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Columbia Brewing & Malting Company

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Columbia Brewing & Malting Co.,
SUMPTER, OREGON.

HIS "SYSTEM" WON OUT.

Colonel Drake Figured With'n Two Feet of the Location of a Ledge.

Every mining man with a theory does not have the luck which has attended the operations of Colonel F. V. Drake, in the Sparta district. Based upon experience and a close study of the geological conditions, Colonel Drake evolved a theory that somewhere in the Sparta district was a vein of soft, decomposed quartz which had fed the placer diggings of Sparta creek. Such ore did not outcrop at any point, but he knew it must be in existence and made his calculations accordingly. Within two feet of where he thought the vein should be, he struck exactly the same kind of ore upon which he had figured.

It is on the property of the Mazama Mining and Milling company, of Portland, of which Colonel Drake is the manager. He is in the city for the purpose of attending the annual meeting of the company. The company owns a group of seven claims.

In giving the first account of the strike for publication, Colonel Drake said today:

"The vein is a fine one, which did not outcrop, and which probably helped to feed the old extensive placer fields which have been worked for the last thirty years. The outcropping in that district is known as bull quartz. My theory of the situation was that the bull quartz could not have fed the placer fields, but that a parallel vein of softer quartz, and a quartz which would more readily decompose, existed there, and could be found. I made calculations where I thought that the vein should run, and the correctness of my theory was proved by the workmen striking the character of the quartz I described within two feet of where I imagined it existed. We are now sinking on it twenty feet from the surface. It is a decomposed material, from part of a lode, and shows

fine gold, which is easily crushed from the quartz, and can be worked out by simply panning.

"It is hard to describe the material in a way that would be clear to the average reader. It is different from the surface ore. It is much decomposed, and inky black in spots, and in other places almost blood red, carrying free gold.

"I have not tested the quartz, but am willing to make a little bet that it will assay high values. This material lies in soft porphyry, and as we continued downward, widened rapidly. We encountered water, which is an indication that it is a fissure vein, for ordinarily water follows fissures.—Portland Telegram.

Camp in Danger from Land Slide.

A press dispatch from Baker City says: The little town of Auburn, located two miles south of this city, is in danger of being carried into the canyon. According to Mr. Alexander, a resident of that place, who was in Baker City today, the ground is already cracked along the hillside, overlooking the town, and a fissure about four feet wide has appeared in places, and is continually widening. Mr. Alexander thinks the town will be buried in the canyon, as a slide sooner or later is certain to occur. Some Chinamen working placers there have a fine lead of rich ore, and are working hard to take it out before this shall occur. The fissures are caused, he says, by the Chinamen mining out the old channel.

Freighters Need "all Kinds" of Nerve.

The nerve of some of the freighters hauling into Lawton comes very near assuming the proportions of a "grafter." Last week one of this kind agreed to haul some freight over from Sumpter at the rate of a dollar per hundred for a Lawton business man, and did haul part of it at that rate. Upon bringing in the last load he demanded double that amount and was promptly refused. It is now reported that the freighter is going to take the matter into court to enforce his claims.—Lawton Standard.

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