

IMPORTANT STRIKE AT THE IMPERIAL

A very important strike was made yesterday at the Imperial mine, in the Cable Cove district, when a body of high grade shipping ore was opened in a tunnel on the Miner claim of the Imperial group. This tunnel, which was driven about 200 feet down hill from the main Imperial shaft, has entered the vein below the confluence of the Imperial and Eagle ledges. Thus the theory, entertained by Messrs. McEwen, Arthur and McEwen, manager, superintendent and assistant manager, respectively, of the Imperial company—that the convergent trends of the two veins mentioned would result in a juncture and in a deposition of rich ore—is proven correct.

The Eagle vein, which is popularly considered the mother lode of the Cable Cove district, continuing in strong development for two or three miles, striking northwest through the Homestake, Herculean and Oregon Chief, where previously opened in Imperial territory, displays a width of 15 feet between granitic walls, the vein material being altered granodiorite, traversed by at least two streaks of arsenical pyrite half a foot wide. On the Herculean, a 400 foot tunnel has exploited the Eagle vein to a width of 15 feet, displaying characteristically overlapping paystreaks from two to three feet wide, averaging \$12 per ton. The Eagle vein on Oregon Chief ground retains its width, with an ore shoot claimed to be eight feet wide, containing total values of \$12 per ton.

After traversing the Herculean claim the mother lode turns northeast, running into the Black Dwarf claim, through the Miner.

The Imperial vein, which has hitherto been the sole ore source of the Imperial mine, being developed by an incline shaft on the ore, is located in the hanging of the Eagle lode, 800 feet distant. The strike is north 35 degrees east, the dip 70 degrees southeast. A series of similar veins exist, each being from three to four feet wide, the vein matter consisting largely of granodiorite slightly crushed and darkened by the spreading of chloritic material. The paystreak exposed in the main working shaft consists of from a few inches to two feet of massive sulphurets with quartz and calcite gangue. Drifts from the Imperial shaft extend southwest—down hill, depth being lost, of course, as the drift extends, but higher grade ore coming in all the time, the overlapping lenses of pay steadily assuming the shape of a solid shoot of ore. This method of exploitation and production was the advice of Superintendent Arthur, who is a crank on "follow the ore." He and the McEwen cousins were confident that the Imperial drifts were destined to enter the conjoined Eagle and Imperial, and to quickly prove the correctness of this theory, they began driving on the Eagle lode toward the approaching Imperial drifts. Yesterday the shoot was entered. The vein displays its usual 15-foot width, but now exhibits a payshoot of solid galena, arsenopyrite, chalcopyrite and pyrite ore, approximately 2½ feet wide, lying

on the hanging wall, surrounded by a belt a few inches wide of soft white granodiorite, thoroughly sericitized and carbonatized.

Ore from the new strike is being sacked for shipment to the Sumpter smelter. General Manager A. L. McEwen came down last evening from the Imperial. To a Miner man he confirmed the above facts.

"Our new Huntington mill and jig concentrating plant is working fine as an auxiliary to our old stamp mill and series of concentrators. The ore now being taken from the Miner tunnel is being sacked for shipment, after sorting."

The Imperial group of mines recently passed into the hands of a close corporation of Detroit men, Messrs. McEwen, Arthur and McEwen turning over their lease and bond for \$100,000.

GOOD OLD DAYS ON COMSTOCK

It is forty-six years since the Comstock was discovered, since people began to say: "We had everything except silver; it seems now that we have another Potosi." It makes a date for a revolution in mining. Save a few crude, old fashioned quartz mills, the only mining known to California was placer mining.

Not one of her people knew aught of the reduction of silver ores. But there was an ore channel four miles long, lode was filled with great deposits of rich ore, and it was necessary that it should be reduced. There were many problems to solve. How to open the mines was the first, how to support the weight of the mountain as the ore bodies were excavated was another. Then the new find was on the slope of a desert mountain, 160 miles from water, transportation to which no roads were built.

The discovery was not generally known until late in 1859, and then the rush began. What an exodus was that, and what a winter was that first one in Virginia City! Virginia City is 6,200 feet above the sea, and as though the evil spirits in the earth and air were incensed that the great treasure chamber had been discovered, the biting cold of the desert hurricanes were sent to drive the interlopers away. It was a tough place then. Every town in California had sent there its full quota of fighters, and the contest began to determine who should be chief. The safety of the quiet lay in the fact that the roughs did not disturb them and that the sinister class was made up of men who were so fine shots, that they only hit what they aimed at.

Then there were innumerable contests over claims and the lawsuits instituted and carried through were of such magnitude that men ceased to talk about thousands, stopping at nothing less than millions. But in no other spot was American energy

better displayed; in no other place was American adaptability to meet a difficult situation ever better illustrated. Within five years after the discovery the experts from the Hartz mountains, where quartz mining had been prosecuted for a thousand years, came to Virginia City to mark and marvel at what had been accomplished there. The safety cages, the square timbering, the mills for reducing the ore; the economy manifested in adapting means to ends, were all wonders to the plodders from beyond the sea.

