MYTHS WOVEN ABOUT SIMPLE MEXICAN PEON

PEDRO ALVARADO NOT MINING CROESUS HE HAS BEEN REPRESENTED TO BE.

EXTRAVAGANT TALES ARE WITHOUT TRUTH

Believes Himself to Be Worth Millions, But in Reality Has Hard Work to Raise Comparatively Small Sum—Systematically Plundered by Those in His Employ—Is Famed Throughout Region for Generosity, But Shirks Publicity.

Mexico City.—Pedro Alvarado, about whom fiction and fancy have woven tales of fabulous wealth and countless treasures, is a Mexican peon. Willingly has he submitted to the flattery and adulation which his fellow townsmen have lavished upon him on account of his ownership of a bonanza silver mine, albeit in the profits of that mine he has had but a meagre share.

All the extravagant tales of Pedro Alvarado's wealth, of his ability to pay the Mexican national debt, and of his efforts to commission several regiments of Mexicans to subdue the Yaquis, are pure myths.

He believes himself to-day the wealthiest man of the universe, and no one has ever dared to dispossess him of the delusion he cherishes, that his mine is the greatest thing of its kind in the world. But notwithstanding he is reputed to be worth $150,000,000, he has had the greatest trouble within the last three months to raise $300,000. The fact that he only has been able to accomplish this at a sacrifice of practically all he possessed has still failed to bring him to a proper estimate of his fortune.

Lack of Management.

As one approaches Parral on the branch of the Mexican Central railroad from Jiminez, tales of Alvarado's greatness are heard on all sides, if the average Mexican peons are doing the talking. If, on the other hand, one strikes the expatriated American who has been living in the vicinity for a year or two, he will confidentially tell one, "on the side," that the Mexicans are simply reporting what they have heard. If one fraternizes with the peons for any length of time one will find that their ideas of Alvarado's wealth are derived largely from the rich ore which their relatives employed at the mine abstract surreptitiously from time to time.

Visit to Alvarado.

After becoming acquainted with the important developments at Parral, if one has the necessary influence and pull with somebody who is on friendly terms with Alvarado, an invitation to visit his property is soon forthcoming. While his ideas of hospitality differ in many respects from those to which we are accustomed in the United States, still, when showing his guests his property, he seems to forget his alleged greatness and becomes quite chummy with those he is entertaining.

The invitation to the writer of this article to go into the Palmilla mine called for a prompt attendance at the mouth of the shaft at 8 o'clock in the morning. The mine being situated on the very top of one of the highest peaks in the district, and the road leading to it being very difficult, the visitor was half an hour late.

Sitting on Ore Pile.

Alvarado was found sitting on the apex of one of his richest ore piles. Without even so much as rising he extended his hand smilingly as the interpreter performed the introduction.

After a time Alvarado suggested a halt in the exploration, and seating himself passed around cigarettes and began to talk about his output and other items connected with the operation of the mine. The exaggeration he made use of was staggering. He thought nothing of saying that before long his mine would afford employment to 100,000 men, and backed this up with the assertion that he would hoist 10,000 tons of ore every day, once he got the mine working as he planned to have it.

This sort of talk easily suggested the origin of many of the stories of wealth that one hears in Mexico and elsewhere concerning this interesting personage.

Exploring the Mine.

Strange as it may seem, Alvarado is almost totally in ignorance of what is being done from day to day at his property. Those in charge of the development, who seem to be mostly relatives, are satisfied to give him a percentage of the daily receipts, pocketing a good deal of the balance and spending the rest upon silly operations that fail to make any appreciable improvement of the mine.

After a while Alvarado suggested a continuation of the exploration of his mine, and showed the way into huge chambers cut into the rock from which great quantities of ore had already been abstracted. Here and there the interpreter pointed out big streaks of the rich chlorides of silver that go to make the property a bonanza. Then came the hardest part of the trip—the descent of what is known as a "chicken ladder," which is not any too agreeable for one unaccustomed to moving about in mines.

The "Chicken Ladder."

The chicken ladder is a huge post inclined at about 45 degrees, upon which wooden blocks have been fastened about 14 inches apart. Wonderful to relate, the Mexican peons employed in the mines, carry on their backs suspended by heavy thongs across their foreheads loads varying in weight from 75 to 100 pounds. They mount the chicken ladders with the utmost celerity and do not seem to think the performance anything wonderful.

