early miners, they were of pioneer stock that had traveled over half the world in the westward trek. Carolyn was born in Dunferman, Scotland, and came with her parents across the ocean when she was four years old.

Tom Goodman was one of the mail carriers and Dan Morris another who packed the mail by buckboard from Central City to Carbonate.

John Adams was remembered by the Bryant children because he helped Frank Brown bury the two little Bryant children in the Carbonate cemetery, the four year old sister Melody, and five-weeks-old baby Bryant who never had a name.

The Johnson family deserves special mention beyond the fact of their store, too. Three generations of Johnsons helped build the town. Sam ran the store and was nominal head of the family, but his mother, Grandma Johnson, kept house for him and his son Billy, and Billy not only helped in the store but was one of the town musicians. Billy could play the banjo or the violin equally well. Grand-



—Property of Robert M. Bryant,
Belle Fourche, S. Dak.

William Bruce Johnson (Billy Johnson) son of Sam Johnson, early postmaster and storekeeper in Carbonate Camp. Billy helped his father run the Sam Johnson's General Store during the boom years of Carbonate Camp.

ma was known as the best practical nurse in Carbonate, but was something of a character herself. She smoked a corncob pipe in her leisure moments. Sam and Billy ran the postoffice with the store as long as it was needed, but in the end they both died of tuberculosis while still on the hill. They were buried in Deadwood, Mrs. Walton says. The old timers thought Sam and Billy stayed in the store too much, and it wasn't good for their lungs. After they did, Grandma moved away, too, and died not long afterwards in St. Joe, Missouri.

All the rest of the town got their water for drinking and washing purposes from the spring on the north side of town. Not Grandma Johnson She had a well dug for her private use at the back of their house, and while she might have used spring water for drinking, that well is still one

of the few remaining landmarks in Carbonate. Round and deep, the stones forming its siding are clean and straight, the water five feet from the ground level. From the looks of it, Grandma Johnsons well is good for another fifty years.

There was another musician in town. McDonald played the bagpipes, and wore kilts, too. What was the rest of his name? Can't remember.

James Ridpath was still in town, shrewd and astute although he was signing his name with 'his mark'. He sold a couple of lots to Philerome La Berge (later spelled Phillip La Barge), one of the lots being the one upon which the Lewis Welsh saloon was doing business. With the money, Ridpath bought surface right on part of the Yankee Lode from the Eureka Mining Company.

A mining deed dated July 20, 1886 was transferred from John F. McLaughlin to W. F. Marshall, A. Fairwell, and William H. Riley, and notarized by Huger Wilkinson, which suggests that prospector Wilkinson had settled down to businessman Wilkinson. Wilkinson's notary public job carried dignity, if not much else. He was known as Judge Wilkinson to Carbonate Campers in those years, but since he never practiced law the name could have come only from his notarizing duties.

Marshall, Fairwell, and Riley borrowed money on their property a month later from Albert Powers and gave him a mortgage deed.

Sol Jefferson sold a Carbonate town lot to O. W. Matson in April, and Josiah Craig sold the 'Burnham house and lot at Carbonate' to Moses Frank in October.

A few location notices appeared in April. Rogers Sullivan's hand written notice is interesting in its contempt for spelling: 'Be it known to whom it may concern that I located taken up & occupied Certin lot or parsell of ground which is now known as lot no. one (1) in Block B of Carbonet or West Virginia. The same being fifty (50) feet fasing main St. and Extending back (100) one hundred feet as a town lot for Buildeng purposes dated this Carbonet April

10th, 1886. Rogers Sullivan.' That name West Virginia is still cropping up, but by this time Carbonate comes first.

Frank B. Bryant wrote that 'In 1886 there were 16 whistles blowing in the camp. The Iron Hill...was the big one.'

Other locations were registered by John W. Sullivan and William Gay.

Quit Claim deeds add their piece of history. Edward Hanschka was apparently getting out of the district when he sold his two town lots that August, 1886, to Herman Hanschka, because he included twenty-one head of horses, three buggies, one spring wagon, five sets of harnesses, four saddles and three lumber wagons.

The Tent Dance Hall, owned by Horace F. Marshall, became the property of Herbert Powers, and Marshall sold his carpenter shop to Albert Powers. Marshall must have left for greener pastures then, because his name no longer appears.

There seems to be considerable buying and selling of town lots during the summer of 1886. Maybe some of the earlier prospectors had been there just long enough that they needed cash. Andrew Johnson got a mortgage on his lot from Oscar Waller. Outright sales were made by Solomon Jefferson to James Anderson, and by O. S. Matson to Matson and Johnson. William Clark sold the lot next to Max Lowenthal's to Fred M. Clary, and R. J. Richards (could this be the disgruntled Dick Richards who spoke contemptuously of the Iron Hill Mine in 1884?) sold out to Maurice Walsh (or Welch, or Welsh) and Rogers Sullivan.

Here was the Iron Hill Mine going fine, and the population of Carbonate digging for all they were worth. All around the big mines, the smaller mines entered a new phase. This was the time to sell stock. Everybody looked at the activity in the Iron Hill and the ore coming out of its shaft, and bought stock in mines anywhere in Carbonate district. It was something like a fever. Carbonate mining stock may easily have been on the market before the Iron Hill strike, but evidence of old stock certificates still pre-

served shows 1885 and 1886 dates, up to 1903. We did not find earlier dates.

The Adams Museum in Deadwood has a good handful on file. Their dates and names indicate enthusiastic buying and selling.

The Segregated Iron Hill sold a few shares to W. G. Lincoln in 1885, signed by Wm. S. Remer and D. A. McPherson. Stocks were wild in 1886, with shares selling in the Far West, the Northwestern Silver Mining Company, the Spanish R. the Mammoth Silver Mining Company, the Transit, the Ophir, the Black Moon. Even W. J. Ringley protected by the sure income from his boarding house could not resist the mining fever. He bought some Northwestern Silver stock from Max Lowenthal and J. C. Shuett in 1886. Other 1886 stock was sold to M. Stern, E. G. Mathey, Jeff Hildreth, Sol Jefferson, John Delaunay, J. R. Bueter, John Foster, Thomas Carter, and signed by B. P. Dague, D. A. Magee, Max Lowenthal, J. C. Shuett, Alonzo T. Stewart, Frank S. Bryant, G. F. Frasier, C. F. Thompson, T. D. Murrin, John McVean, John A. Gaston, A. H. Housley, A. W. Coe, and J. K. P. Miller.

The boom was still going well in 1887 and '88, with 1887 stock certificates from the Jefferson, the Far West, the War Eagle and Lower Level Mining Companies showing sales to D. Grant, John Foster, Oliver Mattison, P. W. Savage, from co-signers A. H. Housley, C. W. Carpenter, B. P. Dague, D. A. Magee, Wm. S. Remer, C. W. Mitchell, Gilbert McFay, and John Hunter. Old Ridpath got in on the stock certificate excitement of 1886, too, and sold himself a substantial block of his West Virginia Mining Company stock, signed by himself and L. B. Ridpath.

Something was happening in Carbonate though that selling of stocks did not disclose. On February 10, 1887, Joe Craig had to take a mortgage on one of his town blocks. Amanda Ellen Kline took the chance on the property. An assignment of mortgagee was issued from George Cassels to Harris Franklin and Ben Baer on a Moses Frank mortgage.

William Gay was holding his house, but he signed a quit claim deed on a Carbonate lot to Ella J. Gay, and in spite of that, they lost the piece of ground by foreclosure the next spring. He still had his saloon, though. Mention is made of Bill Gay's saloon at least two years later.

C. W. Kammon sold his house and lot in Carbonate to Samuel P. Johnson, the grocery and dry goods man, on April 1, 1887.

The year 1888 is represented by the sales of Silver King stock, Emery Mining Company, Seabury-Calkins, Empire Carbonate Mining Company. Buyers were John Baggaley, trustee, A. C. Hoyt. Otto Grantz and James Jeffries. Sellers signed the names of Geo. Bews, T. F. Molitor S. M. Houghton, J. A. Harding, S. H. Calkins, Geo. S. Calkins. W. Bischoff.

Old files of the Black Hills Daily Times give interesting sidelights of Carbonate Camp activity. One appearing February 11, 1888, gives a left handed view of what some of the young men were doing. 'Two young bloods of Lead,' we read, 'are corresponding with young ladies in the east who advertised for correspondence. The boys represent themselves as being wealthy mine and mill owners, stock men with cattle on a thousand hills, etc. The boys' have made mashes but they had 'Better look a liddle oud' or a scene that was enacted at the Carbonate Camp may be re-enacted at Lead by the arrival of the girls in Lead looking for husbands.'

Search as we might, we found no further details of what happened in Carbonate at that "scene" in the newspapers, but Mrs. Walton remembers what happened. Jimmy Hugginson, Sam Dunlap, and Phil La Barge were playing a joke on Billy Hugginson, she says, and used Billy's name to write to a girl "back east". To their great astonishment, the girl appeared in Carbonate, and to Billy's greater confusion, she demanded that he marry her. Billy had no intention of marrying someone of whom he had never heard, and told her to go back home. He had to pay her fare though, and did so.

The Hugginson boys were from British Columbia, and had money. They were the ones that built the biggest hotel in Carbonate. Mrs. Walton thought the hotel was open for business around 1889, which would be the next year after the episode of the girl, but they could well have been building during the summer of 1888.

That hotel was a veritable palace for backwoods country. It was three stories high, Frank B. Bryant remembers, had 63 rooms and 'a real fancy saloon'. It also had a banquet hall of such dimensions that it was used for dancing and other community enterprises. This was the hotel referred to in the South Dakota Place Names which was alleged to have cost \$9000, a lot of money in those days.

'Bill Gay's saloon was across the street' from the Carbonate Hotel, or Hugginson's Hall, as it was variously called, writes Frank B., and he added that he remembered Bill Gay very well 'because we children were scared of him.

A more dramatic and tragic occurrence than lonely-heart correspondence was the death of John Tripp. We are led to his story gently when we read that the coroner had gone to Carbonate on official business, and then a couple of days later the headlines jump at us from the paper:

A Coroner's Inquest Yesterday

'An inquest was held yesterday at the Carbonate Camp on the remains of John Tripp, the unfortunate victim of his own carelessness of the previous day.

'Owen Biglin and R. H. Piper, miners who were at work on the 200 level near the station saw deceased when he got off the cage and came into the tramway header, reecognized him and said, 'How are they coming, John?' 'Good', he replied, took his candlestick and started for the station. The car man halloaed at the top of his voice that the cage had gone, and at the same time deceased halloaed 'Stop it', raised the bar and stepped into the shaft.

"They also testified that when deceased stepped off the cage when he came to that level, that two contracting miners who had been in on that level, started toward the

station. When deceased started for the station, one of these men halloed to him that the cage had been rung up. Deceased said 'Stop her,' and as he raised the bar they called loudly to him that the cage was not there, but he either did not hear, or thought the cage was there and stepped off.

'Several miners testified that he fell 200 feet and stuck on the plank covering of the sump on the 400 foot level, crushed the board and went through into the sump, the water in which was 25 or 30 feet deep and came to within eight feet of the surface of the sump. His left leg was badly crushed the broken bones protruding through the flesh.

'Owen Biglin testified that he had worked in that mine two years, and that due diligence had always been observed by the management to prevent accidents in the mine.

'R. H. Piper testified that he had mined there seven months, and during that time due precaution had been taken by the company to prevent accident. He had frequently heard the foreman, Stewart Thompson, caution the miners to always see that the cage was at the station before stepping off into the shaft.

