

# THE SUMPTER MINER

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## GOLD IN THE TOWNSITE.

### A. J. STINSON BONDS THE MINING PRIVILEGE.

**Rich Gravel has Been Taken From Numerous Wells—Theory that it is the Former Bed of a Stream—An Old Story Here but no Effort has Heretofore Been Made to Work the Ground—Plan Will be to Sink and Drift.**

The Sumpter Townsite company has executed a bond to A. J. Stinson for the gold which may be found in designated lots in its additions. For the right to mine on this property Mr. Stinson agrees to pay certain specified sums of money on stated dates, amounting to \$7,500 next February. He further pledges himself to begin operations within thirty days from the date of the instrument, one day last week, and continue at work uninterruptedly. The company is to get a royalty of fifteen per cent of the output, to be applied on the regular payments.

The plan will be to sink and drift, hoist the gravel and wash in a rocker. This is a crude and expensive method, but it is believed the enterprise will pay even with such a handicap.

For years it has been known that Sumpter is built on a gold bearing gravel bed, but no one heretofore has apparently cared to work it. Numerous wells were dug in the old days before the water system was constructed, in most of which pay dirt was encountered. In certain localities, however, very much more gold was found than in others. This line of wells where rich gravel was found can be clearly traced across the townsite. The theory is, and a very plausible one it is, too, that this was at one time the bed of a creek. In fact, it is said, that before streets were graded and lots improved, there were unmistakable surface indications of an old water course.

The particular well which attracted Mr. Stinson's attention is on the line of this old channel. When down about twenty feet, some coarse particles of gold were noticed in the gravel as it came to the surface, late one afternoon. It was thought that bed rock was not far off, and it was the intention to clean it up next morning. But next morning there was two feet of water in the bottom of the well. A rocker was secured and the gold bearing gravel washed out. In an hour and a half over four dollars in coarse gold was taken out. Operations will be commenced from this point, pumps being used to keep the shaft free from water.

Placer miners of experience and good judgement say that the scheme will in all probability pan out profitably.

#### Activity in the Virtue District.

The Virtue and White Swan are old producers, while the Brazos and Carrol B. are new properties just ready for milling ore. The Brazos has some machinery, while the Carrol B. for the present, as well as that of the Mammoth, will be milled at the Virtue mill, teams already being engaged in hauling these ores to the mill, which started work yesterday. Deep sinking on the Brazos will commence at once and the new company, formed yesterday, proposes to make a big producer of that property this

year. All five of these properties are on the same ore belt, and all will be developed simultaneously. If no other factors enters into the working of this camp, this one scheme, carried out, means thousands of dollars of new business for Baker City in 1901.—Democrat.

### EARLY DAYS IN SUMPTER.

**Special Edition of the Oregon Scout Issued July 3, 1897.**

Among the effects of Nathan W. Woodruff, recently deceased, E. L. Manning, who was appointed to appraise the estate, found a copy of the Oregon Scout, published at Union, July 3, 1897, "devoted to Sumpter, the center of the eastern Oregon gold fields," says the gaudy yellow title page. This is a special edition of the paper and was evidently then considered something quite pretentious.

It is now of far more interest of this camp than it probably was at the time of publication, for it contains much information regarding the town and district which emphasizes the fact that there has been great progress made here since then.

This is an illustrated edition and a cut of the town is published, that no one would recognize as the nucleus around which has grown the present substantial city. Other illustrations are of "Main" (Granite) street, W. W. Looney's residence, the Sumpter Lumber company's mill, the Star hotel, the building which is now the Capital and the Phoenix saloon adjoining, Tom McEwen's livery stable, Parkinson's blacksmith shop and the adjoining barn, in Sunnyside addition, a placer mining scene and the E & E mill while in course of erection.

The only picture of a prominent citizen which it contains is that of Hon. J. Nat Hudson, attorney-at-law, who is given two or three swells in the paper.

In the write-up of the camp it is stated that the population of Sumpter is nearly four hundred.

#### Prospect in Burnt River Country.

M. E. Bain and J. H. Brown, both more or less connected with THE MINER for some months past, and both mining men of long experience, left Monday for the Burnt river country, where they spent most of last season and where they acquired some valuable mining interests. They bought everything in Sumpter except pack horses, which were secured in Baker City, to which point their supplies were shipped by train. Their friends here hope to hear at an early day that the bonanza has been caught and caged—in bank vaults.

### 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.

For particulars regarding passenger or freight rates, call on or address,

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

## PRACTICAL ENTERPRISE.

### Chance For Sumpter to Get the Trade of 1000 People.

L. D. King, one of the prominent ranchers on Burnt river, was in town yesterday, accompanied by J. G. Young, of Whitney, from whom he was buying a lot of grain, shipped here by rail.

