

FORTUNES IN SIGHT.

An Idea of What a Sumpter Mine Has in Reserve.

Very little is known of the great Columbia mine in the Cracker Creek section. The management no doubt being averse to giving out information to the public. However, it is the business of the writers on a mining journal to secure reliable news of all mines possible and lay the facts before their readers, as long as doing so works no injury on any one.

On the surface the vein of the Columbia mine has an average width of seventy-two feet. It is opened by tunnels to a depth of 350 feet. The rich ores sometimes lie on the foot, and sometimes on the hanging wall. At present there is above their tunnel level over 30,000 tons of ore which will average \$6 per ton in gold.

Below their tunnel level the shaft has reached a depth of 850 feet. At each 100 feet levels have been run from this shaft which in the aggregate have explored thousands of feet of ground, and from these levels an immense quantity of only the highest grade ore has been extracted, following the same plan as above the tunnel level.

On the lowest level, between 1200 and 1300 feet from the surface, the vein is fifty-two feet wide and the ore is of much better grade than anywhere above. This applies to the ore that is mined and milled as well as that of lesser grade, which is held in reserve until a cheaper method of handling it has been devised.

Formerly the reduction plant consisted of a ten stamp mill. This permitted only the reduction of the higher grade of ore. Now the mine is equipped with twenty stamps and a cyanide plant, hence they can handle at a profit ore of a more medium grade.

Between the tunnel level and the bottom of the shaft, there is probably quite an excess above 100,000 tons of ore blocked out of which the lowest grade will average \$7 or \$8 per ton. This does not include the extraordinary rich rock which this mine produces, simply the lowest grade which is both an asset and a reserve.

GEMLETS FROM GRANT COUNTY

Movements of People About the Town of Granite.

The following items are taken from the Granite Gem of the 13th instant.

John Monahan has been renewing old acquaintances in Granite for the past few days. He has just returned from a tour of the mines of southern Oregon, and has come back thinking that eastern Oregon is the mining country of the state.

A. B. Ernst, of Seattle, secretary and general manager of the North Pacific, the Virginia mine, in the Greenhorns, reports the work on the Virginia progressing in a most satisfactory manner. He is working a force of 15 men and is driving a new 200-foot tunnel. The 4-stamp rotary mill is running on high grade ore. James Constable is in charge of the work. He was formerly assistant instructor at the Washington university of mineralogy.

Messrs. Butler and Kershaw have bonded their group of five claims known as the Black Eye group located in the Greenhorn district for \$100,000. The bond is what is known as a working bond, and the parties who took the bond will commence development work at once. About 250 feet of tunnel work

has been done on the property, in which is shown a vein 22 feet wide with a pay shoot averaging \$12 per ton.

MORNING MINE IN GREENHORNS.

Three Hundred Tons of Ore Run Through Psyche Mill.

H. H. Ames, one of the owners of the Morning mine, located in the Greenhorn mountains near Greenhorn City, was transacting business in Canyon City early this week.

To the Blue Mountain Eagle he stated that the Morning mine was showing up excellent at the present time. They have just completed the milling of 300 tons of ore from this property at the Psyche mill and are well pleased with results therefrom.

This ore was taken from the property by way of a tunnel which taps the ledge at a depth of seventy-five feet. At this depth the ore was largely free milling, the concentrates carrying possibly one-fourth of the values.

Mr. Ames' company commenced work on a 600-foot cross-cut tunnel last season which is now complete within 100 feet of the ledge. This tunnel will be completed at once, and will tap the ledge at a depth of 275 feet below the surface.

If the ore at that depth contains the values that are expected, the Morning mine will be added to the list of prominent producing properties of Grant county.

Oregon's Advancement.

There has been for some time much dissatisfaction over the published estimates on the production of Oregon mines. It has been claimed by Oregonians that these estimates have been too low. There will doubtless this year again be complaints made over the estimates for 1902, but the fact must remain that the year was a very prosperous one—in fact, the most prosperous in the history of lode mining in Oregon. Nor is this all. From every section comes news of increasing activity and encouraging developments, which augur well for the future. The more conditions are studied, the more it becomes evident that Oregon's mining industry is on the eve of great prosperity.—Journal For Investors.

Princess Mine at Susanville.

Work has been prosecuted for the past two years and a half on the Princess claim, near Susanville, by an English company, and very little has been given out to the public concerning their operations. The have a ledge carrying four feet of ore which averages above \$20 per ton in free milling gold quartz.

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