THE OMAHA DAILY BEE: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1897.

***** Uncle Jim and Uncle Billy.BY BRET HARTE

PART I. (Copyright, 1897, by Bret Harte.)

after the fashion of old married couples, or, rather, as in matrimonial partnerships, were subject to the domination of the stronger there might have been no limit to their good old chap!" character; although in their case it is to be will, there might have been one to their Uncle Billy's face broke into a beaming capacity for exposure. feared that it was the feminine uncle Billyenthusiastic, imaginative and loquaciouswho swayed the masculine, steady-going and practical uncle Jim. They had lived in the camp since its foundation in 1849; there seemed to be no reason why they shouldn't remain there until its inevitable evolution into a mining town. The younger members might leave through reatless ambition or a desire for change or novelty; they were subject to no such triffing mutation. Yet Cedar was surprised one day to hear that

uncle Billy was going away. The rain was softly falling on the bark thatch of the cabin with a muffled murmur, like a sound heard through sleep. The south-west trades were wa m even at that altitude as the open door testified, although a fire of pine bark was flickering on the adobe hearch the boys,' and striking out answering fires from the freshly scoured culinary utensils on the rush sideboard which uncle Jim had cleaned that thing with his usual serious persistency. Their best clothes, which were interchange-

able and worn alternately by each other on festal occasions, hung on the walls, which were covered with a coarse sailcloth canvas instead of lath and plaster, and were diversified with pictures from illustrated paper and stains from the exterior weather. Tw "bunks." like ship's berths, an upper and lower one, occupied the gable end of this cingle apartment, and on beds of coarse sacking, filled with dry moss, were care-fully rolled their respective blankets and pillows. They were the only articles not used in common, and whose individuality was respected.

Uncle Jim, who had been sitting before the fire, rose as the square bulk of his partner appeared at the doorway with an armful of wood for the evening stove. By that sign he knew it was 9 o'clock; for the last six years Uncle Billy had regularly brought in the word at that hour, and Unele Jim had as regularly closed the door after him and set out their single table, containing a greasy pack of cards taken from its drawer, a bottle of whisky and two tin drinking cups. To this was added a ragged memorandum book and a slick of pencil. The two men drew their storls to the table.

"Hol' on a minit," said Uncle Billy. His partner laid down the cards as Uncle Billy extracted from his pocket a pill box and, opening it, gravely took a pill. This was clearly an innovation on their regula proceedings, for Uncle Billy was always in perfect health. "What's this for?" asked Uncle Jim, half

scornfully. "Agin ager."

"You ain't got no ager," said Uncle Jim, with the assurance of instimate cognizance of his partner's physicial condition.

"But it's a pow-ful preventive! Quinine Saw this box at Riley's store, and laid out a quarter on it. We kin keep it here, comarter a man's done a hard day's work on the

something so new is this arraignment of right bower, c mpressial the winning cards: themselves that the parnets for a manual "By Jago! If we does playin" four-statilent. There was a slight flush on Uncle Billy's check, there was a slight paleness on Uncle Jim's. He was the first to raply. But he did so with a certain dignity which warkled. Unite Jim's, also, had a slight warkled. Unite Jim's, also, had a slight warkled. Unite Jim's also, had a slight warkled. Unite Jim's also, had a slight

T HARTE..... T HARTE..... the did so with a certain dignity which neither his pariner nor their guest had ever "As I's our fire that's warmed ye up like this, Dick Hullen," he said, slowly rising with his hand resting on Uncle Billy shouly rising with his hand resting on Uncle Billy's shoul than of rudeness. The cabin of Uncles Billy and Jim was considered a public right or "common" of the camp. Conferences be-"ut up with our own way o' living—and not "ut up with our own way o' living—and not put up with our own way o' living—and not put up with our own way o' living—and not with with end or with our own way o' living—and not with his our divertion of the camp. Conferences be-put up with our own way o' living—and not will with ye under our own prod."

