NUGGET HUNTING.

Persistency and Luck—Each has its share in the Success.

(San Francisco Call.

An old miner who followed the gold excitement in its devious wanderings in Australia, California, Mexico and British Columbia, related to a *Call* reporter a few days ago several instances of lucky discoveries.

"An old Dutchman brought the plodding method of his race to the work of gold-digging in Australia. All of his companions had boldness and dash; but few had the stolid persistency in the face of bad luck that this Dutchman possessed. He had been plodding along for several months digging a tunnel. Heavy dull clay was all about him. Not a promising sign beckoned him on. He seemed to get more settled in his determination to work the tunnel to the end the more unpromising it looked. He had been working on in the face of discouragement for several months. One morning he was making his way into his tunnel, and before he had gone fourteen feet his heart sank within him. There in front of him was his tunnel caved! The path he had laboriously dug into the hill was clogged with tons of earth. But the quality of his character asserted itself. Most men would have volleyed oaths at his ill luck, and packed up their kit and left. The miner moved more slowly than before, but he started again to work in the same tunnel. He crawled into his tunnel, and with pick and shovel set to clearing away the hill of earth that blocked his path. He had not struck a dozen blows with his pick before the sharp iron point struck something solid. Mechanically he bent forward and cleared away the earth, and there before him was a big nugget, as nuggets go, weighing fourteen ounces. He crept out of the tunnel, bringing his precious nugget with him, and when he got into the fresh air and heard the birds singing, he sat down and wept. No one begrudged the Dutchman his luck.

"A nuggety country that has been only partially worked is just as good a field as virgin soil," continued the miner. "The spots that have not been touched may be the very nests of the precious metal. It is dangerous to leave a single foot of ground unworked. The fortune of a lifetime might thus be passed by and lost forever. There are many instances of just such cases. There was a poor, shiftless fellow, with a wife in rags and children in squalor. The whole family used to go into the diggings together and shift about till they had got enough to buy something to eat. But one day they straggled into the diggings, not having energy enough to push on abreast of the workers. They fell to picking a little pillar that had been left standing in the midst of the diggings, all about it having been worked. I do not think it could have been more than three feet across, certainly not more than six. It was a spot that had been neglected as the diggers pushed their drifts ahead. The squalid family began work on this solitary pillar; all they hoped was for a few grains to feed them for the day. As the man continued listlessly, the sunlight was caught up by a speck in the pillar that glistened and flashed. The eyes of the poor fellow saw it; he thought his work for the day was done. He knelt down to clean away the dirt from the bright spot. As he did so the shining metal grew to larger proportions. Immediately the whole family was around it in eager haste to uncover it. The further they cleared the soil away about it the further it seemed to recede. After working for two hours with growing astonishment they saw the full outline of their prize—one of the largest lumps of gold ever found. That was the luckiest find ever made."

"The Mount Moliagul nugget was found in a most peculiar place," resumed the miner. "There was an unusually rich diggings in the vicinity of Mount Moliagul, Victoria, that had made a hundred men rich. It had been thoroughly worked in every direction, and it was thought that every grain of gold in the neighborhood had been collected. The crowd that once made the camp a busy scene of life dissolved as quickly as it had collected, leaving the shanties to the mercy of the weather which soon made them a picturesque ruin. Off toward the east there was a solitary tree stump, standing on a pillar of earth that had not been cut away by the gold hunters because of the old roots of the tree that spread through the soil. It was not more than ten feet in circumference that had been left by the diggers. One day two miners came to the deserted camp and stopped over night on the site of the old camp. The stump struck one of them as a singular feature of the old diggings, and being a skilful miner, he knew that one part of a nuggety country was as likely to hide the precious metal as another. It occurred to him that the ground under the stump was as likely to prove rich as the portions of the neighboring field that had yielded so much gold. He resolved to work the little mound next day. His companion, however, was anxious to be off to the latest diggings, where the excitement was at the highest pitch. But the first miner, who had resolved to explore the solitary patch of the deserted diggings, persuaded his partner, and together they set to work on the old stump. They began by undermining one side of the stump, but before they had dug in three feet they discovered an enormous nugget, one of the most valuable that had been found in the whole diggings. They continued their labors and uprooted the stump, but did not find another grain of gold."

Bad Habits.

