A TON OF GOLD.

BY CHARLES & LEWIS.

If you have an atlas handy, you will see that the San Jose river, New Meslot, rises to the west of the Sterra Madre mountains and outs through the rugged range to join the Rio Grande 100 miles away. The San Jose valley lies on elther side of the stream for a distance of so miles, and is from one to 30 miles wide. To the north of the valley lie the san Juan mountains, which are part and portion of the Sterra Madre. At Jerges, which is the only settlement for so miles in any direction, and which of itself is only a hamlet, you will find a dozen people who can relate the story of

"The Ton of Gold." Away back in the afties three Mexi-ean prospectors and miners left Sants Fe, which was then little more than a trading post, and penetrated into the San Juan mountains. The Indians were hos-tile and watchful, bears and mountain liens ready to attack them at every turn. and for several months the men were in hourly peril of their lives. In the last-nesses of the mountains they discovered a cave, and the stories told about this cave have sent at least a score of Americane to their death. Only one of the three miners returned to Santa Fe. In the year 1869 an American named Cushman, who had been stopping at Jemes for some time and who heard the stories and sifted them, entered the mountains in company with two other Americans whose names I do not recall. They were well armed and equipped, and had planged for a thorough search. A hundred different people knew of their setting out, for they made no secret of the expedition. A month after they entered the mountains they were seen at a distance by some hunters, but they never feturned. When a year had passed away, theams to be believed that they had Fallen victims to the Indians, and as far as I know no search was made for them. rom 1800 to 1878 no expedition started out. The story of "The Ton of Gold" has become legendary and was told with se many variations that one found it hard to arrive at the truth. It was in June, 1875, that Major

Jook Williams, who had been serving with the cavalry in the Indian campaigns for years, resigned his commisthe Williams expedition," with headh the expedition, and each furnished the general purse. We were to share allke to whatever was found. Each man provided himself with a winchester rife and 200 pounds of cartridges, blanwhich were leaded with provisions, and at was agreed that the search should continue until six men out of the ten voted to abandon it. We were atrong snough to take care of ourselves against the Indiana, and at least half of the party were veteran prospectors and hiners. Every one who had talked with the Mexican who came out with the save had been questioned ever and ever again, and with us was the man who had accompanied the l'arne expedition and returned with his chief. If we failed find the stream and the care and bring out the gold, then no other band of mon need try.

Had the Indians who made their home in the footbills and the fastnesses of the mountains been at peace with mankind the natural difficulties which beset ne would have been hard enough to overcome, but we were beset by the heatiles almost from the outset. They were the remeant of a band of renegade Apaches who had never made peace and could never be induced to, and they were firm in their determinetion to keep both Americans and Mexi-The range was their home and their stronghold and they also knew of the gold and gathered more or less of it. On the second day out of Jomes, before we were fairly in the mountains, we were anddenly attacked by about 50 Indiana, arreed with bows and arrows.

Fortunately we were not taken entire-

by by surprise and had a strong position, and after a fight of two hours, during which we killed and wounded nine or ten of them, they drew off and let us pass on. From all accounts the expedition which had proceded us had entered the range of mountains from the south. traveled a distance of 50 or 60 miles right into the heart of the great hills and had found the creek in a partienlarly wild and rugged section. But for the pack animals we could of course have get along much faster, but it had been determined that they should accompany us, and in aiding them along our progress semestimes did not exceed are miles per day. While the Indiana parties of two or three constantly harsesed us and at the end of the bith day we had two men wounded by their arrows and one of the mules killed outright. In roturn we had killed or wounded four or five more Indiana.

We were 18 days penetrating to the spot which all agreed answered in a general way to the description of the locality where the gold had been found. It was a sink, or basin, in the heart of the range, which might have been the erater of a volcane hundreds of years age. It was a spot out up with deep, dark canyon with immense bowlders strewn about and through the center of it, running oust and west, was a small

greek. Here and there one could easily get down to the water, but in other places it flewed through rocky canyons with banks rising on like waits down height of 200 feet. The bakin was alough half a mile square, and in the centered it was a lovel and alough as an in the

fent, on which we made our camp. To and the enve, if onve there was, we must saile a systematic starch of the entire basis. As soon as camp had been made our force was divided—a part to earth for the cave of gold and a part to prespect the mountain stream for suggets. It was three days before a find of any importance was made, and then, in the basis at the foot of a waterfall about ten feet high, the party working the creek took out five pounds of suggets in half a day. At the bottom of this basis, which was not over three feet deep, they also found a skeleton of a man—a victim of one of the previous expeditions. Here and there a stray sugget was picked out of the stream as the searchers followed it my and down, but no more rich field were made. In the four weeks we were encamped in the basis we gathered eight pounds of suggets and nothing was left behind.

