

# AMERICANIZATION of MEXICO'S MINING INDUSTRY

## OLD BALL PLAYER'S SUCCESS AS A PREACHER

Few persons would recognize in Rev. William A. Sunday of Chicago, a well known evangelist and now a regular ordained minister of the Presbyterian church, Billy Sunday, the popular second baseman of the great Chicago White Stockings when that club was a power in the baseball world from 1891



REV. WILLIAM A. SUNDAY.

to 1890. Sunday was one of the best second base men the game ever had, and it is doubtful if his equal as a base runner will ever be seen. In addition to being exceedingly fleet of foot, he had excellent judgment, and it was seldom that he started for a base that he didn't get it. Mr. Sunday, who is now forty years of age, was converted in Chicago fifteen years ago, and in 1881 he quit baseball for good and all. He has been very successful as a preacher.

### A REMARKABLE TEMPLE.

The most wonderful temple in the world is built on a rocky stone on the summit of a mountain in northern India which is over 20,000 feet high. The rock weighs many thousands of tons, but is balanced on so fine a point that a comparatively light pressure is sufficient to make it sway. Hindu priests teach their followers that this rock was placed in position by the help of the gods, and thus they add considerably to the feeling of awe which they desire to create. Worshippers at this shrine must first make a perilous ascent of the mountain. Then they spend seven days of preparation in a temple built on the solid mountain before they are permitted to make the final passage to the mysterious rocky stone. To reach this it is necessary to cross a bridge over a great chasm.

but rediscovery. Many of these have been hidden from human sight by the enormous mass of detritus washed into them during the rainy seasons of hundreds of years, while others have been obliterated by erosion. But many there be which have been concealed by human artifice. The section of northern Mexico lying between the Rio Grande and the Central railway is credited with possessing many a "padre" mine, records of which are preserved in old churches, although their location is a secret locked sometimes in the breast of the Indians, but more often known to nature alone. For instance, in one church near El Paso is the record of a "padre" mine in which over a thousand Indian peons slaved generation after generation, winning millions of dollars' worth of gold and silver from the depths of the earth. Hundreds have searched for this mine since its entrance was lost, but none has found it. For too many fortune hunters have the "padre" mines proved fatal will-o'-the-wisps.

With the American advance, however, the menace of death from savage, hunger or thirst is slowly diminishing, and we may expect a revival of the search for the missing El Dorados and Bonanzas, to say nothing of countless pilgrimages by tireless prospectors, who care not whether they come across old mines or new ones so long as they hit upon gold. Today over 9,000 mining titles, covering an area of 210,000 acres, are recorded in the registration offices, these titles being distributed over the entire republic. There are also hundreds upon hundreds of claims staked throughout the mining districts to which title has not as yet been perfected.

The Mexican government, he it noted, is not at all averse to the incursion of foreigners and has given proof of its friendly attitude by extending to Americans the rights enjoyed by Mexicans so far as mining is concerned. Under the laws of the country the privilege of prospecting and working mines is open to all without the payment of any license fee, but a fee of \$10 and an annual tax to the same amount must be paid for every claim taken up, each claim not to cover more than two and a half acres. There is no limit to the number of claims that may be entered by any one person or corporation, but if the taxes are not paid regularly and in full the property is liable to governmental "denouncement" and unpleasant and vexatious litigation will surely follow. The development of the mining industry, under these conditions, will obviously mean much to the government, as it will to those hardy pioneers upbuilding it.

CHESTER L. NADLEIGH.

about 100,000 to 500,000. The mountains in the western portion of the state contain veins of gold, silver, copper, lead and antimony ores, from which enterprising Americans are reaping a merry harvest. Zacatecas is yet another famed mineral state, the gold and silver mines of that part of Mexico having yielded a total of \$500,000,000.

