

GOLD

by STEWART EDWARD WHITE

Copyright 1913, by Doubleday, Page & Co.

SYNOPSIS

Talbot Ward's challenge to Frank Munroe to a personal encounter to determine whether Munroe is fit to make a trip to California in search of gold is accepted. Munroe gets a hammerlock on Ward and wins the bet.

They choose the Panama route. Ward, an American, is an old campaigner. On board ship they meet Johnny Fairfax and Yank Rogers. The four become partners.

Arriving at Chagras, Talbot Ward's knowledge of Spanish and his firm treatment of the native boatmen help wonderfully. The party enters a tropical forest.

They reach Gatun, and, after passing through several villages where Ward always diplomatically handles the natives, they arrive in Panama.

Ward forces steamship agent to refund passage money because ship isn't available.

Yank has provided accommodations for all on board a sailing ship. They arrive in San Francisco.

CHAPTER IX.
We Compare Notes.

Ward found McGlynn in line about a block down the street.

When he saw me coming he pulled a fat buckskin bag from his breeches pocket, opened its mouth and shook a quantity of its contents by guess into the palm of his hand.

"There you are," said he; "that's near enough. I'm a pretty good guesser. I hope you took care of the mules all right. You ought to, you're from a farm."

"I fixed 'em."

"Aid the mud? How many times did you get stuck?"

"Not at all."

He looked at me with surprise.

"Would you think of that now?" said he. "You must have loaded her light."

"I did."

"Did you get all the goods over?"

"Yes."

"Well, I'll acknowledge you're a judgmental young man, and if you want a job with me I'll let that lawyer go I spoke to the judge about. He handed it to me then, didn't he?" He laughed heartily. "No? Well, you're right. A man's a fool to work for any one but himself. Where's your bag? Haven't any? How do you carry your dust? Haven't any? I forgot; you're a tenderfoot, of course." He opened his buckskin sack with his teeth, and poured back the gold from the palm of his hand. Then he searched for a moment in all his pockets and produced a most peculiar chunk of gold metal. It was nearly as thick as it was wide, shaped roughly into an octagon, and stamped with initials. This he handed to me.

"It's about a fifty dollar slug," said he; "you can get it weighed. Give me the change next time you see me."

"But I may leave for the mines tomorrow," I objected.

"Then leave the change with Jim Recket of the El Dorado."

"How do you know I'll leave it?" I asked curiously.

"I don't," replied McGlynn bluntly. "But if you need \$25 worse than you do a decent conscience then John A. McGlynn isn't the man to deny you." Johnny and I left for the hotel.

"I didn't know you expected any mail," said I.

"I don't."

"But thought I saw you in line—"

"Oh, yes! When I saw the mail sacks it struck me that there might be quite a crowd; so I came up as quickly as I could and got in line. There was a number before me, but I got a place pretty well up in front. Sold the place for \$5, and only had to stand there about an hour at that."

"Good head!" I admired. "I'd never have thought of it. How have you gotten on?"

"Pretty rotten," confessed Johnny. "I tried all morning to find a decent opportunity to do something or deal in something, and then I got mad and plunged in for old jobs. I've been a regular errand boy. I made \$2 carrying a man's bag up from the ship."

"How much all told?"

"Fifteen. I suppose you've got your pile."

"That twenty-five you saw me get is the size of it."

Johnny brightened. We moved up closer in a new intimacy and sense of comradeship over delinquency. It revived both to feel that the other, too, had failed. To enter the Plaza we had to pass one of the larger of the gambling places.

"I'm going in here," said Johnny suddenly.

He swung through the open doors, and I followed him.

The place was comparatively deserted, owing probably to the distribution of mail. We had full space to look about us, and I was never more astonished in my life. The outside of the building was rough and unfinished as a barn, having nothing but size to attract or recommend. The interior was the height of lavish luxury. A polished mahogany bar ran down one side, backed by huge gilt framed mirrors before which were pyramided fine glasses and bottles of liquor. The rest of the wall space was thickly hung with more plate mirrors, dozens of well executed oil paintings and strips of tapestry. At one end was a small raised stage on which lolled a half dozen darkies with banjos and tambourines. The floor was covered with a thick velvet carpet. Easy chairs, some of them leather upholstered, stood about in every available corner.

