

# THE SUMPTER MINER

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NO. 2

## TRIPPLE TRAGEDY.

**Fred Kane Shoots His Wife, Child and Himself.**

## BURNING TWO HOUSES

**In One Is the Body of the Dead Child—Insanity the Only Reasonable Theory to Account For the Frightful Deed—Chances Are That He Will Die—His Wife Will Probably Recover—Both Now in the Hospital Here.**

This afternoon the camp is in a fever of excitement over news that Fred Kane had this morning shot his wife, her child and himself, and burned their home. All parties concerned are well known here and the tragedy is the topic of universal conversation. Many groups of men are standing on the streets discussing the affair, and anxiously awaiting the latest information.

The first news of the occurrence was received here by telephone from the Bald Mountain mine shortly before 12 o'clock. Marshal Austin and Constable Baker started at once for the scene, on the Kane Brothers claims, two miles from the Bald Mountain, six miles from Sumpter. The story gathered by these officers is about as follows:

Early this morning Frank Kane took his Winchester rifle and left the house, stating that he was going to kill a bird that Mrs. Kane's little five-year-old daughter had been in the habit of feeding. The child asked him not to kill the bird. In a few minutes he returned and shot at the child, killing it. The same shot wounded his wife, going through her body. From this fact it is supposed that she had the child in her arms at the time, trying to protect it.

Mrs. Kane told the officers that he then beat her with a club. Some time afterwards, noticing blood on her dress, which came from the wound, he called her attention to it and asked what had happened. She, judging that he was demented, told him that a man had shot her and persuaded him to go in pursuit. When he left the house she made her escape and went to a nearby cabin.

On her way she met Tom Mohen and two other prospectors, to whom she told the story. They armed themselves and started for the Kane house. On the way they met him and, it is said, took to the woods, not caring to fraternize with a crazy man carrying a Winchester which he knew how to use. It is supposed Kane then returned home and burned the house, with the body of the child that he had killed. When Marshal Austin arrived the house was in flames.

It is further surmised that he then went to his brother Matt's cabin, a quarter of a mile away, intending there to burn his own body. He must have entered through a window, for the door was locked and the rifle was found where the window was, with the stock burned off. It was there, evidently, that he shot himself; possibly accidentally while trying to crawl in the window, after having set the house afire. He told the marshal that a man with a

black mask had shot him, but there is thought to be no shadow of truth in this statement. Both officers agree that he seemed to be perfectly rational when they talked with him. The theory is that the gun shot wound brought him to his senses.

These are the facts as near as can be learned at this writing, divested of many unimportant details.

About four o'clock the woman was brought to town and taken to Dr. Tape's hospital. He and Dr. Anderson examined the wound and found that the ball had entered below the seventh rib and penetrated the lungs. The wound is thought not to be fatal. There is a gash on the forehead, which may have been caused by another shot. There are also bruises that confirm her statement regarding the clubbing.

Dr. Fisher went out to the mine this afternoon and did all he could there to relieve the man's sufferings. He was brought to the hospital, arriving about six o'clock. Drs. Anderson and Tape made the examination and found that he, too, had been shot through the lung, the ball passing within three-quarters of an inch of the heart. His is considered a very dangerous wound and the chances are largely against his recovery.

Last winter Fred Kane and Mrs. Toney worked at the Star hotel. She was a divorced woman with several children. They were married. Some months subsequently the marriage ceremony was again performed, the reason assigned for this being that sufficient time had not elapsed between the granting of the divorce and the marriage to make that union legal, under the laws of Oregon, which prohibits divorced persons from marrying within six months. The woman will be remembered as the one who took a prize at the masquerade ball here last Christmas, dressed as a "cow-girl," impersonating the "Wide West." Little is known here of her antecedents or relatives.

Kane brothers have resided in this district for some years and are well and favorably known. They own a number of mining claims, some of which are said to be excellent properties. Temporary insanity is the generally accepted theory to account for the otherwise inexplicable tragedy of today.

### Hiram Griffin Breaks a Leg.

H. B. Griffin received a telephone message this morning from Susanville that his son Hiram had been thrown from a wagon and one of his legs broken. No details were given. Dr. Brock chanced to be at Bonanza on a professional visit, and he was telephoned to go to Susanville and attend to the case. No word has been received from him at the time THE MINER goes to press.

### Fourteen Relatives Killed at Galveston.

Leo Burcelle, proprietor of the Vienna Cafe, is a native of Galveston, Texas, and all of his relations live there, either in town or down the island. Among the killed in the recent storm there he has seen the names of fourteen relatives. They are people of prominence and reports pay much attention to them.

### Through the Yellowstone.

The new route via the Oregon Short Line Railroad and Monida, Mont., enables you to make a delightful trip through the Yellowstone National Park, entering via Monida and coming out via Cinnabar, making it unnecessary to cover any portion of the route twice. For beautiful descriptive booklet, write or call at Oregon Short Line Ticket Office, 142 Third street, Portland, Oregon.

