

OPINION OF SEATTLE MEN.

Owners of Tammany and Justice Talk of Sumpter District.

Messrs. W. Y. L. Rutherford and Captain A. W. Anderson, of this city, have just returned from a trip to Sumpter, Oregon, gold fields, where they went to personally inspect a number of valuable mining properties in which they are heavily interested, being the principal owners in the same. Captain Anderson was already familiar with the country through previous visits, but this was Mr. Rutherford's first experience in this now famous mining camp. Mr. Rutherford returns bubbling over with enthusiasm over what he saw in and about Sumpter. In an interview with a reporter of the Record today, Mr. Rutherford said:

"I had been told in advance by my partner, Captain Anderson, to prepare to see one of the liveliest mining camps on the coast, but I was taken by surprise, nevertheless, at the magnitude of the mining operations now being carried on and the large number of mines engaged in milling their output on the ground at a big monthly profit. Many quartz mines are at Bourne, some seven miles due north from Sumpter, the latter locality being chiefly remarkable for its practically inexhaustible placer deposits, which surround and even underlie the city. Sumpter actually rests upon placer dirt, worth many millions of dollars.

"Among the properties tributary to Sumpter on which I saw mills in successful operation were: The Red Boy, 20 stamps; Badger, 8; Bellevue, 10; Bonanza, 40; California, 10; Columbia, 20 stamps and cyanide plant; Cougar, 250-ton cyanide plant; Don Juan, 10 stamps; E. & E., 20; Great Northern, 10; Golden Eagle, 3; Mammoth, 10; Monumental, 20; Golconda, rolls and stamps equivalent to 50 stamps; Helms & Hines, 10; Little Giant, 20; May Queen, 10; Magnolia, 10; North Pole, 10 stamps and 30-ton cyanide plant; Pyx 5; Tiger, 5; Richmond, 10 and Bald mountain, 20 stamps. This is an aggregate of 311 stamps, constantly dropping, at an enormous profit, besides the big cyanide plants.

"In addition to these mills already in operation there are nearly forty other properties tributary to Sumpter that aim to install machinery and steam plants by September next. Some of the mills mentioned are turning out from \$50,000 to \$100,000 each per month in gold bricks. I went through a number of the milling plants; saw the rock dumped into the crushers and watched it go through the various processes until the gold had been extracted and the big values saved before my eyes."

When asked about the properties in which he was directly interested; Mr. Rutherford said that he was more than satisfied with the showings made in the several groups on which work is being done.

"The Tammany," said Mr. R., "is now a mine, for a big profit could be realized at the present time by shipping the output from development work to Baker City and selling the same to the sampling works there. We began development work on the Tammany one year ago and now have 300 feet of tunnel, all in ore, besides all the necessary buildings, tools and conveniences for working the property to advantage. There is a 60-foot ledge of free milling gold ore in a slate formation. Average

assays across the face of the tunnel show \$20 and up per ton, while some of the richer ore contains values running into the thousands.

"The Justice, another of our properties, has a showing equal to the very best proposition in this rich camp. We are now sinking a shaft on the lead in fine pay ore. The ledge has been proven to a width of over 12 feet.

"One great advantage of the Sumpter district is that the character of the country admits of a carriage being driven almost onto any of the various properties. There are about one-half dozen other properties on the same creek with the Justice and by the expenditure of but \$500 a good road can be constructed up the stream to serve each of the propositions."—Seattle Mining Record.

Mining Law Applies to Oregon.

Emil Melzer, of the North Pole mine, calls the attention of the Republican to the fact that the last session of congress amended the mining law of 1878, by which some western states and territories were given special privileges regarding the use of timber for mining purposes, by adding the names of Oregon and Washington to the special list. This would give the two latter states the same privileges in regard to the use of timber that are enjoyed by Colorado, Utah, Montana Nevada, New Mexico, Arizona, Wyoming, Dakota and Idaho. In view of this fact, Mr. Melzer says that he does not see the use of further effort in this direction. The fact that the amendment was made does not seem generally to have been known in eastern Oregon, as operators were under the impression that Judge Bellinger's decision placed them in a predicament. Inquiry confirmed Mr. Melzer's statement. John D. Rand, who appeared for the Golconda, company in the case brought by the government, and who is in close touch with these affairs, stated today that such an amendment was passed, as he understood, about March 1. The effect of it, Mr. Rand says, is to give the operators of this state the privilege of cutting timber on government land for mining purposes. The regulations of the department prescribe what sized trees may be taken for this purpose, and make other provisions in regard to use of timber for this purpose.

Will Develop Coal Mine Near Heppner.

Twenty years ago coal was mined in Willow creek basin twenty miles south of Heppner. The coal was burned in Heppner and nearby ranches and even some of it was used in Pendleton. There was a big bed of it but for some reason the mines were not developed and the "find" was left neglected for years. In the last few weeks a company of Heppnerites, headed by George Conser, of the First National bank of that town, has begun the work of development with promise of big returns. Mining machinery has been put in and an order taken for the first coal. There is plenty of wood, water and grass all around the new coal mines, and it is a water-grade all the way to Heppner, and an easy matter to build a feeder railroad to connect with the O. R. & N. at Heppner. C. E. Redfield, formerly of Pendleton, is one of the interested parties in the enterprise.—East Oregonian.

Toast to The Kicker.

Here's to the kicker, the faint-hearted kicker, the kicker so helpless and blue! Who always is crying and never is trying some good for his own town to do. No use to correct him, nor need you expect him to get to the front like a man; while others hustle he'll sit down and rustle objections to raise to each plan. But when the brute dies we'll pause with dry eyes, on his future condition to dwell, and we'll envy the devil that will handle the shovel when he roasts the rank kicker in hell.—Centralia News.

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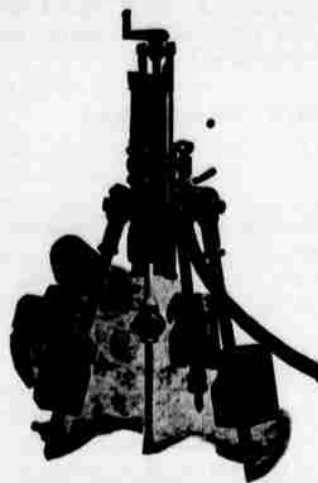
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