

**MORE WORK
ON CLIMAX.**

**P. R. Bishop Will Commence
Operations on it Shortly.**

Phil R. Bishop, one of the best known pioneer mining men in the Sumpter district, was in town last week from the Climax mine, in Cracker Creek district. He and George W. Grayson, of San Francisco, have owned this property for a number of years, and it has been quite extensively developed, principally by tunnels. The lower tunnel is in about 900 feet and the upper, 800 feet above the lower, 600 feet.

Mr. Bishop is now here to superintend further development work on the Climax, the most important part of which will be the connecting of the two tunnels by an upraise run through the 300 feet between the two. Work will be prosecuted from both tunnels simultaneously, sinking from the upper and driving the upraise from the lower. This shaft will be sunk at the end of the upper tunnel, 400 feet in.

Before work could begin a vast deal of dead work had to be done before entrance could be gained to the lower tunnel, caused by the breaking of their ditch, which is under lease to the Golconda company. The Climax people experience this each season when they begin work. The mouth of the tunnel was filled by a solid mass of large and small boulders, earth and other debris, and it required several days of hard labor to clear it away. When opened, it was discovered that the tunnel was filled to a depth of about seven feet for its entire length with water, which when released rushed down the mountain side with such violence that huge boulders weighing several tons were carried away. As soon as the tunnel has dried work will begin.

The Climax group is on the same vein and adjoins the Columbia. It is supposed to be one of the best properties in that district, containing within its limits the richest mines on earth. Numerous assays showing that ore running up into thousands of dollars per ton has been made, but, like the E. & E., has seemingly been under the malign influence of a hoodoo. For some reason or other it has never been as fully developed as its more famous neighbors, and though from time to time rumors have been current of negotiations pending for its sale at a big figure, the deals have thus far not materialized. This fact does not, however, indicate that the mine is not what is claimed for it by the owners, who have all kinds of faith that it will prove of equal or higher rank as a producer than the North Pole, Golconda and Columbia.

Mr. Bishop returned a week or two since from the famous old Auburn placers, which he sold to Chicago people, represented by E. C. Jaquish. He has been putting the property in shape for next season's run. These diggings have been worked for more than a quarter of a century and have yielded millions of dollars worth of gold dust. Under modern placer mining methods it is believed they will again become an important asset of eastern Oregon's mineral wealth.

Looking for Mining Investments.

W. E. Hurd, the mining man of Portland, arrived in Baker City yesterday and was met here by C. F. White, of Boston, A. Hawkins, of North Adams, Mass., and J. S. Hamilton, of New Haven, Conn. All are associates of Mr. Hurd and stockholders in various mining enterprises in the camp. All the gentlemen are bankers and moneyed men

and while here will look over the country generally, with a view to future investments. They are the leaders of a wealthy clique in the east and upon their favorable reports doubtless much capital will come here for investment. Their visit here at this time means much to the entire district.—Democrat.

One of Life's Pleasures.

There is nothing in life more enjoyable and at the same time so beneficial to both mind and body, as traveling. A modern railway journey, intelligently taken, tends to prolong life, break the monotony of existence and acts as a panacea for dull care, by taking us out of the well worn channels of worldly and business struggles. Before starting upon a trip, whether on business or recreation, it is well to inquire and investigate the various routes, and choose the one offering the best inducements in the way of comfort and attractions. The traveler, the tourist or business man is wise in selecting the Rio Grande lines in a journey to and from the east, as it offers every comfort and modern convenience to suit all classes of travel, with an array of scenic attractions unsurpassed in the world. Castle Gate, The Canon of the Grand, Marshall Pass, Tennessee Pass and the world renowned Royal Gorge are but a few of these attractions seen from the car windows. Three fast trains daily between Ogden and Denver. Pullman palace and ordinary sleeping cars on all trains to Denver, Omaha, Kansas City, Chicago and St. Louis without change. A perfect dining car service. Agents throughout the northwest can sell tickets via this route. For rates, maps and full information or for copy of beautiful booklet, "With Nature in Colorado," write or call on W. C. McBarns, general agent, or M. J. Roche, traveling passenger agent, 124 Third Street, Portland, Oregon.

Timber and Homestead Filings.

Timber and homestead filings, as well as final proofs, can be made before Charles H. Chance, United States commissioner, office in First Bank of Sumpter building, Sumpter, thus saving applicants expense of a trip to La Grande.

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**PRECIOUS METAL
PRODUCTION**

**Tabulated Statement of States
and Territories**

At the risk of wearying our readers with statistics we present the final estimate of the production of gold and silver in the United States during the calendar year 1901, recently issued by George E. Roberts, director of the mint. Mr. Roberts' statement shows that during the year the United States produced 3,805,500 ounces of gold, valued at \$78,666,700, a decrease of \$504,300, or 0.63 per cent, as compared with the year 1900. Ten of the nineteen states and territories yielding gold showed an increased production—California leading with \$1,075,300, an increase due entirely to the normal development of the mining industry. Nevada showed the material gain of \$967,600, which came largely from the newly discovered camp of Tonopah. South Dakota also made a gain of \$301,900; Idaho \$144,600 and Oregon \$123,400. The greatest decrease, amounting to \$1,285,300, was in Alaska. This was due to the lateness of the season, which delayed the opening of the placers, and to litigation, which interfered with the development of the industry.

Colorado diminished \$1,135,900, a fact explained by the decline in grade of ores extracted, the tonnage having increased. The silver yield for 1901 amounted to 55,214,000 ounces, of the commercial value of \$33,128,400, which was 2,433,000 ounces or five per cent less than it was in 1900. The greatest gain—1,493,200 ounces—was in Utah, almost all of which came from the Park City district.

The following statement shows the approximate distribution by producing states and territories of the product of gold and silver in the United States for the year 1901:

State or Territory.	Gold value.	Silver, commercial value
Alabama	\$ 3,100	\$ 60
Alaska	8,685,700	28,740
Arizona	4,083,000	1,687,440
California	16,891,400	555,360
Colorado	27,693,500	11,062,680
Georgia	124,500	240
Idaho	1,869,000	3,327,540
Michigan	30,800	48,000
Montana	4,744,100	7,879,020
Nevada	2,963,800	1,087,500
New Mexico	688,400	338,040
North Carolina	55,500	12,180
Oregon	1,188,100	96,060
South Carolina	46,700	120
South Dakota	6,479,500	46,800
Texas	600	283,440
Utah	3,680,200	6,648,480
Virginia	5,300	420
Washington	280,500	200,600
Wyoming	12,700	12,800
Totals	\$78,666,700	\$33,128,400



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