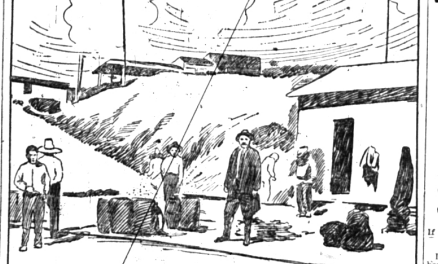
At the bottom of the chicken ladder a group of Mexicans were squatted in one of the drifts, consuming the ever-famous tortilla, which, together with the everlasting frijola, makes up

Loaded Ore Wagons Leaving Mine.

the daily fare of these human beasts of burden.

Alvarado is careful to see that his visitors do not miss any important item in his mine, and on this occasion it was all of four hours before he had shown everything he wished to exhibit. Then came an invitation to dinner, and the invitation having been accepted, the mine owner accompanied his guest to the surface and gave the necessary orders to his cook.

While Alvardo was waiting the call of the cook his visitor had an excellent opportunity to study his personality and his character. He is a little man, weighing about 120 pounds, quick, alert and extremely nervous. He has a well-shaped head with prominent forehead, topped by a short crop of black hair. He wears a stubby beard that shows the lack of care. His features are pleasant, barring an unusually pointed nose, and when he smiles he shows some very good teeth.



Where the Richer Ores Are Sacked

He is 44 years old. He has a keen sense of humor, appreciates a joke, and is always ready both to give and take. His knowledge of things is limited to the confines of Chihuahua, his native state. He knows almost nothing of the world.

He is a devout Catholic, and in various little nooks in his mine chapels have been constructed, which he never passes without doffing his cap and making the sign of the cross.

A Generous Giver.

His charity abounds on all sides, and he constantly has men employed in excess of his needs simply to keep their families out of want. When he was asked why he still retained the antiquated burros and ore wagons to carry his ore to Parral instead of installing a tramway, he said: "What would all my men and 500 burros do if they had no ore to carry?" It is along this line of reasoning that Alvarado has built up a philosophy of his own, which, while it perhaps is comical, cannot help arouse certain admiration for his character.

Up to five months ago Alvarado's mine was hoisting about 150 tons a day, of which about 50 tons were sent away for treatment and the balance left on the dumps. The American mining engineer is almost overcome when told that it takes 500 men to accomplish such a little work, but of course, he does not appreciate the extraordinary conditions that prevail at the Palmilla.

While no one at the mine knows definitely what the ore yields per ton, it is believed that the high grade will average from $250 to $500 per ton, and that the low-grade will run from $18 to $35 a ton. The values are all present in silver, with some occasional lead ores.

The mine at the time of the visit referred to was making about 800 gallons of water per minute, but the pumps were quite able to take care of this flow. Here again one is put in close touch with Alvarado's lack of business sense. Instead of draining the mine by a tunnel which he could easily run at the base of the mountain, where his mine is located, he goes to work and has all the water pumped to the top of the hill, from where it flows to the bottom again through sluices built for the purpose.

The surface equipment at the Palmilla is on a part with the best which can be seen at any large American mine. His repair shops are of the best and he has never been known to turn down any suggestion for improvements that have ever been made to him, unless the offers interfered with his principles. There is a leak somewhere, however, between the gross profits and the net income, which up to this time no one has ever been able to explain. It is this unknown drain that has practically ruined Alvarado to-day and that has made it necessary for him to pledge all he owns to raise a bare $300,000.

He Shirks Publicity.

Strange as it may seem, Alvarado personally shirks publicity. On no account would he allow a photograph of himself to be taken, although quite willing to have his entire mine and equipment photographed under any circumstances that may suit the one taking the picture.

"I do not want people to think I am a monkey," said Alvarado.

His residence at Parral is a miniature palace, and its furnishings contain many expensive pieces of wrought silver, any of which he is quite willing to part with as gifts to those who catch his fancy. He has invested some of his money in a large hotel in Parral, but he has wisely decided not to run the hotel himself.

For an individual who has been so little of the world and who, one might say, has been buried in his native town from his birth, Alvarado shows a genius that cannot fail to obtain for him respect throughout the district in which he lives. His ambitions are centered in doing good, and he still clings to the idea that some day he will be able to help every Mexican who requires his assistance.

The value of the world's railways is put at $27,775,000,000.

SUSPICION

Chee s that glow 'gainst creamy whiteness;
Eyebrows most correctly curved;
Arching lips whose laughing lightness
Leaves the stoutest soul unnerved.

Hair that's delicately waving;
Teeth so even! Brow so fair!
Hands to set a sculptor raving
And a waist of outline rare.

