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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND MINERAL RESOURCES AZMILS DATA

PRIMARY NAME: BULLY BUENO

ALTERNATE NAMES:  
BEAVER GROUP 1

YAVAPAI COUNTY MILS NUMBER: 1255

LOCATION: TOWNSHIP 11 N RANGE 1 W SECTION 3 QUARTER SW  
LATITUDE: N 34DEG 19MIN 03SEC LONGITUDE: W 112DEG 21MIN 27SEC  
TOPO MAP NAME: BATTLE FLAT - 7.5 MIN

CURRENT STATUS: EXP PROSPECT

COMMODITY:  
GOLD

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

USGS BATTLE FLAT QUAD  
USGS BATTLE FLAT QUAD  
ADMMR BULLY BUENO MINE FILE  
USGS B782, 1926 P. 152  
TRANSACTIONS OF AIME VOL. 11, P. 288  
ADMMR TRINITY MINE FILE  
ADMMR KENDAL UNION FRANKLIN PAT CLAIMS FILE  
BLM AMC FILE 45653

3800  
20'  
T 12 N

3799

3798

3797

3796

17'30"

3795

3552 IV SW  
(BATTLESHIP BUTTE)



2005

← Z

↓ MILL SITE



↑ BULLY BUENO WORKINGS

May 26, 2005

Nyal Niemuth, Mining Engineer

**Changes in location of MILS Records**

The existing Bully Bueno AZMILS # 1102 will become an unknown BATTLESHIP BUTTE 1, at T12N, R1W, Sec 20. The new record for the Bully Bueno will be the existing Beaver Group I AZMILS # 1255 T11N, R1W, Sec 3 SW location. The Beaver Group II also covers workings of the BULLY BUENO mine.

Data supporting the changing of the location was added to the Bully Bueno mine file and was provided by Dwight Bennett, Sharlot Hall Museum, 8058 Candy Circle, Prescott Valley 928-899-7452, former President Prescott Historical Society who has been researching this area.

Mr. Bennett believes that the often cited location in Waldemar Lindgren's description in USGS Bull 782 is incorrect. Lindgren likely misread across the columns in the table in Hinton's Mines Handbook confusing the Bully Bueno with the Burmeister and thus incorrectly described its location as being north of Goodwin. Actually it is closer to most locations shown for Bueno town and mill site about a mile and half south of Turkey Creek by road. See the descriptive information from an article in the Weekly Arizona Miner, April 5, 1873 and the aerial photograph. (copies in file). Mr. Bennett has also been on the ground confirming the existence of the workings as described.

The Beaver Group claims were in existence on the workings at the time of the AZMILS compilation.

RETYPED FROM:

# WEEKLY ARIZONA MINER

Prescott, Arizona,  
Saturday Morning,  
April 5, 1873

## Turkey Creek mining District

A number of gold veins have been located and opened in this district, and a splendid stamp mill was erected by the Bully Bueno Company, but none of these mines have proved successful.

The claim on which the most work has been done is the Bully Bueno, which is a deposit quite as singular as its barbarous name. It is one of many illustrations, so frequently met with in the West, of how mining ought not to be carried on. "A splendid stamp mill was built by this company, an eastern association, before the mine was the least developed, and when this was finally accomplished, it was only to prove that the mine was not worth it. The mining works are located on two hills, separated by a deep gulch, about one and a half mile south of Turkey creek. The deposit is an irregular body of quartz, filled with large patches and threads of hornblende. It occurs in metamorphic slates running northeast and southwest, and dipping steeply to the northwest, and the quartz bodies strike and dip with them. These constitute no vein, but are lenticular masses, entirely independent of and overlapping each other, as plainly shown in the shafts and tunnels. These are well planned and located and had the mineral matter proved sufficiently rich to pay they could have supplied a twenty-stamp mill with ore.

Near the top of the southern hill a cut along the vein, 300 feet long, and 20 to 30 feet deep, has been made, and the hornblende quartz,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to 4 feet wide, has been entirely removed. Lower down on the hillside is a tunnel, 60 feet long, in which a winze is sunk to the depth of 40 feet. Still lower down, and about 100 feet above the bottom of the ravine, is another tunnel, 230

feet long. In this tunnel are two shafts; the one near its mouth is in the hanging wall of the deposit, and strikes it at a depth of 35 feet; the other is a short distance in the tunnel, and is sunk on an incline of 85 degrees. In this tunnel the lenticular shape of the deposit is well shown. Where the second shaft is sunk, the body of ore followed in the tunnel from the surface thins out and finally ceases, and another is met within a crosscut of 8 feet in the hanging wall. Where fullest developed these bodies are 7 feet wide. Hornblende is found in great-quantity in the quartz throughout, but not a trace of pyrites. It is claimed that at one point at the surface where the hornblende was entirely decomposed, imparting a rusty color to the quartz, this ore yielded over \$100 per ton in arastras and that a number of tons of this rich ore were so worked, where upon the property was sold to the company that now owns it. It is certain, however, that the great bulk of the ore does not contain more than \$8.00 per ton. Large piles of this lie about the mouth of the several shafts and tunnels and at the foot of the chute, which is built in a substantial manner from the lower tunnel to the bottom of the ravine, where the wagons were to receive the ore.