PART I. (Copyright, 197, by Bret Harte.) They were pariners. The avuncular title was bestowed on them by Cedar Camp, possi-biy in recognition of a certain matured good humor, quite distinct from the spanmotic caim upon their advisory or arbitrative exuberant spirits of its other members, and private nature. Yet there was never any mature. Yet there was never any private nature. Yet there was never any common in the spanmotic private nature. Yet there was never any the from what, to its youthful sense, the from what to its youthful sense, the from the from the from the from the fr exuberant spirits of its other members and possibly from what, to its youthful sense, seemed their advanced ages—which must have been at least 40! They had also set habits, even in their improvidence, lost in-calculable and unpayable sums to each other over euchre regularly every evening, and inspected their slutee boxes punctually every Saturday for repairs—which they never made. They even got to resemble each other, after the fashion of old married couples, or, rain while their guests were exchanging thunder, you'd get othels when they caved private confidences in their cabin. While in! I reckon that sent me off. That's all,

> Uncle Jim drew a huge log from beside grasped his guest's; Uncle Jim quickly the hearth and sat on the driest end of it. while their guest occupied the stool. The cyces that did not seem to be looking at young man, without turning away from his discortented, prevish brooding over the fire, vaguely reached backward for the whisky with him, again shook hands, but remained bottle and Uncle Billy's tin cup, to which looking out in the darkness some time after he was assisted by the latter's hospitable Dick Bullen's tangled hair and broad shoul-hand. But on setting down the cup his eye Meantime Uncle Billy had resumed his seat

> caught sight of the pill box. 'Wot's that?" he said with gloomy scorn. and was chuckling and reminiscent as he "Rat poison?"

cleaned out his pipe. "Kinder reminds me of Jo Sharp, when he 'Quinine pills-agin ager," said Uncle Jim. "The newest thing out. Kreeps out damp like Injin rubber! Take one to follow yer whisky. Me and Uncie Billy wouldn't think o' settin' down, quiet like, in the evening arter work, without 'em. Take one But Uncle Jim did not reply; and Uncle

yer welcome! We keep 'em out here for Billy, taking up the cards, began to shuffle

the boys." Accustomed as the partners were to adopt and wear each other's opinions before folks, as they did each other's clothing, kinder sorry for him. And, you know, I Ucicle Billy was, nevertheless, aston'shed rither cotton to a man that speaks his mind.

When we advertise that we will guarantee Dr. King's New Discovery, Electric Bitters, Bucklen's Arnica Salve or Dr. King's New

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store.

He had won!

Two Girls Tell of Experiences with the American Man. and a half-drawn smile of fear. They could hear the wind moaning in the trees There were three or four young women in beyond; there was a sudden ratting at the door. Uncle Billy started to his feet, but Uncle Jim caught his arm. "Don't leave the cards! It's only the wind; sit down." he parlor car on a New Jersey rallway the other day and two of them gave their ex perience in traveling alone at night, says the New York Sun. One had ventured the re said, in a low, awe-hushed voice; "it's you" mark deal: you were two before, and two

"The American men are always polite id women traveling alone. If they are not, if is certainly the woman's fault. She is for-ward, or common, or something." That started the conversation. that makes you four; you've only one point to make to win the game. Go on" They both poured out a cup of whisky.

and ing vaguely, yet with a certain terror in their eyes. Their hands were cold; the cards are slipped from Uncle Billy's benumbed fingers; when he had shuffled them he passed One girl didn't know about this, and pro tested.

"Girls, you know I am not forward, a hem to his partner to shuffle them also, but lld not speak. When Uncle Jim had shuffled them methodically he handed them back (atecast I hope I am not, or common, and yet had a very unpleasant experience once. I vas going to Pittsburg alone. Father and fully to his partner. , Uncle Billy dealt them with a trembling hand. He turned up a club. brother Frank went over to Jersey City with me and I went on the Western express at 6:30. Frank had the tickets and found my 'If you are sure of these tricks you know you've won," said Uncle Jim, in a voice section, No. 8. There was a satchel and over coat and umbrella there, which he moved to that was scarcely audible. Uncle Billy did not reply, but tremulously laid down the ace the next section and right and left bowers.

