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TONAPAH WILL BOOM

An Interesting Description of The Celebrated Nevada Mines--Is Destined to be Very Rich

The following interesting letter describing Tonopah, is from Geo. Wingfield, a young lad who left Lakeview several years ago to make his fortune. He had no money and was without a profession, and how well he has succeeded is better told in his own words. He is secretary of the Boston-Tonopah Mining Company, and has interests in other mining property that he speaks of.

Tonopah, Nev., Dec. 18, 1902.
THE EXAMINER,
Lakeview, Oregon.

As you wanted some news from Tonopah I will give you a little history of the camp as near as I can.

Tonopah was discovered by James L. Butler May 19th, 1901; he secured several samples from outcroppings ledges and took them to Klondyke, (small camp 12 miles south). The assayers then thought but little of the samples and threw them aside thinking they were not worth assaying. Mr. Butler still thought well of his find and securing more samples he took them to Austin and left instructions to have them assayed, then went to his home in Belmont. The assays at Austin run very high. The Klondyke assayers heard of the large assays, and they tried what had been left with them that they threw to one side, and found them to be rich in gold and silver. Mr. Butler with his wife then left Belmont Aug. 23, for the new diggings. They reached here after three days journey across the barren desert, and made location, covering the great Mizpah ledge. Their monuments were built from rich ore, cropping from the Mizpah ledge, as there is no timber of any kind less than sixteen miles. They returned to Belmont after making their location. More assays were taken with them, and the results were as follows:

First, 540 ounces silver and \$206 gold
Second, 365 " " " \$151 " "
Third, 940 " " " \$150 " "

The next 15 assays went \$175 and 15 more averaged \$171.
Messrs Butler, Oddie and Broughie whom he took in and gave interest each, started for the new campaign Oct. 8. They sunk a small shaft and took out two wagon loads of ore from the Mizpah and hauled it to Belmont fifty miles. From there they shipped it to San Francisco. The returns after all shipping and smelting expenses netted them six hundred (\$600) dollars with that money miners were hired and active development work commenced.

From this on every thing was easy and the mines paid for themselves. Mr. Butler and associates had many tempting offers, but concluded to lease. A lease was 50x100 feet, and as high as \$700,000 was taken out of one single lease in less than 300 feet depth. Many of the 120 leases got independently rich, many taking out from \$25,000 up after all expenses. Consequently there was eight millions of dollars taken out before the leases expired Jan. 1st 1902. The mines were sold in June, 1902, but the leases still run on as Mr. Butler had that understood with the buyers. The purchase price was \$336,000, and the royalty from the ores from June until Jan 1st more than paid the purchase price. The new owners formed a stock company and incorporated for 1,000,000 shares, and put it on the market for one dollar per share. Now it is near \$20 per share.

There is great piles of what we term second class ore laying on the dump that has been sorted over and the best of it shipped. The second class ore will average about \$100 per ton, but will not pay to ship owing to the high freight rate. On New Years 1902 there were about 1400 people here, and in less than one week the number was reduced to 250, owing to an epidemic of sickness which lasted for thirty days. People were dying at the rate of from 1 to 5 a day,

and all that could get out on the stages went and what could not go on stages walked, went on freight wagons or anyway to get out. Since then there has only been 8 deaths and one of the 8 a homicide. The only one in the history of the camp.

There is about 3,750 people here now. The rough element so common in mining camps is very scarce here. Living is high; board is from \$35 up per month, while single men are 50 cents and up. Rooms are from 75 cents to \$1.50 a night, and in demand at any price. Wood is \$15 per cord. There is a small water system here now, piped from a spring three miles away, so water is \$1.00 per barrel now. Lumber sells for \$95 per 1000, while hay is \$30 and \$40 a ton. Wages are also very good. Miners get \$4 and \$5 a day (8 hours) while carpenters get from \$5 to \$7, and other labor in like proportion. The outside news papers have never begun to tell the truth as to the wealth of the mines. There is estimated to be from \$50,000,000 to \$90,000,000 in sight on the Tonopah Co's mines alone. There are new strikes being made every few days on out side ground. There is not one stock on the market that is not advanced from the original selling price. There is a large mineral belt running north and south. While there is good properties on this belt both north and south for miles including Silver Peak, Klondyke, Lone Mountain, Gold Mountain, Bay District, Liberty, which is 16 miles north was sold a few days ago to Ben Cramp, the millionaire shipbuilder from Maine. There is several properties near the Tonopah Co's that have made rich strikes, including the Montana, Tonopah and Mizpah extension. They both have good ore. Our company lies right in between the two and we have a large ledge cropping which is a better showing than either of them had. We are sinking a two compartment shaft just 300 feet from where the Mizpah extension shaft is sunk, and their ledge is pointed directly for this shaft. I am also interested in a good many other mining properties here, besides holding blocks of stock in nearly everything here. We have ordered a 50 horse power steam engine and a car load of mining machinery that will arrive in a few days. This will be one of the best equipped mining plants in the camp.

