

LED BY A SPIRIT

ONE MILLION SPENT IN SEARCH FOR GOLDEN LAKE

New York People Followed the Directions of a Medium and After Squandering a Fortune Gave Up Their Quest in Despair—Search for Golden Lake in Colorado Mountain Most Romantic Mining Venture on Record

As a rule, there is little of sentimental romance connected with the mining industry, says Austin E. Benson, in the Denver Post. For the most part it means the raking and investment of a great deal of gold, solid cash, the employment of much hard labor, anxious thought and time, almost endless planning and scheming, and in many cases the end surely justifies the outlay. Thousands of "holes in the ground," notes and miles of abandoned tunnels and underground works stand today as memories of blasted hopes and of humanity's overpowering ambition to get rich quick.

Notwithstanding, however, the general prosaic nature of mining operations, there once in a while is come upon instances where the romantic takes the center of the stage and plays a most important part in the development of mining properties, and when it does, the narrative of the circumstances becomes of the most interesting character and the recital reads like some story from the Arabian Nights.

Advised by "Medium"

Away back in the early seventies, the Ennis brothers, Edward and John, both of whom were strongly inclined toward the spiritualistic belief, in New York city, sought to peer into the future and ascertain what it had in store for them. Pursuing the generally accepted course in such matters the brothers consulted a female medium in Gotham, and after assuring her of their willingness to "pay the price" for the desired information, the lady proceeded to bring herself into the "trance" state and tell things to the brothers which ordinary mortals are not supposed to find out, at least while in the flesh.

Among other things the "medium" did was to place her finger at a certain spot upon a map of the United States and declare that in that exact locality existed a lake of gold which had been especially reserved for the Ennis family and which could be reached and its fabulous wealth enjoyed by merely following her directions to the letter. This the brothers promised to do, and after generously reimbursing their benefactress for the wear and tear of mind and spirit, they started west with a carefully marked map to guide them.

Landed in San Juan

Their directions landed them in San Juan county, Colo., and soon they discovered the exact spot indicated by the spirits, and high up on King Solomon mountain, about seven miles north of Silverton, they set their stakes and christened their prospective bonanza the Highland Mary.

The Ennises were the possessors of ample capital and the work of mining for the underground golden lake was begun on a most elaborate scale. A mansion, at a cost of \$10,000, was built near the portals of the tunnel and the building was palatially furnished and prodigally conducted at great cost.

As the tunnel proceeded on into the lake of gold ahead maps and diagrams of its course were made.

Finally the miners became so thoroughly imbued with the "spirit" idea that none of them could be induced to work alone in the mine. Strange noises and whisperings were reported from various parts of the property and men met with accidents from time to time, all of which was attributed to "spirits." Toward the latter part of the Ennis brothers' career it became extremely difficult to obtain miners to work on the property at all.

Good Veins Cut

During the driving of the tunnel of nearly a mile in length several good veins of mineral were cut and are extracted and shipped on burro trains 200 miles distant to Del Norte for resting purposes and paid fair profits in silver, lead and copper, but it was yellow gold that was being sought. The decline in silver, however, resulted in the closing down of the property and little was done with it until two or three years ago. Over \$1,000,000 was spent on the property before it was abandoned.

The mine is now owned and operated by the Gold Tunnel & Railway company, the management of which, on a system other than "spiritualistic," are pushing development in a practical, business-like manner, and while they do not expect to encounter the fabled gold lake, their efforts, before the wane of the present season, promise well to be crowned with success, and it is almost assured that the Highland Mary will soon stand in the front rank of the larger class of San Juan county producers, and today the mine is one of the most promising in the San Juan district.

The Diamond Cure

The latest news from Paris is, that they have discovered a diamond cure for consumption. If you fear consumption or pneumonia, it will, however, be best for you to take the great remedy mentioned by W. T. McGee of Vanleer, Tenn. "I had a cough for 15 years. Nothing helped me until I took Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds, which gave instant relief, and effected a permanent cure." One bottle quick cure for throat and lungs trouble. At Tallman & Co., drug store, price 50 cents and \$1.00. Guaranteed. Trial bottle free.

