

KNOCKING THE GREAT GOLCONDA.

Fake "Investor's Adviser" Exhibits Its Cloven Hoof and Ignorance.

From every direction come complaints of the horde of publications that have sprung into existence during recent months, calling themselves some kind of mining journal, investor's guide or adviser; for the reason that they are pursuing a systematic campaign of attempted blackmail. They all have a few pages devoted to answering enquiries from mythical subscribers regarding the merits of various mining properties. This is nothing more nor less than an adjunct to the advertising department of the paper. The proposition is put to the mining company, with varying degrees of brutal directness, to advertise in that particular guardian of the investor's interest, or prepare for a roast.

As THE MINER has several times had occasion to remark, these fake publications have no better facilities for ascertaining the value of a mining property than any individual, than the prospective investor has himself. In fact, their information is worse than worthless, for this reason. They will make no adverse report on a property if the company owning it will advertise in their columns, or is willing to pay for a favorable writeup. No company that has a valuable property and is working on honest lines will submit to this species of blackmail. It, therefore, stands to reason that the wildcats get the favorable notices and the meritorious mines the roasts. Investors should ponder over these facts.

On the other hand, promoters should stand pat and fight these blackmailers to a standstill, because they can do no permanent injury; for the patent reason that their circulation is extremely limited; their editors are ignorant of all matters pertaining to mining, and invariably make themselves ridiculous when they enter this unknown realm. Here is a case in point.

A few days since THE MINER received a copy of the Investor's Adviser, published at Chicago, in which appeared an article viciously knocking the great Golconda mine, Cracker Creek district. Read these few following extracts from a half page answer to a query pretended to have been received from Bloomington, Illinois, and judge for yourselves whether or not any one short of an irremediable fool would be influenced by such a conglomeration of ignorance, and mendacity:

"The mines of the corporation are located in Eastern Oregon, near Sumpter, on the belt of the rich territory which has yielded over \$1,500,000,000 of gold and generally known as the Mother Lode of the Sierra Nevada range of mountains.

"All the rich ore that was taken out previous to the construction of this mill was shipped to other mills, but since the beginning of operations with this mill it is said the work has been unsatisfactory. The mill has been blamed for not getting values out of the ore, but we are inclined to believe that the values were not in the ore, therefore the mill could not produce. These mines are what is

known as the porphyritic veins, a formation which blazes out in extreme richness of free gold and then vanishes as suddenly. The miner's phrase for his is "pocketty." Such mines are a very uncertain investment and the money spent in reaching from one ledge to another is often quite as much, if not more, than the pocket yields when discovered. The peculiar feature of the vein formation is that the rock or ore situated between these "pockets" does not produce values sufficient to warrant milling.

"We note that in their literature they make a point of the Mother Lode. Practical miners out west do not care to waste any of their money trying to find the Mother Lode. They have had their experience in that down in California and other places. Such talk may be good for promoting purposes among eastern investors who do not know much about mining.

"The officers of the company are all men of good standing in the west and many of them experienced in the mining business and it is evident that they intend to do more than work the Golconda mines. Water, when stored in sufficient quantities in that country is a valuable asset for hydraulic work, power and irrigation. They also have a considerable quantity of timber, the quality of which we are not informed.

"Guided by information we have received from the west, and the history of these mines, we are inclined to think that it is a plan to unload a disappointing mine on the "tenderfeet." Those western business men need capital to develop their country and are anxious to induce eastern people to invest out there. This is commendable and in many cases will prove profitable to eastern investors, but an investment in the Golconda Consolidated Mines is a very uncertain outlook. Such mines as these blaze out into wonderful richness and are again eclipsed."

The writer is quite as ignorant of geography as he is of mining. Note that he locates the Sierra Nevada mountains in eastern Oregon; get on to his wise guy skepticism

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16.

MORE LAND OPEN FOR ENTRY.

Department of the Interior, United States Land Office, La Grande, Ore., Feb. 9, 1903.

Notice is hereby given—That the official plats of the surveys of Townships Nos. 7 S. R. 47 E.; 7 S. R. 48 E.; and 6 S. R. 48 E., have been received at this office and the same will be filed of record in this office on Wednesday, the 15th day of April, 1903, and that on and after that date this office will be prepared to receive applications for the entry of lands in said townships.

E. W. BARTLETT, Register.
S. O. SWACKHAMER, Receiver.

Mining deeds for sale at this office.

DR. J. H. DAVIS

DENTIST

Portland Prices

Over Basche Hardware Co. Sumpter, Oregon

F. A. E. STARR,

Attorney-at-Law

Center, cor. High St. Sumpter, Oregon

F. E. HOBSON,

Civil and Mining Engineer.

U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor for Oregon, Engineer for the City of Sumpter.

Underground and Patent Surveys. Blue Printing and Draughting.

CHAS. H. CHANCE

ATTORNEY AT LAW

City Attorney U. S. Commissioner

Rooms 2 and 3, First Bank of Sumpter Building, SUMPTER, OREGON

L. T. BROCK

W. H. VOSE

BROCK & VOSE

Physicians and Surgeons.

Special Attention Given to Ear, Eye, Nose, Throat and Skin Diseases. Bety Hot air apparatus for Treating Rheumatism.

Wilson Block, Sumpter, Oregon.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF SUMPTER

Will be ready for business March 2, 1903.

Capital Stock - - \$25,000

OFFICERS

J. H. ROBBINS, - - - President
J. W. SCRIBER, - - - Vice-President
R. H. MILLER, - - - Cashier
H. S. DURGAN, - - - Assistant Cashier

Safety Deposit Vaults Gold Dust Bought
Does a General Banking and Exchange Business

THE GEM SALOON A. J. STINSON, Prop.

(Successor to Snyder & Stinson)

Only the Best Brands of Liquors Served Over the Bar

SUMPTER, OREGON

Basche Hardware Co.

... Sumpter ...
GENERAL DEALERS IN
Shelf and Heavy Hardware
Iron and Steel Pipe
Mining and Mill Machinery
Agents for "HERCULES" Powder Fuse and Caps

C. C. Basche
MANAGER

GOOD THINGS TO

..EAT..
-AT-
E. P. Bergman & Compa'y
GROCERS
Mill Street, New Building.

... THE ...
SUMPTER MEAT MARKET

AUSTIN MEAT CO. Props.

Butcher and Packer
Fresh and Cured Meats and Sausage of all Kinds

SUMPTER, OREGON

DR. PEARCE & ANDERSON

Physicians and Surgeons

PROPRIETORS
SUMPTER GENERAL HOSPITAL

SUMPTER, OREGON.
Telephone OFFICE, Main St.
HOSPITAL, Main St.