There will be a 14 inch pipe line laid here from Twin river, 60 miles distant, in a short time, for mining and milling purposes. There will be smelters and electric works for handling Tonopah ores before July 1st next. And when they have ways of working the ore here they will produce bullion so fast it will surprise the natives, and will make Tonopah one of the best producers the world has ever known. Tonopah has never had a boom, but has one coming. There was one lot sold for \$10,500 a few days ago, so people must have confidence.

Nearly all the old timers are here yet, they are the ones that have made most all the money, and they all stick together yet. One can break the other any time, and what one knows the other knows. A better lot of people you never saw than the old time gang that have built up Tonopah. There is very little sickness so far this winter. Tonopah has made more poor men rich than any other mining camp in the world. Tonopah has never saw its best days yet, for there will be more money made here in the next year than ever was.

Yours Truly,
GEO. WINGFIELD.

Medford enjoys a distinction shared by very few, if any, towns of its size on the coast, that is, that there is not a single Chinese residing within the city limits, says the Mail. No employe of Oriental lineage can be found in our city, and we are rather proud of the fact. There are one or two Chinese employed at ranches as cooks in the surrounding country, but they have been there so long as to have almost become part of the landscape. It is to be hoped that a long time will elapse before we have any more Chinese inhabitants.



MR. EDWIN HAWLEY, WHO IS COMING INTO PROMINENCE AS A RAILROAD MAGNATE.

Railroad magnates are not developed in a day, but so abruptly do they occasionally rise from obscurity that it almost seems as if their wealth and power had been acquired by magic. Of this class is Mr. Edwin Hawley, who holds a controlling interest in the Minneapolis and St. Louis, the Iowa Central, the Colorado and Southern and the Wisconsin Central railroads. In Wall street he is now reckoned as a power, and he has just purchased a palatial residence in New York.

What Irrigation Has Done, Will Do.

The following from the Klamath Republican shows what irrigation has done for one section of Klamath county. Just as much can be done most any place in Lake county. A dam on Cottonwood creek and a reservoir made of Godley valley would store sufficient water to reclaim the entire west side, and the land would be worth as much per acre as quoted below.

The Tule Lake section is one of the richest and most promising agricultural spots in Oregon. It has made wonderful forward strides the past few years and accordingly has attracted many new investors and settlers and has grown rapidly into popular favor as an ideal winter feeding ground. Merrill, its thriving town, is keeping step with the development of the surrounding country. Among recent sales of real estate and projects in prospect in that vicinity, may be mentioned the following:

G. T. Conner sold 460 acres to John Sims for \$41 per acre.
J. F. Adams sold 20 acres to John Davis for \$30 per acre; also 20 acres to H. T. Anderson for \$30 per acre. All this land sold by Mr. Adams is unimproved.
Eldon C. Ball sold by Mr. Adams is unimproved.
Eldon C. Ball sold 160 acres to Ed. Terwilliger for \$43 per acre.

The Little Klamath Ditch Co., whose present irrigating canal is sixty feet wide and fifteen miles long, has decided on an important enterprise which will be undertaken next spring. The company has bought a dredger and its first work will be to dig a ditch from Lower Klamath lake and connect it with the main ditch, thus adding a large volume of water to the present supply for irrigation. The proposed new canal will be thirty feet wide, four feet deep and four miles long and it will cost \$9,000. The contract for this work has been let. The machinery of the new dredger will weigh 60,000 pounds and it will be capable of handling 1,000 yards of dirt per day. Besides digging the new ditch, the dredger will be used to reclaim lands contiguous to the lower lakes. It is said there are 40,000 acres which may thus be reclaimed and brought under cultivation.

There were lots of home Christmas trees in Lakeview on Christmas eve, which is the usual custom of many families.

Masquerade Ball Success Financially

While there were not so many maskers attended the ball Christmas night as is the usual custom it was quite a success socially and financially. Nearly as many went unmasked as were masked, and the crowd including the spectators was up to the usual standard. The supper was furnished by Harvey's new restaurant, and was of unusual excellence. Following is the list of those who masked:

Miss Kate Woodcock } Twin Sisters
" Nell Simpson }
" Annie Down } Portia
" Elsie Nysewarner } School Girls
" Ada Woodcock }
" Carrie Tonningesen, Bk & Wh't }
" Jean } School Girl
" Jessie Nysewarner } Herald &
Mrs. L. Gunther } Examiner
" Redden, Moon and Stars }
" H. R. Dunlap, Queen of Hearts }
" Estella } Moon Fairy
Miss Grace Stripplin, Pienette
" Ida Howard, Diamond Girl
" Eva } Silver Showers
" Pearl Moss, Snow Flake
" Selma Aviragnete, Carmelita
" Jessie Combs, Fancy Costume
" Ollie Heryford, Spanish Dancer
" Frances Aviragnete, Purity
" Fannie Tonningesen } Native
" Edna Rehart } Colors