"We are off," cried a fair bride, as the locomotive puffed away in its endeavors to move the train. "Just listen to the 'chew, chew' of the engine."

"What bad habits!" replied the groom, with a tear in his eye.

"Why, darling, what do you mean?" she inquired, sweetly.

"Nothing much, angel, except that the engine not only 'chews' but smokes."

She got off at the next station and returned to her parental home.—*Merchant Traveller.*

An anonymous letter, accompanied by a lady's valuable gold chain, was received lately by the Secretary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church. The letter, which was without post-office address, and signed with a Christian name only, begged acceptance of he chain, and asked for its disposal for the benefit of the India Missions.

DECIDEDLY SUPERNATURAL.

A Waking Vision which was Subsequently Realized—Romantic Case of Child Adoption.

A Centralia, Ill., despatch says: The particulars of a singular adoption are published here to-day. Col. L. F. Casey is a prominent local lawyer; his wife is an estimable lady. After a married life of many years, unmarred by a regret or displeasure, save the need of a child's companionship to brighten up the old home, they determined to adopt a baby girl if a suitable one could be found. One night two years ago Mrs. Casey and her sister-in-law retired together, and before going to sleep chatted about the proposed adoption. When the conversation had ended Mrs. Casey was electrified by a vision of childish loveliness at her side. A baby girl with large brown eyes and auburn ringlets lay there smiling and cooing and silently supplicating for a kiss. She stooped to caress the beautiful vision and it vanished. Being wide awake the incident made a deep impression on her. Not many days later a stranger appeared bearing a little girl in his arms. He explained his mission. He had heard of the desire of Col. and Mrs. Casey to adopt a child and he had made bold to come to them with this, his only daughter. He was anxious that she should receive a good education and all the advantages of a cheerful home, which he felt incompetent to give her. Thus speaking, the stranger placed the little one on the floor. Mrs. Casey from the moment of the stranger's entrance had been staring fixedly at the child in his arms. The baby had large brown eyes, the auburn locks and the smiles of her vision. When released the little one rushed into Mrs. Casey's arms. "This is my child," she exclaimed rapturously, "this is the one I want." The baby returned the caresses and Mrs. Casey explained the cause of her emotion. The adopted daughter was named Vision. It now transpires that she is the great granddaughter of Commodore Oliver Perry, the illustrious hero.

A FRESH FARMERS' PLAGUE.

Corn Fields in Kansas Devastated by an Insect Pest.

A Parsons, Ks., telegram says: There is now making its appearance in this vicinity a scourge equal to the grasshopper. Large fields of corn standing on an average of eight inches high, looking fresh and green in the morning, before night becomes withered and dead. An examination discloses in each hill a myriad of worms ranging from one inch and a quarter down to one-eighth of an inch in length. Apparently they become completely distributed over a field, then commence simultaneously to work, and within a very short time the whole is devastated. Nearly every piece of corn is more or less infested. The eggs from which the worms are hatched are supposed to be deposited by a small yellowish white moth. The worm is, by the farmers, termed the wet worm.

Latest from Ireland.

The keeper of a lime-kiln at Castlepollard and his daughter were suffocated on the 25th while lighting the fire in the kiln.

J. Purcell, of County Clare, at the recent Caledonian games at Ballsbridge, made the extraordinary hop, step and jump of 47 ft. 3 in.

Mr. John Stack, Chairman of the Listowel Town Commissioners, intends to contest the representation of North Kerry at the forthcoming general election.

Nearly all the tenants of the Fishmongers' Company in Ireland have agreed to a proposal that they should buy their buildings, in thirty years, for a fixed annual sum.

Richard I. Cambie died on May 28th at his residence, Loughmorris, about four miles from Thurles. He was for many years High Constable of the barony of Eliogarty, Tipperary.

An outrage, the motive of which is not known, has been perpetrated in connection with St. Mary's Cathedral, Limerick, the handsome stained-glass Napier memorial window being much damaged.

Rev. M. G. Whyte, rector of Ballinamallard, County Fermanagh, Ireland, who was to have been tried at Kesh Petty Sessions, on the 2nd inst., on a charge of forging a will of the late Captain Barton, whereby the sum of £12,000 was devised, £8,000 to him (Mr. White) and £4,000 to certain other parties, committed suicide on the morning of the 2nd inst. at his own residence by drowning himself in a tank.