On the opposite hill occur two zones of the same nature as just described, one of which lies very nearly in line with the works on the other side, while the other is parallel to the first and west of it. The eastern one has been opened by two inclines. In the upper one, which is fifteen feet deep, a body of quartz and hornblende shows right at the top, but it pinches out four feet from the surface. The remainder of the shaft is sunk in slate. The lower incline is sunk forty feet deep upon a large mass of quartz and hornblende, at least eight feet wide. At this point, it is claimed, the ore was found on the surface, which proved so rich in arastras. The mill on Turkey Creek was evidently a substantial structure, and contained twenty stamps and ran by steam engine. It has been burnt to the ground by Indians during the last spring, and the rusty and bent remnants of the stamps and other machinery, entirely worthless in this place, are all that remains. The distance from this place to Prescott, by a very good trail, is twenty-two miles, by wagon road about forty miles.

A number of other gold veins have been opened in this district, and on a few of them considerable work has been done; but none were successful, and their shafts and tunnels are now impassable.

RETYPED  
By DWIGHT BENNETT

THE BULLY BUENO MILL (VICKROY'S MILL)  
A Mining Fiasco on Turkey Creek,  
1864-1877

by  
Bruce M. Wilson

IN THE SPRING OF 1864 much of central Arizona was an unexplored wilderness, where American miners were just beginning to penetrate the rugged terrain. Various Indian tribes still held sway over the country, and only bold and ambitious men dared trespass on their territory. It was during this turbulent period that George H. Vickroy, Jack Swilling, and Henry A. Bigelow worked placer claims and checked out quartz veins in the Walnut Grove area on the western flank of the Bradshaw Mountains about twenty miles south of Prescott. Although the region would soon become an important farming and ranching center, at this time it was barely settled. Finding some color and believing that it warranted a full-scale mining operation, the three prospectors pooled their resources and sent Vickroy to Philadelphia, where he had connections. There he attempted to scare up some wealthy investors willing to bankroll the first large-scale ore-reduction machinery brought into Arizona Territory. Seldom has an enterprise been so wrongheaded in its conception and disastrous in its implementation. This is its story.<sup>1</sup>

At the time Vickroy decided to raise capital, there were no quartz mills in the territory. Because the threat of hostile Indians rendered the venture extremely risky, he went first to Gen. James Carleton, the area's military commander, for reassurance. On July 11, 1864, Carleton notified the nervous capitalist that "I have

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After graduating from the University of Minnesota, the author lived for several years in Crown King, where he developed an interest in the history of the Bradshaw Mountains. He is the author and publisher of *Crown King and the Southern Bradshaws: A Complete History* (Crown King Press). He is currently working on a book of historical sketches about the Bradshaws for the Sharlot Hall Museum Press.

[391]

From:

*The Journal of Arizona History Winter 1998*

already inaugurated a campaign against the Apache Indians that will result in their complete subjugation, and should you induce friends in the East to join you in erecting a quartz-mill in the newly-discovered gold-regions near Fort Whipple, the enterprise will be fully protected by the military."<sup>2</sup>

With Carleton's letter in hand, Vickroy traveled to Philadelphia, where he convinced several investors to organize the Walnut Grove Mining Company with Vickroy as general superintendent. The company raised \$77,000, which enabled Vickroy to purchase a twenty-stamp mill, a forty-horsepower engine, twenty-six wagons, 268 mules, and various tools and provisions. Presumably, the machinery was shipped by rail to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, where Vickroy departed for Arizona in late February 1865 with fifteen mule teams and thirty-five men. On March 15, Vickroy mailed a letter from Council Grove, Kansas, informing his father that a snow storm had held him up there for a week and that, otherwise, he was making only six to eight miles a day through deep mud. The army had also detained him until he could join a larger wagon train. Because of the Indian threat, the military was only allowing trains of 100 or more wagons to proceed onto the plains. Once Vickroy got underway, the trip west proceeded smoothly until about August 1, when a band of mounted Indians attacked the train near Navajo Springs and ran off twenty-six mules. The mill finally arrived at Point of Rocks, north of Prescott, in late summer.<sup>3</sup>

