

# The Sumpter Miner

Official Paper of the Town of Sumpter.

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY BY  
C. H. MARSH AND J. W. CONNELLA

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It looks as if the day had arrived when the mines of eastern Oregon will not have to go begging for capital with which to do development work. The camps and hills are full of men of means looking for investments.

Will some enterprising individual resurrect the old sprinkling cart formerly in use here, and with water from either the river or ditch, begin to sprinkle the streets? There is probably not a business house in any line on Granite or Mill streets that would not gladly pay their proportion of a reasonable sum, which would guarantee good wages for a man and team who would take this matter up.

The impression is growing that the holdup of Messrs. Godfrey and Tabor last week was a stroke of misdirected enterprise on the part of one of the Baker City papers; the purpose being to secure the gold brick and get positive knowledge as to the amount of the July cleanup—information regarding which the company withholds from the public with as jealous care as if it were a closet skeleton.

The Pacific Miner, published at Portland, in its issue of August 1, is in a much more acceptable form than heretofore, having abandoned the antiquated blanket sheet and assumed the form of a magazine. The Pacific Miner is much better than the ordinary periodical of its kind, but is getting off wrong on several points; and regarding these matters The Miner wishes to have a heart to heart talk with it.

Firstly, it is posing as an extirminator of fraud and is evidently assiduously looking for material with which to make that kind of a play. Apparently, it would prefer to expose a well developed mining fraud than to publish the facts pertaining to a great mineral discovery. For instance, it terms the recent reported find in the Big Bend of the Snake as a "placer bubble," and throws discredit on the report. About this matter, in another place, it says:

"Don't be duped into running after that fake boom in the Big Bend of the Snake river, Idaho. The region is not enough developed to demonstrate its worth, even if it were a rich region."

That last sentence is the essence of fool advice. Suppose prospectors and mining men should act upon it; no district ever would be developed. Regarding the whole business the Pacific Miner is ignorant, and should not condemn without evidence. Reputable mining men say there is a great gold deposit there. David Wilson told The Miner last week that he will immediately sink on some ground that he owns in that section, and Mr. Wilson mines with his own money. Of course, the Pacific Miner was established for the purpose of booming the St. Helens district, which is all right and proper, strictly legitimate; but in order to do this it is not necessary to cry wolf at any other mining region on the globe.

Again, in an editorial headed "One Type of Stupidity," it ridicules and

abuses an eastern Oregon delegate to the recent International Mining congress because he voted for Butte instead of Portland as the place for the meeting of the next congress. The eastern Oregon man's reason for so doing is that Portland is not a mining town and does not support the mining interests of its own state. Both statements are true, and the reasons contained therein are sound and sufficient. Butte has invested in our mines ten dollars for every one that Portland has cautiously, begrudgingly placed here. Spokane has put in twenty-five to Portland's one.

The truth of the matter is that Portland is a truck-garden, creamery, hay-press town, and never will be a mining center, because its business men are not built that way. Its long suit is reaching out for some kind of a convention that costs nothing to get; as it clamored for the mining congress, without even producing the \$3000 guarantee required. Since Oregon has been a state, Portland has hogged the political perquisites and given eastern Oregon the throw-down. Since men of enterprise have come here from other states and made our mining industry one of importance, the same swinish spirit is manifested. We buy our goods in Portland because we have to, on account of discriminating freight rates, not because we want to; and the beneficiaries of this condition of affairs ought to at least treat the victims with feigned courtesy and not go out of their way to intensify the bitterness which unmistakably exists.

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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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