

SPOKANE MAN'S VIEWS.

Visits Sumpter, Observes Intelligently and Talks Entertainingly.

F. E. Elmendorf, one of the leading real estate men of Spokane, was in Sumpter last week inspecting neighboring mines. It is known that he and his associates succeeded in securing a bond on some property near here, but the details of the transaction have not yet been made public. On his return to Spokane the Review quoted him as follows:

"One of the most interesting sights to me in that country was the narrow gauge railway which runs to Sumpter from Baker City. It is owned by a company of Mormons, and it is the most profitable railway in the country. It is 37 miles long, and was built primarily to haul the logs from the pine forests around Sumpter to the Mormon sawmill near Baker City. Last year it paid a dividend of 43 per cent on its capital stock and the preceding year it paid 60 per cent. This year it will exceed its own remarkable record, on account of the activity in mining. The train runs up to Sumpter in the morning and comes back in the evening loaded with logs. The cars are a lot which used to run into Butte in the old days when the Union Pacific reached that city over a narrow gauge.

"There are nine dividend-paying mines around Sumpter. They are all owned by private concerns or close corporations. No one knows positively what the profits are. Enough is known to make the statement sure that the production of gold bullion is large each month. Some big

tial cash payment has been made on the bond, which, it is authoritatively stated, will be duly taken up. Men have been put to work developing the property, with a view to organizing a stock company, the headquarters of which will be in Tacoma, Wash. Mr. Bell has mining and realty interests in Keller, near Republic, Washington, which he will visit, after a short trip to Tacoma, and before returning to Sumpter.

KEEP YOUR EYE ON BIG CREEK.

Great Activity in the Rich Mines of This Section of Country.

W. S. Newbury, an attorney of Portland, has been in town this week. A few days since he returned from a protracted trip through the mining regions east and southeast of Sumpter. He advises those interested to keep watch of the Big Creek country and the s. w. slope of the Green Horn mountains. They are now attracting more attention than heretofore. The ledges are all in place, well defined, mostly large and within slate walls. This section is easily reached by wagon road from McNamee Creek, Austin and Susanville.

Several properties hereabouts recently changed owners. The Pine Tree group, on Big Creek, is composed of the Pine Tree, the Dewey, and the Monitor. Mr. Newbury says that on his trip to Mormon or Humboldt basin, in Malheur county, he learned that there was a slate and porphyry belt commencing about four miles north of the range of mountains forming the dividing line between Baker and Malheur counties, which extends at least five miles south in Malheur county; and the

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capital is interested in there.

"Sumpter is a lively town. Many Spokane mining men are there. The camp is building up at a rapid rate. A corner lot in the business district sold for \$3,000 while I was there, an advance of over \$1,000 above the price asked about three weeks ago. Considerable placer mining is going on in the vicinity, mostly by Chinamen."

Invests in Real Estate and Mines.

Seymour H. Bell, of Tacoma, left Monday, after having spent a week or ten days in and around Sumpter. Though a young man, Mr. Bell has the reputation of being a cool-headed, steady-nerved and successful plunger in realty and mining deals. Like all others of experience and good judgment who visit this place, he is convinced of its future growth, and says that if the tributary mines were in the state of Washington there would already be here a brick-built city of 10,000 population, instead of a wooden town of 1,500 people. Mr. Bell has shown his faith in Sumpter and its mines by investing his own money largely in both, having secured some valuable land adjoining the townsite syndicate's property and a bond on the Chipmunk fraction, located between the Bunker Hill and the Anna Lula, on the Golconda ledge. A substan-

ledges are in place with good strong slate walls. The Morning Star group, composed of the Morning Star, Puget Sound and Atlantic, all have two ledges ten feet wide, that prospect well from the grass roots down.

Not a Share of Sumpter Stock for Sale.

There is at the present time not one share of stock of any mining property in the Sumpter district on the market. Very few mining companies have been incorporated, and where they have been, it is merely for the purpose of more conveniently dividing the interests among the several owners, who either do not care to sell, or else have agreed among themselves not to do so. How the vast amount of development work in the district has been accomplished without the aid of treasury stock sales is a surprise to those who operated in camps where this method has been resorted to almost entirely. That so much has been done here is due to the fact that the early prospectors and miners have been men of infinite patience and industry, persistent in effort and undaunted by obstacles. This state of affairs also undoubtedly accounts for that other surprising fact, that a district so rich in gold, in the heart of western civilization, has remained so long practically unknown to and unnoticed by the active, enterprising mining men of the country.

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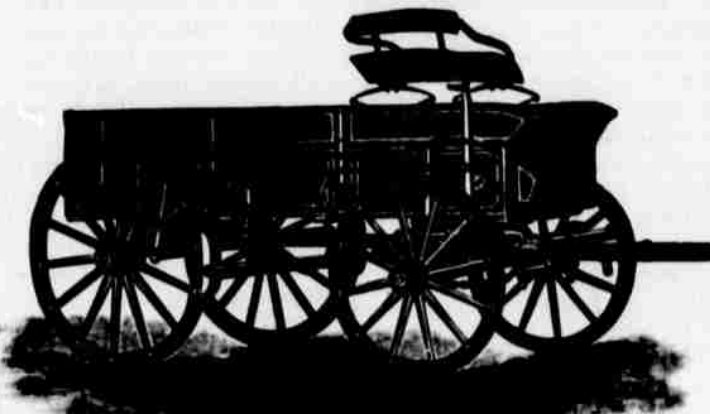
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