The game was roulette. Johnny and the dealer evidently recognized each other, for a flash of the eye passed between them, but they gave no other sign. Johnny studied the board a moment, then laid \$2 in coin on one of the numbers. The other players laid out small bags of gold dust. The wheel spun and the ball rolled. Two

I detailed my experiences in a very few words and exhibited my gold slug.

"That's the best I can do," I ended, "and half of that does not belong to me. I can, however, in a few days scrape up the full amount. There is plenty to do here. And, barring bull luck, like Johnny's, I don't see much show of beating that unless a man settled down to stay here."

Talbot stared at me ruminatively until I began to get restive; then he withdrew his eyes. He made no comment.

"I suppose you have your money," suggested Yank to him after a pause.

"Oh, yes," said Talbot as though awaking from profound reverie.

"Well, tell us about it. How did you get it? How long did it take you?"

"About half an hour. I figured that everybody in a place like this would be wanting news. So I sorted out that bundle of old newspapers my fellows were always laughing at, and I went out and sold them."

"How much did you get for them?" asked Johnny.

"A dollar apiece for most and 50 cents for the rest. I came out \$270 ahead all told. That, with Frank's and my \$10, gave me \$300 above the necessary amount."

Johnny arose and kicked himself angrily.

"For not guessing what newspapers were good for," he explained. "Go on! What next? What did you do with the rest of the day?"

CHAPTER X.
Talbot Deserts.

TALBOT leaned forward, and all the animation of the dinner table returned to his manner and to his face.

"Boys," said he earnestly, "this is the most wonderful town that has ever been! There has been nothing like it in the past, and there will never be anything like it again. After I had sold out my papers I went wandering across the Plaza with my hands in my pockets. Next the El Dorado there is a hole in the ground. It isn't much of a hole, and the edges are all caving in because it is sandy. While I was looking at it two men came along. One was the owner of the hole, and the other said he was a lawyer. The lawyer offered to rent the hole to the lawyer for \$250 a month, and the lawyer was inclined to take him up. After they had gone on I paced off the hole just for fun. It was twenty feet square, or about six feet deep. Then I walked on down toward the water front and talked with all the storekeepers. They do a queer business. All these goods we see around came out here on consignment. The local storekeepers have a greater or lesser share and sell mainly on commission. Since they haven't any adequate storerooms and can't get any put up again, they sell the stuff mainly at auction and get rid of it as quickly as possible. That's why some things are so cheap they can make pavements of them when a ship happens to come in loaded with one article. I talked with some of them and told them they ought to warehouse a lot of this stuff so as to keep it over until the market steadied. They agreed with that, but pointed out that they were putting up warehouses as fast as they could, which wasn't very fast, and in the meantime the rains and dust were destroying their goods. It was cheaper to sell at auction."

"And a heap more exciting," put in Johnny. "I went to one of them."

"Well, I wandered down to the shore and looked out over the bay. It was full of shipping, riding high at anchor. I had an idea. I hired a boat for \$5 and rowed out to some of the ships. Believe me or not, most of them were empty, not even a watchman aboard. I found some of the captains, however, and talked with each of them. They all told the same story."

"Crews shipped to the mines, I suppose," said Yank.

"Exactly. And they couldn't get any more. So I offered to hire a few of them."

"The captains?" I inquired.

"No; the ships."

"The what?" we yelled in chorus.

"The ships."

"But if the captains can't get crews—"

"Ah, I don't want to sail them," went on Talbot impatiently. "It was hard work getting them to agree. They all cherished notions they could get crews and go sailing some more—good old salts! But I hired four at last. Had to take them for only a month, however, and had to pay them in advance five hundred apiece."

