

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.

SUMPTER has an ordinance prohibiting anyone from "roaming the streets after twelve o'clock, midnight." When did this blue-law arrive in this mining camp? How did it slip unnoticed into our municipal legislation? Drive the intruder out.

IT IS true that Bryan broils the Supreme court for its decision in the Porto Rican cases, but he doesn't make any harsher remarks on the subject than do the opinions of four dissenting judges of that lofty tribunal. Nor do the dissenting opinions state the case any more clearly or convincingly than does Bryan. The gibes and joshes, the ridicule and abuse aimed at the Great Commoner by the partisan blinded and intellectually deformed press are the ridiculous attacks of pigmies against a giant.

IT HAS been suggested that the mining congress, which meets in Boise next month, be invited to visit Oregon. The thought is a timely one and the invitation should be cordially extended. Whether it is formally accepted or not, some will come and many will not. Therefore something else should be done to attract the attention of this body of mining men to the gold fields of eastern Oregon. Samples of our ore should be placed on exhibition and some attractive literature, compiled for mining men, should be gotten out for distribution there. THE MINER is of the opinion that a better opportunity for such missionary work could not be desired; that it is a far better opportunity than the Pan-American exposition offers.

ACCORDING to stories published in the San Francisco papers, the order issued by the post office department that no mail be delivered to Letson Balliet either from the post office in that city or Baker City, is based on the report of a post office inspector, who examined the White Swan mine and "turned it down." If such is the whole truth regarding the transaction, it is a piece of vindictive tyranny on the part of some small bore representative of our big government, that ought to be rebuked. The idea of a post office inspector, who in all probability doesn't know a ledge from a haystack, experting a mine and pronouncing it worthless, is an absurdity on the face of it. As a matter of fact, and it is a local historic fact, a great deal of gold has been taken from the White Swan, and it is the general opinion among mining men that the mine is capable of producing more millions.

It is very evident that Mr. Balliet's enemies are acting on the theory that every thing is fair in war and have enlisted the co-operation of post office officials to assist them in waging barbaric battle against the man who has defeated them in a business contest. To tell the truth, Balliet does send out some advertising stuff that is a trifle rank. All that THE MINER has seen is of a personal, self-laudatory character, placing himself in the role of an heroic figure in western mining operations and the world of finance. That is his transparent weakness. And yet, he evidently knows what bait to use, for he has been remarkably successful in his angling. To give the devil his due, one thing must be said in

his favor; he is not a wild-cater. Balliet controls the White Swan and Carroll B., both reputed to be fabulously rich in free gold—the papers that are now jumping on him have repeatedly so stated. These two mines alone, ignoring other properties he may claim to own, will bring him out a big winner and make money for the "school teachers and hired girls in Iowa" who have bought stock in his company, if these mines are what good judges believe them to be.

Unless his rather nauseating buncombe about being the "mining king of the west," "the Marcus Daily of Oregon" and "the brave young engineer" can be proven to be fraudulent titles, usurped for the purpose of dishonestly luring money from the public, THE MINER is of the opinion that the federal government has no case against him, and hopes that he will ring off on that kind of rot and devote his undoubted talents and steam engine like energy to digging gold out of the rich mines his company now owns.

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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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