

GOLD AT CRIPPLE CREEK

Thirty Millions in Ore Already in Sight.

VERY BAD PLACE FOR POOR MEN

Pneumonia Kills Off Strangers by the Hundred - Chairs Rent at Fifty Cents a Night and Games Are "Wide Open."

San Francisco, Feb. 5.—John Cameron, the well known mining man of this city, has returned from Cripple Creek, whether he went six weeks ago, or reached this city on Monday morning, and since that time has been constantly sought after for information in connection with the Cripple Creek country. The stories which he tells of the existing conditions in and about the new mining camp are of the greatest interest to an extent that is almost inconceivable.

In his opinion Cripple Creek will undoubtedly prove in time one of the most phenomenal gold-bearing sections in the world. There being one property there which, according to experts, has actually in sight over \$20,000,000 worth of gold ore.

Despite, however, the promising outlook, Mr. Cameron is disposed to regard Cripple Creek at the present moment as about the worst place on earth for a poor man. People unaccustomed to the terribly cold weather of that part of Colorado are dying by hundreds from pneumonia and other lung diseases, and during the last ten days of his stay Mr. Cameron states that the deaths from pneumonia alone averaged ten people per day. Money is there in the greatest profusion in the hands of Eastern people, and speculations in real estate have assumed frightful proportions. Provisions are enormously high, and gambling is being carried on to an extent that is almost inconceivable.

Immediately upon his return Mr. Cameron went to the home of his friend, Lawyer James A. Stevens, where he was seen today. "Yes," said he, "I have come back from Cripple Creek, and I am content to remain away from there until warmer weather sets in. It is, in my opinion, one of the most wonderful gold-bearing sections ever discovered. Just a few days before I left the owners of the Independence mine offered by an English syndicate \$10,000,000 in cash for the property. This is not mere hearsay. I know it to be an actual fact. The field is limited."

"In my impression, however, the field is a very limited one, and in a comparatively short time prospectors will have discovered all that there is to be found in the locality. The two largest mines are the Independence and the Victor, and though the possibilities of these properties are apparently unlimited, neither one is working over a gain of a hundred tons of ore. The daily arrivals there are almost beyond comprehension. People are coming from all parts of this country, from Africa and Australia. A great majority of them have money, but the majority have come with limited means and some only with a few dollars over the price which they pay for their daily transportation. You can imagine the condition of affairs when I tell you that the thermometer averages 15 degrees below zero nearly every day, and that hundreds of these people have never known to hardships which such weather brings.

"The houses are chiefly built of board and canvas. Here and there are some brick structures, but they are exceptions. The accommodations are utterly inadequate for the demand, and there are hundreds of people in Cripple Creek today who will consider themselves fortunate if they have been able to secure a room in a cheaply furnished hotel at a cost of 50 cents and \$1 a night.

"The cost of provisions is equally great. No satisfactory meal can be secured for less than \$1. The ground is covered with snow, and although this subjects prospectors to great disadvantage, their energy is apparently undiminished and they are working along with the greatest activity. As all the ore has to be carried away from Cripple Creek to be smelted the work in connection with the smelting is of the greatest importance, and it is expected, hundreds of men who cannot find the opportunity to make the cost of the scantiest living.

"As I have already stated to you, there are a great many people dying there every day, and the facilities for caring for the bodies of the dead are very sadly limited, and the friends of those who succumb consider themselves fortunate if they can secure the most primitive sort of a coffin and grave for their departed.

"The mining speculation as compared with that of Comstock days, is comparatively insignificant. A fluctuation there of an eighth and a quarter of a dollar is regarded with interest and an advance of \$10 and \$12 per share causes a great deal of excitement. I can remember when certain properties on the Comstock have been sold for a million dollars and sold before the close of the same day for a price several hundred dollars in advance of the original quotation.

"So far as the reports of the lawlessness of the community are concerned, I can only say that I found them to be greatly exaggerated. There is a great deal of lawlessness on there that would be considered alarming in a thickly populated center, but on the whole law and order are preserved.

"The gambling houses run night and day, and the stakes are sufficiently high and low to accommodate the various classes of the speculative population. "Hotel managers, restaurant keepers and saloon men are simply coining money. Beer is 50 cents a bottle, and the hotel men absorb an enormous revenue from renting chairs in which they allow men to sleep during the night.

