

J. G. ENGLISH WILL OPEN UP THE AMAZON

Sells Property in Washington And Will Invest The Money in Work Here.

It is stated by those who claim to have inside information that J. G. English will start work on his Amazon property, near Hanover, adjacent to the Annalulu, and in the Cracker Creek district, at an early date.

After the Red Boy sale Mr. English left Baker City for Portland, but is expected in Sumpter on his return from the metropolis. The Amazon group has been extensively developed by tunnels and shafts, and it is stated to be Mr. English's purpose to renew work this season and bend every energy toward placing the property on a paying basis. It is located in the vicinity of the Golconda, Annalulu and other well known mineral holdings, and is claimed to have a showing to warrant extensive development.

Mr. English, with other interested

persons, recently sold several claims in the Darrington district, state of Washington, and the presumption is that he intends devoting his attention in a mining way to his properties in eastern Oregon. His letting go of the Cascade property would seem to argue that he has greater faith in eastern Oregon. The Darrington property, it is stated, was sold to eastern capitalists at a good figure.

J. F. Conroy, supposed to be acting for the Standard Oil company, had a bond on the Amazon at one time and is reported to have spent \$40,000 in developing the property. He was looking for the rich ore found in the mother lode, and, not finding it, is supposed to have forfeited the bond, the property reverting to Mr. English.

TO START UP ON THE ARCTIC CITY GROUP

L. P. Ostland, who returned a few days ago from The Dalles, where he spent the winter, left today to begin preliminary work toward the operation of the Arctic City group, near Hanover.

Mr. Ostland left here last fall after spending the season developing his mine. He put in the winter at The Dalles, carpentering and contracting and is now ready to resume work at his mining property. He has been working there for several years and has what he considers a good showing.

During his absence, it has been brought to his notice that thieves broke into the cabins and helped themselves to his tools and supplies left over.

In addition to the Arctic City Mr. Ostland has other mining interests in the vicinity.

OVERHAULING THE MIDWAY MACHINERY

R. J. Eakman, superintendent of the Midway, came in from the mine this morning and left on the afternoon train for Baker City.

Operations at the Midway, Mr. Eakman says, will be resumed in about five days. The suspension of development work temporarily was due to the fact that the machinery had to be overhauled and put in shape for continuous work. This has been under way for the past few days, and will be completed soon. The management will soon be ready to resume development and prosecute work for the entire season on an extensive scale.

MILWAUKEE MAN THINKS LUCY GREAT

M. P. Keogh, treasurer of the Lucy company, operating in the Greenhorn district, left this morning for the property. Mr. Keogh returned a few days ago from Milwaukee, his home, to where he made a hurried business trip in connection with a pending deal.

He will probably remain in the district the greater part of the summer, in connection with the development of the Lucy. He is greatly pleased with the property, and thinks the showing sufficient to justify a mine at least equal to the Morning, on the vein system of which the Lucy is claimed to be located. The water vein recently cut has been drifted around and work is going steadily ahead.

TWO MILLION FOR MALHEUR IRRIGATION

An Associated press dispatch from Washington, dated yesterday, says: Apropos of the formal approval by the secretary of the interior of new irrigation projects under the reclamation law in California, Oregon and the Dakotas, the interior department today issued a statement covering the disposition of the reclamation fund which is in part as follows:

These approvals mark practically the close of the preliminary stage of the reclamation work. The projects in each state and territory are now well outlined and provisions made for all available funds.

The situation in Idaho, Washing-

ton and Oregon is as follows: Idaho, Minidoka project, for which about \$2,600,000 has been provisionally allotted Oregon; Malheur project, costing about \$2,000,000; Washington, reclamation of land near Pasco, at a cost of \$1,500,000.

In all the projects outlined will cost \$27,000,000 and will require for construction two or three years, they will reclaim in round numbers one million acres of land, all of which will be susceptible to intense cultivation and should be capable of supporting a population of 500,000 or more.