There were three of us in the party

There were three of us in the party There were three of us in the party searching for the cave, and for the first week we kept together on account of the Indians. We divided the basin into districts and went carefully over each, but met with no luck. After the first week we separated, and each man searched as his judgment dictated. By the end of the second week, however, we had made certain there was no cave in any of the cliffs or canyons in or about the basin.
There were evidences of several landalides, and we had about come to the
conclusion that one of these had covered the mouth of the cave when adventure discovered it and accident lost it to us

and to all others forever. As the three of us started out on a cortain morning I crossed the basin to explore the country to the north. I was a mile and a half from camp, and at the mouth of a narrow gorse, up which I was peering, when an Indian arrow whissed past my face and strucks great rock and fell at my feet. Before I had recovered my wite a second arrow grazed my shoulder and as it struck the rock I started up the gorge for shelter. Along the right hand side was a narrow shelf and as I hugged the bank for shelter I assended this shelf and soon found my-self 80 feet above the bottom of the gorge and at the entrance of a cave. As the yells of the Indians proved that they were in pursuit. I entered the cave simply with the idea of securing shelter. If aumber did a very foolish thiong. He came bounding along in my tracks with a tomahawk in his hand, and I fired and relied him into the gorge just as he had got a glimpse of the mouth of the cave. That settled direct pursuit, but the Indians had me penned up and knew it. At least two of them came up the gorge. and, climbing up behind the rocks on the left hand bank, they fired upon me with arrows until I was driven into the cave for shelter. It was then that I set are to a heap of leaves and dead branches, which I kicked together, and saw the eights which had met the eyes of the Mexican who had been hung. There was

In my amazement and exultation I guarters at James. There were ten men | forget the Indians outside for a long and there were others larger than my flet. It had taken two or three men menths or years to gather that heap from the creek, and they had not taken away a single nugget. Death had come to them, how I cannot say, with riches within arm's length.

I took from the heap an almost solid mass of gold weighing 70 ounces and after a brief look around on reaching the mouth of the cave I started down the ledge or shelf on a run. The finding of that great heap of wealth had made me reckless, and my sole aim was to reach camp and break the news. I was fired upon as I ran, but not pursued. I think that three or four of the Indians had worked up the mountain above the mouth of the cave, with intent to pre-cipitate a landelide and immure me, but they could not have had time to accomplish anything when from other causes a slide occurred. It began away up the mountain side and took in a space about 200 feet wide. Trees, bushes, bowlders and dirt went sliding down with a roaring and a crashing, and mayhap the Indiens were caught with it. At any rate, when I reported at camp and returned with four of our party we heard nothing from redskins. I had run up a narrow gorge. There was no gorge now. Tene of thousands of tone of debris had come down to fill up the garge to a level, and to get at the mouth of that cave one would have had to get through 100 feet of the fill. Man had gathered the treas-ure from nature and back to nature it went for safe keeping. Some day men may go there with machinery and find a way to remove the obstruction, but a way to remove the obstruction, but the ten of gold is eafe from the miner with his pick and shovel. We did not make a bad thing of our enterprise by any means, but we just missed making such a good thing of it that none of the party could ever feel quite consoled.

The New Italian New The new Italian novelist is thus described by a correspondent of the London Chronicle: "Signor Gabriele d'Annanzie, whom I met this afternoon during a reheareal of his 'Ville Morte' at ing a reheareal of his 'Ville Morte' at the Renaissance, is only \$2, but looks elder. The features are worn and thoughtful. The Italian playwright believes in his mission, which is, in brief, the propagation of joy in life. He maintaine that this is the impress discoverable upon each of his herots, and in its fullest sense upon Claudio Cantelmo, in 'The Romance of the Lily.' Signor d'Angunsio, who has been described, in appropagate of his recount alsotion to the concequence of his recent election to the lialian bininter, as the deputy for beauty, is about to found a theater at Albano, the object of which is to make that profit-lake form the Baircuth of lialy.

