

THE SUMPTER MINER.

VOL. I.

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NO. 25.

RICH MINES NEAR TOWN.

FIRST LEDGE OF THE STORM KING TAPPED.

In Eight Feet of Ore and No Walls Yet in Sight.—Rock Carries \$150 Values in Gold.—Two Other Ledges Beyond Will Be Cut By Tunnel.—Another Promising Property Two Miles From Town, on Cracker Creek Road.—Many Strikes in the Immediate Vicinity of Sumpter.

Manager Mark E. Gallimore, of the Sumpter Free Gold Mining company, which is operating the Storm King group, three miles northwest of town, reports that Sunday night the first ledge was tapped in the tunnel, 250 feet from its mouth and at a depth of 80 feet. Assays give \$150 in gold. Monday night the miners had driven eight feet into the ore, with no wall then in sight.

The intention of the company is to continue driving the tunnel, without drifting, as two other ledges lie beyond, one at a depth of about 100 feet and the other 250 feet.

Judge E. C. Steffen and others have secured several claims two miles from town on the Cracker creek road, known as the Baltimore group, on which they have been prospecting recently with apparent good results. It is claimed that a well defined ledge of good quartz has been uncovered, carrying gold and silver, the width of which is eight to ten feet between walls. Both the Bourne and Granite roads for several miles are becoming the scene of busy mining camps and will present a lively appearance to travelers this summer.

Every day strikes of more or less importance in the immediate vicinity of Sumpter are being reported. Until six or eight months ago little or no prospecting was done in the surrounding hills. It is the traditional custom of prospectors to hover around proven properties; to seek to get something (for sale) on the same ledge with some well known mine, and so, for years they have been delving in the vicinity of the Golconda, the Bonanza, the Red Boy and other localities where rich ore deposits had been uncovered, neglecting equally as rich but untouched districts. Now, however, it is a sure thing that the near by hills will be searched and forced to give up their hidden treasures.

Ibex Reverts to Original Owners.

The Ibex mine has reverted to the original owners, who are only too pleased to have this opportunity to regain control of one of the richest mines in the country. It is not likely anyone will again have a chance at the Ibex for a sum short of seven figures, the owners knowing well what they have at present and what it is reasonable to expect in future. Work has never stopped for an hour and will now be pushed harder than ever, with S. Chapman at the helm, though A. L. McEwen will be associated with him. Larger pumps will be at once added and a mill erected an early day.

Braun Homestead Contest Case.

Register Bartlett, of the La Grande land office, was in Sumpter for a few hours Monday, returning home on the 12:45 train. He came up to look after the Braun

homestead contest case. Attorney C. E. Roblin was appointed to take the testimony. The land involved is near town, J. W. Braun seeking to prove up on it as a homestead, while R. C. Bishop, J. A. Harvey and John Keetsch are contesting this proof as mineral land claimants. The case has been in progress for two days, and will probably not be finished before tomorrow, when the testimony will be forwarded to the United States land office for review.

Noted Mining Expert Here.

Dr. Maximilian Schumann, a noted mining expert of vast experience, is engaged in making a thorough investigation of the mineral districts tributary to Sumpter, for the benefit of outside capitalists, whom he declines to name. He has recently returned from a stay in Alaska, on the same mission that brings him here, but says that from what he has thus far seen of this mineral district, it eclipses any other he has ever visited or known. Dr. Schumann promises to give his ideas for publication when he has more fully gone over the ground.

Buying Diadem Stock by Wire.

General Warren has received telegraphic orders during the past few days for 100,000 shares of Diadem stock. Yesterday Waitsburg, Washington, parties wired for 50,000 shares. Some days since the General offered to give a gentleman from that town \$100 if he could find a piece of rock in a lot of about 200 pounds that would carry less than \$100 in gold. He picked his specimen and had the assay made out of town, but didn't get an opportunity to see the color of General Warron's hundred—hence this large order from Waitsburg.

Machinery For the Bald Mountain.

H. S. McCallum, president of the Bald Mountain Mining company, reached Sumpter yesterday from Boston, where he went to finance the affairs of his company. He reports having met with gratifying success. While east he bought motive power, and hoisting and pumping machinery for the mine, which is expected to reach here today. It will be transported to the property at once and installed without delay. The Bald Mountain adjoins the Ibex.

Another Big Gold Strike.

Evidently another Red Boy has been discovered. Sam Wilson, who a few months ago was staked by Idaho parties, has opened up a new wonder one mile this side of the Red Boy mine. A 100-foot tunnel followed a water course into the slate. The whole breast of the tunnel is in ore that runs from \$17 to \$78 in gold per ton. No cross cutting has been done, but the ore is there and in sight.

Accident at the Golconda.

D. S. Kinsey, a resident of Sumpter, a man well advanced in years, while employed in framing shaft timbers at the Golconda mine, was struck Monday by a falling adz on the back of the head, which cut several arteries. Dr. Pearce was called just in time to save the man from bleeding to death. Mr. Kinsey is thought to be out of danger now.

Demand For Buck Gulch Mines.

George C. Cunningham, night clerk at the Capital hotel, who with others recently located three claims in Buck gulch, near the scene of the late strike on the Co-Operative company's property, has given a \$5000 bond on his holdings to A. Walker, secretary-treasurer of the Co-Operative Gold Mining company.

Boys' and girls' school shoes that will wear well and are neat and dressy. Hobson Mercantile Co.

