

# THE SUMPTER MINER.

VOL. I.

SUMPTER, OREGON, NOVEMBER 29, 1899.

NO. 12.

## CANADIAN CAPITAL

Has Begun to be Invested in Sumpter Mines.

## BUYS THE SNOW BIRD

Colonel E. S. Topping, of Trail, British Columbia, Will Arrive Today and Make Final Payment on That Property—Will be Developed by a Financially Strong Corporation Composed of Prominent Mining Men.

General Warren went to Baker City on the logger this morning to meet some capitalists from the north and consummate an important mining deal.

Colonel E. S. Topping, of Trail, British Columbia, a pioneer mining promoter of the Rossland district since its first discovery and the original owner of the Le Roi mine, will return with him tonight, to close the contract for the purchase of and make full payment on the well known Snow Bird mining claim in the Cracker Creek district. This property is bounded on the south by the Golconda, on the east by the Climax and on the west by the Free Coinage. The latter is owned and being developed by Portland parties and the other properties are already well known to all mining people.

Active development will begin at once on the Snow Bird, which being among mines already producing, will undoubtedly give it a similar place at an early date.

The purchasers, of whom Colonel Topping is one, are a strong British Columbia combination, composed of J. S. C. Fraser, manager of the Bank of Montreal at Rossland, W. D. Shea, a well known mining man of Montana, Elling Johnson, well known as a mining expert in British Columbia, and other prominent mining men of Rossland and Trail, together with W. C. Calder, a leading business man of Sumpter.

This property has a good record and will doubtless prove to be a great dividend payer under the able direction of its new owners.

## DEVELOPMENT ON THE DIADEM.

Eighteen Inches of \$300 Rock Encountered at a Depth of 22 Feet.

Charles Bonner, who has the contract for sinking the shaft of 100 feet on the Diadem, came to town last night to purchase fresh supplies for the mine. He reports that he commenced sinking in the bottom of the 16-foot shaft and is now down six feet deeper. At a depth of twenty-two feet the lead is well defined. He has a good solid foot wall, but as yet no hanging wall. He has thirty inches of ore that will average over \$300 in gold per ton, and the balance of this shaft is in ore that will run \$40.

It would not be surprising if the Diadem turns out to be one of the banner mines of Oregon. It has every indication of being a bonanza such as has seldom been found in this part of the country.

This property is under the able direction of J. K. Pardee, a veteran mining man of Utah and Montana, who has personally inspected the property and has made two

payments on same. He is working it by contract, let for 100 feet of shaft, to be completed by January 1, 1900.

## New Find Carries \$6,227 in Gold.

Perhaps the richest rock ever found in eastern Oregon was discovered a few days since not a great distance from Sumpter. It assays 311.36 ounces to the ton, a valuation of \$6,227.20. Three assays have been made, all resulting about the same. At first it was thought that some mistake must have been made, but the two subsequent assays verified the first. THE MINER has seen the assay certificate giving the above figures, but further than that no information, regarding the location or character of the ledge, could be elicited. The rock is said to be refractory and very deceptive in appearance, somewhat resembling the darker shades of iron ore.

## CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

Reported That the S. V. Ry has Appropriated Public Streets.

At the regular meeting of the city council Saturday evening, the judiciary committee was instructed to investigate the unlawful appropriation of city streets by the S. V. Ry, and by the aid of the city attorney to recover possession of this public property. That official was authorized to engage legal assistance, if necessary.

Marshal Baker reported that some people were going around town with chicken pox, which disease has been pronounced by Drs. Pearce and Anderson to be contagious. The marshal was instructed to enforce ordinance No. 10, and was given a written order by Mayor Gleason to that effect.

Alderman Parkinson reported that minors have recently been seen in saloons. The marshal was instructed to "ring off" that practice.

A permit was granted A. P. Goss to construct a crosswalk in front of his bank building on Mill street.

And then something was said about the streets being in bad condition. If such is really true, the matter will soon be remedied, for the marshal was instructed to firmly request owners of abutting property to fix things.

## Van Duyn Hotel Property Sold.

The Van Duyn hotel property, on Granite street, has been sold to Mr. Collins, of Anaconda, Montana, for \$4500. The lot has a frontage of fifty feet, the hotel building occupying the west half. The new owner will at an early day begin the erection on the east half a building 25 by 100 feet, two stories high. The first floor will be used as a restaurant and the second floor as a lodging house. Bellinger & Ritchie are remodeling the interior of the hotel building and will make it one of the most attractive places in town.

## Another Paper for Sumpter.

A man named Cassidy, from Pendleton, was in town several days last week, feeling the public pulse to see if he could detect an impulsive, persistent throb in response to his proposition to get out a semi-weekly paper, to be called the Sumpter something and to be printed in the East Oregonian office at Pendleton. THE MINER suggests as a name for this journalistic hybrid, "The Pendleton Gall Sack." It is reported that the effort to fill the long felt want in Sumpter will be made at any early day by the Pendleton print shop.

Johnson & Davis, confectioners on Mill street, offer their own make of fine Turkish Nugget chocolate and bon bons.

## MACHINERY, 22 CARS.

Receipts at Sumpter During the Past Week.

