

A RICH STRIKE.

Immense Quantity of Gold Found in Josephine County.

(From the Rogue River Courier.)

The big gold find of Southern Josephine county was visited this week by two Courier men, A. E. Voorhies and F. Mensch, for the purpose of seeing the place which has put new life into the mining industry of this section, and of securing reliable and certain information as to the value of the discovery.

The reports have been so varied and widely different that it seemed there was little dependence to be placed in them, so, for the benefit of the readers of the Courier, the trip was made.

A journey by wheel to Holland and thence by trail on foot up Sucker creek and over the mountain brought us to the spot which is justly entitled to be considered one of the wonders of the world.

David Briggs and his family, son-in-law and brother, in all five men and two ladies, are in camp by their banana, carefully watching and guarding it and taking out some gold from time to time. They are making no effort to mine it and are merely taking out a few slabs of gold or handsome quartz specimens to pass away the time until they can safely deposit the treasure already secured.

The gold is porous and is light in comparison with a similar bulk of placer gold, but is very pure, being worth in this crude state, about \$18 per ounce.

The find is located on one of the spurs of Tennant peak of the Siskiyous. Tennant peak is the culmination of a triple watershed which embraces tributaries of Sucker creek, Althouse creek and of the Klamath river.

The ridge is one of the biggest gold carriers on the Pacific coast. Grants Pass is the only rational point of departure for these mines. The route from this city runs through Kerby to Holland or California Bar on Sucker creek, a good wagon road all the way.

The place where all this treasure has been taken out, is an insignificant hole some 12 feet in length, as wide as the ledge, which seems to run from 12 to 14 inches, and from one to two feet deep.

After crossing the divide, the country plunges down everlastingly, at an angle of 45 degrees or more, down and down and down, into the Klamath river. The view from this point is superb, looking across miles and miles of ridges and canyons which seem rolling in waves and which rise higher and higher in the distance until they culminate in a grand range of snow covered peaks, misty and mingling their blue with the sky.

The mine is only a little way from the top of the ridge and is reached by a zig-zag trail so steep that a novice hangs to the side of the mountain to keep from falling off.

Goldenview city is located on the Sucker creek side of the mountain, about half a mile from the mine. The location is a very beautiful one, a comparatively level piece of ground on the steep mountain side selected as the only available mill and smelter site in the district.

This seam, where the discovery was made, was running along the hanging wall of the ledge. As the vein was followed, it left the hanging wall, cut through the ledge to the foot wall, followed that for a short distance, then cut through the ledge again, back to the hanging wall.

At the end of the cut, at the same time this visit was made, the seam had been "mined" out to a depth of perhaps 16 inches, the first foot of the depth being made large enough for the operation of a shovel and the last few inches being merely gouged out of the seam.

Much of this gold is red and rusty and would doubtless be overlooked by an unpracticed eye. Other pieces are yellow and bright.

The seam, as it followed, is found to widen in places to an inch or more in width and in such places as this pieces of gold nearly as large as a man's hand have been found. The largest piece taken out containing some \$1500, was broken in washing it. Mr. Briggs has a piece of gold and quartz which contains between \$600 and \$700. He has one piece of quartz as big as his two fists, which has a half inch thick slab of gold bisecting it and holding the two halves together, and there are a number of similar specimens of similar size.

As near as can be ascertained, by getting a line on the mountain peaks, the new find is located in Josephine county, a short distance north of the California line.

A surprising percentage of those who start to visit, the mine never get there. A few hours of perspiration on the trail is sufficient to abate their enthusiasm to such an extent that the idea that "there is nothing to see" finds ready lodgment in their minds.

As the Courier men were toiling up the steep slope, which separates Holland from Sucker creek, they met an old time prospector with three pack animals coming down from Bolan peak. A look of pity and disgust came over his weather beaten face when told that the pedestrians were en route for the scene of the new strike and he evidently considered them the dupes of inflated newspaper reports.

"Why, them newspaper men in Grants Pass," he said, "I wonder what they can be thinking about. They surely never read in the scriptures where the Lord killed Ananias for lying. He is surely a whole lot more liberal nowadays when he lets the newspaper men live."

"Why," he said, as he warmed up to his subject, "I haven't been there since the strike was made, but I've been over the country and I know just what they've got. They've got a hole just about so big," and he marked with his stick a rectangle on the trail about one by three feet in dimensions, "and its about so deep," measuring about 10 inches on his stick, "and they've taken out some gold and the thing has pinched down to a little stringer so long," four inches, "and so wide," half an inch, "and they've covered it up and they're trying to sell the hole."

The prospector was evidently sincere in his views. He had gone over the country and found nothing. Therefore he was ready to inform all comers that there was nothing there. He does not yet know that his remarks on Ananias were wasted on newspaper men of Grants Pass. His remarks on the mining industry would have been extremely discouraging to anyone who would have given them weight.

It is not a difficult matter to reach the place. If it were, the round trip, 40 miles by wheel and 20 by trail, and return, could not have been made in three days by men accustomed only to office work. The Courier party started on Thursday morning and camped that night eight miles beyond Holland with a miner who received them with a generous hospitality that was good to experience.

The following day, Goldenview City was reached early in the afternoon, the mine was visited and some four hours were spent there and at the "city." Starting at half past five in the evening a lively sprint of about 12 miles brought us to our camp of the previous night. The remainder of the return journey was made on Saturday.

The people that a stranger meets along the route are generally skeptical concerning the value of the find and a new comer finds plenty of discouragement before he reaches the place. One look at the deposit, however, is convincing proof of its worth. The ledge cropping extends along the side of the hill beyond the excavation and is plainly to be seen.