"We had only time to get the illustrated

SLEEPING CAR MANNERS.

capers, say good-bye, and I was off. "I badn't turned the second page of the A feeling of relief came over each, and they laughed hysterically and discordantly. Ridiculous and childish as their contest paper I had taken up before we were cross-ing the meadows, when I was startled by a gruff voice saying, 'Who moved my things?' might have seemed to a looker-on, to each the tension had been as great as that of the greatest gambler, without the gambler's trained restraint, coolness and composure Uncle Billy nervously took up the cards I found my paper too interesting to look up Agein he shouted, 'Who moved those things' This is my section and I want my things put tack in it.' again.

"Don't." said Uncle Jim, gravely; "it's no "I felt my face getting hot, but said noth ing. He picked up his satchel, sat down in No. 7 opposite, unbuttoned his shoes, kicked "Just one more deal," pleaded his partoer. Uncle Jim looked at the fire, Uncle Billy first one, then the other, across the aisie under my feet, out on slippers and a travel-

hastly dealt, and threw the two hands face up on the table. They were the ordinary average cords. He dealt again, with the same result. "I told you so," sold Uncle ing cap, hung his hat over my head, then went for the porter, who had just come in. He growled something at him and I heard the porter say. 'Don'no, sah; have to see the Pullman conductor.' He went into the next im, without looking up. It certainly seemed a tame performance fter their wonderful hands, and after another

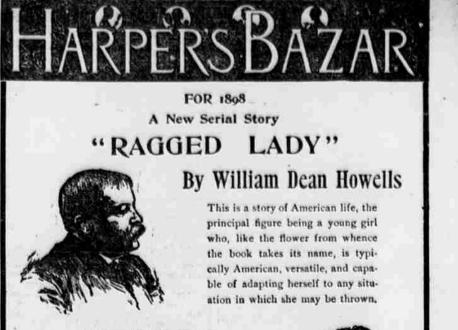
car. I called the porter, found my tickets were all right and windered what would irial Uncle Billy threw the cards aside and irew his stool before the fire. "Mighty jueer, warn't it?" he said, with reminiscent happen next. I didn't have to wonder long. In he came again, and, girls, he was tall, iwe. "Three times running! Do you know, felt a kind o' creepy feelin' down my tack bread-shouldered, elegantly dressed-looked like a gentleman, anyway, though he wasn't all the time. Cricky! what luck! None of the boys would believe it if we told 'em-cast of all that Dick Bullen, who don't be one. He said something to the corter abou mistake, then came over to me and, bow ng, said: "'I made a mistake, I ask your pardon.' "I know my face blazed then. I did feel

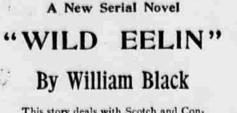
lieve in luck, anyway. Wonder what be'd have said! and, Lord! how he'd have looked! Wall: what are you starin' so for?" Uncle Jim had faced around and was gazso insulted to think he could kick his shoes under my feet and then apologize. I looked ng at Uncle Billy's gool-humored, simple ace. "Nothin'!" he said, briefly, and his straight at him and said. 'I think it time you asked my pardon; you are the man I ever met in all my life.' He was again sought the fire. here long enough to tell me that if he had known that I was that kind of a woman he Then don't look as if you was seein'

uthin'-you give me the creeps," returned Uncle Billy a little petulantiy. "Let's turn a-afore the fire goes out!" ever would have apologized, and then went ack to his section.

