

MINING IN EARLY DAYS

Gold Output of Oregon and Washington \$8,000,000.

In the Oregon and Washington Almanac for the year 1863 appears the following concerning the mining region of Oregon and Washington at that time:

"The development of the mining resources of that portion of Oregon and Washington situated east of the Cascade range of mountains has led to the rapid settlement of that region, and as many persons will doubtless visit that region during the present year, we deem it both interesting and important to insert as much information regarding the auriferous region as can be condensed within a limited space.

"During the past two years, both rich and extensive gold mines have been successfully worked along the banks of the John Day and Powder rivers in the vicinity of Salmon river, the Nez Percés county, the Bitter Root Valley, Oro Fino and other sections of that locality. The climate in the Powder river country is much more favorable for continuous mining operations than any other portion of the auriferous region, as miners can work in the Powder river mines earlier in the spring and later in the winter, than those engaged in other localities. Aside from these advantages, the valleys of Powder river and John Day river are being settled by enterprising agriculturalists, who will be able to supply the mining population of that section with all the necessary edibles.

"We have no statistical information upon which to base a safe calculation as to the exact amount of gold extracted from the mining regions of Oregon and Washington during the past two years, but all the knowledge we could procure upon this important question has been condensed into the following figures: Up to January, 1862, Messrs. Wells, Fargo & Co. shipped from their Portland office \$503,535.50 in gold dust from the Salmon river and other mines. Up to the same date, 20 leading mercantile houses of Portland shipped \$604,699.75. During the same period, Mr. Agrell assayed, from May, 1861, to January, 1862, \$95,567 making a total of \$1,203,800 for that period. This estimate does not include any amount of gold dust which returning miners may have carried out of the county, which would swell the amount to about \$2,000,000.

"During 1863, however, the mines in Oregon and Washington began to be developed, and the yield of gold was much larger than during the preceding six months. Last year Messrs. Wells, Fargo & Co. alone shipped through their express to San Francisco, nearly \$4,000,000, and it is safe to estimate the shipment from all other sources combined at an equal amount."

Largest Siphon in the World.

A siphon whose diameter is probably as large as any in the world is located near Boise City, Idaho, and carries the water of Sheep creek across the Boise river. This 48-inch siphon is inverted; is 1700 feet long, maximum depression 350 feet; cost \$36,700 and took four months and 20 days to build. Owing to the topography of the country everything used in its construction had first to be raised 700 feet and then lowered 440 feet. The lightest piece of material handled weighed 3100 pounds. The whole force of water was turned on into the siphon suddenly and at once, not gradually, as is the usual custom. The pipe line of the Spring Valley Hydraulic Mining Co., at Cherokee, Cal., has an approximate inner diameter of 30 inches, discharging 52 cubic feet of water a second. At its greatest depression the Cher-

okee siphon sustain a depression of 887 feet—530 feet greater than at Boise City, where the greatest pressure sustained in its lower portion is 167 pounds to the square inch. In the Boise City line there never has been any tendency to move or any leak, in spite of the pressure. To admit of contraction and expansion without any derangement in position, the engineer invented expansion joints placed between each two elbows, the average movement during the course of construction of the pipe line in all of these expansion joints was seven-eighths of an inch between the extremes of temperature of night and day. The pipe being laid on the side of the hill, part of it at an angle of 45 degrees, this movement in the pipe line, if these expansion joints had not been used, would either have deranged the position of the pipe or strained its riveting.—Mining Reporter.

Rich Strike in the Farley Hills.

A new strike has been made in the Farley Hills district about sixteen miles north-east of this city. The lucky man this time is E. C. McCarty, the discovery being about a mile from the old McCarty ranch. Mr. McCarty was in the city yesterday having some samples tested. Of course some of these were picked samples, and ran as high as \$400 in gold per ton. "Eck" says he has been looking for this ledge for upwards of two years. He found very rich float on the ground in 1898 and has been prospecting for the ledge at odd times ever since. He only found the ledge a short time ago, and has done very little development work on it so far. He cross-cut it showing it to be fully 12 feet wide, and thinks from the assay returns that several feet of it will pay to mill.—Democrat.

James Newland Buys Stage Line Stock.

James Newlands, who left Portland last spring to accept the position of cashier in one of Sumpter's banks, has been in the city the past three weeks visiting his family. He will return to Sumpter the latter part of the week, taking his family with him, and expects to make the new mining town his future home. Shortly before coming to Portland Mr. Newlands resigned his position in the bank to accept the position of secretary of the Sumpter Stage & Transportation company, running stages and freight teams from Sumpter to Bourne, Granite, Prairie City, Canyon City and the mines tributary. He has purchased an interest in this company, and in future will therefore be engaged in transportation business.—Telegram.



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