

# The Sumpter Miner

Official Paper of the Town of Sumpter.

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C. H. MARSH AND J. W. CONNELLA

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POPULATION OF SUMPTER 4,500.

SUMPTER merchants report that they are now doing the largest business ever transacted in the history of the town, very largely on a cash basis.

THE committee in charge of the Fourth of July celebration is working hard to make that event a success and is going to accomplish that purpose. Citizens owe it to themselves to render the committee every aid in their power.

THE Ancient Order of Ever Present United Knockers are irritatingly in evidence of late. Their organ is doing valiant service for the cause and the whole outfit seems to think things are coming their way. But they are as mentally blind as they are morally irresponsible, and their efforts will do no permanent harm.

"If you see it in the American, it's so."—Blue Mountain American, forty consecutive issues.

"Gleason also ran but he got beat,"—American, last week.

If you see it in the American, you can gamble on the assertion that it is maliciously false, or is designed to injure Sumpter—to bear the proposition, that's its mission.

THOSE alleged whipped Boers did a fair day's work June 7, when they killed, wounded and captured all of the Fourth Derbyshire battalion, except six enlisted men. It is altogether too royal a sacrifice to the greed for gold which is being made in this South African war. It causes one to turn with revolt from modern civilization and long for an exhibition of some of the native virtues, in which justice has ever received recognition.

THERE is no question but what more prospecting and development is being done in this and adjoining districts the present season than during a dozen previous years. Many encouraging reports come in from the hills of promising ledges discovered and good strikes made on old discoveries. All this means that the mining interests of eastern Oregon are in a flourishing condition and when prospectors and miners are in luck, the camps are sure to prosper.

A WIRED report from Portland credits R. S. Sheridan, chairman of the state democratic committee, with saying: "There is not much hope of landing Oregon for Bryan, but we will make a showing and keep up the organization. The trouble with the democrats is that they lack confidence. They do not believe we can elect state officers, and so they do not enter the fight with very ardent zeal. The democratic press, instead of supporting the state ticket, usually interests itself in some particular democratic candidate and makes all else subservient to his election."

The chances are several to one that the democratic papers have done a whole lot more for the party than the party has ever done for them, and when they work for some one candidate it is with the hope of a substantial reward in the shape of local patronage. In other words, it is a

fight for existence, for self preservation—a hope that has perhaps been repeatedly throttled by the party at large. There is a whole lot of buncombe indulged in relative to the duty of a newspaper in a political way.

IT looks as if China were finally about to be carved and divided by the civilized nations of the globe; something they have long wished to do. In this event, there is going to be as entertaining an international sparring contest for points as the world has seen for a century or more. Already Japan and Russia seem to be arranging the preliminaries for a "go" at each other. But the feature of most absorbing interest to all the world is pointed out by a London financier, who says that if China is opened wide to the trade of foreign nations, it will call into use such a vast quantity of silver money that the price of that metal will in all probability reach a par value, at a ratio of 16 to 1 in gold. Nor does this idea seem unreasonable, either. Silver is the most buoyant "commodity" known—a favorable bill introduced in congress will send quotations through the ceiling.

PRESS dispatches from Washington City state that important work for the benefit of commerce in the Pacific is to be performed by the navy, now that Congress has authorized the appropriation of \$100,000 for ocean and lake surveys. Rear Admiral Bradford, chief of the bureau of equipment, has approved a recommendation submitted by Commander Todd for an elaborate charting on the triangle formed by the Hawaiian Islands, the southernmost point of the Philippines and the Islands of Japan. It is also proposed to establish a path between Honolulu and the Philippines to be followed by American warships, so that if any become disabled, others following may pick them up. It is understood, of course, that the United States can obtain more expeditious results by cooperating with other nations. Japan has expressed her willingness to chart the waters in the vicinity of her islands and Great Britain has charted to some extent the China sea and the East Indies.

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