The fateful cards were put back in the irawer, the table showed against the wall. "At Philadelphia some one he knew came and he must have told him all about It, The operation of undressing was quickly got over, the clothes they wore being put on top or, in one of those mysterious lulls which on the train are just like those at a concert, of their blackets. Uncle Billy yawned, wonder what kind of a dream [1] have to we all heard him say: 'I went up and told her I'd made a mistake and asked her par-don, but she was so d sassy I was sorry ight-it oughter to be suthin' to explain that luck." This was his "good night" to his partner. In a few moments he was I did.' Now, girls, was that my fault? You see, even an American will be tude someimes to women und asleer

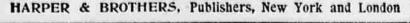
Not so Uncle Jim. He had heard the wind The champion of men took a back seat goodually go down, and in the oppressive illence that followed could detect the deep breathing of his compainton and the far-off my own fault. I was alone, too. One night yelp of the coyote. His eyesight becoming we were going across the Alleghenies, and necustomed to the semi-darkness, broken the train rocked like mad. I had watched only by the contliation of the dying embers of their fire, he could take in every detai. wanted to land in, and was getting a good of their sordid eabin and the rude environ- deal of amusement. I called the porter to dismail patches on the bark roof, the sat down, without a mishap, and wondered dismal patches on the bark the dreary why the other passengers weren't so agile. wretched makeshifts of each day, the dreary why the other passengers weren't so agile. anolongation of discomfort were all As I came back I noticed a man sound prolongation of discomfort were all As I came back I noticed a man sound plain to him now, without the sangular uope that had made them bearable. And over his eyes. As I came opposite him the when he shut his eyes upon them it was only train gave a fearful lurch; I felt myself to travel in fancy down the steep mountain going, and grabbed something. It was the



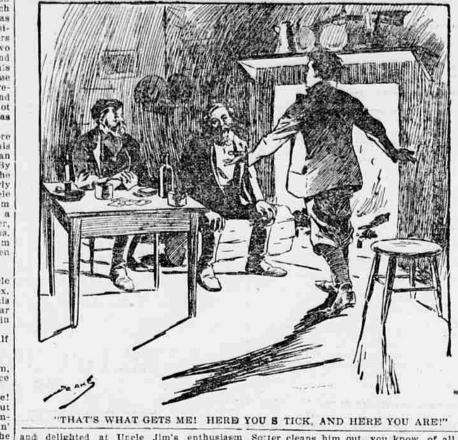


This story deals with Scotch and Continental scenes, and has all the charm of description and characterization which are Mr. Black's strong qualities.

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fortable, for evenings. It's mighty soothin' atter a man's done a hard'day's work on the Fiver bar. Take one." Uncle Jim gravely took a pill and swal-lowed it. "We'll leave it on the table, sociable like, in case any of the boys come in." said Uncle Billy, taking up the cards. "Well! how do

Uncle Jim consulted the memorandum

bo.k. "You were owin' me \$62,000 on the dast game, and the limit's \$75,000!" Je whillikins!" ejaculated Uncle Billy. "Let me see.

He examined the book, feebly attempting Thar! Well 13% & things agoin' on your claim, Dick? Boomin', eh?" The guest raised his head and turned to challenge the additions, but with no effect on the total. "We oughter her man the

on the total. "We oughter new induce the limit \$100,000," be said, sectionally; \$75,000 is only triflip'in a game like ours. And you've set down my claim at Angel's?" he con-tinued. "I allowed you \$10,000 for that," said Uncle Jim, with equal gravity, "and it's a fancy

The claim in question being an un-

pro pected hill side ten miles distant, which Uncle Jim had never seen, and Uncle Billy had not visited for years, the statement was probably true; nevertheless, Uncle Billy retorted "Ye kin never tell how these things will

pan out, Why, only this mornin' I was takin' a turn round Shot Up hill, that ye know is just rotten with quartz and gold, and I couldn't help thinkin' how much it was like my ole claim at Angel's. I must take a day off to go on there and strike a pick in it, if cnly for luck."

Suddenly he paused and said: "Strange ain't it, you should speak of it tonight? Now,

I call that queer." He laid down his cards and gazed mysteriously at this companion. Uncle Jim knew perfectly that uncle Billy had regularly once a week, for many years, declared his final determinition to go over to Angel's and prospect his claim, yet nevertheless he half responded to his pariner's suggestion of mystery, and a look of fotuous wonder crept into his eyes. But he contented himself by saying, cautiously, "You spoke of it first."

"That the more singlar," said while Billy confidently. "And I've been thinking about it and kinder seeing myself thar all day. Its mighty qucer!" He got up and began to rummage among some toru and coverless books in the corner.

