

LURING TALKS OF RICH FINDS

Characteristic Bits of Pacific Coast Mining History.

THE DISCOVERERS OF THE OPHIR

One of the Seven Lucky Miners Tells How It Happened—The Mysterious "Lost Cabin" Boho Up in Oregon.

"When old man Comstock, after whom the famous Comstock lode was named, bought George Carter's wife for \$500 and a horse, saddle and bridle in the fall of 1859, I little thought of the enormous developments that were soon to follow," said John E. Clark, one familiarly known as "Ophir Jack," to the San Francisco Chronicle.

"We then were taking out about a half ton of gold every week, and naturally thought we had the biggest thing on top of ground, but that was nothing to speak of compared with the ore we were soon to strike, that produced over \$13,000 to the ton. Money was very easy with us at that time, and Comstock would doubtless have been willing to pay more for the only woman in the camp had his first offer not been accepted. Carter, his wife, and her brother came overland in a wagon, and when they struck our camp we offered him a job, and it was while he was carrying dirt out of the mine and keeping a judicious watch over his domestic establishment at the same time that Comstock said:

"Carter, what will you take for your wife?"

"Five hundred dollars."

"If you will throw in your horse, saddle, and bridle, all right," and the bargain was concluded.

"Comstock wanted a bill of sale, and it was regularly drawn up, signed, and witnessed in Johnny Newman's saloon, Newman being one of the witnesses. Carter went back to work and stayed around for a few days, and then took his horse and pack and drove back to his home in Nevada. Just before reaching the cabin Paquet gave him a complete and accurate description of the structure, how it was constructed and the tunnel near it. When they came to the place where he had mislaid nothing, the cabin had nearly all rotted down, but the tunnel was still there, some of the timbers near it being found in place.

It was with peculiar sensations that the Oregon pioneer saw the spot he had not visited in thirty years. He said he built the cabin, and the old shack near by it for a sort of blacksmith shop. The latter had nearly disappeared, only a mound indicating where it stood.

The story of the "Lost Cabin" has been current history in Idaho, Washington and Oregon for years. Its fabulous wealth and the mystery of its last known occupant have induced many persons to search for it. There are two stories concerning the mysterious stranger who was supposed to have discovered the "Lost Cabin" and buried in its immediate vicinity gold dust of great value. One of them is that some time in the '60s a miner conceived the idea of robbing the stage, which usually carried large quantities of gold dust from Boise City to Owyhee. He watched his opportunity when a large amount of treasure was being carried in the party's express. Picketing his horses in a clump of bushes close to the road, he lay in wait at the mouth of a canyon, on the road between Boise and Owyhee. He hid up the stage, seized the United States mail and the Wells-Fargo strongbox, and leaving the driver bound and gagged, made off to the mountains. In the box he found over 100 pounds of gold dust and a large sum in greenbacks.

The driver, when found, was half dead and delirious from starvation. From his story suspicion was fastened on the robber's partner, who was, of course, innocent of the crime. However, he was arrested, tried, convicted and sentenced to eight years in the penitentiary. Maintaining his guilty name, fearing his own arrest, went into the mountains. He found an unoccupied miner's cabin, where he determined to hide himself. He rarely left the cabin except to buy provisions in the nearest camp.

The story goes that he buried his gold dust in a hole under the stump of a tree near his cabin, and went to work on the life of a hermit, until his conscience began troubling him, and he had permitted an innocent man to suffer for his crime. Finally he determined to go back to Idaho and surrender himself.

Several years later when he had left, and changed by the rough life he had led, and no one knew him when he reached Boise. There his remorse made him miserable, and when, soon after, he was taken seriously sick and was about to die he wrote a full confession, in which he described the place where the dust was hidden. His partner was pardoned out and disappeared.

