# The Klondyke Gold Myslery

By JOHN R. MUSICK, Author of "Mysterious Mr. Howard," "The Dark Stranger," "Charlie Allendale's Double," Etc.

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CHAPTER XIV .- (Continued.) The fellow set off at a lively pace on his snowshoes and in an hour and a half was back, saying: "They be not there."

"What d'ye mean?" asked Kate.

"Gone."

"What is gone?"

"Camp." "Where?"

"Dun know," and he shrugged his shoulders again.

She was nor-plussed, and in fact

frightened. "Gone!" she whispered, half aloud. "Gone and left me alone with this sick man in this wilderness! Gone,

and with that poor child. Why, I can't hardly believe it, and yet my heart has always told me th' rascal was a villain. Oh, Laura, Laura! where are you now, my poor child?" she began to sob. "I promised ye I'd stay by ye through thick an' thin, an' I've gone an' lied to ye. That rascal put this poor sick man off on me, an' what could I do?"

In her helpless rage she looked about for some object to vent her wrath upon, and seeing Horsa Cummins emerging from the small tent in which he had slept, she rushed at him like a virago, crying:

"You red-headed thief, where is yer master? I say, where is yer master? Speak or I'll chuck yer head in the snow an' hold it there till ye smother."

With a look of surprise he said:

"Why, I did not know he had gone." "He is, and took my little friend with him."

"Well, that is strange; that beats anything I ever heard! What can he mean?"

"I don't know, but there is some mischief in it, and I'll be bound you are at the bottom o' it." "Why, my dear good woman, you

do me a very great injustice," began Cummins with mock humility. "Look here!" she yelled. "Don't

ye come none o' yer monkey-doodle business around me, for I won't stand it. Rack out an' find that good-fornuthin' master o' yours, and tell him t' bring that girl back or I'll make Alaska so hot for you the icebergs will melt!"

With this threat Kate turned and entered the shanty.

"That woman's a regular she tiger!" growled Cummins, as he walked over the hill. Once out of her sight he sat | yours?" down in the snow to think the matter fect devil of a woman. The boss has put a hard job on me. She knows I don't show any signs o' dyin' very fast. I wish he would, but he don't. What am I to do with this tiger cat? She'll snatch my eyes out if I go

back." Meanwhile Kate went into the small sharty, vowing she would have harmony or know the reason. Her patient was wide awake, his great, dark brown eyes on the door. For the first time Kate realized that he was a young man and quite handsome.

"Were you talking to some one out there?" he asked.

"Yes; I was just a-layin' one o' them triffin' critters for not attendin' to his work. I give him a piece of my mind and I reckon after this he'll know what's what!" Kate declared. "Don't your people agree?"

"Yes; all agree with each other, but none don't agree with me. They go do things without askin' me or consultin' me a bit more'n if I was a block o' stone, and had no more sense'n a Kansas badger."

Paul, who felt considerably stronger, raised himself on his elbow and

asked: "What have they done, my good friend, without consulting you?"

"Pulled up stakes an' gone! Yes, gone, an' not left a sled nor dog to foller 'em with. I don't keer so much so fur as I'm concerned, but that poor child all alone with that man; and she told me with her own mouth she mistrusted him, and I said I'd stand by her, and, like a lunk-head, let 'em side-track me off here and then he slopes an' takes the pore little thing with him! Oh, it makes me hot; but I'll have harmony yit; see if I don't!"

"What do you mean, my good woman?" Paul asked in amazement. "Who is this man that deceived you?"

"That scamp from Fresno called Lackland!"

"Lackland from Fresno!" The patient started up in bed staring at her. "Who is the poor young thing he took away-the girl?" asked the patient, seizing her arm in a vice-like

"Laua Kean." With a wild shriek he leaped halfdressed from the bed and rushed from the shanty.

## CHAPTER XV.

The Old Man of the Mountains. Long after day had dawned the little train of porter Indians, dogs and snow. Laura protested against this all in vain.

When the tents were pitched Laura met Lackland and asked:

"Where is my companion, Kate Willts, from whom you promised I should

not be separated?" "She is back with the sick man," answered. "It was our wish to alone in an unknown forest, with a the other "think."

sudden that we had no time to send ened. for her.'

