

## SECRETS OF THE GRAVE

### Removal of Bodies Reveals Some Interesting Facts.

Sam Hastings finished Monday removing the bodies from the old to the new cemetery, thirty in number. Two bodies still remain, which will be taken by friends in a few days to other places for reinterment, one to Baker City and the other to Granite.

Mr. Hastings says he has done this work before in other places, but no where has he ever seen both coffins and corpses so well preserved. Most of the coffins are of plain boards, too, which adds to the interest. According to the decipherable record over the graves, the body of Bryan McCauley has been buried longest, twelve years. The coffin was as sound and well preserved as if it had been placed underground only last week. Doubtless some others were buried there at an earlier date, but the inscriptions on the crude boards have been effaced, and their records, so far as this world is concerned, are wiped out.

Former friends of a number of bodies superintended their removal and a natural curiosity prompted them to have the lids removed. In several cases these living friends were most gratifyingly surprised, finding the faces of the dead looking startlingly natural. The most remarkable instance of this was in the case of Mrs. Mayvaldt and her two little children, who were drowned five years ago in Powder river, at the mouth of Cracker creek. Scarcely a change in their features had taken place since burial. The mother drowned herself and children—just one of life's ordinary tragedies, which this disturbing of the dead recalls.

Mr. Hastings says it is very probable that the soil has much to do with the preservation of the coffins, but this in itself sweeps away the usual theory regarding the bodies, as the continued good condition of the caskets would prevent the supposed preservative qualities of the soil from having any effect on the bodies. He noticed, however, that where there were a quantity of flowers in the coffins, the bodies were best preserved. Whether or not this was the cause, he does not venture an opinion.

#### Pyritic Treatment for Oregon Ores.

A few weeks ago, on my return from a tour of investigation of Oregon and north-west country ores and mining interests, it became my pleasure on invitation of Mr. W. E. Hurd, of your city, to visit Portland and to state my belief in the unusual advantages offered in the ores of your state, if they could be submitted to proper treatment. Shortly after my return to Denver, samples from various localities were sent to me which were most carefully treated at the celebrated pyritic smelting plant in Leadville. The results of the analyses then made more than confirms the good opinion I had formed and expressed in regard to the Oregon ores. Every sample, save one, proved practicable for pyritic smelting the most of them were exceptionally desirable for our process; the one refractory ore yielded when amalgamated with the others. No better field for pyritic treatment can be found than is offered by Oregon. That your need of a process, and our means of supplying it, bid fair to meet is of good augury to your state and our smelter. The conditions are most favorable from every point of view, and offer a most desirable investment for capital. The ores already on the dumps of the mines in the district warrant the statement that, if you had a smelting plant that could handle 500 tons daily, instead of one of 250 tons, as now talked of, there would be an

abundance of ore to keep the smelter running night and day. I firmly believe that within a few months from the day of blowing in the furnaces the capacity can be increased profitably to the stockholders, and paid for out of the surplus profits of the company.—E. T. Brakford, of Denver, in Oregonian.

#### Braun Wins His Homestead.

In the matter of the homestead entry of John W. Braun, wherein J. A. Harvey, C. R. Bishop and John Kutsch are the contestants, on the grounds that the land in question, which joins the city on the south, is mineral land; the decision of the United States land office at La Grande is made in favor of Braun and the protestants are allowed thirty days within which time to appeal from this decision if they so desire. It is understood from the contestants attorneys, Hammond & Chance, that an appeal will be taken at once. Judge W. S. Newbury is attorney for Braun.

#### BUCK GULCH PLACERS.

**Venerable L. L. DeVore Making His Regular Spring Wash.**

Away up Buck gulch Lloyd L. DeVore is working a placer mine. He is an interesting character; not a freak, but an intelligent gentleman. He came from Pennsylvania to California in 1853, and has been mining for placer gold ever since. Several times he has tried to make a go of some other enterprise, but always returned to the business of which he is a master, to recuperate his shattered fortunes. Mr. DeVore is now sixty-four years old, his giant frame is slightly bent with this weight of years and on his face is left the marks of the hard life he has led; the hardships endured. His head is remarkably well formed, his features pleasing and a kindlier pair of eyes never adorned human face. His whole bearing and conversation are dignified and respect inspiring.