GOING TO FIND THAT BLIND VEIN

J. H. Brown Has The Treasure Vault Located Within Fifteen Feet.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Brown left today for the Burnt river country, where they will remain a month, at least; possibly all season. Mr. Brown has some mining claims there that he has held for three years. It is as near a certainty as any thing can be in mining, based on observation and theory, that on his ground is the ledge from which comes the gold found in placer claims that have been worked for twenty years, for the placer ground is situated below, within a horse shoe shaped valley. His claims are above, near the summit of the not very high hills.

The placer gold found is all coarse, and "local" beyond a question. To much of it quartz still clings, a sure indication that it is from a ledge near by. For twenty years past prospectors have been searching for this ledge. It is a blind one and evidently is covered by a deep wash.

Mr. Brown thinks he has this treasure vault located within a distance of fifteen feet. By panning he has found the line at which this local gold ceases to occur in the gravel. Further up the ridge an occasional color is found, but the gold is entirely different in character. His intention is to locate that ridge, "if it takes all summer," to use Grant's famous expression; and furthermore, if he has to shovel off all the wash on that hill with his own hands—and every one who knows Brown also knows that he will do a whole lot of thinking and scheming and heavy sitting around before he will waste that much physical energy.

New Telephone Line.

The city of Huntington is to have a new telephone line. Enterprising business men of that city have planned the construction on a telephone line down Snake river, it is said, to the Iron Dyke mine and to connect with other mining and agricultural sections in that region. For the purpose of carrying out their enterprise, articles of incorporation were filed yesterday in the office of County Clerk Combs by J. H. Aitken, Victor Greenslade and A. W. Sutherland. The capital stock of the company is \$2,000. The name of the corporation is the Snake River Telephone and Telegraph Company.—Democrat.

FIRST GOLD MINE FOUND IN AMERICA

Big Nugget Accidentally Discovered by a Boy in 1799.

The Reid gold mine, in the Blue Ridge mountains, near Fayetteville, North Carolina, was the first to produce gold in the United States. The first piece of gold found at the mine was in the year of 1799 by Conrad Reid, a boy about twelve years old, and a son of John Reid, the owner.

The discovery was made in an accidental way. The boy above named, in company with his sister and younger brother, went to a small stream called Meadow creek, for the purpose of shooting fish with a bow and arrow, and while so engaged along the banks of the creek, Conrad saw a yellow substance shining in the water. He waded into the creek and picked it up and found it to be some kind of metal and carried it home. Mr. Reid examined it but as gold in native state was unknown, not only in North Carolina, but in the country, he had no idea what it was. The piece was about the size of a small "smoothing iron."

Mr. Reid kept the piece for several years in his house on the floor, to keep the door from blowing shut. In the year 1802 he went to market at Fayetteville, North Carolina and carried the piece of metal with him. At Fayetteville, he showed the "stone" to a jeweler, who immediately told him it was gold and requested Mr. Reid to leave it with him, saying that he would flux it. Mr. Reid left it with the jeweler, and on returning several days later, was shown a bar of gold about eight inches in length. The jeweler then asked Reid what he would take for the bar. Mr. Reid, not knowing the value of gold, thought he would ask a "big price" and accordingly demanded "three dollars and fifty cents." The jeweler readily paid the price.

After returning home Mr. Reid examined the locality and found gold on the surface along the creek. He then associated with himself F. Kison, James Tool and Martin Phifer. In the year 1803 a piece of gold weighing twenty-eight pounds was found.

The following is the weight of the different nuggets found at the mine from 1803 to 1835: 1803, 28 pounds; 1804, 22 $\frac{1}{4}$ pounds; 1821, 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds; 1835, 30 $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds. In January, 1848, 115 pounds of gold, standard weight, was discovered, and it is estimated that this mine has produced two millions in virgin gold in the form of nuggets. It is still being worked in a small way. The claim now contains about 800 acres of land.—Mining Reporter.

Will Probably Locate.

Quintard Johnson, of Chicago, a nephew by marriage to President Straborn, of the Light and Water company, is in town with a view to locating here. Mr. Johnson is an experienced chemist, assayer and cyanide man, and was lately connected with the mines at Searchlight, Nevada. He likes this district, and his desire is to become attached to some mine in this section, with a view to bringing his family to the camp.