The other story of the mysterious treasure has it that the existence of the "Lost Cabin" and mine was first known by the guards of the Washington penitentiary at Walla Walla ten years ago. The prisoners had just been transferred from the penitentiary at Seattle, and the usual search being made on a criminal murdurer, serving a life sentence, asked for a piece of silver ore. When asked where he had obtained it he refused to answer further than to say he had a brother, who, if he desired, could give the name of the man who had sold him the ore. He lived in the Cascade mountains, and the murderer died and his name is now forgotten. Up to the last moment he refused to give any information concerning the mine. He constantly repeated:

"My brother shall have it; no outsider shall possess it."

"My brother" it was thought that the secret had died with him. Yet this did not deter adventurous prospectors from hunting for the "Lost Cabin," but the search in every canyon there was without success.

Seven years ago there was no prospect of the "Lost Cabin" ever being discovered, but a few months later an old wanderer named James Ross, who had been a second time partner, gave a chart of the cabin and mine and surrounding country to a resident of Latourelle, who had furnished him with a map of the country. It was said that the murderer in his last moments had mentioned this chart. The owner of the chart did not care to go on a "wild goose chase" in the mountains, but he gave the chart to a friend, it passed from one to another, until it reached James Ross in 1887. He started for the mine several times, but his search was without success.

In 1889 he went hunting with friends and in the afternoon the party became separated. Ross sighted an elk and started in pursuit, but the light faded and he fell down a ravine. He followed, dismounted and pushed through the underbrush. In a thicket he saw the murderer and the tools of the murderer. He carved his name on a log and then rejoined his friends.

The next year with Cody he tried to find the mine again, but failed because provisions were scarce. He was accompanied by a time being well equipped with food and animals, and after a long and difficult journey they came upon the cabin.

On the evening the party were picking and shoveling. The handles broke when they tried to lift the tools and the iron was covered with rust. Lying about were cooking utensils in the same manner. Cody bases his belief upon the fact that the tunnel which had been bored into the side of the mountain and from which ore had been extracted.

In 1893 the mine has been described at least twenty-five years. He believes the murderer feared discovery and left it about 1865 and took up a claim further away from the village. Cody bases his belief upon the fact that the bark of a tree had been cut away and initials carved upon the wood, but the bark had grown over and almost entirely obliterated the letters.

Speedy Justice in Oklahoma.

"Whenever a man is shot by an officer of the law in our country he is immediately described by the newspapers as a member of one of the several bands of desperadoes supposed to infest that section," said Charles B. Adams of Guthrie, Ok., to the Chicago Tribune. Mr. Adams was clerk of the federal court from the opening of the country until last July, and is returning home from a trip to Washington on business connected with that office. "As a matter of fact, criminals are apprehended, convicted and punished in Oklahoma much quicker in proportion to the population than in any other territory. Owing to the scattered and light settlement of the country it is easy to apprehend a criminal, and the border lawlessness that marks the opening of a new country is followed by a strong determination to suppress and eradicate such a condition. There is no sentiment among those drawn together to try a criminal, and frequently a verdict is set aside, owing to its severity."

FOR BRAIN WORKERS

Horsford's Acid Phosphate.

Dr. W. W. Williams, Wichita, Kan., says: "Have used it in cases of mental exhaustion and nervousness, with good results."

CAETIES OF WESTERN LIFE

Feasts and Royal Functions During the Harvest Time.

KING CORN AND HIS BODYGUARD

Mountains of Watermelons, Peaches by the Ton and Potatoes Galore Properly Honored and Eaten—Carnival Time.

The old-fashioned county fair is a thing of the past in the west. The prairie counties have discovered, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, that it is almost an impossibility to make it a success, and have substituted new and unique celebrations for the annual "pumpkin show." Kansas will have fewer county fairs this fall than ever in its history, but in other western commonwealths, are occurring interesting events, which attract larger crowds than the old-time fair and are in many ways more attractive. Colorado has set the pace for the modern exhibition in its days devoted to especially famous products, and Kansas is falling into line gracefully, with a series of carnivals that promise to be the liveliest of any celebrations known in the States.

CORN WILL BE KING.