Cannot Be Telegraphed. lose cannot be telegraphed; fi is to used corresponding to on

argest Clock in the World-

Drow the lines a little tight

Make the life a little brighter,

Spirit mine!
For the truth's take he a fighter, thou the world life may be white Purer, stronger, dearer, lighter, Hore divise!
If one wills, life may be higher, Spirit mine!
If one loves, God will be higher, Spirit mine!

Eis affection does not tire. Let us then his truth deare, decking it past water, fire, Gott and wine! -John C. Coit in "Great Thoughts."

ON THE CARDS.

"Can you tell fortunes?" she asked, leaning her elbows on the table and buffling the cards.

"Some people's. Shall I try your mother's?" Her mother was dozing in the armobair by the fire. "Oh, don't be silly! Mum's fortune is

"Well, you know what I mean-all that's worth telling. She refused the fair man and married the dark one; wasn't very rich and wasn't very poor -quite poor enough!" She shrugged her shoulders and made a dainty grimace-alse, unnamable. "Had two tiresome boys and one very nice girl-voila

"Who was an incorrigible little flirt and tease," I suggested bitterly. "Fortunes don't go into such details

shout secondary persons, even if they happened to be true, which they

"Oh, yee, they do." "Since you know so much about it, you can tell mine." She scattered the cards toward me with a crash. "It's all right, mum; I'm only throwing the eards at Cousin Harry." Her mother gave a sleepy smile and returned to her alambers.

"You musta't blame me if the cards are unfavorable." "I shall know you've made it up if

they are."
"I wouldn't dream of jesting upon such a subject, " I assured her. "Fortune telling follows certain essential principles, which are immutable and"-"Should be practiced, not preached. "To start with, then, you are the

queen of hearts." "Why?" "Because the queen of hearts represents feminine beauty and charm." "Oh!" She leaned back and laughed.

"If you are only going to flatter me, I won't listen. "I merely state a fact. You are the queen of hearts."

"No. I'm not. I'm spades or clubs, because I'ra dark. "Excuse the, it is not a matter merequarter of an hour. In that heap of gold ly of complexion, but of general appearown outht and contributed \$50 to were naggets hardly bigger than a bean, | ance. Spades represent plain people, diamonds passable people, clubs looking people and hearts very nice looking people. Therefore you are the queen of hearts."

"Lots of people wouldn's consider me good looking at all." Her tone invited

"Very likely not." She flashed an indignant glance at me. "But the fortune teller is the solo judge on these oc-

"I'm glad the fortune teller is so appreciative. Of course I know you're only pretending." She looked at me for denial, but I busied myself with the "Go on!' she cried.

"First I shuffle the cards-so. Then I cut them-so. Now I place my hand on them-so. You place your hand on top of mine." She did. "Now I place my other hand on top of yours—so— and you put your other hand on top of

"I never heard of this before," said she doubtfully. Noither did I, but it had occurred to me as an improvement. "Now you must sit quite still and silent for a full minute." "I know I shall laugh."

"Then the fortune will be spoiled." "I don't believe it's necessary."
"Yes, it is-to place the teller and

the tellee en rapport.
"But we aren't, you know. We ways quarrel—at least you do." "Couldn t we be just for a minute, Milly?" I didn't mean to speak serious-

She nodded gravely, and I sat looking at and wat 'ting the pink color steal over her pretty face. I think it must have been two minutes that we sat like that, during which I forgave all her lit-

"There!" said I reluctantly. "Now r the fortune. Cut the carde, Milly. The fortune must be yourown making. 'You have made me feel quite seri-

one," said she, with a nervous little

"It is going to be a serious fortune." I meant it to be.

"Then—then won't you out, too,
Harry? To represent other people? I
don't like all the responsibility. Please!"
So I out too. It didn't matter, you see,
because I looked at the cards before I
put them down in the shape of an
opened fan round the queen of hearts.
Of course I den't know anything about

fortune telling really.

"The disposition of the eards," I midgravely, "indicates many possibilities
of happiness and good fortune, if you
take your opportunities, but much is
left to your own decision."

"What a primarcal Don't they say

"What a nulsance! Don't they say
how I shall decide?" I shook my head,
"The heavennear the queen show that
you are and will be much liked and ad-

mired the state which was a specific to be a silver which was making it up. "
"I sality was been making it up. "
"The three himse hart it had indicate three manifestion parkage forward? "
"The king of civit, with the other dube close by. I take to be a coldier—

mount Captain Richards. The cards

are wrong."
"Perhaps they mean that you will do so." I suggested inquiringly, but she sylated up her handkershief and made

The king of diamends, with spaces fellowing, means an elderly suitor who has prospered in trade. He is shown by the diamends, enting with the knave, to have made a fortune and retired, handing over the business to his con." I meant old Parsley.

