Mining historians will find this volume useful for understanding evolving power dynamics among males and females of different classes, racial or ethnic groups, and nationalities. They will also take from this study an appreciation of how distinctly race, class, gender, and national identity were defined based on time and place. *Borderline Americans* also offers comparisons with other mining camps and towns in the American West. This study, however, is about the place and power of different peoples in various communities and is not a straight-forward narrative of mining life.

Some readers may find compelling Benton-Cohen's suggestion that Mexicans in the frontier period were defined as "white," especially in light of the threat of Apache attacks faced by both Anglo and Hispanic settlers. She may have over played her hand, however, in suggesting that racism and exclusion were not pervasive in Cochise County in the early period, despite examples of white-Hispanic power sharing in small agrarian communities like Tres Alamos.

Some mining historians may also disagree with her claim that Mexican miners were always depicted as less manly than Anglo ones in mining towns. Newspaper accounts from this same period in Grant County, New Mexico, for example, report on the manliness of many Spanish-surnamed miners, especially concerning their victories in drilling contests in places like Santa Rita, New Mexico. Further, the author completely ignores the role of machismo in forging a clear manliness among Hispanics within their families and through their work—a key factor in gender differentiation in some form for all of the ethnic groups Benton-Cohen features in her narrative.

In addition, Benton-Cohen's sources, although comprehensive, reflect a lack of availability of accounts by working men and women, especially Hispanic ones, leaving to conjecture their perspectives on their place and power in borderland Arizona. Ending her study before World War II also leaves out some major advancements achieved by Hispanics in the Southwest since the 1920s.

Regardless, her argument that time and place are essential factors in understanding the dynamics of all of these categories—race, class, gender, and national identity—makes the foregoing observations minor criticisms that should not detract from this excellent study of Cochise County.

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R. J. Cleevely (ed.). ***Collecting the New, Rare, and Curious: Letters Selected from the Correspondence of the Cornish Mineralogists Philip Rashleigh, John Hawkins, and William Gregor.*** Exeter, Devon: Devon and Cornwall Record Society (New Series, v. 52), 2011; 341 pp. (95 pp. intro., 246 pp. of letters), 8 pp. of color illus., bib., ind., paper, £25. ISBN: 9780901853523

Editor R. J. Cleevely has painstakingly used an archival collection of correspondence by three men operating at a pivotal period in Cornish mining history and mineral collecting. Philip Rashleigh, John Hawkins, and the Rev. William Gregor shared common bonds of interest in science, geology, and mineral collecting.

Cleevely sheds light on the background of this Cornish trio in a ninety-five-page introduction that is well documented from many sources. This background allows the reader to better understand the letters that follow. Excerpts from 168 letters—out of a combined total of 500 that have remarkably survived—reveal snippets of Cornish mining history from mines such as Dolcoath and others, in the years from 1755 to 1822. The introduction and the excerpts of letters chosen document and highlight the development of mineralogy as a science, the sharing of geological knowledge, and how these collectors acquired mineral specimens.

The introduction also discusses the archives, and it considers the relationships of the three Cornishmen, historical and political events of

the period, aspects of mineral collecting, and the gradual development of a satisfactory mineral classification system. Comments extracted from the letters are used as evidence for each of these subjects, with reference also made to some earlier theories of eighteenth-century geology.

Rashleigh, Hawkins, and Gregor all came from established land-owning families in Cornwall. A member of each family held a seat in Parliament during each man's lifetime. Only on a few occasions were politics mentioned in the letters, however, and that had to do with the tin and copper industries. The individual contributions of the three Cornishmen to geology were extensive. All three collaborated with fellow British and European researchers in the developing field of mineralogy, and all three were made honorary members of the newly formed Geological Society of London.

Hawkins helped introduce new theories and mineral classification systems, and also influenced improvements in mining practices. He acquired mineral specimens with an emphasis on those from Cornwall but he also acquired an extensive collection from touring Greece, Italy, Germany, Hungary, and England. In his letters Hawkins expressed a desire to establish a museum in which to house his entire collection; instead his specimens were eventually sold to a German dealer.

Operating in the relative infancy of mineral collecting, Hawkins and Rashleigh discussed through their letters the difficulties they faced in amassing a collection. They confronted problems of storage, suitable cabinets, methods of classification and arrangement, and desirable and uniform specimen size, in addition to the difficulties of procurement. Rashleigh exchanged Cornish minerals for European specimens, sometimes with the help of his nephew, Pole Carew, who toured the Continent. The three men communicated about other mineral sources, which included dealers, mine agents, and auctions. Reliable transport between Cornwall and the Continent was another issue considered in their correspondence, with details on tracking sea vessels and the use of coaches between London and Cornwall.

Rashleigh was one of the most notable early Cornish mineralogists. His acquisition of a wide range of specimens and his detailed provenance set a new standard. He published two volumes, in 1797 and 1802, describing his collection, with illustrations in color. In a letter to Hawkins, Rashleigh agonized over the problem of finding a suitable artist who could properly illustrate the minerals.

Rev. William Gregor was an English parson and naturalist. His letters revealed a passion for analyzing new specimens in the hope of discovering new substances. He is credited with the discovery of titanium, uranium, and several other elements. He declared to Rashleigh that he had no collection of merit, that he concentrated instead on analytical experiments to determine the composition of both known minerals and new substances.

Another interesting feature of the letters is a discussion of "stones that fall from the sky," circa 1800. Rashleigh communicated his interest in a fifty-six pound meteorite discovered in Yorkshire in 1795, and discussed the theories and mystery that surrounded its origin. He attended a conference at the Royal Society in 1802 on the analysis and origins of meteorites. In their letters, Hawkins, Gregor, and Rashleigh all shared an interest in these stones that fell from the sky. Gregor wrote to Rashleigh in 1805: "Amongst the dear rarities in Mineralogy, nothing seems now to be more earnestly called for, than specimens of Stones fallen from the Clouds—They sell for very high prices—and the demand for these has risen."

Mineral collectors, and those with an interest in Cornish mining history, will enjoy this book.

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