He first came to Oregon in 1863 and has been here more or less since then; at his present place four or five years. Mr. Asby is his partner in the placer now being worked. They have a four mile ditch, but the water supply is limited, and can hydraulic only thirty to forty days in the spring. During that time from sixteen to eighteen dollars a day per man is taken out. The water is stored in the reservoir about fifty feet above the pit now being worked. Aside from the limited water supply, the conditions are ideal, the fall being steep and the dumping ground over a perpendicular bluff, with unlimited space below. The gold is fine, but the ground is rich.

With the exception of a few Chinamen, who are working in a very primitive way, Mark White is the only other miner in the gulch. His claim is below that of DeVore & Asby.

Though most of the ground on the summit in this vicinity is bare, there are still some heavy snow drifts there, rendering even horseback travel over the trail impossible. From this vantage ground it can be seen that the Greenhorn is still partly snow clad. In every direction is seen evidences of activity in mining matters and the report from blasts are as frequent as the popping of champagne corks at a blooded banquet.

#### Notice to the Public.

All consumers of city water must make application to the office of the Sumpter Water company before the mains are tapped or any residence or business house supplied with water.

#### SUMPTER WATER COMPANY.

#### Potatoes for Sale.

Lew Bros., of Baker City, have a carload of fine Early Rose and White Star potatoes for sale. Enquire at Sumpter Forwarding company.

Sumpter souvenir spoons. F. C. Brodie, watchmaker and jeweler, Opera house block.

HOBSON MERCANTILE COMPANY

## Do Your Summer Sewing Now.

The weather is pleasant now for indoor work and you can get a better selection of material for warm days' wear than later on. We are showing some nice things for washable garments and Outing Suits. We can't name them all in this space, but will be pleased to show them when you call.

#### REVERSIBLE COVERTS.

Plaid backs and new patterns, make up like worsted and wash like muslin. Per yard.....20c

#### WHITE GOODS

For Waists and Whole Suits, Lace Dimities, Swisses and Piques. Per yard, 12 1-2c to.....25c

#### PERCALES

For Shirt Waists and Blouses, light

and dark patterns, 32 and 36 inches wide, 12 1-2c to.....15c

#### LININGS.

This week we will have in a wonderful assortment of dress fixings of every kind, bought direct from the mills. The price will be the main feature; another will be you can get what you want in Fancy Colorings in the best qualities made, and all the new fabrics for making up a good garment.

#### For Your Stomach's Sake.

Consult our groceryman; he has the best and largest stock of high grade canned and bottled goods in the Blue Mountain district. Every article inspected and guaranteed.

#### A NEW DEPARTMENT.

This week we are re-arranging our store room and will have about twice the space we have had, and still more goods to fill it up. Among other things is a large assortment of PORCELAIN and CHINAWARE. Some pretty things in decorated ware, bought at 50 cents on the dollar, and you get the benefit.

Satisfied-or-Money-Back

THE HOBSON MERCANTILE CO.

SUMPTER, OREGON

A. C. SHAW  
Lumber Co.

A. B. BLOOMER, MANAGER.

*Rough and Dressed Lumber always in stock or saved to order on short notice. Cedar shingles furnished with all orders if desired.*

Orders can be left with D. Copping, corner Sumpter and Mill Street, or at the mill.

SUMPTER, OR.

## Eureka Feed & Livery Company

J. L. SULLIVAN, Manager.

Horses Boarded by the day or Month. First class turn-outs and saddle horses. Our specialty is the quick and safe delivery of freight and passengers to any and all points.

HAY AND GRAIN FOR SALE