"I beg your pardon," said Johnny softly, "for interrupting your pleasing tale, but the last item interested me. I do not know whether I quite heard it right."

"Oh, shut up, Johnny!" said Yank. "Let the man tell his story. Of course

ago, waterproof, practically fireproof, dustproof, and within twenty-four hours. I guess most of them thought I was crazy, but as it didn't cost them anything they were willing to take a chance."

"Then you didn't raise your \$10,000 from them in advance payments?" I marveled.

"Certainly not. That would have scared off the whole lot of them. But I got their agreements. I told you it took me two hours. Then I walked up the street figuring where I'd get the money. Of course I saw I'd have to divide the profits. I didn't know anybody, but after awhile I decided that the best chance was to get some advice from an honest and disinterested man. So I asked the first man I met who ran the biggest gambling place in town. He told me Jim Recket."

"Jim Recket?" I echoed. "He's the man I was to leave change for my gold slug with?"

"Recket keeps the El Dorado, next door in the tent. He impressed me as a very quiet, direct, square sort of a fellow. The best type of professional gambler in matters of this sort generally is."

"I am looking for a man," said I, "who has a little idle money, some time, no gold mining fever, plenty of nerve and a broad mind. Can you tell me who he is?"

"He thought a minute and then answered direct, as I knew he would. 'Sam Brannan,' he said. 'Tell me about him.'"

"To take up your points," said Recket, checking off his fingers, "he came out with a shipment of Mormons as their head, and he collected titles from them for over a year. That's your idle money. He has all the time the Lord stuck into one day at a clip. That's your 'some time.' He has been here to show he doesn't care much for mining. He collected the titles from those Mormons and sent word to Brigham Young that if he wanted the money to come and get it. That's for your nerve. As for being broad minded—well, when a delegation of the Mormons, all ready for a scrap, came to him solemnly to say that they were going to refuse to pay him the titles any more, even if he was the California head of the church, he laughed them off the place for having been so green as to pay them as long as they had."

"I found Sam Brannan finally at the bar in Dennison's Exchange."

"What was he like?" asked Johnny eagerly. "I'll bet I heard his name fifty times today."

"He is a thickset, jolly looking, curly headed fellow, with a thick neck, a bulldog jaw and a big voice," replied Talbot. "Of course he tried to bully me, but when that didn't work he came down to business. We entered into an agreement."

"Brannan was to furnish the money and take half the profits, provided he liked the idea. When we had settled it all I told him my scheme. He thought it over awhile and came in. Then we rowed off and paid the captains of the ships. It was necessary now to get them warped in at high tide, of course, but Sam Brannan said he'd see to that. He has some sort of a pull with the natives, enough to get a day's labor, anyway."

"Warp them in?" I asked.

"Certainly. You couldn't expect the merchants to lighter their stuff off in boats always. We'll beach these ships at high tide and then run some sort of light causeway out to them. There's no surf, and the bottom is soft mud. I'll cost us something, of course, but Sam and I figure we ought to divide three thousand clear."

"I'd like to ask a question or so," said I. "What's to prevent the merchants doing this same hiring of ships for themselves?"

"Nothing," said Talbot, "after the first month."

"And what prevented Brannan, after he had heard your scheme, from going out on his own hook and pocketing all the proceeds?"

"You don't understand, Frank," said Talbot impatiently. "Men of our stamp don't do those things."

"Oh!" said I.

"This," said Johnny, "made it about 2 o'clock, as I figure your story. Did you then take a needed rest?"

"Quarter of 2," corrected Talbot. "I was going back to the hotel when I passed that brick building—you know, on Montgomery street. I remembered then that lawyer and his \$250 for a hole in the ground. It seemed to me there was a terrible waste somewhere. Here was a big brick building filled up with nothing but goods. It might much better be filled with people. There is plenty of room for goods in those ships, but you can't very well put people on the ships. So I just dropped in to see them about it. I offered to hire the entire upper part of the building and pointed out that the lower part was all they could possibly use as a store. They said they needed the upper part as storehouse. I offered to store the goods in an accessible safe place. Of course they wanted to see the place, but I wouldn't let on, naturally, but left it subject to their approval after the lease was signed. The joke of it is they were way overstocked anyway. Finally I made my grand offer."