The federal treasury deficit for the year ending June 30, was \$24,500,000, which is \$12,000,000 less than on June 1.

The Duke and His Barber

In olden days an English noble entered a barber shop, and, upon inquiring for the master, was answered by an apprentice of fourteen that he was not at home. "Do you shave, then?" asked the duke. "Yes, sir, I always do," was the reply. "But can you shave without cutting?" "Yes, sir; I'll try," answered the youth. "Very well," said the duke, while seating himself and loading his pistol. "But, look here, if you let any blood, as true as I sit here I'll blow your brains out! Now, consider well before you begin."

After a moment's reflection the boy began to make ready and said, "I'm not afraid of cutting you, sir," and in a short time had completed the feat without a scratch, to the complete satisfaction of the duke. In gentle tones his grace asked, "Were you not afraid of having your brains blown out when you might have cut me so easily?" "No, sir; not at all, because I thought that as soon as I should happen to let any blood I would cut your throat before you could have time to fire."

"The reply won from the duke a handsome reward. It need scarcely be added he never resumed his dangerous threats in a barber shop. A lesson was taught him for life.

Beck's Narrow Escape

David Beck, the celebrated portrait painter and pupil of Vandyke, while traveling through Germany was suddenly taken ill and to all appearances died and was laid out a corpse. His servants, sitting round the bed, grieved heartily for the loss of so good a master, and as grief is thirsty drank as heartily at the same time. One of them, becoming more befuddled than the rest, then addressed his companions thus: "Our master when alive was fond of his glass. Let us out of gratitude, then, give him one now he is dead." Assent was given; the head of the dead painter was raised up and some wine poured down or spilled about, the fragrance or spirit of which caused Beck to open his eyes, upon which the servant, who, being drunk, half forgetting his master was dead, forced down the remainder of the glass. The painter gradually revived and thus escaped a living interment.

The Russian Naval Standard

The Russian naval standard—a blue flag with a white cross—was adopted by Peter the Great, who stayed for some months at Gaardam, near Amsterdam, working as a mechanic to gain a knowledge of shipbuilding.

During this time he took a strong fancy to a clever workman named Cruys, whom he persuaded to return with him to Russia after he had revealed to him his true name and position.

Cruys drew the plans for the first ships built for the Russian navy, and to show his appreciation, Peter the Great made him an admiral and gave orders that the Russian navy should thenceforth have a special flag with a white cross upon it to perpetuate the memory of his trusted associate, Cruys being an old form of the Dutch word for cross.

The Horn Dance

Among the quaint old customs and ceremonies still kept alive in English country districts there is only one "horn dance," and that is to be found at Abbots Bromley, in Staffordshire. Every year at the village wake the dance is still carried out. The origin of the horn dance is lost in the mists of history, but it has been traced back as far as the eleventh century. Until the seventeenth century it was practiced at Christmas, on New Year's day and on Twelfth day. In the time of Henry VIII, the dance was performed in front of the church every Sunday and a collection for the poor taken up from the spectators.

What Constitutes an Assault

"If a man comes into your house," said the Liverpool stipendiary magistrate, "and picks up a poker to strike you, you are entitled to pick up the tongs and fence with him, and if you hit him with the tongs he cannot complain of being assaulted, because he would have struck you first if he could. But if, on the other hand, you take the poker out of his hand and strike him with it you are guilty of an assault, because you struck an unarmed man. That is as clear a distinction as I can make."

A Funny Metaphor

Judge John Goode of Virginia, once a member of the Confederate congress, told of an attack by Foote of Tennessee upon Jefferson Davis and General Albert Sidney Johnston after the Confederate defeat at Cloyd mountain. He said that if Johnston had fought as he ought to have fought "peace, like a wedding garment, would now cover our fair land."