A glamour of romance has long attached to the history of mining in Mexico, and with increased facilities of transportation this glamour will, strange to say, be heightened, not lessened. For now the attention of venturesome prospectors will be turned more than was ever the case in the past to the long lost mines, in quest of which so many lives have been sacrificed. It may safe-

### Remains of the ancient city of Toltec



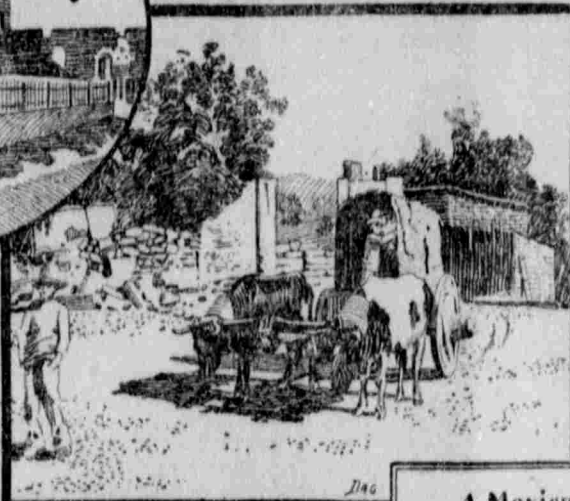
A Mexican mining shanty



ly be said that there are hundreds of mines in Mexico awaiting not discovery,



Transportation in Americanized Mexico

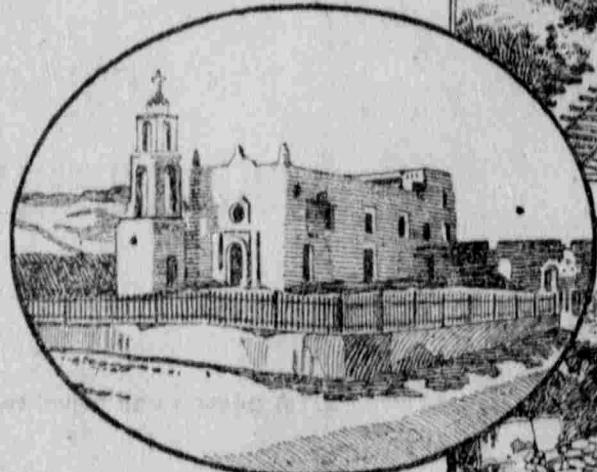


Transportation in Old Mexico

The American invasion has given mining in Mexico, for without the introduction of American methods this giant stride would have been impossible.

A visit to almost any of the mining camps of the state will emphasize the Americanization of the district. In Sonora stands a town called La Cananea, which three years ago boasted but a few dilapidated buildings and scattered tents. Today it holds a population of over 6,000, attracted thither by the evolution of the region into the most famous copper section of the state, for the Cananea mine today turns out about 5,000,000 pounds of copper every month. This is the sort of thing that justifies the claim of Sonora to the title "Empire State of Mexico." Another state that is very rich in mineral wealth is Chihuahua, the development

more than \$100,000,000 of American capital is invested in Mexican mines and every day adds to the sum. Statistics are wearisome affairs at their best, but statistics alone can give an idea of the present extent of the Mexican mining industry. From the records available we learn that fully 300 species of minerals are to be found in the republic to the south of us. Of these the most important are gold, silver, platinum, coal, copper, iron, lead, tin and zinc. The list also includes cinnabar, mercury, salt, sulphur, alum,



Ruins of a famous "Padre" church

rock crystal, marble, onyx, opals, petroleum, asphalt, granite, porphyry and potter's clay. From 1892 to 1902 the gold production of the country increased over 800 per cent, the figures for the former year being \$1,259,000 and for the latter \$10,234,000. If the same ratio of increase is continued through the present decade the annual output of Mexican gold will reach the respectable sum of \$80,000,000. But it is on silver rather than on gold that the country bases its claim to mineral greatness.

It may be said in round figures that Mexico now produces annually \$35,000,000 of silver, or one-third of the world's supply. Both silver and gold are mined in many states, including Zacatecas, Sonora, Guanajuato, Hidalgo, San Luis Potosi, Chihuahua, Lower California, Guerrero, Oaxaca and Sinaloa. Of these the richest state from a mineral standpoint is Sonora, and in this state a total of nearly \$30,000,000 is invested by American capitalists and speculators. Sonora is also one of the great copper states of Mexico, which, by the way, has risen within the past four years from fifth to third position among the copper producing countries. Nothing serves better to illustrate the impetus

