

The Sumpter Miner

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L. BUSH LIVERMORE.

THAT man Bush Livermore is as pocket a proposition as any alleged mine in southern Oregon; though, it must be acknowledged, he averages a trifle higher and the rich pockets occur with more gratifying frequency. He has for a year or more past worked, day in and day out, grinding out mental machine-made stuff for the Baker City Herald, a process that dulls and corrodes and wears away the brightest intellect. And yet, every once in a while, there flashes forth on the otherwise stale pages of that publication some product of his uncertain pen that is blindingly dazzling in its brilliancy. How such inspirations come to him is a mystery that has puzzled his intimates; though they are always expecting something of the kind and are never surprised when one of these pockets is uncovered in the true fissure vein of his intellect.

And this is an index to his entire character. The writer hereof practically raised him, and in all of his erratic career nothing until now has he ever done that was in the least surprising—his wildest, most inexplicable moves, his long weeks of hard, faithful work, his quixotic actions, his moments of despair, his days of elation—all were in perfect accord with the man behind the play, constituted the history of an individual repeating itself.

But at this late hour comes to THE MINER office an exquisitely engraved invitation to the "marriage of Miss Ethel Cox to Mr. L. Bush Livermore Sunday evening, August the third, nineteen hundred and two, at six o'clock at St. Stephens' Episcopal church, Baker City, Oregon."

In this crowning act of a more or less problematic life, he has turned a trick that saturates his friends with surprise, leaving little room for gratification over his good fortune. How did he do it? Surely it was in some moment when strongly under the influence of the divine afflatus that he plead his cause, perhaps drawing additional inspiration from the queenly, Juno-like beauty of the object of his longing. And how did the lady tame this wild spirit, capture him in the tangled jungle of celibacy and lead him forth into domestic captivity, rejoicing the while to be thus enslaved? Her voice is said to be as sweet as Seraph song. Doubtless the music thereof tamed that half-savage breast, and it is a sure thing that she flashed alluring lightning from her eyes, which sapped the fealty of our friend.

May she ever hold him secure in these silken bonds, inspiring him to lofty thought, occasionally applying woman's resourceful gad to make man "get in and drill," and force him to frequently uncover his inexhaustible supply of pockets, is the hope of his friends—who reserve the privilege of speculating among themselves as to whether or not the subjugation, the reformation, the revolution, the evolution is complete; who wonder whether or not her innocent young heart, that still hears the music of her childhood's chimes, fully comprehends the wide scope, the magnitude, the engineering difficulties, the diplomatic problems of the proposition that she has become indissolubly mixed up with.

THE regular Homestake dividend has been declared for July, payable on the

25th instant, of 5 cents per share, or \$105,000. This signalizes the two hundred and eighty-fifth consecutive monthly payment of the Homestake company to its stockholders, aggregating \$11,388,750, covering a period of 23 years and nine months. The Homestake gold mine is a misnomer, in the ordinary and popular acceptance of the term. It is a manufacturing business proposition of the greatest magnitude and permanency. Having 20 years, or 26,000,000 tons, of workable material in reserve, it is constantly developing additional tonnage above the daily consumption. There is no competition in this business, and the unvarying price of the manufactured product is guaranteed by and is as stable as the government of the United States and all the civilized nations of the world. The vast lodes of free-milling ores and refractory deposits of this most remarkable gold-bearing region, the Black Hills, now attracting capital and the best mining ability and experience, is the coming theatre of many other manufacturing propositions of like nature which are being actively exploited, and great plants of machinery are being constructed preparatory to entering the manufacturing stage.—Lead City (S. D.) Call.

THIS talk that one hears on the curb, expatiating on the difficulties to be encountered in successfully operating a smelter here, is merely the croaking of the ever present birds of evil omen. Several of the largest smelters in the world are some hundred miles removed from the mines and coke ovens and are dependent entirely upon railroad transportation. Here only coke will have to be shipped in from the outside, and possibly some lead ore. There is plenty of copper rock on the Snake river and at Quartzburg. If satisfactory rates can not be secured for hauling in this ore, then it can be shipped from other camps by rail. Only about one per cent of copper or four per cent of lead is necessary as a flux, in addition to lime and iron, both of which are found in abundance within two miles of the smelter. One ton of coke will smelt ten of ore. It is vastly cheaper to ship in that one ton of coke at a cost of fourteen to sixteen dollars, including freight charges, than to ship out ten tons of ore, at a cost for transportation alone of seventy dollars and over. As a matter of fact, this is an ideal point for a smelter and it is going to be not only a great money maker for its owners, but it is going to do more towards developing this country in one year after it is blown in, than all other influences have done in ten.

High Grade Specimens.

Some of the handsomest and richest specimens of high grade ore ever seen in the camp is on exhibition in M. E. Bain's mineral cabinet. There are three pieces of calanite, sylvanite and fluorine ores running in values to 4000 ounces of gold to the ton. There is no gold visible, but the application of a slow heat would reveal large globules. The specimen of calanite is a beautiful capitalization of tellurium and gold, the application of acid and heat to it would dissolve the tellurium and leave crystallized gold, chemically pure, but with no affinity for quick silver. While the Goleonda and North Pole produce specimens running higher in value, nothing of the same character to compare with them has ever been seen here before.

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