'Ed Valentine, a miner, stated that the company through the foreman took every precaution to prevent accidents.

'Jeff Dodge, who had worked in the mine a year, stated that every possible precaution was taken to prevent accidents. The foreman, Stewart Thompson, had often charged him to be particular to see that the cage was there before stepping into the shaft.

'George Crego, who has been at work in the mine for two years, said that during entire time everything possible to be done to prevent accidents, had been done.

'The jury, consisting of Matthew Plunkett, Stephen Saville, and Thomas E. Carey, after hearing the evidence, found as a verdict that deceased, John Tripp, came to his death in the Iron Hill Mine on February 9th, 1888, by stepping into the shaft of the Iron Hill Mine on the 200 foot level and falling to the 400 foot level. We find that it was accidental on the part of the deceased, and his death re-

sulted through no carelessness on the part of the management of the mine

'A suit of clothes and a burial casket were procured in this city yesterday, and were taken out to the mine. A grave was dug during the day. Today the funeral will occur, the Rev. C. M. Ward of the M.E. church officiating.

'Deceased has a brother in St. Louis and another in Ohio somewhere. Nothing further is known concerning his relatives. He left no property or valuables.'

Albe Holmes bought William Gay's residence in 1888, and the Lewis Welch saloon building and lot was mortgaged by Maurice Welch and Phillip La Barge to Andrew Riley and Thomas H. Dillon

A quit claim deed issued February 6, 1888 from Moses Frank to Fannie Frank is practically a news item as far as Carbonate description is concerned. Fannie got her hand on 'the two story house situate thereon known as the old Burnham house, ½ int, in Lot 7 Block and house on said lot situate on lower Main St. between Zeffring's and William Gay's property, a one story frame house on the north side of Second street now occupied by Thos. Flannery as a dwelling, a one story log dwelling on the south side of Second street known as the Burns house, all in the town of Carbonate in Lawrence County, Dakota, also a one story frame house on the southerly side of Hidden Treasure Gulch known as Dick Shadford's house, a double one story frame house on the hill next west of latter house known as the Elliott residence'

The map of Carbonate townsite used with this story was compiled by old landmarks and the combined memories of Mrs. Walton and Frank B. Bryant, with the aid of various descriptions such as the above paragraph. Difficulties were encountered in the obvious fact that the Carbonate residents were a restless lot, and did not always stay in one cabin during their stay on the hill. There were three buildings between Sam Johnson's store and Bill Gay's saloon, but they have been identified as one in which both Jacobson and Zeffring had saloons, another claimed to be



—Used by courtesy of the Homestake Veterans Association

Otto Grantz (white shirted man leaning on mine car) at Hidden Fortune Mine near Deadwood. Otto Grantz was one of the Seabury-Calkins Mine in 1891, and vice-president of the same company in 1895. His mining interests extended to several mines in the Black Hills.

Joe Craig's home, and a third in which Charles Mix had a saloon. Things get confused in sixty-five years, but if it weren't for this deed we would certainly have had Flannery living on the south side of Second Street. Hidden Treasure Gulch was down in Central City, some miles from Carbonate, and what it is doing mixed in a Carbonate deed is anybody's guess. The rest of the paragraph is plain enough and tallies with the landmarks fairly well.

In the spring of 1889 and the last day of April, the Alvin Brooks home was the scene of a Carbonate wedding. John Simm, brother of Anna Brooks, married his bride. The original report is gone, and the news of the wedding for this story is gained from the account of their golden wedding anniversary in Hollywood at the home of a daughter, in which the bride is mentioned only as Mrs. John Simm.

An August 31, 1889, notice brings us up to date on the Spanish R Mine: 'At the annual meeting of the Spanish R Mining Company held at the office of Henry Frawley in Deadwood, August 27, 226,486 shares of the capital stock represented. Frank S. Bryant, A. T. Stewart, and Milton C. Connors were elected directors for the ensuing year, receiving an unanimous vote. The report made by the superintendent Bryant hopes soon to have ample transportation to maintain regular shipments. All ore goes to Kansas City.'

Joe Craig showed up at Carbonate in November of that year "with confidence unshaken", but we are left to guess where he had been.

A November 27, 1889 dispatch is worth quoting for its social angles: "A Times rustler visited Carbonate yesterday. He found great activity at the Spanish R, Iron Hill and Seabury, and assessment work in progress at the Rattler and a number of other mines. S. P. Johnson is opening a fine line of holiday goods. Alvin Brooks continues in charge of the Iron Hill hotel, enjoying a fine run, as also is W. J. Ringley at his boarding house in camp. John Berry attends the engine at the Iron Hill hoist. The ladies are arranging a ball and oyster supper at Hugginson's hall tomorrow evening. A cordial invitation is extended the public. Morris Welch

announces a turkey shoot for tomorrow afternoon, distance 200 yards. A wedding of well known parties is on the carpet for next week."

The only wedding announcement that appeared in the next week's paper was that of Charles R. Dwyer and Miss Mary Gilbert, but the announcement was brief and did not say whether this was the Carbonate wedding or not.

However, the Times carried notice of a Sunday School and religious services that were being held in Carbonate. Mrs. Syverson says these religious services were irregular, being held any time a minister or priest came to Carbonate from their regular parishes. Carbonate Campers welcomed any denomination, Catholic or Protestant, she said, and attended in full whenever a minister climbed the hill to hold services. The miners were generous, and whoever offered religious services for Carbonate Camp was well repaid for the effort. Church meetings were held in the upper story of the Dillon Saloon building, on the lower end of Main Street. To add the final touch to the story of the Dillon Saloon the church rooms were also used as a show house.

The year of 1889 is remembered as the year of the big diphtheria epidemic in Carbonate and other parts of the Black Hills. They "died like flies", Mrs. Syverson said, and she remembers seeing the abandoned cabins of those who had died, windows and doors boarded shut and the sign nailed to the door, "Do Not Enter. Black Diphtheria." Mrs. Brooks cautioned her children to stay away from such cabins, and stay away they certainly did. The signs were still visible as late as 1910, unmolested, untouched. Pat Martham and his wife lost several of his children during that epidemic. Their five year old son, Johnnie, was one of the earliest to die, succumbing February 9, 1888, of a throat disease", the Pioneer Times stated, and the sickness swept through the rest of the family and the rest of the town during the next year. Many other families were touched by it. Sadie Wilkinson, daughter of Hugh Wilkinson, was another who died of diphtheria.

A more insidious sign of the times is found in the record of Carbonate deeds. Property that had been mortgaged was being foreclosed in 1889. "Maurice Walsh et al" lost his property to E. W. Martin, Trustee; and a sheriff's deed was issued to William T. Powers against William Huginson, Phillip La Barge, and A. P. Tyndall.

The end of prosperity was nearing.

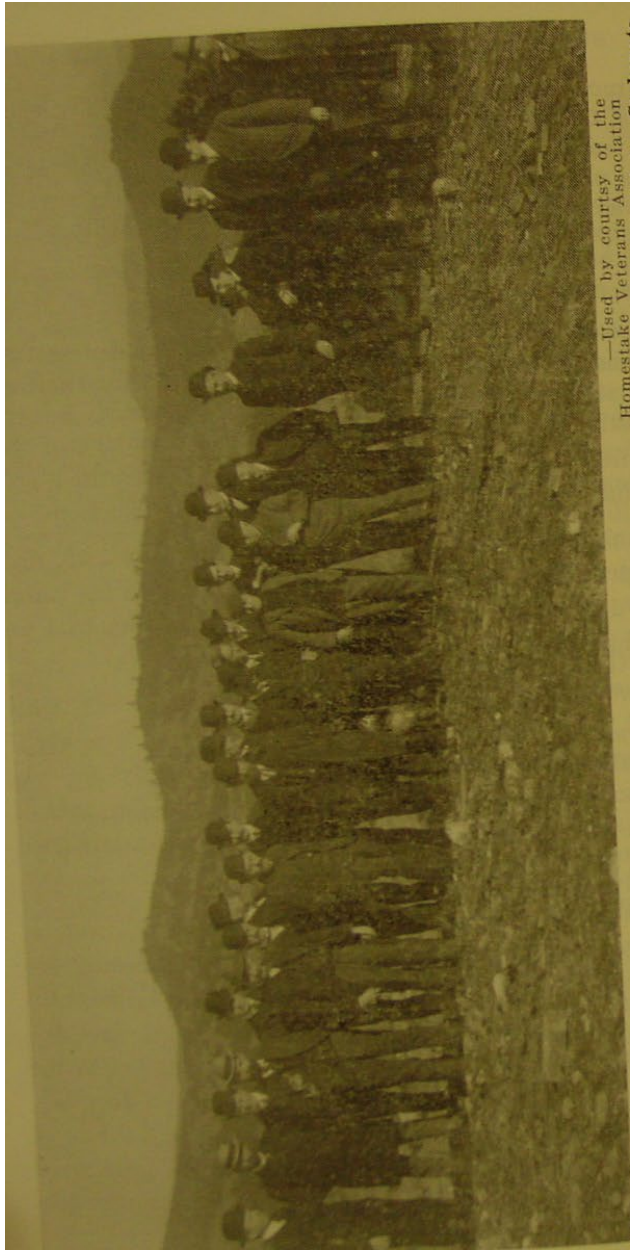
Nevertheless, the Hartshorn Mine was located in 1889 by James E. Patton of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and immediately sold to the Hartshorn Mining Company. It is said that a streak of ore encountered during the sinking of the shaft smelled strongly of ammonia, called at that time 'spirits of hartshorn'. The mine was minor in production.

Frank Brewster located the Geyser Mine in 1889, and had no trouble with a water supply. A spring on his claim gushed upward like a geyser, he said, and from that he named his mine.

The excitement began to die in 1890. Things were tightening at the Iron Hill, and though many more stock certificates may have been issued in that year, only one has been rescued from the past in the Adams Museum, that of the Albe Mining Company sold to W. Koerner and signed by J. E. McLaughlin and Albe Holmes.

In 1891, the bottom fell out of everything.

One historian says the reason was that the vein of ore was lost and the price of silver dropped, making unprofitable the working of the small mines. Simmons says the reason for Iron Hill's death was that "Speculation in the stock of the company wrought ruin", forcing it to close. Irving affirms the fact that 1891 was the practical end of era, "Since 1891 there seems to have been but little work done in this district, no output being recorded for that period."



—Used by courtesy of the
Homestake Veterans Association

Promoters of the Hidden Fortune Mine near Deadwood, including several men who were interested in Carbonate Camp activity. Third man from right is B. P. Dague, associated with Far West Mine in 1886 and '87. Eleventh man from left is Otto P. Granz, Seabury-Calkins Mine. First man from left is identified as W. R. Dickinson, and 6th man from the right is Wm. Basher.