FORMER United States Senator John P. Jones' statement that the Capatzen group of mines in Mexico is a richer property than the famous Comstock lode which made Mr. Jones a multimillionaire must have started many, for few have an adequate idea of the status of Mexico as a mineral producing country. Those who are in a position to be acquainted with the facts of the case, however, do not hesitate to affirm that if the present rate of progress is maintained it will not be long before Mexico ranks as the greatest mining country in the world. In proof of this they point to the present great productiveness of the Mexican mines and to the rapidity with which new mines are being registered for operation, the registration for a recent month amounting to a total of 161 new mines, of which nineteen were gold mines, forty-eight yielded gold and silver and but forty-eight contained no precious metal.

The mineral richness of the country may readily be understood from the fact that a mine which throughout its existence produces \$5,000,000 is looked upon as a pocket, the minimum total production for what the Mexicans would call a fair gold mine being \$20,000,000. The remarkable feature of the mining industry of the country is that many of the mines have been worked for more than a century and still yield a handsome profit. Thus the Guadalupe de los Reyes has been disgorging its wealth for 150 years, yet gives those operating it pin money to the tune of \$100,000 a month. Another notable mine is the Candelaria, which was opened in 1547 and during the first ten years of its existence paid to the city of Durango royalty on \$55,000,000 worth of bullion. After the lapse of many years, during which it made operator after operator rich, it was abandoned as worked out, only to be reopened by American capital and once more to disgorge bodies of ore of great extent and fabulous richness.

American capital is without doubt the primal cause of Mexico's present stride toward mining supremacy. Of late years American investors have risked much in Mexican mines, and although a great deal of the money thus ventured has been lost in wildcatting schemes, more has yielded handsome profits. American money has also contributed largely to the construction and development of the railroads without which progress in the mining industry would be impossible. Then, again, American funds have provided the modern machinery, the plant and mill, the concentrating stamp and the smelter, which, supplementing the ancient processes of old Mexico, have transformed hitherto useless ore into potential fortunes. To-

## Persons, Places and Things Worth Reading About

### ENGLAND'S NOTORIOUS PROMOTER.

Whitaker Wright of promoting fame has been sketched at many times and in sundry places, but he can hardly be pleased with this latest picture, as it was drawn in a court room with the interior of which he has become too unpleasantly acquainted. At the same time it must be said that the artist

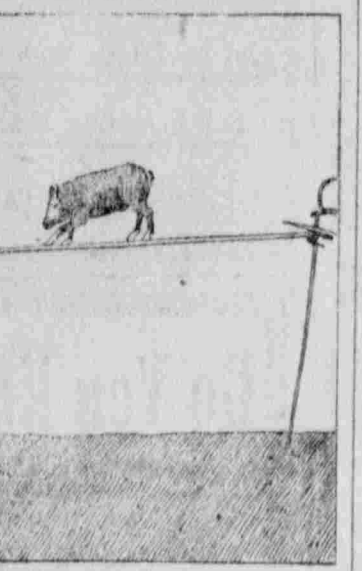


WHITAKER WRIGHT.

who made the sketch succeeded in obtaining one of the most striking likenesses ever published of a man who is, par excellence, a money maker and a money spender.

### THE CLEVEREST OF PIGS.

Pigs are generally considered the most stupid of animals, but the camera recently caught one performing a feat that is successfully carried out by but



few human beings. As the illustration shows, the hog in question is an adept tight rope walker, but it must be added that the man who trained him to tread the tight rope in midair had to exercise a world of patience and ingenuity.

### CLEVER SKETCH BY A SOLDIER ARTIST.



The interest in the accompanying illustration, depicting a sergeant of the South African constabulary, lies more in its author than in the sketch itself, although the latter is a capital bit of work. The sketch from which the illustration was reproduced was made by no other than Major General R. S. S. Baden-Powell, whom the majority of Americans will remember for the part he played in the South African war. There seems little doubt that had General Baden-Powell elected to follow the profession of an artist he could have earned a tidy income with pen, pencil and brush.