Oft in skeptical detection
All your graces I review;
Can such marvelous perfection
Be invariably true?

I have learned with consternation
That much beautifying aid,
For a small consideration,
Can be purchased ready made.

So I wonder late and early,
Wonder, dreaming or awake,
Are you just a charming girlie
Or another nature fake?
—Washington Star.

He Tarried Till the Auto Came.

With a bored expression upon his elderly countenance, the Wandering Jew gazed at Broadway.

"I should think," mused he, hopefully, "that I ought to be able to find something that can kill me."

At that moment a gleeful motor-car came prancing juggernaughtily down the street.

"At last! At last!" shrieked the venerable globe-trotter. Chortling with joy, he dived under the front wheels, and they gathered up of what remained seven basketsful.—Life.

An Admission.

"You seem to take a delight in adversely criticising Shakespeare's plays."

"Perhaps there is a little personal feeling in my attitude," admitted the consequential author. "You see, it is a little annoying to find that a man has taken advantage of a mere accidental priority of birth to say so many clever things before I had a chance to think of them."—Washington Star.

STRAYED.

Came into my enclosure, Sept. 12, 1907, a small brown horse, 800 to 900 pounds weight. ROBERT CRUMMIE, 3½ miles south of Birmingham, on the 12-mile road. Owner must prove property, pay charges and take it away. tf

Rheumatism

I have found a tried and tested cure for Rheumatism! Not a remedy that will straighten the distorted limbs of chronic cripples, nor turn bony growths back to flesh again. That is impossible. But I can now surely kill the pains and pangs of this deplorable disease.

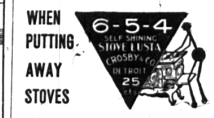
In Germany—as a Chemist in the City of Darmstadt—I found the last ingredient with which Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Remedy was made a perfected, dependable prescription. Without that last ingredient, I successfully treated many cases of Rheumatism; but now, at last, it uniformly cures all curable cases of this heretofore much dreaded disease. Those sand-like granular wastes, found in Rheumatic Blood seem to dissolve and pass away under the action of this remedy as freely as does sugar when added to pure water. And then, when dissolved, these poisonous wastes freely pass from the system, and the cause of Rheumatism is gone forever. There is now no real need—no actual excuse to suffer longer without help. We sell, and in confidence recommend

Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Remedy

CHARLES J. SHAIN.

Careful Housewives

WHEN PUTTING AWAY STOVES



Always give them a coat of 6-5-4 to make them rust proof.

It shines itself, is applied like paint, is better than any enamel stoves, pipes or wire screens.

It makes old stoves look like new.

If your dealer hasn't it, R. R. BLAKESLEE has.

COMMISSIONERS' NOTICE.

In the matter of the estate of Nathaniel W. Webber deceased. The undersigned having been appointed by the Honorable Joseph S. Stockwell, Judge of Probate in and for the County of Oakland, State of Michigan, Commissioners to receive, examine and adjust all claims against said estate, and four months from the 2d day of October, A. D., 1907, having been allowed by said Judge of Probate to all persons holding claims against said estate, in which to present them to us for examination and adjustment, notice is hereby given that we will meet on the 2d day of December, 1907, and on the 2d day of February, 1908, at 10 o'clock a. m. of each day, at the office of Daniel M. Johnston, in the Village of Birmingham, in said county, for the purpose of receiving and adjusting said claims.

THOMAS G. HOLMES,
DANIEL M. JOHNSTON,
Dec6-8nov Commissioners.

Pure Wine

The ruby wine of health must be of exceptional purity, flavor; properly and carefully bottled and stored till maturity; therefore all wine is not healthful nor pure, as unscrupulous dealers often use other means; but if you buy your wines or liquors at M. R. Blair's you are sure of getting the real thing and not the doctored article

M. R. Blair

BIRMINGHAM

ORDER FOR PUBLICATION—Probate of Will.

State of Michigan, the Probate Court for the County of Oakland. At a session of said court held at the Probate office, in the City of Pontiac, in said county, on the 9th day of October, A. D. 1907. Present, Hon. Joseph S. Stockwell Judge of Probate. In the matter of the Estate of

THOMAS LANGLEY, Deceased.

Cora B. Westlake having filed in said Court a petition praying that a certain instrument in writing, purporting to be the last will and testament of said deceased, now on file in said Court, be admitted to Probate, and that the administratrix of said Estate be granted to the executors named in the will, or to some other suitable person.

