THE LURE OF GOLD

Romance and Tragedy of the Old Bonanza Trail.

A ROAD TO WEA!.TH AND CRIME

It Led to the Richert Deposits of Gold. In a Relatively Small Territory, Ever Discovered-Days of Strenuous Life and Frenzied Lawlessness.

The Bonanza trail began at Fort Laramie, Wyo. It ran east of the Owl Creek mountains, west of the Big Horn mountains, in a northwest direction to Livingstor and Bozeman, then forking to the present Helena and Nirginia City. In war and Indian depart ment annals it is known as the Boz man trail. Immediately, however, it was given the more remantic name, and for the best of reasons. It led to what were the richest deposits of gold, in a relatively small territory, that the

world had ever seen.
Out of Alder guich and Last Chance within 200 miles of each other guich, within 200 miles of each other in Montana, was taken, in ten short years, considerably more than \$500,-000,000 in pure gold. It was anybody's fortune, and the wonderful luck of the California gold diggers a few years be-fore roused men to brave every hard-

ship for these prizes.

It did not matter at all that these guiches were 2,000 miles from the mearest railroad and that other gold fields were far easier to reach. was the great El Dorado, and with-out a qualm the gold seekers hurrled into the unknown territory, defying fied Cloud and every other Indian, out-

law, renegade and holdup man.

How many lives were sacrificed along this trail to wealth will never be known. All that is certain is that there never was another chapter in the world's history like this. The long read into the mysterious country and the settlements of mining camps grew up almost in a single night. There were only five men in the little party Bill Fairweather "washe first pan in Alder gulch and made a discovery even more wonderful than any in the palmy days of California or even in the later era of the Klondike.

Two years later Alder guich, at one of the Bonanza trail's two ends, was among the most picturesque places in the country. The world was ransacked for men and women to give performances at the theaters, to offer free entertainment to the patrons of the various resorts. The gold hunters, gorged with prosperity, wanted amusements. with prosperity, wanted amusements. Fine restaurants were opened and food brought in at great expense from be-youd the seas. The smallest money youd the seas. was a twenty-five cent pinch of gold dust, taken from a pouch. It bought part of the United States today, Meantime an unending stream

part of the United States today.

Meantime an unending stream of people poured into the new country. It is estimated by some that 90,000 is mirrook the trail at Fort Laramie.

The days of the trail were those of frenzied lawlessness, and many are the picturesque stories that have come down. Over the big road disputes about cards were of daily occurrence. The man who started an argument did so with the knowledge that it was his life or the other man's, for he was talking into question the "bonor" of the "shark." Swindlers sold "names," and the with their proposed victure and killed without compunction.

Armed robbers rail of stock, stole horses from one class of immigrants and sold them to another. As the horse was the kole means of trainsportation and valuable beyond buman life. "hoss stealing" was set down by the "districts" as a critice rounshable by

"hoss stealing" was set down by the "districts" as a crime punishable by tleath. There were few courte, and h as there were were mit the trail. A jury would hence be at once impaneled among those present, the man tried and if found guifty bauged to a tree without ceremony

Hotels flourished and were prosperous beyond imagining, for every one spent money, and there was much flaunting. In the higher grade establishments beverages were served in cut glass; champagne was common. Every resort was crowded with people. The newcomers frequented these places in quest of information, paid 25 cents for a glass of beer made from barley grown by the ex-Confederate soldiers at Bozeman and sold to the Virginin breweries for 8 cents a pound, and nor enough could be received to supply the demand. Table board cost \$7 a day for the very cheapest, and if one slept in a chair in the hotel lobby at night when the rooms were all rented, he paid \$1.50 for the privilege.

Gold was the only medium of ex-change. A pluch of it, between the forefinger and the thumb, as has been said, counted 25 cents. There would be a tendency with some men to take just a little bit more. When that tendency was noticed in a man be was viven hours to leave town- and 4t was seldom over two hor ... The wise man did not stand on ceremony or protest-be "vamoosed." in come vernacular.

The newspapers of the city sold for 25 cents a copy, red bot from the press and full of news of lynchings, new dig-gings, "clean ups," "bold ups," "bad men" and gossip of a breezy charac-ter. Ham and eggs to order cost \$2.56. legs were worth 50 cents aplece and an ordinary meal of deer or buffalo meat, with potatoes or coffee and bread, was never less than \$1.50. A

man was very poor to get down to fare man was very poor to get down to fare so coarse as that.