Atchison has started the ball with the announcement of a corn carnival to occur this month—a period of hilarity, during which, corn, the king of Kansas cereals this year, shall reign supreme. It is proposed to make the two days devoted to the celebration a veritable time of heaven with the same old-time features, but with the addition of Mardi Gras in New Orleans, except that here corn shall dominate everything and be the ruling deity.

Hundreds of bushels of shelled corn will be distributed through the city, and every man, woman and child who goes on the street may expect to receive a bushel. Corn will be thrown in the theaters, from the street cars, at the horse cars, at the people, and, indeed, he showered like rice on a newly married couple, and all who are attacked. Acres of corn will span the streets, long stalks will decorate the street fronts, the street cars will be adorned with the green and white husk, and a corn stalk will be woven in the ladies' wraps. It will be a veritable Parisian revelry with corn as its central feature, and all who are expected to attend, attracted not only by the novelty of the celebration, but by the evening parades and speeches.

The fact that the celebration is the largest and best corn in the history of the state makes this kind of celebration particularly appropriate, and little doubt exists that the novel and unique amusement will be a success. A number of smaller towns are arranging for corn shows also, and the fashion is likely to become widespread. The corn will be to attract much attention to the product of which the state is most prodigal this year in a striking manner.

During the carnival the restaurants are expected to serve corn dishes in every conceivable style to their patrons, and church stands will do likewise in the parks, a serious business attempt is made, probably no exhibit or display can be quite as popular as that inaugurated at Rocky Ford, a little town over the Colorado river in the year the carnival was first held in that village, but in September it awakes, and on the first Saturday of the month is watermelon day around the prairie.

It produces the rich, juicy Georgia melons that make one's mouth water and are a delight to every palate. A second watermelon day is held every year for the growth of melons, and hundreds of acres are practically covered with them. On the day before the celebration, a security guard is posted to guard the melons, and the town is filled with strangers. Around the melons at the grove, watched with hungry eyes, are the watermelon men, each armed with a huge cleaver, and ready to take their places. When all is ready there are some introductory speeches of welcome by local notables, and then the watermelon feast, and then comes the signal to go to work. As with one motion the waters are dug in the melons, and the watermelon men with one stroke each is several longwise and the halves given out to forty eager visitors. Then twenty more, and so on, hour after hour until the pile of watermelons is exhausted. The watermelon men are invited to the watermelon feast with no reservations.

"Come on," calls a stout-lunged chef, "don't be bashful. Eat all you want. This is Rocky Ford's treat and we don't want you to go home and say that we were stingy. Come on, come on!"

But no one comes. A few hundred melons remain, and these are loaded on the excursion trains and thrown to the street gamins of Denver by the carload.

POTATOES AND PEACHES.

In their efforts to hit upon a successful rival to the watermelon feast, other western towns took up other attractive staples. Among the first to do this was the town of Peach day, which comes later in the fall. Here are the great luscious peaches bending down the limbs of the trees, and on the day of the celebration the people from the surrounding country, while the railroads, by means of harvest excursions, bring in a considerable number of people to make an impression upon him the excellence of the section of land which can be so productive. Peaches are distributed in every conceivable manner, and if at some of the lunch tables cream and sugar are provided for the pretty girls it is only to make the fruit more delectable, not necessarily to tempt them to eat more.

