

Famous Gold "Strikes" of Earlier Times.

Hardships of Other Days Undergone by Searchers for the Precious Metal.

From the New York Telegram.

The gold craze has been humanity from time immemorial. Periodically the report of some new discovery of the precious metal has kindled the wildest excitement, and the scramble to get rich quickly has been productive of many such sensations as that created by the recent reports from the Klondike region. The hardships endured by gold-seeking pioneers have also been an important factor in the opening up of civilization of hitherto comparatively unknown regions of the globe. To gold the entire Pacific coast owes its present prosperity. The existence of gold had long been known in California, and washings had been carried on in the southern part, near the San Fernando mission, as early as 1841. No discovery had been made, however, which attracted much attention or caused excitement until 1845, when the occupation of the country by the Americans.

A piece of native gold was picked up in an excavation made for a mill-race on the south fork of the American river, at Colusa, California. By the end of December, 1848, washing for gold was going on all along the foothills of the Sierra from the Tuolumne river to the Feather, a distance of 150 miles. The first adventurers came from Mexico, the South American coast, and even from the Sandwich islands. The excitement eventually spread East, and in the spring of 1849 the rush of emigration across the plains and by way of the isthmus of Panama commenced. It was estimated that 100,000 men crossed California during that year, including representatives of every state of the Union. The emigration to the land of gold continued with but little abatement for three years, but the excitement fell off in a marked degree in 1854.

California discoverers had given rise to a general search for precious deposits in the Atlantic states, and this had been followed by wild speculations. A great deal of money had been sunk in opening new mines and in attempting to develop old ones which had never yielded anything of value. Fifty thousand men were engaged in mining for gold in this country at the close of 1850, and during 1852 and 1853 fully 100,000 were at work. At this time the California gold washings reached about \$65,000,000 in value a year. At this period the diggings for gold were chiefly along the rivers. These were "dusted"---that is, the water was diverted from its natural channel by means of wooden dikes---and the accumulation of sand and gravel in the former beds was reached.

PLACERS.

The first and richest "placers," such as the bars on the American Yuba, Feather, Stanislaus and other smaller streams in the heart of the gold region yielded each miner as much as \$5,000 a day. The miners were excited and frequently left valuable localities in search of something better. Occasionally a kind of frenzy would seize on them and thousands would flock to some distant locality in search of the strength of newspaper and other reports. Many would then perish from disease and starvation, the rest returning in poverty and rags. The Kern river fever raged through the states, and at least 200,000 miners went to that distant region of the Sierra, only to find that the gold deposits were already worked out. The Fraser river rush occurred in 1858 and caused more suffering to the men of California than any other gold fever has done. Twenty thousand persons left the states for that remote region, where all suffered great privations. Many died and the survivors went back in a state of destitution.

About the same time that the gold fever was at its height on the western coast of North America, just two years after the rush of the "forty-miners," the great gold boom in Australia began. It was at Summerhill creek, 20 miles south of Bathurst, in the Macquarie plains, that Australian gold was first found by E. Hargreaves, a gold miner from California. The intelligence was made known in April or May, 1851, and then began a rush of thousands. Men left their former employments in the bush or in the towns to search for the precious ore, which has ranked almost as an idol in all ages. Gold was found at Anderson's creek, near Melbourne, the following August, and a few weeks later the great Ballarat gold fields, 80 miles west of the city, were opened, and after that Bendigo, now called Sandhurst, to the north.

Then came a gold fever which surpassed that of California in intensity. Not only in New South Wales and Victoria, where the auriferous deposits had been revealed, but in every British colony of Australia all ordinary industry was abandoned for the one exciting pursuit. The disturbance of social, industrial and commercial affairs during the first two or three years of the gold craze was very great. Immigration from Europe, North America and China poured into Melbourne at the rate of 5,000 each week.

THE TRANSVAAL.

While there has never been a year when the gold fever has not raged with more or less intensity in some portion of the globe, the next great era of intense excitement which attracted the attention of the whole world was in the early '80's, when the extraordinary gold fields of the Transvaal, or South Africa, were discovered. The quartz formation of the famous Witwatersrand reef differed entirely from any hitherto known gold-bearing ore, and at first many were skeptical of its value. But when it became known that the reef extended in an area of half-circle of 40 miles and formed one of the richest fields in the world, the rush across the "veldt" began. Thousands traversed the thousand miles which separated the Rand from the English colonies, and the beautiful Dutch republic was invaded with a wild, unredeemed mob of all nationalities. The town of Johannesburg rose from a single hut to a city of nearly 100,000 inhabitants in less than two years. Fabulous fortunes were made in a few months. These were acquired, however, not by hard work at the mines, but by floating bogus companies which were placed on a high height. There were no placer mines and before the reef could be made profitable immense machinery had to be carried over hundreds of miles of rough country. But the gold was there, and the output last year equaled that of any other country of the world.