The 1890 directors' report of the Iron Hill Mining Company gives a short rundown of its principal dates, which might clarify the situation. The Black Hills Daily Times gives an account of the stockholders meeting at which the report was read, in its June 4, 1890 issue. To avoid errors in interpreting the report most of the time story and the complete reports of the directors are reprinted verbatim:

"Black Hills Daily Times, June 4, 1890, IRON HILL

"By all odds, the most interesting and at times exciting mining meeting since the never-to-be-forgotten affair on Battle Creek in the winter of '76-7, was held in council chamber yesterday--the annual of Iron Hill stockholders. Two factions were represented, classified by some as the Deadwood and anti-Deadwood, by others as the Bullock and anti-Bullock. The cumulative voting system prevailed hence while the by-laws provided for five directors the ticket of the LaFavre faction contained only three names, or sufficient for a majority only. The Bullock ticket consisted of W. A. Remer, Lead; Robert Graham, Terraville; Seth Bullock, Deadwood; and H. T. Cooper, Whitewood. The latter was championed by Col. LaFavre, whose hand as a tactician has not forgotten its cunning, and whose abilities as a pleader were well displayed. Mr. Bullock and Mr. Remer accomplished what little representation their cause required, and no one need be told that they did it well. As all proceedings called for a certification of voters present in person or by proxy, by the secretary, Mr. McPherson occupied the rather anomalous position of judge called upon to decide numerous legal points, many of a very delicate character. Attendance was large and interest continued unabated to the close.

"The meeting was called to order at 2:10 by President Bullock, who stated its character, and that the first order of business would be the reports of president and secretary, which were submitted as follows:

"To the Stockholders, Iron Hill Mining Company--Gentlemen: In submitting my report of the operations of the company since the last meeting of stockholders, it may not

prove uninteresting if I also recount the operations of the company in a general way, since the date of the first bullion production by the mine six years ago. The mill was built in 1885, and commenced running in November of that year, and was in almost continual operation until Dec. 20, 1886, reducing during that time 7,989 tons of ore, averaging 50 ounces in silver to the ton. Of this amount 76 per cent was the average saved for the whole run, making the output of the mill 305,725.32 ozs. of fine bullion saved, leaving 96,976.15 ozs. to be accounted for in the losses of the dry milling process. This amount is in the tailings in the settling dam, and can be utilized and saved as will be shown further on in this report. This mill run exhausted all ore in sight in the mine; the superintendent resigned, believing the property of no further value, but the directors of the company thought that the way to find ore was to look for it, and inaugurated a vigorous campaign of prospecting with the result that within three months from the date of the shutting down of the mill a new ore body had been discovered of greater magnitude than that worked in the mill, but of a different character, this latter find being a heavy lead ore but of a different character, this latter find being a heavy lead ore that could not be worked in the mill, nor were there facilities in the country at that time for the shipment of this ore to Omaha, the nearest smelting point, as that would involve a wagon haul of 250 miles, and a railroad haul of at least 1000 miles more. At this stage of the game the management of the company concluded that the best interest of the company would require the purchase of a small smelting plant contiguous to the property of the Iron Hill, known as the Hattenbach smelter. The plant of itself was not of sufficient capacity to be worked economically, but it controlled all the water of the Carbonate camp and two promising mining claims. The company had to have the water if it continued operations, and the purchase of the water right, smelter and mining claims was consummated and was ratified by the stockholders. The season being so far advanced that a larger plant could not be erected until the following spring, the old plant was

repaired and put in operation, and was run altogether 100 days, reducing about 1,200 tons of ore, producing 527,670 lbs of base bullion, containing 47,491.64-100 ozs. silver, or 39½ ozs. silver and 22 per cent lead to the ton of ore smelted. The loss of lead and the great cost of smelting in this small smelter (almost \$17 per ton), induced the management to shut it down. The outlook at the mine and the camp was sufficiently good to warrant the erection of a new plant, and this was done. A new smelter of 60 tons gross capacity was erected, and put in blast June 1, 1887, and continued in successful operation until April 1, 1888, a period of ten months, producing in that time 3,011,210 lbs of base bullion, containing 238,935.1-10 ozs. silver and \$8,304.51 in gold, being an average of 26½ ozs. silver, 90 cents in gold, and 17 per cent lead to the ton, saved of the ore smelted. The ore body becoming lean and not high grade enough to pay, for working the smelter was of necessity closed, and remained so until August, 1888, when a short run was made on a small lot of high grade ore found in a pocket in the workings of the mine. During the run 320 tons of it were reduced, producing 114,071 lbs. lead, 44,375.4 ozs. silver, and 2530.27 in gold, being 138.6-10 ozs. silver, \$8 gold, and 17.3-10 per cent lead to the ton of ore smelted. The last run of lead smelting has just been completed, and consisted in the smelting of 420 tons of ore yielding 86,773 lbs. of base bullion, containing 7,273.53-100 ozs. silver, \$5.35-100 gold, and 10.2-10 per cent lead to the ton of ore smelted. In addition to these operations of the smelter a number of test runs were made in dry or pyritic smelting, which will be elucidated further on. The above is a correct account of the operations of the mill and smelters from their construction to date. During all this time work has been prosecuted in the mine continuously. At no time has work ceased except for a short time after the recent burning of the hoisting works. The total receipts and expenditures of the Iron Hill company since it first had a pick stuck in the ground until this date, are as follows:

"Statement of operations of Iron Hill company from discovery of mine, 1883, to June 2, 1890:

Receipts	
Assessments	\$145,874.90
Treasury Stock	2,721.48
Fine bullion	305,725.35
Rents	560.00
Shipping ore	4,899.76
Base bullion	414,323.71
Iron matte	4,039.75
Insurance	7,375.00
Total	\$885,519.92
Disbursements	
Old hoist	\$ 10,626.51
Mill building and machinery	42,052.62
Roads	2,125.46
Old machinery	1,832.65
Old buildings at mine	1,221.07
Mill office, barn and blacksmith shop	999.88
Barn at mine, including supplies	2,999.55
Old tools	293.23
Property purchased	24,270.00
Legal expense	2,022.75
General expense	11,561.08
Assay supplies	1,872.02
Surveying	661.50
Interest, discount and exchange	5,032.32
Insurance	9,569.28
Office furniture and expense	1,355.23
Mill supplies	21,151.59
Mill labor	20,754.09
Assmt. U. S. Grant stock	36.67
Mine supplies	58,336.56
Mine labor	227,361.43
Transportation	17,601.91
Office expense	592.44
Salary Account	23,896.02
Dividends	156,250.00

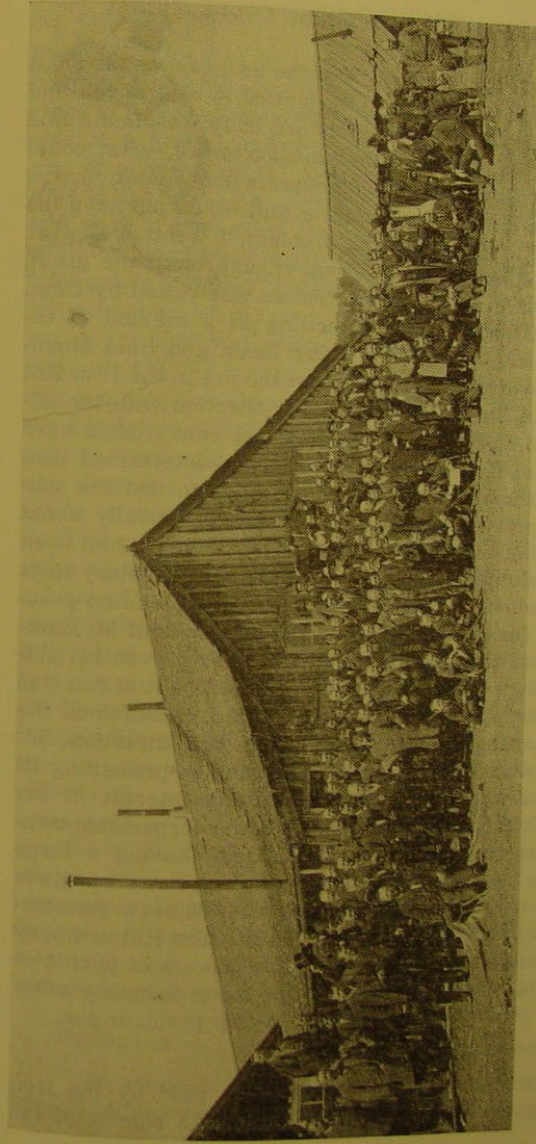
Old smelter, Labor and supplies	32,212.01
New smelter, Labor and supplies	104,266.03
Freight on bullion	17,249.19
Diamond drill	2,070.68
Ores purchased	13,070.18
New smelter construction	22,318.51
Mine pump	1,101.71
Tramway and smelter orebins	5,187.05
Concentrators	252.78
New hoist	5,118.20
Calumet Mining Co.	692.60
Calumet stock	36,713.00
Balance Cash on Hand	792.12

"The last annual meeting of the stockholders was held in June, 1888. The operations of the company at mine and smelter in detail, since that time are presented below. The depth of the main shaft is 430 feet. On the top 400 foot level prospecting has been almost exclusively confined to the operation of the diamond drill. A number of assays made from drill core from the level show the presence of silver and gold, but not in sufficient quantities to warrant the expenditure of any money in drifting at that particular point in the mine at present. Some time in the future the company should sink this shaft below the shale formation. It is now in to the quartzite and prospect on that formation. It is highly probably that the same character of ore found at Bald Mountain and Ruby Basin would be encountered there. The dip of the ore body in the mine would carry it so far to the north of the shaft on the 400 level as to be beyond the reach of the diamond drill, so that the fact that pay ore was not encountered by the drill does not prove that it does not go below that point. A new level has been laid off in the mine at a distance of 370 feet from the surface, and a drift run in toward the ore 70 feet. A number of small stringers of ore were encountered when running the drift, assaying 6 ozs. in silver. The company was not in condition to prosecute work on this level, as there

are other places in the mine that promise quicker results, and work at this point was abandoned.

"The work for the past two years has been confined to the 300 foot level and the levels above, with the exception of 280 feet of drifts run from the Home Run in No. 2 shaft with the hopes of finding another pocket of rich ore similar to that famous find. Nothing of value was found in running these drifts, confirming the management in the opinion expressed on the finding of the Home Run, that it was but an offshoot from the main ore body. The capacity of the diamond drill owned by the company is 300 feet, that is you prospect the ground 300 feet laterally from the drill, and by continuous assaying and analyzing of the cores determined the character of the ground in which you are prosecuting your work. Some 38 of these holes have been driven since the last report, aggregating 11,400 feet of ground. The result of these borings has been the finding of another ore zone or vein. Of its extent or value nothing definite can be known until the ground has been reached by the drifts that are now being run to develop it. Had it not been for the fire delaying work in the mine, we could have been in there now. It has been located on the 300, the 250 and 160 foot level. The highest assay had from the core was 44 oz. and the lowest 2 ozs. I am firmly of the opinion that the find is one of great value and that when we get it fully opened we will produce more bullion than the mine has hitherto done. So far as we can determine by the drill, this ore lays parallel to the old ore body and runs in the same direction, that is N. W. and S. E. This will throw it all within the lines of the company's ground! The following drifting has been done in the mine since the last report....

"Making a grand total of 2,142 feet of drifts, inclines, raises. In addition to this a good deal of gophering work has been done that can hardly be classified or measured. This added to the 280 feet, at shaft No. 2, makes a total 2,422 feet.



—Used by courtesy of the Homestake Veterans Association

Albe Holmes, hand in overcoat pocket. His name was connected with the Spanish R Mine (1883) and the Albe Mining Company (1890). He was an owner of a Carbonate residence in 1888. This photo is, apparently later than the Carbonate boom era by some ten or twenty years, as men shown as young men in the early 1880 pictures are shown here as considerably more mature men. Others identified in the picture besides Albe Holmes are John Blatt (hand on watch chain), Billy Dickinson in long light overcoat and no hat, John Tierney, Deadwood, the man on left lifting his hat, and Charles Parsons, the man in front seated at far right.

