



# THE SUMPTER MINER

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## SALE OF THE FAMOUS OLD MAGNOLIA MINE

**E. Sanderson Smith and Associates the Purchasers---No Cloud Now on the Title---  
Three Shifts at Work in the  
Lower Level.**

Last week was completed the organization of the Magnolia Consolidated Gold Mines company, incorporated under the laws of the Territory of Arizona, capitalized at \$1,000,000. The directors are E. Sanderson Smith, R. H. Miller, C. H. Chance and J. W. Connella; officers, E. Sanderson Smith, president and general manager; J. W. Connella, secretary, R. H. Miller, treasurer. C. H. Chance is attorney for the company.

This is the results of more than six months work on the part, principally, of Mr. Smith. Every representative of a syndicate who has come to the gold fields of eastern Oregon during the past two years to buy a mine has had the Magnolia presented to him by a half dozen brokers who have, one time and another, had the property on their lists. The mine has ever stood the closest examination, and could have been sold a dozen times, had the title been without a cloud. But when the prospective buyer started to examine the records he found such a complicated mass of legal entanglements that he dropped the proposition at once; declaring that life is too short to devote to the task of clearing that title.

Last spring, Mr. Smith being intimately acquainted with both the mine and the owners, undertook the work and his efforts have been crowned with complete success. The Magnolia Consolidated Gold Mines company now has a deed to the property. Competent attorneys have passed upon the abstract and declare that it is without a flaw.

More than two years ago he experted the mine for an English syndicate and advised its purchase; but about that time the Boer war disturbed the money market to such an extent that the sale was not consummated. So favorably impressed was he with the property that he has kept his eye on it ever since, waited until the time was ripe and secured it for himself and associates. This has required intelligent, persistent effort, infinite patience and diplomacy; but he has won a rich reward for his labors. All who know the Magnolia agree that it is one of the very best, surest mines in eastern Oregon.

It is opened up with about 1400 feet

of workings, tunnels and upraise. Three tunnels are driven on the vein, the lower being over 700 feet in length, with a depth of nearly 400 feet. All are connected with upraises, which afford excellent ventilation, rendering unnecessary expensive air pumps. There is blocked out about \$300,000 worth of ore, according to Mr. Smith's reports, in which the average value, estimated on a half hundred assays from different points in the workings, is placed at \$8.94. B. L. McLain, who erected the mill and was superintendent during its first sixty days run, informs the writer that he had two assays made daily of the pulp, after it had passed over the plates, the average assay value being \$11. Only \$1.50 was saved on the plates, so the value of the ore was about \$12.50 a ton, all in gold. This rock was stoped from the lower level. There is now on the several dumps 3000 tons of ore and at the mill several hundred tons of valuable concentrates. The ledge is from four to ten feet wide, the width and values both increasing uniformly with depth.

Since Mr. Smith has had possession of the property, another ledge has been discovered, which crosses the one already extensively developed at an angle of about forty-five degrees. It has been uncovered by numerous open cuts and shafts and rich in free gold. A dozen assays gave an average value of \$58, several of which ran high in the hundreds. For a month past three shifts have been employed under Superintendent Graham driving the lower tunnel ahead, the purpose being to reach the intersection of this cross vein as soon as possible, for at that point it is almost certain that a large body of very rich ore will be found, it being universally the case in that district that intersecting ledges enrich each other.

The mine is equipped with a complete modern ten-stamp mill and four concentrators. No company in the state has better bunk and boarding houses, barns, offices and shops, the latter being supplied with the best of tools needed in mining, carpentering and blacksmithing. There are also several

ore cars and about 2000 feet of steel rails there. Between five and six hundred cords of wood are piled up convenient to the mill. Covered tramways lead from the several tunnel mouths to the mill.

The Magnolia group is situated in the Granite district four miles from that camp and twenty miles from Sumpter. It consists of seven claims, the Magnolia, Violet, Rose, Atlas, Jupiter, Helena and Tacoma, and a water right. The company has recently bought an excellent water power, that will operate three times the present number of stamps, thus reducing running expenses to a minimum. The former owners of the property are Al Jones, John Jones, J. H. Coande, John Coyle and several people who live in Liverpool, England. The latter acquired their interests by the erection of the mill and making other improvements, costing in the aggregate more than \$50,000. This was done through the agency of W. L. Vinson. All these gentlemen have acted in harmonious concert with Mr. Smith, and the new company which he organized has their hearty good will. Al Jones, especially, has done much to promote the deal. The price paid is, of course, not made public; but, to use a hackneyed expression, "it requires six figures to write the sum."

Since the legal complications have been straightened out, a half dozen syndicates have tried to buy the property, but the new company will operate the mine, knowing, beyond all doubt, that it will be a profitable enterprise.

The mill will be started before spring arrives.

### ON THE 800 FOOT LEVEL.

#### The Famous Bonanza Mine Will Again Become a Large Producer.

It has long been an open secret that the famous Bonanza mine had not been developed in proper shape by a former management. Hence it became necessary some time ago to close down the mill and develop the mine on such lines as would insure a steady output with plenty of ore in reserve.

For some months this policy has been carried out, and one week ago the vein was cut on the 800 foot level. This ore body has been proven to be eight feet wide, and is said to be higher in grade than any yet mined from this property.

An experienced mining man who has been in touch with the improvements going on, and who has seen the late strike, remarked recently that for a long time this mine had been worked on the "hand to mouth" principle, but now it was started right and would be kept so. He also stated that every available space about the mine was blocked with ore so that it would be necessary to start the mill soon and from that time on the property would produce \$100,000 per month.

For holiday candies, fruits, nuts, cigars or tobacco go to Sturgills.

### TELLURIDE OF GOLD.

#### A Body Found Which Goes \$1600 Per Ton.

E. Butze, of Baker City, superintendent of the Northwest Coal and Iron company's gold mine holdings in eastern Oregon, passed through Sumpter today on his return to the shive town of Baker county.

For some time the above named corporation, whose headquarters are at Kalamazoo, Michigan, have been running an adit tunnel on the Colorado and Gould and Curry, two locations which they own on the great Mother Lode system, and situated about nine miles northwest of Sumpter.

This tunnel, which is now in about 140 feet, is being driven by contract, two shifts keeping continually at work.

A few days since the contractors notified Mr. Butze that they had encountered some very hard ground and could only advance about five feet per week.

To prove their statement, they forwarded to Mr. Butze a sample of the material in which they were working. Mr. Butze's experienced eye soon detected the fact that the sample was not barren rock, consequently he had it assayed and found it to be telluride of gold ore with a value of \$1600 per ton. This is the same character of ore which is found at greater depth in the North Pole mine and which averages \$5,000 to the ton in gold.

The ledge on the Colorado and Gould and Curry, from which this rich ore came, is at least fifty feet wide. It is the intention of the company to crosscut it at as early a date as possible and determine its value.

There are two veins on the property, one styled the east and the other the west vein. This rich strike was made on the east vein, but Mr. Butze has always heretofore considered the west vein as the most valuable. However, both veins will be thoroughly exploited as fast as the owners can complete arrangements to have the work performed.

Patents have been applied for for this property, and the title will be perfected as soon as the final papers are sent from the surveyor general's office.

The extreme value of this ore was not only a surprise to the men who found it, but to many others as well, but rich strikes are so common in that section that no one need be surprised at anything that may be unearthed from this time on.

#### In the Greenhorn District.

The Psyche 20-stamp mill is about ready to commence operations. J. T. Eden, an experienced mill man, has gone out to take charge. In the same neighborhood, the Phoenix mill, with ten stamps and Bryan roller mill will soon be in operation.