



THE SUMPTER MINER

ATTORNEY FOR RED BOY RECEIVER

Judge Eakin Mouday appointed N. C. Richards attorney for the Red Boy receiver, in pursuance of an order issued last week on petition of Receiver Thompson asking for same.

Attorney Richards at once prepared a petition, which was presented to the court, asking that a day be fixed for the creditors to meet and show cause why the mine shall not be sold. Accompanying this petition was the receiver's report, showing an approximate indebtedness of \$55,000.

The court granted this petition and ordered citations issued for creditors to appear January 25.

This is all that the court records show in the matter. But E. J. Godfrey returned from the east a few days since and the general supposition is that he has the purchaser ready to produce when he will do the most good.

The impression has gained currency hereabouts that Messrs. Godfrey, Tabor and Benson, the original owners of the Red Boy, had the great property placed in the hands of a receiver in order to protect themselves; that people who have more recently acquired an interest in the company, through the consolidation with the Concord, have not shown a disposition to bear their share of a merely temporary burden, and that these gentlemen were forced to take this step for self preservation. The sympathy of the public is with them and every one hopes they will win out.

No one doubts the great value of the mine, or that as soon as these legal complications are untangled it will again produce its unknown thousands in gold monthly.

WORK AT GOLDEN WIZARD MILL.

The excavation for the Golden Wizard mill has been completed and the battery pit is almost finished. This pit is 40x4 and ten feet deep, all in solid rock.

Three car loads of timbers have been delivered at the siding at McEwen, and will be transferred to the property at once. Superintendent McPhee states that a force of carpenters will be set to work on the buildings in a few days. He went out to the mine this afternoon to look after the work.

ARTISTIC WORKMANSHIP BY CAMPBELL & LANDRETH

F. A. E. Starr, attorney and mining man, is wearing an elaborate

chain with gold quartz settings from a Greenhorn property in which he is interested. The chain is the product of Campbell & Landreth's jewelry shop and the workmanship and artistic design show these people to be masters of their trade.

The quartz used is full of big chunks of free gold, but Mr. Starr declines to say just where in the Greenhorn district it came from.

WILL START ACTIVE WORK IN SPRING.

Jacob Erphenbeck, of Philadelphia, who is associated with Major Bonta, and E. A. Hutchins, Major Bonta's head engineer, returned yesterday from Prairie City and the Oregon Wonder. Mr. Erphenbeck has lost none of his enthusiasm for eastern Oregon.

He will leave about the 10th or 12th instant to return in the spring, when he says he will bring back with him a bunch of twelve or fifteen capitalists who are interested with himself and Major Bonta in the projected railway and mineral holdings. The depot site has been selected at Prairie City, Mr. Erphenbeck says, and active construction work on the railroad will begin in the spring. He brought back with him a line of samples from the Oregon Wonder, which he thinks was correctly named, for it is indeed a wonder.

ENGINES FOR THE VICTOR COMPRESSOR

The Geiser-Hendryx people received today the engines and milling machinery from the Friday mine, east of Baker City. The mill is of the Chilian roller type, of thirty tons daily capacity, and will probably be placed on one of the company's properties, though this matter has not been settled, or at least the members of the firm have no information to give out pertaining to it.

The engines and boilers are for the Victor six-drill compressor, which is soon to be installed. It is stated that the machinery for the compressor is expected here about the first of the year.

BEAR GULCH PROPERTY RESUMES OPERATIONS

The Bear Gulch property resumed operations yesterday, after a shut down of a few days due to the accumulation of water in the shaft, on account of the soft weather.

S. Camp, one of the owners, states that the freezing weather has choked the water off and work can now be

carried on without difficulty. The shaft is down thirty-five feet and sinking is to be steadily continued.

CUSTOM MILL WILL HELP CABLE COVE.

Judge Newsberry figures it out that the property owned by the Forest and Advance Mining companies, in which he is interested, will be greatly benefited by the custom mill going in near the Baby McKee in the spring. He says:

"The Storm King group on Sloan mountain, near the head waters of the North Fork of the John Day, is only about one and a half miles from the proposed site of the new plant. The McKinley & Roosevelt, operated by the Advance, is also near. The new enterprise will not only greatly aid in the development of these properties, but will stimulate the mining industry throughout the Cable Cove district."

CALIFORNIA MILL READY TO START

Everything at the California, with the exception of the supply of chemicals, is ready to start operating the mill. The reverberating roaster has been finished, the cyanide tanks placed, and as soon as the chemicals arrive the plant will be started up.

The consignment of chemicals is looked for any day, and it is stated as probable that they will get here in time for the mill to start the last of the week.

CAVE IN LAST NIGHT AT THE COLUMBIA.

A report from the Columbia today states that there was a cave in last night on the No. 2 level, carrying down a big stope and part of the track.

No one is reported hurt and the damage, it is stated, amounts to but little.

Homestake Ledge 500 Feet Wide.

At the surface of the Homestake Mining company, South Dakota, there are several veins, of which three have united in depth, where the main vein ranges from 300 to 500 feet in width. The 1,100 foot level is the lowest at present. The rock of both walls is, so far as known at present, carbonaceous slate, and the country rock is penetrated by a system porphyry. The output of the company up to September, 1903, has been approximately, \$70,500,000, from which dividends amounting to \$12,2035,550 have been paid.—Exchange.

FOR POSSESSION OF WATER RIGHTS

Last week The Miner published a story about the work W. A. McNaughten is doing over in the John Day country, in the way of developing a water and electric power proposition. A few days later an item appeared in these columns, stating that R. H. Kemp had passed through town on his way to the scene of operations, said he had been appointed manager of the company and was going over to take possession. In The Miner today is published a card from Mr. McNaughten notifying the public that he owns the water rights and warning Kemp to keep away from the property.

Of course, there is a story behind all this.

When Mr. McNaughten was in Sumpter last week, Kemp and some of his queer moves were under discussion, and the former informed The Miner that early last spring, while he was in San Francisco and Kemp was acting as an assistant manager here, he filed location notices in his own name on these water rights, instead of in the name of the company. When Mr. McNaughten arrived some weeks later and learned what had been done, he forced Kemp to sign deeds conveying the property to him personally. He signed the deeds on the advice of his own attorneys, White & Winfree, of Baker City. In relating this incident, he left the impression that he had Kemp in a legal corner, possible criminal, though he didn't say so in so many words.

Before he had signed the deeds, a member of the company while passing through Baker City on his way home to San Francisco, was informed by Kemp that the title to the property was in his name and that \$15,000 would have to be paid him to get the matter straightened out. After signing the deeds, he began at once a war on McNaughten, knocking him to the officers of the company, and seems temporarily to have won his point, as his claim to have succeeded, McNaughten as manager is thought to be based on an order issued from the San Francisco office.

C. H. Chance, attorney for McNaughten, practically confirmed the accuracy of the above statements, when seen by a Miner representative today. He stated further that his client has furnished the money to make the improvements, that the officers and stockholders of the company have failed to produce and, as a matter of fact, McNaughten personally, and not the Great Eastern Power and Light company, owns the property and has paid for its development.