

"SUMPTER IS ABUTTE."

Is New; Being New, Is Wicked and Interesting.

If you take Butte of earlier days—of the halcyon days of the middle eighties—when the camp was new and lusty and just a trifle more wicked than it is today—and compare it closely with this golden dot on the eastern Oregon map, neither will lose by the comparison. Sumpter is new—glaringly, painfully new. Being new, it is also wicked. Being wicked, it is also interesting, and because it is new and wicked and interesting, and because also the gold mines of the surrounding country are rich enough to satisfy the dreams of an opium-eater, and because also more rich mines at the rate of a dozen a year are being added to the list of dividend-payers in the district, and because also enough Butte people and Spokane people with push and snap and go have come to the camp to make it a success, Sumpter is a Butte.

For thirty years Sumpter, from the social standpoint, has been in the gentle hands of two separate and distinct species of slow-pokers, each superior to the other in some particular regard—Oregonians and Chinamen. The former, during all the intervening time since 1876, have stood by and watched the Chinamen work. The latter, during these twenty-five years, have taken out of the placer diggings a sum of gold variously estimated at from ten to twenty-five million dollars. The Oregonians herded cattle in the foothills, grazed sheep on the mountain slopes, and never made further investigation into the richness of the district than to occasionally inquire of the Chinamen if they didn't want to buy some beef.

I got it straight from an old California prospector that the way the Oregonians discovered gold in this district was through a cowboy down on Camas prairie, who loaded up on red-eye and held up a Chinaman bound for the Wells-Fargo express office at Pendleton. This was some time in '86.

Sumpter—the Sumpter of today—was born last year. This vouches for the youthfulness of the camp. After it became known that a syndicate composed of Standard Oil company people, who, in 1897, paid three-quarters of a million dollars for the Bonanza mine, sixteen miles from Sumpter, were producing a monthly average of \$40,000 in gold; and after the Red Boy mine began pounding out half that figure, and after the North Pole joined the list, and with a dinky stamp mill began to make millionaires of its owners, and after General Charles F. Warren came to town and began a systematic dissemination of facts regarding the camp, and after English & Son took hold of the Golconda mine and began digging out ore at the 250-ft level, which, in the language of the Alaska miner, was "gold, carrying some quartz"—Sumpter began to live. For six months she wore swaddling clothes; at the end of that time the camp assumed swagger airs, blossomed out as a city of some metropolitan pretensions and began to hum.

To the Butte people in Sumpter who have taken the bull by the horns and incidentally taken a flier in real estate and mines, the sound of this hum is pleasant music. All the Montana men in this camp stand to win big money. Some of them already have cleaned up snug sums. General Warren, of course, is the king bee around here. C. F. Booth, ex-Mayor Dugan, W. F. Cobban and some of the others have irons in the fire which will pan out heavily when the time is ripe. They are all quite happy and not the least lonesome or homesick, for in the language of the Hon. Charles F. Booth, "Sumpter is a Butte."—L. Bush L. in Anaconda Standard.

Building Leased for Two Years.

A. M. Keltie has leased from Charles Booth, for a term of two years, the building now used as a hay warehouse by the Sumpter Hardware company, adjoining THE MINER office. He will have it renovated, remodeled and raised to conform to the new street grade. Already there are one or two applications in to rent it for business purposes, though no lease has yet been given.

To the Ladies of Sumpter.

You are respectfully invited to inspect a beautiful line of modern hand-made Point and Battenburg lace work. I also have or will design patterns for any lace pieces desired, furnish materials, give lessons, or make work to order. The largest line and variety of genuine Mexican drawn work ever shown in eastern Oregon, and at such prices as will permit you to make handsome Christmas presents at moderate amounts. Call at the home of Mrs. Dr. Tape, adjoining the office, where I am temporarily located. MRS. MARSH.

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