

OVER ON BURNT RIVER.**Miners Making From \$10 to \$20 a Day Drifting.**

Major W. T. Manning reached home at 2 o'clock last Friday morning from the Cleary precinct, over in the Burnt river country, where he has been taking the census. He rode through the district on horseback coming home by way of Baker City. He left that place at 6 o'clock Thursday evening and made the trip home in the moonlight.

Major Manning has traveled much and widely; he is a close, shrewd and accurate observer, inclined slightly to look for the dark side of any proposition. But he is most favorably impressed with that section. He says the people over there are Americans almost exclusively, are in good circumstances and exceptionally hospitable. There are farms, stock ranches and mines in the district, all yielding their owners rich revenues. Those who know Mr. Manning are aware of the fact that he is a connoisseur in feminine loveliness, an all around admirer of the sex. He is enthusiastic regarding the ladies of that region and is already planning a return trip.

One peculiar condition exist in the district. With all the influx of new people into the gold fields of eastern Oregon during the past few months, none of them seem to have located in that district. The inhabitants are all old timers, who are now enjoying the results of years of labor. Most of the "good things" seem to have been taken, which may account for this state of affairs. Especially is this the case in regard to placer ground.

Aside from stock raising and farming, this is the chief industry, and big wages are being made, working with very primitive methods. The lack of water is the great drawback, every drop of which is carefully conserved. "Drifting" is the favorite method employed. The gravel is brought to the sluice boxes in wheelbarrows, and the water turned on for a short while twice a day. In this way men are making from ten to twenty dollars a day. The gold is all coarse. Much the larger number of miners are working on Pine creek, through good results are being obtained by a few on Cow creek. On the latter one man, known locally as Charley Brown,—because he has a hard to remember unpronounceable name—is literally washing away a fertile farm. He has to go below the several feet of rich black loam to reach the dust, but finds it pays better to sacrifice the farm in order to get the gold beneath.

There has been some trouble between the miners and T. M. Reed, who owns a water right and ditch, and the ditch has been blown up with giant powder in several places recently. It is stated, however, that an adjustment of the difficulty has been reached.

This rich district is ten miles nearer to Sumpter than to Baker City, with a comparatively good road from here, via McEwen, yet all the trade goes to Baker City. Local merchants ought to make a rustle and capture this territory. A young man there makes money running an express wagon to Baker City once or twice a week, hauling goods to the miners and farmers.

Suit Against Baker County.

In the Circuit court last Wednesday the papers in an action against Baker county and other defendants was filed by attorneys C. A. Johns and Thomas H. Crawford in behalf of the plaintiff, the Minneapolis Security Company, a corporation. The warrants in question are those issued to George W. Borman for indexing the county records; to George

Chambers in payment for the county poor farm and to Barnard & Co., for shelving, etc., in the vault at the court house, all of which were declared invalid by the Circuit court and sustained by the Supreme court on the grounds of being unconstitutional and issued without authority of law. These warrants passed into the hands of innocent purchasers, the plaintiffs named herein.

GREATEST GOLD CAMP ON EARTH**Trip Through the Mountains Will Convince You of This.**

A Democrat representative on his rounds yesterday met a prominent business man who had just returned from a tour of the mining districts of Sumpter, Cracker creek, Granite and Bonanza and when the observation was made that times seemed to be quite in the mining towns he said:

"The quietness that prevails is indicative of the good times that business men will experience the coming fall and winter and it is well that the conditions are such.

"I have just returned from the mining districts south and west of Baker City and never before saw so much mining activity. The hills are crowded with prospectors and there is a mine development going on that will make things hum this fall. In the Cracker Creek district there are a half dozen hoisting plants and deep sinking is going on regardless of expense. All over the mining country well directed development is in progress, and scores of mills will be in course of construction before the close of the year. This looks well to me and I tell you the business men of Baker City, Sumpter, and all the towns can afford quiet times during the summer months. The work that is going on in the mines means everything to them and they will realize what I say is true this fall.

"The showing in mineral wealth that came under my observation convinces me more than ever that we have the greatest gold camp on earth and while the progress of development may be slow, the fact will be determined sooner or later. Since my tour of inspection I have more faith than ever in the outcome of the country and I am more contented to make Baker county my home than ever before."—Baker City Democrat.

RICH IMPERIAL MINE.

In Four Feet of \$100 Ore, at a Distance of 850 Feet.

A MINER representative a day or two since returned from a trip through the Cable Cove district. The most important mine there is the Imperial, owned by the Eagle Gold Mining company. A tunnel has been driven 850 feet on the vein and, it is reported, they have four feet of \$100 ore. Visitors are not allowed in the workings.

There are 100 tons of rich ore on the dump, which will be shipped to the Everett smelter this week. The ore has been sorted into two grades, one running \$100 and the other \$50. The values are in gold, silver and lead.

The company owns twelve claims, which have been located for a dozen years. Salt Lake city people constitute the company. It is stated that a price of \$250,000 has been placed on the property, on which \$15,000 has been expended. L. U. Colby is general manager; James Schmidt, foreman; S. C. Crisman, assayer.

Ask for the Columbia beer, brewed in Sumpter.

The City Green house, at Baker City, furnishes choice cut flowers.

The half way house of C. H. Barnard on the Bourne road is a well conducted, respectable place where ladies or gentlemen can stop for ice cold refreshments and lunches.

THE SUMPTER LUMBER COMPANY.**Now is the Time to Build.**

DON'T wait till mid-summer or late in the fall. Commence now before the rush, while you can get plenty of material cheap and while mechanics are not crowded with work. Every season repeats itself: A big rush late in the season and a lull "in the early spring-time when the violets bloom."

We have a fine stock of lumber and we are equipped to get out detail work for the finest kind of finish. A superior quality of buildings are what we are looking for this season, now that the permanence of the town and country is assured. * * * * *

J. B. STODDARD, Manager.

Bousum & Spalding**CRYSTAL ICE Company**

Free delivery of Pure Ice. Leave orders at office of Columbia Brewing and Malting Co., next door to MINER office.

STAR SALOON

ALF. ALLEN
Proprietor

Handles the best of Liquors, Wines and Cigars. Draught beer a specialty—by the pitcher, bottle or glass.

Opposite Depot - SUMPTER, OR.

**W. S. BOWERS
ABSTRACTS**

Real Estate, Loans and Insurance. Mining Patents Obtained

Years of experience in Baker County Records.
No. 2104 Court Street, Baker City; Oregon.

Erwin & Co.

**Real Estate
and Mines....**

Opera House Block

"Just around the Corner"

THE MAZE

NEBERGALL & MOORE
PROPRIETORS.

Fine Wines, Liquors and Cigars.

NEILL BUILDING

SUMPTER, OREGON