

SUSANVILLE DISTRICT.

Stands Second to None in Eastern Oregon.

Paul E. Poindexter, the well known mine operator, is back from the Susanville district, where he spent a week in the interest of eastern capital. Seen by a MINER representative, he said Susanville has a better surface showing than any district tributary to Sumpter which he has visited, ranging from \$10 to \$200 per ton.

The formation, generally speaking, is substantially the same as the far-famed Bonanza and Red Boy districts, slate and porphyry. Two immense slate belts run through the country about one-fourth of a mile apart, with a strong porphyry belt (not dyke) lying between. On the north the slate is bounded by quartzite, on the south by a volcanic formation, which on the surface is a substance similar to cement gravel. The character of the surface ore is absolutely free milling, but grows rapidly base with depth. Practically, the country as a whole, is a concentrating and smelting proposition.

Development is being pushed energetically and transportation is slowly but surely creeping that way, which will mean that Susanville is to be listed with the camps of the west as a gold producer.

The Badger Cold Mining and Milling company is owned by San Francisco capitalists, headed by S. R. Bishop, the famous multi-millionaire, as president, and under the management of David Ross, considered one of the most practical and thorough mining men in the west. Sixty men are employed. This group of claims, ten in number, were located in the early sixties, (patent applied for) by Hughes & McQuade, who worked the ore in an old arasta, which netted them handsome profits. The development consists of a 560-foot crosscut, which has cut two distinct ledges about 400 feet deep. About 50 feet more will probably tap the McQuade lode. Drifts each way will be the program. The crosscut will be continued to the Badger vein, which is estimated to be within 300 feet of McQuade lode. The shaft is now down 280 feet. New machinery is now on the road, with a capacity sufficient for a depth of 1500 feet. Shipping ore, assaying \$250 per ton, is being hauled to the Sumpter Valley road here, thence to the Selby smelter at San Francisco. This property has paid from the grass roots. Mr. Ross informed Mr. Poindexter a few days ago, that in excavating on the surface recently, a vein eleven feet in width was found, assaying \$13 in free gold. This alone would be called a bonanza in any other camp.

About 1000 feet from the Badger shaft house is the Stockton mine, consisting of three claims, owned by Washington capitalists, under the management of H. Ames. The property is developed with a 200 foot shaft, with a station at the 100-foot level and drifts each way. The ledge is eight feet wide with splendid values in slate. The company is now considering the advisability of installing a combination plant for reducing ores on the ground. Ten men are employed.

Next comes the Mayflower group of two claims, owned by Walla Walla people, W. D. Simcox, manager. Seven men are employed. The concentrates from the bottom of the 175-foot shaft run as high as \$2000 per ton.

The Otter Gold Mining and Milling company's group of seven claims is developed by a 525-foot drift. The vein is thirty inches wide, values running as high as thirty dollars in free gold. This property was located eighteen years ago by John Cabel, who milled 225 tons of ore, netting him \$60,000 in cold cash.

Near the Otter group is located the

gem mine, three claims, owned by W. Bailey, of Canyon City, recently under bond to John Leland, the well known expert. A shaft down 50 feet has passed a 9 foot vein, with values ranging from \$40 to \$120. This is the only patented ground in the district.

The Princess mine, owned by Smith brothers, of England, was formerly owned by the father of the Geiser boys. The 100-foot shaft exposes an eight-foot ledge, assaying \$20 per ton.

The McHaley-Hinton group of two claims has two shafts down 100 and 60 feet, exposing a three-foot vein of splendid concentrating ore.

The New Year group of two claims, situated about 1500 feet from the Gem mine, is owned and operated by Edmondson & Co., of Montana. In the face of a 40 foot drift, the vein being two feet in width, the ore assays \$10, 60 per cent being free milling. A crosscut tunnel has been started to tap the main ledge 200 feet deep. Work is being pushed rapidly and in a mining style.

The Oriole mine, owned by William Cooper and under bond to Moynahan & Oglby, the well known Montana mining men, is possibly attracting more attention than any other property in the camp, excepting the Badger. This quartz claim is in slate and porphyry. The development work consists of two drifts, a thirty-foot shaft and open cuts, which prospect the vein its entire length of the claim. The ore body is sixteen feet in width, the pay streak being about thirty inches wide near the surface. Pan samples can be obtained at any point on the ledge, prospecting from three to thirty cents. The ore is free milling, values ranging from \$32 to \$216 per ton. Quartz gulch and Elk creek supply unlimited waters for mine and mill purposes, and with a very little expense water power is to be had.

Directly below the Oriole, Sloan & Haskell took a fortune out of Elk creek in placer gold.

The Big Nugget group, of three claims, is owned by Haskell and associates. Development consists of a drift on a ledge seven feet wide, values \$18. Three thousand feet of open cuts prospect the ledge.

The Chautauqua mine is owned by Graham & Heaton Bros., of Susanville. This property is developed with a shaft seventy-five feet deep. The vein is six feet wide, average values \$10 per ton, but assorted ore runs as high as \$80.

The Wilson group, of two claims, is opened with a 250-foot drift on the vein, which is six feet wide, values \$26. A shaft is down thirty feet and work is being rapidly pushed.

The Admiral and St. Lawrence groups has a sixty-foot shaft, seventy-five feet of drifts on a three-foot ledge. It is owned by John Shelby and Frank Cooper. Ore treated in an arasta last summer gave \$21 per ton.

The Monitor mine, owned by William Cooper, under bond to Frank Cooper, has 120 feet of drift, a 60-foot shaft, 6-foot vein, values \$138 per ton.

"I could go on at length and mention properties that would bear rigid investigation," said Mr. Poindexter. "The Susanville district has ore, water and timber and I predict within the next year results from that section that will astonish the world."

Can't Haul Heavy Loads in Wagons.

David Ross, manager of the Badger mine, in the Susanville district, was in town Monday, on his way to Baker City. The object of this trip is to make arrangements with the Sumpter Valley railroad officials to haul a lot of machinery for the mine over the summit to the end of its track. The roads are in such bad condition at present that the heavy machinery cannot be transported in wagons, and the Sumpter Transportation company will not undertake to deliver it. As stated in THE MINER last week, a portion of this machinery has already arrived here. A boiler and fixtures, weighing 20,000 pounds, are on a side track at this station.

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