All Leaked Out

"Of course," said the husband, who made a specialty of manufacturing excuses, "the truth is bound to leak out some time."

"Yes," rejoined the other half of matrimonial combine, "and I am inclined to believe that it leaked out of you long ago."

The American Aukle

Our transatlantic aviators have certainly cultivated a perfect lion the art of looking dainty as they cross the straits of Dover, for they always condescend to look as they are engaged in this usually unbecoming action.

Going to Extremes

The craze for old fur attire has reached such a height that Lord — has turned his wife out of doors to make room for a Louis XVI. cabinet—London Trust.

There was no "precedent" for discovery

—America—Hubbard.

Gossip's tongues find inspiration in listeners' ears.

A Solemn Utterance

They have a singular kind of dance conducted on the greens of country villages in Russia. The dancers stand apart, a knot of young men here, a knot of maidens there, each sex by itself and silent as a crowd of mutes. A piper breaks into a tune; a youth pulls off his cap and challenges his girl with a wave and bow. If the girl is willing, she waves her handkerchief in token of assent. The youth advances, takes a corner of the handkerchief in his hand and leads his lassie round and round. No word is spoken and no laugh is heard. Stiff with cords and rich with braids, the girl moves heavily by herself, going round and round and never allowing her partner to touch her hand. The piper goes droning on for hours in the same sad key and measure, and the prize of merit in this "circling," as the dance is called, is given by spectators to the lassie who in all that summer revelry has never spoken and never smiled.

A Widower's Susceptibility

A widower is a lame animal and stands without tyeing. No woman can scare him. He is overconfident, and that is his great weakness. He has been through it all and is not to be caught a second time. He feels impervious to the approaches of woman in any form or guise. The widow finds him really a rather knotty problem. He presents difficulties that are wholly absent in a man who has never felt the matrimonial halter draw. He looks upon the widow with amused indifference. But a young and attractive woman who has never been married quickly arouses his sympathies. He in nine cases out of ten shows remarkable endurance of her sledge of his heart, and we all know that it is but a step from endurance to pity and thence to embraces. His doom is quickly sealed—Washington Post.

The Simple Life Expensive

And, really, the simple life is frightfully expensive. At a recent entertainment in this city a great luxury in the serving of the second supper was the introduction of country sausage and buckwheat cakes with maple syrup. But the sausage came from the farm of the host and represented a small fortune, as the pigs from which the piece de resistance was made were blooded animals with pedigrees. The buckwheat was grown in special fields which cost ever so much a foot, and the maple syrup was taken from trees in the most expensive Adirondack preserve. And thus can thousands of dollars be spent on the simple life, while truffles, pate, terrapin and such other rarities of a former generation are left for the tables of the middle classes with moderate means—Town and Country.

Picture in Disguise

Many and strange have been the vicissitudes of some of the world's greatest pictures, and a fine painting which now graces Lord Leigh's residence in Warwickshire has an interesting history. This remarkable picture, which for some years consisted of a painting of flowers, was pronounced by an art dealer to be merely a mask for some other picture, and on his receiving permission he gradually cleaned off the flowers, discovering underneath a very fine portrait of Charles I., by Vandyke. It is supposed that the portrait was thus disguised in order to save it from destruction by the Roundheads at the time of the commonwealth.

Where We Are Useless

We are most particular about cleanliness in our homes—many servants must keep them swept and garnish for us—and about cleanliness in our food, eating only of first class materials, daintily prepared. But with all this delicacy of habit the most greasy savage is scrappily clean compared to us in the matter of air. He breathes pure air rich in oxygen. We get together in vast herds, defile the air with all manner of disagreeable and revolting matter, including disease germs, and then contentedly breathe it—Chapman Perkins *Gilman in Good Housekeeping*.

