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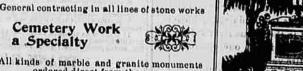
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# MINES, MINERS AND MINING

(Written exclusively for THE MAIL by a reliable representative.)

Made a Big Strike.

came here from Kalispel, Montana, early in the spring to look over the mines of Southern Oregon. He went over the district and consumed considerable time in studying formations, and the properties which were in successful operation, and tried to bond some of them, but the figures were too high, or circumstances did not suit and he was unsuccessful. He finally found a prospect on Gall's creek which had been located by Frank Lawrence, who had sunk a small shaft on it and taken out a pocket containing \$177. The appearance of the ledge suited Mr, Nye and he bonded it for \$600, and, with assistance, went three weeks in running a tunnel in on the course of the ledge and was rewarded last week by uncovering a pocket or pay chute of remarkable richness. The quartz is literally knitted together with gold and is unquestionably the finest specimen we have ever seen. The rock is solid, but so impregnated is it with gold that its parts of each seem about equal. Mr. Nye has paid up on the land and now has a clear title. His purchase embraces about seven acres of land and it is not improbable that there are other ledges near by equally as valuable as this one. Mr. Nye has taken out already \$4000 and there are fully \$10,000 still in sight. A good part of the rock is being sacked and stored in a place of safety, but some of it is too valuable to leave outside of a bank vault and it was brought to Medford and left with the Medford Bank. While there is a snug little fortune in sight for Mr. Nye, there is still the almost certainty that the vein will show up other rich chutes as development work goes on. Mr. Nye has men at work pushing his tunnel further in on the ledge, and a great amount of ore is being taken out that will go from \$15 to \$20 per ton. More will be said of this rich find as further developments are made. THE MAIL is rejoicing over Mr. Nye's success -because that he had nerve enough to put in money and labor where others have been scratching around for years hunting for "sleepers." The indications were there and he ar locations in Southern Oregon, and all that is wanting to make mines of them is men with nerve, energy and a practical mining knowledge.

hydraulic mine, on Sterling mountain, for the past two months, came down the last of the week and brought with him \$134.50, which he sold at the bank. The claim is situated below the Angle & Brown quartz lead. The gold may be considered as all coarse, some of the pieces weighing five or six dollars. It is all rough filigree gold and came directly from a ledge. There is no indication of wash or wear on any of it. The specimens appear in all sorts of fantastic shapes and many of them are rare, brilliant and beautiful. Mr. Anderson saved a lot of the prettiest ones to sell or retain as valuable curio keepsakes. The altitude of the mine, Mr. Anderson thinks, is not far from 7000 feet, and, on account of this fact, it cannot be worked during the winter months, as the water is frozen up. The mine can be operated from about the first of May to the last of November. Stover & McComb have

E. W. Anderson, who has been

work d the mine long enough to from springs and melting snows. Stover and McComb have a numand are enabled by these auxiliaries to concentrate enough water to do to do so. to work on it. He worked about ing the summer. Mr. Anderson quite a large amount of work dursays the mountain is literally a network of quartz leads, and nearly all of them are more or less mineralized. Quite a number have been located by California people and will be prospected during the sum- mountains. Mr. Hosmer said as mer and fall.

E P. Dunlap, who has been workthe foot of old Gold Hill, for the past seven months, was up from the mine the first of the week and reports operations suspended, pending an appeal to the supreme court from the judgment of the circuit court at Jacksonville. It appears, from Mr. Dunlap's statement, that Mr. Mitchell bought the ledge of J. J. Houck. of Gold Hill, and had been engaged in developing it for the past eight months, and that during this time road company, which sold it to Dr. Ray, giving a quit claim deed there for. After the purchase Dr. Ray the history of the mine. claimed the land and of course everything within the limits of the purchase, including the ledge. Mr. of the Pearce & Son hydraulic n.ine, ton, besides the concentrates which handsome showing. carry large values. The formation is distinctly volcanic, and composed chiefly of basaltic iron, with other working at the Stover & McComb less notable volcanic debris.

> Plymale located this ledge about the country. He is active, enterthirty-six years ago and sunk a prising and full of business, and not shaft on it twenty-three feet deep. afraid to invest in Southern Oregon. This was in the day of pockets, and Men of this class build up a coun-Ish & Plymale discovering none try, advertise it abroad, give it after so much work, jumped the a standing and start things in mobusiness as a bad job. It would tion and make them go.

mill then from \$8 to \$9 per ton, but was rich in base sulphurets which nobcdy here at that time knew how satisfy them of its value, and though to save or treat. Mr. Dunlap has a H. B. Nye, a practical miner, it is so situated that it can only be one stamp steam mill on the claim, operated during the summer months and says the ore mills almost uniand at the disadvantage of the loss formly \$8.25 per ton, but assays of the winter rainfall, yet they are from \$80 to \$90. The yein averfree from the Alaska fever and will ages about fourteen inches in width. stick to Mt. Sterling as long as it Mr. Dunlap is saving the concenyields the returns it has since they trates. The opening is down eixty have owned it. A. Church owns a feet from the surface. The walls are claim a quarter of a mile south of peculiar, some sections being granite Stoyer & McComb's, and is working and slate, immediately alternating it by the ground-sluice process and with granite and porphyry. This doing well. The water supply for is the first statement of this characboth these claims is wholly obtained ter that has ever been made to THE MAIL, and such change in wall formation is entirely new to it. Mr. ber of reservoirs and short ditches Dunlup will develop his property as fast as his means will permit him

> Mr. Hosmer and Mr. Anderson, of Foots creek, do not think the gold output of the creek is much larger than usual on account of the extreme shortness of the season, occasioned by lack of snow in the soon as the rains were over the water supply diminished so fast that the mining season was practiing on a ledge for J. R. Mitchell at cally over with those whose claims were near the heads of streams. The Hosmer Co. claim is near the head of the creek and is largely dependent upon a continuous rainfall for water. When there is a heavy snow fall in the mountains the season is prolonged by the gradual melting of the snow and is much better for claims so situated than a good rainfall, such as that of last winter, without snow. Many of the miners lower down on the creek did much the land was patented to the rail better than usual. This is notably the case with R. A. Cook & Sons, who made the largest clean-up in

We are informed by E. H. Pearce, Mitchell refused to honor his claim of Forest creek, that they have just or quit work, and the Dr. sued out completed cleaning up and that the an injunction and stopped further season's run has been entirely satoperations until the matter could isfactory. Mr. Pearce says the be settled. The case came up be mine is of that characteristic that fore Judge Hanna and was decided if they had the Sterling water privadversely to Dr. Ray, who appealed lieges it could not be bought for it to the U.S. district court at Port- \$100,000. The mine is so situated land, and it is now undergoing in- they are constantly handicapped for vestigation before that court. The a suitable water supply, except, of ledge is narrow, but the ore nearly course, during a heavy and continall rich specimens. A tunnel has uous rain. The bank is deep and has demonstrated that the gold also the vein, which at every point prosbeen run in 300 feet, crosscutting the nature of the formation such as rich speci- and heavy pressure. Much of the men ore. Mr. Dunlap says there gold is coarse and all of it is of fine seems to be no variance in the grade quality. With a favorable season of the ore. It mills about \$200 per next year they expect to make a

> Dr. Jas. Braden, of Gold Hill, who went to San Francisco to purchase machinery for his mine near Gold Hill, has returned. The doc-E. P. Dunlap is prospecting a tor is an all-round rustling and promising ledge in the Blackwell practical business man and comes hills, about three quarters of a mile as near knowing what a proposition west of Tolo. Dick Ish and W. J. is when he sees it as any man in

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