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HAMILTON OWNS THE GIPSY QUEEN

BOSTON PARTIES FAILED TO MEET PAYMENT DUE.

He Stepped in, Paid the Money and the Deed now is in His Name—Will Organize Strong Company to Develop the Great Property.

W. H. W. Hamilton now owns the Gipsy Queen group, Cable Cove district, an extension of the Gipsy King.

Through him it was sold to a Boston syndicate over a year ago. A company was organized under the name of the Oregon and Boston Mining company and a tunnel driven in about 200 feet. As has frequently been stated in these columns, the ore lays far under the ground in this gulch. The tunnel runs most of the distance from one to two feet above the ore body. At places it comes up in the tunnel several feet and for a short distance to the top. The ore is five or six feet wide and of high grade.

The Boston people have never inspected the property since it was purchased. At that time scarcely any work had been done and it was bought on the showing made in an open cut not large enough to bury a cow. About \$5000 has been paid on the property, besides the money expended in improvements, driving the tunnel and erecting substantial buildings.

Another payment was due January 1 of this year, which was not made and Mr. Hamilton secured an extension of time until July 1. Again they failed to meet it and he, individually, paid the money. There are two more payments still due. The deed has now been made to him, and is in escrow in the Bank of Sumpter. He says he will meet them promptly, organize a strong company and develop the property.

It is stated that these Boston gentlemen had some differences among themselves which they failed to adjust, lost interest in the enterprise and forfeited the bond. In a few years this deal will be the subject of a lost opportunity story, for the property is unquestionably a valuable one.

FRIDAY IS UNWATERED.

Timbers in Good Condition; Slight Cavein Only in the West Drift.

The following letter, dated June 30, was received from D. M. Griffith, superintendent of the Friday mine, by Neil J. Sorensen & Co. yesterday:

"We reached the bottom of the sump at 5 p. m. yesterday. I went through the drifts as far as I could go, and found that the lagging has broken down about eighty-five feet from the shaft in the west drift and the drift is full of ore,

having caved down from the ledge above. There is anywhere from seventy-five to a hundred tons, which has run down at different points along the drift. Going east from the shaft, there is but very little caved down. It will probably take a week or ten days to get it all cleaned out in good shape. I wish it were possible for you to come over some time within a week or ten days."

The above letter indicates that the timbers in the Friday mine are in excellent condition, excepting in a few places where some caving has occurred and the ore has dropped down into the levels.

In a conversation with Mr. Sorensen, he stated: "I am well pleased to know that the Friday mine is in such splendid condition. However, I knew that where I had done the timbering, that it would stand. We will now be ready in a very short time to take any and all of our stockholders over to see the Friday and let them go through it, and after they have made a careful examination, they will find that we have been very conservative in our statements as to the ore bodies already exposed in the mine."

In response to a query as to his plans for the future regarding the mine, Mr. Sorensen said: "We shall proceed with the construction of our mill and concentrating plant as fast as possible. In the meantime, I think we had better sink the shaft another hundred feet while we are constructing the mill, because as soon as we commence to extract the ore now in the mine, I am of the opinion that it will somewhat interfere with the sinking of the shaft. However, this is something for the board of directors to decide. I hope that by the time the mill is ready we will have twice as much ore in sight as we now have. I shall go over to the mine in the course of a week or ten days."

Water Power Pump for Gipsy King.

Al Otness and W. H. Mather came down from the Gipsy King yesterday, and will remain in town until after the Fourth. As was stated in these columns several weeks since, it has been decided by the directors to sink a shaft on the rich pay shoot of the King. A pump will be put in and operated by water power. For the present, an overshot wheel will be used, plans for which have been prepared. This is an inexpensive expedient that will serve the purpose for a while, until the ledge is sufficiently exploited to demonstrate whether or not the company will be warranted in installing more expensive machinery.

Will Erect a Mill This Season.

W. E. Nelson, of Minneapolis, after spending a week or ten days in eastern Oregon, left for home yesterday. He stated to a MINER representative that he had taken up a proposition near Malheur City, a big porphyry dyke carrying free gold, and would put a mill on the property this summer. As the train was pulling out he told the writer to see Superintendent Meikle, of the Golconda, and he would give all particulars. Mr. Nelson is largely interested in the Malheur oil fields.

