

**EASTERN OREGON MINES.**

**Some of the Rich Properties Directly Tributary to Sumpter.**

Some months since the Oregonian published a list of mines in Eastern Oregon which were then being worked, together with the number of men employed on each property and the name of the manager. This list was carefully compiled by F. R. Mellis, of Baker City, and like the loyal citizen of that city which he is, dumped in the whole job lot as if they were all at Baker's back door. The information given, however, is interesting and instructive, and with a few explanatory notes will prove accurately enlightening to MINER readers at a distance, who are seeking information regarding this golden wonderland.

According to Mr. Mellis' statement, who says his data is not entirely complete, there were then, last March, 160 mines in the district which were being operated; 83 quartz and 77 placer propositions; employing 1600 men; 1087 in the quartz mines and 513 on the placer ground.

Now, as a matter of fact, of these 160 mines, 56 are directly tributary to Sumpter, at which place all supplies are purchased and to which point all machinery is shipped by rail for transportation by wagon over the mountain roads. The geographical location and the topography of the surrounding country render this necessary. These 56 mines, 29 quartz and 27 placer, then employed 647 men, 488 by the former and 159 by the latter. The names of these mines are:

QUARTZ.	PLACER.
Bonanza,	Sloan & Haskill's,
Red Boy,	Badger M. & M Co.,
Badger G. M. Co.,	Smyer,
North Pole,	Humboldt,
Columbia,	Onion Creek,
Golconda,	California Gulch,
Eureka Excelsior,	Hyatt,
La Bellevue,	Flying Dutchman,
Phoenix,	Downie,
Bonanza G. M. Co.,	Sumpter,
Pyx,	Andrews,
Magnolia,	Minersville,
May Queen (Granit)	Carnes,
Cougar,	Gleason,
Ibex,	Tibbs,
Banzette,	Hope Flats,
Little Giant,	Parker,
Imperial,	Camp Creek,
Princess,	French Co's,
Keystone Group,	Tabor,
May Queen (Cornp.)	Bull Run,
Climax,	Three Cent,
Handy Andy,	McWillis,
Snow Creek,	Olive Creek,
Success Group,	North Fork,
Evening Star,	California,
Jay Gould,	Parry.
Strassburg Group,	
Quebec.	

Of course, these facts and figures are decidedly antiquated at this time and THE MINER regrets that it cannot for this issue revise the list of working mines and number of men employed, bringing it up to date. It can be safely stated, however, that the number of men at work on the properties tributary to Sumpter is fully 50 per cent greater than is given above; while the list of properties on which work is now in progress is far from complete.

**Perplexing Problem, Interesting Inference.**

Some days since, D. C. Johnson, ore buyer for the Puget Sound Reduction company, was talking to a party of mining men in Spokane; expatiating on the rich mines in the Sumpter district, of course, as he had recently visited this camp. Delivering himself of a mass of favorable facts and figures, he concluded with this perplexing problem and interesting inference: "For the life of me," he said, "I can't figure it out how that town has lain dormant for so long a time. There are now directly tributary to it a half dozen developed mines, distant not more than ten miles, and others further re-

moved, which are already proven to be as good as the Republic ever hopes to be; yet, down there for four or five years past there has been only a dull little village of two or three stores, a livery stable, hotel, and blacksmith shop, while Republic has within a year grown into a town of three thousand inhabitants on the strength of a promising prospect, that has now apparently fulfilled its early promise. But Sumpter has already awoken from its long sleep, the rustlers from the north are migrating southward, and I advise you gentlemen not to overlook this chance for a gamble, playing the Sumpter card wide open and to the extreme limit."

**ALL EYES FIXED ON SUMPTER.**

**Unprecedented Demand for Publications Regarding this Favored Region.**

In a letter to THE MINER, W. H. Hurlburt, general passenger agent of the O.R. & N., says that the demand for publications in regard to eastern Oregon is unprecedented, that the rail road's supply is exhausted, and that a third edition of "The Gold Fields of Eastern Oregon" will soon be issued. The artistic half-tone cuts with which this pamphlet was illustrated are now in the east and will soon appear in a popular and widely circulated publication.

These cuts were made for the special purpose of illustrating the descriptive work, those exquisite pen pictures, by Colonel P. Donan, than whom there is today no more facile and entertaining writer of the English language. All who have ever read a line from his inimitable pen know that whatever the subject, however dull and common place the topic, it is rendered attractive by his magic touch, and that everything he writes is read with eager interest by thousands, if only for its literary merits, which abounds in superb descriptions, picturesque phrases, peculiarly Donanesque comparisons—all kinds of rhetorical acrobatic feats.

So it happens that with his universally acknowledged literary ability, aided by the craft of a skilled illustrator and backed by the enterprise and money of the O. R. & N. R. R. Co., at the command of Mr. Hurlburt, he has produced a book that has caught and held the attention of the world, and led it to investigate and covet the boundless mineral wealth surrounding Sumpter, the great gold-producing camp of America.

**Settlers Flocking to Eastern Oregon.**

"This is the banner year in the taking up of public land in eastern Oregon," said S. A. Swackhamer, receiver of the U. S. land office at La Grande. Mr. Swackhamer is in the city as a lay delegate to the Columbia River Methodist conference. Continuing he said: "This is an indication of both present and future prosperity. All this land that is being taken up is being settled upon by homeseekers. People from the populous eastern states are finding that they can secure better land free in eastern Oregon, Washington and Idaho than they can buy for their money in the east. We have had to increase the clerical force of our office. Mr. Swackhamer talked encouragingly of the sugar beet outlook in the Grande Ronde valley."—Spokane Review.

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