

GOLD NUGGETS.

Fortunes Found in Chunks of the Yellow Metal.

GREAT CALIFORNIA DISCOVERIES.

The Largest Nugget Found in New South Wales, Valued at \$148,000. A Miner Kicked into a Fortune.

From Book by T. J. Hurley.
The largest nugget of which the world has any knowledge, was found at Hill End, New South Wales, by Messrs. Byer and Haltman. It measured four feet nine inches in length, three feet three inches in width and averaged four inches in thickness. It sold for \$148,000. At the time of finding it Messrs. Byer and Haltman had exhausted their capital and were practically lying on charity. It is said that the discovery so unweaned one of the partners that he was unfit for work or business for a long period.

LARGEST FIND IN CALIFORNIA.
To a poor half-breed Indian in California belongs the credit of the second largest find. The scene of this discovery was a spot that had been gone over time and again by experienced prospectors and miners. In 1861 a firm of young men from St. Louis had been induced to invest in a big placer claim in Nevada county. Old miners laughed in their sleeves when they heard of the deal. The claim had never yielded more than colors and promises and they regarded it a moribund proposition.

But the new firm took hold with all the energy of young blood and abiding faith in their judgment and fortune. Sluices were built and the hunt for gold instituted with great vigor. Among the employes was the young half breed Indian. One evening when the men had gone to their tents for supper, he went down to the creek to wash his overalls. The sluice and creek were so dirty that he could not see clearly below the surface. After spreading his overalls on the sluice boards to dry the Indian's eyes were attracted by a big yellow rock in the muddy stream. He got down into the water and rolled the rock over several times. He had never seen gold in any other form than thin flakes or bits the size of pinheads and it never occurred to him that gold could be found in any such mass as that he was rolling in the stream. He concluded that he had discovered some new kind of rock and went to his tent to sleep in peace.

Next morning, when he returned for his overalls, he examined the curious rock again. There was something about it he could neither understand nor define, and he called the foreman to inspect it. The trained eye of the experienced miner at once recognized the precious nugget, and the camp went crazy over the find. As the story spread hundreds came long distances just to feast their eyes on the lump of gold and to poise in their hands. It weighed 65 pounds and filled a peck measure. The firm sold the nugget to the Adams express company for \$17,400 and presented each of their employes in the camp \$100, giving the half breed \$300 for his luck in making the find. The claim was afterward worked over carefully, but while it yielded a moderate amount of dust, no other nugget larger than a pea was found, which is another proof of the miners' axiom that "gold is where you find it."

KICKED INTO A FORTUNE.
Two years ago a man was literally kicked into a fortune. Louis Rodegno was discharged by the superintendent of the Mistle Shaft mine. Every day for weeks he hung around the mine imploring to be taken back. Finally he was kicked off the grounds. He procured a pick and shovel and grub enough to last him for a week or two, and started off prospecting in Bear creek, on the Pine Ridge, some 75 miles northwest of Frisco. Three weeks later he returned with \$9,000 in gold dust, which was panned out in less than a fortnight's actual work.

Among the mining exhibits in the mining department of the World's Fair at Chicago was a nugget of pure gold found in Alpine county by a woman. The history of the discovery of this chunk is cherished by every woman in California. Harry E. Ellis and his wife went to the state in 1874, from Philadelphia because of Ellis's serious lung trouble. They went to live up in the mountains of Alpine county, miles from any neighbor. They got their livelihood by hunting and cultivating a few acres of land about their lonely cabin. Grizzled old miners, with their jacks laden with grimy camp outfits and blankets, came by the

Ellis cabin frequently. One of the men lay ill there for several weeks, while he was nursed to health and vigor by the Ellises. The miner told them how they might find recreation and profit in hunting through the canyons and foothills of that region for pay dirt and showed them where he believed there were indications of gold bearing gravel.

For days at a time the young husband and wife tramped up and down the gulches in Alpine county, looking for specks of gold, but all without avail. They abandoned seeking riches in the placers and confined their attention to their little ranch. One afternoon as Mrs. Ellis was driving home the family cow she was seeking stones to throw for the amusement of the dog. She saw in the coarse gravel a dark, dull yellow stone and picked it up.

KNEW IT WAS GOLD.
"I knew from the moment I picked it up," she said, "that I had found gold, because it was so heavy; but as I had never seen a real nugget I was afraid my husband would laugh at me."

The nugget has never been utilized in gold working and is still kept for exhibition purposes. It is phenomenally clear and the size of a croquet ball, but very rough and battered by rolling and tumbling in the water for ages. Mrs. Ellis got \$2250 for this find.

The biggest nugget found in California in the last 30 years was picked up in Sierra county. It was melted less than 12 years ago by a New York goldsmith after it had been used far and wide for exhibition purposes. In August, 1879, W. A. Farish, A. Wood, J. Winstead, F. F. L. Cleavinger and Harry Warner were partners in the Monumental claim, near Sierra Buttes, in Sierra county. In the last week of that month they discovered a gold nugget which weighed 1593 ounces, Troy. It was sold to R. B. Woodward, of San Francisco, who paid for it \$13,500 for exhibition purposes. When it was melted about \$9800 was realized.