The United States had its next great epidemic of gold mining fever early

In 1880, when the discoveries in Lower California created intense excitement along the Pacific coast. The San Clara district to which the crowds rushed, was about 120 miles south of San Diego, and 40 west of Resanaga. During March, 1883, an average of 600 men reached the mines each day. The town of Escondido was reached by the end of the month. One of the first workers washed out 4,000 worth of gold in four hours near the Rancho Real del Castillo. The pan deposit was mainly of black sand, from which the gold was easily extracted by the aid of amalgamation and copper plate. A Mexican digger took out \$1500 in two days in the space of eight feet square. The price of provisions during March at the diggings was tremendously high. Five dollars was paid for a 50-pound sack of flour, \$2.50 for a 10-pound sack of oatmeal. Drinks were two bits (25 cents) each.

CRIPPLE CREEK.

It was in this same year, during the summer of 1883, that N. C. Creed, who killed himself last week, discovered his famous "Holy Moses" mine in Colorado, and other rich deposits, which attracted thousands to the wildest region about the Willow creek, where the town of Creede was subsequently built. Meanwhile prospecting had been going on in the Cripple Creek district of Colorado, and it was to this vicinity that the next great rush of prospectors was destined to be directed. "Bob" Womack, a cowboy, was the first to find ore in Poverty gulch. He took it to Colorado Springs late in 1890, and the float was found to yield \$30 to the ton. Edward de la Vergne, T. P. Frisbey and Dr. J. P. Granitt then put up the Broken Box ranch on Cripple creek, locating a claim under the name of Eldorado. This was the first claim registered in the district. Next M. C. Lackford located the Blue Bell in Squaw gulch, and "Bob" Work, a Denver barkeeper, located the Rose Milk, which showed on one of the earliest assays no less than \$2,300 per ton.

In July, 1891, the Buena Vista and the Gold King mines were located. When the Buena Vista was sold to Count Pourtales and T. C. Farish, of Colorado Springs, the attention of the entire country was called to the Cripple Creek gold fields, and the rush began. Over the wind swept Rocky mountain tops or a mile deep through the snow in the gulches the determined body of treasure seekers poured upon the district, and claims were staked in all directions. From Mineral Hill to the creek bed the mountain sides were covered with claims, as was all the ground in your pocket. It was regardless of the character of the rock. Many hardships were endured at Cripple Creek in those early days of its popularity, and to such as were successful the life was a rough and distasteful one at best.

SCOTT STRATTON.

One of the wealthiest men at Cripple Creek at the end of 1893 was Winfield S. Stratton who was accounted to be worth \$1,000,000. He had \$3,000,000. He had tried his luck in all the camps in the state of Colorado, and was one of the first to enter the Cripple Creek district. At that time he had no money at all. After prospecting around, he and his partner went back to pack up his traps and go back to his old work as a carpenter when he discovered the yellow metal on a piece of float picked up on ground owned by "Dick" Houston, the Indian scout, and the "Father and Mother" mine. It was the morning of July 4, and Stratton called the claim he located the Independence. He had at that time no great hopes of the claim, but a few weeks later the assessors told him that the rock had three ounces of gold to the ton.

It is reported that one day a man went to Stratton and said: "Will you take \$1,000,000 for your mine?" Old man Stratton, as he was always called, replied: "Do you happen to have a million in your pocket?" The other said: "No, but I can get it." Then Stratton added: "Well, if you would give me 10 times 10 millions and put a million in gold down to bind the bargain, I wouldn't sell. If I had the money I wouldn't know what to do with it. As long as it is down in the mine no one can take it away from me, and I can take it out as fast as I please."