Vickroy, meanwhile, had ridden ahead of the train and made contact with Swilling and other local miners. From them he learned that during the spring of 1865 several prospectors had made rich strikes along Turkey Creek, south of Prescott. ~~2~~ Robert Groom had located a quartz vein on a chaparral spur not far from Battle Flat. Breaking off a piece of rock and seeing the amount of gold imbedded in it, he exclaimed "Bully Bueno," a vernacular expression of joy in two languages. Groom registered his claim on May 16, at about the same time that Charley Taylor, Harvey Twaddle, and Robert McCoy filed on the same lode. Ed Peck and S. F. Ehrenberg laid claim to the Bully Bueno No. 2. Because the area was crawling with hostile Indians, it seems certain that all or most of the claimants were part of the same prospecting party.<sup>4</sup>

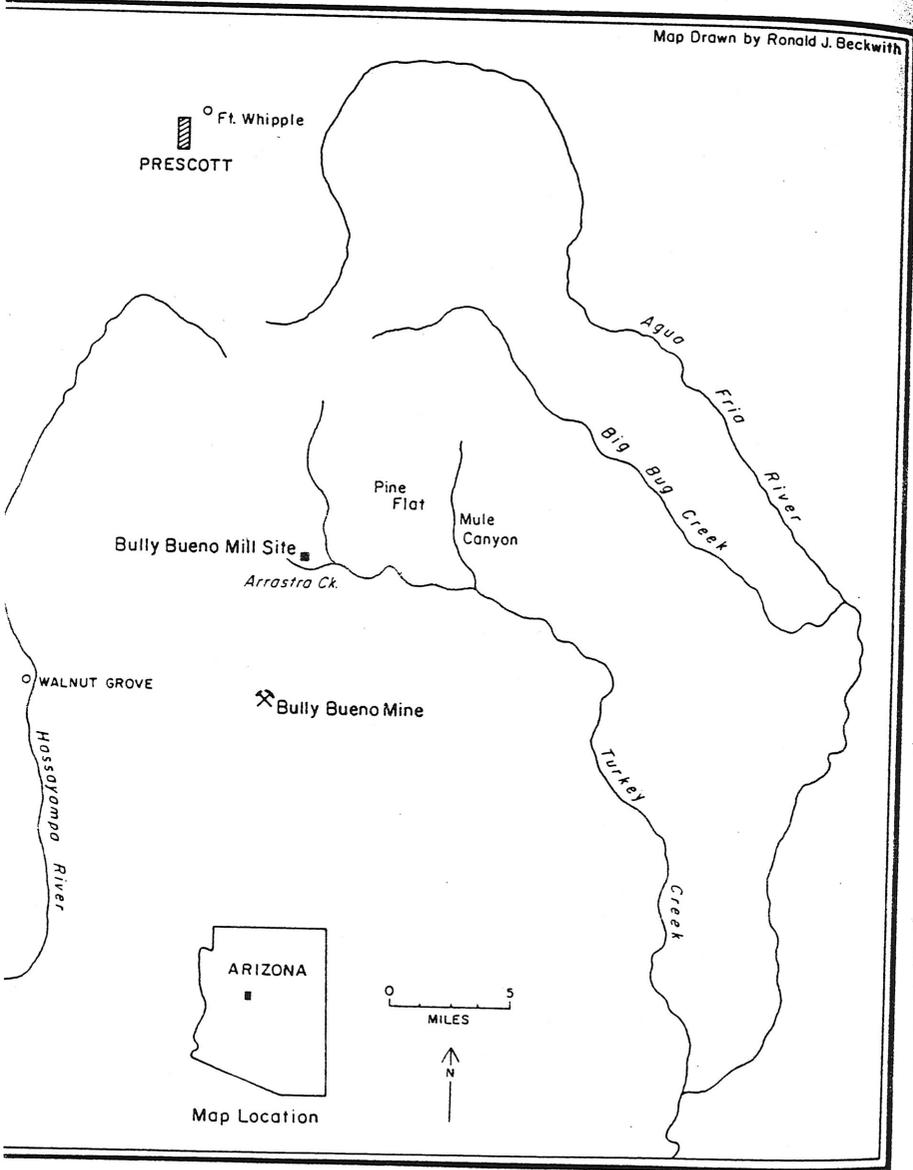
Hearing the news of these discoveries, Vickroy decided to set up his mill on Turkey Creek instead of at Walnut Grove. By the end of August, he had purchased several of the claims in the Bully Bueno and neighboring Yahoo lodes on behalf of the Walnut Grove Gold Mining Company. He then applied to Gen. John Mason, commanding the District of Arizona, to make good on General Carleton's earlier promise of military protection. Mason assigned twenty-one soldiers to escort the mill from Point of Rocks to the Bully Bueno.<sup>5</sup>

In the meantime, Vickroy's teamsters had hauled the mill and machinery south along the Agua Fria to near the present site of Mayer, where they set to work building a road. Daniel Ellis Conner, one of the surveyors, recalled that "The Indians who saw those great boilers, as they came over the road, thought that they were great guns which the 'pale faces' were going to locate on Turkey Creek," which may partly explain their determination to prevent the establishment of the mill. Because of the difficult topography and constant harassment by Indians, the freighters had only proceeded a couple of miles when the soldiers arrived. The very next day, Indians attacked the party at Mule Creek, killing one man and seizing twelve mules. Arriving at one particularly steep grade, which they called Grief Hill, the teamsters cut down trees and dragged the logs with chains behind the wagons to slow the descent.<sup>6</sup>