Although he lives only sixteen miles from Sumpter, Mr. King has not been in this camp before for twenty years, when there was nothing here except two or three log houses. He says that in his precinct there were cast at the last election 147 votes and that in that neighborhood is a population of 800 or 900, prosperous ranchers and their families. Several more hundred are in adjoining precincts.

Baker City, forty-two miles away, gets all of this trade; the reason for which is that there is no passable wagon road to Sumpter. One can be constructed from a point on the Clifford road to the heart of the settlement along an old trail, scarcely eight miles in length.

Here is an opportunity for the citizens of Sumpter, especially the merchants, to get together, without any apparent possibility of factional friction, and accomplish something of great benefit to the town in general and themselves in particular. Doubtless through the influence of Commissioner Gleason, some county assistance can be secured. If not, it will prove a paying investment for the merchants of Sumpter to build the road themselves. The ranchers will undoubtedly contribute considerable labor to the enterprise, which will just as valuable as money.

There was very little trouble experienced last spring in raising what money was necessary to repair the road to Granite, which was of no especial benefit to this town, so far as anyone has yet ascertained. But this road to an agricultural district, from which the rancher will come here to trade, will be of inestimable value and the matter deserves prompt attention.

#### Death of J. G. McGuigan.

The many friends here of J. G. McGuigan learned with deep regret of his death in Portland Monday morning, at the good Samaritan hospital. He fell from a fourth story window in the Imperial hotel ten days previous. For several days after the accident it was hoped he could live, but the injury to his brain proved more serious than it was thought at first. The body was shipped to Spokane, where his mother lives, Tuesday evening over the O. R. & N. During his fatal illness he was cared for by members of the Portland and Spokane lodge of Elks, he being a member of the Spokane lodge.

#### Good Work Done By the Ladies.

The ladies who have had charge of the Sumpter free reading room, desire to make the following statement, that the public may know that they have been faithful to the trust reposed in them. We began this work two years ago, but owing to the scarcity of rooms and the high rents charged, we were not able to start the rooms until a little over six months ago. The money that we had collected has been in the First Bank of Sumpter all this time, awaiting our order. We have collected, by donations, dances and suppers,

something over \$200. We furnished the room comfortably, and have paid all expenses up to April 1, 1901, except a small part of the keeper's salary, which was not due, and on April 12 turned the rooms and work over to the Sumpter Social society, free of all debts. Circumstances over which we have no control render it necessary for us to retire from further participation in the work, and we take this means of rendering to the public an account of our stewardship. We heartily thank the people of Sumpter and vicinity for the help they have so generously bestowed upon us, in helping to crown our efforts with success. Signed "the retiring committee."

#### Working For Her Husband's Pardon.

Mrs. J. G. Lührman has been in town for some days past, from her home at Salem, circulating a petition here for the pardon of her husband, who was sent to the penitentiary from Baker county about a year ago, for killing his partner. They conducted the lodging tent on Auburn street. There was no witness to the tragedy and the jury convicted, apparently, on general principles. Mrs. Lührman is a pleasing little lady and has secured many signatures to the petition, including the members of the jury.

#### Union County Officers Defy the Law.

Baker City papers say that Union county's sheriff has been in the Panhandle collecting county taxes. This law-defying proceeding is backed by Union county officials, and the threat is made by the county judge of Union that he and his fellow officers would not comply with the law. This same judge is one of the commission to determine the mutual indebtedness of Union county, and has shown the bias of his mind by the eagerness with which he rushes into print declaring he will violate the law, and so forth and so on. There is a fight on, for sure.

Miss Richardson, the milliner, announces that from the latter part of this week she will be constantly receiving new pattern hats every few days throughout the season.

The Capital hotel, under the management of Mrs. Tedrowe, serves special Sunday dinners. Families should take advantage of this. Best table board in town. Try it.

Strout, assayer, 361 Bennett Ave., Cripple Creek, established in Colorado in 1876, gold (crucible assay), 50c; gold and silver, 75c; gold, silver, copper, \$1.50; forty years practice.

The Capital Hotel is again under the management of Mrs. George B. Tedrowe, which fact guarantees the best of service to all patrons.

The large and commodious club rooms of Dunphy & Gertride are headquarters for mining and commercial men.

Prompt attention to orders for cut flowers and floral pieces. City Green House Baker City, Oregon.

At the Club saloon, Dunphy & Gertride serve a line of goods equal to any that money will buy.

Only the best brands of liquors and cigars at the Club saloon of Dunphy & Gertride.

Dunphy & Gertride's Club saloon is the popular resort for mining and commercial men.

Mining deeds for sale at this office.

Use Giant powder, fuse and caps.

Never fails—Giant powder.