Where's that dream book gone to?"

"The Carson boys borrowed it," replied Uncle Jim. "Anyhow, yours wasn't no dream -only a kind o' vision and the book den't take no stock in visions." Nevertheless, he watched his partner with some sympathy, and added "The world." this. The two partners looked grieved, albeit they were accustomed to these outbursts. Everybody who thought of going away from Cedar camp used it first as a threat to these and added, "That reminds me that I had a dream the other night of being in 'Frisco at a small hotel, with heaps o' money, and patient men, after the fashion of runaway nephews, or made an exemplary scene of their going. all the time being sort o' scared and bewil-

"Better think twice before ye go," said Uncle Billy. dered over it." "No!" said his pariner eagerly, yet re-Uncle Billy. "Twe seen worse weather afore ye came," said Uncle Jim slowly. "Water all over the bar; the mud so deep ye couldn't get to Angel's for a sack o' flour, and we had to grub on pine nuts and jackass rabbits And ver-we stuck by the camp, and here we oachfully. "You never let on anything out it to me! Its mighty queer you havin' proachfully.

Billy. "Better nor fincy soap."

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Jim, quickly, "is whor the thing's gettin in its work. Sorter sickenin' the malaria-'Then you think there was suthin' in what he said?" said Uncle Jim, facing and kinder waterproofin' the insides all to about slowly.

Put znother in yer vest pocket; you'll be Billy look up. "No," he cald quickly, Cryin' for 'en like a child efore ye is nome. shying with the instinct of an angulakly. on your shying with the estinct of an ensy, pleas uation. "No, I don't think he ever got the color! But who are ye moonin' about for Ain't ye goin' to play? It's mor'n half-pas-9" now.

Thus adjured, Uncle Jim moved up to the table and sat down, while Uncle Billy dealt the cards, turning up the jack or dealt the right power-but without that exclamatic school keeps or not, would can two teet of "right mower-put without that exclamation backwater over one's claim 'boomin';' I of delight which always accompanied his reekon you'd consider 150 feet of cluicing cirried away, and drifting to thunder down the South Fish, something in the way of advertising to your old camp. I suppose you'd think it was an inducement to in-yoestors' I shouldn't wonder.'' e added.

you'd think it was an inducement to in-vestors! I shouldn't wonder," be added, still more gloomily, as a sudden dash of rain down the wide-throated chinney dropped in his tin cup—"rod it would be just like you two chaps, sittin' there gor-mandizing over your quinine, if yer caid this rain, that's lasted three weeks, was something to be proud of." It was the cheerful and satisfying custom of the rest of the camp, for no reason what-ever, to ho'd Uncle Jim and Urcle Billy re-sponsible for its present location, its vicis-

sponsible for its present location, its vicis-Uncle Jim's eye followed the walt around studes, the weather, or any convulsion of to the bunks. There were many discolora-nature; and it was equally the partners' tions on the canvas, and a picture of the nature; and it was equally the partners' habit, for no recson whatever, to accept Goddess of Liberty from an illustrated paper had broken out in a kind of damp, measiy these animadversions and apologize. "It's a rain that's soft and mellowin'," "I'll stick that funny handbi eruption. said Uncle Billy gently, "and supplin' to of the 'washin' soda' I got at the grocer the sinews and muscles. Did ye ever notice, store the other day over the Liberty ga the sinews and muscles. Did ye ever notice, Jim"-ostentaticusly to his parcer-"did ye ever notice that you get inter a kind o' owcaty lather workin' in it? Sorter openin' to the pores!" said Uncle Billy. "That' the comfort of them pleters, you kin alway: to the pores!" "Fetches 'em every time," said Uncle to the wall." get somethin' new-and it adds thickne

Uncle Jim went back to the cards in silence. After a moment he rose again, and Their guest laughed bitterly. "Well, I'm going to leave it to you. I reckon to cut hung his overcoat against the door. "Wind's comin' in." he said briefly. the whole concern tomorrow, and lite out or something new. It can't be worse than

