

The Sumpter Miner

Official Paper of the Town of Sumpter.

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SUMPTER will have a Fourth of July celebration. Its action in this matter does not depend on what Baker City or any other town on earth decides to do on that day, the greatest day in history.

PRESS dispatches of yesterday announced the arrival at Hamburg, Germany, of the first steamer direct from Chicago; the Northman, thirty-five days out. This marks a new era in transportation and commerce, with the middle west as the principal beneficiary.

IN AN article by Professor Lindgren, who had charge of the government geological survey of the Blue Mountains last year, published in the Mining and Scientific Press, it is stated that he found that rare metal, roscoelite, in rich gold ore from the Columbia, Golconda and Mammoth mines. He also found chromium-mica, calciovolborthite, sheelite, cinnabar and mercurial-tetrahedrite, all comparatively rare metals.

ONE thing is sure, Senator Tillman, of South Carolina, is a game sport of a politician. If his offer to Senator McLauren that they both resign and fight it out before the voters of the state as umpires was a bluff, as the latter characterized the proposition, then he is making the bluff good and strong. McLauren's "consent" to withdraw his resignation is an evidence of his weakness, and his explanation, that this action is based on his solicitude for the public good, in securing political peace for another year, is the merest buncombe.

HERE is something from the San Francisco Mining and Engineering Review, relative to illegitimate methods of irregular oil operators, very similar to the system which some people have attempted to play on mining stocks in eastern Oregon.

"It is questionable whether there is a moral difference between the 'stand and deliver' gentry of the highway and the organizer of an association ostensibly formed for the protection of an industry or a paper purporting to be devoted to its interests who will, by intimation or intimidation, blackmail a company engaged in that industry. The methods employed to relieve the victims of money or stock are different to be sure, and the highwayman appears to be much of a gentleman when compared with the sneaking blackmailer of the press or the All Baba of the association."

The only way to deal with this variety of blackmailer is to stand pat, refuse to be bled, give publicity to the men and their particular methods and thus clip their claws, pull their fangs.

FOR months past Sumpter has boasted of having a "clean bill of health". This fortunate condition of affairs is not the result of chance, but is the direct effect of having a good health ordinance which has been rigidly enforced. The health officer (when there was one) and the city physician, with the cordial cooperation of the mayor and council, deserve the credit for this town's excellent sanitary condition, for the fact that no contagious disease has been allowed to spread for more than a year past. To these officials is due the thanks of the entire community.

The first case of a citizen stubbornly disregarding the provisions of the ordinance and insolently announcing that he will fight that measure and resist the action of the officers is now pending. Cato Johns is the only man in town who would assume so disloyal an attitude on so vitally important an issue. His brother, a lawyer from Baker City, will make the assault on our municipal laws. Attorney Chance is undoubtedly capable of holding his own, but he should be rendered every assistance by the other city officials. This is a matter of more than passing interest, in it is involved not only the physical health of the town, but its commercial status. Dr. Brock, the city physician, has conscientiously and intelligently performed his duty in this, as in all other cases, and the good work he has done must not be annulled by any negligence at this critical time, in this peculiarly irritating, flagrant case.

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Has established headquarters in Baker City, at Room No. 14, Lyndale Block, and will be there at least one week in each month, and at Sumpter at least two days in each month. Watch for local notice of arrival.

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