

MINER'S HOPE AND FAITH

They Are As Necessary As Flour and Bacon.

"A bridge of singing lutes across a dangerous tide.
Where feet grow light to pass, but never dare to
hide."

That is what some one with a poet's license has said of "hope." If some such "gag" on faith were in easy reach of the writer, it would be inserted here; but it is not, so that part of the text must be omitted.

Every one who has been one of a mining community; one who has met the prospectors, the trail blazers as a brother, ate their grub and doubled up blankets with them, knows that without these two spiritual qualities, faith and hope, no mine would ever have been developed. They are absolutely necessary for the accomplishment of that end; as much so as flour and bacon, as pick and drill and giant powder—yes, as experience and intelligence.

But every once in a while a man is found whose faith is greater than his experience and whose hope is not based on intelligence. In this case the chances are that such an individual is up against a barren proposition of wasted years, of fruitless labor. Not always, however. Every mining camp has its case to prove the old saw about "a fool for luck." Now here is a true story, which has come to THE MINER'S knowledge, of where a man is surely "long" on both faith and hope, and if any one thinks he is going to exemplify the fool-luck theory, he can get some very long shot bets that it will be one of the exceptions, that are said to be necessary to prove the rule.

The central figure in this episode is a man evidently more than sixty years old. His mining experience is decidedly limited. He arrived here a year ago, more or less. Instead of prospecting; looking for outcroppings ledges or following up the elusive float clue for blind veins, he secured the services of one who claimed to be able to locate mineral deposits with the aid of some kind of a magnetic machine. Were this an argument against the employment of such devices, it would be shown that neither gold, silver, lead nor copper possesses magnetic properties; but as it is a simple narrative, all such side issues will be omitted.

Anyway, this machine expert monkeyed around with his occult instrument for a day or two, finally got the tip where the biggest bonanza in eastern Oregon lay hidden, and indicated the exact spot where the shaft should be sunk to tap the high values. This is only a few miles from Sumpter. There is a lava deposit some forty or fifty feet thick. The old gentleman has been working there all winter, alone. He has gone down thirty-five feet, every pound of rock having been laboriously taken out by himself, unaided. He goes down, fixes his blasts, climbs up the ladder, descends after the explosion and fills the bucket, again climbs to the surface and turns the windlass. This monotonous, vitality sapping labor has been in progress four or five months, and the game old man is still at work.

He informed a MINER man Monday that he had encountered a stringer as wide as his finger that carries seven dollars in gold, and that now he feels sure he will strike it rich when he gets through the lava capping.

If he should, he would surely have the laugh on the mining world, and THE MINER hopes he will, though it "coppers" the play.

Final Payment Made on the Tom Paine.

Final payment was made on the Tom Paine mine in this city yesterday afternoon

by the purchaser, Mr. E. L. Hackett. The original purchase price was \$15,000, the amount paid over yesterday being \$6000. Several Baker City people were benefited by the payment yesterday, including Mrs. C. F. Hyde, Mrs. W. H. Packwood, Jr., Hiram Madden and James Cavin. The Tom Paine is a good property and one which has produced thousands in the past. A great deal of development work has been done on the mine and is now showing up well. Mr. Hackett, the owner of the Tom Paine, also owns the Carpenter Hill mine and operated an arastra very successfully last year on ore from the properties. It is his intention sometime in the near future to erect a mill on Salmon creek, between the two mines, and operate both properties on a larger scale. —Democrat.

Vinson's Pockets Full of Gold Buttons.

W. L. Vinson, the eastern Oregon mining plunger, is in the city with a pocket full of gold buttons of all sizes. These buttons were taken from the ore of Mr. Vinson's new property, the Carroll B, near Baker City, and are beautiful to behold. They range in weight and value from \$5 to \$25. Mr. Vinson, who about a year ago, somewhat lost his grip in the eastern Oregon mining fields through the suspension of operations of the English syndicate, represented by him, is on his feet again and promises ere long to recoup his losses. He says there are barrels of gold in the Carroll B and it is his purpose to get it out.—Portland Telegram.

Pine Creek Nugget Weighing \$107.

M. G. McEndree, who owns valuable placer claims on Pine creek, on the Burnt River slope, was in the city yesterday with a cleanup, consisting mostly of coarse nuggets. Mr. McEndree has been drifting on his claim all winter and will be prepared to make a good run when the season opens. Among the other nuggets brought in by Mr. McEndree was a beautiful specimen in the shape of a leaf, weighing \$107. It was on exhibition at the First National bank and attracted a great deal of attention from its peculiar shape.—Democrat.

MAP GIVEN AWAY.

How to Get a Large One of the United States, for the Wall.

If you are going east, or thinking of sending for your family, do not buy your tickets until you have secured rates from the Illinois Central Railroad company. Their service is excelled by none, and they can reach all points in the east, south and southeast from any point in Oregon, Washington or Idaho. Through tourist car from Pacific Coast to New York.

If you will send fifteen cents in stamps to the address given below, we will forward you by return mail a large wall map of the United States, Cuba and Porto Rico, 34x40 inches.

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B. H. TRUMBULL,
Commercial Agent, 142 Third Street, Portland Oregon.

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TO

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Compa'y

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Mill Street, Wood's Building.

CONSERVATIVE —MINING— INVESTMENT

LIBERTY BELL CONSOLIDATED MINES COMPANY own four quartz claims in the Alamo division of the famous Red Boy district, one half mile from the town of Alamo, in Grant County, Oregon.

In the very heart of possibly the greatest mineral zone in all the world, surrounded by such well-known operating properties as the Bonanza, Strassburg, Red Boy, Inter Mountain, Cougar, Concord, Alamo and Quebec.

The claims are well timbered and watered. Geological formation—argillite and porphyry. Character of ore—simple silicious quartz, sixty per cent free milling, the remaining values concentrating 50 in one.

Three distinct, well defined veins can be traced for a distance of 1000 feet on the surface, averaging from 14 to 30 feet between walls, giving \$7.20 per ton on surface.

Numerous open cuts, adits, tunnels and cross country trenches thoroughly prospect the width and value of the ledges.

Pan samples taken from various test pits on the surface, never fail to yield a fine prospect in free gold, the assay value giving as high as \$216 per ton in gold.

The Strassburg group, which adjoins the LIBERTY BELL on the north and east, in driving a cross cut to tap their main lead at a depth of 500 feet, have cut two blind ledges 14 and 19 feet in width only 150 feet from our side line, coursing southwest through three of the LIBERTY BELL claims.

Capitalization, 1,000,000 shares, par value \$1 each, fully paid and non-assessable, 400,000 shares in the treasury. The first issue of 100,000 shares is offered at 25 cents per share. Price of second issue will be advanced to 50c.

The proceeds from the sale of 200,000 shares properly expended in developing the mines and purchasing milling plant, will enable the LIBERTY BELL to pay \$30,000 monthly.

All checks and drafts should be made payable to R. H. MILLER, Treasurer, who is Cashier of the First Bank of Sumpter.

For prospectus, reports and general information regarding the property, address,

Liberty Bell Consolidated Mines Co.



C. C. BASCHE, Pres.
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