### THE MUSIC OF NEIGHING COLTS.



Anybody with a taste for musical eccentricities will be pleased with the accompanying arrangement for the piano in which the neighing of colts is reduced to a musical score by an American composer. Any child who has had a few lessons can play this on the piano, though many persons will refuse to admit that the composer has succeeded in producing the desired effect.

### BIRTHPLACE OF THE FATHER OF EVOLUTION.



One of the most interesting landmarks of the ancient town of Shrewsbury in England is the house wherein was born Charles Darwin, the eminent scientist and the savant who first stated the theory that man is but a development from the brute world. Darwin spent the early years of his life in Shrewsbury, in the environs of which he acquired the taste for natural history that shaped his life's work.

### MAN WHO BROUGHT PANIC TO THE FAIR CITY OF VENICE.

Luigi Beltrami has long been known as one of Italy's foremost architects, but he has recently added not a little to his fame by his decision to abandon the task of rebuilding the Campanile of St. Mark's in Venice, for which he had received a commission. Signore Bel-



LUIGI BELTRAMI.

trami announced that he could not continue the work without endangering the foundations of the ancient church of St. Mark. This threw the people of Venice into consternation, but panic succeeded consternation when the authorities declared that they would endeavor to proceed with the restoration under the control of five architects.

### A NARROW ESCAPE IN CEYLON.



Not long ago an Englishman traveling on a narrow mountain path in Ceylon suddenly met one of the wild bulls of the island. As there was but room for one on the path and as the bull showed a disposition to dispute the Englishman's progress, the latter, with great presence of mind, put spurs to his horse and charged the angry bovine, hurling it into the valley below.

### THE NEW WOMAN IN SINGAPORE.

The imitative instincts of the natives of the far east have seldom been better illustrated than in the accompanying



illustration, showing, as it does, the exaggerated notion of the new woman idea entertained in Singapore. As may be seen, the Singapore new woman wears a man's hat, collar and shirt and a coat of masculine cut. How she manages to ride her bicycle barefooted must be a mystery to many. She smokes cigarettes and wears rings on her toes. Doubtless this Singapore dame imagines herself the height of fashion.

### ODDITIES OF INFORMATION.

The estimates of the population of Peking vary from 500,000 to 1,500,000. The average age at death of people who die by accident is thirty-five and one-half years. All the gold coin at present in use in the world weighs less than 500 tons. According to Sir James Crichton Brown, the air of London contains 150,000 proportional parts of dust to 210,000 in Paris. A hundred dollar bill will sustain a weight of forty-seven pounds lengthwise. Of Germany's 54,250,000 people, just under 32,000,000 speak German only; 5,000,000 speak Polish, 140,000 Danish, only 200,000 French, 100,000 Dutch, 53,000 Czech and Russian. Wendish, Masurian, Kassubian, Moravian and other languages each have a considerable number of adherents. Very stringent laws have been enacted in Japan in regard to secret proprietary medicines. Oysters for King Edward are being obtained from the west of Ireland. In the orangery of Versailles is the oldest pomegranate tree in France. It

dates, in fact, back to the establishment of the orangery in 1685. In exceptionally warm and bright seasons the old tree still decorates its branches with a few flowers, but no fruit has been seen upon it for a long time. To seize a man's residence for debt is unlawful in Turkey, and sufficient land to support him is also exempt from seizure. The De Witt Clinton engine built in 1851 had a boiler pressure of eighty pounds to the square inch. Now steamship boilers are made to stand a pressure of 225 pounds to the square inch. Two hundred and forty dredges are now at work in New Zealand rivers extracting gold from the beds of the streams. These dredges cost from \$25,000 to \$70,000 apiece. In Iceland men and women are in every respect political equals. The na-

tion, which numbers about 70,000 people, is governed by representatives elected by men and women together. It takes three years to paint the Forth bridge, and as soon as the work is done it is immediately begun again. As many as thirty-five men are usually at work. The number of theological students in Germany has diminished gradually from 4,267 in 1830 to 2,149, or less than

half, although the population has doubled since 1830. Lord Bacon was the youngest barrister ever made a king's counsel. He was twenty-nine when he became king's counsel in 1590. It is one of the peculiarities of travel by balloon that you do not feel anything. All is still with you, no matter if you are in the teeth of the hurricane.