VISIT THE GOLD FIELDS

A. L. Craig and R. M. Hall, of the O. R. & N., Have Their Eyes Opened.

A. L. Craig, general passenger agent of the O. R. & N., accompanied by his new advertising agent, R. M. Hall, spent last week in the gold fields of eastern Oregon. Neither had been here before. It was on invitation of Col. Grayson that they came to Sumpter and visited some of the nearby mines Thursday and Friday. The trip opened their eyes to the magnitude and importance of the mining industry of eastern Oregon, and both were duly, favorably impressed. They saw the rich ore at the North Pole and Golconda and were shown through the workings of the Columbia, through the courtesy of General Manager Baillie.

Mr. Craig is of the opinion that the best method of advertising our mining resources is to send a competent man to the money centers of the east and middle west, armed with pictures, ores and documentary proof of the great mineral wealth of the region, and place the facts directly before capitalists, with no one particular proposition to promote. He says the O. R. & N. will do its part towards assisting such a movement, but he is wise and recognizes the fact that if the company takes the initiative in such an enterprise, it will have to stand the expense through to the finish. If accomplished, this must be done largely by our own efforts, aided materially, of course, by Mr. Craig and the road.

The people of this region had no little curiosity to see and size up Mr. Hall, the new advertising man, realizing how important to them is the work he has in hand. THE MINER is pleased to state that the surface indications are favorable and ventures the prediction that his output will give high assay values.

Mr. Craig also created a most favorable impression. He is a courteous gentleman, who is thoroughly interested in his work, which is directed by a clear, practical, well trained mind. He served his time under C. S. Fee, general passenger agent of the Northern Pacific, one of the best railroad men and cleverest gentlemen on the continent.

Prominent People Inspecting the District.

W. J. Johnson and George L. Huntington, of St. Paul Minnesota, Charles P. Berkey, professor of mineralogy in the Minnesota state university, at Minneapolis, and J. A. Ward, of Toledo, Iowa, arrived in Sumpter a few days since. They are here as guests of Neil J. Sorensen, who has been taking them through this immediate vicinity and showing them all there is to be seen. Monday they visited the famous Golconda mine, on Cracker creek, and expressed themselves as being astonished at the splendid showing this property

has made. Friday and Saturday of last week they were out at the camp of the Griffith placers, looking over this wonderful property. It was especially interesting to them to see this now so well known old river channel, owned by one of Mr. Sorensen's placer companies. The party will remain here a week or ten days longer looking over the district. These are the kind of people we need in eastern Oregon. They represent large capital, and if Mr. Sorensen succeeds in getting them interested permanently here, he will have performed a valuable service for these gold fields.

Payment Made on Owl and Elephant.

James Higgins, who was here about a year ago and bought the Owl and Elephant group, Cable Cove district, for a Maryland syndicate which he represents, arrived in Sumpter several days since to look after the property. He and Eugene Bartholf went out to the mine Monday. Last fall a large body of good ore was explored. Since his arrival here Mr. Higgins has made a payment of \$5000 on this group. Another is due in sixty days. Work has been suspended for several months, but will be resumed at an early day. The gentlemen returned to town yesterday afternoon, when Mr. Higgins stated that he will soon let a contract for 100 feet of work.

Make Filings and Proofs in Sumpter.

Attorney Chance returned yesterday from La Grande, where he went in response to a request from Register Bartlett, of the United States land office, who wishes him, in his official capacity of United States commissioner, to attend to all land office business in this section of the country, the office there being over crowded with business. Applicants can now both file on claims and make final proof before Commissioner Chance, on homesteads, lien lands, desert lands and timber locations. This will be a great convenience to residents of this section, saving them the time and expense of making the trip to La Grande.

Come to See the Great Gold Camp.

Randal H. Kemp, of Mining, published at Spokane, arrived in Sumpter today, and will spend a week or ten days looking over this mining district. He says that General Charles S. Warren has assured him that this is the greatest gold mining region on earth, and he has come to verify that statement. The General himself will be here in a few days, when some deal they have been working on will be consummated.

Miner Burned to Death in His Tent.

John Brummer, a miner at the Bonanza, aged forty-seven, was burned to death in his tent early Sunday morning, and was buried here Monday. There has been some talk of foul play, but no evidence to sustain the theory. It is thought that he fell asleep while reading by candle light; that the candle burned down to the table on which it was standing and set it and the tent afire.