On Battle mountain, just above "the Independence," was the second largest private mine in the world, the famous Cripple Creek. This great gold mine is called the Portland. Early residents tell the story of its beginning as follows: "Jimmie Doyle had a bit of a patch on top of the mountain that might have been his garden for a garden, and then again it might not. It was altogether about a sixth of an acre. But it had a vein. Close by 'Jimmie Burns' it is James F. Burns now--had another bit of a patch. They were the best of friends and both from Portland, Me., and so they put their claims together, and called their mine in honor of their native town. Both were tenderfoot, and didn't know just what to do with their property, so one day John Harnan came along and said: 'Boys, what'll you give me if I'll find you pay rock?' Doyle and Burns agreed to give Harnan a third if he found the pay rock. He found it that afternoon, and a year ago Harnan's third of the mine was \$2,000,000 in the market."

OTHER FINDS.

The Portland has produced several millions of dollars' worth of gold. Stories such as these drove Colorado wild in the early days of Cripple Creek mining, and from 35,000 to 50,000 people flocked to the fields. None of these discoveries quite as startling as those which are now electrifying the world seem to have been so inaccessible as the new gold fields of northeastern British Columbia, and whatever hardships were suffered by the "fers of California or the bush diggers of Australia may be multiplied a thousand fold for the excited hordes who are flocking to the Klondike.

Among the latest stories told by the returned miners from the Yukon is that of a discovery quite as startling as those which are now electrifying the world may shortly be looked for in territory which belongs beyond question to the United States.

Some rich strikes on American and Alaskan creeks, Alaska, are reported, and it is believed that since the last news from these points was received much greater development had been made. In fact, it now appears that the rich promise of this region has not been secret among the northern gold hunters during the last few months, but

the fame of the Klondike region had become so great that nearly every one wished to hurry to that district.

News is soon expected which may have the effect of directing a great portion of the rush southward to American rather than British territory.

A PLEASANT EXCEPTION.

The Weary Traveler at Last Finds a Model Railway Restaurant and Is Happy.

From the Detroit Free Press.

With a weary sigh we entered the railway restaurant in the little southern town which was the breakfast place. Everyone knows what railroad restaurants are with their "twenty minutes for refreshments," or rather twenty minutes to prepare for twenty years of chronic dyspepsia. So with heavy hearts we sat down to our breakfast prepared for the worst. A neat waitress approached.

"Quail on toast?"

"What?"

"This was repeated. The quail was delicious."

"Fresh trout caught this morning?"

"Great Scott, don't give me heart failure! Yes, I'll take some."

By this time the knives and forks were rattling in earnest.

"Breakfast cream toast, fresh eggs, buckwheat cakes, coffee and cream?"

"Will the good things never end?" cried the passenger.

Everything was served well, and it was a breakfast worthy of the Waldorf of the Hotel of the same name. The waiter ventured to say that the quail and the fish were infinitely finer than could be found in the metropolis. The quail had been shot in the corn fields the day before and the fish was fresh, sweet and firm of flesh. The coffee, cream, breakfast and buckwheat cakes were on a par with the fish and quail. What an aspect of good cheer and happiness was seen in the faces of the surprised passengers. Now, indeed, was the time for the waiter to come to an end. What good Samaritan benefactor and philanthropist was the keeper of this restaurant, and how our eyes beamed with satisfaction and gratitude as we surveyed his jovial, corpulent person.

"Take your time, people," he said, "Lots of things yet. I'll call you all in time. Plenty of quail yet. They can't go off and leave you, 'cause the conductor's here and he's got a powerful hearty appetite."

Oh, pleasant, round boniface! Your jovial features will remain in mind for all time. Your place is a refutation of all the slanderous things that have been said of the railway lunch counter; it is a bright spot in the memory of travelers, driving away hundreds of disagreeable dreams and experiences.

HIS LITTLE MISTAKE.

Briggs--"Mighty pretty bonnet your wife had on last Sunday. At least, my wife said it was."

Briggs--"Yes, and it all came from my absent-mindedness that she got it."

Briggs--"How's that?"

Briggs--"When I went home the other evening, thinking very intently about business, as I often do, I found my wife in the kitchen. Now, what should I do but hand the bird I had brought home to my wife and kiss the cook? Of course, she knew it was a mistake, but I don't know how women are."

A THEORY.

First tramp--"I akshually seen Bill Sawin' wood. He must be awful hard up."

Second Tramp--"I lirk de wuman must have hypnotized Bill."

Sunday School Lesson for August 29.

Paul Opposed at Ephesus.

Acts XIX, 21-34.

By J. E. GILBERT, D. D., LL. D.,

Secretary of American Society of Religious Education.

CONTEXT.

