



# THE SUMPTER MINER

## NORTH POLE BUYS MORE GROUND

### SECURES 5,000 FEET EXTENSION OF ITS RICH LEDGE.

**Takes Everything Held by Messrs. Basche, Snyder and Hansen—Its Holdings Now Consist of Five Claims and a Fraction—Extends 2500 Feet on the Rock Creek Side of the Divide, Abutting on the Monte Cristo Group—Negotiations Pending for Purchase of the E. & E.**

It now develops that the principal object of Alexander Baring's recent trip out here was to buy more mining ground, to secure all extensions of the North Pole's rich ledge possible. THE MINER has been aware of this fact from the first, but refrained from mentioning it for fear publicity would interfere with the consummation of some of the pending deals. But now that the options have been secured and some money paid, no harm can result from the publication of all that is known of the transaction.

He bought a half interest in the Villard, owned by P. Basche, of Baker City, the North Pole company having already the other half; the fraction owned by Clark Snyder; the Yankee Jim, owned by Snyder and Andy Hansen, and the adjoining claim, owned by Hansen, on which there is a mill. This gives the North Pole over 8000 feet on this ledge, doubtless the richest on the globe, or five full claims and a fraction. Its holdings now extend about 2500 feet beyond the summit, on the Rock creek side of the divide, and adjoins the Monte Cristo group, recently bought by the Western Union company, of Minneapolis.

It is not known whether or not any advances have been made to buy that property. It is probable, however, that the company does not desire to sell, as extensive development work is now being done there. The prices paid for these claims is not known, as the transfer papers have not yet been filed.

Mr. Baring also nibbled at the E. & E. bait, which was thrown to him while here, but no information can be secured as to how far negotiations have progressed.

This purchase of contiguous claims by the North Pole people speaks volumes for the district—it says that they have a good thing and want more of it—all there is to be had.

What Mr. Baring decided to do about the building of an electric line from Sumpter to Cable Cove, via the North Pole and Bourne, THE MINER has been unable to ascertain. The chances are that he has as yet rendered no definite decision. It is known, however, that he was favorably impressed with the proposition. Those who are dealing with him are looking cheerful, which is con-

clusive proof that indications look good to them.

### Vitalized Air Kills the Pain.

Vitalized air, a recent scientific discovery, is a great boon to humanity. The victim of pain breathes this magic gas and the aching nerves are lulled to pleasant sleep; that almost universal dread of the dental surgeon's cruel forceps is converted into indifference. A few days since the writer was suffering torments with a throbbing tooth, went to Dr. Ogle and with self congratulatory bravery took his seat in the operating chair, telling the Doctor to yank it out even should death result. He smiled confidently and remarked that there would be neither fatal results nor pain. It was with extreme skepticism that the patient began to breathe the "vitalized air." Gradually an entrancing dream-like semi-consciousness took possession of the brain. There was no pain. Then entire oblivion came. It might have been a half minute, possibly a month, so far as the power to estimate time is concerned, but the watch said four minutes, when consciousness returned and the tongue felt a void, where there had been an aching snag, dug out in three pieces, absolutely without pain. There were no after evil effects, as are experienced from taking other anesthetics.

### Sumpter-Baker City Stage Line.

Four rigs left yesterday for Baker City, carrying sixteen people. Since the Sumpter Valley railway stopped running one of its trains and arranged the schedule of the other so as to inconvenience the traveling public as much as possible, travel over the wagon road has become a necessity for many people. If a party of four wishes to make the trip to Baker City and return, it is much cheaper to hire a rig than to go on the train, aside from hotel bills and the loss of time in waiting for a train. In order to transact any business at the county seat, thirty-one hours must be wasted on the trip. It will pay some one to put on a stage line between Sumpter and Baker City, leaving here at seven or eight o'clock in the forenoon and there about the same hour in the evening.

### Will Decide About Reduction Plants.

Dr. and Mrs. S. M. Moulton, of Minneapolis, arrived in Sumpter Sunday. Mr. Moulton is treasurer of the Turnagain Arm Mining company, which owns the California mine. Lee S. Ovitt, of Milwaukee, secretary of the company, and others interested, were expected to arrive this forenoon, but the train from the east was late in arriving at Baker City this morning and it is supposed the party missed connection there and will arrive here tomorrow. It is reported that on this trip it will be definitely decided as to what kind of reduction plant will be installed on the California and final arrangements made for the erection of a mill on the Cracker-Oregon, which property, owned by a different company, these gentlemen control.

