

## THE SUMPTER MINER.

Published Every Wednesday by  
C. H. MARSH AND J. W. CONNELLA

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SEEING that this is a "good town," and believing that it will soon be a much better one, we have begun the publication of THE SUMPTER MINER as a business proposition. The paper will cover the local field, giving especial prominence to mining news and information pertaining to realty, building and improvements generally; will do all in its power to advertise to the world the marvelously rich resources of this section of country, confining itself always to facts. We here make no gaudy promises, nor weary the reader with a verbose exposition of our contemplated policy, preferring that each issue of THE MINER shall speak for itself.

C. H. MARSH,  
J. W. CONNELLA.

OF COURSE Sumpter will organize a separate and distinct mining district, one that will soon be famous as the greatest gold producer on the continent.

SUMPTER has a dozen saloons, one church edifice and no resident pastor. There is almost as rich and virgin a field here for the labors of those who seek to lay up treasures in heaven, as for those who are hustling to accumulate this world's goods.

THOSE Spokane rustlers who developed the British Columbia mines, who are now performing the same service for the reservation prospects in the vicinity of Republic, Wash., are turning their attention Sumpterward, and during recent weeks have become gratifyingly numerous on the streets of this camp and in the mountains of this district. They are promoters who promote and should therefore be cordially welcomed.

THERE are always many annoyances and unlooked for difficulties encountered in getting out the first issue of a paper. THE MINER has been "up against" everyone on the list, and added others. No apology will, therefore, be made for any specified defects in this number. The management desires to state, however, that it is the intention to use half-tone cuts extensively, illustrating local scenes of interest, and regrets that in this it has been disappointed for the present.

ONLY one complaint regarding the Sumpter mining district emanates from promoters and speculators who visit this section; which is that owners of properties are reluctant to sell. Having accepted as an axiom of the business the hackneyed phrase that "all mines were made to sell," they are disappointed and sometimes indignant when an owner refuses to put any price on his mine, or even prospect. This is undoubtedly tough on the speculator, but speaks volumes favorable to the district.

UNFORTUNATELY a feeling of unfriendliness has arisen between Sumpter and Baker City—nothing very serious as yet, but still the sparks of animosity are sufficiently alive to be fanned into a fierce flame of passion, unless they are smothered without delay. It is the desire of THE MINER to assist in this smothering process. No man of common sense can fail to see that incalculable benefits will accrue to both towns if they work together harmoniously, and that much injury will be done to both if they waste their energies in seeking to detract from each other's importance, either real or fancied. Baker City is an old town, has for years

dominated the surrounding business and industrial world, while only during recent months has Sumpter come into her own, claimed the inheritance bequeathed her by nature, the fruits of a valuable strategic position to command the rich commerce of the adjacent golden-ribbed Blue Mountains. We all know that it is human nature for an older individual to resent the pretensions of a younger rival, however well-founded they may be, and this is equally true of communities, merely an aggregation of individuals, controlled by the ordinary motives influencing human nature in general. Baker City has manifested this resentment towards Sumpter's ambitions by studiously ignoring this town and calmly claiming everything in sight for its own. This irritates the ambitious young rival. Though this course may be natural, it is unquestionably poor business policy.

The Baker City Republican defends this course and that town's title to all the mines in Eastern Oregon by the more or less dogmatic assertion that Baker is the banking and commercial center of the district, but is not shrewd enough to thus dismiss the subject with a metaphorical lofty wave of the hand. It unwisely attempts to establish this title to all the surrounding earth by citing precedents, mentioning Denver, Helena, and Spokane. Denver did not secure and hold Leadville's trade and goodwill by persistently claiming the Little Pittsburg to be in the "Denver district," Helena never advertised to the world that the Anaconda was a Helena property. Spokane frankly acknowledges that the Le Roi is in British Columbia, and that there is a town there or thereabouts called Rossland. Yet Baker papers, people and pamphlets stubbornly refuse to accord to Sumpter a public official acknowledgment of its existence, and that the Red Foy, the Golconda and a score of other mines are here in operation, and that the employes thereof are spending their wages in this camp.

The eyes of the mining world are focussed on Sumpter, and it can not be ignored to any sane purpose. Baker City must necessarily be benefitted by this fact, and the sooner its citizens and business men recognize it as a fact and act accordingly, the greater and richer will be the benefits reaped by them.

## ARE HUNGRY FOR MINES.

Eastern Capitalists Subscribe \$5,000,000 for  
Western Investments.

Col. George W. E. Dorsey, who returned a day or two since to Salt Lake from an extended eastern trip, brings the tidings that a number of New England bankers and capitalists, principally of Maine and Vermont, have organized under the laws of the state of Maine what is to be known as the New England Exploration company, with a capital of \$5,000,000, for the purpose of investing in mines, mining stock and developed prospects in the districts to the west.

Colonel Dorsey met some of the moving spirits in the enterprise, and a more enthusiastic set of men, he says, he never saw in his life. The capital stock was all subscribed in no time; in fact there was not enough to go around, and the men making up the company are the shrewdest and wealthiest people of the states named.

Learning that Colonel Dorsey was from Utah, they besieged him with all sorts of inquiries and asked his advice and opinion on many subjects connected with their scheme, and before he left he had their assurance that they would have representatives out here in a very short time. It is the purpose of the company, Mr. Dorsey says, to establish agencies or branch offices at different points throughout the mining regions, and get action on their money just as soon as possible. The \$5,000,000 for which the company is capitalized does not begin to represent the amount of money the people will invest if the opportunities present themselves.—Baker Democrat.

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