Our last lesson, historic in character, on August 1, taken from the eighth chapter of the Acts, left Paul in Corinth. After teaching there a long time (verse 2), undisturbed except by one intrusion of the Jews, he departed from Europe in the winter of the second year of his ministry. He went to Asia in company with Priscilla and Aquila, he sailed across the Aegean sea, and landed at Ephesus, one of the chief towns in that part of the world. There he was cordially received by the Jews who invited him to teach in their synagogues. Through neglect to remain among them he again sailed, landed at Caesarea, and went up to the feast at Jerusalem (xviii: 22). Having saluted the brethren he went forth again, traversing all the country of his previous ministry in Galatia and Phrygia and returned a second time to Ephesus, according to promise. There for the first time he met Apollon, Paul who had lately come from Corinth, Paul remained at Ephesus a long time (xix: 10), teaching, working miracles, and contending for the faith as in Jesus.

PURPOSE.

After this useful ministry in Ephesus the apostle proposed to return to Macedonia and Achaia, but European provinces which he previously visited, that he might meet the converts at Philippi, Berea, Thessalonica, Athens and Corinth (Acts 20). He was directed to this the more by the fact that the Spirit of God prompted him to go upward to Jerusalem and Rome. Those places reveal the enlarged field of his great man's work, and show the truly apostolic character of his office. Unable to depart at once he sent two of his assistants, Timothy and Erastus (verse 22). The first, as a beloved son, had been his companion in nearly all his missionary operations, and the latter, who had been an officer under the Roman government (Rom. xvi: 23), was destined to become pastor or bishop at Corinth. (I Tim. iv: 23). Herein is presented the plan of ministerial service employed. A series of local churches or congregations had been established, all under apostolic supervision, to be visited, encouraged and instructed at intervals.

CONTRAST.

Shortly after the departure of Timothy and Erastus a great commotion was raised in Ephesus (verse 23). It originated in a new and unexpected quarter. The city was the seat of the worship of Diana, at times the highest in the year. The people resorted thither from all parts of Asia Minor to worship, and when they returned to their homes, they were pleased to take with them the various images of the goddess to assist them in continuing their devotions. As a consequence workmen were employed to make these images deriving from their sale a livelihood and in some instances, deriving large wealth. The spread of Christianity through the preaching of Paul greatly interfered with this business (verses 24 and 25), and as a consequence, the men engaged therein, smarting under the loss sustained by them, conspired together. Demetrius, a man largely interested, called his fellow workmen together and represented the case. The Israelites presented the plan with them. They were a type of a large class, who in every age and land, care less for righteousness than for worldly gain.

CONFLICT.

Demetrius did not rest his objections on purely selfish considerations, although he began his speech with a statement of loss in business. He af-

INDIGO ONCE WAS

THE DEVIL'S DYE

That Was Its Name in the Sixteenth Century.

ITS USE WAS THEN PROHIBITED.

The Claim Made That It Rotted the Clothes--How the Dye-Staff Is Derived--Large Sums of Money Profitably Invested in the Indigo Industry.

According to a writer in Popular Science News, indigo was used in Egypt and India long before the Christian era. Dioscorides and Pliny each mention it under the terms Indigo, Indicum, Serpion, mummy cloth, and in some instances, mummy cases, have been found dyed by this agent.

It is supposed that in the Middle Ages the Jews, some of whom were dyers, introduced it into Europe. During the latter half of the sixteenth century, many experiments and improvements were made in the art of dyeing. But some fabrics were so spoiled by chemical action that when issued for sale they were found to rot on the shelves of the shopkeepers. These mischiefs were traced to indigo-colored fabrics, and the substance itself soon came to be called devil's dye. In 1577 a law was passed in Germany to prohibit the use of this coloring matter.

In the middle of the next century the people of Nuremberg who cultivated wool went so far as to impose on their dyers an oath, to be taken annually, that they would not use indigo. Between the years 1596 and 1699 the use of indigo was also prohibited in France, Colbert, however, showed more enlightenment on the subject, and the prohibition was repealed.

THE INDIGO PLANT.

Indigo is not directly elaborated by those plants which are its source of supply. Nature furnishes it through several species of Indigofera, plants of the Papilionaceae family. The European plant which yields indigo is wood. Various species of Indigofera flourish in South America, the West Indies, Egypt, India and other warm regions. It has even been cultivated in the south of Spain. But not only is a warm climate necessary to the plant, it requires a soil which is liable to inundations.