After two weeks of hard and dangerous work, the first wagons and equipment arrived at the Bully Bueno mill site about September 21. Indians immediately attacked the camp and drove off twenty-two head of cattle—the miners' entire beef herd. As soon as they had unloaded their cargo, the empty wagons headed back toward Prescott. At Pine Flat, only a couple of miles from the mill site, Indians attacked again, this time killing one teamster, burning a wagon, and making off with an eight-mule team. The survivors arrived safely at Prescott and continued on to Fort Mohave on the Colorado River to pick up feed for the miners' livestock. Refused a military escort, the train was attacked twice on the return trip, losing stock at Hualapai Springs and again at Beale Springs. In the weeks that the loaded wagons rested at Prescott, Indians stole 100 more mules from the beleaguered party.<sup>7</sup>

As equipment and supplies were being hauled in, the Walnut Grove Gold Mining Company claimed farm land along the

Map Drawn by Ronald J. Beckwith



Agua Fria and built two cabins for herders to oversee grazing the mules that had hauled the machinery in from Kansas. Agents for the company hired four inexperienced men to guard the livestock, but they were no match for the predatory Indians. Locals warned the novice herders that they were too close to the Apache strongholds and predicted that all their stock would be gone in a few weeks. Apparently, they were right. Within three weeks, one herder was killed, another crippled, and all the mules had disappeared.<sup>8</sup>

Workers at the mill site fared no better. On October 4, Indians attacked the Bully Bueno and drove off the eleven men Vickroy had left to work on the mill. Some escaped to Walnut Grove and others headed for Prescott. Vickroy hired more men to work on the mill during the winter, but the army refused to provide guards. It's not surprising, then, that Indians stole another fifty mules from the mining camp.<sup>9</sup>

Vickroy, meanwhile, led a peripatetic existence, leaving Prescott for San Francisco on October 19, returning about December 15, and departing for Philadelphia in January of 1866. Bookkeeper Thomas Gibbons took charge of the Bully Bueno operations during Vickroy's absences. Gibbons hired five more men to protect the mill and inspected the site himself, returning to Prescott on February 8. The next day, 200 Indians attacked the Bully Bueno, killing one man, wounding two others (one of them fatally), driving off seven mules and three horses, and burning one of the houses. This time, the army responded to Gibbons's request by dispatching a surgeon and a company of soldiers to the mill site. However, they remained less than a week. Gibbons then hired twenty men, who had just arrived from Montana, to protect the Bully Bueno.<sup>10</sup>

Despite the increased guard, Indians attacked again in March. According to the *Prescott Arizona Miner*, two men, named Chambers and Begold, were awakened by the sound of Indians setting fire to the cabin in which they were sleeping. The miners managed to put out the fire and drive off the Indians, killing one in the process, but not before Begold was struck in the abdomen by an arrow. At Begold's urging, Chambers sneaked out and brought back a rescue party from Lynx Creek. Another party, that included Dr. Edward Phelps, arrived from Prescott.

Together, the men brought Begold back to Prescott where he recovered from his wound.<sup>11</sup>

Years after the event, P. C. Bucknell remembered the attack on the Bully Bueno somewhat differently. In an newspaper article, Bucknell described how Gus Bigoli and a man named Campbell were left in charge of the mill, while Vickroy was back in Philadelphia raising money. One night, as the pair was asleep in the log house next to the mill, they were awakened by a light in the room. Quickly realizing that a fire was roaring outside the door and that Indians were probably waiting with bows drawn for them to emerge, they looked for another means of escape. Thinking quickly, the two men pulled a shelf off the wall. Opening the door just a crack, Bigoli braved "the cloud of arrows that came hissing at him out of the darkness," while he used the board to push away the fire. Once the fire had died down and all was quiet, Bigoli grabbed a shotgun and stepped outside to reconnoiter, only to fall back inside immediately with an arrow protruding from his stomach. Campbell slammed the door and pulled his partner onto the bed, where he gingerly extracted the shaft of the arrow but left the head deeply imbedded in the wound. Unable to do anything further for Bigoli, Campbell picked up the shotgun and carved out a gunport in the chinking between the logs next to the door. After a couple of hours had passed, he observed an Indian with an armload of dry brush and grass sneaking around the corner of the cabin. Campbell let loose with both barrels, and the would-be arsonist dropped like a stone. Although Campbell continued to watch, sometime during the night Indians removed the body. With no Indians in sight, after sunrise Campbell slipped out over the mountains to Prescott for help. Sheriff Jack Moore and a rescue party returned with Bigoli that same day. The wounded miner recovered completely, even though the arrow head was never removed.<sup>12</sup>

Following this incident, Vickroy put forty men to work at the mill site. During the spring, they commenced work on the mine itself. By April, miners had sunk the shaft to a depth of thirty feet, where they struck a ledge said to be fourteen feet wide. "This, we think, is one of the best lodes in the country," crowed the *Arizona Miner*. In July, Vickroy returned from Philadelphia with seven men from the Walnut Grove Company, including Edward W.

