

THE GENTLEMAN FROM COLORADO.

Makes a Few Remarks on the Game of Politics.

"I haven't been addressing THE MINER'S large and ever increasing clientele with words of wisdom of late, for two or three reasons", said the gentleman from Colorado Monday evening, as he stood watching and listening to a crowd of men who were guessing and speculating and bluffing on the result of the election. "One reason, and the principal one, is that I have been prospecting a claim out on the Cracker creek district, on which I have taken a bond. Now, I am not going to tell you about that property and work you for a free writeup, because I'm not yet ready to cast the fly—though the fish are 'rising' in these parts at present in a most enticing manner. I'll use you to cut bait for me later on, and will guarantee that you will not be aware of the humble employment you will then be engaged in; for that is an important branch of the mining business of which I have made a special study, and in which I rather prided myself on having attained some little skill.

"While out in the hills I have had plenty of time to read the newspapers and have paid particular attention to a dozen or so published in eastern Oregon. All except THE MINER have been filled with politics and, naturally, I have been thinking considerable about that game. Say, it's a crookeder proposition than the sale of the salted mine.

"But speaking of newspapers and politics, reminds me of something I have often observed. It has been my questionable privilege to know more or less intimately a large number of newspaper men in my day, and but few of these have cared a tinker's explicative about party politics. Those who are sincere partisans, I have found to be feeble minded individuals, and those who pretend to be, for what there is in it, are what can't be designated in polite English, but the picturesque and expressive language of the West calls the turn by declaring that their maternal ancestors scratched fleas with their hind legs.

Of course, it does not require the wisdom of a seer to find the cause of this state of affairs; that is, why newspaper men are usually not partisans. When I speak of the newspaper men, I mean the professionals, those trained in the business; not the amateurs whose conception of the business is confined to recording births, marriages, deaths and local fires as news; abusing the other political party as editorial matter, and pouring soft soap over advertisers and pulling for the tax list, as a revenue producing policy. The newspaper man, properly speaking, has a better opportunity for seeing both sides of life and of every public question than those engaged in any other occupation. He therefore knows that the game of politics is one in which the prime object is to give the worst of it to some one else, employing tactics that would make any 'con' man famous. If he is a man of ordinary honesty, he becomes disgusted and loses interest; if he is a fool, he fails to comprehend the situation and becomes a partisan, inheriting his 'principles'; if a crook, he lands on the winning side and is appointed postmaster, or else does business with the affluent candidate and raises the mortgage on his plant. In reading the papers published hereabouts, I am led to the belief that some of the editors belong to both of the two last named classes.

"So far as party politics is concerned, of course, there are principles involved.

Take that currency question for instance—don't be alarmed and give me the shake. I'm not going to discuss the silver issue—I never do. A man who differs from me on that question, hasn't sense enough to argue anything and I never waste words on an irredeemable blockhead. I was merely going to remark—I'm sorry you must go; I was about to tell you something worth printing. When I cut that 40-foot ledge of Golconda rock over in the Cracker creek district, I'll buy you a saucer of strawberries, tell you a story and give you a scoop on your despised contemporary."

Montana's Mineral Production

Hon. Eugene Braden, assayer in charge of the United States assay office at Helena, Montana, has just completed his annual report on the mineral production of his state for the year 1899, which shows an increase over the year previous of seventeen millions, a record of which every resident of Montana can well feel proud. The output of the precious and base metals is given in detail by Mr. Braden, as follows: Gold, \$4,810,156.95; silver, \$21,786,834.52; copper, \$40,941,905.74; lead, \$909,410.33. With the exception of gold a marked increase is noted in the production of all the metals, the increase in the copper output being especially marked. The increase in the number of mills using the cyanide process of reduction promises to greatly increase the production of gold in Montana during the present year. The outlook for the state, in the mineral line, is certainly most encouraging.—Exchange.

Resume Work on the Great Northern

The Great Northern mine, that caused so much stir in mining circles during the year 1899, by its production of a large amount of glittering metal, will soon be the scene of extensive development work. Mr. Guker, the president of the company owning the property, with the assistance of the Beasley Bros., will soon commence extensive operations. The company anticipates sinking on the property 100 feet below the present level of operations. When that depth is reached they can have a better idea of the extent of the property, and the best method of development. Considerable ore is already blocked out, which will be reduced by the new mill that was recently erected on the property. Frank Harris, one of the officers of the Great Northern company, is soon expected from Salt Lake.—Long Creek Eagle.

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.

ORDINANCE NO. II. (New Series.)

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING MONEY FOR WATER SUPPLY FOR FIRE HYDRANTS.

Be it ordained by the common council of the Town of Sumpter:

SECTION 1. That there be and hereby is appropriated out of the Current Expense Fund of the Town of Sumpter, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of Six Hundred and Twenty Four Dollars; to be paid to the Sumpter Water company, or its assigns, for water for thirteen fire hydrants accepted by the Town of Sumpter, being at the rate of Eight Dollars per month for water for each fire hydrant, and at the rate of One Hundred and Four Dollars per month for thirteen fire hydrants, from the 15th day of January, 1900, to the 15th day of July, 1900.

SECTION 2. The Recorder of the Town of Sumpter is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to draw warrants upon the current expense fund of the Town of Sumpter in favor of said Sumpter Water Company, or its assigns, directed to the Treasurer thereof, for the sum of Four Hundred and sixteen Dollars for water for said thirteen fire hydrants from the 15th day of Jan. 1900, to the 15th day of May, 1900, and said Recorder is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to hereafter draw warrants in favor of said Sumpter Water Company or its assigns, upon said current expense fund, from month to month, for the sum of One Hundred and Four Dollars each, for water for said thirteen fire hydrants from the 15th day of May, 1900, to the 15th day of July, 1900, and until said appropriation of Six Hundred and Twenty Four Dollars is exhausted, as said sums may be earned by said Sumpter Water Company or its assigns, and not otherwise.

Passed the Common Council May 24th, 1900.

W. H. GLEASON,
Mayor of the Town of Sumpter.
Attest: E. L. MANNING,
Recorder of the Town of Sumpter.

President, JNO. J. PENHALE,
(Gen. Mgr. Bunker Hill Gold Mining Co.)

Treasurer, EUGENE SPERRY
Secretary, R. C. PENTLAND
Vice-President, ALBERT GEISER, President Citizens Bank, Baker City, Ore.

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