Sanitary Influence of Dress.

A vast amount of rubbish is and always will be written, doubtless, in regard to the healthful and malevolent influences of dress; and the harsh judgments are largely based on the absence of fixed laws. Are any of the laws fixed that govern our social life and environment? Is medical science fixed? Were any two doctors ever known to agree? Could not physicians long have gotten rid of all corsets and semblance of corsets, of skirts also, and substituted trousers, had their science taught them all, and all alike, that these were positive hindrances to the attainment of healthy bodies by women? But the obvious fact is that the average health of women is as good or better than that of men, whose dress is not criticised from a sanitary point of view. The thousands of women who now occupy important positions, who work in shops and factories, who support themselves and families, all wear the ordinary dress of women and maintain a standard of health superior to that of male employees.—*New York Letter to Washington Star.*

Five dollars a day, it is said, would not tempt an average Digger Indian to work at the present time. Grasshoppers are too abundant for that. Not only are the Diggers gorging themselves with the "delicacy," but they are drying and storing them for winter use.

Those dreadful literary iconoclasts are at it again. They have now turned their guns on Milton, and a reverend gentleman named Edmunson is endeavoring to rob the author of "Paradise Lost" of all the honor which belongs to originality of conception. He has published a work to prove that Milton was largely indebted in the composition of his great poem to various poems of a Dutch rhymester of the same period, one Joost Vangden Vondel, and that Samson Agonisteo was inspired by a drama by Vondel on the same subject.

MRS. HUNTER'S MALE ATTIRE.

What a Girl Did for Her Sick Husband and Child.

On Saturday last Mr. Andrews, of the Philadelphia firm of Langfield, Turner & Andrews, took occasion to chide a young clerk named Charles Hunter for his absence from the office at a regular hour every forenoon and afternoon. Andrews had formed the theory that the young man was a frequenter of policy shops and opened on him with the assertion that he "knew all and you may as well make a clean breast of the whole affair." The clerk was apparently paralyzed at the revelation and sobbingly confessed that his daily absence had been "to nurse the baby."

"Are you a woman?" asked Andrews in surprise.

"You just said you knew all about it, didn't you?" was the meek reply.

The sequel was that the smooth-faced clerk is a woman whose real name is Elizabeth Hunter. Her husband's health became bad six months ago, and as she had a young baby to take care of they were soon in absolute want. It was in this extremity that Mrs. Hunter bought a cheap suit, sought and secured a position, and was drawing $4 a week salary for the past six months. She hails from Michigan, her father being a store keeper in Sault Ste. Marie. Mrs. Hunter has done her work well during her term of employment in the Philadelphia house, and she says she will resume male attire if she finds it necessary to support herself and husband. In the meantime Mr. Andrews, who asked her to "confess all," is not priding himself on his ability at getting down to facts.

Fashion Notes.

Fancy jewels are more in favor than ever. We are overwhelmed with Byzantine models of all shapes and sizes.

There is a new fabric called cheviot muslin, which is not thicker than woollen crape, and makes up very prettily in plaited skirts and tunics.

Bed-room slippers are perfectly charming, being of dark velvet lined at the sides with satin, and trimmed with a ruche and bow of satin ribbon.

Striped silk and velvet pekins are much employed in combination with lighter fabrics for summer toilets, more especially for bodices and tunics.

Entire lace dresses, that is, those cut from net lace, in the same fashion as any other piece goods, will be one of the special features of the present season.

Colors for gloves are very quiet and the popular demand is limited to a few shades, such as tan, a couple of shades of Congo or light leather colors and some shades of medium gray.

A novelty in a Japanese fan is made of parchment, the design somewhat like a bunch of grape leaves, and between the leaves are openings which offer convenient places for observation.

Among the ribbons specially adapted for summer bonnets are handsome grenadine ribbons with wide satin stripes, which come in cream color, light blue, pink, the new chartreuse and a couple of shades of ecru.

Canvas shoes for mountain and seaside wear will be worn [illegible] both ladies and children. They can [illegible] secured to lace or button, but the [illegible] canvas shoes are in much greater de[illegible] those that are buttoned.

