

IS THE GOLD IN LIMESTONE?

**BEAR GULCH PROPERTY EXCITES
CREAT ATTENTION.**

**Experts Say That the Gold is in Siliceous
Matter and Not in the Lime—It's
There All Right, and Appears in
Commercial Quantities—Crosscut Be-
ing Driven to Explore Ledge.**

The discovery of free gold in limestone at Bear Gulch, reported last week, has attracted wide attention among mining engineers and mining men in this section generally, so unusual is the occurrence. Several prominent engineers have visited the property and are somewhat at a loss to account for it. The formation is ordinary blue limestone interspersed with calc spar, and having a certain amount of siliceous matter present in the seams. It is urged that the gold does not really occur in the limestone proper, but in the quartz deposit. While this may be true, to the casual observer the gold appears plainly enough in the lime rock, and is clearly visible without the aid of a glass. It is stated, however, by experienced professional mining men that when subjected to an acid test, the portions of the rock where free gold is present will not effervesce, while the ordinary hydrochloric acid test readily shows the rest of the rock to be true limestone.

Whatever may be said, however, as to how the gold got there, or whether it really occurs in the lime proper or only in the siliceous seams, its presence is very evident and in quantities sufficient to make the property exceedingly valuable, if it continues throughout the ledge.

The property, as stated last week, was bonded by the Sumpter Valley company to Solomon Camp, who is associated with W. Wade, general manager of the Scandia Tunnel company, the latter owning a half interest. A crosscut is being driven with a view to determining if these high values continue, and it is the purpose of the operators to make a thorough exploration. It is a peculiar proposition for this district and has excited a great deal of interest.

The soft material and debris from the ledge is being sacked and will be shipped for treatment. This is said to average \$52 a ton.

HOIST ORDERED.

**Baby McKee People Will In-
stall Plant Soon.**

The hoisting plant for the Last Chance, operated by the Baby McKee company, L. G. Lilly, superintendent, has been ordered and is now enroute. It is a 6x12 hoist with a depth capacity of 350 feet. John S. Laidlaw, millwright and mill architect, has already finished the plans for the framing and work is to be started on it at once. Already the timbers for the gullows frame have been hewed, and the other lumber is being prepared. The motive power will be furnished by a

sixty horse power boiler. The machinery is expected to arrive any day and will be installed at once.

It is understood that the Baby McKee people are also figuring on a mill for the near future, but nothing definite has been announced yet regarding this matter.

SUMMIT SUGGESTED.

**Name For Terminus of Whitney Extension
of S. V. R. R.**

Summit has been suggested as an appropriate name for the terminus of the Whitney extension of the Sumpter Valley railroad which would seem suitable enough were it not for the fact that there is already one Summit in the state situated in Benton county, near the Lincoln county line. If the terminus were named Summit, the postoffice which will doubtless be established there later on would have to take a different name, as there is already one by this name in the state, and would lead to confusion.

Work is progressing very rapidly on the extension, and it will be no distant day when it is completed.

WILL PROBABLY CHANGE HANDS.

**Announced That The Sale
Of The Red Boy Is
Pending.**

Rumors regarding the transfer of the Red Boy continue to circulate. There is no official confirmation relating to the pending sale and nothing definite can be given out. Speaking of the matter the Baker City Democrat says:

"It can be announced on the highest authority that the Red Boy mine will probably change hands inside of thirty days. An option is out on the property at a lump sum supposed to represent the capitalization of the company since its merger with the Concord, well up in the millions, and this bond is being manipulated by a well known local firm of promoters. When seen yesterday, Secretary J. T. Donnelly of the company said that he had nothing to add to the information given above and could not tell whether the option would be taken up or not."

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YOU HAVE READ

Of the development of the Victor Group, in the Cracker Creek District, in the recent issues of this paper. Same has been bought by a strong Eastern company, and the stock will shortly be put on the market by the

CRACKER CREEK GOLD MINES COMPANY

An elaborate prospectus is now in the hands of its printers. As soon as it is off the press you should receive a copy. Drop a postal to me today, and I'll mail you one in due course of time. I shall act as the Company's Fiscal Agent.

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