## MORE TIMBER FILINGS

### Party of Minnesota Lumbermen Find Good Claims.

A party consisting of A. Snyder, Charles P. Murphy, J. O. Kenna, Edward L. Toben, Joseph Toben, R. M. Patterson and M. J. Frink, of Duluth, Minnesota, arrived this week to take up timber lands and found suitable claims. They left yesterday for La Grande and the east and will return in about ninety days to make proof.

These gentlemen are from what was once considered the best timbered state in the middle west, and today it is nearly denuded, a conservative estimate being that within three years there will not be a tree left standing, where a few years ago there were billions of feet. Mr. Murphy stated:

"The timber of eastern Oregon is about all there is left and since the reservation has taken in all the desirable tracts, the timber business, as far as locators are concerned, is a thing of the past. The reservation is undoubtedly in the interest of some large lumber outfit. The same scheme was tried in Minnesota, but the protest that was made against it was so strong that the deal was abandoned. If the proper steps are taken to ferret out the jobbers, the Blue mountain alleged reserve can be stopped before some syndicate has had an opportunity to purchase it by scrip. The people of Minnesota have seen the price of timber advance from \$2.50 to eight and ten dollars for stumpage, and realize the value of a quarter section of the fine timber found in the Blue mountains."

### Prehistoric Knowledge of Assaying.

Regarding the antiquity of assaying and the finding of cupels in ancient Roman relics, an exchange states that Zimbabwe, in Mashonaland, Central South Africa, has ruins which show an almost modern acquaintance with the arts. Hinting at even prehistoric times evidence of abundant supplies of gold is reported—and later abundant gold in Arabia and gold in Phoenicia and Tyre was well known. Recent discoveries point to Zimbabwe, South Africa, as the place of its origin. Iron smelting furnaces are unearthed, also a crude blow pipe and an ingot mold with patterns of Phoenician gold ornaments, showing they worked for the Phoenician market. Crucibles were found there and specimens brought away. The excavators found that the gold was crushed and separated by a water process, then put in clay crucibles well closed up and left for a long time in the furnace.

### Laden Down With Nuggets.

Louis Wunsch came into town yesterday laden down with nuggets. The largest weighed \$35.50. The claim is located in the gulch, connecting with the White Swan, and Mr. Wunsch stated the find

was the result of Sunday's work. It is a placer proposition and the water being pumped from the White Swan shaft is used in his operations. The water is pumped into the gulch, where a dam has been constructed. Several large sized nuggets were brought in. The one mentioned was sold to William Wandersee and has been placed upon exhibition in his saloon adjoining the Herald office. The specimen is a magnificent one and a number of offers have been made for it. It is Virtue gold without a doubt.—Herald.

### Pushing Work on Two Groups.

J. A. Hilliker, of the Western Union Mining company, which owns two groups of claims on Rock creek, both direct extensions of the North Pole, came in from that property a few days since and left for his home in Minneapolis, where is located the company's main office. He has finished all of the buildings and now has two full crews of men at work opening up both groups, the Monte Cristo, consisting of two and a half claims on North Pole hill, and the Gold Bug, across Rock creek, on the opposite mountain. Tunnels are being driven on both, which will be drifts on the vein, after about 100 feet in each are driven.

### Band Boys Dance a Success.

The dance given last evening at Ellis opera house by the Sumpter band was a complete social and financial success. About 100 couples participated, and the occasion was one to be remembered. The net receipts amounted to \$58, which will be invested in new music, of which the organization stands in great need, as the present repertoire has been played over and over until it has become stale. The band contemplates continuing these pleasant dances, giving one every two weeks, and if its initial one is any criterion, they will be a source of enjoyment to the dancing coterie of Sumpter.

### Here to Establish Boiler Works.

L. Rodgers, of Muskegon, Michigan, has been in Sumpter and contiguous mining districts for several days past. The purpose of his trip here is to look over the country and learn whether or not there is sufficient business here to justify the establishment in Sumpter of extensive boiler manufacturing and repair works. He says he knows a small plant would make money, but he is in doubt as to whether or not one on the scale contemplated by himself would pay.

### "Now is the Appointed Time."

The O. R. & N. Co. has just issued a handsomely illustrated pamphlet entitled, "Oregon, Washington and Idaho and their resources." People in the east are anxious for information about the Pacific northwest. If you will give the O. R. & N. company agent at Baker City a list of names of eastern people, who are likely to be interested, the booklet will be mailed free to such persons. Yours truly, A. L. Craig, General Passenger Agent.