"Can you not do it now?" He shook his head and said the avalanche had fallen in the pass behind them and they were completely snut in where there were.

"Will there be no escape?" she asked. "Not until spring unless we can

cut our way through." Laura went to her tent and wept. She realized how helpless she was and began to distrust the man who professed to be her friend.

"Oh. God." she groaned, "to Thee alone can I now appeal for help! I need expect none from these men. Mr. Lackland seemed very much distressed that she was cut off from her female companion, and selected four men to go back, as he said, and bring her over the fallen avalanche if possible. The four selected were Ben Allen, Morris, Ned Padgett and

tions, he said: "Take the woman and wounded man

back to Skaguay." "What! An' have him hang us for holdin' him prisoner in the mountains?" asked Allen.

"But he is insane. You are four witnesses to one."

ing to see Skaguay, especially while their late prisoner lived.

"Very well, then, start with them toward Skaguay, but don't reach the place. Become lost. You understand how to do that. At least he must not know anything of the young woman here, and she must have no knowledge that Paul Miller is alive."

His final instructions were so clear and imperative there could be no possible mistaking them, and when he had finished they took their daparture. The story about the avalanche falling in their rear and blocking up the way was all a clever invention on the part of Mr. Lackland.

Lackland went to Laura's tent, his white face wearing a careworn and troubled look. The lines of his features seemed more deeply drawn and his face was expressive of the greatest concern.

"Laura-Miss Kean," he began, in his cautious, considerate manner, "I hope you will believe me when I say that this lamentable accident causes me unaccountable annoyance on your account. When awakened in the night with the intelligence that a storm was coming and the pass would be impassable, I decided that for you I must act at once. If we were aboard a sinking ship and I should rescue you asked: and take you ashore, would you deem it an act of hostility because I did not wait for some companion of

over. "Blame me if she ain't a per- In argument, the subtle villain always beat her, but when left to herself to con over what he had said and had a hand in it. Now the youngster | commune with her own heart, she instinctively felt the man was a villain. Intuition, or whatever you may choose to call it, told Laura her lover lived. She was conscious of his presence somewhere in this vast world, and felt as instinctively drawn to him as the needle to the magnet.

> Days passed and the small party was still in the valley, hemmed in by the mountains and eternal snows. Lackland made frequent visits to Laura after despatching the four men to give an account of their progress in cutting their way through the pass.

> "Laura," he said, in a low gentle tone, which would have thrilled any other woman, "I have tried to hope against hope for your sake. I have tried to believe your lover lived, but I must yield to facts. All this journey, hardship and suffering, this passing the winter in an Alaskan

wilderness is to no purpose." "Is it not?" "Laura, are you very strong?"

She gave him a swift, wild look-an imploring glance and gasped: "What do you mean?"

"Can you bear a great shock?" "What shock-what is it-speak out, I beseech you!"

"Paul is dead!"

"It is false!" "It is true!"

"What evidence have you?" "The evidence of men who saw him die. He died three weeks ago!"

His face was so white, he expressed such concern, that she was strongly impressed with his manner, yet she

"What you say can't be true! My

heart tells me he lives." Nevertheless, her eyes grew dim with tears, which trickled adown her damask cheeks. Lackland, for several moments overcome with his own emotions, at last said:

"Laura, it's your noble, sanguine nauseless for you to feed yourself on hopes longer. I know it must be true, tell me, and it must be true. But weep with you over your loss!"

me!" she gasped.

"Frighten you, darling?" he whispered. "Frighten you? Oh, if you knew the pangs of this heart-if you to you; if you only knew how willingly separation from her friend, but it was I would change places and lie in the sounding of that great trump which

> have the least cause for fear." "Hush-hush! Don't talk so!" She was stunned and confused by his impassioned speech. Poor girl, life with the fast one appears to be

> bring her, but the storm came up so | madman-to wonder she was fright-

She had started up from the camp stool and taken a step toward the door of the tent as if she would fly, but he quickly put himself before her and said:

"No, no; don't leave me, dearest, I will not harm you. I will not touch you. I only want to say one word. When convinced our poor, dear Paul is no more, will you, oh, will you look with more favor on my suit?"

