

ple in Africa, South Asia, and Latin America, not just in Colombia's Chocó. One could readily conclude that the author had no inkling of this mode of life prior to his setting out from wealthy North America.

Nor does the author apparently have much understanding of the mining industry or the high-risk nature of mineral exploration and development, where only about one in a thousand prospects becomes a successful mine. It is not

even clear if the author is for or against small-scale mining as a mode of economic survival for rural folk in a poor country. Tubb has clearly wandered into the weeds, far beyond anything in his ken. A reader wanting a coherent discussion of the issues inherent in small-scale gold mining should look elsewhere.

Fred Barnard and John Dreier
Golden, Colorado.



The headframe of the Pozo Mine at Nevadaville, Colorado. Placer mining began in Nevada Gulch, elevation 9,000 feet, during the earliest days of the gold rush of 1859, and it later became the site of some of the richest and deepest lode mines in "the Little Kingdom of Gilpin," as the county at the heart of early Colorado mining was known. (Editor's photo.)

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