"Icall it very unkind of you, Harry." Her lip dropped a little, and I hastened to apologise.

"It isn't my doing. It's the cards'."
"Well, yea know it im's true. It's enly"—she looked over her shoulder to see that her mother was still asleep—
"mamma's cilliness. Why, he's as old as dad, and I wouldn't. You know I

"The cards leave it to you, Milly."
"Don't you believe me?" She looked

quite hurt. "Of course—if you say so." I patted her hand, which was lying on the table, but she drew it sharply away and rub-bed the touch off with her handkerchief. Well, the king of hearts-what does he mean?"

I considered a moment. "The king of hearts," I pronounced slowly, "means a handsome young fellow who paid you a great deal of attention when you were

staying with the queen of clubs, a dark relative—probably your aunt."
"I won't listen to another word!" she cried indignantly. "It's a nasty, horrid forume, and quite untrue. There!"
"Yery well." I made as if I would

"Yery well." I made as if I would sweep the cards together.
"Don't be disagreeable." She looked at me repreachfully, with one of her kaleidoscopic changes. "I want to hear it—my proper fortune—not nonsense."
"Well, isn't this true?" "No. it isn't."

"Didn't he pay you a lot of atten-"Young Jephson!"
"Yes." He was the rival I really

"Nothing special."

"So many pay you attention that you think nothing of it." "You silly fellow!" said she, scornfully. "Why, he's almost engaged to

Cousin Annie." I felt as though a weight was taken off me. "Why," I said, "how stupid of me! She must be the dark lady, I suppose. I ought to have connected him with her instead of with you."

"I don't believe you understand the fortune business a bit." "It's very difficult," I apologized. But you see the cards are all right, when you read them properly."

"What else do they say?" "The next point is money. The seven of diamonds, next to the knave of clubs -probably your uncle-indicates a leg-

acy, and''—
''No, nol'' she interrupted. "I don't want to know about money."
"Well, the duration of life is shown

"That doesn't matter," said she quickly, shrugging her shoulders.
"Then I hardly know what else there

is to tell." I looked at her doubtfully. There was one thing only that I wanted to tall her. "What do you want to know, Milly?" "She put her elbow on the table and

rested her head on her hand. Then she laughed uneasily, and I held my breath for a moment. "Isn't there—I mean did you finish with-the-the-admirers, as you call

"There is another," I told her. he is hardly worth mentioning. Why not? Because he doesn't care for-doesn't admire or whatever you

call it-much?" "Oh, no! But he's poor, you see. Being only the king of spades, he has to work for his living, so he admires at a distance. There are two cards between

him and her, you see."
"But," said she very gently, "they "Yes," said I, "they are hearts. Being two, they show that he is distantly related." We are second cousins really. They indicate that he is very fond of her, but leave it doubtful if she is more

than alightly attached to him." I looked appealingly to her, but her eyes were "How do you make that out?" she asked at length.

"The card next to her is the two, but that by him is the ten, which means great affection." "What does the rest of the

The nine of spades, on the other ide of the king, shows that he has a great deal more work to do before he an be in a position to ask the knave of arts - her father - for her hand. Meanwhile the eight of spades and the ace of clubs show that he must toil at some risk in a land across the sea."

She clasped her hands suddenly and looked

"Yes," I mid quietly and maily.
"Where?" Her dainty mouth was

Cape, I believe, where a relative has offered him a good berth."
We looked at the cards in dismal strence for awhile. Then she smiled at

me ever so brightly. There is the ace of hearts at the end the line, Harry," she whispere What does that mean?"

I took the hand near me gently in nine. "I think, Milly," I said earnestty, "it must be my heart because it is ever by you. Will you have it, dear?" She looked down for a moment, then pushed it gently toward me. "I think," the said, "it must be my heart—which is going over the sea with you."—Black and White.

TOLD IN THE LOBBY.

Humerous Steries From St. Ste-

phen's-Row the Orange-Cathelie
Treuble Was Squared.

Old parliamentary hands realize the truth of the charge that the House of Commons is, as a rule, so dull that the weakest witticism is likely to move it to unsubdued merriment.

It is nevertheless the fact that a number of members who can scarcely get an audience in the House itself are wont to delight groups of their fellow-legislators in the smoking room or in the lobby, and the stories that float about St. Stephen's prove that if in the mass our M.P.'s are rather dull folk, individually they are not devoid of a saving sense of humor. void of a saving sense of humor.

