

WHOLESALE HORSE STEALING.

Plan That Failed at Huntington—Many Animals Drowned and Shot.

There was quite a sensation sprung the fore part of the week, especially among horsemen, over an incident that promises to bring to light some quite extensive thieving operations on the range near Weiser. It appears that last Saturday night after dark a carload of horses were driven into the stock yards at Huntington and an effort made to load and ship them that night.

Officers at Huntington who were on the lookout for stolen horses from certain Oregon points, refused to permit the shipment until the brands on the animals could be examined, and they were locked in the stock yards to await daylight, but when the yards were visited in the morning it was found that the keys to the yard had been obtained and the horses run off into the hills to escape inspection.

A search was made and the horses were found near Snake river, also five dead horses were found in a gulch where they had been shot. The live animals were rounded up and found to be Weiser horses, bearing the brands of Tom Mackey, Jap Griffith, Lansdon, Barnett Brothers, Yardley, Steve Durbin and others. The owners were at once notified and the stock reclaimed.

The cause for killing the five horses in the gulch is hard to explain. The animals were swum across the Snake to avoid the ferries on the way to Huntington, while those in charge crossed in a boat and it is surmised that possibly they were taking two carloads and drowned so many that on reaching the other side found they had a few more than one car and shot the extras to get rid of them and have none on their hands after the car was shipped.

It was very evidently the intention to drive into Huntington in the night, load and get out at once and pass Weiser before daylight and thus escape detection. It is believed that this practice has been carried on successfully prior to this attempt, as many horses have disappeared at divers times.

A Weiser party had engaged the car for the horses, but it is stated that he had contracted with another party for the delivery of a carload at Huntington, and knew nothing of their being stolen, but supposed they were coming from the neighborhood of Willow creek. It is significant that the party who had contracted to deliver the horses had disappeared.—Weiser Signal.

Scalp Bounty a Heavy Expense.

Scalp bounty certificates to the amount of over \$4000 were received at the office of the secretary of state, in Salem, on January 18. The largest certificate was that for \$1106, issued by Harney county to a Mr. Dalton, of Burns. This instrument certifies to the killing of 409 coyotes and 63 wild cats. Up to the close of the year 1900, scalp bounty warrants to the amount of \$100,000 had been issued. Since that time the clerks in the office of the secretary of state have been too busy to issue warrants of any kind, and no record of any kind has been kept of the aggregate of certificates received. It is estimated that the total is now near the \$110,000 mark. Only about ten per cent of this amount has been paid into the scalp bounty fund.—Numerous exchanges.

Harold Richards' Birthday Party.

Last Thursday evening Harold Richards gave a birthday party at the home of his parents, on South Mill street, which was attended by Jessie Brock, Lester Beardsley, Eva Dean, Nanette Greenlee, Grace Summers, Blanche Herron, Miss Wise, Harold Pete, Fred Brockman, Harold Poindexter, Frank Harrison, William Kitchen, Newton Johnson, Paul Bucknum, Fred Spangler. The little gentleman has attained his tenth year, but judg-

ing by the polished manner in which he entertained his guests, an observer would conclude that he was much older. Elegant refreshments were served and everybody had a most delightful time.

Developing the Hidden Treasure.

On Canyon mountain, south of the famous Great Northern mine, is the quartz property known as the Hidden Treasure, the property of Gus A. Richter and Frank Fitch. They have been busily engaged during the winter in sinking a shaft on this property and have reached the depth of forty-five feet at the present time. At this depth the ore in their ledge shows up well, and they have decided to continue sinking operations during the remainder of the winter. They are well pleased with the appearance of their property and they anticipate that a greater depth will disclose ore that will greatly enhance the value of their property.—Canyon City Eagle.

Colonel Donan's \$2,000,000 Company.

Colonel Pat Donan, the famous descriptive writer and word painter, now residing at Portland, has interested eastern capital in eastern Oregon gold fields, and it is stated that it is the intention of the syndicate to put in \$2,000,000 in the mines of the section named. Colonel Donan, who is doing considerable work for the O. R. & N. Ry. company in writing up the resources of Oregon, has probably done as much as any one man in calling attention to the splendid possibilities of that state.—Salt Lake Mining Review.

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