

mines they found strata of sandstone, in which were found pieces of petrified wood, lizards and other substances; and these strata contained silver, assaying from three to five hundred dollars per ton, furnishing a riddle for scientists to solve.

They often took long rides across the country, pausing to wonder at the remains of peach-orchards which they found growing wild in watered districts, showing that they had been raised by former inhabitants, ruins of whose dwellings still remained, but nothing to tell who they were or whence they came. In the mountains they came upon deserted mines, in which shafts had been excavated, and the tools, which were rudely formed from pieces of stone, had been left behind. This seemed to prove that mining was among the earliest industries of the world.

At the Mohave villages they were always welcomed, and Mrs. Alice Burton caressed the Indian babies, and tasted the fruit of the Tunics (another species of cactus), while her husband entertained the Indian chief with pictures and descriptions of the large ships he had seen in the bay at San