Then the salaries and fees paid drew to that point the brightest men in all the professions and the possibilities of securing great fortunes attracted the men of finance from half the world.

That first winter Mr. Mackay lived in a cabin and as the winds swept around it, he was wont to declare that so soon as he could get together \$5,000 he would leave the inhospitable place.—Goodwin's Weekly.

Religion and Commerce.

The following is said to be a copy of a bill of lading issued 200 years ago: Shipped by the grace of God in good order and well conditioned by George Fox and James Thomas, of Philadelphia, in and upon the good ship Mermaid whereof is Master under God for this present voyage Robert Grimes, and now riding at anchor in the river Delaware and by God's grace bound for Barbados to say Four boxes of Soap consigned to Arthur Law, Marcht, in Barbados, for act. and Risques of said Fox and J. Thomas, being marked and numbered in the Margent and are to be delivered in the like good order and well conditioned at the aforesaid port of Barbados (the danger of the seas excepted), unto Arthr Law or his assigns, he or they paying Freight for the said goods twenty-eight shillings with primage and average accustomed. In witness whereof the Master or Purser of the said ship hath affixed to three Bills of Lading all of this tenor and date the one of which three bills being accomplished, the other two stand void. And so God send the good ship to her desired port in safety. Amen. Dated in Philadelphia ye 9m 9d 1696. Insd. and contents unknown to Robt. Grimes.

That Tabor Fraction Suit.

H. T. Hendryx, plaintiff in the suit against the Columbia Gold Mining company for possession of the Tabor Fraction mine, says that the published reports that he seeks to recover \$50,000 from the Columbia, on account of ore extracted, is in correct. The suit, explains Mr. Hendryx, is merely to annul the contract now existing between the Columbia and the old Geiser-Hendryx company, whereunder the former operates the Tabor Fraction. An accounting is also demanded. Mr. Hendryx says that the best of feeling prevails between all parties concerned in the suit; that it is simply a business proposition.

Water Power for La Grande.

The most complete water storage reservoir in eastern Oregon is now complete at La Grande. The Morgan Lake company has laid most of its pipe line leading to the city and will install a modern plant to generate 10,000 horse power, half way between the city and the lake, three miles away on top of the mountain. The company expects to generate electricity and furnish La Grande with city water at a very reasonable cost.

A TERRIBLE EXPERIENCE

Ezra Clark, of Granite, who was reported lost in the Greenhorns, while en route from Alamo to the Morris mine, where he is employed, and who turned up safe and sound day before yesterday, after undergoing a terrible experience in the snow-clad hills, with the temperature dallying with the 20-below mark, is probably one of the nerviest steel-polishers in this camp. As related in The Miner at the time he was reported missing, he left Granite last Sunday morning, after undergoing an operation for a felon on his thumb. Late Sunday night he encountered a dense fog on the Clear creek trail, became bewildered, and followed his back tracks to Alamo. Monday morning he exchanged his skis for web snowshoes and resumed his perilous journey. Again he encountered a fog and lost his way, swerving south toward the rough Olive lake country. After wandering all night, he finally picked up his back track and returned to Clear creek canyon. All day Tuesday he tried to locate himself and Tuesday night ran across the old Hurd cabin on Ben Harrison hill. There he remained until Wednesday morning, which dawned bright and clear, although bitterly cold, and soon hit upon the right direction, arriving at the Morris mine shortly before noon, exhausted and nearly starved. However, he went on shift at noon, after eating a meal that will be remembered forever by the Morris miners, and is now steadily pounding steel.

Executor's Notice.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been duly appointed by the County Judge of Baker County, Oregon, executor of the last will and testament of Michael Lynch, deceased.

All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same to me, properly verified, as by law required, within six months from the date hereof, at the office of Charles H. Chance, attorney-at-law, First National Bank building, Sumpter, Oregon.

Dated at Sumpter, Baker County, Oregon, this 25th day of January, 1905.

J. B. FRYER,

Executor of the Estate of Michael Lynch, Deceased.

Gold Found at Freewater.

A dispatch from Walla Walla says: It is said on the authority of mining experts that the river pebbles being hauled from the Freewater flats to this city, for paving purposes, contains heavy traces of free gold. At least 300 carloads of this stone will be used in this city this summer in constructing the three miles of model road between this city and the Blalock fruit farm. To what extent the rock contains gold is not known. Samples will be crushed and tested by experts, and if the quantity of gold is sufficient to warrant, the remainder of the rock will be smelted.

The Baker City Democrat says it has high authority for the statement that the Bonanza mine will resume operations at an early date.