Although Plumas county, away up toward the Oregon line and near the Modoc lava bed, is one of the richest counties in California in minerals and has made a dozen men millionaires of several degrees, it has yielded few valuable nuggets. The largest was found by a Chinaman near the mouth of Nelson creek. It was worth \$2,800. A miner in Elizabethtown, Arctie Lutte, discovered a \$2,600 nugget, and Hays and Steadman found one above Mahawk valley, near the county line, that weighed 420 ounces and was worth \$6,700.

Eldorado county, where gold was first found in California, yielded the first big nugget found in that state. In 1850 a 121-ounce chunk of gold was dug out with a common spade from the bank of the American river, near Lawson's Bar. It brought \$13,400. Another was found near Kelsey, in the same county, and it sold for \$4,700 in 1867. Pilot Hill, a boulder of quartz gold, yielded \$8,000. This, with several small nuggets, was taken from the Bowlder Girard claim, near Pilot Hill postoffice. Several large and valuable gold nuggets were discovered in Tuolumne county. In 1853 a mass of gold weighing 360 ounces was found at Columbus. This was valued at \$5,625.

Millions Given Away.
It is certainly gratifying to the public to know of one concern which is not afraid to be generous. The proprietors of Dr. King's new discovery for consumption, coughs, and colds, have given away over 10,000,000 trial bottles and have the satisfaction of knowing it has cured thousands of hopeless cases. Asthma, bronchitis, grippe and all throat, chest and lung diseases are surely cured by it. Call on Globe Drug store and get a free trial bottle. Regular size 50 cents and \$1. Every bottle guaranteed.

Probably we shall never again hear from Mark Twain on the lecture platform. Maj Pond says he offered him \$10,000 if he would deliver ten lectures on his return home this autumn. He replied that no terms would remove his prejudice against the platform. He lectured once in Vienna and once in Budapest for fun, not for money. He likes to talk for nothing about twice a year, but talking for money is work, and that takes the pleasure out of it.

There is no pleasure in life if you dream going to the table to eat and can't rest at night on account of account of indigestion. Henry Williams of Booneville, Ind., says say he suffered that way for years till he commenced the use of Kodol dyspepsia cure, and adds, "Now I can eat anything I like and all I want and sleep soundly every night." Kodol dyspepsia cure will digest what you eat. H. C. Hitchcock.

A new assortment of pipes at G. S. Van Wagenen's.

The council of the island of Santa Cruz in the Danish West Indies has adopted and telegraphed to the king of Denmark a protest against the sale of those islands to the United States. It is not many years since a different sentiment manifested itself in Santa Cruz and St. Thomas. When our negotiations for the purchase of the islands were well under way the Danish government approved the sale, conditioned on the choice of the colonists themselves. In the vote that was taken the inhabitants of the islands declared by a large majority in favor of annexation to the United States. Then the senate refused to ratify the treaty and the negotiations ended. The reversal of opinion visible now is noteworthy. The Danish West Indies have heard from Porto Rico. Evidently they do not like this example of American treatment of an island possession which welcomed a change of sovereignty.

The Centre of Population.

One curious revelation of the new census is that the centre of population has moved but slightly since ten years ago, and it will require a nice calculation than is yet possible to determine whether it has moved westward or eastward. For a long period it had been steadily moving westward, and by the last census it was found to be a little west of south of Greensburg in Indiana. By this census it appears that the states wholly west of the longitude of that point have increased almost precisely the same as the states lying wholly east of it, about 6,000,000 each. The remaining 1,325,000 increase is in states which the meridian passes through, and not until the increases in the east and west parts of these are determined will it be known what and in what direction the change is. The eastern and western halves of the nation appear to be increasing in population with remarkable evenness. It is possible that the northern or southern movement of the centre may be greater than the eastern or western movement, and perhaps it will be found that the movement is really farther from the centre of ten years ago than is now thought probable.—Boston Herald.

Cost of Governing Paris.

Paris, in spite of its gaiety, is not a paying city. Its finances for 1900 show a deficit of nearly half a million sterling. This, unless it is covered by new taxation, will bring the local debt of Paris to over £71,000,000. Paris owes nearly one-half the municipal debt of France and one-third of the local debts of all England. The debt of Paris is twice as heavy as that of London, and every Parisian owes £20 more than every Londoner. The explanation lies in the expensive government of Paris, which is the dearest of any capitol in the world. The government of Paris costs £5 a head, as compared with Washington, £4; Rome, £3 18s; London, £3 15s; Stockholm, £3 2s; Copenhagen, £1 12s; Vienna, £1 16s; Berlin, £1 4s; St. Petersburg, 10s. Even London has something yet to learn in the manner of cheap government.—London Chronicle.

Both makers and circulators of counterfeit bills commit fraud. Honest men will not deceive you into buying worthless counterfeits of DeWitt's witch hazel salve. The original is infallible for curing piles, injuries, eczema and skin diseases. H. C. Hitchcock.

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