

The Dalles Daily Chronicle.

The only Republican Daily Newspaper in Wasco County.

EASTERN OFFICE—230 to 234 Temple Court, N. Y. City. E. KATZ, Agent.

TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 1897

A GREAT MINING CAMP.

That Roseland is a great mining camp is undoubtedly true, but that it, like most other quartz mining camps at the start, is over-boomed, is just as true. Nature is generally chary of deposits of the precious metals, and does not overdo herself by placing all the wealth at her disposal in one camp or section. The history of mining camps shows that usually one or two, and invariably a half dozen, paying mines is the limit to which she will go. Virginia City, Nevada, was by long odds the greatest mining camp in the world; the Comstock and Bonanza ledges the greatest ore producers. Yet half a dozen mines would cover the list even there. There were more than that that produced bullion; but even with the biggest ledge ever found, the number that paid anything at all was less than a dozen: Cen. Virginia, California, Crown Point, Belcher, Yellow Jacket, Ophir, these constituted the paying group. Mexican, Gould & Carey, Segregated Belcher, Bowers, these paid for a while, or rather once in a while; but the Irish dividends were more numerous than any other. Yet, counting all the mines that could possibly be classed as producers, the number was less than a dozen.

When the Virginia excitement broke out in 1859 everyone of these claims and hundreds of others were located before the outside world knew anything of the strike. Yet 30,000 people went to Virginia City in 1860, one-half of whom expected to locate a mine. It is so in nearly every quartz camp, the ground is located before the excitement begins. It is so in Roseland.

Comparing this new camp to the Comstock is like sizing Tom Thumb up with Polyphemus, or a mole hill with Mt. Hood. Roseland has produced up to date probably half a million dollars. The first 100 tons of ore from the Ophir, worked through an old anastara, yielded nearly \$100,000 more than this, and the Comstock ledge alone, in its best days, produced \$70,000,000, a year, or 140 times the yield of Roseland. We would not belittle the new camp, it will soon find its own level; they all do.

There is another camp, an old one; one that never has had a boom, at least until now; one that has heretofore been mined by tyros and owned by farmers; one that has no immense ledge, but is ribboned with small ledges; one that is the exception to the general rule as claimed in the beginning of this article; and one that will in a few years be the greatest gold-producing mining camp in the world. That camp is Baker City; or, to be more exact, Baker City is the center of that mining section. It is the poor man's camp, the prospector's camp, because Nature, instead of exerting herself to make one vast deposit of wealth, has lazily cached her stores on every mountain. Inside of ten years the mines within a radius of 50 miles of Baker City will produce an amount of gold that will place Oregon first of all the states of the union in that line, and will make pale the ancient stories of Ophir and the modern ones of Cripple Creek and the Rand.

Baker City is the coming mining camp of the world, and her coming will not be long delayed.

This is a great time for England, and Englishmen may well feel proud of the occasion which they celebrate. Sixty years of the most magnificent, most successful reign ever vouchsafed to a sovereign have just been

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Oregon's gold mines are going to astonish the world, but Oregon people are to get but little benefit from them, that is in the shape of dividends for the reason that Oregon capitalists are letting their opportunities slip. Oregon's mines, as fast as discovered, are bought up by Eastern capital, and the result is that nothing but the cost of mining is left in the state. At Baker City foreign capital is capturing everything, Oregon money nothing. With the opening of these mines, our local capitalists will see what opportunities have been neglected; but it will then be too late.



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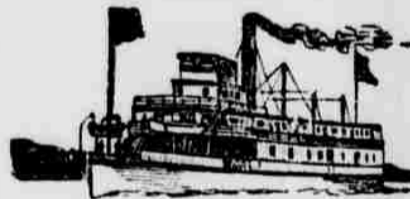
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