

LOST LEDGE IS INTERESTING

FRED LOCKLEY TELLS STORY OF PACKWOOD'S EXPERIENCE.

Civil War Was a Live Issue in the Northwest in Those Days of Gold Mining.

The following interesting story of Eastern Oregon mining was told to Fred Lockley by William Packwood, of Baker county. Mr. Packwood died recently, but the story of his early career as a miner is a part of Oregon's history. Fred Lockley relates the narrative in the following manner:

"No, the 'Lost Soldier' ledge is still true to name," said Judge William Packwood to me a few days ago. "It is still lost. I lost my chance of finding it when I let a neighbor go along with me and an old friend of mine, back in 1861. Brown, my neighbor, learned I was going in search of the rich quartz ledge with one of the men who had originally happened on it. He asked if he could go along. I didn't want to offend him, as he was a good neighbor and a good man, so I let him come with us.

"This was in August, 1861, so the war was a very live issue. Brown was a northerner and a great admirer of John Brown. He was a dyed-in-the-wool abolitionist. Manly Martin was a Kentuckian and sided with the South. The first night out the question of the war came up. It was impossible for me to sidetrack it. Brown and Martin almost came to blows over who was going to win the war. I was riding on a mule. Brown had a saddle horse, and the remaining horse we used as a pack horse. Martin did not care to ride. He was a Kentuckian, a mountaineer, and preferred to walk. Martin, who had been with the original party that had discovered the ledge, told me the place where they found the quartz was on a little flat, where they had stopped to eat lunch. The men were going to blaze the trees there to mark the place, but Lieutenant Stone-man told them the first man who came along would see the blazes and find the ledge. He suggested going a certain distance in a certain direction and marking four trees in the form of a square. In this way, no matter who ran across the blazed trees, they would not know which way to go to find the ledge. So this was done.

"We reached the camp where the four blazed trees were at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Martin took his rifle and a small prospecting pick and said he would walk about a bit and get his

bearings. He told us not to bother to come along, as we could look up the quartz ledge the next day. Martin did not return until long after dark. Next morning when we wanted to hunt for the quartz ledge, Martin said he thought we had better go over the Rogues river divide, that he had sort of lost his direction, and he might get on the right track if we went over the divide.

"After crossing this divide we came to a small creek that ran north into the west fork of Cow creek. Martin was a natural woodsman and had remembered a certain maple tree, from marking his initials on it nine years before. His initials, M. M., were still visible on the tree.

"That evening we camped in a sag on the divide. Martin and Brown went out to get some meat for supper and killed a bear cub. Martin cut some of the meat for himself, and next morning, when Brown and I were ready to go, Martin said: 'Well, good-bye. I have decided not to hunt up that quartz ledge. I am going to strike out for the Rogues river road.' He started off at a good pace. Brown and Martin were so bitter against each other that I hesitated about calling him back, for fear they would get into a wrangle and kill each other. Brown was very angry and wanted to follow Martin. I persuaded him not to. I told him we would take the back track, go to the marked trees, and see if we couldn't track Martin, as I believed he had gone to the lost ledge.

"We camped that night at 'Soldiers' Camp,' and next morning started out on Martin's track, where he had left the camp for his look around. We found where he had broken branches or cut them with his knife. They took us to the side of the creek. We crossed over this creek to the south side and followed up a small stream that comes in from the south side. We found where Martin had followed up a game trail and had reached the summit of the hill. Here, in a depression in the hills, just above you begin the descent of the mountain, we found a large cedar tree with old blazes on it—three chips taken out of each side of it. I knew we could find this place again, so we decided to see what creek we were on and come back later when we had more provisions. The creek we were on proved to be the west fork of Cow creek. We followed it down to where it ran into Cow creek. This was four or five miles distant.

"Next morning we started back for Enchanted prairie to get some provisions. Shortly after that some miners passed our place and said they had met Manly at Jacksonville and that he had some rich gold quartz. He organized a party of about a dozen men or so to go with him to the ledge. When they got into the Jump-Off-Joe country they found that a second party were following them. This made Manly so angry that he quit the party and

went back to Jacksonville. Not long after this I received a letter from Manly. He told me he had gone to the ledge the afternoon he had left Brown, and he had got some pieces of the quartz; that he had had an assay made, and that it had not been so rich as he expected, as it ran only a little over \$200 a ton. He told me that if I had gone in with him alone, we would have gone in together on the ledge, but that he couldn't stand Brown because he was an abolitionist, so he had refused to show us the ledge.

"In the fall of 1861 the mines of Auburn were discovered, and my old partner, George Abbott, wrote me to come up there. I did so, and for the next 30 or 40 years I mined in Eastern Oregon. In the fall of 1914 I went down to West Cow creek and got a forest ranger to go with me to see if we could find the Lost Soldier ledge. Where Manly and I had crossed the creek an old forest fire had raged. The timber was all down, the logs lay cross-cross in every direction. Underbrush had grown up until it was almost impossible to make your way through it. When we got to the lower edge of the flat we found there had been a cloudburst some years ago and

the ground was covered with slates. "Some of these days when that country is looked over and the underbrush burned off, someone will strike the Lost Soldier ledge, and will make a fortune. The country all around there is of slate and porphyry formation. Some deer hunter or fisherman some of these days will stumble upon this ledge, for the quartz is there, and it is covered with gold."

Golden of Spain in Mexico?
A prehistoric race that lived in Mexico centuries before Cortez ever arrived there to crush the power of the Aztec kingdom, was a civilized people who were flooded out of existence by a deluge that swept the valley of Mexico, as relics picked up near the capital city prove, and some writers assert that Mexico was the site of the beginning of man and that it was in this valley that Noah set forth for his 40-day tour of the flooded world.

Industrious Artist.
It has been estimated that the artist, Turner, left as many as 21,000 pictures, oils, water colors and sketches.

VIENNA "DYING TO MUSIC" NOW

WAR PROFITEERS ARE SENDING THEIR EASY MONEY

Everything is Let Loose to Satisfy Pleasure for all from Child to Aged Man.

Correspondence of the Associated Press, BERLIN, Sept. 28.—Vienna, ever a gay city, is now more superficially gay than ever, owing to the illicit traders who have profited by the war and now are spending their ill-gotten gains, writes a newspaper correspondent from the Austrian capital, Vienna, says one of these writers, is "dying to music." He describes the people as starved and "morally degenerate." Describing the scenes in the dance halls and pavilions and gambling rooms, the

writer says that nearly all the people demonstrate a desperate demand for youth and enjoyment and adds that "this sickly whirl of enjoyment bordering on self-destruction" produces a frightful effect on the over-minded people of the city. Public amusements are provided in the Pleasure Park and Schönbrunn where are given plays for children, fire works, alpine dances, Hyrolgic cloj dances by Berchtesgaden peasants, acts from Iphigene and band concerts.

RATE INCREASE IS REQUESTED

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reason for the desired change. Assertion was made in the application that wages of operators in the last two years have advanced 50 per cent, linemen 60 per cent and materials and supplies approximately 100 per cent. Attention of

the commission is also called to a recent increase in wages for women employees ordered by the state welfare commission.

Delaware a Tide(y) State.

John Randolph once described Delaware as "a state having four counties at low tide and three at high tide."

Uncle Eben Says—
"Children must be a heap smarter dan dey once was. It's puffycky beautiful de way dey makes deir parents obey."

The Observer furnishes and prints Butter Wrappers.



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