

# THE SUMPTER MINER.

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## LEDGE RIGHT IN TOWN.

### FREE GOLD WASHED FROM THE POUNDED ROCK.

**Found Three Years Ago by a Stranger—Was on Patented Land and He Quit—Find Investigated Yesterday—From Such Sources Come the Gold in Every Sumpter Lot, Enough to Pay for It.**

The statement is often made and has not yet been contradicted or proven inaccurate, that there is sufficient gold dust in every lot in the original townsite of Sumpter and its additions to pay for the lot, even at present prices. This may or may not be true, for it is a subject on which no one has definite information. But it is undoubtedly true that all the surrounding land contains gold; that there are rich placer diggings within the city limits that have been worked for years and still are being profitably worked.

The generally accepted theory is that placer gold comes from quartz ledges. The topography of the surrounding country is such that the "dust" found here could not have come from the Granite, the Cable Cove or other districts where successful quartz mining is now in progress. The natural inference therefore is that it comes from the hills immediately contiguous.

During the past ninety days THE MINER has reported a number of promising finds in the vicinity of town, rich rock from true fissure veins. There is no longer a doubt but what the surrounding hills are seamed with gold ledges. They will be developed this season and in another year stamps will be dropping in hearing distance of the heart of town.

Yesterday a lot of rock was brought into the Sumpter Townsite company's office from a ledge not a thousand feet distant from that building. It came about in this way:

Three years ago a stranger drifted into town and, without losing any time, began prospecting. Whether he knew what he was about, or merely sought a location convenient to hotel accommodations, is not known. But it is a fact that up on Johnny Parkinson land north of town he found rock that could be pounded in a mortar and from which gold could be washed. The owner of the property informed the man that he was wasting his time, as the land was patented, and that he would have to "move on" and find his bonanza elsewhere. That ended the matter till yesterday; when the story being repeated in General Warren's hearing, he asked Mr. Parkinson to show W. H. Mosby where the man had been working.

This he did. A hole about the size of a barrel was found, in ledge matter from the pine needle-carpeted ground down. A lot of rock taken from the hole was brought in and placed on exhibition. All the hosts of mining experts who infest that vicinity declare that it "looks good." Assays have not yet been made.

Some very fine limestone was found near by, which will come in handy for the smelter.

#### Representative of Eastern Mining Paper.

Leston Balliet, representing the Mining News, of Des Moines, Iowa, reached Sumpter yesterday. He says he will write up the camp for that paper; but that newspaper work is a side issue with him,

that mining is his business and that he is here on a strictly professional call. Mr. Balliet's mining experience has been principally in California, though he had an assay office in Baker City six years ago, and is therefore not an entire stranger to this district.

#### Work Progressing at the Smelter

H. Meinhard returned several days since from a trip to the coast on business connected with the smelter, the nature of which he says he does not care to divulge just yet. Work is progressing satisfactorily at the smelter. The shed is completed, the hot air furnace is being installed and other machinery put in place. Those in charge of construction say it will be ready to operate before the roads are in condition to haul ore over them.

#### OLIVE CREEK DISTRICT.

##### Much Work Being Done and Ore Shows Good Values.

There are lively times at Olive creek, a section that is attracting great attention, and which is confidently expected to become one of the best mining camps in all the eastern Oregon gold fields.

The district is situated between Granite and Robinsonville and derives its name from the grand scenic lake which is in close proximity, at the base of Greenhorn mountain.

From persons who are down from the district the Democrat is advised that there is life and activity in the camp, occasioned by the development work in progress upon hundreds of locations and the magnificent results that are being obtained.

Mr. Sam Lew, who with Dr. E. B. McDaniel of this city, owns what is known as the Golden Star group of claims, came down from Olive creek yesterday. Mr. Lew has spent the past two months in the district doing development. The tunnel on the Golden Star is in 179 feet and in running it two ledges have been cut, one four feet in width and the other thirteen feet. The ore returns good values and Lew is confident he has a property that will yet bring him an independent fortune.

Mr. Lew says the mountains are full of prospectors and when he came out he passed a large number on the road going in.—Baker City Democrat.

#### "Patsy" Clark's Representative Here.

D. Brenshan, formerly superintendent of the Republic mine, and who has had charge of all of Patrick Clark's properties in that camp, reached Sumpter today. Of course he is not saying a word. This class of miners doesn't hunt for properties with a brass band nor buy them with street corner oratory.

#### Buchanan-Lambert Company.

The Buchanan-Lambert company is giving good shows in Ellis Opera house this week to a fair business. The company is well balanced and composed of first class people. The repertoire consists of popular plays, which when properly presented always please. They will continue the engagement throughout the week, including Saturday evening, when they will doubtless get their largest house.

#### Republican Primaries.

Little interest was taken in the republican primaries held to-day. In the South Sumpter precinct the following delegates were unanimously elected, about forty votes were cast: Thomas Kilpatrick, C. Miller, C. J. Johns, Gus Woodward, and J. W. McVickers. In the North Sumpter precinct these were chosen: J. McEwen, R. Miller, G. B. Tedrowe, General C. S. Warren and N. C. Richards, the first named leading off with 53 votes. The only other candidate was E. C. Steffen.