"As an indication of the extent of real estate speculation there I can tell you that the price of a lot of 25x100 in an outlying section of the city sold for \$10,000.

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SKELETON AT THE WINDOW.

Old House in Mount Pataski, Ill., Said to Be Haunted. Mount Pataski, Ill., Feb. 5.—The old Whitaker residence, at the edge of the city near the cemetery, is inhabited by spooks. At least the superstitious people of the town say so and claim to have seen the ghostly visitors. They have seen the ghostly figures heard issuing from the building, and Saturday night, while the crowd was awaiting further developments, a weird light was displayed and a grinning skeleton tilted by one of the windows. The house was built forty years ago and the eccentric builder had it painted red, white and blue without and decorated with the same patriotic colors within. He was murdered many years ago. The superstitious believe it is his skeleton that was seen, while others are of the opinion that practical jokers are having a little fun.

TESTED GOLDEN CHALICES.

Finding Them Genuine Thieves Despoiled Antora, Ill., Feb. 5.—Burglars entered the St. Nicholas Roman Catholic church last night and despoiled the altar. Among the articles stolen were three solid gold chalices valued at \$100. The thieves were evidently professionals, as they carried off, with which to test the gold.

RAILROAD NOTES.

A prominent railroad president makes this point: The settlement of the anthracite coal wars means a great deal to other roads that the anthracite coal roads. Few people appreciate the fact that coal is the largest item of tonnage on almost every road in the country. It is hard coal east of Chicago, except in the Ohio and Pennsylvania soft coal districts, and practically every road from Maine to the Mississippi river north of the Ohio river is affected by the price of anthracite coal and the tolls thereon. West and South the tonnage is bituminous, and the cost of a restoration of anthracite tolls and prices will be to restore rates on and prices for soft coal. This has always been the experience, and this time there will be no exception. You will see all the soft coal roads improve in earnings as anthracite earnings improve, and practically every railroad in the United States will get more for handling coal than it has received for the last three years. It is a very important item to consider, none could be more important.

English locomotives have always been conspicuous for the great size of their driving wheels. While the driving wheels of American locomotives are usually less than six feet in diameter, seven or eight feet is not uncommon among English engines, and in the early days of the railroad it was believed that the best results were to be obtained by the use of wheels of even larger size. On engines built for fast running a single pair of huge driving wheels seems to have been a distinguishing feature since the earlier days of locomotive construction. In England that type of engine is still in use. A locomotive which was sent to the Engineer, London, by John Wilson of Glasgow, shows the outline of a locomotive with driving wheels ten feet in diameter, which was built in Glasgow fifty years ago. Two or more of these engines were built, but it was found so difficult to get up speed in starting that they were abandoned.

Advises received from the West today of a strike of eastern packers and grain shippers have adopted a systematic plan to break the agreement of the New Joint Traffic association. The strike is not to start until Jan. 1. What brought the matter to the attention of railroad officials was the material reduction in through shipments of grain and provisions by way of New York. An investigation shows that the Western packers and grain merchants have been sending their through freight over the Canadian Pacific and other Canadian lines to St. John's N. F., where it was taken aboard vessels for European ports. Within a few days 500,000 bushels of wheat, 250,000 bushels of oats and 250,000 bushels of barley have been sent over the Canadian Pacific by way of St. John's to Liverpool. There have also been large shipments of grain and provisions to New Orleans, Savannah and Galveston.

Chairman Caldwell notified the Chicago Great Western railroad today that he had received a check for \$20,000 in appeal for relief from the action of the Western Passenger association relative to the return limit of Grand Army emigrants. The appeal was made by a decision was expected by all concerned and the Great Western officials will at once give the required ten days' notice to the emigrants in the association of his intention to take individual action, granting the desired thirty days' limit. Commander-in-Chief Walker has informed Chairman Caldwell that he is satisfied with the compromise proposition from the St. Paul civic committee, but as yet the other Chicago-St. Paul route have not asked for a meeting to consider the proposition.

It is stated that W. J. Spier is to retire as general manager of the Chicago and Grand Trunk railway in pursuance of a plan of merging the executive offices of the line with those of the Grand American railway of Canada. Mr. Spier has been in the railway business 40 years.

MOSCOW.

