

Alleg—"I heard something about you, to-day." "Maud—Yes, this new living they are using in dresses makes a frightful noise, doesn't it?"—Yonkers Statesman.

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Health is of the utmost importance, and it depends upon pure rich blood. Ward off colds and pneumonia by taking a course of Hood's Sarsaparilla.

**Hood's Pills** act harmoniously with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

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**Mind Reading.** You can read a happy mind in a happy countenance without much penetration. This is the sort of countenance that the quondam bilious sufferer or dyspeptic relieved by Hostetter's Stomach Bitters wears. You will meet many such. The great stomachic and alterative also provides happiness for the malurous, the rheumatic, the weak, and those troubled with inaction of the kidneys and bladder.

**A Way of Escape.**—"There is one good thing about foreign nobility, after all." "What is that?" "Why, when they come over here they can't compel us to associate with them."—Chicago Record.

**Having tried Dr. Carlstedt's German Liver Powder** in my family, I do not hesitate to pronounce it a most excellent remedy."—H. R. Gray, Nashville, Tenn.

**I HAVE found Piso's Cure for Consumption** an unfailing medicine.—F. R. Letz, 1305 Scott St., Covington, Ky., Oct. 1, 1894.

**Mrs. G. (as her husband departs for a club meeting)**—"If you're any later than midnight, I shan't speak to you!" "G.—"I hope you won't, dear!"—Baz'r.

**CASCARETS stimulate liver, kidneys and bowels.** Never sicken, weaken or gripe.

**FORGOTTEN.**—"Does Miss Wisely still ride that theosophy hobby of hers?" "I've really forgotten the name of her wheel."—Detroit Free Press.

**Being a gentleman is hiding your meanness.**—Atholion Globe.

## MINING CAMP SKETCHES.

**How Obscure Localities Are Changed Into Cities.**

**The Process of Evolution is the Same in Every Instance—Conditions Peculiar to the Mining Districts of America.**

[Special Denver (Col.) Letter] The evolution of a mining camp is perhaps one of the strangest and most interesting features of western life. Towns spring up quickly, and in the least expected places, like the usual castle in the wilderness to accommodate belated lovers—in fiction. In



A NEW MINING CAMP.

many instances these towns are as quickly deserted, but not at the command of any lady in white appearing in her ghostly garments. There is not a better object lesson than a deserted mining town—the empty stores and the abandoned mines tell the story of lost fortunes and innumerable hardships and privations in the pursuit of wealth. It also tells of blasted hopes and ruined lives. There are in the west hundreds of deserted towns that were once prosperous. When the mines were worked out, the people stampeded as if from a plague, and good frame residences and brick business houses were left tenanted to decay.

Life in a mining camp or town is more varied and exciting than elsewhere. A mining town of 20,000 population, which is styled a city in the east, is referred to as a camp. The population is also more varied, being composed of people of every grade in life—especially of the immoral and criminal class. No sooner does a wandering prospector discover a rich mine than others flock to his "diggings" like sheep in a panic.

Prospecting is generally done on government land, for when a mine is located, the locator can get the land at the usual government price for mineral land, whereas, if gold is discovered on private land, the prospector must pay the owner his own price, or get off the "ranch." In the Rocky mountain regions nearly every ranch owner is also a prospector on a small scale. When his crops are "laid by" and he has nothing else to do, he goes out and digs for gold. Many of them make "spending money" by this extra work. One out of many "strikes it rich," when he throws aside his farming implements, stakes off a number of claims for himself and sells others to the incoming tide of prospectors. A town is then staked off, and, of course, is named for the lucky rancher. The lots at claims are each sold at from \$50 to \$200 or more, and the plodding rancher is now wealthy; is perhaps elected mayor, and given the honorary title of colonel. Within a few weeks the ranch is a lively camp, dotted with hundreds of tents and board houses called "shacks," and for three or four miles in each direction shafts are being sunk for gold. In the center of the district is the town, or "camp," so-called because no one lives there—they only are camping, and no one intends to remain—after he has made the fortune he expects to get.

There are numerous instances in Colorado, and several during the present boom, where ranches have been turned into populous camps of several thousand people, with electric lights, opera houses, and gambling houses, and all within a few weeks. Yet, in the greater



RESIDENCE OF ONE OF THE "FIRST FAMILIES."

number of instances, the towns are the outgrowth of mines located by prospectors on government lands. In each case, however, the development of the town is by the same process, excepting perhaps that the rancher becomes rich by selling his lands and organizing a town, while the prospector is frequently swindled out of his location by adverse claimants, who allege prior discovery, and often prove it by perjured testimony of confederates.

While working a claim the prospector lives in a "dug-out"—a hole in the ground, curbed as a cistern, the roof being on a level with the ground, through which is a small door. When he strikes a bonanza, and the crowd flocks in, a mass meeting is called, a mining district is formed and a town staked off. The first public improvement decided upon is a saloon; next a hotel is considered; a mayor is elected, and the man with the greatest reputation as a killer is elected as "city marshal." It is soon seen that his office is

not a sinecure. In a few days the usual country store is opened, then a blacksmith shop, and, of course, several gambling dens and the usual dance hall. In the first stages of the camp's life the houses are tents.

