

high. He had a great deal of business with different clients, as he had a large number of houses to rent. After this case he never saw a woman alone in his office, and the moment one entered the room, a clerk had directions to come in, and remain as witness during her stay. He was a man of good sense, and was true to his friends. Though he hated to lose small sums, he could lose large amounts and not be affected. When the bank of California failed and Ralston committed suicide Reese lost \$500,000. He never made a complaint. He simply said that Mr. Ralston was a good man, and that he could afford to lose the money.

HOW SENATOR JONES REFUSED A FEE.

From Michael Reese the conversation turned to Senator Jones. Gen. Greathouse says that Jones is one of the brightest men who ever came to California, and that he is as plain as an old shoe, notwithstanding his enormous wealth. Jones is worth his tens of millions. He came to the west poor, and had a number of ups and downs before he got into the Comstock lode, which made his first fortune. He had been mining for some time before this, but had speculated, and was practically a bankrupt. He gradually amassed some money, and then got into the Crown Point mine of the Comstock just before the second bonanza was discovered. The Comstock lode all turned out about \$40,000,000 worth of ore and the Crown Point made Jones a millionaire. Having said this much by way of introduction, Gen. Greathouse told the following:

"It was at this time that some Boston capitalists paid their visit to the west. They came on the first train over the Overland Route, and in passing through Nevada they stopped to see these wonderful mines. When they arrived at the Crown Point mine they found a little fat man with a fair complexion and bright eyes in charge of it. He had on dirty clothes, and he looked like a miner. They told him that they wanted to see the mine, and he replied that he would gladly take them through. He spent a half day with them, taking them from one part of the mines to another and showing them all of the processes. At the end of the trip one of them called the remainder of the party off to one side, and after a few moments' whispering this man came to the bright-eyed little miner and offered him a dollar. The miner looked at it a moment and at last asked, 'What is this for?'"

"Oh," replied the Boston capitalist, "you have been very kind to us today. You have spent the whole morning with us, and I have gone to a great deal of trouble in showing us about the mines. We want to give you this as a sort of a testimonial of our gratitude. You need not object to taking it, for we are well-to-do, and can afford it."

"How much are you worth?" said the miner.

"I don't know," replied the capitalist, as he put his thumbs in the armhole of his vest. "I should say that my assets would figure up at least \$150,000, and I am, perhaps, the poorest man in the party."

"Well," replied the miner, who, by the way, was Mr. Jones, "I don't think I ought to take this from you. I like money. I appreciate the value of a dollar. But it is only fair to tell you that my income is now \$250,000 a month

On the whole, gentlemen, I really don't think I ought to take it." And with this, he handed the man back his dollar."

STORIES ABOUT THE LATE SENATOR HEARST.

"You must have known George Hearst very well, general," said I. "Yes," replied Gen. Greathouse, "the late Senator Hearst and myself were strong friends. I was his legal adviser for years. Hearst was a really great man. He was a rough diamond, but he was a solitaire of the purest water. I first met him in 1870, and I was associated with him, more or less, up to the time of his death. Hearst was born in Missouri, about sixty miles from St. Louis, along late in the twenties. He came overland to California in 1851, with about \$100 in his pocket. He went into the mines as soon as he got to California, sometimes handling the pick for others for wages, and sometimes working his own claims. In this way he soon learned all about mines, and he eventually became the best judge of mines in the west. It was not long before he made a strike which netted him \$15,000. He soon lost this, and again went to work for wages. When the Comstock was discovered in Nevada Hearst was still working in the mines of California. He had already become known as an expert miner. Some of the Comstock gold was brought to him, and his opinion was asked as to it. He assayed it, and the result was that he decided to go to Nevada and look at it. He had some money saved. This he took with him, and he bought a good many feet in several locations along the lode. He began to mine, and he sent several mule loads of ore to San Francisco. At this time there were no mills near the Comstock, and these loads brought him \$60,000. The Comstock was then thought to be a gold mine, but it turned out fifty-five per cent of gold, and the remainder of the ore was silver. Well, Hearst remained here for several years, and then came back to San Francisco with \$600,000 or \$700,000 ahead. He invested this in real estate and mines. He bought a big ranch at San Luis Obispo, which contained 60,000 acres, which cost him \$40,000, and made other good investments."

GEORGE HEARST'S MARRIAGE.

"This was about 1859. He had now been away from home about eight years, and his life had been so busy that he had hardly written back to his people to tell them how he was getting along. It was so full of ups and downs that he said nothing about his business operations, and the family did not know whether he was poor or rich. About 1860 he put his business in the hands of an agent and went back to Missouri to visit his mother. The Hearsts were simple country people in Missouri, and when he came back home bringing some presents with him it was thought by them that he might possibly be worth as much as \$10,000. During his stay there was a picnic some distance from the place where they were living, and Hearst invited twenty or thirty people to go with him. To the horror of his mother, he hired a special car for the occasion. She remonstrated with him upon his extravagance, but he told her he could stand it, and he afterward showed her how rich he really was. It was during this visit that he met his future wife, Miss Phoebe Apperson. She lived near by. He fell in love with her

and asked her to marry him. He did not say he was rich, nor did he tell her parents of his financial standing. They decided to object to the match. They thought that California was about as far off as Kamschatka, and they forbade Phoebe to have anything to do with him. Miss Phoebe, however, was in love with George Hearst, and the result was a run-away match. Even after his marriage he did not tell his wife much about his riches. She had the idea that he was only moderately well-to-do, and that they would live much like the families about them in Missouri. She expected to have to do her own cooking, especially after she had asked Hearst as to the prices of servants, and was told that the poorest of them in California got from \$40 to \$50 a month. She was, of course, greatly surprised when she arrived in California and found herself the wife of a millionaire. She was, however, well fitted for the position. She was well educated when she left Missouri, but she kept up her studies after her marriage. She now speaks several languages and is well up on art. She made George Hearst a splendid wife. Her business judgment is excellent, and she is amply able to manage her vast estate. She is now living in Washington.

SOME OF HEARST'S SPECULATIONS.

"Few of the California millionaires had more ups and downs than George Hearst," continued General Greathouse. "When he returned from this Missouri trip he found that his agent had made bad investments during his absence, and that he was about \$500,000 out. The Comstock property had gone down, and the most of the balance of his money was in real estate. He went again into the mines, buying and selling. For a time he made but little. He was just about able to pay his taxes and keep up his rent. So it ran on until about 1871, when he arranged with Haggin and Tevis to go into partnership with them and to buy mines. They were to put up the money, and he was to put in his experience and judgment as a mining expert. They relied principally upon him in this matter, and the result was that they made a vast amount together. I have known nearly every successful miner in the United States," continued General Greathouse, "and I have met all the prominent mining experts. I don't believe there was ever a man in the United States who approached George Hearst in his knowledge of mines and mining. He seemed to be born for the business, and was an intuitive geologist and metallurgist. He knew how to work a mine, and the mines which he reported upon after examination as good seldom turned out otherwise. I know of instances in which he has lost large sums of money in mines. On one mine he lost \$400,000, and on another he lost \$450,000, but these losses were during his absence, and from improper working."

HOW HEARST JUDGED MINES.

"I remember a curious instance of Hearst's mining judgment," General Greathouse went on. "It was while he was in Nevada operating a mine which he sold to an English company for a good, round price. Englishmen had sent out experts to the United States to look into the property. These experts had found \$450,000 on the dump, and the prospects were good. They offered a price for the mine. Hearst and his