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WEDNESDAY, - - - JUNE 16, 1897

TWO PICTURES.

Barney Barnato, the great speculator in African mines, has taken the suicide route out of this world into the next. He was on the steamer bound from Cape Town to England, and brooding over his losses, which are said to have been heavy, he jumped overboard and was drowned. His sister-in-law says: "He has lost loads and loads and loads of money lately, no wonder he committed suicide." She also says that his wealth at the time of his death was \$15,000,000.

Poor fellow! When one considers the wretched state of poverty to which inordinate ambition and overweening desire had reduced him, one is forced to say, with his sister-in-law, "No wonder he committed suicide." Had there been thirty or forty millions of dollars left of his fortune, he might have managed to rent a flat and eke out an existence through a genteelly poor old age. But with a beggarly \$15,000,000, the idea was unendurable. He was in many a big deal, but the biggest thing he ever got into caused his death. He was magnificent in his ideas, even in death, for he used the whole Atlantic ocean to kill himself with.

His was a remarkable career. He was an English Jew, and began his money-making career with a trick donkey. He didn't even have the beggarly pittance of \$15,000,000 then, but he was undoubtedly much happier than when he had, for life held no charms for him when reduced to poverty. At one time he was reported to be worth \$500,000,000, but values shrank as they always shrink in such property. His wealth was on paper, fictitious values. His mining stocks contained only less water than surrounded him at death, and enough to drown not only he, but all his friends, in the financial sea.

Contrast his case with that of the stout-hearted old man who built Denver, who developed the mines of Colorado, until today they lead the world in the production of gold, and who, losing every dollar he had in the world, is today cheerfully swinging his pick as a common laborer in the very mines he once owned.

The pictures make a vivid contrast, and we confess to a decided preference for the stout-hearted old American who accepts poverty as he accepted riches, and who going to his work can say, as Byron said to Moore:

"Here's a sign for those who love me,
And a sign for those who hate;
And whatever's above my
Here's a heart for any fate."

SO SAY WE, ALL OF US.

The forestry cranks of the East assume that the only object in life most western people have is to destroy the forests, and that this is especially true of Oregonians. There never was a more serious mistake. The citizens of Oregon want the forests protected just as much as the people of Boston. They have just as much interest in them, and certainly as much pride. The difference is that the people of Oregon want the protection furnished without prohibiting the use thereof. They believe in using the vast mountain ranges for the pasturage of stock, so long as no injury is done thereby. They believe that the hardy prospector, who year after year has patiently and hopefully sought the alluring mine, should be allowed to

locate it, whether it happen to be in the forest-clad mountains of the Cascades or the sage-covered hills of Grant and Baker counties. They believe that the mountains whereon the forests grow can be used without injuring the timber, and they propose so to use them. Public sentiment on the coast is all in favor of such use of the lands now embraced within the forest reservations, and public sentiment is liable to become, or to be looked upon, as pretty good law, in cases where arrests are made for violating the statutes in such cases made and provided.

As for Oregonians destroying the forests, the Eastern people are not acquainted with the Oregon farmer. We know some of them who have lived in the woods for twenty-five years, and have not yet mustered up courage enough to destroy the timber on two acres around their cabin doors.

One of the first things congress should do is to open the reservations to prospectors, so that whatever is found of precious metals may be taken out of the earth and put in circulation. As it is, the person finding a mine within the limits of the reservations cannot get title to it.

Mr. Hugh Lee of Meriden, Connecticut, who was with Lieutenant Peary on his expedition to the north pole neighborhood, thinks the most feasible way to get to that long-sought point is to ride there on a bike. He says the ice is frozen as smooth and level as on the ponds of our own country, and this is covered with hard packed snow that would bear a wheel. The plan seems all right, always providing Mr. Lee's premises are correct. But are they? Other Arctic explorers all mention an open sea that shuts them off, or rough broken ice that made traveling over difficult, and almost impossible. Evidently either the other Arctic explorers have been fooling the world, or Lee is running a cold bluff.

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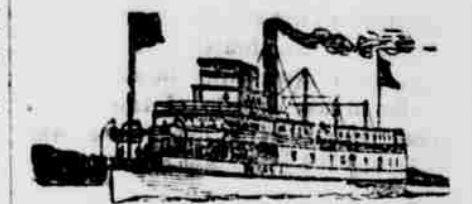
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