As the camp gives indications of solidity "shacks" are put up, and, with increased prosperity and firmness, frame dwellings of a more substantial nature, and even brick houses, are constructed. Before it reaches this metropolitan stage, however, the camp passes through a purifying ordeal of vigilance committees and a thinning out of the refuse element, male and female. When the camp is young and its existence uncertain, the rough element rates, though not always in the majority. As it becomes more prosperous, property becomes more insecure by the numerous robberies of the tough element. A few aggravated murders or incendiary fires lead to the formation of a vigilance committee and the purifying process begins. This is the history of every mining camp in the west of any considerable importance, and the history of others also which are now inhabited only by the graves of the outlaws who were hanged by vigilantes.

When a district is very prosperous there is the usual town site rivalry. Each "gulch" or mountain wants a town and a separate individuality. So that within a district of 12 miles square, Cripple Creek, for example, there are as many towns. Then they begin to fight, each trying to incorporate the other, and frequently there is bloodshed. The town site fights are instigated by real estate boomers, politicians who want office and lawyers who want litigation. The real business men (mine owners) do not want a town, and would wipe out all of the saloons and other resorts of that nature.

Adventurers, elocutionists, "French teachers," and even teachers of dancing flock to the camps and do a land-office business in teaching department to the new rich, who abandon their old ways and attempt to lead a life for which they are unfitted, and cannot be acquired. The ranchman or the prospector who has developed into a millionaire at once moves into the city. He is too good to be a farmer, and as he generally has a family he moves the entire brood into the city and employs a corps of teachers to fit them for society. Their old associates are tabooed, and after awhile the west becomes too small, and



THE FIRST SALOON.

they flock to New York or to Europe—and are laughed at.

Being located without reference to commercial advantages, the life of the average mining camp is short. Only when immensely rich mines are discovered does the camp grow into a city and bring commerce and railroads to it, instead of going to them. While 5,000 or 10,000 miners are at work, each receiving three dollars a day, the city is lively—the gambling houses, saloons and low resorts getting the larger portion of the large pay-roll. Add to this the speculators who buy worthless mines from sharpers, and the transient element that flock in and drop out, but not until after spending no trifling sum, for living is high, both as to altitude and price. Business is more overdone in a mining camp than elsewhere.

Everyone thinks that he can easily pick up a fortune where there is so much gold, and nearly everyone is disappointed. Life is also uncertain, not so much from the rough element as from sickness and whisky. The high altitude is a region of perpetual winter, snow and rain. The life is naturally an exciting one, and whether prosperous or the reverse whisky is taken as a stimulant or to quiet the nerves, which are usually at fever heat.

Summing up all this, from a financial standpoint, it is doubtful whether mining is profitable, generally speaking. When one man becomes a millionaire several millions become impoverished. There is more money lost at mining than is gained, taking all of the camps as a whole. The world bears only of the very rich camps—like Cripple Creek, Leadville and the now almost abandoned Virginia City. These camps produced millions upon millions, and evolved day laborers, saloon keepers, boarding-house keepers and washerwomen into millionaires, United States senators and would-be social leaders. But the world does not hear of the other mining camps throughout the west where fortunes are lost in delving for hidden wealth. As in the trades and professions, the successful are heard of—the millions of plodders are unknown.

J. M. SCANLAND.

**Painfully Frank.** Mrs. Larkin (to milkman)—Are you quite sure your milk is free from germs?

Mr. Chalk—You needn't be the least bit afraid about my milk, ma'am. I always boil the water I put in.—To Date.

**Bargain Prices.** "What is the amount of the poll-tax, John?" asked Mrs. Cawker. "One dollar," replied Mr. Cawker. "When we women get the ballot we shall mark it down to 99 cents."—Harper's Bazar.

## THE ART WORLD.

**An annex to the Luxembourg museum** is building on the Rue de Vaugirard side, to make more room for works by living French artists.

Many frescoes, some going back to the fourteenth century, have been discovered on the walls of the Church of San Floriano, at Montefiascone, during recent repairs.

The late Sir John Millais' income ranged as high as \$100,000 in his best years, and from an early date in his career his terms for portraits exceeded those charged by Sir Joshua Reynolds.

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**Poor Young Man.**—"Why do you treat me so unkindly?" Fashionable Girl—"Treat you unkindly? Why, what do you mean? I just told you that I wouldn't marry you!"—Somerville Journal.

**Just try a 10-cent box of Cascarets,** the finest liver and bowel regulator ever made.

**Knickerbocker.**—"Were you knocked speechless when you collided with that stone?" Bloomer—"No, but my wheel was knocked spokesless."—Norristown Herald.

**When bilious or costive, eat a Cascaret,** cany cathartic, cure guaranteed, 10c, 25c.



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