

## The Sumpter Miner

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ALWAYS IN ADVANCE.

Speaking of the results accomplished by the United States Geological Survey, the Mining World very justly observes: "The work accomplished by the United States Geological Survey is by far the best of any similar institution in the world. The reports on geology, mining, etc., sent out from the survey with much regularity, makes most interesting and practical reading. Numbers of these papers are written by experts and the survey is particularly fortunate to have in its employ some of the brightest men in the profession. It is understood that the expenses of operation of the survey are limited because of insufficient appropriation. Were Congress to allow this splendid branch of the government sufficient money for permitting of expansion, the survey could keep in closer touch with every important mining field in the country, which would be of great value."

Sumpter celebrated Independence Day in no half-hearted way as such celebrations go in these times, especially in the towns and villages of the west. The various committees worked faithfully, secured abundant funds and carried out the well arranged program almost in every detail. But after all the question arises, whether these brilliant displays are prompted entirely by the spirit of patriotism, or if there is not a grain or so of graft in the matter. Do the business men, the hotel, restaurant and saloon folk, who contributed to the fund, do so solely because of the patriotic feelings which the day inspires, or are they not mildly speculating in "futures?" Really, was there not more patriotism at the bottom of it when our fathers met in groves, or town halls, reverently heard the Declaration and spent the day in pleasant and harmless diversions, than in the fast and furious celebrations of the present time?

Grave doubts are to be entertained as to whether the information departments conducted by various mining and other trade journals ever results in good to the investing public either directly or indirectly. The New York Commercial in discontinuing its information column stated substantially that it did so for the reason that it was difficult for the public to differentiate between legitimate criticism and blackmail. In other words to decide where the one ended and the other began. Some journals seem disposed to knock almost every proposition regarding which information is sought, while others with a desire to toady to their advertisers, or perhaps from insufficient knowledge issue information that is often times calculated to mislead. It has been urged, and on good grounds, that the average investor who is inclined toward some hot air scheme which holds out the promise of big

returns in a short time, does not make any inquiries before he invests, but waits a few months for the dividends which do not come and then begins firing questions regarding the matter into the different trade papers. Such procedure as this has a tendency to turn investors away from legitimate propositions, and after all the query arises if it would not be just as wise to furnish such information by mail.

### TO ASK FOR BETTER SERVICE.

#### Movement to Petition S. V. R. R. for Two Trains a Day.

There is a movement on foot to petition the Sumpter Valley Railway company to put an extra train on between here and Baker City. It is urged that the present service of one train a day makes it very inconvenient for the business people of this city.

For instance anyone desiring to transact business in Baker has to lose the best part of two days, and remain over night, while if there were a two train a day service it would amount to a great saving of time and money to the average citizen of Sumpter. Besides this, Eastern mails are frequently late and have to lay over a day in Baker, and an extra train would catch the delayed mail in almost every instance.

#### PART OF MIDWAY HOIST HERE.

##### Plant to be Installed as Soon as Balance of Machinery Arrives.

Part of the hoisting machinery for the Midway, operated by the Geiser-Hendryx Investment company, arrived yesterday and the rest is expected at once. The consignment has been greatly delayed in transit.

The management states that the plant is to be installed immediately upon the arrival of the rest of the machinery.

#### Gold-Bug Grizzly Development Fund.

General Manager J. J. Hennessy, of the Gold-Bug-Grizzly, had two business men from New York City here Saturday and Sunday, who came to examine that property with the view of investing. They were given every opportunity to see what it is and before leaving announced that they will take a \$20,000 flyer in the proposition. A full force of men is now at work there sinking the shaft to the 300 foot level, between the two veins. At this point it is estimated that the hanging wall of one will be encountered. A crosscut will be run to the other and both drifted on several hundred feet in both directions.

#### Fine Lot of Views.

Photographer J. W. Cowden has just completed a fine lot of views including the various interesting features of the Fourth of July celebration. The W. O. W. exhibition

drills are represented and many other points of interest relating to the celebration.

### FOR SALE.

A group of five claims in Cable Cove district. Three well defined ledges. All assessment work for this year completed. Surface values ranging from \$20 up. For full particulars, terms, etc., address, Lock Box 78, Sumpter, Oregon.

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