A. J. Colburn, district president, installed the following officers of Washington camp, No. 248, Patriotic Order Sons of America, on Tuesday night: President, Joseph E. Loveland; vice-president, H. L. B. Dymally; master of forms, H. S. Watts; recording secretary, A. E. Dewey; treasurer, C. H. Clouse; financial secretary, J. M. Noack; conductor, J. W. Clouse; guard, D. Gardner.

Mrs. G. S. Brown was in Scranton Monday. Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Lancaster and daughters, Bessie and Ethel, of Moore, Pa., are calling on friends in town this week.

Piles! Piles! Itching Piles! Symptoms—Moisture; Intense itching and stinging; most at night; worse by scratching. If allowed to continue to-morrow form, which often bleed and ulcerate, becoming very sore. Swayne's Ointment stops the itching and bleeding, heals ulceration, and in most cases removes the tumors. At druggists, or by mail, for 50 cents. Dr. Swayne & Son, Philadelphia.

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CARPETS. In every grade—Wiltons, Axminsters, English and Domestic Brussels, Velvets and Tapestries at moderate prices; also Inlaid and Printed Linoleums, Corticenes and Oilcloth, two and four yards wide.

S. G. KERR, SON & CO. 408 Lackawanna Ave. Opp. Main Entrance Wyoming House. BRANCH STORE, SIXTH AVENUE, CARBONDALE.

THE THIRD NATIONAL BANK OF SCRANTON GIVES SPECIAL ATTENTION TO BUSINESS AND PERSONAL ACCOUNTS AND PAYS 3 PER CENT. INTEREST ON TIME DEPOSITS.

YOU WANT LUMBER WE HAVE LET'S GET TOGETHER. Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup has been used for over Fifty Years by Millions of Mothers for their Children while Teething, with Perfect Success. It Soothes the Child, Softens the Gums, Always all Pain; Cures Wind Colic and is the best remedy for Diarrhoea. Sold by Druggists in every part of the world. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," and take to other kind. Twenty-five cents a bottle.

RICHARDS LUMBER CO. 502 Commonwealth Building Telephone 422

THE DICKSON MANUFACTURING CO. SCRANTON AND WILKES-BARRE, PA. Manufacturers of Locomotives, Stationary Engines, Boilers, HOISTING AND PUMPING MACHINERY. General Office: SCRANTON, PA.

DEXTER SHOE CO. 143 FEDERAL ST. Boston. DEXTER'S PATENT RUBBER SOLE SHOES. A Dollar saved is a dollar earned. This London-Boston-French-Denmark Rubber Sole Shoe is the best made in the world. Sold by all shoe dealers. Price \$1.00. We will refund the money if you are not satisfied. We will also refund the money if you are not satisfied. We will also refund the money if you are not satisfied.

ECONOMY'S FEBRUARY PREMIUM SALE. Premiums will be given with all sales made at either of our stores from 7:00 A.M., FEBRUARY 3, until SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15. Positively not before or after either of the respective dates.

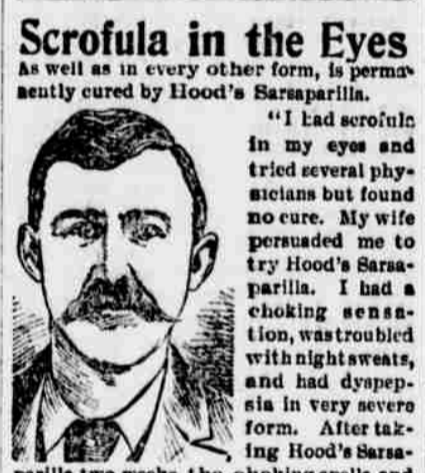
PUTTING YOUR WATCH IN A VAULT. Is a poor way to save time. Putting your money in poor clothing just because the price is low is a still poorer way of saving money. It's a difficult thing, no matter what their "ads" say, for the average merchant to combine very low prices with good goods. It all hinges on the dealer's buying ability. We're just a trifle conceited in that direction. If you'll glance over our Pants Stock tomorrow, you'll not wonder that we are. Pick out a pair to eke out the winter coat and vest—

ON CREDIT AT THIS STORE just like we furnish homes.

the ECONOMY. 225 AND 227 AND 218 WYOMING AVE.

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