"There is ore in sight in the mine now east of the shaft 15,000 to 20,000 tons of ore assaying 9.3-10 ozs. silver and \$6 in gold carrying no lead. This ore body was found and developed a year ago and the question arose, what could we do with it. It could not be smelted without lead; it was too low grade to mill and besides a mill would not save the gold. To find a solution of the problem, I went to Denver without finding any process cheap enough to fit the grade of the ore. On my return my attention was called by Dean Carpenter to pyritic or dry smelting as a method of reducing the refractory ores of Ruby Basin and Bald Mountain. Upon investigation I found that the ore in the Iron Hill was especially adapted to work in connection with the silicious ores of Ruby, as it carried 32 per cent iron, a very necessary flux in pyritic smelting. It was determined then that an experimental run should be made to test the success of the process. Nothing was known practically about the workings of the process in America, though it had been in vogue in Europe for many years. Some laboratory tests had been made at the School of Mines that were of no practical value. The company engaged the services of M. Bamberger, a practical smelting man, who has proven his ability by making pyritic smelting a success. The first run was not satisfactory, but enough was learned to convince the directors that they were moving in the right direction. Silicious ores were needed and an opportunity presenting itself, a bond was taken in a controlling interest in the capital stock of the Calumet Mining Co., a corporation owning two patented claims in Ruby Basin, having a large body of ore developed. The two following test runs made were highly satisfactory, yielding over \$4,000 net to the company, for the iron matte produced. To the Iron Hill company belongs the credit of inaugurating the process of pyritic or dry smelting, and to M. Bamberger more than any other man is the success of the solution of this problem due.

"Calumet Stock--

Two hundred and fifty dollars was paid by the Iron Hill management for an option on 182,315 shares of the

Calumet Mining Company. Total amount of stock in the company, 250,000 shares. The company also secured the right to prospect the mine. A force of men was put to work on the property, and the ore body was cross-cut in four places and the tunnel extended. Two hundred thirty one tons of the ore have been hauled to the smelter, sampled and part of it worked. The assay and analysis of the ore as determined by this 231 tons is gold, \$18.64; silver \$9.41; total gold and silver, \$28.05; silica, 79 per cent; iron 7.5 per cent; sulphur, 5.5 per cent. Before the expiration of the bond we had in sight in the mine blocked out, 12,000 tons of ore, assaying \$28.05 a ton, aggregating \$336,000 in sight. The Iron Hill company becomes the owner of nearly three-quarters of the capital stock in this valuable property--valuable on its own account, and doubly valuable to the Iron Hill company also acquired by purchase a valuable claim, and a half interest in two other claims in Galena, carrying a large deposit of pyrites free from arsenic and zinc. The purchase price of these last properties was \$750. We have also had a force of men on these last claims taking out ore and developing the property. The expenditures of the company are fully set forth in the report of the secretary accompanying this report. The amount paid out for Calumet stock is \$37,499.67; for Galena property, \$750; for pyritic purchases and hauling same, \$750. The cost of labor at the smelter during the runs for the past year is \$4,812.70 These may be considered the extraordinary expenses of the year. The salaries paid by the company are: Superintendent, \$150 per month; M. Bamberger, \$200 per month; secretary, \$50 per month; New York transfer agency, \$500 per annum. The company's property in Carbonate has all been patented with in the past year, the last claim being passed for patent a few days ago. All litigation has been dismissed and attorneys discharged.

Resources --

"The assets of the company may be said to consist of the 20-stamp mill, costing \$42,000; the smelter, costing \$21,

000; all the water right of Rubicon gulch, six patented mining claims, and three fractional claims also patented, in Carbonate, the Iron Hill pyrite mine and two fractional claims also patented, in Carbonate, the Iron Hill pyrite mine and two fractional claims at Galena, three-fourths interest in the Calumet Mining Company's property, with \$336,000 worth of ore in sight; \$250,000 worth of ore in sight at the Utica mine, Carbonate; \$85,000 in the tailings at the mill; hoisting works, machinery, tools of all kinds; a complete laboratory and assay office---in fact everything necessary to carry on the business of mining in a business like manner.

"Future Operations—

"The completion of a railroad to Deadwood, or some point still nearer the company's smelting plant, bringing in cheaper coke, will enable the company to reduce its ores at a cost of not exceeding \$6 per ton dry. The present cost is not far from \$10 per ton. This leads me to recommend that further smelting operations be deferred until these roads now building be completed, which will be about September 15, I am informed. Upon the advent of railroads and the completion of the narrow gauge system to connect the different camps of the surrounding country by rail, there is no reason why the Iron Hill Mining company cannot resume its position among the dividend paying mines of the country. Never since my connection with the company has the outlook been as bright as now.

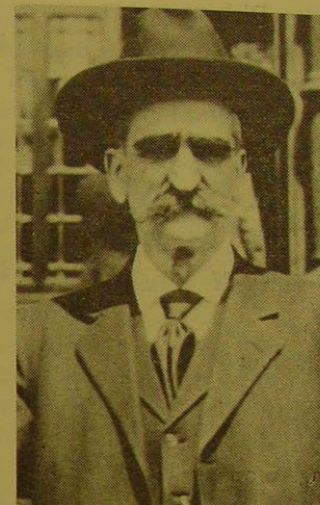
Deadwood, S. D., June 3, 1890

Seth Bullock, President Iron Hill Mining Co.,
Deadwood."

"Dear Sir: Herewith I beg to submit a statement of the receipts and disbursements of this company, covering the period from the 5th day of June, 1888, to June 2nd, 1890.

"Secretary's Report

To Iron Hill Stockholders, June 2, 1890... from June 5, 1888 to June 1, 1890.



—Property of Kenneth C. Kellar, Lead

Seth Bullock on the steps of the Kensington Museum, London, about 1907. Seth Bullock was the president of the Iron Hill Mining Company from 1885 to 1890. A prominent pioneer throughout the Black Hills area, he is known principally as the first sheriff of Lawrence County, though his interests took him into stock farming, and various mining interests.

Receipts

Bullion, Lead	\$58,034.12	
Matte	4,039.75	\$ 62,073.87
Rents		60.00
Assessments 13, 14, 15 and 16		
	\$32,419.33	
Part 17	11,500.00	43,919.33
Shipping Ore		949.41
Transportation (sales)		1,805.52
Old smelter (sales)		250.00
Insurance, old hoist		7,375.00
		\$116,443.13

Disbursements		
Balance on hand June 5, 1888		\$ 1,504.64
Operating expenses		
Diamond drill	314.00	
Legal expense	12.25	
Assay supplies	233.61	
General expense	4,624.79	
General supplies	12,755.10	
Labor	38,126.63	
Transportation sundries	560.60	\$ 56,627.68
Salaries		5,578.36
Ores purchased		3,243.12
Interest and discount		520.41
Insurance		1,719.68
Changing smelter		1,115.11
New hoist		5,118.20
Calumet Mining Company		692.60
Property Purchased		
Half int. 3 pyrite mines, Galena		
	750.00	
Assmt. U. S. Grant stock	36.67	
182,315 shares Calumet stock		
	36,713.00	37,499.67
Pyrites		2,031.54
Balance cash on hand	948.40	
Less amt. due Hickok,		
Tr,	156.28	792.12
		\$116,443.13

"The reports were referred to a committee consisting of Messrs. Remer, Cassells and Cushman, with instructions to report at next annual meeting."

Then, the Times reported, the "fun began". Until 6:00 p.m. the two factions took part in a meeting characterized by jockeying for position, establishing who could and who could not vote. They recessed for supper and continued voting again from 8:00 to 11:00 p.m. Men whose names appear are W. A. Remer, George Cassells, Samuel Cushman,

D. A. McPherson, L. W. Valentine, John Baggaley, John Lafavre, Paul Rewman, Mr. Van Cise, John D. Cornell, B. S. Salmon, Seth Bullock, R. Graham, Frank Allen.

The Bullock faction representing 110,000 shares was "standing aloof" and by their refusal to vote the shares, a majority of stock was not voted, so no election resulted and an adjournment was taken until July 8. The Times says "Had Mr. Bullock deposited his 110,000 shares, his faction would have elected its ticket, but the situation all the way thro' was so doubtful that it would have been very unwise to have done so."

A week later another election was held, but "a compromise having been effected" there was no trouble about getting the following slate elected as directors: Seth Bullock, R. W. Cooper, George Cassells, L. W. Valentine and W. A. Remer.

The mine fire destroyed the hoist late in 1889, but rebuilding began early in 1890, and the Black Hills Daily Times mentioned the lumber secured for the new Iron Hill hoist on February 4, 1890. On May 15, the Iron Hill directors held their annual meeting. Somewhat earlier, they hired Mr. Bamberger, assisted by A. Heberlin, Reno, Nevada, to set up pyritic smelting for future use. Mr. Bamberger and Mr. Peckinpay went to Carbonate May 16 to prepare for "blowing in the smelter" which was accomplished the next day. On June 1, two weeks later, it was closed down, having turned out seven cars of base bullion and matte.

Old timers remember that smelter. The arsenic fumes from its operation permeated the clear mountain atmosphere, they say. All the cats in town died. They couldn't stand it. A lot of sore throats and lung trouble were blamed on the arsenic fume situation, too.

Charcoal was used for fuel at the smelter, and the charcoal formed from local wood. Joe Craig had a pair of oxen with which he hauled a lot of wood for the smelter.

Director meetings seemed to be rather frequent that year. Another one was held on May 17, and again June 3, at

which the over-all report for its years of operation was given, and printed in detail the next day in the Black Hills Daily Times.

There were rumors later that month that a rich strike had been made at the Iron Hill, and the rumor was repeated the next spring, but the significant facts according to the Daily Times were that in June 1891, a year later, the Iron Hill was revealed to be in debt, and on June 13 the Calumet Mining Company leased the Iron Hill works.

All through 1891 other mines were being worked in the area. The Times lists the Iron Hill (very little going on here), the Albe, Jefferson, Geysler, Liberty, Vulcan, the Blanquilla, the Little Ellen (Shaler and Adams working it), the Cornucopia, the Two Lucky Prospectors, the Dixie group, the Elkhorn Gulch claims, and the Rainbow (by Messrs. Rupert and Co.). The Blanquilla was another of Frank Bryant's mines.

Seabury-Calkins directors were listed June 3 as including R. M. Maloney, B. S. Solmon, S. P. Smith, Sherman Calkins.

Another group that was still doing business was the Carbonate Flume, whose stockholders elected as directors in 1890, V. G. McGillicuddy, T. H. Russell, R. N. Ogden, W. S. Elder, and Hugh Wilkinson.

Regardless of the continued existence of smaller mines, the big exodus began. People were leaving the mountain city in hordes as they had arrived. They took what could be carried away and left the rest.

Raspberry Brown stayed. He liked the town and the mountain top. He would get along.

News of Carbonate is scarce for a while. The Black Hills Daily Times had almost nothing concerning the area during 1892, but somehow stock in the Good Enough Mining Company appeared, once called Bester, then Goodenough, then Mutual, and back to Good Enough in 1892. Joe Craig located it in 1883, but the 1892 stock was sold to John Baggaley,

trustee, by G. G. Grasier and Henry A. Tortat, secretary and president.

John Baggaley, trustee, was buying stock in several old mining companies of Carbonate in those off years. He bought Victory stock in 1893, signed by Julius Rebsamen and E. P. Peterson; and Yankee Boy stock in 1894, signed by himself as secretary and John F. McLaughlin president.

