

HALMA "OUT OF SIGHT"

J. E. McManus Returns From Inspecting That Property.

John E. McManus, of Seattle, one of the most extensive mining operators on the Pacific coast, passed through Sumpter Monday, on his way home from the Halma, a property which he is opening up in the Greenhorns. Asked as to how the Halma is looking, he replied: "Honestly, it is out of sight. I am almost afraid to say how good it really does look to me. The unadorned truth sounds too much like wild exaggeration."

Mr. McManus has mined from British Columbia to Mexico, including Montana and Colorado, but for a half dozen years past he has devoted most of his time to properties in the Cascades of Washington, which experience has had a tendency to make him a trifle shy on optimism, though it has in no way beclouded his judgment. He doubtless has in the Halma just as good a thing as it looks to be, but in comparison with Cascade prospects, it seems too good to be true.

This is a very noticeable characteristic with all of that Seattle push that has secured properties in eastern Oregon. It was only a few weeks since that A. B. Ernst, whose company owns the Virginia, made a similar talk to the writer, showing him an assay of seventy-odd dollars in gold of ore from that mine, under promise that it not be published until it was verified by other assays. That was the lowest he could get. Captain A. W. Anderson expresses himself similarly every time he comes in from a trip to the Tammany and Justice.

Mr. McManus says that he has not made the progress that he had hoped to make in opening up the Halma thus far this season, that the men employed there have not been working regularly and considerable time has been lost. On this trip he changed his system and let a lot of work on contract to Foreman Nelson, to be completed in a specified time, which will average up the season's work to a satisfactory point. The rock is now comparatively soft and rapid progress will be made.

"Lost Cabin Mine" Found at Last.

At last the Lost Cabin mine has been found! It was closer to Butte than anyone supposed. Had some of the old prospectors here known its proximity to the greatest mining camp on earth they would have had it by the nape of the neck long ago. The find was made by Buffalo, Wyoming, men, who were en route to Caspar, that state. The Lost Cabin mine is on Canyon creek, sixty miles from Buffalo, and notwithstanding the fact that it was in plain sight all the time, hundreds of prospectors have been looking for it thirty years. The discovery was made by Roy D. Peck and D. Van Wagner. Although the property was supposed to be richer than anything that ever came over the pike, the discoverers are somewhat disappointed. They cannot shovel gold from its vein. They believe it will be all right if properly approached, however, and have organized a company. It is reported that the company has ordered a stamp mill, to cost \$12,000, and a cyanide plant. The celebrated mine is a drift in the side of a hill; or, rather, the opening in the vein is a drift. It is in forty feet and it is rumored that the face of the tunnel is in ore so rich that a dollar's worth of gold can be picked from a square inch. It is also claimed that in one side of the drift bears the names of Gorman and Wilhelm Arbach, and beneath the names are the figures "1864." Gorman's first name cannot be decipher-

ed. According to tradition, that was the year in which the mine was found and lost, but as all of the original discoverers except one man were killed by Indians, very little of its correct history is known.—Butte Inter Mountain.

Fabulously Rich Strike on Willow Creek.

If all accounts be true, and there is no apparent reason for doubting them, there will spring up a gold mining camp on Lower Willow creek that will be to the almost fabled Rand and to the glories of Cripple Creek as the type is to the prototype, or the shadow to the substance. If the ores carry any part of what the assays show, the richest regions of the Klondike will pale into insignificance when compared with this, as the tallow candle does when placed in juxtaposition with the brightest are light that modern ingenuity can devise. Ex-Mayor C. M. Kellogg has just returned from Ontario, where he is engaged in the sage business. While there he visited the Willow Creek district. The practical route, he says, is by way of Hereford and Malheur City. He brought in with him a quantity of ore which he will have assayed. Assays from the same class of ores, made at Huntington and Weiser, showed values of \$150 to the ton, the lowest being \$85 and in some instances running all the way up to \$500 per ton. This strike is on a big butte, on the south side of Willow creek, below the Coles ranch. The ore is a taley, slaty substance, carrying free gold in invisible quantities, and is an ideal cyanide ore. Mr. Kellogg also brought to the city with him samples of what is

supposed to be aluminum bearing clay from near Vale.—Herald.

Timber and Homestead Filings.

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