Perhaps the most unique, because the most unexpected, of the fall festivals is the potato day, which occurs in the town of the Rockies, usually in Greeley or vicinity. Potatoes are not a very luxurious product. On the contrary, are pebbles and common. Thousands of acres are staked down to the plains every year to take the place of those the drought-stricken fields should have raised. To attract buyers and to make the potato land in its glory, and it, too, is by no means bereft of visitors. The gifts of vegetables to the provision committee is not confined to potatoes, but includes many a choice selection from the other products of the farmer's field. But the potatoes are treated in an ingenious manner. Of course, peaches and watermelons can be handled much easier. They can be eaten raw, as it were, while potatoes must be baked. Long trenches are dug in the sandy soil and fires are built early in the morning of the eventful day. When the wood in the trenches has burned down to coals the potatoes, washed and clean, are brought out and arranged in rows. The tubers to be cooked. So expert become the cooks, the chefs of the occasion, that they are able to produce a potato which is a crisp brown jacket and a delicious meal. Then, when poured out on the big tables by the basketful, the aroma is something to make even the most fastidious water. Steaming hot, they are seized and deftly broken open, to be spread with great, rich, generous dollops of yellow country butter and sprinkled with salt and pepper—a lunch fit for the gods. Even he of the most delicate stomach can enjoy Potato day in the Colorado autumn air, when there is a tonic in every breath, and hunger makes welcome every meal.

Potato day cannot much longer be confined to the foothill region, a migration is being made eastward, and even this year, when it is just commencing, it has gone down across central Kansas and Nebraska. The first crop of the kind in the west and are worthy of attention.

Information regarding same will be cheerfully furnished on application to Mr. H. C. Davis, Kansas, Wyo., or J. T. King, agent Union Pacific railway, Burlington, Wyo.

Ladies who value a refined complexion must use Pozzoni's Powder. It produces a soft and beautiful skin.

TIME AND INVESTIGATION SHOW

That the Merits of the Case Are Surely With Us.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, GOVERNOR'S OFFICE, JACKSON, MISS.

Hon. George W. Ames, 1617 Farnam Street, Omaha, Neb., Dear Sir: I am familiar with the lands known as "Orchard Homes," now held by you for show. One of the great advantages of being in the heart of the great fruit and vegetable growing region of central Mississippi, is the fact that you can raise a crop of fruit and vegetables, as well as adapted to the successful cultivation of all the fruits and vegetables, as well as other farm products.

Very truly yours, J. J. COXMAN, Governor's Private Secretary.

Orchard Homes parties are being held here every few days for that desirable region, and you can get your own committee and find the spot where a small amount of money combined with energy and work will produce a large return. You can't had better join one of the parties and for yourself see the land and whatever results it may have. You can't understand how it is that a man has a chance to make from \$200.00 to \$400.00 each year from every acre that he properly cultivates at Orchard Homes. When you raise such crops as peaches, pears, plums, apricots, apples, quinces, figs and all small fruits in profusion, and sell them in the best markets, you can raise three or four crops of vegetables on the same land. It is a wonder you are content with the prospects Orchard Homes offers you. For all information as to time of starting, cost of trip and other data, you can write to our office, or call upon Geo. W. Ames, General Agent, 1617 Farnam Street, Omaha, Neb.

You cannot be well unless your blood is pure. Therefore purify your blood with the best blood purifier, Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Home-seekers' Excursions. On August 29, September 10 and 24, 1895, the Union Pacific system will sell tickets from Omaha, Neb., to Chicago, Ill., and points south and west in Nebraska and Kansas, also to Colorado, Wyoming, Utah and Idaho, east of Weiser and south of Beaver Canon, at exceedingly low rates.

For full information as to rates and limits apply to A. C. DUNN, City Ticket Agent, 1322 Farnam St., Omaha, Neb.

New Through Line to St. Paul. On Sunday, the 15th, the Rock Island will inaugurate a new line to St. Paul and Minneapolis through sleeper daily will leave Omaha through depot at 4:40 p. m., arriving at Minneapolis at 8:30 a. m., St. Paul 9 a. m. Trains run Des Moines, Ia., and support the Rock Island dining cars. For tickets, sleeping car reservations, etc., call at Rock Island ticket office, 1602 Farnam St.

Growth in Value and Sample Prices of New York Real Estate. About a week ago, says the New York Sun, we spoke of the sale of a piece of property on Broad street, adjoining the tracks owned by the New York Central, and the purchaser was the Commercial Cable company, and the seller made a handsome profit on the price he paid for the property. A few days later, we reported that the same piece of property had been sold to the Commercial Cable company, and the seller made a handsome profit on the price he paid for the property. A few days later, we reported that the same piece of property had been sold to the Commercial Cable company, and the seller made a handsome profit on the price he paid for the property.

