

THE RED CLOUD CHIEF.

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THE RED CLOUD CHIEF.
A. C. HOSMER, - - Proprietor
FRIDAY, JAN. 18, 1884.
GLOBES OF GOLD.

I met a gentleman yesterday who represents some wealthy eastern parties, and is now en route to California. He showed me some wonderful specimens of gold ore which he had received from one of the expeditions sent out recently by the Mexican Government, and related the following details: The engineers started from San Diego and pushed southeasterly down the Pacific coast to San Ignacio, in the peninsula, and thence up the gulf coast northwardly to the place of beginning. Although the expedition was well equipped at the start, their sufferings through fatigue, hunger, and thirst, were terrible, and the hardships they endured are such as are rarely met with upon the American continent. Between El Rosario and San Ignacio, a distance of 250 miles, they saw but two human beings, an Indian and his squaw. This was at a spring known as St. Borja, on the twenty-ninth parallel of latitude, and had not this water source been reached the entire party would doubtless have perished. The government reports in the archives of Mexico show that in 1796 the population of this area of 250 miles, was 1000, 6000 head of cattle, and yet at all these human and animal beings have died out since that period for lack of water. The surveyors relate that they passed several stone missions, assay buildings, temples and abandoned villages. In some of the missions the silver vessels and vestments of the priests were still in their places near the altar, and in two cases there were books open upon the altar, just as left by the priests at the time they died or disappeared from the scene. There are no evidences of rain for many years, and the party, which consisted of Senor Don Blanco, two scientists and ten guides and servants, were unable to account for these discoveries. They were gone altogether four months, and each man had three animals for provisions. These provisions they left at various posts along the road, loading the animals with water when any was to be found. It soon became evident that they must either abandon the survey or perish in the persecution of it, as the mules and burros could not carry more water than each individual animal could consume, and they soon found that the poor brutes were nibbling at each other's packs, so as to get at the water-bags and quench their thirst. After this discovery they were carefully watched, and as each animal was relieved of their water-bags to allay the thirst of the explorers, the animal was killed and left upon the field, so as not to prove an additional stomach to feed or thirst to quench. At the twenty-eighth parallel they found neither water nor herbage and the animals died one after another from sheer exhaustion and privation and at the twenty-seventh parallel the party concluded to turn north while yet they may. At a point which is to be for the present kept a profound secret, the party found some rich gold and copper specimens, but the mules and burros being all dead and the men themselves reduced to the last extremity of human woe, they lost all interest in the result of the expedition. The surveyors' instruments were broken up and the woodwork used for firewood; the rich specimens were thrown away as too heavy to carry; the personal baggage of the party was abandoned in the mountains, and every effort made to save their own lives by freeing themselves from any kind of impediments. Enough of the gold ore was saved, however, to show twenty dollars to the ounce in placer gold and ledge ore from 60 to \$200,000 to the ton. The placer gold at twenty dollars to the ounce would yield say \$240 to the pound or \$480,000 to the ton. During the entire trip of four months they experienced but one shower of rain, and an enterprising member of the party realized forty dollars by catching the dorps in his frying pan and retailing them at one dollar per glass. A report has been made to the Mexican government, and a scheme is now on hand by the eastern capitalists to negotiate with Mexico for the property. If successful—and their agent says they will succeed—proceedings will at once be taken to reach the depository stages. One project is to establish a cache of provisions between the twenty-eighth and twenty-ninth parallels and protect it from the ravages of wild beasts. They say south of this no beast, bird or reptile can live, so completely utter is the desolation. For water a pipe line is projected from the sea coast, but this will take a long time, and so efforts are to be made to sink artesian wells. Of course, all this reads like a chapter from the "Arabian Nights" or "Monte Christo," but subsequent events will show that, whether the lead is a rich one or not, some long-headed, hard-fisted capitalists are in for the expense of the enterprise. About a year ago the prospectors from Nevada, Arizona and California made a rush for Guymas and to the placer mines of Baja. They chartered coasting schooners for Lapaz, and found themselves still 200 miles away and water at \$2 per glass so they weakened, and returned to tell their friends that "There warn't no placer mines at Baja," but a gentleman well known in El Paso and Houston, is my authority for the following story: "I saw at Lapaz," says he, "three Mexicans who carried an ore sack on board the steamer bound for Guymas. At the Casa de Moneda, at Guymas, I saw this bag opened, and one piece which resembled a flat flag stone, weighed fourteen pounds troy. It was of a brown color, with streaks of pure gold 1-16 to 2 inches thick running through it. The government assayer averaged it seventy per cent. pure gold. Another rock weighed over seven pounds troy, and was a pure gold nugget with a very fine quartz streak. It showed ninety-two per cent. These Mexicans were the survivors of a large party, and brought back with them 150 pounds of rich ore. With the proceeds of their specimens they purchased supplies, and after a month's rest and recuperation they returned to their claim, but could get no servants to accompany them on account of the hardships to be endured."—Houston Post.

ELM CREEK.

It has ever been customary at the commencement of a new year for mankind to devise resolutions through the observance of which past errors may be avoided and corrected. But how many of the numerous framers of these resolutions keep them? This is not saying that the resolving conditions are impossible, for on the contrary there are examples of men who have been equal to and derived profit from such emergencies. It can not be questioned but that a set of rules for future guidance, if vigorously respected will remove many difficulties and assist in correcting many of the privileges and much of the abuse of opportunity. In addition to this there is engendered a restraint which prevents hasty and inconsiderate action and encourages a proper exercise of judgment. If we have been remarkably exempt from error it is always well to note the direction in which we have blundered, and take measures for protection from similar mishaps in the future, while dire experience may afford immunity from future disaster. It is always better to avoid any undertaking until positively assured of the outcome. Where this is impossible there can be no other way than to proceed cautiously and with the intention to anticipate something of evil, although it may be either very far off or else may never occur.

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