Mr. Briggs says it is plainly to be seen for 1500 feet, while State Geologist Banks has traced it 2200 feet. A. L. Morris says he has traced it for nearly three miles. That it is a permanent and extensive vein there is no doubt, though of course it is not expected to carry the exceedingly rich pay chute, for the whole distance.

The Briggs family have located two claims, the "Wounded Back" and the "Pay Streak," the locators being Mr. and Mrs. David Briggs, Ray and Roy Briggs and Mrs. A. J. Fulk. A third claim has been located by David Briggs, James Howard, A. J. Fulk and Roy Briggs. Hestron & King have a ledge some three miles west of the Briggs

claims, located last year. The vein runs from 18 inches to three feet in width and they have sunk to a depth of 40 feet. The prospects are good. A valuable claim has been located in the canyon below the Briggs claims by Oscar Beers.

A small ditch is now under construction to bring water from a gulch which empties into Thompson creek for the purpose of sluicing the surface dirt which undoubtedly contains many thousand dollars in gold.

A 10-day option on the property has been given for a cash sale of \$100,000. No bonding proposition is considered by the owners. Another mining operator is in camp waiting until the 10 days expire, to get a similar option.

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TILLAMOOK ACT, JUNE 3, 1878.—NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION. United States Land Office, Oregon City, Ore.

Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the States of California, Oregon, Nevada and Washington Territory," as extended to all the Public Land States by act of August 4, 1892.

FRANK R. BROMLEY, Of Napa City, county of Napa, State of California, has this day filed in this office his sworn statement No. 649, for the purchase of the S 1/2 of Sec 14 and N 1/2 of Sec 14 of Township No. 3, Range No. 2, and N 1/2 of Sec 14 of Township No. 3, Range No. 2, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before the County Clerk of Tillamook County, Oregon, on Friday, the 9th day of September, 1904.

Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the States of California, Oregon, Nevada, and Washington Territory," as extended to all the Public Land States by act of August 4, 1892.

MALPHUS JOHNSON, Of Hobsonville, county of Tillamook, State of Oregon, has this day filed in this office his sworn statement No. 645, for the purchase of Lot 4 of Section No. 30, in Township No. 2, Range No. 2, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before the County Clerk of Tillamook County, Oregon, on Thursday, the 14th day of July, 1904.

Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the States of California, Oregon, Nevada, and Washington Territory," as extended to all the Public Land States by act of August 4, 1892.

HEA C. SMITH, Of Tillamook, county of Tillamook, State of Oregon, has this day filed in this office his sworn statement No. 649, for the purchase of the S 1/2 of Sec 14, and S 1/2 of Sec 14 of Township No. 1, Range No. 1, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before the County Clerk of Tillamook County, Oregon, on Saturday, the 26th day of August, 1904.

Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the States of California, Oregon, Nevada, and Washington Territory," as extended to all the Public Land States by act of August 4, 1892.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION. Department of the Interior. Land Office at Oregon City, Ore.

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of her intention to make final proof in support of her claim, and that said proof will be made before the County Clerk of Tillamook County, at Tillamook City, Oregon, on August 12th, 1904, viz: LOUISE S. PHILLIPS, Widow and heir at law of Stanley H. Phillips, deceased; N.E. No. 1263, for the lots 4 and 5, sec. 4 and lots 1 and 8, sec. 5, tp. 3, range 9 west. She names the following witnesses to prove her continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz: John Hunsinger, John Blum, Isaac H. Moore, Edward Blum, of Nestorville, Oregon. ALGERNON S. DRESSER, Register.

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BORN PAULSEN, Of Tillamook, county of Tillamook, State of Oregon, has this day filed in this office his sworn statement No. 648, for the purchase of the S 1/2 of Sec 14, and S 1/2 of Sec 14 of Township 1 South, Range No. 1, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before the County Clerk of Tillamook County, Oregon, on Friday, the 9th day of September, 1904.

Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the States of California, Oregon, Nevada and Washington Territory," as extended to all the Public Land States by act of August 4, 1892.

ANNA D. PAGE, Unmarried, of Tillamook City, county of Tillamook, State of Oregon, has this day filed in this office her sworn statement No. 646, for the purchase of the S 1/2 of Sec 14 of Township No. 3, Range 3, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish her claim to said land before the County Clerk of Tillamook County, Oregon, on Monday, the 12th day of September, 1904.

Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the States of California, Oregon, Nevada and Washington Territory," as extended to all the Public Land States by act of August 4, 1892.

HERD L. BEALS, Of Tillamook City, county of Tillamook, State of Oregon, has this day filed in this office her sworn statement No. 645, for the purchase of the S 1/2 of Sec 14, and S 1/2 of Sec 14 of Township No. 2, Range No. 2, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish her claim to said land before the County Clerk of Tillamook County, Oregon, on Wednesday, the 14th day of July, 1904.

Notice is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the States of California, Oregon, Nevada and Washington Territory," as extended to all the Public Land States by act of August 4, 1892.

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Property for Sale.

Lots 1 and 2, block 11, Miller's addition. Lots 15, 16, 17 and 18, block 11, Miller's addition.

Lots 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, block 12, Miller's addition. Lots 5, 6 and 7, block 28, Thayer's addition.

Lot 4, block 20, and house near Tohl's store, Nehalem. West half of lot upon which our residence stood, opposite the Court House, in Tillamook City.

Make your offers to any Tillamook Real Estate Agent; or to the owner, W. A. Wise, The Failing Building, cor. 3rd and Washington sts., Portland, Or.

No Pity Shown. For years fate was after me continuously writes F. A. Guldberg, Verbenia, Ala. "I had a terrible case of Pile causing 24 tumors. When all failed Bucklen's Arnica Salve cured me. Equally good for Burns and all aches and pains. Only 25c. at Chas. I. Cough, Drug Store.