

**CLIFF DWELLERS.**

**Harney County Caves That Have Been Inhabited.**

M. Rosendale, the Portland Mining engineer, is quoted in the Telegram as follows:

"I had occasion to visit Harney county last week," said Mr. Rosendale, "and have every reason to believe that I discovered traces of cliffdwellers. I was alone on horseback, traveling through a part of Harney county, situated about 65 miles southeast of the Stein Mountains, when I made the discovery.

"The spot was a peculiar one. Cliffs of black basaltic formation, without a vestige of vegetation, rose abruptly from the desert and formed a narrow defile. After passing through the defile and leading my worn-out horse, I proceeded to scale a hill for the purpose of getting my bearings, as I had evidently lost them for the past six hours. Turning on one point of the hillside, which was half-filled with sand-blown crevices, a strange sight was presented to me. There before me were about 75 cliffdwellers' habitations, deserted, of course, but in a fair state of preservation. The clear and unclouded sky looking upon a picture of queer and strangely formed small buildings, roofless, bound together with no material, whatsoever, but hewn with all the skill of the ancient craftsmen.

"In the middle of the place was an upright stone, resembling the famous altar stones of the ancient Aztecs of old Mexico. Most probably on this stone, the bloody rites of human sacrifice were once performed by an extinct race. As I was already much delayed in my journey, time did not permit a thorough examination of the locality, nor an exploration of the caves; yet I am thoroughly convinced that the caves served at one time as the habitations of what are commonly known to us as cliffdwellers.

"In 1893, I had the honor to be one of a party of Smithsonian's sent into the almost inaccessible regions of New Mexico, the Goronda del Muerto, or translated, the Journey of Death, for the purpose of examining the extensive cliffdwellers' ruins in that country. We were also to obtain measurements for the reproduction of the habitations of the cliffdwellers to exhibit at the World's Fair. The caves were reproduced at the fair, and are now a part of the Field Museum in Chicago. Outside of the fact that trip of last week was in Oregon, one might have felt himself transferred to the wilds of New Mexico again.

"The interior of southeastern Oregon affords a great field for the mineralogist, the explorer, the entomologist and the admirer of grand and weird scenery.

"These are the first traces of cliffdwellers that have been found above the forty-second degree."

**London Wants Only Developed Mines.**

W. B. Townsend, J. P., has just returned from a three months trip to the old country. He spent the most of the time in London and the rest in Cambridge, and in traveling about in England. In speaking about the feeling in London, he says: "I found that the British investor wanted a safe investment in mines, and is not inclined to take chances. The first questions asked when I submitted a mining proposition were: Is it a crown granted property? Is it developed to a sufficient extent to warrant the belief that it will pay? If these questions were answered satisfactorily, they were prepared to go ahead and send an expert to British Columbia to examine the property. If they were not answered and they were told that the properties were

undeveloped and not crown granted they would refuse to have anything to do with them. So there is no use going to London with undeveloped prospects. I have not the slightest doubt that just as soon as the wars in South Africa and in China are over that there will be plenty of British capital seeking investment in British Columbia, as the feeling there is that we have a meritorious mining country.—Rossland Miner.

**Aluminum Clay on Snake River.**

Aluminum clay of very great richness is reported to have been discovered in Lincoln county, along Snake river, for a distance of ten miles, from Thousand Springs to Bliss. Some of this clay has been assayed and is said to contain from 90 to 93 per cent silicate of aluminum, and this means about 700 pounds pure aluminum to the ton. This at 30 cents per pound would mean \$210 to the ton, or better than a mine in Klondike. There is a world of clay banks from 15 to 100 feet high, so that no one can have a monopoly on it. The only monopoly is in the power, as the metal requires 600 degrees Fahrenheit to reduce it, and this means 1000 to 1400 electric horse-power. Thousand Springs afford an ideal power, or Salmon Falls, in Snake River, could be used to advantage.—Mountain Home Bulletin.

**Railroad Surveyors Say Nothing.**

J. F. Camp, a railroad engineer from Spokane, Washington, has been over the line lately surveyed by the Corvallis & Eastern for the purpose of making estimates for the company. Warner Wilson, who has been hauling him over the ground, brought him to Vale Friday. Saturday Mr. Camp took the stage for Ontario. He could not be induced to express any opinion in regard to the future intentions of the road, and would only say that he had been along the road for the purpose of estimating work and cost of construction.—Malheur Gazette.

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