## LET PAVING CONTRACT

### Bids On Granite Street Will Be Opened Tomorrow.

In another column of THE MINER today is published a call for bids to plank Granite street, from the east side of Mill to the west side of Cracker. Contractors are therein notified that they may put in bids for the grading and planking separate, or together.

Bids are also invited on improving the street by graveling. Unless some very attractive bid be submitted on this proposition, the street will be planked, as both the property owners committee and the engineers are understood to favor this method. Bids will be opened at the office of City Engineer Wheeler tomorrow at 10 o'clock.

On Mill street, the first idea was to improve it only between Granite and the railroad track, but N. T. Collett and other property owners south of the track expressed a desire to have the paving extended, and the gentleman named took the matter in hand. It now looks as if that street will be improved clear through to its southern extremity, a distance of about half a mile.

Mr. Collett informed a MINER man yesterday that practically all lot owners had signed an agreement to stand their share of the expense for such work. A meeting will probably be held tomorrow and some definite plan adopted.

#### Dr. Tape Back in Sumpter.

Dr. G. W. Tape returned to Sumpter Monday, rather unexpectedly to his friends, who welcomed him cordially. Especially did A. W. Ellis' greeting come from his heart—ask the Doctor what he said. Dr. Tape has been in Detroit all winter, two months of which time was spent in a hospital, undergoing treatment. He is looking well and it is hoped that his health is fully and permanently restored. He says he heard little of Sumpter and its famous gold mines in Detroit, that the town is so conservative that when one of its old line citizens learns that one is from a gold mining camp, he begins to back away and excuse himself from lingering longer. Mrs. Tape will return in a few weeks.

#### HAS THE E. & E. BEEN SOLD.

##### Rumors to that Effect Afloat—One of Them.

For two weeks past rumors have been current to the effect that the E. & E. mine was about to be sold. Nothing definite has so far been made public. The following, however, in the Portland Telegram under a Sumpter date line, is interesting reading:

Rumors are afloat concerning a pending big deal involving the great E. & E. and North Pole mines on Cracker Creek. It is reported that a wealthy Chicago syndicate, whose representative is known to have been in this camp for some time, is negotiating for both of these properties; that new underground workings are to be inaugurated upon them, and that a modern concentrator of sufficient capacity to handle the ores of the entire Cracker Creek and Cable Cove districts is to be erected.

The E. & E. is owned in St. Louis, was operated for a number of years by John H. Longmaid, as lessee, and has become one of the most notable mines in Oregon.

It is opened up with a 1200-foot tunnel, showing an ore body varying from 20 to 200 feet in width. With a 20-stamp mill and concentrators, 70 tons per day have been handled at a total cost of \$2.00 per ton. It has shipped about \$250,000 a year in concentrates, and is known to have paid a profit of 50 per cent. The consolidation of these two big mines under one management, and the provision of a satisfactory process of treatment of their ores, will result in great things for Sumpter Camp.

#### LAWTON PATENTS ISSUED.

##### Telegram Received from Washington to that Effect.

Hon. James H. Raley, now in this city, was telegraphed yesterday from Washington, D. C., that the general land office has issued patents to the Lawton townsite. This settles any question as to the title to property in the new town.

Wm. Roesch and Gus La Fontaine, of Pendleton, yesterday telephoned their orders in to the Lawton Investment company for the purchase of two lots, one for a brewery and one for a restaurant, the building of which is to be commenced at once.

Eight business houses are nearing completion.

The Hobson Mercantile company, of Sumpter, have already commenced business in the new town.

Kason Smith, of Walla Walla, has two tents 18x36 with 40 beds in them and they are full every night.

Kenworth & King, of Sumpter, have started a restaurant in a tent and are doing a fine business.

The population of the town is about 200, all anxious to build, but the scarcity of lumber is a hindrance.

The Lawton Investment company will give concessions to anyone starting a butcher shop and blacksmith shop at once.

A petition with 200 signers was forwarded to Washington, D. C., yesterday asking for a postoffice at Lawton.

The Lawton standard will be issued Friday next, F. G. Hull, publisher.—Baker City Democrat.

#### Rough Riders' Military Ball April 16.

The amusement committee of the Sumpter Rough Riders held a meeting last evening in the office of Stott & Shelton and perfected arrangements for a grand military ball to be given by the troop. The date was set for Monday, April 16, the day following Easter. Sub-committees on reception, invitation, decoration, refreshment, printing and floor were appointed, and every detail arranged for making this the swellest social event of the season. Invitations will be extended to the Baker City military company to attend in uniform.

#### Co-Operative Litigation Declared Off.

A. Walker says that all litigation regarding the Co-Operative Mining company, between himself and E. F. Warner, has been declared off, a compromise having been reached Monday night. Work, he says, is now being pushed with renewed energy, three shifts in the lower tunnel being worked, where ore has been encountered.

"The Portland," conducted by Woodward & Hammond on Mill street, is a representation of its name. A visit will convince any skeptics.

The Smelter Addition is now on the market—investigate and get in at first price. D. Copping, agent, corner Mill and Sumpter streets.