Hope Slaughter and Charlie Abbot examined the old Silver King mine in 1894, too, located years before in 1879 by Josiah Craig, and were enough intrigued by the "promising silver leads" to relocate it.

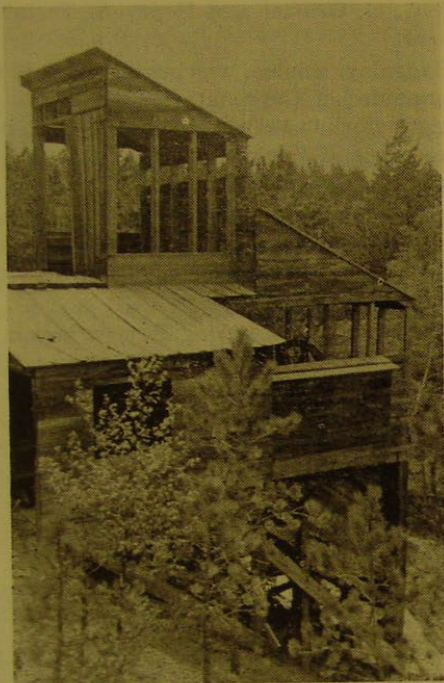
When the Black Hills Mining Review began publishing on January 14, 1895 in Deadwood, there was still activity on the mountain. The February 11, 1895 issue mentions several locations that were being worked, the Get-To-The-Front lode, the Silvia B., the Sunnyside, the Sutton and Koerner property. Charles Brown of Carbonate "lately located an abandoned mining claim", the Review adds, that "has a good prospect in free gold." Recognize Charles? Most people called him Raspberry.

The March 25 issue mentioned that W. H. Ward had a force of men working in Carbonate.

Frank Bryant went prospecting with a new partner in 1895. Bryant had interests in several mines during his years in the district, but the old urge to look for more striles stayed with him. He and Michael Katel located the Sometimes Mine on May 9, 1895, which had been worked once before as the Summer Snow Mine and abandoned. Bryant's belief was that if he located enough mines he was bound to make a strike occasionally through the law of averages.

Sometimes he did and sometimes he didn't--hence the name of this new location. The Sometimes Mine was nothing to excite a man, however, and Bryant kept searching.

The June 3 issue carried a mineral entry from the Seabury-Calkins Con. Mining Company, Carbonate district, so we know the Calkins brothers were still around, though neither the Iron Hill Mine nor smelter were operating. In



—Photo by Mildred Fielder

Seabury-Calkins Crusher Building — 1955

1895 the Seabury Mine remained open and various other small locations were being worked, but the ore was once again being hauled by wagon to Deadwood, this time to the big D. D. Smelter in Deadwood, (Deadwood and Delaware Smelter). The old Jefferson diggings located in 1881 were leased July 29 by T. L. McKennon and C. F. Graham, with their ore following the Seabury wagons to the D. D.

All through the 1895 and 1896 Black Hills Mining Review pages one runs across continued optimistic reports from Carbonate, but they are of such roseate hue that one reads them with his tongue in his cheek. They speak of "flat-

tering prospects," and "no surprise...to learn of the discovery of ore bodies that will place it on the level the mine sustained in 1886-7." The optimistic news releases served to keep a continued interest in the Carbonate district, however. A July 29, 1895 entry describes some silver ore displayed in John Baggaley's office by Robert Cooper, and three weeks later on August 19 John Baggaley sold some mining transfers. V. K. Stilwell and S. F. Russell bought part of his interest in the Peorta, the Only Friend lode, the Black Swan and Water Bird lode claims in the Carbonate Camp mining district.

In September 1895 the Seabury-Calkins mine was working with a force of five men at the mine and nine teams delivering 25 tons of ore a day to the D. D. Smelter. Two months later in November, work was going forward and the newspaper releases were getting flowery again, liberally sprinkled with such words as "it is estimated", "Beyond reasonable doubt". The Union group of six claims was being worked, and the Yankee Boy location to its south.

Bobby Nugent (respectfully referred to as Robert Nugent) was still looking around the worked-over gullies of Carbonate when he took the notion to do so, and on October 20 of that 1895 autumn he located the Black Nell Mine. According to the authors of the South Dakota Place Names published in 1940, he named this mine after a well known colored madame of Deadwood, the proprietress of Black Nell's Golden Palace. He was unpredictable. The theory of the naming may or may not be correct.

Another newspaper release came from Seabury-Calkins in December, claiming to be "the only mine of the many in Carbonate on which continuous work is in progress." Seabury-Calkins was shipping "regularly" seven tons of iron and manganese ores, having a gold and silver value of about \$25 each, but the story does not state how regularly. Space is given to more "ifs" and "it is thought" and "it will pay handsomely".

They did not give up easily. Reading these old pages, one gets a glimpse of the dream that must have held a

tight grip on the prospectors and miners of the day. Ore was in Carbonate district, once. Surely it must still be there if they could just keep looking for it. They believed, or they would not have kept working. They would not have read such sentences as "Discoveries have been made that excel in richness any ore heretofore met with," if they had not believed. Seabury-Calkins kept working. On March 16, 1896 a special release to the Black Hills Mining Review gave glowing accounts of its progress: "the discoveries of ore will be so extensive that the rehabilitation of mining in that neighborhood will attain the same energy and magnitude as the celebrated camp at Leadville, Colorado." They could not or would not accept the fact that Carbonate district was finished.

Again, the enthusiastic account brought new prospectors up the hill. The April 13 issue notes "a number of prospectors preparing to exploit the west Carbonate district."

By May 11, 1895, Seabury-Calkins was making "regular shipments" to the D. D. Smelter again, and work was resumed on the Yankee Boy group. Nevertheless on June 15 a news release regarding the Iron Hill and the Seabury-Calkins Mining Companies inadvertently told the other side of the story. Mixed in with wildly optimistic claims ("there is little room for doubt that the result will be the discovery of ore bodies which will give the camp more prestige as a bullion producer than in the prosperous times this district has heretofore enjoyed") the directors who were examining the developments disclosed the fact that the Iron Hill Mining Company was "out of debt and had on hand at this date \$6,000 in cash." This from a company that made nearly \$400,000 production in one year just ten years before. To blacken the picture, they suggested that the company would need an estimated \$10,000 for exploratory purposes, should they decide to continue.

The money must have been raised some place, because a July 13 entry in the Review notes that a drift was run on the 300 foot level, though only six men were again employed at the Iron Hill. In September the Iron Hill was exploring

under ground on the 160 foot level and though they could report "an increase in size" of the ore seam which was almost "identical with the rich ore taken from the Homerun shaft in years gone by". They added, "If the company should succeed in finding a body of such ore the blowing in of its smelter would be but the matter of a few days."

Their optimism was unfounded. By October 12, only a month later, four men were left employed in spite of the fact that the "rich seam of ore" had "Increased in width from 2 inches at the point of contact to about 2 feet at the face of the drift, and continually widening." In the next sentence mention is made of the encountering of a "body of ore giving assay returns of \$4000 per ton" at the Granite Mountain mine, but the Granite Mountain mine was not the Iron Hill.

Sometime during that year of 1896, the Emmett Silver Mining Company located a couple of mines in the district, the Robert Emmett Mine and the Mose Lyon Mine. Not much was done with them that one can find in records.

Bryant found another prospector to be his partner that year, too--- L. D. Bailor. Together they located the Old Love Mine. Bryant called the Carbonate district his "old love", and friends believe that he named this last mine of his from his sentimental attachment to the area. It was perhaps the Old Love Mine that was referred to in a Black Hills Mining Review dispatch when they mentioned that "Frank Bryants's Squaw Creek property is looking well and Frank is doing everything in his power to make it look better." The same issue mentions that "the Hattenbach ground is being improved with every day's work and gives fair promise of being one of the best holdings in the Squaw Creek country." Hattenbach was one of the locators of the Far West Mine in 1881, but there is nothing to indicate that he was still working the same spot.

Life was pretty quiet around the vicinity even with an occasional prospector digging around the hills, but Raspberry Brown's three room cabin was weather-tight and warm. His garden grew. He was eating.

Two years later W. S. Leech and M. J. Kolb came up the mountain, and February 12, 1898, they located the Stuart Lode Mine on the site of the old Olympic that had been located at some forgotten time and left.

Most of the town, was empty by that time. Maude Rhoades, Edgemont, South Dakota, told us that "We moved to Carbonate in 1889 and all the old buildings were standing. I was eleven years old, and what a time we had making a new play house every day. My name was Maude Kellie, and my first husband was William C. White... His folks lived in Carbonate camp during the boom."

Only a few of the "hundreds" of mines in Carbonate District were registered, apparently, but two others of indeterminate date should be mentioned.

One was the Pocahontas, a gold mine. While there seems to be no record of when it began, on March 11, 1890 the secretary of the board of directors of the Pocahontas Mining Company, Julius Rebsamen, placed a notice in the Daily Times of its annual meeting. The Pocahontas was another mine in which Frank Bryant owned stock.

Then there was the Darboy, for which the owner, William Delona, committed suicide in Central City because of its worthlessness, according to one historian. Perhaps he gave up too soon. A September 2, 1895 Mining Review release describes the annual meeting of the Darboy Mining Company in Central City, with such names as William A. Gray, F. B. Mix, J. B. Labeau, D. E. Mullen, Desire La-Chapelle, John Treber, and O. L. Grimsrud as directors and officers.

One would think that would surely be the end of Carbonate Camp— desultory prospecting that resulted in little or nothing and only Raspberry Brown and a handful of stubborn families to keep the home fires burning on the hill.

Frank Bryant left town in 1899. He and his wife packed their household goods together, and with their growing children moved to Spearfish. In the years since the family had moved to the hill with babies Mary and Frank B., six chil-

dren had been born, Ellen, Esther, Stewart, Leonora, Melody and a baby who died at five weeks of age. They left Melody and the baby in the Carbonate Cemetery, victims of the diphtheria. Of the Bryant children, only Robert was still to be born. Babies John and Matilda Elenora had been buried in the Deadwood cemetery before the family came to Carbonate.

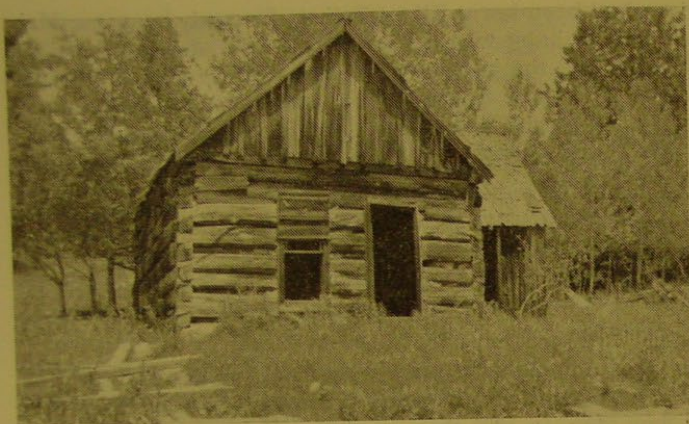
The next year, 1900, the Hugginson Hall or Carbonate Hotel was dismantled, and the lumber hauled down the gulch to raise the Cleopatra Mine buildings on Squaw Creek. A lot of memories crumbled to dust with the disappearance of the Hugginson Hall.