Doctors and Celliacy

There was once a time when doctors were doomed to celliacy. It was, at the conclusion of the medieval period, when medicine was in the hands of the monks. In France the habit of celliacy persisted long after the practice of medicine had passed to lay hands. For two or three centuries the doctors protested, but in vain. The matter was finally laid before the pope and toward the end of the fifteenth century the vow was abolished.

Two Points of View

"I think," said an exasperated old deacon, "I am slowly elevated myself from pavement to a perpendicular." "The full grown man who throws an orange peel on the sidewalk is no more a perpendicular than a bystander." "What do you think of an orange peel that throws a full grown man on the sidewalk?"

Justified

"I wish they'd invent a new expression occasionally," said Top as he peered the account of a recent wedding. "It's always 'the blushing bride.'" "Well," replied Mrs. Top, "when you consider what sort of husbands most girls have to marry you can't wonder at their blushing."

After the Consultation

"Well, Drs. Brown and Smith are going to operate upon old Gotrox." "Is the operation necessary?" "Why, yes; Brown has a note coming due, and Smith wants an automobile." —Puck.

The Leak

"Say, waiter, this plate must be cracked; the fable is wet." "No, sir; there's a leak in the soup."

Those who talk most of ancestry usually do least for posterity.

NEED FOR PORTAGE

PLENTY OF BUSINESS TO KEEP BOAT LINES BUSY.

Washington Man Speaks of the Conditions Along the Columbia River—Farmers Cannot Haul Wheat to Railroad on Account of Heavy Ferry Charges on the River—One Man Taxed \$600 for Ferrying 15,000 Sacks of Wheat Over the River.

There is plenty of freight to be had on the upper Columbia river to keep a line of steamers running regularly between Lewiston and the portage road, and I do not understand why some enterprising company does not go after it. The objection appears to be that there are no boats available for the route. Why are they not built? It would be possible to build a couple of steamers at Riparia or some other point up there and have them ready for service by August 1." So declared G. H. Martin to the Journal. He has been farming on the Wallula side of the river near Wallula for many years and now that the portage road is completed he is anxious to see it used, believing it would be the means of saving the wheatgrowers and others up that way thousands of dollars annually if water transportation were at hand. Great quantities of grain are shipped to Portland every year from the territory lying north of the river and opposite Umatilla.

"But we are greatly handicapped," continued Mr. Martin, "when we are forced to ship by rail. It is necessary to have our crops transported by ferry at Wallula in order to reach the railroad. This charge is 50 cents a ton. As an example of what this little ferry amounts to, I might give an example: It cost one of my neighbors \$500 to get 15,000 sacks of wheat across the river so that he could place the shipment on cars.

"If boats were in commission on the upper river, it would do away with the necessity of hauling all of the grain to Wallula—it could be taken to various landings which would be established along the north bank of the river. With that plan in operation it would be an easy matter to get our wheat to the boats, as there is a natural down grade from the farm lands to the Columbia.

"But when the freight has to be hauled to one point, as is now necessary, we have to drive up steep hills and cross deep canyons before Wallula is reached. On the other hand, to go direct to the river we would be going down grade and it would be possible for us to put on our wagons all of the grain they would carry. So that is another important item of expense that would be saved."

WALLA WALLA'S POPULATION.

School Census Gives 3515 School Children, Increase of 412 in One Year.

Yesterday Grant S. Bond completed taking the school census for district No. 1, which embraces the city of Walla Walla and a portion of the territory immediately south of the city limits, which his within the school district, says the Walla Walla Union.

That Walla Walla is growing faster than any town of its size in the west was this week demonstrated when the returns of the school census were tabulated and compared with the census of last year. This year there are 3515 persons between the ages of 5 and 21, and 977 children under the age of 5. Last year there were 3097 pupils between the ages of 5, and 21, and 837 children under the age of 5. The total therefore of all children under the age of 21 for the year 1904 is 3954, and the total for 1905 is 4492, making a gain of 538.

Taking the figures as the basis, according to the usual methods of estimation, the increase in Walla Walla's population for the past year has been \$790.

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