"Look here," said I, "you rent me that upper story for a decent length of time—say a year—and I'll buy out the surplus stock you've got up there at a decent valuation." They jumped at that. Of course they pretended not to, but just the same they jumped. I'll either sell the stuff by auction, even at a slight loss, or else I'll stick it aboard a ship. Depends a good deal on what is there, of course. It's mostly bale and box goods of some sort or another. I've got an inventory in my pocket. Haven't looked at it yet. Then I'll partition off that warehouse and rent it out for offices and so forth. There are a lot of lawyers and things in this town just honing for something dignified and stable. I only pay three thousand a month for it."

Johnny groaned deeply.

"Well," persisted Talbot, "I figure on getting at least eight thousand a month out of it. That'll take care of a little loss on the goods, if necessary. I'm not sure a loss is necessary."

"And how much, about, are the goods?" I inquired softly.

"Oh, I don't know! Somewhere be-

tween ten and twenty thousand, I suppose."

"Paid for how and when?"

"One-third cash and the rest in notes. The interest out here is rather high," said Talbot regretfully.

"Where do you expect to get the money?" I insisted.

"Oh, money, money!" cried Talbot, throwing out his arms with a gesture of impatience. "The place is full of money. It's pouring in from the mines, from the world outside. Money's no trouble!"

He fell into an intent reverie, biting at his short mustache. I arose softly to my feet.

"Johnny," said I in a strangled little voice, "I've got to give back McGlynn's change. Want to go with me?"

We tiptoed around the corner of the building and fell into each other's arms with shrieks of joy.

"Oh," cried Johnny at last, wiping the tears from his eyes, "money's no trouble!"

After we had to some extent relieved our feelings we changed my gold slug into dust—I purchased a buckskin bag—and went to find McGlynn. Our way to his quarters led past the postoffice, where a long cue of men still waited patiently and quietly in line. We stood for a few moments watching the demeanor of those who had received their mail or who had been told there was nothing for them. Some of the latter were pathetic and looked fairly dazed with grief and disappointment.

We found Yank and Talbot still at the edge of the hotel veranda.

"Look here, Tal," said Johnny at once, "how are you going to finish all this business you've scared up and get off to the mines within a reasonable time? We ought to start pretty soon."

"Mines?" echoed Talbot. "I'm not going to the mines! I wouldn't leave all this for a million mines. No; Yank and I have been talking it over. You boys will have to attend to the mining end of this business. I'll pay Frank's share and take a quarter of the profits, and Frank can pay me in addition half his profits. In return for the work I don't do I'll put aside \$200 and use it in my business here, and all of us will share in the profits I make from that amount. How does that strike you?"

"I don't like to lose you out of this," said Johnny disappointedly.

"Nor I," said I.

"And I hate to lose the adventure," boys," agreed Talbot earnestly. "But, honestly, I can't leave this place now even if I want to, and I certainly don't want to."

I turned in that night with the feeling that I had passed a very interesting day.

(To be Continued.)

Cream
— IN —
BOTTLES

1-2 Pint Bottle . . . 15c.
1 Pint Bottle . . . 25c.
(Bottles to be returned)

Fresh milk at 5 Cts. per quart. Bring your pail for milk.

Fresh Eggs At All Times

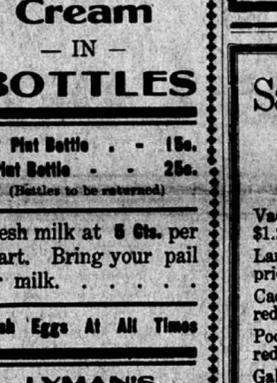
LYMAN'S MEAT MARKET

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTRIX
(STATE OF IOWA.)