Then, in Rubicon gulch where the smelter and the Iron Hill stamp mill were located, the Allen Brothers came with a new idea. In 1900 they erected a 35-ton cyanide plant to re-work the tailings from the pan-amalgamation mill of the Old Iron Hill Mine and stayed for two summers. The total taken from the tailing by the newer method is not published but a picture exists showing the result of one of their bullion melts, showing 375 pounds of silver 925-1000 fine.

John Baggaley as secretary and Martin Chapman as president took advantage of the renewed activity on the hill to incorporate the New Iron Hill Mining Company, and sold stock certificates during 1901, 1902, and 1903 to several investors. including D. H. Vaughn, W. H. McMaster, and Joseph Hickey.

In 1902, the Allen Brothers were finished. They pulled down their equipment and left the top of the hill. Only Raspberry Brown was left.

For the next thirty-seven years Raspberry Brown kept his shack in Carbonate Camp. Occasionally he prospected, habit perhaps. Sometimes he picked berries and ate them himself, or he worked in his garden to have vegetables. He could shoot a deer, wood chuck or fool hen for meat, or go to town occasionally. He could have used a light truck to cover the rough rutted mountain road by that time, but he walked.

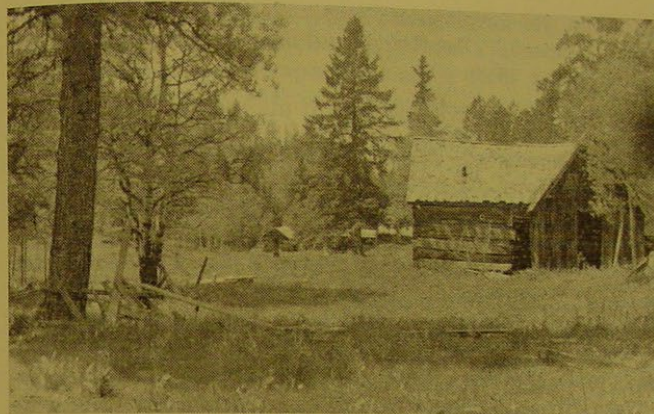


—Photo by Mildred Fielder

Abandoned log cabin in Carbonate Camp area—1955. This was the cabin in which Raspberry Brown spent most of the last years of his life. It is situated a short distance down the hill from the old Iron Hill shaft and the Seabury-Calkins head-frame. He lived in another cabin in the town of Carbonate, about half a mile away, during the doom years.

Mrs. Walton says she and her brothers went to see him occasionally to check whether he was getting along all right. After 1900 he was living in the square-cut log cabin just below the Iron Hill shaft. There was no spring in that valley, but Raspberry found his own water supply. About a couple of hundred feet from his cabin the Albe Mine inclined shaft was situated. The Albe had been abandoned as far as mining was concerned, but at its base a ground-fed pool of water was constant in its level, cool and pure and clean for drinking. The old man rigged a shoulder carrier for his buckets and walked down the Albe incline whenever he needed water.

That incline is there today, firm and dark. One can see the earthen steps built along the steepest parts and the damp rock walls that echo a voice the farther down one goes. We walked into the mountain there. The water still waits at the bottom.



—Photo by Mildred Fielder

Abandoned cabins in Carbonate Camp area—1955. The front cabin is the one in which Raspberry Brown lived from about 1900 until his death. Beyond that, the cabins in the picture are "newer", being built after 1900. In this area, beyond Raspberry's home and back of the other buildings, the foundations of the original old homes can be seen. Next to Raspberry's home, but not visible here, is the foundation of the cabin in which Mary Brooks Syverson was born.

During the last two years of his life, Brown saw a brief renewed activity on the hill around his shack. A Bureau of Mines report describes the new operation concisely: "The Carbonate Consolidated Mines, Inc., was formed in 1937 to take over the most productive of the old silver-lead mines in the Carbonate district. About 400 acres were assembled, including a large block in sec. 15, T. 5 N., R. 2 E. upon which such old mines as the Seabury-Calkins, Iron Hill, Segregated Iron Hill, Adelphi, and Spanish R were located. A much smaller block consists of five claims in Rubicon Gulch, in Sec. 10, T. 5 N., and includes the old mill and smelter sites. In 1939 while under lease to the Richmond Hill Mining Company, a small camp was built, the Seabury-Calkins and Home Run shafts were partly retimbered, and considerable sampling was done in the Seabury-Calkins and Iron Hill

workings. No development was undertaken, and the lease has now lapsed." : Reprinted from Bureau of Mines Information Circular 7688).

Raspberry Brown had seen it all...and in 1939 he died.

The Deadwood Pioneer Times carried his obituary: "Charles Brown, 88, a resident of the Black Hills since 1875, died at the county infirmary at Gayville at 7 o'clock Sunday evening from infirmities of age. He had been a patient at the infirmary since Feb. 19 of this year. Known to intimates of the pioneer days as "Raspberry" Brown, he had lived in this section since the earliest days and was a well know prospector in the Carbonate camp area for many years. He lived in a cabin near the mouth of Blacktain gulch. Deceased was born at Binghampton, N.Y., on May 7, 1852. He came west as a young man and arrived in the Black Hills from Ft. Laramie, Wyo. in 1875. So far as is known he had no living relatives."

He had come down the hill to the Blacktail gulch cabin for the winter months again, and it was fortunate for him that he did. When February found him feeling poorly, somebody insisted that he go to the county hospital. Two months later he was dead.

They buried him in Mount Moriah Cemetery overlooking Deadwood. Carbonate Camp was left alone.

Looking back over the records, it is hard to tell who played the most important parts in Carbonate Camp. Ridpath cannot be ignored because of his undoubtedly being the first to locate a claim in the district. His dream of an apple orchard came close to realization, too. There were apple trees in the northwestern corner of town for many years, started by Ridpath and his son. As Ridpath was first in locating a mining claim and first in the area, it seems only fitting that the first baby born in Carbonate was a Ridpath baby, too,—born in Carbonate and buried in the woods not far from the schoolhouse before it ever had a chance to grow up.

Ridpath sold town lots to Philerome La Berge in 1886, and bought surface right on part of the Yankee Lode from the Eureka Mining Company the same week. His apple orchard was directly east of the spring and southeast of the Eureka Dump, and his house was nearby.

Josiah Craig and Frank Bryant run a close race in their prospecting records, and perhaps both should share the honors of being the miners who did most to locate new claims in the district. Joe Craig was the one who found the Iron Hill Mine, even though he did nothing to promote it afterwards. He sort of edged up on the Iron Hill by locating others around the hills, the Two Johns Mine near Bald Mountain in 1877, the Badger and the Silver King in 1879, then the Iron Hill the next year, followed by two in 1881, the Greenland (possibly involved) and the Wilkinson, and finally in 1883 he located the Mutual. He sold some of his Carbonate holdings in 1881 and 1886, and took a mortgage on a town lot in 1887. He was back in Carbonate in 1889 after an unspecified absence, but he lived in a house in Carbonate town during most of its boom years. He is remembered partly for his logging activities and his oxen that hauled wood to the smelters or others who needed firewood.

Bryant is credited by historians as being one of the two who first discovered gold in the Deadwood area of the Black Hills with John S. Pearsons (or John B. Pearson) in 1875. Both Mrs. Walton and Frank B. Bryant confirm this. Bryant's son writes. "My father, Frank S. Bryant brought in the first party of white men in the northern Black Hills. He and six others camped the night of August 10th, 1875 on the present site of the Northwestern round house below Deadwood. He panned the first gold the next morning in Deadwood Creek just in front of the old High School. He showed me the place many times."

Mrs. Walton names some of the others in that party, besides Bryant and Pearson, as being Tom Moore, William Cudney, and Ed McKay. They organized the Aurora mine there, she says, but Bryant missed the 1876 Deadwood first big gold rush by the skin of his teeth. He was in Ft. Laramie

for a few weeks when the Deadwood territory opened, buying food for the outfit, and when he got back to Deadwood gulch the place was booming.

Bryant and Pearson worked together for a couple of years longer. They were together when Pearson located the Black Tail Mine in 1876, and they located the Calendonia Mine, a gold strike near Terraville in the northern Black Hills in 1877. The next record of Bryant's activities concerns the Rainy Day Mine, a gold mine on Sheeptail Creek located March 17, 1877 by Bryant, William Wade and Levi Woodling. From there he drifted west and was in on the big boom of 1881 at Carbonate.

His first Carbonate locations were the Spanish R, June 22, 1881, and the Little Ellen on July 16, 1881. He did a lot of prospecting around the holes and gullies of the area from then on through the years. Mrs. Walton named several other mines which he located or owned full or part shares, including the Ironsides (sold in 1900 to Spencer Penrose), the Coolgarde, the Greenland, the California, Pocahontas, Polar Star, Blanquilla, Old Guard, and Bahia.

He was known as a mining man by the old timers. His name appears in the Daily Times occasionally. One of the old stock certificates available is issued by the Spanish R Mining Company to E. G. Mathey in 1886, and signed by Frank S. Bryant and Alonzo T. Stewart. Stewart was Bryant's uncle. Frank had two brothers, Will and John.

Frank brought his family from Central City to Carbonate on November 12, 1884. According to old deeds, he sold a house to Fannie Frank in 1888, but he owned two buildings in Carbonate and the family remained in Carbonate for eleven more years.

During his Carbonate residence, he and A. H. Housley ran a stock exchange in Deadwood for a while in addition to their other mining activities. John A. Clark and Milton Connors were partners of Bryant's in the Spanish R Mine, Mrs. Walton believes. The Spanish R was operating as late as 1889 with Bryant at its head.

In 1890 Bryant spent the summer months wandering around the Black Hills. He made a trip to the southern hills and came back with a column of comment about activities there for the Black Hills Daily Times. The next record of a location registered by him was in 1895, four years after the Iron Hill galena ores were exhausted. While the family stayed in Spearfish Bryant spent a year in Cuba with Henry Keats, and then returned to Spearfish.

Frank Bryant died in 1910, leaving seven children who are living today in various parts of the country. Mary Walton is the oldest still living, and Robert, born in 1901, the youngest. The others are Frank B., Ellen, Esther, Stewart, and Leonora. The family includes in their close relationship the American poet and journalist, William Cullen Bryant, who was still living when Frank first came to the Black Hills from Peru, Illinois. Frank and he were cousins.

First and last, Frank Bryant was a prospector. Few such adventurers died rich in gold or silver, but they followed the gleam of an alluring uncertainty most of their lives. Who can say whether or not they found what they wanted?

The Calkins brothers are important to Carbonate because they developed the Iron Hill Mine and its satellites, the Seabury Mine and the Segregated Iron Hill Mine. More money came out of the big Iron Hill than any other one mine, though it was said that during the time of the Carbonate era, miners took five million dollars worth of silver bullion from the Carbonate mines.

A break down of names appearing through the years of Carbonate's history, insofar as they have been available in newspapers, periodicals, deeds, and other records, is as follows,

- 1874 or 1875, Charles "Raspberry" Brown
- 1876, James Ridpath and son, L. B. Ridpath
- 1878, R. D. Porter
- 1879, Josiah Craig
- 1881, George Bertschey, Frank Bryant, G. H. Colling-

wood, Josiah Craig, G. Cunningham, Harry Dalton, A. Danielson, M. W. Dillon, L. G. Fuller, John Gildersleeve, Joe Hattenbach, S. A. Hoag, Solomon Jefferson, Andy Johnson, J. H. Lapsley, Clark Mather, Charles Miller, Thomas Milligan, Mrs. John H. Owings, Mrs. H. H. Simpson, Huger Wilkinson, H. W. Williams, William Williamson, B. Wolf.