The cultivation of this plant, and the manufacture and exportation of its products is an industry almost entirely controlled by Europeans. A capital of considerably over five millions of dollars is invested in it. Under the head of Drugs and Chemicals, the British trade returns for 1888 show the imports of indigo to amount to \$1,700,000, or about eight and a half millions of dollars, the exports being five and a half million dollars. The business has declined in Bengal proper, but in Behar, the area under cultivation has increased. Two crops are there raised in the year. The one sown in April or May is gathered in August or September. Then in October, as soon as the water subsides, there is a new planting which yields a harvest in the following July.

HOW IT IS MADE.

The process of manufacture is comparatively simple. When the plants are ready to flower, they are cut down close to the ground, and the leaves are

to the ground, tied in bundles, and then placed in cold water in large vats. The vegetable mass is kept down by timbers wedged in the sides of the vats, and is thus allowed to steep. In such a warm climate, fermentation takes place in from twelve to fourteen hours, when carbon dioxide and various foul vapors are given off--a condition prejudicial to the health of all concerned in the process.

The water above the vegetable matter gradually changes from a straw yellow to a golden color. The liquid is then run off into tanks and well stirred, or rather lashed, with long bamboo rods for about three hours, so as to thoroughly aerate it. A froth appears which soon becomes a violet-colored; in cold words, this is indigo blue, which is insoluble in water. Hence, when this blue substance is finally precipitated as a fine powder, it is transferred to a cauldron and boiled for about twenty minutes to prevent a secondary fermentation, which would make it valueless. The mass is then left overnight and again boiled for three or four hours. After this treatment the dye-stuff is passed through several strainers, a filter-press, and lastly, is very carefully dried and then packed in boxes for transportation.

MRS. GROVER CLEVELAND.

Tribute to the Late Mistress of the White House.

From the Times-Herald.

From Lady Washington, as the people loved to call the wife of the first president, to Mrs. Grover Cleveland, there is an interval precisely a hundred years, and in that interval many polished and cultivated women have dispensed the hospitalities and borne some of the cares of the presidential mansion. None has been unfitted for her station, but in no one did it shine in greater prominence than in Mrs. Washington, Mrs. Abigail Adams, Mrs. Madison and Mrs. Polk are among those whose fame is best known to the world, and whose names would have adorned the most celebrated courts. To those it now to be added Mrs. Cleveland, who by her charm and beauty and youth and refinement has won an abiding place in the hearts of all the people. Mr. Cleveland may be criticized as much as one will, but not a word can be uttered against the gracious lady who has stood by his side, ever faithful to high ideals.

From the day she entered the White House as a youthful bride, untrained in the niceties of official station, she has maintained her position as though she had never known any other life. Fearless, frank and amiable, she has exhibited the highest breeding that the daughters of this republic possess by natural inheritance. And yet she has been no time-server. Having her own religious and moral convictions, she never sacrificed them for expediency, nor did she make of them a show, or endeavor to impose them upon others.

If we would describe a typical American woman, a character that would include man's idea of the highest womanhood, we would not go far away if we presented the portrait of Frances Cleveland. As hostess, wife and mother she has won the affection of all who know her, and in her retirement to private life she has never for a moment ceased to be the people wish her every happiness.

AN OPEN LETTER To MOTHERS.

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March 8, 1897. Samuel Pitcher, D. D.

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W. A. Vledebusch, 294 Washington ave.
- STEAMSHIP TICKETS.
J. A. Barron, 115 Lackawanna and Pricewater.
- STEREO-RELIEF DECORATIONS AND PAINTING.
S. H. Morris, 207 Wyoming ave.
- TEA, COFFEE AND SPICE.
Grand Union Tea Co., 103 S. Main.
- TRUSSES, BATTERIES, RUBBER GOODS.
Benjamin & Benjamin, Franklin and Spruce.
- UNDERTAKER AND LIVERY.
Raub, A. R., 45 Spruce.
- UPHOLSTERER AND CARPET LAYER.
C. H. Hazlett, 126 Spruce street.
- WALL PAPER, ETC.
Ford, W. M., 120 Penn.
- WATCHMAKER AND JEWELER.
Rogers, A. E., 215 Lackawanna.
- WINE AND LIQUORS.
Walsh, Edward J., 42 Lackawanna.
- WIRE AND WIRE ROPE.
Washburn & Moon Mfg Co., 119 Franklin ave.