Naturally the best stories are told at the expense of fellow-members. A slip made by a worthy Scot when addressing an audience in his own constituency proved a cause of endless trouble to the fortunate M.P., who was what is usu-

lly termed a self-educated man.

In the course of a fervid harangue the hon. member brought down the House by referring to "our kinsmen at the 'Anti-

The cheers and laughter disconcerted him in ne small degree, and still greater was his annoyance when a friend gently explained to him after the meeting that "Antipods" was not the usual pronuncia-tion of the word. For years after this inident the M.P. brought into every flower show or an attack on his political opponents—a reference in some An-tip-o-des' -- pronouncing the word in a slow and deliberate manner in order to rate to the world that if he had once made a mistake it must not be at-ributed to want of knowledge.

Another legislator created no small nusement during the dispute over the erman Hinterland in Africa by anxiousty enquiring: "What sort of people are these Hinterlanders?" adding pathetically, "I can't find anything about them in the

The election anecdotes which come to the fore when a new Parliament assem-bles are often humorous. A Home Rule candidate was engaged in canvassing, when he visited a workingman's house, in the principal room of which a pictorial representation of the Pope faced an illus-tration of King William, of pious and immortal memory, in the act of crossing

The worthy man stared from one to the other in amazement, and seeing his sur-prise, the voter's wife explained: "Shure, my husband's an Orangeman and I'm a

'How do you get on together?' asked the astonished politician.
"Very well, indade" replied the lady, "barring the 18th of July, when my husband goes out with the Orange process and comes home dhrunk'.'

Well, he always takes the Pope down and jumps on him, and then goes straight to bed. The next morning I got up early, take down King William and pawn him, and buy a new Pope with the money. Then I give the old man the ticket to get King William out."

which are probably not known to those principally concerned. For instance, there was once a meeting of delegates to select Two gentlemen addressed the meeting, a ballot was taken, and the successful candidate was selected by a majority of one. After the delegates had dispersed the horrified secretary of the association awake to the fact that two more votes had been recorded than there had been

It was too late to do anything, but some time later, when the candidate had orne an M.P. one of his supporters lared, in a burst of confidence, didn't want a beggar like ---, so I just put three beans in the ballot box." M.P. had gained an immoral victory

A county candidate had a cruel joke put on him. He had driven 12 miles from ne to a meeting in a village and his coachman went to sleep on the box while waiting outside. Presently the Jehu heard the door of the carriage slammed to the accompaniment of "Good-night, Mr.——," and off he dreve home to find at the end of the journey that there was no one inside.

An enemy had done this, and the poor candidate had to tramp several miles be fore he met the returning carriage.-London Daily Mail.

Chinese Dog Farms.

In Manchuria and along the Mongolian porders of China there are thousands of arms on which nothing is raised but dogs of a breed peculiar to this region. Each proprietor keeps several hundreds of them. They are of a large size, and when eight months old are killed, usually in midwinter, for the sake of their skins. As a result of the severe climate they are covered almost from birth with a magnificent growth of fur. Hence they are Chinese as material for winter clothing. They constitute the only wealth of this desolate country. In each family a certain number of dogskins is laid aside as the daughter's marriage portion. Yet they remmand no very high price, eight skins being required for a gown about two yards long, and worth some \$3 or \$4. This would make the average value of each but tittle over 40 cents, from which must be deducted the cost of sorting and dressing, also of manufacturing the gar-ment. The hides find their first market at several main depots, whence they are taken to Moukden, Fou-Tcheou and other cities to be made up. Last year the estimated proceeds of this traffic at New-chang, a leading emporium, amounted to 1,000,000f., against 1,500,000f. the year before.—Popular Science News.

Magnesia as a Cleanser cake of magnesia is a good friend to the economical woman in these days of many light frocks. Rub the soiled spots on both sides of the goods when the dress or waisteent is taken off, and after airing have away with the hang away with the magnesia still there. When the dress is wanted again dust the is off lightly and it will be found magnesia of lightly and it will be found to have carried away part of the soil and to hide the rest. A light dress thus may be kept immaculate in appearance several days after it would otherwise have to go to the cleaner.

A Little Squirrel in Amber. Flies are not the only thing found in aber. In a big mass of clear amber, adged up out of the Baltic Sea recently, are was distinctly visible in its interior

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