The Sumpter Miner

WITH the withering fire from the political death dealing batteries commanded by both Watterson and Bryan turned on Cleveland, the "beast from Buffalo," that pompous fakir, that more holy than thou crook, will never again wield an iota of influence in the democratic party, in national affairs.

IN a recent issue of the New York Commercial is a convincing, exhaustive article on the gold fields of eastern Oregon, written by J. E. McManus, of Seattle, who is largely interested in the Halma and the Excelsior, and is doing as much as any other one man in telling the world of how rich and great this mining region really is.

THE sale of the Maxwell renders it still more important that the Cracker creek road should be extended over to the Rock creek side of the divide. Extensive mining operations are being carried on in that district this season, and supplies are being hauled from Haines and Baker City, two or three times the distance that it is from Sumpter. This seems to be such a trifling effort to accomplish an important end that the merchants of Sumpter ought, really, this one time, work together for their own advantage—it is playing a sure-thing game.

IS THE Sumpter Valley railroad people going to force the citizens of Sumpter into a fanatical, sectarian, political fight by their constant, irritating attempts to injure this town? If they persist in this policy and exasperate our people into taking this step, against their inclination, the trade with the national committee in turning Utah over to the republicans will not save them from being wiped off the map of Oregon, so far as political influence is concerned. If Barton and his boss have enough sense to come in out of the wet, they will keep their hands off of star routes.

BAKER CITY papers and people are discussing feasible methods of raising money with which to advertise this section of the state in the east. It has been proposed to conduct a course of lectures, and a few other kindergarten schemes have been presented and received with favor. The promoters of this enterprise should hold a series of ice cream socials, tea and pound parties, give an amateur nigger minstrel show, or something of that kind. The whole scheme will be a dismal failure, unless Baker City business men and owners of mining properties that are for sale go down in their own individual pockets

and dig up the necessary money. They are the ones who will receive the benefits from this advertising; they are able to and should pay for it. The mining men of Sumpter have done more to enlighten the world on the great wealth of the eastern Oregon gold fields during the past two years than Baker City has done in thirty, and they stand ready to share the expense of any practical plan to extend the good work. They will not, however, enter into any fool scheme that will make the district ridiculous.

Oil Treatment for Ores.

There seems every probability that the adaptation of the oil process to the British Columbia ores will prove entirely successful, and if this be so, the outlook for the Kootenay district as a great mining country will be almost indefinitely enlarged, says the Vancouver Providence. The more far-seeing of investors are already preparing to secure the advantage which will be offered by being the first in the field, and once it has been placed beyond all doubt that the Kootenay ores can be treated for from $3 to $4.50, there will undoubtedly be a big rush of capital into that country. Even now, according to the interior papers, money is coming in in anticipation of the success of the process. It will not only mean immense activity in mining circles, but it will mean a revival in all the interior cities and towns. As an example of what may be looked for in this direction, take Rossland, where business depression has existed for the past year and a half and where the commercial interests have suffered so severely at the hands of stock manipulators, should double its population in the course of two or three years. The tremendous bodies of low grade ore in the hills surrounding that town assure its permanence and prosperity, once ores containing values of eight dollars can be treated with a margin of profit. If such a result were obtained, Rossland would very quickly rival, if it did not surpass, Butte City in size and prosperity. There is every reason to imagine, too, that the values contained by these ores will increase as depth in the mines is obtained. In most instances in Rossland, as in the other camps of the Kootenays, the ore becomes higher grade the farther down development is pursued. At the worst, the outlook for British Columbia's mineral country is not dark.

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