

W. Lawson, A. S. Bigelow and the other great Boston copper capitalists are also in it. Indeed, the scheme had its origin in Boston, which has for some time past been the centre of the copper business of America. It is intimated that the Rothschilds are also interested in the deal to the extent of furnishing a part of the money. Ultimately the intention is to put the stock in the hands of the public, and if a crash ever comes it will not be the rich promoters who will drop their money, but the general body of investors who buy in at an advanced price. When one thinks of the enormous power upon the fortunes of others wielded by a company having \$400,000,000 stock afloat, the value of which can be depressed or raised at will, one shrinks from contemplation of what may occur as the result of this great project. It seems, indeed, as if it should be made illegal for any combination to acquire the power to manipulate such a vast enterprise.

Simple Gold Tests.

The following simple tests for gold may prove of value to prospectors:

For gold in oxidized ores, pulverize and place in a porcelain lined vessel or tea cup, and cover with iodine and allow it to stand for two or three hours. Then dip into it a piece of white filter paper, dry and burn it, and if it gives a purple color gold is present, and the deeper the purple the richer the ore. For other ores with this test, such as pyrites, the ore must be roasted; where lime is present, the ore must be roasted twice, the second time adding carbonate of ammonia.

After roasting test as with oxidized ores.

To find gold in telluride, heat a lump of ore on wood or coals until it comes slowly to a cherry red, then drop it quickly into salt water. The gold will appear in globules on the surface of the ore. It is best to test several pieces at once as one of them will be liable to have the right temperature. If no gold appears, pulverize and use pan. Any free milling ore containing as much as \$12 per ton in gold will show colors when roasted, pulverized and washed down in the gold pan. If a piece of ore that is two inches square shows a color or two, it is generally rich enough to work.

A test for tellurium is to pulverize the sample to a fine powder and mix well with half its weight of sal soda and pulverized charcoal; put into an iron spoon and heat until all the charcoal is burned away; dissolve in very hot water, but not boiling. If there be the least trace of tellurium the water will be colored a dark amethyst or purple, according to the percentage in the ore.

Unoxidized telluride minerals are of metallic lustre, varying in color from silver white to steel gray; quite brittle and soft, that is easily scratched with a knife. A rich specimen of gold telluride ore will, when heated in an open fire, show globules of gold.

A very simple test for this character of ore is to place a minute fragment of the mineral in a white porcelain dish, and add a drop of concentrated sulphuric acid; heat the acid gently over the flame of a spirit lamp, and a beautiful carmine color is at once developed. Should the tellurium be associated