1881 or 1882, Bill Johnson, Sam Johnson, T. D. Murriss, Sim Nicholas, Jake Ringley and family (children Eva, Roy, Jay), Tuller family (children Nettie, Addie, Mary)

1883, Calkins brothers, Josiah Craig, Abbie (Albe) Holmes, William T. Rogers.

1884, Henry C. Daly, Thomas Edwards, Nathan Hattenbach, Ed Little, John McKean, John Murray, Thomas H. White, Frank S. Bryant, Ellen Bryant, Mary Bryant, Frank B. Bryant

1885, Seth Bullock, Peter Hann, W. G. Lincoln, D. A. McPherson, Wm. S. Remer, W. J. Ringley, William T. Rogers, William Alfred Rogers, Carrie Rogers, Carolyn Johnstone Thompson, David R. Thompson.

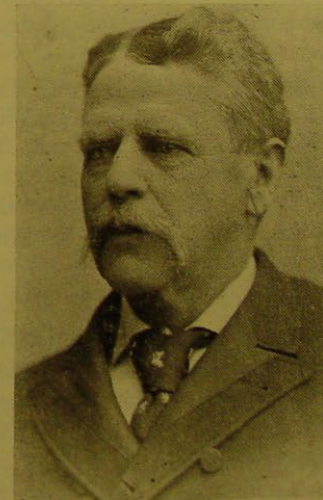
1886, James Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Brooks and son, Charles, Frank S. Bryant, J. R. Bueter, Seth Bullock, William Clark, Fred M. Clary, A. W. Coe, Josiah Craig, B. P. Dague, John Delaunay, A. Fairwell, John Foster, Moses Frank, G. G. Grasier, John A. Gaston, William Gay Edward Hanschka, Herman Hanschka, Jeff Hildreth, A. H. Housley, Sol Jefferson, Andrew Johnson, Bill Johnson, Sam Johnson, Philerome La Berge, Max Lowenthal, D. A. Magee, Horace F. Marshall, W. F. Marshall, E. G. Mathey, O. W. Matson, John F. McLaughlin, John McVean, J. K. P. Miller, T. D. Murrin, Bobby Nugent, James E. Patton, Myrtle Ringley Richards, James Ridpath, W. J. Ringley, Wm. H. Riley, J. C. Shuett, Alonzo T. Stewart, John W. Sullivan, Rogers Sullivan, C. F. Thompson, Albert Powers Herbert Powers, R. J. Richards, Oscar Waller, Maurice Walsh, Lewis Welsh, Huger Wilkinson.

1887, Ben Baer, C. W. Carpenter, George Cassells, Josiah Craig, B. P. Dague, John Foster, Harris Franklin,

William Gay, Ella J. Gay, D. Grant, A. H. Housley, John Hunter, Samuel P. Johnson, C. W. Kammon, Amanda Ellen Kline, D. A. Magee, Oliver Mattison, Gilbert McFay, C. W. Mitchell, Wm. S. Remer, James Ridpath, L. B. Ridpath, P. W. Savage

1888, John Baggaley, Geo. Bews, Owen Biglin, W. Bischoff, Geo. S. Calkins, S. H. Calkins, Thomas E. Carey, George Crego, Thomas H. Dillon, Jeff Dodge, Elliott, Thos. Flannery, Moses Frank, Fannie Frank, William Gay, J. A. Harding, Albe Holmes, S. M. Houghton, A. C. Hoyt, Billy Hugginson, Jimmy Hugginson, Sam Dunlap, James Jeffries, Phillip La Barge, Mr. and Mrs. Pat Martham and son Johnie, O. W. Matson, T. F. Molitor, R. H. Piper, Matthew Plunkett, Andrew Riley, Stephen Saville, Dick Shafford, Stewart Thompson, John Tripp, Ed Valentine, Maurice Welch, Zeffaring.

1889, M. Bamberger, John B. BERRY, Frank Brewster, Connors, Dillon, Joe Craig, A. Heberlin, William Hugg-



—Used by permission of Mrs. Horace Clark
Samuel Cushman, stockholder in the Iron Hill Mining Company, 1890

inson, S. P. Johnson, Phillip La Barge, E. W. Martin, W. J. Ringley, John Simm, A. T. Stewart, A. P. Tyndall, Morris Welch, Sadie Wilkinson.

1890, Frank Allen, John Baggaley, M. Bamberger, Frank Bryant, Seth Bullock, George Cassels, H. T. Cooper, Robert W. Cooper, John P. Cornell, Samuel Cushman, W. S. Elder, Harris Franklin, Robert Graham, Albe Holmes, W. Koerner, John LaFavre, Col. LaFavre, Randall Lewis V. T. McGillycuddy, J. F. McLaughlin, D. A. McPherson, R. N. Ogden, Mr. Peckinpaw, Julius Rebsamen, W. A. Remer, Paul Rewman, T. H. Russell, B. E. Salmon, L. W. Valentine, Mr. Van Cise, Hugh Wilkinson.

1891, John Baggaley, George S. Calkins, George Cassels, H. T. Cooper, Sherman Denman, Otto Grantz, George S. Hopkins, Sol Jefferson, R. M. Maloney, W. A. Remer, B. E. Salmon, S. P. Smith, L. W. Valentine.

1892, John Baggaley, G. F. Frasier, Henry A. Tortat.

1893, John Baggaley, Julius Rebsamen, E. P. Peterson

1894, Charlie Abbott, John Baggaley, John F. McLaughlin, Hope Slaughter.

1895, John Baggaley, Charles Brown, Frank Bryant, Robert Cooper, C. F. Graham, Otto Grantz, William A. Gray O. L. Grimsrud, Michael Katen, Koerner, Desire LaChapelle, J. B. Labeau, T. L. McKennon, P. B. Mix, D. E. Mullen Robert Nugent, S. F. Russell, V. K. Stilwell, Sutton, John

1896, L. D. Bailor, Frank Bryant, Hattenbach. Treber, W. H. Ward.

1898, Mande Kellie, M. J. Kolb, W. S. Leech

1899, Frank Bryant and family (wife Ellen, children Mary, Frank B. Ellen, Esther, Stewart, Leonora).

1900, Allen Brothers, Frank Bryant, Spencer Penrose

1901, John Baggaley, Martin Chapman, W. H. McMaster, Robert Bryant.

1902, John Baggaley, Martin Chapman, D. H. Vaughn.

1903, John Baggaley, Martin Chapman, Joseph Hickey

1939, Raspberry Brown

Dateless names, John Adams, Lottie and Scarface Alice Belmont, John Broshus, Melody Bryant, baby Bryant, John A. Clark, George Cook, Ike de Forrest, William Delona, Ida Diedrich, Isaac and Margaret Doersler, Gip Gay, Tom Goodman, Hi Kee, Fannie Hill, Jacobson, Grandma Johnson, McDonald, Charles Mix, Dan Morris, Joe Ritter, Sing Hi, Doc White, Sydney "Lily" White.

The sagging cabins are still there in places, Other spots are just a hole in the ground where a cellar might once have been. There is that skeleton of a mine headframe on the top of a hill, and the rusty wheel exposed in the crusher building. The abandoned smithy with ragged bellows and crumbling brick forge speaks of a different sort of life than we know today. The wooden block upon which the anvil set remains, and the chimney that sucked the air from the heat of the forge.

Grandma Johnson's well and the Albe incline are both in good shape, but the town spring is cattle trodden, and the Broshus bakery has only an earthen mound to mark the site of its oven.

Quite apart from the homes but near enough for easy access, the graveyard lifts its wooden head boards lonely and dignified. Someone was a craftsman in Carbonate Camp. Fine wood carving is on one of the head boards and vestiges of similar carving can be seen on others more weathered but still upright at the head of their graves. Eleven graves can be found for a certainty. Until the summer of 1953, one name could still be read with ease, that of John Tripp. "In Memory of John Tripp, Born 1835, Died Feb. 8th, 1888" was chiseled in the headboard of a protected leaning slab, and gentle swirls decorated the inscription above and below the legend. Somebody cared enough for he died "with no property or valuables" and no relatives to mourn him, to put a great deal of work on his wooden headboard.

All the other graves are quiet and nameless. This is a spot that holds tragic memories for Mrs. Walton, and she



—Photo by Mildred Fielder

Carbonate Camp Cemetery—1955. Child's grave at rear left. Rear right headboard could be read in 1953: "In memory of John Tripp, Born 1835, Died Feb. 8th, 1888." Front left headboard has very faint markings, of which only "Died 6th, 1887" could be identified. Both are weathered past reading now. The front two have been identified as the graves of Bessie Lingenfelter and Lovey Ingram.

identified the nameless mounds that held her two small sisters Melody Bryant and Baby Bryant. Others buried in the forest cemetery were Joe Ritter, in the grave marked by the tumbling remains of a board enclosure; Bessie Linkenfelter and Lovey Ingram in the two graves with headboards still standing; Kittie Forrest, the daughter of Ike DE Forrest, Jay Ringley, son of Jake Ringley; Frank Brady. Of the children's graves, one is that of the year and a half old son of Randall Lewis who died in 1890, and another is that of the Brady boy, a diphtheria victim. At one time Rhoda Prothero and the Wilmarth children were buried here, but when the town moved, their bodies were moved, too.

Pat Martham's children are not here. They were buried in Deadwood.

Diphtheria, mine accidents, suicide, infant mortality of undetermined causes— heartache of more than one sort was in Carbonate, but "what a rip roaring camp it was" says Frank B. Bryant with a touch of nostalgia.

Occasional prospecting still continues, but nothing much has come of it to date. Perhaps Carbonate is finished. Perhaps it has a deeply buried heart of riches. Who knows?

ED. NOTE: Carbonate was a million dollar camp and in the 1880s, a million dollars was a lot of money. The story of Carbonate is dominated by the story of the Iron Hill Mine. The Rubicon is the source of Bridal Veil Falls over in the Spearfish Canyon. The smelter was 1.2 miles up the Rubicon from Bridal Veil Falls and Carbonate on a south branch of the Rubicon was no further. That serves to locate Carbonate. A trip to Carbonate and the Rubicon, Raspberry Brown's cabin over on Squaw Creek, is rewarding, even over the roads Mildred Fielder describes. Pick a nice summer day, take along a picnic lunch and this book and its pictures. You won't regret it. WGR

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- Mrs. Mary Bryant Walton, Belle Fourche, S. D.

