

The Dalles Daily Chronicle.

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

TUESDAY, - - - APRIL 6, 1897

BAKER CITY MINES.

A few days ago we expressed the opinion that the era of gold mining in the Northwest had only begun; that the demand for gold as a money metal by all the nations of the earth had given gold mining an additional impetus, and that the great golden storehouse of the world was not Africa, but Eastern Oregon and Washington, Idaho and British Columbia.

Since writing that article we have visited Baker City, in this state, and even a brief and cursory examination of that section convinced us that our predictions are not only true, but that that particular section is to be, in the near future, the greatest mining camp in the world. The mountains and hills surrounding Baker City are all mineral bearing, and the bedrock is ribboned with ledges of high grade ore. The opening of the Virtue mine after years of idleness did much towards giving mine-owners hope and encouragement, and in the past two years much prospecting and development work has been done, with results simply astounding.

Standing at the depot a friend boxed the compass for us with mining districts all showing high grade ores, all with mills and concentrators going up. We have spent the larger portion of our life in mining camps; but never saw anything like the conditions at Baker City. At Virginia was the Comstock, at White Pine, Austin, Aurora, Bodie, Pioche, Mineral Hill, and the hundreds of other Nevada mining camps, there was one or two ledges only; but Baker has a dozen prosperous camps, Cracker Creek, Robinsonville, Cornucopia, Greenhorn, Sparta, and we know not how many other jewels, in her crown.

The proverb says, "Cows far off wear long horns," and for this reason mining men have passed by Baker to rush to Rossland, to Alaska, to Peace river, anywhere so it was far away. But this has changed. Keen-sighted mining men, experts such as Gilbert E. Bailey, have had their attention called to the Baker group of mines, and realized what a vast treasure house the sage-covered hills are. What struck us forcibly was the manner in which men talked of "hundred dollar free-milling ore" without batting an eye or seeming to think they were mentioning anything remarkable. The beauty of it was, too, that they had the ore and the bricks to show that their stories were true.

We predict for Baker City the coming summer, not a mining boom, but such a genuine mining development as will place her at the head of all the gold mining camps of the world. These be not idle words of flattery for our sister town, but the honest conviction of one who has spent nearly thirty years in mining camps, twenty or more of them in mining pursuits.

AJAX AND AJAX TELAMON.

Mr. J. Thorburn Ross has returned to Portland from Washington, where he has been, in company with Wallace McCamant, for the express purpose of telling the United States senate its duty in regard to seating Mr. Corbett. Mr. Ross thinks Corbett will be seated, principally on account of Mr. McCamant's brief, which put the matter in such a plain, forceful and clear light that the senators one and all, individually and collectively, were able to perceive what else had been imperceptible. This was so ably done, Mr. Ross says, that ex-Senator Edmunds, who, next to McCamant, is the most profound constitutional lawyer in the United States,

shed tears of joy down Mac's shirt collar.

When J. Thorburn Ross and Wallace McCamant first reached Washington, so the former says, they "encountered a very unkindly sentiment with regard to seating Mr. Corbett." But when Ross turned his influence loose, and McCamant unveiled his brief, the sentiment changed. Doubt fled shrieking back to her gloomy caverns, and the clouds that lowered over the house of Corbett, went flying away like morning mists before a Biscay gale.

It is welcome news that the right man was found way out here in Oregon to throw light on this dark subject, to illuminate the gloomy pathway where the senatorial gaits habitually perambulate, and to point out to the weary senators the course, and the only course, possible for them to pursue. Had it not been for Ross and McCamant, what would the country have come to, any how? The question might have been settled without due process of law, or under a mistaken conception of the manner and means of the hold-up; but with the light of McCamant's intelligence turned on in the full blaze of its incandescent glory, the devious roads of the political reptiles became as the flower-bedecked paths whereon a blushing bride might walk with trusting feet. "Oregon fernist the world!" and "Bully for McCamant!"



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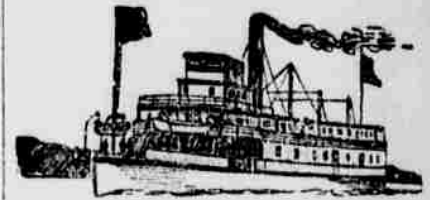
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