Among the latest introduced materials, one of the prettiest is that which has velvet patterns brocaded over gauze, so as to look like applique work. In some instances the velvet patterns are edged around with beads. This is used chiefly for summer mantles, but also for tunics and panels or draperies over a silk skirt.

Dress Plainly on the Sabbath.

It is taste.

It would lessen the burdens of many who find it hard to maintain their places in society.

It would lessen the temptation to dress beyond the income.

If every one dressed plainly but neatly, for church service, persons in moderate circumstances and the poor would be more likely to attend.

Moderation in dress would improve the manners of the congregation by preventing the wandering of the eyes and thoughts.

It would lessen, on the part of the rich, the temptations of vanity.

It would lessen, on the part of the poor, the temptations of envy, uncharitableness and discontent.

It would save time for rest on the Sabbath day.

It would relieve our means of a serious pressure and leave more opportunities of doing good.

At the same time we do not believe it is required of us to wear sack-cloth and long faces on the Sabbath day. Nature herself seems to wear brighter garments on the blessed day of the week, and it is meet that we should dress well and tastefully, even cheerfully, and enjoy the golden day of the week with grateful hearts and comely attire.—*Presbyterian.*

St. Giles', Edinburgh.

The work of ornamentation still goes on in St. Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh. The work of restoration so grandly begun by the late Dr. Chambers has been carried on with vigor and success. The latest addition is a new royal pew, partaking of the nature of a throne. This has taken the place of the old royal pew, which had very much the appearance of a gigantic four-post bedstead. On each side of the pew are five stalls for those in attendance on royalty or the High Commissioners; and between these stalls and the throne are seats for the pages. The stalls are constructed like the ordinary stalls of a cathedral with panelled and traceried fronts supporting the book boards; and behind against the wall is a beautifully panelled reredos with carved cornice. Presbyterianism is evidenly losing some of its boldness in the Scottish capital.

For some time past parties in Toronto have been engaged in cutting up bank bills and by ingeniously pasting them together making them represent bills for larger amounts. The practice is carried on to such an extent that to-day the bank refused to accept the bills at a heavy discount. The police fail to locate the scoundrels.

THE PRIMATE'S CROZIER.

A Costly and Elaborate Gift to the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The historic library of Lambeth Palace, says the *Pall Mall Gazette*, recently witnessed a striking scene—namely, the presentation to the primate of all England of a cross which, originally suggested by a few friends in the Truro diocese on his translation to the see of Canterbury, has been subscribed for by some thousands of Churchmen throughout the dioceses of the Southern Province. The cross, in silver gilt, is the work of Messrs. Hardman, of Birmingham, and is of a rather unusual type, namely, a modification of a Maltese cross which had been in use among the English Archbishops from the time of Chichele downward. It has two tiers of statuettes under elaborate canopies above the knop and beneath the short truncated spire which supports the base from which springs the cross itself. In the lower tiers of niches are placed the statues of the two apostles, St. Peter and St. Paul, and immediately above arises a second coronet of tabernacle work containing the figures of St. Augustine, the first Archbishop of Canterbury; St. Virgilius, Archbishop of Arles, from whom St. Augustine received consecration; St. Theodore of Tarsus, seventh Archbishop of Canterbury; St. Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln, and St. Piran (or Kyrran) and St. Petroe, missionaries to Cornwall. From this point the design changes into the short spire mentioned above, which is ornamented with crockets, till it reaches the foliated cap which supports the cross. The cross itself is naturally the richest part of the design, and glitters with pearls, diamonds and sapphires—on one side sapphires and diamonds, and on the other clusters of diamonds and rubies, the whole being provided from a special fund collected by the Rev. Dr. Finch. Delicately engraved representations of the Agnus Dei, and the pelican in her piety, form the central subjects on either side of the cross. The entire design is hexagon in plan, and the jewels reappear on two sides of the hexagon, below the tiers of statues, in order to recall the coloring of the cross. Here an emerald and some rubies and diamonds have been introduced on one side of the hexagon to contrast with the sapphires on the side opposite. The actual staff is treated spirally, and gradually diminishes in size toward the ferrule at the bottom, and is divided into compartments by bosses, enriched with minutely worked roses and ornamental engraving.

An Extraordinary Pair of Engines.