E. Robinson } Two of a kind
H. Yount }
T. Burson, } Old Maid
J. Partin, } School girl
Fred Ahlstrom } Gaston and
Dan Malloy } Alphonso
J. Aviragnete, } From New York
Geo. Robinson, } Clown
F. McBroom, } Esquimaux
Ralph Koozer, } Clowns
H. Heryford }
Perry Stripplin, } Court Jesters
W. Nysewarner, } Sailor
G. Marshal, } Something
E. Laird, } Nothing
W. Boyd, } Old Maid
Man Whorton, } Just Happened
L. Heryford, } Rainbow
O. T. Pratt, } Spanish Bull Fighter
Archie Rehart, } Sloppy Mary
Clyde Clippingier }
Pat Coffman } Clowns
Clarence Dunlap, } Ikey Inestien

Mrs. E. M. Rose presented to The Medford Mail last week a branch from a raspberry bush, growing in the open air, without especial attention, on which were clustered as thickly as possible large, ripe, red berries—and a whole lot of them. Mrs. Rose informs us that the day before (Friday) she had picked from those bushes sufficient berries to supply her family each with a dish of the luscious fruit and that there were many more left. Of course, this thing of ripe berries in December is not the rule in Southern Oregon, but instances such as the above are by no means rare.

OGLESBY MARRIES

Minnie Robinson is True to Her Sweetheart and They Become Man and Wife After a Year

There are many who will remember the hold up of the Paisley-Lakeview stage line but little over a year ago, says the Redding Searchlight, and the sensational developments which followed, in which it was proven Robert Oglesby, the driver, had robbed himself. He was caught shortly after passing a marked bill known to have been put in the pouch the day the robbery occurred. It was rumored at that time that Oglesby had committed the crime that he might secure means to wed the girl he loved. But the romance of Oglesby and Miss Minnie Robinson seemingly ended at the prison bars, and the parting of lover and sweetheart was a sad one to witness.

A Dunsmuir News man met Robert Oglesby on the train Tuesday, a free and happy man. He was on his way to Ager to there meet his young sweetheart, yet true to him; and together they returned to Medford, Oregon, where they were married. Thus ends a chapter in the Paisley-Lakeview stage hold-up.

Robert Oglesby comes of good family. The overwhelming evidence which convicted him and sent him to the penitentiary for a year came as a surprise and a blow to his numerous friends. Robert says he has suffered—and to shield another—but will go back to the scene of his trouble and try and live down the stain upon his character.

An Important Decision.

A person holding an unrecorded deed giving absolute title cannot have his deed defeated by the conveyance of the property at a subsequent time by the grantor named in the original instrument is the substance of a decision rendered by Circuit Judge Boise. The case passed upon was that of Mrs. Bessie Randall vs. C. G. Lingwall, being a suit to quiet title to a residence and eight lots in University Addition to Salem. In 1888, just before O. P. Randall married the plaintiff, he transferred the property in dispute to his brother, Thos. J. Randall. Three years later the brother reconveyed the property to O. P. Randall, who with his family subsequently removed to Southern Oregon. The latter failed to have the deed recorded, and in the spring of 1898 he was drowned in Rogue river. In the following spring Thos. J. Randall transferred the property by warrant deed to Lingwall, for a consideration of \$1050. The deed of reconveyance from Thomas J. to O. P. Randall, executed in 1891, was afterwards discovered by the widow among her husband's effects, and a suit was brought to get possession of the property. In deciding the case Judge Boise holds that Lingwall purchased and took possession of the property with the knowledge that it belonged to another party. Thomas Randall is also declared to have wrongfully and fraudulently conveyed the property to Lingwall. The decree of the court orders the deed from Randall to Lingwall be set aside and canceled.

Jeff Couldn't Down Him.

Jack Munroe, a Butte Montana man, won a four-round contest over Champion Jim Jeffries in Butte Dec. 20. At one time Jeffries was down on his knees and a knock-out looked possible. The Californian had posted a forfeit of \$250 for any one to stand against him four rounds and Munroe accepted the challenge.

Munroe was still ready to fight at the end of the four rounds. The Montana man made a showing that surprised the people, and the crowd went wild with enthusiasm. Munroe is a miner, has lived in Montana two years, and holds the amateur championship of California. Fitzsimmons has posted a forfeit of \$500 to put Munroe out in four rounds.