

# The Sumpter Miner

Official Paper of the Town of Sumpter.

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C. H. MARSH AND J. W. CONNELLA

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Entered at the postoffice in Sumpter, Oregon, for transmission through the mails as second class matter.

A VIENNA dispatch says that the Czar has signed a decree expelling Count Tolstoi from Russia and that the decree has been signed. This reads like a paragraph from a chapter of history of the dark ages.

WATERSON is a decided back number as a democratic leader. His advice to the party when reduced to unequivocal language, is to renounce democratic principles as enunciated by two national conventions and advocate some milk and water fad policy that will not offend New York. That would be carrying compromise to such a ridiculous degree that no self respecting man could be identified with the movement—and western democrats respect themselves, even if no one else does.

ONE of the Cuban commissioners who arrived at Jacksonville, Florida, yesterday, stated to an Associated press reporter. "Ninety-nine per cent of the Cubans desire absolute independence. It is their wish that military occupation by the United States come to an end at once. It may be said that a small element of Spaniards, from a purely commercial motive, favor annexation. Peace with Americans without the independence of Cuba is impossible—I mean moral peace. I do not say that in the event independence is not granted, war or revolution would follow, but there would be no sympathy, no friendliness between the peoples."

MONEY honestly expended in public improvements is a paying investment for any town, and that means the citizens of the town, the property owners, who pay the bills. But the average run of human nature does not assay sufficiently high in honesty and a sense of justice to permit those who award public contracts to receive individual and private benefit therefrom; hence the law usually does and always should guard the public treasury against such a temptation, by prohibiting officials from being interested, directly or indirectly, in any such contract. If these remarks chance to land in the vicinity of anybody's solar plexus—why, he ought not to have been there.

THERE are some great mines in operation in eastern Oregon, but unfortunately for the district, they are all operated by close corporations or individuals who exercise their perfect right not to take the public into their confidence regarding the profits accruing. If these facts could be made known, it is certain that it would prove a great inducement for more capital to be invested here. The time is soon coming, however, that even this drawback will be overcome. There are a half dozen stock companies now operating here, using every dollar received from the sale of treasury stock to develop their mines, which will at no distant day begin to pay dividends. These dividends will be declared in the regular way, will be published, the stockholders all over the country, most of them residing in the money centers of the east, will receive their large, alluring interest on money invested, and then the eastern Oregon gold fields will, indeed, enter upon an era of prosperity.

ORIENTAL advices indicate that there is no doubt but what Japan has saved the situation in the far east, so far, in her determination to resist the Russian demands in Manchuria. All that was needed was for one of the powers to take a bold stand against the disturber of peace, and the youngest and weakest of them all has been the one to seize the opportunity. Every vessel in the Japanese navy was in a condition of perfect efficiency, with a thoroughly organized transport service and an army of two thousand men ready at a moments notice. All this was, of course, fully known at St. Petersburg, and was the determining factor in the Russian backdown. The fatal blunder made by Russia in her usual astute diplomacy has cost her what had almost developed into a general disposition to let her have Manchuria. Japan is now in no mood to let matters rest and the entire press of the empire is unanimous in demanding that steps be taken to safeguard Manchuria for all time against Russian encroachments. Through Russia's loss Japan has made an extraordinary gain in prestige. In assisting in the relief of the legations and in her recent triumph, she has twice put the nations of the world under lasting obligations.

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1:30 p. m.	Ar. Clifford.....Lv	8:00 a. m.
3:40 p. m.	Lv. Clifford.....Ar	7:30 a. m.
7:30 p. m.	Ar. Austin.....Lv	5:00 a. m.

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5:40 p. m.	Lv. Clifford.....Ar	7:30 a. m.
5:00 p. m.	Ar. Bonanza.....Lv	6:30 a. m.

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