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New York Hospital. For all forms of Female Weaknesses and Diseases of Piles, Fistula, Hemorrhoids, permanent cure without the use of knife, ligature or cauterization.

Omaha Medical and Surgical Institute, 14th and Douglas Sts., Omaha, Neb.

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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Have you tried it yet? What? One of those great big pieces of Battle Ax Plug Tobacco For 10 cents.

Over 2 Million in Use. Jewel Stoves and Ranges. An investigation will convince you of their excellence for cooking or heating purposes. A Jewel Stove costs no more than most stoves of a much inferior quality. Our trade-mark on every stove is an absolute guarantee of perfection. Ask for a Jewel; take no other. You will never regret your purchase. WM. LYLE DICKEY & CO., Omaha. A. C. RAYMER, South Omaha.

Orchard Homes. NO PLACE ON EARTH. Offers greater advantages to the intelligent settler. One-half the work you now do here will give four times the results in this wonderfully productive country. Twenty to forty acres in this land of plenty is enough to work and live on. It is sure to make you rich, and the results are assured; there is no such thing as failure. The people are friendly; schools, churches and newspapers are plenty; rail routes fine and a soil whose richness is unsurpassed, all invite the enterprising man who wants to better his own condition and that of his family. Two and Three Crops Can be Successfully Grown the Same Year. Timber is abundant—Lumber is cheap—Fuel costs nothing—Cattle are easily raised and fattened—Grazing is fine all the year.

CLIMATE. Is healthy and delightful; land and sea breezes and cool nights. The mean temperature is 42 to 66 degrees. The average rainfall is 16 inches. No extreme of heat or cold; sufficient rain for all crops. 20 TO 40 ACRES. properly worked makes you more money and makes it easier than the best 100-acre farm in the west. Garden products are a wonderful yield and bring big prices. Strawberries, peaches, plums, apricots, grapes, pears, figs, early apples, in fact all small fruits, are sure and profitable crops. NO DROUGHTS, NO FLOODS, NO BLIZZARDS, NO LONG COLD WINTERS, NO HOT WINDS, NO HEATED TERMS, NO COLD SNAPS, NO CROP FAILURES.

The Most Equable Climate in America. Orchard Homes. The most carefully selected lands in the best fruit and garden sections now offer in tracts of ten to forty acres at reasonable prices and terms. Those who wish to avail themselves of the wonderful resources of the country now attracting the great tide of immigration. 20 TO 40 ACRES. In that marvelous region with its perfect climate and rich soil if properly worked will make you more money and make it faster and easier than the best 100-acre farm in the west. Garden products are an immense yield and bring big prices all the year round. Strawberries, apricots, plums, peaches, pears, early apples, figs, oranges—all small fruits—are an early and very profitable crop. GO SOUTH. GO SOUTH. This is your opportunity. The people are friendly; schools efficient; newspapers progressive; churches liberal. The enterprising man who wants to better the condition of himself and his family should investigate this matter. You will be convinced. Carefully selected fruit growing and garden lands in tracts of 10 to 20 acres now offer on liberal terms and reasonable prices. Correspondence solicited. GEO. W. AMES, General Agent 1617 Farnam St., Omaha, Neb.

A Few Advantages. Offered by the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, the short line to Chicago. A clean train made up and started from Omaha. GO SOUTH. GO SOUTH. This is your opportunity. The people are friendly; schools efficient; newspapers progressive; churches liberal. The enterprising man who wants to better the condition of himself and his family should investigate this matter. You will be convinced. Carefully selected fruit growing and garden lands in tracts of 10 to 20 acres now offer on liberal terms and reasonable prices. Correspondence solicited. GEO. W. AMES, General Agent 1617 Farnam St., Omaha, Neb.