It is ordered that the 6th day of November, A. D. 1907, at 9 o'clock in the forenoon, at said Probate office, and is hereby appointed for hearing said petition. It is further ordered that public notice thereof be given by publication of a copy of this order, for three successive weeks previous to said day of hearing, in the Birmingham Eccentric, a newspaper printed and circulated in said county.

JOSEPH S. STOCKWELL,
(A true copy.) Judge of Probate.
ROSS STOCKWELL, Probate Clerk. 18oct-3nov

ORDER FOR PUBLICATION—Probate of Will.

State of Michigan, the Probate Court for the County of Oakland. At a session of said court held at the Probate office, in the City of Pontiac, in said county, on the 9th day of October, A. D. 1907. Present, Hon. Joseph S. Stockwell Judge of Probate. In the matter of the Estate of

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It is ordered that the 6th day of November, A. D. 1907, at 9 o'clock in the forenoon, at said Probate office, and is hereby appointed for hearing said petition. It is further ordered that public notice thereof be given by publication of a copy of this order, for three successive weeks previous to said day of hearing, in THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC, a newspaper printed and circulated in said county.

JOSEPH S. STOCKWELL,
(A true copy.) Judge of Probate.
ROSS STOCKWELL, Probate Clerk. 18oct-3nov

EVER FEED HORSES MOLASSES?

Experiments in New York Have Resulted in Remarkable Success.

Feed your horse on old fashioned black New Orleans molasses. This is no joke. No animal has a sweeter tooth than the horse. And this characteristic of equines has been sufficiently encouraged. There is nothing new in the proposition, but the common run of people never heard of it and will scarcely believe it. Look at those magnificent Percherons drawing great loads in our streets. See those giant Normandies, weighing 2,000 pounds each. Feast your eyes on those sturdy Clydesdales, those dapple grays, able to pull a few tons without flinching. All fed on molasses.

A firm in Brooklyn has been experimenting with molasses as a food for horses and tries to keep the results secret, writes Victor Smith in the New York Press. From an inside source I learn this: Two of the horses in the stable were given up as worthless. They got so thin and weak that they could not do a day's work, and were about to be retired on pensions at 11 years, when the molasses man came along. The horses were off their feed, probably sick at the stomach. They refused oats, hay, corn, clover and shorts. He looked them over and said he should like to try an altogether new regimen. "Go ahead," said the superintendent of the stables, in which there are over 200 magnificent animals, worth from $700 to $1,000 each. In two months one of the horses, a physical wreck, gained 400 pounds, and the other, a physical wreck, 356. Their coats were as satin. They were restored to duty and are still holding their own—on molasses.

In administering the molasses—the blackest you can buy—first chop your hay into bits and to each peck add one pint of molasses. Mix thoroughly. The horse will do the rest. Use about the same quantity of syrup with oats, shorts, corn, etc. If you find that one horse may have a sweeter tooth than another, regulate the treacle accordingly. So regulate it, in fact, that nothing will be left in the trough. You can buy good New Orleans (or Porto Rico) molasses for thirteen and one-half cents a gallon; by the hogshead or barrel for a little less. Try it on your poor, old, broken down nag. He will live to bless you, and be pulling you around the country or the town at 27.

London's Most Populous Parish.

The population of Islington appears at last to have reached high water mark, says the Pall Mall Gazette. A century ago a great part of the borough consisted of open country; but now all is thickly covered with houses, and as a result the population, at well over 300,000, is the largest of any district in the metropolis. When the development of the building estates was entered upon, the figures rose with astounding rapidity. In 1811 the percentage of increase was 39.7, in 1841 it stood at 49.4, and in 1851 it advanced to 70.7. A period of declining increases then set in, the figures at succeeding decennial periods being 63.1, 37.1, 32.2, and 12.8. In 1901 the population was 334,991, the percentage of the increase being only 4.9; while for the twelvemonth now reported upon the latter figure appears at 0.49. In other words, the population is all but stationary, and ere long an actual falling off may be looked for.

THOUGHT HIM A LOBSTER.

Joe—I offered to teach Miss Gwendolyn to swim this morning, but she refused.

Moe—I heard her say you were a lobster, and I suppose she was afraid that you would teach her to swin backwards.

An Explanation.

"I gave up Jonah," said the Whale,
Who left the canoe to town,
"Because I knew I couldn't keep
A Good Man D
O
W
N."

—Life.

They Were Left.

"Which would you call the left wing of an army?" asked the officer, examining a recruit.

"Why, the left wing would be the one that wasn't shot!"—Yonkers Statesman.