She found her voice now. The words-the stinging insult fired her soul-and in a voice in which grief, rage and disgust were strangely blended, she cried:

"No, no-a thousand times no! If it was for this you have followed me can go-yes, go! I will have no more to say to you-go!'

Drawing herself up to her full height, with all the scorn which an injured soul can depict in a handsome Tom Ambrose. When Lackland took face, she pointed toward the door of the tent. Unable to stand before the pines. them apart, to give his final instrucproud, defiant creature whom he had in his grasp, he started toward the door of the tent, when one of the strangest figures either had ever seen, entered.

It was a man fully fifty years of age, his long, white hair and beard evidently many years strangers to either Ned shrugged his shoulders and razors, scissors, combs or brushes. In muttered something about never want- his hand the old man carried a Winchester rifle, the butt of which he placed on the ground, while he leaned on the muzzle, and fixed his curious eyes on the man before him. So piercing was that glance that it seemed to penetrate the very soul of the scoundrel.

The old man might have been taken for a Rip Van Winkle, but for the fact that his arms were all of the latest improvement. Advancing a pace or two and pausing, he leaned on his rifle, glancing from first one and then the other, but uttered not a word.

After a moment's amazed silence Lackland gasped:

'Who in Satan's name are you?" "The old man of the mountains," was the answer, in a low husky voice, which seemed to chill the blood in the veins of the rascally Lackland. There was firmness in the voice, a steady gleam in the eye, which indicated he had met a man whom it would not do to trifle with.

"Where did you come from?" asked Lackland, quaking. "From the mountain," was the an-

"What are you doing here?" Without paying any heed to him, the old man of the mountains, none other than our hermit friend, the captain, turned his eyes upon Laura and

"Are you going to the Klondyke?" "I was going," she answered.

"And alone?"

"A woman companion was with me, She bowed her head and was silent. but she remained back on the trail twenty-five miles, and an avalanche has filled the trail, so she cannot come."

"There has been no avalanche," the old man answered, in his deep voice; "There has been no avalanche!"

She quickly fastened her gaze upon the face of Lackland, who began to retreat toward the door.

"So you have deceived me, monster!" she began.

"If you listen to that old fool you will believe anything. He is crazy!" cried Lackland, and darted from the tent, leaving Laura alone with the old man of the mountains.

### CHAPTER XVI.

Driven to Desperate Straits. Once outside the tent, Lackland was like one dazed and confused. He saw a figure coming toward him and recognized it as one of his men. He hurried toward him, saying:

"Cummins, you have come at last?" "Yes; they relieved me and told me to report here. Right glad I am of it, too, for if ever there was a fiend in woman form it's that tarmagant down there."

(To be continued.)

LONG LIFE AND A MERRY ONE

Strenuous Americans Outlive the In-

dolent Africans. It seems that we are all wrong about the hurtful and life-shortening effect of American "hustle." Our national motto may be said to have been "A short life, but a strenuous one." We were willing, as a people, to have the span shortened a little if only we could have something worth while, something active and effective, going all the time. But it seems, according to the latest bulletin of the census bureau, that the fast life is also the long one; says Harper's Weekly. Our "median age"-that is, the age which is such that half the population is under it and half over it-is more than seven years greater than it was a century ago, and increases from decture-which I admire-that makes you ade to decade. We are surpassing hope against hope. But, alas! it is easy-going foreign countries in this respect; we are surpassing even the loose-jointed, indolent, beautifully refor men whose word I cannot doubt laxed, never-worrying African in our midst; for whereas the median age of Laura, whatever may happen, believe our American whites is 23.4 years, me, I will ever be your friend. Let me | that of the devil-may-care colored person is but 18.3. Lately much confu-"Don't, don't talk so! You frighten | sion has arisen in the minds of many Americans over the statement made by certain eminent neurologists that it is next to impossible for a man to "overwork," provided his bodily funcsleds, continued their way over the only knew how tenderly devoted I am | tions are kept in good order by temperate and wholesome living. Other physicians, to be sure, tell us that unknown mountain tomb until the hurry and worry spell death. We had accepted the latter judgment, with the shall wake the dead, you would not qualifying reflection that no matter what science tells us, it always seems to have "another think coming." This census bulletin which links the long

SPEECHES BY SENATORS HANNA. FORAKER AND LODGE.