Coffin and several engineers. Coffin replaced Vickroy as manager of the Bully Bueno operation. No reason was mentioned for the change in management, and Vickroy continued to work for the company. Despite the Pennsylvanian's brief tenure as superintendent, newspapers and maps often referred to the Bully Bueno mill as Vickroy's Mill.<sup>13</sup>

More trouble erupted in November of 1866 near Big Bug, where the *Miner* reported that Indians had attacked four men and a freight team that King Woolsey had sent from his ranch to the Bully Bueno. The Indians killed three of the teamsters and stole three of the four oxen. Only Harvey Twaddle managed to escape. Interestingly, Vickroy seems to have recalled the same event when, in 1873, he provided a statement in support of the Walnut Grove Company's memorial to Congress requesting reimbursement for losses the company incurred as a result of Indian attacks. In this version, Vickroy claimed that in October of 1866 he had sent a train loaded with provisions from San Pedro, California. Indians attacked the party at the Agua Fria, ten miles from the mine, killing five teamsters and stealing forty animals. Since the company failed to mention the loss in its list of property taken or destroyed by Indians, it seems likely that Vickroy's account suffered from a combination of forgetfulness and exaggeration. Also in November, Indians stole six horses from Superintendent Coffin's ranch, six miles from King Woolsey's ranch near the present site of Dewey. Fortunately, Coffin had recently moved most of his herd to the Bully Bueno.<sup>14</sup>

No wonder that about this time, Vickroy returned to Philadelphia and then went on to Washington, where he described for Gen. Ulysses S. Grant the company's troubles with Indians. Grant promised to instruct Gen. Irvin McDowell, commanding the Department of the Pacific, "to extend such aid to us as was possible, and to establish a military camp at our mill." Once again, the army failed to make good on its promise.<sup>15</sup>

As superintendent, Edward Coffin vigorously pushed forward construction of the Bully Bueno mill, which was completed by the end of 1866. Once the mill was ready, Coffin confronted the problem of hauling ore to the site after Indians had stolen or killed all the company's horses and mules. In January of 1867, he traveled to company headquarters in Philadelphia to obtain

more money to buy livestock. His mission accomplished, he sailed from New York in April and arrived in Los Angeles several months later. There he purchased a large number of animals and herded them to Arizona. As usual, Indians harassed the party much of the way, attacking in earnest within a half mile of the Bully Bueno. A few days later, raiders drove off the stock from the company farm and killed the herder.<sup>16</sup>

According to the *Arizona Miner*, Coffin returned to Prescott on July 23, fully prepared to pay off the company's debts and continue work on the Bully Bueno. Apparently, the company had failed to provide enough money to satisfy all the claims against it, particularly those involving the Turkey Creek mines. "The company has put Coffin in an uncomfortable position and it is hard to believe that a company that had spent over \$100,000 so far would abandon the work for a few thousand more," the *Miner* observed. The editor pointed out that Coffin had overcome "the mismanagement that had cost the company earlier," but failed to elaborate. He did say that Coffin had made arrangements to keep some men working on the tunnel and that he was prepared to start up the mill soon.<sup>17</sup>

Coffin's plans were once again ruined as a large band of Indians charged the herd grazing at Dickason's ranch across the Agua Fria, roughly opposite present-day Cordes Lakes. The marauders drove off eight of the nineteen mules that Coffin had brought in from California to work at the mill. He later estimated the value of the animals at \$300 each. Dickason rushed to Big Bug for help. A party of soldiers he stumbled upon in the area took off after the Indians. Troops from Fort Whipple later joined in the pursuit.<sup>18</sup>

These setbacks and financial difficulties proved too much for Coffin. In late August, he and a few others connected with the Bully Bueno departed for California, leaving T. W. Brooks in charge of the mine. Eventually, Coffin reached Philadelphia, where he resigned from the company, telling his superiors that it was futile to spend more money on the Bully Bueno. Once again, Vickroy arrived on the scene from California, where he had asked Gen. John Gregg for soldiers to protect the mill and mine. Informed that no help was available, Vickroy hired a crew to guard the mill through the winter, while he returned to Philadelphia.<sup>19</sup>