During the past seven days twenty-two carloads of machinery have been received in Sumpter. Fifty-three carloads of general merchandise arrived here during the same time, making seventy-five carloads of freight to reach this camp in one week.

Of the machinery, twelve carloads were consigned to W. L. Vinson, to be installed in his electric light plant, for use in his water works here in Sumpter, and at his mines in the mountains.

Two carloads consisted of mining machinery for the Golconda, six for the May Queen, and two for the Red Boy.

The roads leading to the various mines are in such bad condition at present that it will be almost impossible to haul this machinery to its destination until a freeze-up occurs.

All this gives some idea of the vast business which is being transacted at this camp, and the unprecedented activity of mining matters in this district. In the language of the sport, "it's a winner."

## Did He Die Under an Assumed Name?

Charles Pressler, a miner about forty years of age, died at Bourne last week. The body was brought down to Looney & Case's undertaking parlors and buried Saturday. The impression prevails that there was some mystery hanging over the man's life, and that Pressler was an assumed name. This impression was strengthened by the fact that every effort was made without avail to get some response from his family, who are said to reside in Los Angeles, California, and to be in good circumstances. The theory is advanced that the reason for this failure is that his family name is not Pressler, and, of course, the telegrams were not delivered to them. Deceased was popular with his associates, who raised among themselves about \$150 for funeral and other expenses.

## Woodmen Elect Officers for 1900.

Nugget Camp No. 498, Woodmen of the World, at its regular meeting Monday evening elected the following neighbors to serve the ensuing term, commencing January, 1900: P. C., E. C. Steffen; C. C., Sim Durgan; A. Lt., C. L. Ferry; banker, J. B. Stoddard; escort, J. W. Flegie; sentry, W. A. Green; watchman, L. Knapp; managers, F. Brown and Gentry Tallafero. A social session followed the regular one, which was, as is usual with the Woodmen, an enjoyable affair. Thanksgiving evening the Woodmen will give a grand ball that promises to be one of the most pronounced social successes of the season. There will be good music, and a large crowd is already assured.

## Progress on Hospital Proposition.

The ladies interested in the promotion of the Protestant hospital are at work and report favorably the result of their endeavors. A meeting for the selection of trustees, officers and committees will be called in a few days, and steps taken for immediate building.

## Revival of Railroad Rumor.

There has been considerable talk around town for a week past, to the effect that the O. R. & N. had resumed negotiations for the purchase of the Sumpter Valley railroad, to which report some credence is given in certain knowing quarters. It is

possible, however, that the universally entertained devout hope is father to this belief. It is known that some months since an effort to effect the purchase was made, and it was reported at the time that the Sumpter Valley people refused point blank to sell. One thing is sure, that this town and district must soon have better transportation facilities, and if such cannot be secured through this method, some other will be devised. The expense for transferring carload lots of freight, from broad gauge to narrow gauge cars, at Baker, and the short haul from there to Sumpter, is a trifle more than the "traffic can stand," as Collis Huntington is accredited with remarking on a memorable occasion.

## SAYS SUMPTER'S ALL RIGHT.

J. H. Robbins Writes About the Prospects of that Camp.

J. H. Robbins, a former Pendletonian, writes to W. D. Handsford, and reflects the enthusiasm which is shown by all persons who visit at that place. Mr. Robbins says:

"I am much pleased with the change I have made in business, in coming to Sumpter, and am only sorry I did not come here six months earlier. Talk about your lively towns, we have never seen anything like this before in Oregon. I might give an illustration of how rapidly property has advanced. Two weeks ago another person and I bought a lot for \$3000. Yesterday, I sold one-half of it for \$3500.

"I am confident the town will be permanent. Its situation warrants such expectations. It is a natural distributing point, and has genuine mining interests behind it.

"We now have 2000 people, and every incoming train is crowded. A business building fifteen feet front and forty deep rents for from \$50 to \$75 a month, and office rooms for from \$10 to \$40. There seems to be a demand for everything and everybody.

"Our bank, although as yet only in temporary quarters, has more business than we can attend to. It has grown far beyond our wildest expectations."

Mr. Robbins indicates in the letter throughout an abiding faith in the future of the camp, and believes that not only will the coming year witness a great rush, but also that it will maintain its importance during the years following.

All of the many friends of Mr. Robbins in Pendleton will learn of his fortunate investments with pleasure.—East Oregonian

## Snow Falling Today.

After two or three days of almost summer temperature, there being no freeze even at night, snow is falling today and it is hoped that it will get cold enough to prevent it from melting. This is necessary, in order that hauling machinery and supplies to the mines may be resumed. It will also add somewhat to the pleasures of life here in town, where walking for pleasure has been abandoned for a week past. This is not intended as a surprising news item for local readers.

## That New Cash Grocery.

Mrs. William Mayer and Walter Patterson, of Wm. Mayer & Co., arrived from Portland Monday, where they purchased a fine line of fancy groceries with which to establish their new Cash market and grocery, corner Center and Sumpter streets. They expect to be ready for business tomorrow.

Go and see Case, Looney & Co.'s new furniture arrivals.