DIGEST OF THE REPORTS OF THE COMMISSIONER
OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AS PERTAIN TO
DAKOTA INDIANS—1869-1872*

By Will G. Robinson

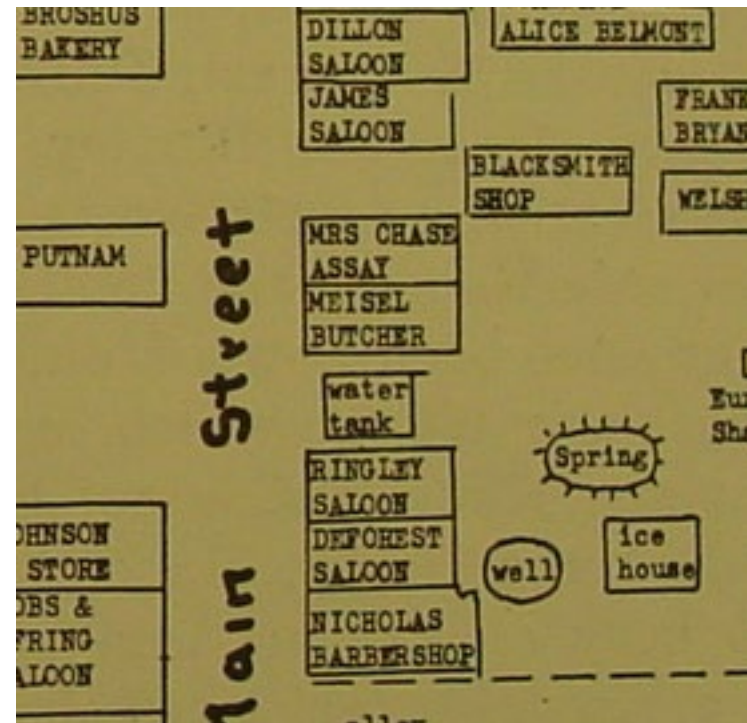
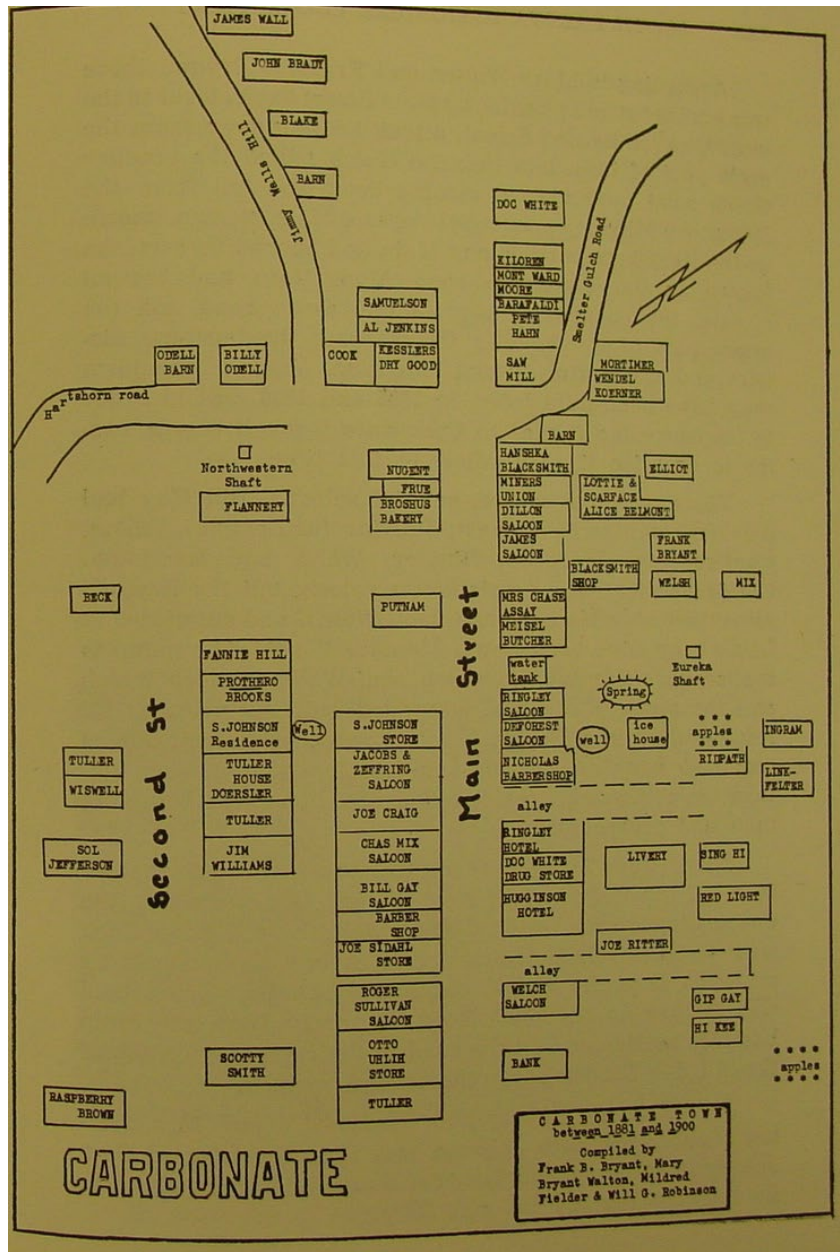
— 1869 —

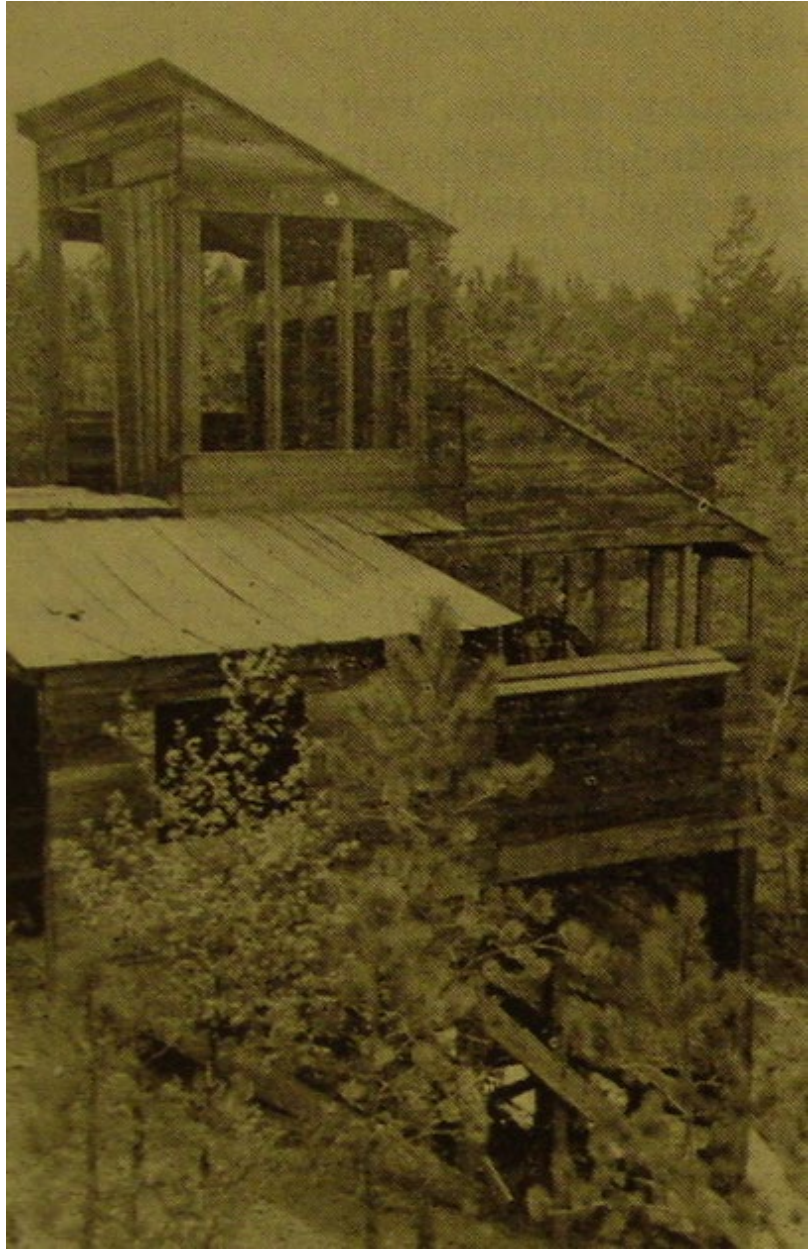
E. S. Parker, Commissioner to Hon. J. D. Cox, Secretary of the Interior, Dec. 23, 1869.

He reports that in order to increase efficiency and restore confidence and to avoid the dishonest and inefficient the Executive policy has been to replace many agents, and administrative officers. That in the Northern Superintendency in Nebraska, members of the Society of Friends have been installed and that other superintendencies, except in Oregon, army officers have been installed as agents, etc., and that he believes it is working to the advantage of the Government and the Indians. He says that there is now a perfect understanding between his Department and the military and that, between a circular sent out by his office and instructions published by the War Department that there has been "harmony of action between the two departments, no conflict of opinion having arisen as to the duty, power and responsibility of either".

He thinks that in settlement on reservations and in cessions of land by the Indians there is much to be done but thinks it **SHOULD NOT** be done by treaty and says:

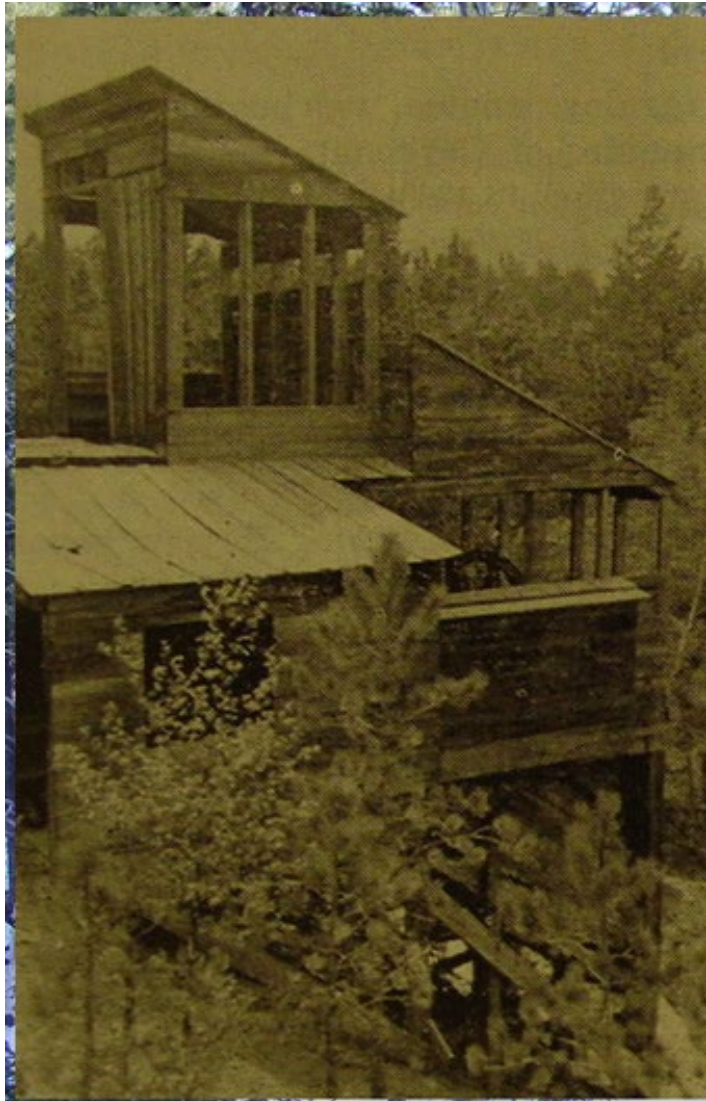
"A treaty involves the idea of a compact between two or more sovereign powers, each possessing sufficient authority and force to compel a compliance with the obligations incurred. The Indian tribes of the U. S. are not sovereign nations, capable of making treaties, as none of them have an organized government of such inherent strength as would secure a faithful observance * * * of the compacts. The treaties * * * have given them a false impression of national independence * * * great injury has been done by deluding these people into the belief of their being independent sovereignties, while at







JAN 17 2004



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This book was photographed by Scott Prentice back in 2004.

Scott spent the years of 1998 – Present climbing, hiking and camping at Carbonate. Scott was one of the last permanent residents of The Rubicon (Rubicon Gulch) I hope you enjoyed this book.