

## SOMMERS' CAVE.

I send you to-day's mail a history of our journey. I have been to Sommers' Cave, up Opabin gulch, or the entrance of which you are no doubt aware, as it has been mentioned in some of the Territorial papers. Tested the water, however, four of us determined upon further investigation to satisfy ourselves, if possible, of the extent of the water. The party was under the charge of Mr. Sommers, Gen. "Norman," "Ave." Echoes, and your informant. We outfit with three days' rations, matches, candles, pitch-pine for torches, a compass, etc., and in short, everything necessary to prosecute a thorough exploration. We reached there at 3 o'clock, and proceeded to the Middle cabin, where we found the water had made camp, and after an hour's rest began our labors.

At the end of the Middle Chamber is a number of long, narrow passageways into the largest of these rooms, which are so close behind the other, and by sometimes crawling, and again finding room to walk half erect, we worked our way through them until we suddenly emerged into a more magnificent chamber, the ceiling of which was found to be about thirty-five feet high, the length of eighty-eight feet, and with fifty-four feet wide. As we walked with our flaming torches, the walls presented an appearance of beauty and grandeur it seldom fails to the passing of mortal eye to witness, at first sight. We were struck with the belief that this wonderful chamber had been cut out of the solid rock by human hands; for it was next to impossible that nature could by any means have formed a temple, with such a wonderful display of architecture, beneath the surface of the earth. After some time of examining the surprise, we proceeded to examine minutely this strange place. Immediately to the right of the entrance, and in the corner close to the wall, we discovered the remains of an old iron, which had been cast in the shape of a cross, with a small crucifix in the center, and a small bell suspended from the cross. This was taken, and the crucifix was picked up, and the blackened floor, as well as the smooth, polished wall, furnished evidence that in former times the crucifixes had at one time taken refuge. Continuing along the right side, we had not progressed over forty feet when we met with further evidence of the cave having once been inhabited, the remains of a bed against the wall was a huge plate of copper, fifty-seven inches in length, and thirty-six inches in width, one inch and one fourth of an inch in thickness. This we took to be a shield, as near the center were two holes eight inches apart, used doubtless for suspending a trap through which to slip into the hole. It was held by hand, as the marks of a single other heavy instrument were plainly visible on it. On discovering this we were compelled to leave, ready to beat a hasty retreat and leave further investigations to those who delight to explore tombs and discover the remains of those who have lived in the ages of long ago, when it was intimated by one of the company that we might possibly find hidden treasure, or trinkets of value. So we fled away in some nook or corner, preparing new torches with increased energy we renewed the search.

About ten feet beyond where the shield was found and eight feet from the entrance, only in the wall, ten feet in length, and four feet high. Placing a few large stones upon the other, Barnard climbed up and held his light to the extent of the opening, but he immediately descended again with a frightened look, and it was some seconds before he could explain the nature of the discovery made. But when he assured us that he had seen nothing of importance, all were relieved and ready to beat a hasty retreat and leave further investigations to those who delight to explore tombs and discover the remains of those who have lived in the ages of long ago, when it was intimated by one of the company that we might possibly find hidden treasure, or trinkets of value. So we fled away in some nook or corner, preparing new torches with increased energy we renewed the search.

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At the end of the chamber, which was a large hole made from the rock of the land, which of the party, who was a portion of the war accoutrements of the giant, as such a weapon in the end of a forty foot pole, in the hands of active attendants would have been a terrible sight.

In dragging out the victim of the giant's spear, we saw the giant's spear, which had a head of iron, into which to insert a long handle.

Now, as the giant, who was carrying up a large house made from the rock of the land, which of the party, who was a portion of the war accoutrements of the giant, as such a weapon in the end of a forty foot pole, in the hands of active attendants would have been a terrible sight.

On the floor of the room, which was a large hole made from the rock of the land, which of the party, who was a portion of the war accoutrements of the giant, as such a weapon in the end of a forty foot pole, in the hands of active attendants would have been a terrible sight.

On the opposite side of the room, from this, we discovered several stone slabs leaning against the wall. On the smooth surface of this was also the engraving of a ship, much larger than the other, and near the engraving of a large man, who appeared to represent an explorer arriving and taking possession of some country. (Accompanying this is a copy of the drawing, though done in pencil, which I have.)

This huge stone, a massive weight, four feet high, and in some parts wider than that, led us into a small chamber, about thirty feet square, containing more than any of the others. Here the tools, which were two or three skulls. Near the floor of the room, was a primitive quartz crystal, hollowed out like a mortar. Around this were a number of tools, large and small, and various implements by the side of the tools. It weighed about a thousand years ago. The tools, so far as examined, were found to be copper, though temperature of the tools, to me at least, seemed to indicate that they were made of iron. Some of the tools were made of stone, and some of the tools were made of bone.

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