Delaware County, ss
Notice is hereby given, That the undersigned has been duly appointed and qualified as Executrix of the estate of John Jordison late of Delaware county, deceased. All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment, and those having claims against the same will present them, duly authenticated, to the undersigned for allowance.

MARY JORDISON
Dated July 1, 1916.

For Sale -- Stock
in the Dundee Savings Bank. Address Box 426 Manchester Iowa



For Crochet, Embroidery and Tinting. Ideal results are certain if you use Klostersilk.

Article 805 in White and Colors is best for all kinds of Crochet Work.

White that Stays White
Colors that Last
At G. G. ARMISTEAD'S

W. B. Miller & Son Hdw.

Bargain Sale of Bicycles

During the next ten days we will offer bicycles at the following reduced prices:

One \$35.00 "Pope Motobike"	\$30.00
Completely equipped with stand, electric lights, luggage carrier and frame tool box base.	
One \$30.00 Crescent	\$27.00
Fisk tires, motorcycle pedals and Corbin coaster brake.	
One \$25.00 Pentant	\$22.00
One \$24.00 Boy's Mitchell	\$20.00
One \$24.00 Girl's Mitchell	\$20.00

10 per cent discount on lamps and inner tubes.

Remember the wheeling season is still young

10,000

Horses and Mares

WANTED

Wm. Holland will be in Manchester, Iowa, THURSDAY, AUG. 10. Headquarters at GRAY'S BARN.

Wm. Holland, of Waterloo, Iowa, has secured several new contracts for horses.

DESCRIPTION OF WHAT I WILL BUY

I will buy horses and mares from 5 to 9 years old, weighing from 1300 to 1800 pounds. They must be thick made, rugged and sound, with plenty of bone, good eyes, good wind and good feet. I will pay from \$150 to \$225 per head for these horses.

I will buy horses from half past four to 9 years old, weighing from 1200 to 1400 pounds. They might have a few slight blemishes on them, but they must have good wind and trot square. I will pay from \$130 to \$150 per head for these horses.

I will buy horses for the U. S. Government from 5 to 8 years old, standing from 14-3 to 16 hands high, and weighing from 1000 to 1150 pounds. They must be sound and rugged little horses, all solid colors, and all geldings. I will pay from \$90 to \$135 per head for these horses.

Bring your horses in early, as I shall endeavor to buy 100 head while in this town.

WM. HOLLAND, Buyer

Save Money by Buying Here
During Community Sale

Vacuum Ice Cream Freezer, 1 quart, former price \$1.25, reduced to	50c
Large bottle "Ever-ready" Furniture Polish, former price 25c, reduced to	10c
Cadillac Vacuum Sweepers, former price \$9.00, reduced to	\$3.50
Pocket Knives, former price 50c and 60c, reduced to	35c
Galvanized Sprinklers, 4-quart, former price 30c, reduced to	23c
Galvanized Sprinklers 8-quart, former price 50c, reduced to	40c
1 Premium Steel Range No. 8, with Reservoir and warming closet, former price \$37.00, reduced to	\$30.00

These quotations are by no means all of the bargains to be had at this store. If you will come to our store you will be surprised at the large line from which you can make selections at money-saving prices.

Hutchinson & Atwater

Opera Tenors Possibilities.

"Operatic tenors are the most peculiar persons in the world to get along socially with," remarked a stage manager who was rehearsing a new opera. "The very nature of their business makes them queer. I suppose. You see, they are under a continual nervous strain, have to take particular pains with their costumes, as well as be under continual guard of their voices at all times. They get finicky. I just had a setto with the tenor who is supposed to look pretty. This fellow had tried on the costume which had been furnished him. He did not like it and came to me with blood in his eye. 'You don't suppose I'm going to show up in this cheery outfit, do you?' he said. I knew I had to humor him. So I sent the prop boy out and bought a bolt of pink ribbon, had the wardrobe woman decorate him with this in all kinds of fantastic rosettes and bows, and he was perfectly contented and said: 'Now, I look like something.' This is but one of the things a stage manager has to contend with."