It made no difference what a man might have been back in "the states;" if he was "on the square" in Virginia he was accepted at per.—F. J. Askins in Harper's Weekty.

WHEN FACING DEATH.

or Fright, It Would Appear, Is

Rarely Present. A distinguished British physician who has been at some pains to collect de: 4 on the subject asserts that tew persons about to die have really any feer of dissolution. There is cited the partially devoured by a lion. He declared that he felt no pain or fear anthat his only sensation was one of it tense curiosity as to what portion ex his body the lion would take next.

Rustem Pasha, Turkish ambassado

at London, used to tell of an attack made upon him by a bear during : hunt in the east. The beast tore off hunt in the east. The beast tore off a bit of the Turk's hand, a part of his arm and a pertion of his shoulder. Bustem solemnly aversed that he suf-fered neither pain nor fear, but that he felt the greatest indignation because the bear granted with so much sails faction while manching him.

Grant Allen, whose scientific habit of

thought gave weight to his words, says that in his beykood he had a narrow escape from drowning.

While skating he fell through this ice over a place whence several blocks loa over a place whence several blocks had the day before been removed. He was carried under the thicker ke be youd and when he came to the surface tried to break through by butting his head against it. The result was that he was stunned, then numbed by the fold and so waterlogged that artificial respiration had to be employed to restore him. These are the impressions as recorded by him with reference to the pain he suffered.

"The knowledge that I have thus experienced death in my own person has had a great deal to do with my titer

had a great deal to do with my utter physical indifference to it. I know how it feels. I had only, a sense of cold, damp and breathlessness, a short struggle, and then all was over.
"I had been momentarily uncomfort-

able, but it was not half so bad as breaking an arm or having a tooth drawn. In fact, dying is as painless as falling asleep. It is only the previous struggle, the sense of its approach, that is at all uncomfortable. Even this is less unpleasant than I should have expected. There was a total absence any craven shrinking. The sensation was merely the physical one of gasping for breath.—Harper's Weekly.

THE AGE OF MAN.

Science Places It Between 400,000 and 3,000,000 Years.

It is quite possible, said Professo A. Keith in a lecture to the British as-sociation at Dundee, that man as we inow bim now took on his human characteristics somewhere near the beginning of the plicene period, and beginning of the pliocene period, and while the exact date is simply a guess the best estimates available indicate 1,408,000 B. C. as not far from the truth. If the evidence of the flint collectors is accepted as authentic, pliocene man is a possibility.

Professor Keith was sure we had traced ourselves back to the middle of the pleistocene, when we were accompanied by another form of man almost as distinct from us as the gorille is from the chimpanses. At the

companied by another form of man almost as distinct from us as the sortile is from the chimpanses. At the sortile is from the chimpanses. At the period of the pleistoccase there may be companied to the pre-nearly period than of Javabat the "representative of modern and at that early period" has not a yet heep found.

been found.

If the cining of M. Rutot are accepted, the arequity of math is at least 3,000,000 years. According to Professor Reth, the orthodox (by which presumally he meant scientifically orthodox; opinion is that "the dawn of the very earliest form of huminity lies 400,000 years behind us." From all of which it is plain that the beginnings of the age of man are still shrouded in mys-

minds is." said Professor Keith in conclusion, "that in the distant past there was not one kind, but a number of very different kinds of men in existence, all of which have become extinct except that branch which bas given origin to wodern man."-Nev

Has His Own Death Certificate. You never know when a man is really Not even if you are a doctor. I know a man who walks about cheer now and occasionally pulls out from his pocketbook his death certificate, duly signed by the doctor some years ago. Just to amuse you. The doctor said he was dead. He disagreed. And his protest is the bumorous pre sentation of the death certificate when you ask for his card.-London Chron

Thackeray and Roast Mutton Thackerny often dropped in to din ner, sometimes announcing himself is The following is one of his epistles:

A nice leg of mutton, my Lucie I pray thee have ready for me; Have it smoking and tender and julcy. For no better meat can there be. —Recollections of Janet Ross

Wise Child.

"You may give three important illustrations of the power of the press." says the teacher to the class.

