

cess, and were glad to go to work with Mr. Spect. These three men then did the first regular mining on Yuba river, on a spot within sight of the immense hydraulic mines of Smartsville, whose tailings have long since covered the place and hidden it forever from the sight of man. In a few days, Claude Chana arrived on the scene, and went to work on the lower end of Rose bar.

Intelligence that gold had been found on the Yuba, soon reached American river, and quite a number of men came over and took up claims. Among these were Rose & Reynolds, a firm of ship-carpenters, who had been constructing a mill for General Vallejo, and who had gone to the mines with their workmen. The whole party came over to the Yuba, and took up claims on the bar where had stood the rancheria, whose hospitalities Spect had denied himself. This place was christened Rose bar, and was for years one of the liveliest and most important on the Yuba. Smartsville, its lineal descendent, is still one of the leading mining points in California. John Rose now lives on a small patch of ground, a few miles from the scene of his early mining exploits, the thousands of dollars, which he then made, having long since slipped from his grasp.

Mining was conducted, in 1848, upon an entirely different principle from that of the following year, when the influx of thousands of eager gold hunters worked a sudden and wonderful transformation. These pioneer miners were scattered for some distance up and down the stream, and, in the main, labored vicariously. By the sweat of the guileless Diggers' brows, gained they their daily bread. The Indians were docile and tractable, and, for the slight reward of a good meal of white man's food, would labor diligently in the broiling sun, while the white proprietors of the tools they used, smoked their pipes serenely in the shade,

exerting themselves only to make the final "clean up," and pocket the results. This condition of affairs was transitory, for the Indians quickly learned that they could buy things with this yellow stuff the white men were looking for so eagerly, and began operations on their own account, though, owing to their inherent laziness, their efforts were of an intermittent and spasmodic nature. The miners had little to sell, besides food and tobacco, and the Digger, improvident by nature and education, worked only long enough to wash out sufficient dust to buy something to fill his stomach and his pipe. He then rested from his labors until both were empty again. At first they received but little for their gold, but, as time passed, they became better aware of its value, and drove better bargains. Rose & Reynolds opened a trading post on Rose bar, and coined money by selling trinkets to the Indians—the ignorant natives eagerly exchanging gold worth a hundred dollars for valueless articles that happened to tickle their fancy. In this way, many of the miners became wealthy in a few months, and left the mines for good.

The most notable case of this kind was David Parks, who located on Parks' bar, a few miles below Rose bar, and almost opposite where Spect first "struck it rich." News of Marshall's discovery had reached Parks on the plains, while on his way to Oregon, with his wife and family of children, of graduated sizes. He at once changed his destination from the Willamette to the Sacramento, and, early in the summer, reached the Yuba, and located on the bar which afterward bore his name. He was well supplied with provisions, and, when he learned the ways of the unsophisticated Digger, it took him but a short time to become convinced that his household could dispense with the luxury of sugar in their coffee, as long as the Indians were wil-