

**GREAT MINING EXPERT**

**Captain J. R. Wood Determined to Invest in This District.**

Captain J. R. Wood, the eminent mining expert whose arrival in Sumpter was mentioned in THE MINER last week, left for his home in Chicago several days since. Prior to his departure he said to a representative of this paper that the statement made in the Spokane Review and repeated in these columns, that he represents the Tanner syndicate, is a mistake; that he was formerly with that syndicate, but that Governor Tanner has become so engrossed in politics that he is not paying as much attention to his mining interests as formerly, and that he, Captain Wood, represents only himself and a few friends in Chicago.

He talked with several mine owners while here, with a view to buying, but found that properties which he wished to purchase are not now on the market. They may be, however, in a month or two, and he will return the latter part of January or the first of February, when he hopes to secure a property. Several which he has in view are now bonded to other parties, the options expiring in from thirty to sixty days. These he has the second call on. Others will soon be sufficiently developed to show their value.

Captain Wood says that he would prefer to buy a producing mine, one with a stamp mill already on it; that he doesn't care to consider a prospect proposition. There is any amount of money, he says, in Chicago seeking investment in good mining property, but it must be gilt edge, now earning dividends or sure to be at an early day.

Regarding this district, he says that he is most favorably impressed with what he has seen and heard. Asked what he thinks of the local boast that there has never been a failure where a prospect has been intelligently and extensively developed, Captain Wood said:

"It seems to be a remarkable statement; one that can be applied to no other district with which I am familiar, and I can not vouch for its truth on my personal knowledge; but men whom I have known for years, whose judgment I know to be good, and in whose word I place implicit reliance, tell me that such is the case. It is surely a wonderful record."

The gentleman has been engaged in mining for nearly forty years, has visited most of the camps on this continent in a professional capacity, and his judgment is considered as near infallible as things human generally get to be. Sumpter should congratulate itself on the fact that such a man has visited its mines and determined to invest much money here.

**J. B. Dabney Pleased With Sumpter District**

J. B. Dabney, on being asked concerning his recent purchase of the Knapp property on Rock creek, near Sumpter, replied: "Yes, I have taken up the Knapp property, and have commenced work, with both day and night shifts. I have shipped in a complete steam plant, of sufficient capacity to go down to the 800-foot level. I am also running a tunnel on the property which will cut the vein at a depth of 400 feet." In response to the question if it was his intention to build a mill on the property at once, he replied: "No, I shall not build a mill at present, but expect to do so in the early spring. The ore is similar to all of the Sumpter ores, partly free milling, but is to a large extent a concentrating ore. I believe that Sumpter camp has a very bright future before it," continued Mr. Dabney. "The ore bodies are large and the ore of good grade, and there is no doubt but some of the largest gold properties of the country will be opened up there."—Spokane Stock Report.

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