

The Sumpter Miner

Official Paper of the Town of Sumpter.

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY BY

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

One Year \$2.00
Six Months 1.25

ALWAYS IN ADVANCE.

Entered at the postoffice in Sumpter, Oregon, for transmission through the mails as second class matter.

POPULATION OF SUMPTER 4,500.

WHILE the world is not looking the Boers are striking a lick or two for their "altars and their fires"—or words to that effect.

IT IS reported that Admiral Seymour killed his wounded marines at their urgent request, to keep them from falling in the hands of the barbarous Boers.

THE "old man" leaves town before the paper is issued, lets the hired blackmailer do the dirty work and get the abuse, returns in a few days and regrets that something or other was published. And that is the size of the outfit.

OF COURSE Corbett declares that it is an attempt to blackmail him—that is what they all say; that is considered the proper thing to say under the circumstances. Of course the old man is a White Cross devotee, a persecuted patriarch.

THERE are two Van Wycks in New York; one the mayor and ice trust magnate, the other a judge and delegate to the democratic national convention, both democrats. The republican partisan press substitutes one for the other to suit its varying fancy.

IN THE trial at Georgetown, Kentucky, of Powers, implicated in the Goebel murder, Finley Anderson, son of the proprietor of the hotel at which Powers and his colleagues met, testified that he heard the accused say: "We will kill enough members of the legislature to give us a majority. Goebel will never be governor. If we can't get some one else to kill him, I will kill him myself." Press reports of the trial say that the prisoner on hearing this damaging testimony, flushed visibly.

AND now the stories of hardship and privations and blasted hopes and utter despair of the thousands who rushed up to Cape Nome during the spring are beginning to find their way down from the bleak, frozen north. The condition of affairs there is even more hopeless than was anticipated, and suicides are said to be of hourly occurrence. Seattle papers and coast steamship companies that worked up this gigantic, cruel confidence game will be damned if there is such a thing as retributive justice.

THOSE Boers are loaded for big game and are bagging the same. The Chinese were first to make an explosive, from which the gunpowder of this day was evolved, and they know something of its use. Many good men will lose their lives in this scrap, for which the Chinese are not entirely to blame. All people resent interference with their religion and disregard of their traditions. But this is a war, on one side being arrayed the civilized, christianized world; on the other one heathen nations and, of course, the one is all right and the other all wrong—judged by the Christian standard.

FROM Washington comes the report that it will require sixty thousand men for the march to Peking and 20,000 more to keep the line of communication open, and if necessary to defend the bases

of operation at Tientsin and Taku. Upon the basis of these figures, which, it is said, are those furnished by the commanders of the allied forces in China, this government will furnish between 10,000 and 12,000 soldiers. Recent orders also contemplate the sending of a siege battery now at Fort Riley, Kan., for the Chinese service. Secretary Root said that he had not received any word from the military officers in China regarding the reported disaster to the Ninth regiment.

MANY persons ask for information on some subject, as for instance "What constitutes a 'miner's inch' of water?" and expect a categorical answer. This is a question which may be answered in many different ways, and legal decisions produced to back up the answer in each case. For example, there are five different definitions of a miner's inch of water in use in Oregon, and there have been some 50 decisions of courts in this state on the subject. A majority of these decisions, but not all by any means, have been in favor of the definition giving the flow of water through a hole one inch square with a head of six inches. The question as to how thick a plank the inch hole is to be in has probably never been adjudicated, but it is a fact that more water would flow through a hole in a thin plate or plank than in a thick one. Colorado and other mining states have different definitions of a miner's inch, and in all the states together, courts have rendered about a thousand decisions on the subject. It can, therefore, easily be seen that it is not possible to answer definitely—off hand—just how much water goes to make a miner's inch.—Oregonian.

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