A pair of compound reversing mill engines have been made by Tannett, Walker & Co., of Leeds, England, which are the largest ever heard of. Their destination is the new steel works at Bilbao, in Spain, where the best ore for the purpose is abundant. The total weight of the engines, with sole plates, is 530 tons. Coal is expensive where these engines have to work, and they have therefore been made not only compound but condensing. The boiler pressure will be 80 lbs. to 90 lbs. per square inch, and the condensing is obtained by means of a separate pair of engines, which can be started and a vacuum formed, and also serve for condensing the steam of other small engines in the forge. The main engines have four steam cylinders, two being high pressure (42 in. in diameter), and two low pressure (60 in. diameter), all 5 ft. stroke. The cranks are at right angles, the shaft being of steel, 25 in. diameter. A mill can be attached on either side, so that angles, bars, rails and other sections can be rolled on one side, and large steel girders and plates on the other side.

He Had Been Attentive.

The country school-teacher had been telling her scholars about the seasons and their peculiarities, and, to impress their youthful minds with the facts, she questioned them on the points she had given. She had asked several questions, and finally reached the bad boy in the corner.

"Well, Johnny," she said, "have you been paying attention?"

"Yesum," he answered, promptly.

"I'm glad to hear it, Johnny. Now can you tell me what there is in the spring?"

"Yesum, I kin, but I don't whant to."

"Oh, yes, you do. Don't be afraid. You have heard the other scholars. Be a good boy, now, and tell us what there is in the spring?"

"Wy—wy—mum, there's a frog, an' a lizard, an' a dead cat in it, but I didn't put 'em there. It was George Winters, fur I seen him do it."

What He was After.

"I want a lawn mower," said a citizen yesterday as he stepped into a hardware store.

"Any special kind you prefer?" inquired the dealer.

"No. I don't know much about lawn mowers myself, but I want the noisiest one that's made. I've got a darned mean neighbor, whose children worry the life out of me with their whooping and yelling every night till 10 o'clock. I want a mower that can discount the tannery whistle, and I'll whoop it up every morning from 4 o'clock till breakfast, and wake up the little rats. When night comes on they will be sleepy enough to go to bed at a decent hour."

A machine was picked out. "Never mind the oil-can," said the citizen, as the merchant began to tie one to the handle. "I ain't going to use any oil. Noise is what I'm after."—*Lincoln (Neb.) State Journal.*

A New Tunnel Scheme.

The Anglo-French Channel Tunnel scheme having been postponed, enthusiastic engineers are directing attention to the channel between the south of Scotland and the North of Ireland. The distance is twenty-one and a half miles and the depth in places 780 feet. The tunnel will, therefore, have to be sunk to a depth of, at least, a thousand feet, so that with the approaches something like twenty-five miles, at the very least, will have to be excavated. There is no traffic to justify one-third of the necessary expense, but there is compensation in the fact that the feat is possible, and that it will meet with no interference from the Government.

Mme. Patti is recovering from her severe indisposition.

It is said that the income of one of the Princes of Italy is only $6 a week.

SERVICE OF PREMIERS.

Their Average Lease of Power Since 1714.

The limit of Mr. Gladstone's present premiership will be the date on which his successor takes office. Calculating merely to the 9th inst., when the Ministry determined to tender its resignation, Mr. Gladstone's premiership is sixth in length of service since the accession of the house of Hanover, in 1714. The Duke of Newcastle, Viscount Melbourne, Viscount Palmerston and Mr. Disraeli held the reins of government longer for a single term than has Gladstone in either of his terms. The latter's first premiership lasted five years two months and twelve days; his second, to June 9th, 5 years, 1 month and 11 days. Newcastle served 8 years, 5 months, 8 days, from April 21st, 1754, till May 29th, 1762. Melbourne's first government, in 1834, lasted less than five months; his second, from April 18th, 1835, to September 1st, 1841, 6 years, 4 months, 13 days. Palmerston's first premiership lasted 3 years, 18 days; his second, 6 years, 9 months, 18 days. Benjamin Disraeli's first government began and ended in 1858, covering a period of 9 months, 12 days; his second, extended from February 21st, 1874, to April 28th, 1880, 6 years, 2 months, 7 days. Mr. Gladstone's two leases of power aggregated 10 years, 3 months, 23 days.