RICH COPPER STRIKE.

Four Miles Away and Looks Like a Bonanza.

According to all reports, Sumpter is to enter the field as a copper producer, as well as a part of the greatest gold belt on the face of the earth.

The incorporation of the Co-Operative Gold Mining company a few days ago did not create any particular comment, as the organization of new mining companies is now an almost daily occurrence in Sumpter; but since this new company has taken up a group of seven claims near the Granite road, about four miles from town, and commenced work upon them, with the result that from the very grass roots there has been found what reliable assayers say is the making of a big copper mine, there has been created more talk and wonder than perhaps over any other new "find" in the recent history of the camp. This, because, if there are really good copper values in our ores, added to those in gold and silver, which have already been proven, then the supremacy of the Sumpter district over all others is established. The present claims of the promoters of this new company at this time are about as follows:

They have at a depth of 22 feet a shaft, in the bottom of which assays now run 18 per cent copper, \$1.61 in silver, and 45 cents in gold, and an average lot of samples taken from eight feet across the vein gave \$35 in the three metals.

A force of fourteen men is employed, surveying the claims for a patent, putting up buildings, cutting roads and sinking, by which latter method the property is to be developed, though it is said 175 feet of depth can be obtained by means of a tunnel, which will be driven on the vein, if water becomes troublesome when the 100-foot level is reached.

It is claimed that sixteen sacks of picked ore per day can be taken from the grass roots, and that by the end of next week a carload will be ready for shipment to the Tacoma smelter.

The ore is a copper carbonate, with bromide of silver, and so closely resembles iron that no one had thought to assay it for copper. As soon as the buildings are completed, or about the end of this week, three eight-hour shifts will be employed on the property, and room made for a larger force of miners as rapidly as possible.

B. T. Hickman, who has had fourteen years experience in the copper mines of Montana, has been engaged as superintendent, and will aid the new company in making what it hopes to be some day one of the big mines of the district. Mr. Hickman is very enthusiastic, and says that it is the best copper showing at this stage he has ever seen.

The directors of the Co-Operative company are nearly all local men, engaged in business in Sumpter. A. P. Goss is president; C. J. Johns, vice-president; A. Walker, secretary and treasurer, while A. E. Dagany and Thomas Kilpatrick complete the list on the board. Offices have been engaged over the Hobson Mercantile company store, in the Belview building.

At a meeting of the board of directors last night, A. Walker was elected general manager and instructed to get out a carload of ore at once.

Red Men's Dance and Donation.

The net proceeds from the Washington Birthday dance given by and under the

auspices of Eagan Tribe No. 20, I. O. R. M. for the benefit of the school and fire department, was allotted at last evening council. Thirty dollars was voted to the school. To the members of school board, teachers and scholars was largely due the financial success of the ball. The fire department was voted \$12.75. The piano which was raffled off on this occasion, was won by Miss Charlotte Vanderburg, one of the teachers, from which the school realized \$180.

W. H. Hurlburt's Best Advertising Scheme.

The following press dispatch from Portland, dated the 24th instant, explains how the Colonel Donan letter, referred to in the editorial columns of this issue of THE MINER, has received such wide circulation: W. H. Hurlburt, general passenger agent of the Oregon Railroad & Navigation company, is just now receiving a dozen or more letters every day regarding the mines of eastern Oregon. Some weeks ago Mr. Hurlburt sent letters to several hundred newspapers located in all parts of the country, describing the resources of Eastern Oregon, and returns from the publication of the letters are now coming in. Each letter is answered by Mr. Hurlburt.

If You Want a Safe, Talk to C. G. Field.

C. G. Field, representing the Herring-Hall-Marvin company, Hall's Safe & Lock works, direct from the factory at Hamilton, Ohio, is in town for a few days, stopping at the Golden Eagle hotel. As every one knows, this is the world's standard safe. The first Bank of Sumpter has this make. Safes sold by Mr. Field can be shipped either from the factory or from the Pacific coast branch at San Francisco. If you are interested in safes, talk to C. G. Field.

One Man Here for His Health.

C. M. Coleman, a prominent attorney of Chicago, has been in town all week and will have his office locally with the Co-Operative Mining company, in the Belview building. Mr. Coleman came west in search of health and finds this place and climate agree with him physically and financially.

Hand Blown Off by Giant Powder.

J. T. Messmer, a prospector from Salt Lake, had a portion of his left hand blown off by a part of a stick of giant powder, which he and another man were thawing out. Dr. Brock dressed the injured member and Mr. Messmer left for home yesterday.

Another Good Citizen For Sumpter.

E. E. McCammon, recently from Saint Joseph, Missouri, has become a resident of Sumpter, he having accepted the position of chief accountant for W. L. Vinson. His wife will join him here at an early date. Mr. McCammon comes to Sumpter with gilt-edge credentials.

District School Election March 5.

An annual school meeting of district No. 31, Sumpter, will be held on the afternoon of Monday, the 5th day of March, 1900, at 2:30 in the public school house, which meeting is called for the purpose of electing one director for three years, one for two years and one clerk for one year.

A. O. U. W. Dance.

Gold Quartz Lodge, No. 99, A. O. U. W. will give a dance at Ellis opera house on the evening of March 17. A grand good time is promised on this occasion, which is for the social and financial benefit of the lodge.

The La Internacional (Mexican) cigar on sale only at the Mint saloon.