'Stand Pat!" Says Hanna, While Foraker and Lodge Are Equally Strenuous in Deprecating Any and All Interference With the Dingley Law.

"My friends, I have only a few words to say to you this afternoon, for I have to be with you all the fall. A year ago it was my privilege to attend the opening of the Republican campaign, and after looking over the situation I came to the conclusion that across the ocean and wilderness you I should give you a piece of advice, 'Let well enough alone.' That was the whole chapter, that was all there was in the campaign. To-day I say. 'Stand pat,' You are not on the defensive in Ohio or anywhere else in the United States or in the Philip-

"Now we have come to the proposition that there is need for a revision of the tariff. I believe the tariff is good enough as it is.

"If the time shall come when the tariff needs revision it will be done by the men who made the tariff, and if the men whose wisdom contributed to its construction see that conditions require a change they will make it. If I am asked by a man to change the tariff I always inquire of him if it is necessary to charge it, and if he thinks it is. I ask him why it is necessary, and if we start out to change it where shall we begin? There are too many interests involved to change the tariff."-Senator Hanna at Akron, Sept. 27.

Senator Foraker at Akron, Sept. 27. "They are not in any proper sense of the word a party question, and they never can be made so. For this reason I would ordinarily devote but little time to them. But the refusal of Speaker Henderson to be a candidate for re-election because of the attitude toward them of some Republicans in his district has brought the whole subject to the attention of the American people in such a way as to make apology for a few plain words unnecessary.

"In the first place, trusts did not originate here, as a result of the tariff, but in England and European countries where they have free trade and where they had trusts of every character long before they became common in America, and where to-day they are more numerous than they are in the United Staees. In the next place, what to-day are called trusts generally are nothing more than large corporations, engaged, as a rule, in perfectly legitimate business, and as such they are but a natural evolution of modern industrial conditions. Democrats and Republicans alike promote them, organize them, hold stock in them, conduct them, and share in their benefits and advantages. They exist because there is a demand for them; not a political but a business

"They have become a feature of modern business conditions the world over, and in consequence they are a special necessity here in the United States, where we are compelled to invade and capture foreign markets or slacken the pace at which we are going in the employment of labor and | jects. the development of our resources. The will correct evils and prevent and punish abuses; but it will not hamstring the business of the country to please Mr. Bryan or anybody else. While it remains a power it will is described as a humbug and worse continue, on the contrary, to inaugu- than protection. rate and uphold policies that will give employment to both labor and capital alike, remembering that both must flourish or neither can."

Senator Lodge at Boston, Sept. 27. The burden of Senator Lodge's the islands. speech was that the tariff should not be tampered with at this time. He said that an attempt to revise the ness interests of the country to a degree that could not possibly be compensated for. He admitted the Dingley tariff bill was not a perfect law, but said that much of our present

prosperity was due to it. Touching upon the duties on hides in that law, Senator Lodge said that he and his colleague, Senator Hoar, permitted it to be incorporated into the bill only under extreme pressure. The Massachusetts senators were forchides to a duty or of causing the de-

feat of the whole bill. They had chosen the broader course, understanding perfectly well that their decision adversely affected the shoe manufacturing industry of New England. But in doing that they had assisted New England and the country at large in attaining a general prosperity. It was simply a case of the greatest good for the greatest number.

Mr. Lodge was not optimistic regarding the advantages to be gained down mainly to one of coal. reciprocity we would send Canada good coal and she would send us poor coal. Again, reciprocity would give Canada an added market of 80,000,000 persons, while it would give us an additional market of only 5,000,000

He said that the form of reciprocity advocated by Blaine and McKinley of necessity has a limited scope. He referred to the Argentina treaty, which would benefit New England, but which is strenuously opposed by the cattle raisers of the west and the wool growers of Ohio.

