

AROUND MINERSVILLE.

Some Splendid Prospects Being Opened in This District.

J. M. McPhee, a well known prospector and mining man about Sumpter, has with his partner, W. E. Runner, of Spokane, been prospecting the country about Minersville for the past two months. On a visit here last week he brought with him various samples from prospects they had located, and from which they are very sanguine of good results, the surface croppings showing splendid values, running from \$6.50 to \$103.76 in gold.

One piece of rock brought in by Mr. McPhee carries a good sprinkling of free gold and was greatly admired by several prominent mining men who examined it. The best values are said to be found on the east and the west forks of Alder creek and on Baboon creek, tributaries of Deer creek, about two and one-half miles northwesterly from the old Minersville camp and four and one-half miles north from McEwen.

Johnson, Smith & Ross constitute a partnership concern owning some of the best claims on Baboon creek, which they are now developing with good results. One of their tunnels has ore that has given several assays of \$20 to \$22, while \$10 values can be had across any part of the face of the tunnel.

While most everything is in gold values in the entire section, there is one claim opened from which twenty ounces of silver values is found and \$3.62 in gold.

There is every reason to believe that some big mines will be made in or about the Minersville camp, as every one who has any practical ideas on the subject think the rich placers surrounding the district are fed from the quartz ledges thereabouts.

Tallmadge Placers Working Full Force.

F. W. Tallmadge came in from Sparta a few days ago after his family, who will spend the summer at the scene of his placer mining operations near there. In speaking of the mines, Mr. Tallmadge said the outlook was never brighter. He put a second "giant" at work just before he left the mine and will add a third in a few days. There are now ten men employed in the mine which force will be considerably increased as soon as the other "giant" is put in working order. One advantage, and a big one it is too, that the Tallmadge placers have over the majority of such mines is that the water supply is unlimited. The mines could be worked the year around if it were not for the freezing weather during the coldest of the winter months, which causes the water to freeze and overflow the ditches. The water supply is from Eagle creek, through the famous Eagle canal. Last year's cleanup amounted to several thousand dollars in gold nuggets, and this season it is expected to be even greater. There is rich ground sufficient to keep the pipes running for several years.—Baker City Democrat.

Sawmill For Lawton.

Lawton is soon to have a new sawmill. Its location will be on the north side of Granite creek, opposite Lawton, and just at the outskirts of town, and its capacity will be 25,000 feet daily. Mr. Jas. H. Thompson, superintendent of the May Queen mine, is at the head of the enterprise and he informed a prominent Lawton gentleman this week that the machinery for the mill had already been ordered and work of constructing buildings, foundations, etc., would begin at once or as soon as the necessary material can be secured. This new saw mill at the very gates of the city will add much to our growth and commercial importance.

It will employ from twenty to twenty-five men and the greater portion of this pay roll will be distributed each month among our merchants for food, raiment and other necessities of life.—Lawton Standard.

WORK IN GRANITE DISTRICT.

Extensive Development on a Number of Fine Properties.

Perhaps there is no camp in the Granite district in which more activity is apparent than in the Red Boy. At the famous Red Boy mine the music of the stamps in the mill never ceases, while the silent and mysterious chemical forces at the cyanide plant are ever active also. Dr. Chas. W. Cornelius, of Portland, who for many years operated stamp mills in southern Oregon, upon making an inspection of the Red Boy mill several days ago, pronounced it the finest plant he had ever seen, not excepting even in the Treadwell in Alaska. The large cyanide plant, which he was shown through the courtesy of Supt. Meikle, also proved of great interest to him. While the mill continues to merrily grind away at the rate of perhaps \$30,000 a month, just now perhaps more interest centers in the preparations for deep sinking at the Red Boy. The excavation in the side of the mountain for the shaft house, ore bins, etc., is nearly completed, and soon the \$50,000 hoisting plant will be installed. It is proposed to sink down to the 2000 foot level and determine the continuity of values with depth.

At the May Queen mine, half a mile north of the Red Boy, Manager Thomsen is continuing development with a large force of men, having temporarily shut down the mill.

Some excellent ore has been exposed at the Concord mine, on Congo creek, which is being opened up under the intelligent direction of Tim Sheedy. Here about 525 feet of tunneling has been done, the cross cut tunnel being in a distance of 300 feet and the tunnel on the drift about 225 feet. There are eight men employed at this property.

W. E. Hurd, who is developing the Chelan group of four claims, adjoining the Concord on the north, is also employing eight men. The tunnel at the Chelan claim is in a distance of about 500 feet. In the Philadelphia claim the tunnel is in a distance of 100 feet, in the Bailey about the same distance and in the Nora about 80 feet.

Work was recently begun on the opening of the Orphan Boy group of three claims, owned by W. E. Hurd and Drs. H. R. Littlefield and C. W. Cornelius, of Portland. Though the tunnel is in but 40 feet, the \$14 and \$16 float found on the surface gives promise of a good high grade ledge. Work at present is being done on the Orphan Boy claim. A little later the Portland and Eclipse claims will be opened up.

At the Waugh property, adjoining the Chelan on the north, development work is at present being prosecuted on the Copper Queen claim. Some work has also been done, however, on the remaining claims—the Earl Nos. 1 and 2, Democrat and Wm. J. Bryan.

At the Orphan Girl claim, an extension of the Orphan Boy, Gillis, the owner, has his tunnel in a distance of about 30 feet.

About 200 feet of work has been done up to date on the Gray Eagle group of three claims, owned by C. L. Preble.—Granite Gem.

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