Five Premiers of the forty-two between 1714 and 1885 have held the reins of government longer than the "grand old man." Robert Walpole, the first Cabinet chief under the Hanovers, was in office 2 years and 6 months, from Oct. 10th, 1714, until April 10th, 1717, and again from April 20th, 1720, until Feb. 11th, 1742—a single continuous lease of 21 years 9 months and 21 days, and an aggregate of 24 years 3 months and 21 days. Henry Pelham was Premier from July 26th, 1743, until April 21st, 1754—10 years 8 months and 25 days. Lord North took office Jan. 28th, 1770, and held it 12 years 2 months and 2 days. William Pitt's service of 17 years 2 months and 10 days, from Dec. 27th, 1783, till March 7th, 1801, and of 1 year 7 months and 26 days, from May 12th, 1804, till Jan. 8th, 1806, ranks second in length—19 years 10 months and 6 days. The fifth long-timer, the third in length of consecutive service, was Lord Liverpool, who took office June 8th, 1812, and gave way to Canning April 11th, 1827, after 14 years, 10 months and 3 days of power. The Prime Minister, whose single lease of power was briefest, since 1714, was the Marquis of Rockingham. He succeeded Lord North March 30th, 1782, and 3 months and 3 days later gave way to Shelborne. On an earlier occasion—1765-66—Rockingham was Premier for a little more than a year. The average duration of the 42 Ministers that have conducted the Government of Britain since 1714 has been 4 years 25 days. Mr. Gladstone is the only Premier of all those called a second time to form a Cabinet whose lease of power each time exceeded this average.—*Utica Herald.*

The Present Arctic Ice Conditions.

The extraordinary amount of ice now in the North Atlantic is accounted for by the fact, just reported, that the last winter in the seas around Iceland was one of the most rigorous ever experienced. The report of this anomalous season in Iceland is important as bearing on the general ice conditions of the whole Arctic Ocean lying north and northwest of Iceland. There seems to be a long period, of perhaps ten or twelve years, at which the Western Arctic basin becomes exceptionally choked up with ice. In 1856 Lord Dufferin found it to be so in his attempt to reach Spitzbergen, when the ice was heaped up in monumental masses, novel even to navigators familiar with the Spitzbergen seas. In 1807, from the highest mountains of North and East Iceland no open water was visible, and the inhabitants of Grimsoe (an islet lying more than twenty miles north of Iceland) crossed over the ice in spring to Ofiore, a trading place on the northern coast of the main island. According to data collected by Admiral Irminger, extending back to 1800, Greenland ice has visited Iceland about once in every two years, but the glacial drift has not been large enough to swing round to the south coast oftener than once in ten years.

As the ocean currents which sweep around Iceland are mostly southerly and southwesterly, the ice formations of the past winter will probably be carried into the Atlantic between the meridians of forty and fifty west during the rest of this month. While the ice in the great highways of Atlantic commerce may then greatly decrease in quantity, the meteorological influence of the unusually cold Arctic stream will linger on into late summer and be manifested in the intensification of the August hurricanes which emerge from the tropical Atlantic and pursue the Gulf Stream course towards Europe.

And the Flames Mounted Higher.

A good story is told at the expense of an agent for the sale of hand grenades who visited a village not very far distant from Glens Falls recently and advertised that he would at a certain hour exhibit the remarkable efficiency of his fire annihilators on the street. At the time appointed Mr. Agent was on hand, and a match having been applied to a pile of inflammable material previously prepared, he made a brief speech extolling the wonderful powers of his wares to the assemblage, and, reaching for a grenade, threw it with a crash on the pile. Instantly the flames leaped upwards, and with consternation in his face he threw another and another, the fire at every crash growing larger and fiercer, until the supply was exhausted and the discomfited grenade man ran into his room at the hotel and bolted the door. Then it transpired that the practical jokers of the town had drawn the corks from each bottle, emptied its contents on the ground and filled it with kerosene. It cost the agent two bottles of champagne to make himself solid with the boys and the next exhibition met with better success.—*Glens Falls, N. Y., Republican.*

John Parker went into a barber shop in Queen street, Toronto, yesterday, to get shaved and placed his valise on a chair. While undergoing the operation Daniel Kiddy walked off with it. He was arrested two hours after and committed for trial.

It is expected that the Presbyterian General Assembly's work will close to-day.