Jerks the Heartstrings.
Marjorie—"The boys are simply wild about her and she can't sing at all."
Lillian—"Did you ever see how sweetly she can cry?"

The Only Kind.
"I've come across a man who knows how to manage his wife." "Lead me to him at once!" "Can't; this isn't visiting day at his asylum."

W.C. AMSDEN

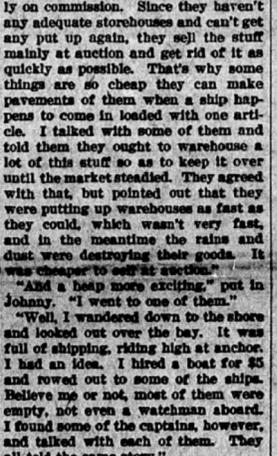
(17 Years in Active Practice.)

Poor vision, also headaches, photophobia (sensitive to light) and other ailments due to eye strain promptly relieved.

Optical Office at the Drug Store.

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, Lucas County, ss
Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, Ohio and State of Ohio, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE. FRANK J. CHENEY Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 15th day of December, A. D. 1888. A. W. GLEASON, (Seal) Notary Public.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts through the Blood on the Mucous Surfaces of the System. Send for testimonials free.
F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, O. Sold by all druggists, 75c.
Hall's Family Pills for constipation.



"Ten to one—\$220!" he muttered to me.

Johnny's scandalized expostulations. When Johnny protested against expenditure it was time to look out. We lit our pipes and sat down at one end of the veranda, where we would not be interrupted.

"Fire ahead, Yank," advised Talbot.

"There's two ways of going to the mines," said Yank. "One is to go overland by horses to Sutter's Fort or the new town of Sacramento and then up from there into the foothills of the big mountains way yonder. The other is to take a boat and go up river to Sacramento and then pack across with horses."

"How much is the river fare?" asked Talbot.

"You have to get a sailboat. It costs about \$40 apiece."

"How long would it take?"

"Four or five days."

"And how long from here to Sutter's Fort by horse?"

"About the same."

"Depends, then, on whether horses are cheaper here or there."

"They are cheaper there. Or we can get our stuff freighted in by Greasers and hoof it ourselves."

"Then I should think we ought to have a boat."

"I got one," said Yank.

"Good for you!" cried Talbot. "You're a man after my own heart! Well, Johnny?"

Johnny told his tale a little proudly and produced his required \$220.

"You had luck," said Talbot noncommittally, "and you ran a strong risk of coming back here without a cent, didn't you? I want to ask you one question, Johnny. If you had lost would you have been willing to have taken the consequences?"

"What do you mean?" asked Johnny blankly.

"Would you have been willing to have dropped out of this partnership?" Johnny stared.

"I mean," said Talbot kindly, "that you had no right to try to get this money by merely a gambler's chance unless you were willing to accept the logical result if you failed. It isn't fair to the rest of us."

"I see what you mean," said Johnny slowly. "No; I hadn't thought of it that way."

"Well, as I said, you had luck," repeated Talbot cheerfully, "so we needn't think of it further." It was characteristic that Johnny took this veiled rebuke from Talbot Ward in a meek and chastened spirit. From any one else his high temper could never stand even a breath of criticism. "How about you, Frank?" Talbot asked me.



"In two hours I had contracts with twelve of them."

he didn't have the money in his pocket. How did you get it, Tal?"

Ward shot him a grateful glance.

"I told them I'd pay them at 4 o'clock which gave me plenty of time."

"Two thousand dollars—oh, of course!" murmured Johnny.

"So then," continued Talbot, "I hustled ashore and went to see some of my merchant friends. In two hours I had contracts with twelve of them that totaled \$6,000."

"Why didn't some of them go out and hire ships on their own account?" asked Yank shrewdly.

"Because I didn't mention the word 'ship' until I had their business," said Talbot. "I just guaranteed them stor-