

DIDN'T FIND MYTHICAL LEDGE.

California Prospector Failed in Idaho, Will Come to Sumpter.

Peter Johnson, a California prospector, who passed through Portland several months ago, en route to the Bitter Root mountains, in search of the famous Robinson lead, has returned in disgust and left for his home in Marysville last night.

"I don't believe there ever was such a lead," said the old prospector, "and I don't even believe this man Robinson ever found such float as he alleged he did. After leaving here last April we made our way to Pierce City, Idaho, which is a lively little mining town, with plenty of good properties near it. The snow had not yet left the mountains, so we were compelled to pitch camp there for several weeks. During that time we had ample opportunity to gather information from old-timers in those parts, and from the talks I had with several of them I was sure our search would not be rewarded. They informed me that while Robinson may have had valuable float which assayed away up in the thousands of dollars, they were sure he had not discovered the ledge from which it originated. He had shown the ore to several parties, interested them in the proposition, and started out with them to find it.

After struggling over the mountains the party held a consultation and informed Robinson that unless he led them to the ledge, which he told them he knew all about, they would take it for granted he had been playing them and would lynch him. Seeing his bluff had led him into a serious position, Robinson did his best to find some lead that would answer his purpose, swore by all that was holy that he had not been running a hoax. He escaped with a whole hide, even though he did not find the famous lead, and the party returned home disgusted. It is the opinion of old-timers that Robinson retold his wonderful story so many times that he began to believe it himself, but he never found the object of his search.

"When the snow had gone off we left Pierce City, as the balance of the party did not like the idea of giving up the search after traveling such a distance, and struck off towards Elk City. There were no trails so we kept on the ridges most of the time, pitching camp at the head of some stream. We did plenty of prospecting, but while we found some good indications of mineral, did not touch them. The rest of the party had the "big eye," and wanted something that assayed thousands of dollars to the ton. After a long, weary trip of almost a month, we reached Elk City, which, with open trails, would have been less than a three days' trip. The rest of the party by this time had all the Robinson lead they wanted, but having heard of the Dixie and Big creek districts, struck off for them.

"I left the party and made for Sumpter, Ore. That place is all right and will some day make one of the greatest camps on earth. There is plenty of ground left that is practically unprospected, and I am going to take a chance there early next spring. By the time I had made my trip back home and returned it would be too late for me to do much this summer.—Portland Telegram.

General Warren on the Sumpter District.

General Warren said to a Spokesman-Review reporter a few days since: "In the way of dividends, there are few mining camps in the west just now that rival Sumpter. We have ten mines there that are on the dividend paying basis—the North Pole, the Columbia, the Goldconda, the Red Boy, the Quebec, the Concord, the Bonanza, the May Queen,

the Bald Mountain and the Cougar. Besides these there are a number of properties that are pouncing out occasional profits. We expect to put about ten men at work on August 3 at the Diadem, the old Pardee mine in Greenhorn camp, near Alamo. It has ore running six ounces in gold. When our drainage tunnel is finished, which will be in about thirty days, shipments will commence at the rate of perhaps 100 tons a month. Sumpter people are much interested now in a find of placer gold made by Andrew Stinson right in the townsite. Stinson has apparently opened the 'Old Blue' channel, never before found on a hillside in that camp, and he is making more than wages."

They Won Out on a Grub Stake.

M. L. Cauzey, of the Cauzey Land company, at La Grande, and G. Christoferson, a wealthy farmer, of the Grande Ronde valley, were in the city on Sunday on their way to Bald mountain, between Sumpter and Granite, to commence the development of a promising mine prospect in which they are interested. Accompanying them was a party of six men from La Grande who are to do the work. A few weeks ago Messrs. Cauzey and Christoferson grub-staked a prospector and they were to be in on whatever was located. The prospector discovered a claim on Bald mountain, located it, and after crosscutting the ledge twenty-four feet, sent for his partners to come and inspect it. Mr. Christoferson made the examination and had assays made of the ore which returned an average across the ledge of \$5.60 in gold. This showing was good enough to warrant development work and this will be done at once.—Democrat.

Litigation Against the Standard Dismissed.

The case in the circuit court of the Standard Gold & Copper Mining company vs. W. H. Johnson & Sons has been settled and the case has been dismissed by the court. This settlement was effected with the defendants during the visit of Zoeth Houser, of Portland, and John S. Hughes, of Quartzburg, while here this week. Patent is to issue for Johnson & Sons' property, who have entered into a contract with the Standard Gold & Copper Mining company, to sell them the property for \$10,000 and executed a deed in escrow for the same. Every person who is interested in mining property in Grant county will be pleased that the parties to this suit have adjusted their difficulties, as it insures the erection of a smelter by the Standard company in the Quartzburg camp, and the extensive development of not only the Copper King but the Cleveland as well.—Blue Mountain Eagle.

Big Placer Cleanup at Susanville.

Keeny brothers, of Long Creek, just recently completed a season's run at their placer mine on Macy ridge, a section of country between the head of Deep creek and Big creek, and it is learned that they did well. This property ranked among the best placer mines in the Susanville country during the years 1889 and 1890, but since that date no great amount of work has been done on the claim. With a good cleanup this season, the attention of prospectors will be turned to that locality, and be the means of the opening up of more good property in that part of the Susanville camp.—Canyon City Eagle.

THE MINER is receiving daily, many new subscribers, who are taking advantage of the special offer, advertised elsewhere in this issue, to participate in the distribution of \$15,000. The offer is an honest, bona fide one, open to old and new subscribers. Read it on page 10 of THE MINER.

T. G. Harrison, agent for Giant powder company.



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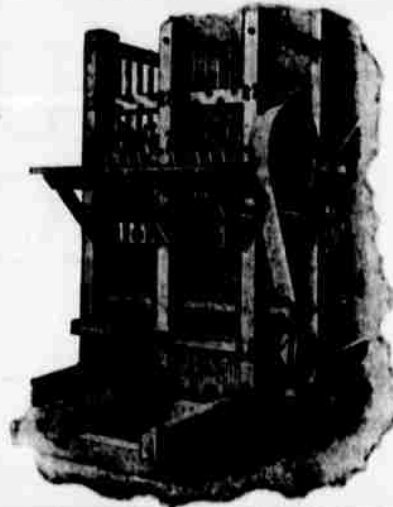
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