## STAMP MILLS

TEN STAMP BATTERY WITH WOOD MORTAR BLOCK

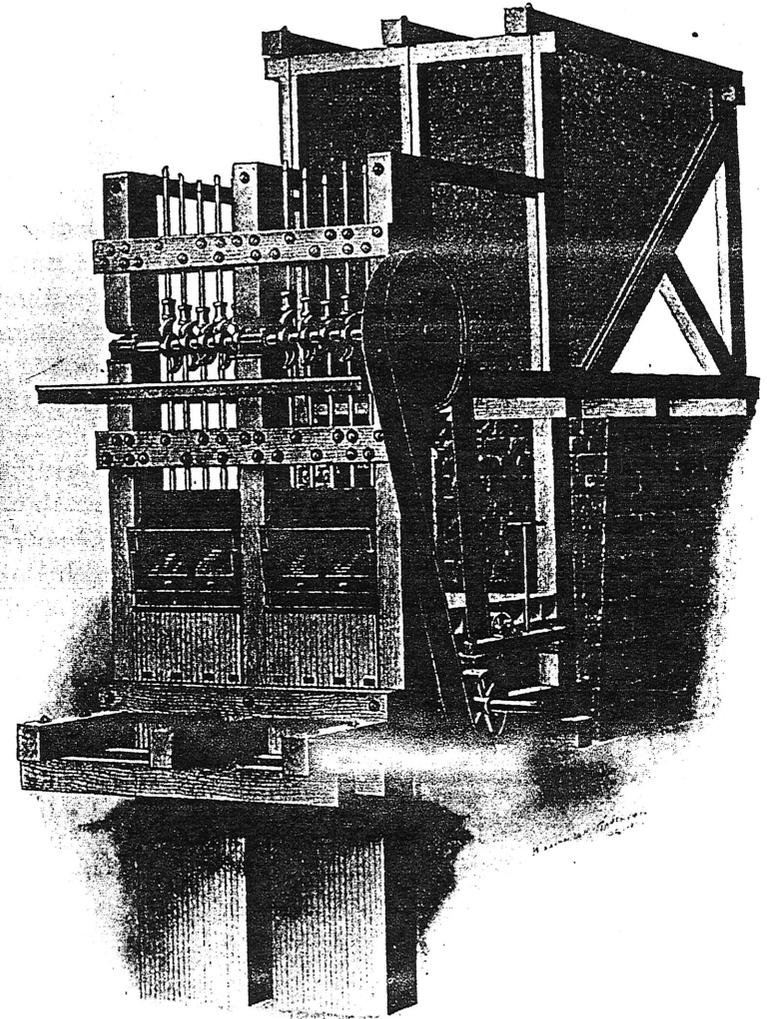


FIG. 260

Stamp mill. From the Mine and Smelter Supply Company's 1912 catalog.

One of the men Vickroy hired to protect the Bully Bueno was Cornelius "Jeff" Davis. Apparently nicknamed after the former Confederate president, Davis told historian Sharlot Hall that Indians constantly harassed the guards at the mill, attempting to drive off the mules whose meat they craved. On one occasion, just after some of the Philadelphia owners had departed, Davis and his companions discovered that their visitors had left behind some luggage that contained several suits of clothes. One night, when Indians were prowling around the property in larger numbers than usual, Davis and his partner armed themselves, dressed up in various coats and hats, and ran around the camp. Apparently convinced that a formidable, and well-dressed, body of men was guarding the mill, the Indians left without attacking.<sup>20</sup>

Davis was also a determined farmer who, while acting as chief watchman, grew corn adjacent to the mill site. In the late fall of 1867, a group of Indians—believed to be Yuma-Apaches—carried off his entire crop. A day or two later, Davis spotted an Indian sitting on a rock about 200 yards from his house. The watchman took careful aim with his rifle and fired, hitting the rock between the Indian's legs. The man "bounded off like a deer," with Davis and his companions in hot pursuit, but the guards gave up the chase after a couple of miles. After leaving the Bully Bueno, Davis scratched out a little farm at the headwaters of the Hassayampa, where he grew potatoes for the Prescott market.<sup>21</sup>

Things really began to unravel for the Walnut Grove Company when several former employees filed suit for unpaid wages. Mechanic Jacob O'Brien claimed that the company owed him \$600, while W. F. Banning, Stephen Z. Pierce, and John Raible sued for \$423, \$662, and \$582, respectively. On January 30, 1868, the Yavapai County district court issued a summons for J. G. Fell, Edward Hoopes, and George Burnham, et al., as officers of the Walnut Grove Company, to appear in person or a judgment by default would be issued against them.<sup>22</sup>

Vickroy returned to Prescott from San Francisco in early March to straighten out the company's affairs. Although deep snow at the headwaters of the Hassayampa prevented him from visiting the mine, he managed to clear up some of the company's debts and sent a relief crew to guard the mill before returning to California at the end of the month. In July the court issued a

judgment of \$610 for the plaintiff in *O'Brien v. Fell, et al.* and placed a lien on the Bully Bueno. The remaining cases were continued until a missing witness could be located.<sup>23</sup>

