

LONG LOST MINES.

**Interesting Legend From Peru,
With Locality Given.**

Of all the existing legends which refer to as yet undiscovered treasure, none is more widely spread than that of the Tres Tortillas. It may be selected as one of the most possible of a large class—at least we have here a well defined and unmistakable locality and no actually conflicting facts. On the remotest headwaters of the River Secure, a branch of the Momore, which joins the Madera, an affluent of the Amazon, lies a broken, mountainous country, full of great gorges, precipitous cliffs and tentiana.

Here one descends abruptly from the region of eternal snow to a tropical forest where sugar cane and coffee flourish, and as we leave the high and wind-swept plains and scramble down the deep, dark gorges to the heat and damp of the monte, ague of the most virulent and insistent type lurks in the rain laden atmosphere, waiting to attack the stranger who has the hardihood to penetrate these unknown valleys. Here, if nature suffers the existence of disease, she also provides the remedy—cascarilla, or Peruvian bark—and the only intruders are the bark workers and occasional seekers for treasure.

As the traveler leaves the high mountain, side far off in the east can be seen three flat topped hills, apparently close together and forming an unmistakable landmark, and if the same region is entered by ascending the river from the eastern side, at certain points in the journey, far ahead in the west, can be seen the same three mountains, which always appear only a few hundred yards apart.

These are the famous Tres Tortillas (three pancakes), and around these three mountains have accumulated numerous traditions, with probably some foundation in fact. During the Spanish rule it is certain that great quantities of gold were mined and washed upon this mountain range. Old workings are frequently discovered, whole towns built of stone and adobe, and deserted churches and cathedrals are buried in the forest, and from a hundred evidences it is clear these regions have been and may again be a source of great wealth. It is quite possible that in the neighborhood of the Tres Tortillas is a mine of great value, and according to nearly all the current stories this mine contains a vast treasure, consisting of gold ready for transport and left when the last miners fled, never to return.

Of the various expeditions which have during the last half century endeavored to penetrate to this valley, a survivor of only one of them returned and stated that he, with a companion, had found the mouth of the mine, had entered the tunnel and there had found a great mass of gold stored for removal. This man at least possessed enough faith to make another effort to reach this El Dorado, and is believed to have perished in the attempt among the mountains. Of the other expeditions the result has uniformly been failure. Owing to inadequate resources, to the great natural difficulties of the country or to sickness and death, up to the present Tres Tortillas have kept their secret and stand like three gigantic sentinels, unapproachable and defiant, guarding a treasure which may be worth a king's ransom or may be only the phantasy of a dream.—Exchange.

Method of Measuring Water Flow.

To measure the flow of water in a stream with approximate accuracy, the only satisfactory way is to construct a flume of sufficient size to carry it all. This flume should be twenty to thirty feet in length, set level and provided with a permanent end piece at the lower end

(not so high as the side pieces by several inches) over which the water can flow as a lip. Construct wings at the head so that the water will be led gently into the flume. When the construction is in steady operation measure the depth of the water running in it, at a point about the center of the length of the flume. Then measure the height of the end piece (over which the water flows) from the bottom. The difference between these two measurements will be the head. Thus, if the water is 14 inches deep in the flume, and the end gate stands 6 inches above the floor, the head of water will be 8 inches, or 0.66 feet. Next, measure the length of the overflowing stream of water. In the construction assumed, this will be the same as the width of the flume, which, we will say is 30 inches, or 2.5 feet. Now cube the head (0.66 x 0.66, equals 8 287.496) and extract the square root of the result, which in this case is 8.536. Multiply together this figure, and the length of the lip expressed in feet (2.5), and the constant, 3.33. The result will be the discharge in cubic feet per second. Thus, 0.536 x 2.5 x 3.33 equals 4.46 cubic feet per second.—Denver Mining Reporter.

Prairie City's Fountain of Youth.

If the early Spanish explorers had navigated the John Day valley, at its head about ten miles from Prairie City, they would have found a spring that comes as near being the long looked for Fountain of Youth as any in existence. In a picturesque spot at the base of the mountains, in a grove of pines on the dividing line between forest and prairie, there flows from a spring about ten feet in diameter a stream of water having a temperature of 112 degrees, and possessing wonderful medicinal properties. They are owned by M. V. Thompson, one of Grant county's pioneers. Since acquiring them he has built a commodious hotel, a restaurant, a bath house, a dancing hall and stable. Many eastern Oregon people make this place the Mecca of their summer outing. Game is plentiful. The odor of the water is not unlike that of well seasoned chicken soup; it would be difficult to describe its taste, but it is said to be good for almost anything that ails you. There are many people in this vicinity who can testify as to the pain removing and life prolonging powers of the water. The spring is an ideal spot for a large sanitarium.—Prairie City Miner.

Notice of Dissolution of Partnership.

Notice is hereby given that the partnership existing between Ed Turk and Minot Austin, under the style of Austin Meat company, was dissolved on October 29, 1900, and said Minot Austin has assumed sole control of said business.
MINOT AUSTIN.
Sumpter, December 15, 1900.

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