a diverse technical lexicon and metallurgical techniques. In doing so, she captures language as a form of resistance during unimaginable horrors and oppression.

Organized by parts according to the metals mined—gold, iron, silver, and copper—the book will appeal to historians who work in mining around the world. Parts I, III, and IV analyze the contributions of indigenous and African miners in the Iberian empire, while Part II examines the discussions among Spanish and Portuguese writers regarding iron metals, early mineralogy, and medical rituals in the East and West Indies. The book would be appropriate for upper-level undergraduate seminars and for graduate students in history, language and literature, anthropology, and environmental humanities. As Bigelow notes in her conclusion, this book may be the first step in understanding the broader communities that contributed to mining history.

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Jarod Roll. *Poor Man's Fortune: White Working-Class Conservatism in American Metal Mining, 1850-1950.* Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2020; 344 pp., 11 b&w illus., 2 maps, notes, bib., ind., paper, $29.95. ISBN: 9781469656298

Jarod Roll's *Poor Man's Fortune: White Working-Class Conservatism in American Metal Mining, 1850-1950* is a remarkable and engaging mining-labor history of the Tri-State District. Roll promptly establishes his perspective on the miners of the lead-zinc mines at the junction of the boundaries of Missouri, Oklahoma and Kansas. He describes them as proud purveyors of a faith in capitalism, a determination to work hard, an aversion to or sense of superiority over what they saw as "non-white" workers, whether African-Americans or immigrants, and a dedication to a masculine world that ignored the dangers that brought them injury, years of overwork, and invariably silicosis, their preeminent occupational disability.

Roll follows the movement of the region's history from the mid-nineteenth century, when discoveries of galena, lead, were first extracted, until the mid-twentieth century, when the extraction of lead and zinc functionally ended. By the beginning of the Civil War the region produced nearly a quarter of all American lead. While many mining regions attracted the new immigrants, this region was developed by native-born shovelers—men who loaded the cans or buckets and then hauled them to the surface. Initially working alone or in small groups, the early miners adopted work patterns and practices that shaped the district for a century. When the miners realized in the 1870s that zinc, too, could be recovered from the same shallow mines and with the same primitive technology—shovels, the area continued to develop and to provide an income for the shovelers. As youngsters, children collected and sold pieces of ore, which encouraged succeeding generations to prospect and to shovel. Brute labor removed the lead and zinc from often-shallow workings, and pervasive hostility to people of color meant that this was a white preserve.

Roll explains that while the western states, with their precious minerals and copper, were repeatedly disrupted by the economic cycles, the base metals of the Tri-State region satisfied the growing demand of the late nineteen century American industrial revolution. The district's laborers aspired to become successful mine operators and owners, as a few had done in the early years. However, opportunities declined in the late nineteenth century, as economic consolidation forced the shovelers from aspiring prospectors into the manual laborers whose hard work and youthful vigor created periods of seeming prosperity as the mineral discoveries expanded westward and southwestward from Joplin, Missouri, into Kansas and Picher, Oklahoma.

Roll recounts the astonishing accomplish-

ment of a "Lem Smith" who won a *Joplin Globe* shoveling prize in 1907 for "filling 303 cans . . . during an eight-hour shift" (138). In this example, Roll displays his prodigious mastery of the sources: ninety years of the manuscript census (1850-1940), union records, state and national mining and labor reports, more than fifty newspapers and periodicals, medical records of the 1920s, and extant personal, government, and corporate records drawn from thirty-two repositories in ten states and the District of Columbia. His research is exemplary, and his thirty-seven pages of notes and a comprehensive bibliography will take the scholar or interested buff to an extraordinary collection of primary and secondary sources.

Throughout his well-written and selectively illustrated account of the men of the Tri-State District, Roll never loses his focus upon the distinctive character of these miners—working class, conservative, intensely insensitive, white men who became renowned strikebreakers during the turn-of-the-twentieth-century Western labor struggles. His account explains why and how these shovelers remained anti-union or sometimes indifferent to labor issues through most of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Unlike many mining labor historians, Roll focuses unapologetically upon *men*, who were persuaded that they could attain a living wage through hard work, were faithful to the concept of contract mining, and were self-confident and personally insensitive to the risks that they faced daily from personal injury, which invariably sapped their strength as they aged.

Over time, corporations came to dominate the mineral deposits and reduced the rates paid per can raised. In the teens federal and state agencies and investigators identified lead poisoning and the deadly dust as pervasive dangers, but union efforts in the district persistently failed. Even during the New Deal, Roll finds that individuals' self-interest and resistance to monitoring their health thwarted efforts to aid the men, in part because the companies often used medical "grade cards" to purge the sickening miners from their payrolls, but also because the "Blue Card" company union undermined the CIO and its industrial unions. This is an account that expands our understanding of the Tri-State District and its miners, and will maintain your interest until you discover in conclusion the miner's son who left the Tri-State district to become a baseball legend—Mickey Mantle—son of Mutt, who died of cancer just as his son reached the New York Yankees.

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Daniel Tubb. *Shifting Livelihoods: Gold Mining and Subsistence in the Chocó, Columbia*. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2020; 250 pp., 16 b&w illus., 2 maps, 2 figs., notes, bib., ind., paper, $30. ISBN: 9780295747538

This book summarizes Dr. Tubb's anthropological field work from 2010 to 2017 in the Chocó region of western Colombia, where he visited and worked in artisanal and small gold mines. Jumbled together with his personal experiences are numerous digressions into local land ownership, Colombian economics, corruption, narcotraffic, small- and large-scale mining, and Marxist theory. The book lacks structure, is endlessly repetitive, violates all of the rules of good writing, and issues murky and sometimes contradictory conclusions.

The Spanish word *rebusque*, overused by the author, has in Colombia the meaning of "temporary short-term work," perhaps best translated as "gig," as in "gig economy"; i.e. temporary jobs, often outside the purview of labor and tax authorities. This type of livelihood is far from unique to Colombia: it is typical, and in many cases the norm, in many or most poorer countries around the world, where subsistence or market agriculture, small-scale retail sales and services, and artisanal mining (of gold, diamonds, colored gemstones, tin, coltan, etc.) provide income for rural folk to scrape by. Thus it describes the livelihoods of hundreds of millions—perhaps a billion—peo-