

CHICAGO TRADE.

LYON &amp; HEALY,

Importers and Manufacturers

The Silver Mine Swindle.

A DOLOROUS REPORT — COLONEL HARRISON ON THE WAR PATH.

On Saturday evening Colonel Harrison, Superintendent of the Silver mines in Utah, the Lone Star and Stafford in which some of our most prominent citizens interested largely, appeared before the stockholders and made a report of his observations and discoveries. In his recent trip to Salt Lake.

The report of the trip was very well received in the telegraph which denounced the whole affair as a gross and palpable swindle when at first denied, but the management planned as to receive almost any news not veined in "the ways that are dark, and the tricks that are vain," peculiar to the class of persons engaged in mining operations. Even Colonel Harrison, for some days after his arrival, was "taken in" by the cunning contrivance of these plotters. Several stockholders, when ascertained, exhibited the same result as the former to be reported upon by the first examiner. The assayer was a person, State, Gardner by name, who recommended by a very responsible citizen of New Orleans, as a perfectly reliable man.

It was after these tests that Mr. Harrison wrote to the stockholders. He had been told of the eagle bird, and directed the purchase of thirty more shares on his own account. Some of the original stockholders, who had become dubious, now gave up their hold of them, and sold their subscriptions to other subscribers, regarded as one of our shrewdest citizens, who had given his notes for his subscription, and had carried on his business, receiving the same all the consideration therefor had failed, renewed the said notes in the hands of the party who had bought them, and took his certificates of stock from the company. Sir, the confidence that he had made on the best investments of his life.

This riveting of his engagement and involvement with the company and himself, came to him before our attorney received the telegram which announced Colonel Harrison's entire change of views in regard to the mines. Other subscribers acting upon the same grounds now sold their subscriptions, and to disown their own paper therefore, at 20 per cent. One of this class of wealth was a distinguished and honored General — General — and a substantial man. Yet a citizen of Shreveport, who sacrificed valuable property in that flourishing town in order to raise some eight or ten thousand dollars to invest in the silver mines. His reports, therefore, of Colonel Harrison were most disastrous in their effects. And yet they were the natural and logical results of the systematic and deliberate plots of the conspirators, who, it appears, had kept a strict surveillance over his every movement and secured the co-operation of the assayer and carefully hidden his secret.

It was not until some of the workmen whispered in his ear a warning, that Col. Harrison was put on more vigilant observation and his suspicion aroused, and then it was that by secret assays and further investigation he found that the enormous fraud was laid bare. His inquiry elicited the discovery that it was an old and oft-repeated scheme, that these men had been on the market for some time, and the holders had made various attempts to put them off on the capitalists of other cities but had never been able to achieve any success until the hand of Col. Jones descended upon New Orleans. Impelled a number of our most wide-awake citizens with so profound a feeling of gratitude by his generous protection, and with them his countless store of glistening silver.

Here at least the scattering shot brought down a rich quarry. As innocently and dignifiedly as many will always, a score or so of our sturdy workmen walked straight into the trap. With the successful entrapment of Col. Harrison, the door of the trap was suddenly closed on us, and those that now are to share their sorrows and annoyances, are somewhat to the unfeeling amazement of their friends from whom the secret of the "one thing" which was too good to admit too many to know.

No wonder when Col. Harrison heard that he should be exposed to the bounds of moderation and discretion, that he should risk to the nearest newspaper to give vent to his feelings, in a card, which was heavily salted with the dumping piles of the "one thing" which was too good to admit too many to know.

Jones, Wooley, Tuckor and Giddens, were all, in emphatic Anglo-Saxon, set down an armful knaves and wretches. Counter cards of feuds, renunciations, protest were published by those hardy to whom Col. Harrison rejoined by going for the signers thereof in a fleshly way, in consequence of which two of the conspirators found it necessary to disentangle themselves from the city.

Wooley alone, to bear the brunt of the storm; Wooley, the little red-faced man, who spent several weeks in the city in a very convivial and florid style.

Upon him, Col. Harrison vented his indignation, by a mild slapping of his chops and a gentle booting of his posterior portion of his body. Wooley called a quiet and invited Harrison to his room, where the matter could be more satisfactorily discussed.

There was turned in the lock, and Harrison perceived that all these preparations had been a little *tele-tele* with pistols and Bowie knives, for which in the state of his feelings he had quite a large stash at that particular juncture.

But the great error of the gallant Louisianian, Wooley, meant quite another sort of business. He was not pleased with the tumultuous style in which the Colonial proposed to carry on his discussion.

He was for peace and a compromise. Colonel Harrison would not be cast down by his personal loss in this matter. His money and all would be restored to him if he would only consent to the compact. The placid "Big Faint" was greatly astonished and somewhat shocked by the very illogical and frantic response of another apostle of base from the late and unscrupulous Louisianian.

This was certainly not a pertinent or customary answer to a plain business proposition, so Wooley thought. The very courageous unlocked the door and found Colonel Harrison good-day. Next to chagrin and peasant opinion rushed to the nearest newspaper office, and procured a *caption* for the article of Harrison, on a charge of larceny, which was being served, subjected our fellow son to the necessity of giving bail for \$20,000, a citizen of Salt Lake City kindly furnishing that security for him.

This, however, imposed upon Col. Harrison the obligation to return to Salt Lake City to answer to the charge.

It must be confessed that such results of the discovery and exposure of the silver swindle and not of a very singular nature, and involve too severe a penalty for the offense of an innocent, credulous and childlike simplicity. We think therefore that Col. Harrison has just salved to a larger share of sympathy than even the other victims of this brazen imposture, to each and all of whom, however, we tender our sincere condolences, and hope for their speedy recovery from the loss and disgrace into which they have fallen and golden or rather silver joyous days ago have been so suddenly turned.—*New Orleans Herald*, May 12.

At Chalmette, McDonough county, Illinois, a young woman married out to a farmer at \$15 a month, and does daily work in the field, plowing, chopping, etc.

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