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REPORT

OF THE

STATE GEOLOGIST

OF THE

STATE OF COLORADO,

FOR THE

YEARS 1889 AND 1890.

DENVER, COLORADO:
COLLIER & CLEVELAND LITHOGRAPH CO., PRINTERS.
1890.

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REPORT.

OURAY, COLO., January 1, 1891.

To his Excellency,

HON. JOB A. COOPER,

Governor of Colorado:

SIR:

I have the honor to submit herewith my report as State Geologist for the term ending December 31, 1890.

During the term of my office, I have received and answered thirty-five letters requesting information, especially in regard to mineral oils, gas, asphalt, coals and coke, iron deposits and building stones. There were also fourteen applications for the State Geological Reports, which I was unable to supply as none have been published of late.

The statute expressly provides that the State Geologist shall receive no compensation whatever. I, however, had intended upon assuming the duties of my office, to prepare a report upon the ore deposits and the eruptive rocks of south-western Colorado. While I have collected a large amount of data and material, of which a portion has been worked up, I have completed nothing for publication. The labor and expense of making analyses for the determination of rocks and minerals abated my enthusiasm in as much as my professional services were my only sources of income.

It is to be hoped, for the honor of Colorado, that the coming Legislature will dignify the office of State Geologist by providing funds with which to carry on investigations and collate information for the inquiring public. The few thousand dollars annually required for

this work will soon be returned to the State with compound interest, by reason of the increased capital that will thereby be encouraged to invest in various industrial enterprises.

While prominence should be given to the precious metals as regards their method of occurrence, the cost of mining and the best process for milling and concentrating the ores, I would sincerely regret to see the office of the State Geologist in any manner associated with or used to promulgate any mining operation or project. The State through any of its officers should not go into the "expert" business for reasons that are too apparent. The office should also be removed, as far as possible, from political influence and the appointment made upon professional merit instead of for political favors.

Respectfully submitted,

G. E. KEDZIE,

State Geologist, Colorado.

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AUG 15 2018

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