

LOOKING FOR MINES.

Representative of Portland Money Now in the District.

A. W. Stowell, of Portland, where he has lived for many years, has been in Sumpter this week, after visiting the Bonanza and Granite districts.

To a MINER man he stated that his mission here is to look over the ground, investigate the general conditions prevailing in the eastern Oregon gold fields and report to a syndicate of Portland people who wish to invest money and engage in mining here. The gentleman knows nothing about the business himself. He comes here to get information and form a common sense opinion on the country in general. He will be followed by a mining man of experience, who will examine and report on any proposition which he may submit to the syndicate. Before returning to Portland he will visit all the districts.

Mr. Stowell says that the one encouraging feature that impresses him most favorably is that everywhere he goes he sees many prospectors and miners at work; the hillsides are alive with men boring into the ground, and the trails are lined with men carrying picks and packs and wagons loaded with supplies. This means a big business for Sumpter and indicates great industrial activity.

"There is money in Portland that seeks investment in the gold mines of eastern Oregon," said Mr. Stowell, "but it seems a difficult matter to bring the prospector and capitalist together. My idea is that in many cases the so called promoter hinders, instead of facilitating deals. The property is listed with him at, perhaps, a fair figure. He is not satisfied with his commission and attempts to sell at exorbitant figures, knowing that there can be no established price for a prospect or a mine. He wants to make too much and makes nothing. If brokers tried such tactics in handling real estate, their failure would be inevitable. I hope that this difficulty will be obviated somehow at no distant day and that Portland will reap the rich harvest that is offered her in eastern Oregon."

Likes The Country and Will Invest.

Simon E. Lake, of southern Oregon, is investigating the mineral resources of this country with a view to investing. He was formerly connected with the black sand mining of the coast counties of Southern Oregon, where he was quite successful. He is favorably impressed with the many properties visited and is negotiating for an interest in one of the prominent prospects on McCullough fork. He is the guest of H. W. Miller, who will accompany him when he returns to his southern Oregon home.

Ore Bodies in Eastern Oregon.

H. J. Jory has a most interesting and instructive article in the April number of The State, on "The occurrence of ore bodies in eastern Oregon." These are his opening remarks: "The ore occurrence, in the various camps tributary to Sumpter and eastern Oregon, is not limited to any one formation, and furnishes a rich field for the geologists. The slates, apparently of the Jurassic period, are by far the most common, but granite, porphyry, serpentine and eruptives of a not easily determinable character have also yielded their quota of the precious metals. Moreover, every single district, with the possible exception of the Cable Cove, has been marked by the existence of payable placers, most of them worked since the early days of the country. Commencing at Sumpter, we find the slates uppermost, and for an area of perhaps 500 acres. In the very town itself, gravel deposits are

in evidence, once quite rich, but now only worked in a desultory way and nearly exhausted. No payable quartz mines have, so far, been found within a radius of perhaps five miles from town. Quite recently, however, some discoveries of a rather curious nature have been made within a mile or two of Sumpter. The quartz occurs in stringers and benches, covering a wide area and is in places rich in free gold. Whether this particular discovery will prove of permanent value depends upon further exploration." Then follows an accurate, scientific and detailed description of the several districts, entertainingly written.

Sale of the Lucky Boy Claim.

Tuesday S. E. Lane, and H. O. Miller purchased the Lucky Boy claim from Messrs. Schulpins and Evans. The claim adjoins the Juniper, in which Mr. Miller is interested, and will furnish tunnel and mill site for that property and also carries the same ledge, which can be traced to the Bonanza-Elkhorn country. The new owners contemplate opening up the property and arrangements are being made to that end. Thus the mining men of southern Oregon are gradually picking up promising prospects and expending money that will be returned a thousand fold.

New Enterprise for Sumpter.

Until recently all the beef, mutton and pork consumed in Sumpter has been shipped here from Baker City, but the Sumpter market of A. Manns will hereafter be supplied from his own slaughter house, erected on the large pasture land three and one-half miles from Sumpter, near the Sumpter Valley railroad tracks. This improvement will give Mr. Manns a greater assortment of meat market delicacies than heretofore.

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