

AN IMPOSING MONUMENT.

Standing on a commanding site in River View cemetery, the beautiful home of the dead occupying a high position on the west bank of the Willamette, just above the City of Portland, is an imposing monument of white bronze, recently erected by Mr. George C. Sears, on his family burial lot. It is elegant in design, commanding in size and beautiful in the execution of its various detailed features. The monument proper, including the statue, is fourteen and one-half feet in height, and rests upon a rough ashlar base twelve inches high and forty-eight square. It weighs two thousand six hundred and sixty pounds, and cost one thousand dollars as it stands. The four sides bear various inscriptions and emblems of the several orders to which Mr. Sears belongs, viz.: Masonic, Knights of Pythias, Odd Fellows, and Grand Army of the Republic; also, the Woman's Relief Corps, of which Mrs. Sears was a worthy member. Inscribed upon one side of the shaft is the following: "Jennie M. Sears, wife of George C. Sears. Born November 7, 1846; died October 3, 1885. Aged 38 years, 11 months," beneath which is the sentiment "In after time we will meet her." On the opposite side appears the inscription "Little Tine Sears, son of George C. and Jennie M. Sears. Born September 2, 1871; died March 21, 1878. Aged 7 years and 6 months," followed by the quotation "He carries his lambs in his bosom." Above the inscription is the figure of a dove, and below that of a lamb. Upon the plinth of the column appear several appropriate mottoes. The shield, helmet, G. A. R. badge, monogrammes, etc., are all clear cut and well executed. The outlines are sharp and of more artistic proportion and execution than is seen in even the best work in marble. All the work is in relief and presents an extremely attractive appearance. Standing upon the top of the shaft is a very graceful life-size statue of Faith. In her left hand she holds an open bible, while with the right arm she points toward heaven, her eyes turned upward and an expression of trust upon her countenance.

The material from which this elegant monument is constructed is known as "white bronze," a substance which is rapidly coming into popular favor for monuments, statues, medallions, fountains, etc. White bronze is simply refined zinc, which may be cast in moulds to any pattern. After casting they are put under a sand blast, by which the surface is cut sufficiently to make it sparkle in the sunlight. On the surface a thin film of oxide is formed, which protects the metal from corrosion and renders it practically indestructible, so far as the elements are concerned. It neither becomes stained like marble, nor does it throw off verdigris like copper and bronze. Being cast in a mould, the inscriptions and emblems can be made as varied and artistic as the modeler's art is capable. Whatever the sculptor can do in clay can be reproduced in the metal. Artistic skill of the highest order can be brought into play to produce the most beautiful results.

THE OKANAGAN MINES.

The Moses reservation, recently thrown open to settlement by proclamation of President Cleveland, lies north and west of the Columbia river, and embraces two million two hundred and forty-three thousand acres of land. It lies in the western part of Stevens county, and extends from the Okanagan river to the Cascades, and from Fort Chelan to within fifteen miles of the British line. A portion of the country immediately south of it was thrown open in February, 1883, and those who prospected here have been long and eagerly awaiting the executive order, which would permit them to enter this promised land, from which they have been too long barred.

A gentleman whose name we could not learn, but who has for several years past been attached to the reservation in the capacity of farmer, had kept himself thoroughly posted on the topography of the reservation, and quietly explored it for mines, which he dared not then under the law and the circumstances locate, was the first to drive his stakes on a mining claim. Being absent from the reservation at the time it was declared open, as soon as he heard that such was the case he rode day and night from a point in the vicinity of Colville till he reached it. The last night's ride was a weary and fatiguing one, but without resting he proceeded to the spot, well known to himself, and as he thought, to no others, began stepping off his fifteen hundred feet, and had scarcely finished driving his stakes, when, as daylight began peering through the half-sleepy eyelids of the morning, he discerned five horsemen approaching him. He was surprised to learn that their errand was to locate the same claim which he had just allotted to himself. Disappointed, but not aggrieved, the five breathless prospectors immediately set out to locate several mines near by, whose existence they had a year previously ascertained. Since then several parties have gone to the Okanagan, and have returned or sent back glowing reports of that country's mineral promise. Among them is Mr. A. E. Benoist, one of the discoverers of the Old Dominion, near Colville. Mr. Philip Pierce, of Colville, returned from the new district some two weeks ago, and he reports that the country is pleasantly accessible to the prospector, that ledges have been discovered which measure from eight to thirty feet face, and which assay ten dollars in gold and fifty to ninety dollars in silver.

As was to be expected, a moderate stampede of miners from the South Fork and Colville districts set in, and it is safe to say that at present writing there are one hundred prospectors striking heavy blows, bidding the treasures of Okanagan come forth from their lurking places. Thus it will be seen that another mining camp of great possibilities has been added to the list of those either surrounding or not far distant from Spokane Falls. This vast region has also many fertile valleys and large areas of splendid grazing land.—*Spokane Falls Miner.*