

PRAIRIE DIGGINGS.**Famous Old Mine, Abandoned for Years, Bonded.**

The famous Prairie Diggings mine which in the early mining days of Canyon City yielded up over a million of dollars of precious metal to her lucky owners, and which was finally abandoned and for years laid idle, was last week bonded by its present owners, Helmer & Hines, to Messrs. Stewart and Smith, of Sumpter.

This mine has been in the possession of Messrs. Helmer and Hines for over a year, during which time they have made extensive developments, a tunnel has been run for a distance of nearly 200 feet and a five stamp mill has been erected. These gentlemen have had abiding confidence in the future of their mine, but on account of inadequate means to continue such development work as was required and to place upon the property such machinery as necessity demands to handle the inexhaustible supply of ore, they came to the conclusion that they must turn over the property to parties with abundant capital.

Messrs. Stewart and Smith were induced to examine the mine, and fully satisfied with the results of their examination, they bonded the mine, together with the adjoining claim of Wm. Aldred, for a large sum, part of the money to be paid in thirty days.

Mr. Stewart stated to a News reporter that it was his intention to interest other parties with himself and Mr. Smith and to return in about two weeks, when they commence active operations on an extensive scale. A concentrator will be added to the mill in order to ascertain what kind of a plant will be needed. A shaft will be sunk on the main ledge to a depth of 200 feet and pumping apparatus will be placed on the ground immediately.

Mr. Stewart also states that work will be done on a little different plan than is customary, that is, all the ore will be run through the mill, as every particle will pay to work. This, he says, will necessitate a large mill as the ore is practically inexhaustible. Although, he says it is not probable that as large a mill as is needed can be erected the coming season, a 200-stamp mill will be dropping on ore in the near future.—Grant County News.

Plans of Portland Mining Exchange.

J. C. Barton, a Portland mining engineer representing an organization to be known as the Portland Mining Exchange, came to the city several days ago, from which point he will visit the different dis-

tricts and pass judgment on several properties now under consideration for purchase by his people. Mr. Barton says the new exchange will be organized on lines that are supposed to virtually guarantee an investor comparative safety in putting his money into the stock which will be listed with them and placed upon their board. The exchange will be officered by prominent and responsible men of means and integrity, with special committees of attorneys, engineers and mining experts to thoroughly examine and report upon any stock or property offered for sale. It is hoped by this means to educate and induce Portland people to recognize mining investments as a legitimate and comparatively safe method of making money. Some of the names of the new promoters of the exchange should inspire confidence, and it is to be hoped success will attend their efforts.

SUMPTER ROUGH RIDERS.**Equipment Has Arrived and Uniforms Will in a Few Days.**

Cavalry Troop "B," Oregon National Guards, the Sumpter Rough Riders, perfected a civil organization at its regular drill night, last Monday. Captain T. King Muir presided. A constitution was adopted and Sim Durgan was chosen treasurer, and B. K. Davis, secretary. The various committees, as provided by the constitution, were appointed.

Captain Muir announced that the complete equipment for the troop had arrived from Portland, the shipment consisting of seventeen cases and being valued at over \$5000. The uniforms will be shipped this week, and will probably be regularly issued to the troopers at the next regular drill night, which has been changed from Monday to Wednesday of each week.

The matter of a grand military ball to be given by the troop at an early date, was discussed, and the amusement committee was instructed to make necessary arrangements in that direction. The event promises to be the swaggiest social event of the season. The boys will be fully uniformed and armed, and will cut much ice.

Captain Muir instructed the recruiting committee to secure at least fifteen more enlistments, in order that at least fifty mounted troopers could attend the big military encampment at Oregon City in July.

Mining maps drawn and blue printed by C. H. Fenner, C. E., at Townsite company office, near depot.

See the electric clocks that run forever without winding at Adler's.

Don't forget the Buchanan-Lambert Company, March 10, at Ellis opera house.

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