## SCHOOL STATISTICS.

**Opened Monday With an Attendance of 174 Pupils.**

Tuesday evening there was enrolled in the Sumpter public school 174 pupils. This was the end of the second day of the session. One year ago the attendance on the second day was 112. This is an increase of 62, or more than fifty per cent.

The 174 pupils are divided among the grades as follows: First, 42; second, 25; third, 28; fourth, 14; fifth, 24; sixth, 17; seventh, 15; eighth, 6; ninth, 3.

Last session closed with 230 pupils, which on an equal ratio, would run the number to over 350 this year. Two years ago the entire number in attendance was 114.

The census taken last March shows that there are 375 children of school age in this district. It is therefore possible, but not probable that the increase during this term will be as great a per cent as it was last session.

Two years ago the enrollment for the first week amounted to 84, less than half of the present number. While this is a gratifying increase, it is no index to the growth of the town, as THE MINER has frequently pointed out and explained.

## WORK ON THE BIG HOTEL.

**Foundation Finished and Brick Laying Commences October 10.**

David Wilson returned to town yesterday and is busy today getting ready to start active work on the big brick hotel. William Stinson has moved his residence from the lot and much of the stone for the foundation has been delivered.

A kiln of 200,000 brick is now being burned, which will be cooled and the brick ready for delivery by October 10. Mr. Wilson says that by that time he will have the grading, excavation and the stone foundation completed. The brick walls will be up and the roof on the structure in thirty-five days from the time the brick work commences. No accurate estimate can be made as to the time required to finish the interior. Every man who can be worked to advantage will be employed and the job rushed to early completion.

No definite arrangements regarding the management of the hotel has yet been made, but some one will be put in charge who understands the business and it will be run as a first-class house.

### Red Men's Reception and Dance.

A. B. Cherry, great sachem of the reservation of Oregon, Improved Order of Red Men, and editor of the Northwest Calumet, published at Portland, was in town yesterday on official business. After the regular lodge meeting, a reception was tendered the Great Sachem, including a dance, attended by invited friends of the Order.

### Ten Stamp Mill For the Gold Hill.

Colonel James A. Panting, manager of the Gold Hill mine, which is situated sixteen miles east of Baker City, in the Burnt river district, visited the city yesterday. When seen by a reporter, the Colonel said: "We are now laying the foundation for our new ten stamp mill and are making them broad enough so that we can increase the plant to fifty stamps next spring. We have oceans of low grade ore already uncovered and will soon have a second Treadwell mine in operation. I

may be an enthusiast on eastern Oregon, but have backed my opinion of our district with hard cash. We will run our plant by electricity, generated by water power and propose to do up a brown job before we get through with it. Our company has spent \$125,000 up to date in development and next year the Gold Hill will be among eastern Oregon's wonderful producers."—Democrat.

### Rich Ore From Rock Creek.

Last evening some rich specimens of rock was brought to this city from Rock creek by J. Napp, a well known mining man and prospector of this vicinity. He stated that he has a group of three mines on which he is doing development work. He has a tunnel run on one of them and a shaft sunk to the depth of 80 feet, which uncovered the vein of very rich ore. These claims are in a new district and from all indications will prove to be a dividend paying vicinity.—Republican.

## DEVELOP THE MINNEAPOLIS.

**Portland Company With Ample Capital Will Make a Mine of It.**

A mining proposition has been financed in Portland and ample money secured to develop the property, which is the Minneapolis, regarding the recent rich strike on which full particulars were given in THE MINER several weeks since.

The company has been incorporated under the name of the Portland Gold Mining and Milling company. The incorporators are C. H. Fenner, W. H. Muzzy and E. Sanderson Smith. The company is capitalized at \$100,000; a million shares at ten cents each. There have been placed in the treasury 250,000 shares.

E. Sanderson Smith, who with C. H. Fenner, secured the property under bond, is in charge of the work. He says the plan is to run a tunnel near the foot of the hill, which at a distance of 340 feet will bring them immediately under the old workings, and attain a depth of 250 feet.

The company began hauling lumber this morning for the necessary buildings, all of which will be made substantial and comfortable. Work will be continued all winter. Mr. Smith says the Portland is going to be one of the big mines of this district, and that the early date at which it is going to become a producer will surprise the natives.

### Call for Bids on Tunnel Work.

Sealed bids will be received by the Diadem Gold Mining company until October 10, 1900, at their office in Sumpter, Oregon, for the running of 600 feet of tunnel, being the continuation of the company's present tunnel, which is in 225 feet. The company reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

The Diadem Gold Mining Co.

W. H. Mosby, Secretary.  
Sumpter, Or., Sept. 18, 1900.

### Water Notice.

The lawn sprinkling hours are from 6 to 9 o'clock p. m. Consumers are restricted to their own grounds, and will not be permitted to sprinkle the public streets. Running water through an open hose at any other hour than those mentioned, cannot be allowed. The water will be "shut off" whenever these rules are violated.  
SUMPTER WATER CO.

"The Portland", conducted by Gus Woodward on Mill street, is fully a representation of its name. A visit will convince you of this.

Go or send to the City Green house, Baker City, for choice carnations; thirty-five cents per dozen. Roses fifty cents per dozen.