

everywhere and increasing in depth with every step, with great masses of the "beautiful" banked upon the eyebrows of frowning cliffs and only awaiting a kind of common consent to tumble down with the velocity of light upon everything beneath—then would Gold City, with the advertising it has had, be already something like its name in a condition of incipient but rapid growth.

It must not be inferred from this prefatory statement that there are no features of such a commencement; considering the retarding influence spoken of, that it is only about a month old and that the snow is not deep enough to walk on but too deep to walk through comfortably—about a foot in most places—the embryo town is doing very well indeed. It is situated about half a mile due east of where once was the lively town of Emma-ville, and contains two structures entitled to the name of house, three or four frame cabins and as many tents. What little business there is is conducted on the quiet plan. The structures are all in a row, or nearly so, facing the western slope of the Inter-Cottonwood mountains, and are fancifully supposed to constitute "Main street." By drawing extensively on a fertile imagination one can see this "thoroughfare" not long hence swarming with people, stages arriving and departing every hour and all things necessary to the make-up of the typical western mining town where they have "struck it rich" in full blast; my inventive faculty is fair to middling, hardly equal to the performance just spoken of, yet equal to seeing things livelier and better every way than they now are. The regulation boom usually begins with the laying out of a cemetery and at least one occupant with a perforated system to start it with; then follows in rapid succession the newspaper, the gambling hall and the various other phases of immorality incident to a place where money is easily got and lightly valued. As the song of the end man has it, "It ain't going to happen this year," at least it seems so to the undersigned.

Opposite to and due east of the northern end of the "town" are the works of the New State Mining company. I had been previously supplied with a pass from the company's office in this city, or the inspection of the property would necessarily have been somewhat after the manner in which Mark Twain made the ascent of the Matterhorn, by proxy. There has been too much proxy representation already, and a statement of facts obtained from actual contact with the subject discussed is now demanded and nothing else will satisfy, if indeed that will. The first tunnel is three or four hundred yards from the foot of the eminence, but it is very steep, and what with the well trodden snow paths bare in places where a warm sun had been beating on them for some hours only to make a change from slippery snow to slippery mud, was far from easy to climb. The three of us who made it had "bellows to mend" before half the distance had been accomplished, and when the tunnel spoken of was reached we were as warm as though it were the middle of July. Before gaining this point, however, a notice con-

spicuously posted warned us to keep off the grounds; as this wasn't in the program a messenger bearing aloft the pass as a sort of flag of truce advanced and held a brief parley with the foreman in charge, who proved to be an old time acquaintance in the person of Archie Clayton. Everything was soon settled and we were sitting on the dump of the tunnel, resting preparatory to an inspection of the premises. The company is not to blame in the least for adopting and enforcing such regulations; if they did not they would be overrun with callers and the men at work would be devoting more time to them than to their regular business.

This tunnel is in about eighty feet, and dangerously situated right at its mouth is an open shaft thirty feet deep. Neither of these is being worked at present, the former being locked up. Stacked up midway of its length are a number of sacks containing picked ore that had been extracted and in this shape is awaiting shipment. This ore is high grade and will go some distance toward diminishing the so far unmitigated expense of conducting operations. At the upper edge of the entrance of the tunnel is the spot where probably the first pick was struck in, it being the outcropping of the ledge, or rather a ledge, since there are several. It is at this point little more than an inch in width, but almost immediately widens out to five inches, as shown by the casing from which the ore was taken, and this width is maintained for a distance of about twenty feet, where it breaks off abruptly and starts in again two feet away and as far out of line, the disconnection being as complete as the rails of a track the other side of which has been "thrown" to a switch. This kind of thing also occurs above, the dislocations and disjunctions being as complete as though the destroying hand of man instead of the haphazard hand of nature had been at work on it. The formation in either case and apparently in all cases is trachyte and porphyry and the pay ore is easily extracted, a pick being in most instances all that is needed; I had no trouble in getting out several specimens with my fingers that I brought back with me and are considered good by those who claim to know. I will if desired take an affidavit that these were not placed there by any human agency and that there was more of the same kind left where they came from.

The second tunnel is in about 100 feet and I made a careful examination of it from start to finish. Mr. Clayton and his "help" were in an animated frame of mind because of having an hour or so before our call broken into and gone through a two-foot vein of ore, this having a trend about ten degrees east and west of north and south, being nearly at right angles with the tunnel and about fifty feet vertically from the surface of the ground. I harvested several specimens from this find, and with as much of an examination as a candle would permit became satisfied that it was well defined and could have no outcroppings anywhere—in short, that it was one of those rarities so highly prized by miners because nearly always productive and richer than its neighbors, a blind lead. The foreman's idea

was to let all other holds go and follow this lead unremittingly, but was waiting for the arrival of Superintendent Dalton before starting on such a campaign. It may extend to Tartarus and another blast may close out its existence; no one can tell, one pair of eyes being able to follow it as far as any others and one man's experience being nearly as good as any other's. "The patient dirt and powder's shock" will tell it all and nothing else will.

The general impression received from the inspection is that the entire geological formation is gridironed with mineral bearing veins, thrown into (or out of) place at a time when mother earth had a violent fit of ague, or something of that kind. The character of such mineral is as varied as the fishes of the sea, running all the way in value from a jewsharp to a thousand dollars or more per ton. There is a parent ledge or body somewhere, but—the word of a tenderfoot for it—it is far, far above and beyond any place now being worked. If the earth and debris could all of a sudden be removed and leave these veins exposed to view, they would doubtless assume somewhat the appearance of a huge insect with its tentacles extended in every direction but upward. I question very much if any reasonable amount of development anywhere on those hills would fail to find one or more of those offshoots of greater or less richness, and there be those who seem to have taken this view ahead of me, for I believe there is scarcely a foot of unlocated ground anywhere within a radius of several miles.

But is there any gold there? is the question most people want answered. There is. In making this unqualified statement I would like to have it known that I am tolerably familiar with the fact that all that glitters is not gold; also is it the case that unbelief neither creates nor destroys anything. Probably not to exceed one-fourth of all that is exhibited as such is the genuine article, if even the proportion should be anywhere near so large. Gold in comparison with its imitations is as the planets among the fixed stars; the former give forth a steady, unchanging, ruddy glow, while the latter twinkle incessantly. It has been said that you may think you have gold, but when you really have you know it. This will do to say, but it has too many failures connected with it to entitle it to a place among the more respected of the aphorisms of today, and continued time and experience does but add to the long train.

There is much more to be said, but this will do for a starter.

ESSAY CAIGH.

### THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

I thank you for the support you have given a proposal for the approaching Constitutional Convention to provide for the submission to the votes of the people of Utah of a clause providing for the prohibition of the liquor traffic in the new State.

In discussing a question of such momentous importance to a great and growing community, one of the leading considerations ought to be, is prohibition constitutional? This point has been raised in opposition to the