"Yes," said Uncle Billy cheerfully, "but it wouldn't seem nat'ral if there wasn't that crack in the door to let the sunlight i matrix in the form of the sunlight in o' mornin's. Makes a kind o' sundial, you know. When the streak σ light's in that corner, I says '6 o'cock' when it's across the chimney I cay '7!' and so 'tis!'' It certainly had grown chilly, and the wind was rising. The candle guttered and flick-

ered; the embers on the hearth brightene occasionally, as if trying to discel the gather

lde that he had trodden so often to the man's neck; I was on his lap, arms around freary claim on the overflowed river to the heaps of "tailings" that encumbered it, like him, My head struck his head, and his hat lew into the next seat. He said merely

heaps of 'failings' that encumbered it, have empty chells of the hollow, profiliess days spent there, which they were always wait ing for the stroke of good fortune to clear tway. He saw again the rotten "sluicing," Good Lord!' and I was gone. I didn't look ack I just crawled in between my cur ains. Then I had to laugh." Arnold's Hromo Celery cures headaches, 10c, 25c and 50c. All druggists. hrough whose hopeless rifts and holes eve heir scant daily camings had become

Glass Workers Divide Up. PITTSBURG, Dec. 3,-The trouble in the centioness let himself down from his berth without disturbing his sleeping partner and National Window Glass Workers' associvrapping himself in his blanket went to the tion was amicably settled this afternoon oor, which he noiseleasly opened. From the by President Burns paying over \$28,000 to the cutters and flatteners and the latter formally withdrawing from the association. There will be two organizations of glass workers hereafter, one composed of the blowers and gatherers and the other the flatteners and gatherers and the other the position of a few stars that were glittering in the northern sky he knew that it was yet coarcely midnight—there were still long, rectless hours before the day! In the feversh state into which he had gradually worke imself it seemed to him impossible to wait he coming of the dawn. But he was mistaken. For even as he

now be adjusted and a general resumption of work is expected before the end of the year. The court proceedings have been called off. stood there all nature seemed to invade his numble cabin with its free and fragrant reath, and invest him with its great con

anionship. He foll again. In that breath h't strange conse of freedom—that mystic ouch of partnership with the birds and the easts, the shrubs and trees, in this greater nome before him. It was this vague com-nunion that had kept him there-that still munion that had kept him there—that still held these world-slck, weary workers in their rude cabins on the slopes around him —and he felt upon his brow that balm that had nightly lulled him and them to sleep and forgetfulness. He closed the door, turned away, crept as noiselessly as before into his bunk again, and presently fell into

But when Uncle Billy awoke the next corning he saw it was late, for the sun. bering he saw it was fait, for the sum bending a pencil of light across the cold nearth, like a match to rekindle its dead mbers. His first thought was of his strange luck the night before, and of disstrange luck the night before, and of dis-appointment that he had not had the dream of divination that he had looked for. He sprang to the floor, but as he stood up-right his glance fell on Uncle Jim's bunk. It was empty. Not only that, but his blankets—Uncle Jim's own particular blankets—uncle Jim's own particular blankets—were gone! A sudden revelation of his partrer's manner the night before struck him now with the cruelty of a blow; a sudden in-telligence—perhaps the very divination he

液液液液液液液液液液液液液液液液液液液液液 telligence-perhaps the very divination he had sought-flashed upon him like lightning He glanced wildly around the room. The able was drawn out from the wall a little stentationaly, as if to catch his eye. On was lying the stalned chamois skin purse which they had kept the few grains of old remaining from their last week's "clean p." The grains had been carefully divided, nd half been taken! But near it lay the the memoranium book, open, with the slick of pencil lying across it. A deep line was drawn across the pige on which was secreded their imaginary extravagant gains ad losses, even to the entry of Uncle Jim's half phare of the claim which he had risked

DR. EDW. E. HALE Tells of a Positive Specific for Nervous Dis-

Edward Everett Hale, D. D., LL. D., the celebrated New England Preacher, Author and Philanthropist, writes:



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