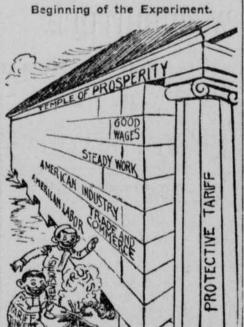
not be accepted by the United States | ald.

FIRM ON THE TARIFF. on the basis proposed, for the reason THE SUNDAY SCHOOL. that this country would be giving France preferential rates, while our goods would be forced to go into France precisely the same as those for any other country. France discriminates against the United States, and that fact must be taken into account in any treaty relations between the

> Dealing more specifically with tariff revision, Senator Lodge said that there could be no sectional legislation. In other words, New England could not insist on tariff revision for its particular section without sacrificing much more than could possibly be vating the fields and making homes and gained.

two countries.

Senator Lodge ended by saying that the Republican party could be trusted to effect tariff revision when conditions warranted such changes, and that when that time came the tariff would not be revised on free trade or they returned home with great riches sectional lines.



End of the Experiment.



"Sometimes a great conflagration may be started by a very little match."-Ex-Speaker Thomas Reed.

Free Trade and Free Riot.

The book issued by the Democratic Congressional Committee for the inspiration of that party's speakers and the instruction of the voters in the present campaign contains 377 pages regiments. almost entirely devoted to two sub

About one-third of the volume is Republican party recognizing this fact | filled with censures of the American army's conduct in the Philippines The remainder is chiefly devoted to denunciation of the policy of protection to home industries. Reciprocity

The head and front of the army's offending, from the viewpoint of the Democratic authors of this book, evidently is that it put down lawlessness and restored peace and order in

The Democratic substitute for this policy is, of course, that we shall leave the islands at once and permit tariff now would be to injure the busi- their people to resume those throatcutting diversions which we sc cruelly interrupted.

Because, while the American peo ple have prospered under the protective policy as never before in their history, trusts have also flourished. these Democratic leaders would abolish protection out of hand and sub stitute for it absolute free trade.

"Free trade," they observe, "would open our markets to benefit our own country." Free trade is their remedy ed to the alternative of subjecting for trusts and all the ills they ascribe to protection. Free trade with all the world is the goal they set for the nation and to which they promise the

Democratic party will lead. The American people have had, however, considerable experience of the Democratic policies of free trade and free riot, and do not care for any more.-Chicago Inter Ocean.

The Farmer's Way.

It is rather noticeable that the Democratic papers are not resorting this year to their time honored cus by this country in reciprocity with tom of telling the honest farmer that Canada. The question resolved itself he is the victim of Republican misrule. Things have come the farmer's way so directly during the present administration of affairs that the old I also am an American." Democratic wail would be worse than a poor joke. His lands have increas ed in value more than twenty-five per cent, and everything the farm pro duces sells at prices far in advance of those offered in the days of Groven the Good. The Indiana farmers are also in favor of letting good enough alone.-Terre Haute Tribune,

The great trouble is, tariff reform, as it is called, has been attended with A tariff treaty with France could disastrous results-Clyde (Kan.) Her-

LESSON VI, NOV. 9: JOSHUA 24:14-25-JOSHUA'S PARTING ADVICE.

3olden Text-"Choose You This Day Whom Ye Will Serve"-Joshua 24:15-The Decisive Choice of the

A Glance over the First Quarter of a Century.-Seven Years of Warfare. The conquest of the country took nearly sevm years, not of uninterrupted warfare, of wars intermingled with cultibecoming citizens, Recall the events of he previous lessons.

The return of the eastern soldiers bewhich settled east of the Jordan. They had doubtless individually returned to visit their families, or been relieved by other detachments. Now as an army and spoils. On reaching home they were to divide their gains with those who remained at home. So David, four hundred years later, gave those who remained to guard the baggage an equal share with hose who fought the battle. Those who deny themselves to support ministers and missionaries are entitled to partake of the reward of their labors and shall, with those "who turn many unto right-eousness," "shine as the brightness of the firmament and as the stars forever and ever." It is necessary that some should "abide by the stuff"; should carry on the business of the world, and do its work; and if they are devoted heart and soul to the Lord, and gather in order that they may sustain the soldiers of the cross in the field, both together shall sing the songs and wear the

