

THE SUMPTER MINER.

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SOMETIMES the word "conservative," considered in certain quarters to be a sacred term, is used when "thick-headed mossbackism" would be a more accurately correct expression.

IT IS persistently reported that the O. R. & N. will soon put on a double train service between Portland and Huntington. It is very probable that this is true, because the traffic demands it and this railroad has the reputation for meeting all such public calls.

COLONEL SHUTT, former owner of the Sumpter News, issued the first number of his Hood River Sun September 28. It is an entirely creditable paper, and especially artistic is the manner in which he gives the country and people thereabouts the grand jolly in his opening remarks.

THE MINER continues to enlighten the world regarding this town. J. E. McManus, the largest individual owner of stock in the great Sunset copper mine, in the Cascades, and mineral land inspector under Cleveland, wants to know if Sumpter is a mining district. He has now seen a copy of this paper and knows that it is.

THE Northwest Herald, a weekly paper published at Portland, prints an interview with Col. Donan, in which he reads the riot act to that town for "supinely macawberizing," and neglecting golden opportunities to advance its own interests. Like everything the Colonel says or writes, it is pregnant with truth, entertainingly stated.

BAKER CITY papers publish very rosy-hued reports of a fabulously rich gold find one mile east of that town. It is claimed that the ledge has been traced five miles, and that all sorts of money has been offered for the property. It is to be hoped that this is a true story; and it may be, for nothing in a mineral way seems to be impossible in the "Sumpter mining district."

MEN who went out in the mountains collecting ores to exhibit at the Spokane and Portland fairs report that mine owners willingly contributed specimens for the former, but in the case of Portland some refused to give and others did so under protest. There is some reason for this and it would be a profitable occupation for Portland people to ascertain what it is.

SOME one signing himself Buck Mitchell furnishes THE MINER with a copy of The Mining Fields of Idaho, prepared by W. C. Austin and issued by C. J. Bassett, state commissioner of immigration, labor and statistics. Buck writes on the margin of the first page: "Here is a few damnd lies for you." That is surely stating the matter rather coarsely and, maybe, too strongly, but there is no question but what the writer draws the long bow rather recklessly.

THAT was an excellent talk which Captain Thompson, of Spokane, made before the Baker City chamber of commerce some days since, advising the people of that town to advertise the mineral resources of this section of country—"it makes no difference what it costs," he said. One chunk of wisdom which he offered on that occasion was that claim owners should stock their properties and raise money by that method for developing them, instead of doing so individ-

ually by long effort and arduous labor.

There seems to be a disposition in certain quarters hereabouts to look with suspicion on those who seek to sell stock in an undeveloped mine. Such should not be the case; it is an entirely equitable arrangement. The owner of the claim virtually says to the public: "I have a promising prospect, which cost me time and labor and what little money I had. I endured some hardships in searching for this. I haven't the capital to develop it; but am willing to give an interest in the property to any one who will put up the money with which to drive a tunnel or sink a shaft, to ascertain whether or not the claim is a valuable one."

This interest which the owner gives to have the property developed is, in the case of a stock company, very conveniently arranged, by placing a certain portion of the capital stock in the treasury, which is sold to the public. If the treasury stock is honestly handled and the proceeds from the sale thereof are intelligently expended, there can be nothing shady or illegitimate about the transaction. No one with any sense at all expects to get stock in a proven mine for a few cents a share, and when one buys cheap stock it is with a full knowledge that he is speculating, with the chances more or less in favor of losing; but with the possibility of enormous returns from a comparatively small investment.

This is the quick, modern, honest way to develop, not only a single prospect, but an entire district, and the sooner the work is started here the sooner will individual hopes be realized and the district become what it is destined to be, the greatest gold producer on the continent.

"Knowgood" Belies Its Name.

As paradoxical as it may appear the "Knowgood" mine at Cornucopia is one of the best in that leading camp of the Northwest. The owners, Thomas Turner and Joseph Jackley, are now at work reducing ore from this mine with the little Huntington mill built several years ago by W. F. Davis, of Union, and it is authentically reported that \$100 in gold is being taken daily from the plates, besides the concentrates, which are very rich. There are hundreds of locations in the Cornucopia district that ere long will be producing large quantities of bullion.—Union Republican.

Burns the Hired Girls' Elysium.

Harney county is the ideal place for the working girl. Nowhere on earth does hired female help command such good wages as here. The supply is never equal to the demand. Dozens of families in Burns and vicinity are anxious to get female help, but in vain. The girls are all either too proud or too rich to do housework for pay. And when one is found that will work, she insists on being the boss of everything in sight. The state of affairs is all right for the girl, but it is a little tough on other people.—Harney County News.

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