While operations at the Bully Bueno were suspended pending Vickroy's return with additional capital, at least one of the idle miners followed Jeff Davis's example and took up gardening. Mail rider J. D. Monihon reported in October that the Bully Bueno had the best garden in the country. He claimed to have seen a cabbage that weighed thirty pounds. Apparently, Frank Hammond was the miner with the green thumb. That same month, Hammond arrived in Prescott with an entire pack train loaded with desiccated vegetables that he had grown at the Bully Bueno.<sup>24</sup>

Vickroy hoped to be back at the mine by the spring of 1869, but it quickly became evident that his Philadelphia investors had no desire to waste more money on the Bully Bueno. Instead, the company divided the property among the various lienholders, who never completely recouped their losses. The final blow came in November, when fire consumed the stamp mill. James A. Flanagan, who became superintendent of the Bully Bueno on March 15, 1868, left little doubt that Indians sealed the fate of the ill-starred venture. According to Flanagan, on July 9, 1869, a large party of raiders attacked the mine, forcing the forty to seventy employees to flee to Prescott. Miners who returned after the attack found the mill and the buildings burned to the ground. In early 1871, Yavapai County sheriff John Behan listed the Bully Bueno property, which still contained one house, on the delinquent real estate tax record for the previous year. The owners were W. F. Banning and John Raible, two of the lienholders, and the tax due was \$4.64.<sup>25</sup>

In the summer of 1871, John Marion, publisher of the *Weekly Arizona Miner*, rode by the Bully Bueno and observed: "The ride down Turkey creek to the Bully Bueno mill and mine, is a pleasant one. Mill, did we say? There was once a twenty-stamp mill here, but thieves and incompetents failed to do anything with it; it was abandoned. Indians then came; and to-day, it is a mass of ruins—a charred monument of knavery and incompetency. The Bully Bueno mine paid well by arrastra process, still, never a ton of rock was crushed at this once splendid mill."<sup>26</sup>

Although several contemporaries refer to swindlers and incompetents who ruined the Bully Bueno, they are short on specifics. In early 1873, Prescott businessman Michael Wormser visited Philadelphia, where Walnut Grove Company investors told him that they had been misled and swindled by the dishonest agents they had sent to Arizona. The claim is puzzling because they spoke positively of both Vickroy and Coffin, and even retained Vickroy to press their claim for restitution in Congress. Ultimately, the downfall of the Bully Bueno was primarily a case of bad timing, with a little incompetency thrown in. Neither Vickroy nor his backers recognized the foolhardiness involved in moving an expensive piece of equipment into an isolated area inhabited by hostile natives. Vickroy may have exhibited bad judgment in urging the investment on his Philadelphia backers, but he was not dishonest.<sup>27</sup>

In an attempt to recoup their losses, in early 1874 the Walnut Grove Mining Company submitted to Congress the *Memorial of J. G. Fell, Edward Hoopes, and Geo. Burnham*. On December 8, 1874, it was referred to the Committee on Indians Affairs and ordered to be printed. The twenty-five-page document contained a list of all property lost or destroyed and its value, as well as supporting statements and character references from Vickroy, Coffin, General Carleton, and various teamsters, assayers, and other employees. The *Arizona Miner*, which reprinted Vickroy's statement, predicted that the Bully Bueno claim would be a test case for other companies and individuals who had lost property to the Indians. In the end, however, Congress disallowed the petition because the company had failed to file its claim within three years of the alleged losses. Committee members also argued that the claim was too large and expressed their opinion that the army could hardly be expected to protect every piece of property from Indian attack.<sup>28</sup>

Besides the lawsuits still pending against the Walnut Grove Company in local court, T. W. Brooks and others filed suit in Pennsylvania. In March 1874, Commissioner H. W. Fleury took statements in Prescott and forwarded them to Philadelphia. A short time later, Brooks departed for the East to pursue his claim.<sup>29</sup>

Meanwhile, back on Turkey Creek, the Bully Bueno experienced a brief resurrection when a man named Fender tried to

rebuild the mill using metal parts saved from the fire. In August 1875, the *Weekly Arizona Miner* reported that he was constructing a new mill building and was about to begin work on the wheel. The following month, Fender finished preparing the heavy timbers and was whipsawing the lumber for the building. In February of 1876, the Prescott newspaper announced that the mill was ready to go and that Fender was only awaiting the arrival of copper plates from Ehrenberg. As preparations continued on the mill, Thomas Roach began construction of a smelter (later referred to as Mulvenon and Roach's smelter) near the Bully Bueno. Although the smelter operated for a few years processing ore from nearby mines, there was no further mention of the restored mill. If it crushed any ore at all, it apparently made little impact on the local mining economy. The final reference to the mill appeared in the *Weekly Arizona Miner* on March 3, 1877. Describing the Bully Bueno mill as "a fallen enterprise of days gone by," the newspaper pronounced its final epitaph. "The numerous rude and standing chimneys," it reminded readers, "give evidence of a civilization which once flourished in this romantic spot."<sup>30</sup>