crowns of victory. II. The Assembly at Shechem .- The last two chapters of Joshua are either two different reports of the same address, as represented in the Polychrome Bible; or they are two similar addresses on the same great occasion to different audiences, the first to a mass meeting of the people, and the second to the officers and judges of all the tribes assembled at Shechem, probably on the sloping sides of Mount Ebal and Gerizim, where they had gathered twenty-five years before, on their first entrance into the Promised Land, and made the most solemn promises to God. Joshua had been watching the tendencies of the times. and knew well the character of his people, and the peculiar dangers to which they would be exposed. Therefore he determined to make, before he died, one more appeal to them, under the most

solemn circumstances possible. III. Joshua's Farewell Address .- Vs. 14-21. First. A Review of the Past as a Motive for the Present (vs. 1-13). 1. God's call to Abraham from idolatry, and his guiding care over him.

2. God's dealings with the patriarchs, and their discipline in Egypt. The signs and wonders God wrought against Pharaoh in order to deliver his

people. The marvelous deliverance through the Red Sea. Victory over the Amorites.

Balaam's curse changed into a bless-The crossing of Jordan at flood-

The capture of Jericho. Many victories. The strange victory over two kings

of the Amorites, "not with thy sword, nor with thy bow," but with hornets. God has many ways of accomplishing his ends. One was by these insects. As an illustration of what can be done by hornets, we have the account of Sir Dighton Probyn, commander of a celebrated regiment during the Sepoy mu-B, tiny in India, sending out his troopers to scour the woods, to learn the position of the enemy. From his position on high ground he noticed that a panic had set it, and the men were spurring their horses in hurried retreat. He thought the enemy was upon them in large force. But in fact they were attacked by clouds of wasps and hornets, and these defeat-

ed one of the very best of the British Note 1. The lamp of the past is the best light on the present. We know what God will do by what he has done. David's victory over the lion and the bear gave him hope of victory over the giant Goliath of Goth. Every victory over Christ's enemies is the assurance of his final

Note 2. This review was an appeal to gratitude and love. Everything they possessed was God's gift to them. God had abounded in expressions of his peculiar care over them. Therefore the least they could do in return was to love and obey

the Giver of all. Second. A Call for a Full, Manly, Deisive Stand on the Lord's Side (vs. 14, 15). 14. Now therefore, in view of these facts, fear the Lord. Not be in terror before him, nor driven from him by fright, but hold him in reverential awe and respect, realize his power to help and to punish, so as to devote yourselves to him in perfect trust. There can be no trifling. Serve him in sincerity and in truth. Not in outward form merely, but also in the heart and the life (John 4: 23, 24), and not with a secret regard for images, but giving him a worship spiritual and real. Sincerity is derived from sine cera "without wax," i. e., pure, clear honey. Sincerity is therefore freedom from all' wrong motives or feelings, from hypocrisy or pretense. The idea, says Professor Beecher, is rather of whole ness, integrity, than sincerity, Serve God completely, to the utmost. Put away the gods which your father served. We thus learn that idolatry lurked among the Israelites, and that it was that form of idolatry which had been known in the family. Terah of old (v. 2). On the other side of the flood, i. e., of the river Euphrates, whence Abraham came serve ye the Lord. The real object of Joshua was to renew and confirm the covenant which had already been made with God. They should serve God by worship, by obedience, by trust, by removing all remnants of idolatry, offerings in support of religion and tion, by a pure, noble, generous, loving

Illustration, Webster's words on Bunker Hill. "That motionless shaft will be the most powerful of speakers. Its speech will be of civil and religious liberty. It will speak of patriotism and courage. It will speak of the moral improvement and elevation of mankind. Decrepit age will lean against its base, and ingenuous youth gather around it, speak to each other of the glorious events with which it is connected, and exclaim, 'Thank God,

### Duty of the Hour.

Our duty to put on the harness was never so great as to-day, that we may plant the religion of love on the basis of the higher philosophy of observation and experience, the basis upon which must rest all permanent and all future forces of society. It is the form of religion which harmonizes best with the advancing civilization of this country. It is the true republicanism of Christianity, recommending to all nations liberty, justice and love .- Dr.