

BAG OF GOLGONDA ORE IN BOX CAR

Rich Stuff Evidently Stolen From Mine And Thus Hidden Away.

A few days ago a couple of boys found a sack of rich ore, apparently Golconda ore, secreted in a box car on the switch below town, and evidently thereby hangs a tale. The boys were Frank Longwell, son of W. F. Longwell, and Joe Halford, stepson of Jack Hazelwood. They were out shooting, and seeing, as they claim, the car unsealed and empty, began, boy fashion kicking around in the loose hay and straw covering the bottom, when in one corner they came on the ore. The loose stuff in the car was thrown over it in evident attempt at concealment.

The boys say that the sack probably contained about thirty pounds. They opened it and filling their pockets, came away, little realizing that they were leaving several hundred dollars behind. When they discovered their find to their elders, the value of the ore was at once manifest, and the youngsters were doubtless upbraided for their lack of enterprises, as subsequent events seem to show. Some of the rich stuff was disposed of around town. Jeweller Landreth bought a couple of pieces, the Sampling Works took a small chunk and ran out \$14 from it, and Dr. Ed W. Mueller bought another for his cabinet. There is no mistake about its being rich stuff; in fact, fabulously rich. It is chock full of free gold, literally held together by it, plastered over with it, or any other stock phrase one has a mind to use.

Experts say it is Golconda ore beyond the remotest shadow of doubt, and it bears every evidence of being fresh taken from the mine. It hasn't been worn by handling. The fractures are

sharp. Now the questions come up, or in other words naturally arise, How did the ore find its way into the box car? Who secreted it? Why was it put there? Did the thief forget it, or was it his intention to go back for it? What part of the mine did it come from? Has another rich shoot been discovered? Several more might be asked. One theory advanced is that the thief, for the man was evidently a thief, hid the ore in the car, noting its number and description, expecting to follow it up to Baker City and there secure his stolen treasure. There is another, which seems less plausible, that it was hidden by some drunken miner who forgot all about it. But however this may be, the ore was there and the boys found it.

Here's the other part of the story, the conclusion in fact, given in its chronological order. When the boys were put next to the value of their find, they kicked themselves several times for not bringing away the whole business—and mayhap their elders kicked them a few times in the bargain. But any way, the youths went after that car and its treasure again. Alas, however, it was but another instance of having let the flood tide in the affairs of men which leads on to fortune, go glimmering! The car had disappeared. The boys thought they recalled the number and how the car looked. They hit the ties even unto Lockhart, but no box car with a bag of gold in it found they, although examination was made of every empty car sighted during four days which the search lasted.

SOON TO START WORK ON E. & E. CYANIDE PLANT

John S. Laidlaw, the millwright, was down from the E. and E. today. He has the plans for the cyanide plant practically completed and work it is understood is to be started as soon as the snow gets out of the way which it will be in a short time. Mr. Laidlaw says it will take perhaps about six weeks to install the plant.

The sawmill to cut the lumber is now on the way and logging operations have been started. Repair work on the E. and E. mill is going ahead, but it is probable the mill will not be ready to start before the cyanide plant is completed.

SALE OF THE PSYCHE MINE WAS ORDERED

Fred Fontaine returned yesterday from Baker City, where he appeared before Judge Eakin as attorney for the receiver, Dr. Ed W. Mueller, in the matter of ordering a sale of the property to satisfy outstanding indebtedness.

The defendant's attorneys, Drawley & Levens, objected to the sale of the mine, but the court over-ruled the objection and set the sale for May 31.

The proceedings are similar to those in the instance of the Red Boy. It is specified that no bid less than \$40,000, which sum covers the indebtedness, will be received. Regarding

the case, the Democrat says:

Judge Robert Eakin came up from Union yesterday and held a short session of court. A number of minor orders were entered and in the afternoon counsel appeared in the case of K. H. Miller, of Sumpter, vs. the Psyche mine. An order was asked by the plaintiffs for permission for sale of the property by the receiver to satisfy a judgment in the case of about \$5,000. The court ordered the sale to take place on May 31st, next.

This is the celebrated property of Judge Fawcett, of Omaha, and it is understood that at the sale the property will be reorganized and put on a substantial basis. It is considered by experts to be one of the best mines in the Greenhorn district.

CLEAN BEDROCK SHOWS TWO VEINS

Jesse Hobson was out to his Holland Gulch placers, two miles below town, yesterday, to prepare for the spring work. He says the snow is off the ground now and plenty of water is running.

While there he made a find that is exciting him a trifle. On the ground that was worked to bedrock last season and washed clean during the past few days, there is clearly revealed two quartz ledges, not more than fifty feet apart. One is about two and the other five feet wide. They certainly come together on the surface at no great distance from where they are now revealed, for they are plainly converging; and probably also at no great depth. The value of the rock has not yet been determined, but it "looks good." These placers have been worked for years and a great deal of gold has been taken therefrom. Numerous pockets have been found, the largest one containing \$1,100.

They are tributary to Bear gulch and it is presumed that the gold comes from the rich ledge discovered there, the Golden Chariot. Mr. Hobson hopes that the veins on his ground are extensions of the Bear gulch system of ledges.

UNION COUNTY MAN HAS FLYING MACHINE

Union county is to have a competitor in the flying machine contest which will take place at the St. Louis exposition. For several years Grant Key has been experimenting along the lines of aerial navigation and now firmly believes that he has devised a plan whereby a journey through the clouds will hereafter be a matter of ease and comfort.

He has ordered his engines and is now engaged in erecting a large shed on Cricket flat, near Elgin, where he will assemble the various parts of the machine.

Those who are acquainted with Mr. Key know him to be no idle dreamer and feel confident that he will be able to demonstrate that Union county has a man that has at last solved the problem of aerial navigation. Mr. Key expects to have his machine so complete that he will not only be able to race for the prize, but expects to be able to fly his machine from La Grande to the fair grounds. Key was formerly an O. R. & N. fireman.

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