The pupil who has not hitherto dis-tinguished bimself is first to reply: "Clder, courtship and politics."

Still Looking. He—Five years ago when I saw ber she was looking for a husband, bu she's married now. She—Yes, and she's still looking for him, especially a

e physician is more than are

BUSINESS DIPLOMACY.

What "Sorry, but That Is the Rule," Cost One Bank

"The making of rules for the carrying on of business is a good proposi-tion, but ironclad rules sometimes in-jure as much as they help," a New York banker declared recently. "Here is an Illustration;

"One of the depositors in my concern had saved many years. His bank book, take ed and yellow, was full to the last times with entries that extended partially since his wedding day. And when the time came that must take out a new book he asked to save the old one.

"Sorry," the teller said, but it's a rule of the company that when a new book is issued we must take up the

"'But you don't understand! the de positor argued. That old book is nothing to you. It is worth a whole lot to me. Many's the night my wife and I have sat up with that looking over the entries, planning for the fu-ture when all the additions we had planned would be made in it. We've seen our little account grew from \$10 to \$100, from \$100 to \$1,000. His voice grew a bit husky. Why, that little book has been a sort of Bible to us. It has represented our every hope in life. We have planned by it, dreamed by it. May I not keep it?
The clerk smiled sympathetically,

but shook his head.

"A month went by, and then one degrate away.

"A month went by, and then one degrate came into the bank. He had transferred his account to another institution. The matter came to my attention some way, and I heard the story of the torn and tattered bank book. That hight, in the little bulletin which we send around our place, was a notice that was written by me;

"Hereafter there shall not be an roughed rule in this bank that is too strong or too heavy to resist breakage. Kindly consult the cashier on matters of diplomacy in the future."—New

WOMEN OF FRANCE.

They Are the Bosses Even Though the Men Won't Admit It.

The women of France have been de scribed as the backbone of the French nation. The remark applies more to the middle class than to the aristocracy. The bourgeoise, truly a helpmeet to her husband, is in fact more often a manager and as a rule efficient in that capacity. It is she who carries on the little shop, while her husband, perhaps nominally the head, runs errands at her bidding. Not that the Frenchman would admit that; nevertheless it is the truth. It may be, too, that he has bustness interests elsewhere as well. Thus he may work for the railway or for

Some other enterprise.

In Paris one enters an attractive little picture or jewelry shop on the Rue de Rivolt. A Emiling Frenchwoman comes forward to cajole the tourist into buying all sorts of fascinating things me really does not want. It is the same the shops where are sold kodak supplies and postcarde—not a man to be sen except as a purchaser.

If one ferrets out a little hardware store and gres in to buy rope or nails or anything of that sort, there may be a man, the proprietor probably, to hant for just what is desired, but even then his wife sits at the desk, guarding the money drawer and keeping a close watch ever all that is happening.

Likewise at the butcher's madame sits in state at the receipt of cash. The case is the same at the grocer's where she gives out change and keeps the accounts. No mere hireling is to be trusted with such weighty matters.

All customers alfould stop to greet the must on no account forget their "Ben jour, madame!" on departing. These attle courtesies are among the essen thals with the French, and if the fet eigner forgets or neglects them be five quently fares badly .- London Specifitor

The Human Voic

One's surprise at the fact that no two ersons' voices are perfectly alike ceases when one is informed by an authority on the subject that, though there are only nime perfect, tones in the human voice, there is the astounding number of 17,592,186,044,415 different sounds. Of these fourteen direct muscles produce 16,383, and thirty indirect muscles produce 173,741,823, while all in co-operation produce the total

Unconscious Sarcasm

A Scotch visitor to the Car Cheyne row, was much structhe soundproof room which the ALLE had contrived for himself in the notice lighted from the top, and where ne tight or sound from outside con-"My certes, this is his the old friend, with uncome a war casm. "Here ye may write out studbeing be one bit the wiser."

Not to Be Bitten.

Andrew Cherry, the netor once rea theatrical manager who had not proplously treated him very we'l been bitten by you once. Describe "and am resolved that you shall name two bites of A. Cherry." - I. add Telegraph.

Consistent.

"That big fellow certainly does not in a very silly way."

"Perhaps, being stout, he thinks to ZOL match it his conduct ought to be farm."

ree

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