## NOTES

1. Vickroy was born near Johnstown, Pennsylvania, in 1834, and was descended from a family of adventurers and pioneers. One of his grandfathers, George Harlan, was an associate of Daniel Boone in Kentucky and was the first sheriff of Warren County, Ohio. Arnold Suter to Bruce M. Wilson, May 14, 1997, author's files.
2. James H. Carleton to George H. Vickroy, July 11, 1864, in "Memorial of J. G. Fell, Edward Hoopes, and Geo. Burnham," *House Miscellaneous Document 3*, 43rd Congress, 2<sup>d</sup> session, p. 8. Hereinafter cited as "Fell Memorial."
3. George H. Vickroy statement, in "Fell Memorial," p. 9; George Vickroy to Edwin Vickroy, March 15, 1865, and *National Republican*, April 15, 1884, both in Vickroy File, Sharlot Hall Museum Archives (SHMA), Prescott. Richard J. Hinton, *Hand-Book to Arizona* (San Francisco: Payout, Upham & Co., 1878), p. 106, lists the machinery as a ten-stamp mill.
4. Daniel J. Conner, *Joseph Reddeford Walker and the Arizona Adventure* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1956), pp. 283-84; Claims filed in Yavapai County Recorder's Office, Prescott.
5. Vickroy statement.
6. Sharlot Hall, "Notebook," pp. 38-39, SHMA; Conner, *Joseph Reddeford Walker*, p. 286.
7. Vickroy statement.
8. Conner, *Joseph Reddeford Walker*, pp. 285-86.
9. Vickroy statement.
10. George Vickroy to Edwin Vickroy, November 15, 1865, Vickroy File, SHMA; Affidavit of Thomas H. Gibbons, in "Fell Memorial," p. 12.

11. *Arizona Miner* (Prescott), March 14, 1866.
12. P. C. Bucknell, "The Bully Bueno," Bully Bueno File, SHMA. This account was apparently written some years after the incident, which may explain some of the discrepancies in the names of the people involved. Arizona census records list both an A. Begold at Lynx Creek in 1866 and a Gus Begole at Prescott in 1869. Campbell and Chambers were common names in Arizona Territory.
13. Vickroy statement; *Arizona Miner*, April 11, July 25, 1866.
14. *Arizona Miner*, November 10, 30, 1866.
15. Vickroy statement.
16. In his statement to Congress, Vickroy said that in June of 1874 he had bought about seventy mules and horses, which he sent with six wagonloads of provisions to the Bully Bueno. Indians stole several animals from the train while it was on the road. The day after it arrived at the mine, Indians stole all the stock belonging to the company and killed the herders. Because no other teams were available in the territory, all operations ceased at the mine. Vickroy may be confused here. Coffin had already replaced him as superintendent, and neither the *Arizona Miner* nor the Walnut Grove Company's inventory of lost property mentions a raid at this time.
17. *Arizona Miner*, July 27, August 10, 1867. This conflicts with Coffin's statement to Congress that he had not even arrived in Los Angeles until August.
18. *Ibid.*, August 10, 1867.
19. *Ibid.*, August 24, 1867; Statement of Edward W. Coffin, in "Fell Memorial," pp. 13-14.
20. Hall, "Notebook," pp. 38-39.
21. *Arizona Miner*, November 9, 1867; Hall, "Notebook," pp. 38-39. The *Arizona Miner* also mentioned that Davis had just killed a 900-pound bear. The reference to Davis's house is somewhat puzzling. Presumably, it refers to a cabin that the Walnut Grove Company furnished for their watchmen.
22. *Arizona Miner*, February 1, 1868.
23. *Ibid.*, March 21, July 18, 1868.
24. *Weekly Arizona Miner*, October 24, 1868.
25. Affidavit of James A. Flanagan, in "Fell Memorial," p. 11; *Weekly Arizona Miner*, February 11, 1868.
26. *Weekly Arizona Miner*, July 1, 1871.
27. *Ibid.*, March 1, 1873. Like John Marion of the *Miner*, Daniel Ellis Conner also thought that the owners of the Bully Bueno had been swindled. His main reason for thinking so seems to have been the incompetence of the mining effort itself. According to Conner, "The agents of the company knew nothing whatever and were too smart to take advice." He felt that they had tunneled from the wrong side into the spur where the lode was located and became discouraged when they failed to strike the vein. Conner, *Joseph Redde-Jord Walker*, p. 284. Again, however, the evidence points to ignorance rather than dishonesty.
28. *Ibid.*, March 29, 1873; May 22, 1874. Hall, "Notebook," pp. 38-39, speculated that, because no one had actually seen Indians burn the mill, it could not be proven that they did it.
29. *Weekly Arizona Miner*, March 20, 27, 1874.
30. *Ibid.*, August 6, September 20, 1875; February 25, 1876; March 30, 1877.