Recommended by leading physicians and chemists

FIVE REASONS WHY

CALUMET BAKING POWDER

has obtained the confidence of the public.

1. It complies with the Pure Food Laws of all states.
2. It is the only high-grade Powder sold at a moderate price.
3. It is not made by a Baking Powder Trust.
4. Food prepared with it is free from Rochelle Salts or Alum.
5. It is the strongest Baking Powder on the market.

$1,000.00 given for any substance injurious to health found in Calumet

Calumet is so carefully and scientifically prepared that the, neutralization of the ingredients is absolutely perfect. Therefore **Calumet** leaves no Rochelle Salts or Alum in the food. It is chemically correct.

All Grocers are Authorized to Guarantee this

Calumet Baking Powder costs little. Costs a little more than the cheap, injurious powders now on the market, but it is a big saving over the trust powders.

Try Calumet

Troubled by Land Sharks.

"And do you go in swimming wherever your ship happens to be?" asked the land lubber.

"Oh, yes," replied the sailor aboard the battleship.

"And aren't you afraid of sharks?"

"No; sharks never seem to trouble us until we get ashore."—Yonkers Statesman.

Past the Thinking Point.

"Do you think there is any danger of a panic?"

"Think? I know," replied the man who was going to get home half an hour after the usual time for dinner. "The panic has already begun, and for the life of me I can't think of any excuse that will relieve the situation."—Chicago Record-Herald.

BLACK'S

Oldest Opticians in U. S. EYES CAREFULLY TESTED FREE. 136 Woodward DETROIT, MICH.

FENWICK'S Lunch Parlors

99 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, Mich.

Everything home-made and palatable.

Pastels checked free.

Birmingham people specially invited to come to this restaurant and be at home.

G. G. FENWICK.

National Hotel

Birmingham, Mich.

ANDREW ANDERSON, Prop.

Plenty of good rooms for the traveling public. Good tables for all.

CIGARS and TOBACCOS

Fine Pool and Billiard Tables. Everything orderly and first-class. Satisfaction guaranteed.

ANDREW ANDERSON.

FOLEY'S KIDNEY CURE

WILL CURE YOU

of any case of Kidney or Bladder disease that is not beyond the reach of medicine. Take it at once. Do not risk having Bright's Disease or Diabetes. There is nothing gained by delay.

50c. and $1.00 Bottles.
REFUSE SUBSTITUTES.

ORDER FOR PUBLICATION—General

State of Michigan, the Probate Court for the County of Oakland. At a session of said Court, held at the Probate office, in the City of Pontiac, in said county, on the 30th day of September, A. D. 1907. Present, Hon. Joseph S. Stockwell, Judge of Probate. In the matter of the Estate of

SARAH ANN SKILLAN, Deceased.

Hugh McBride, administrator of said Estate, having filed in said Court a petition praying for the examination and allowance of his final account and settlement of the Estate.

It is ordered that the 28th day of October, A. D. 1907, at 9 o'clock in the forenoon, at said Probate office, be and is hereby appointed for hearing said petition. It is further ordered that public notice thereof be given by publication of a copy of this order, for three successive weeks previous to said day of hearing, in the Birmingham Eccentric, a newspaper printed and circulated in said county.

JOSEPH S. STOCKWELL,
(A true copy.) Judge of Probate.
ROSS STOCKWELL, Probate Clerk. oct4-25

ORDER FOR PUBLICATION—Sale or Mortgage of Real Estate.

State of Michigan, the Probate Court for the County of Oakland. At a session of said Court, held at the Probate office in the City of Pontiac, in said county, on the 4th day of October, A. D. 1907. Present, Hon. Joseph S. Stockwell, Judge of Probate. In the matter of the estate of

ROBERT HANNA, Deceased.

Robert Hanna and David Hanna, executors of said estate, having filed in said Court a petition praying for license to sell at private sale the interest of said estate in certain real estate therein described.

It is ordered that the 4th day of November, A. D. 1907, at 9 o'clock in the forenoon, at said Probate office, be and is hereby appointed for hearing said petition, and that all persons interested in said estate appear before said Court, at said time and place, to show cause why a license to sell the interest of said estate in said real estate should not be granted; and it is further ordered, that said notice thereof be given by publication of a copy of this order, for three successive weeks previous to said day of hearing, in THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC, a newspaper printed and circulated in said county.

JOSEPH S. STOCKWELL,
(A true copy.) Judge of Probate.
ROSS STOCKWELL, Probate Clerk. 18oct-3nov

FOLEY'S KIDNEY CURE
Makes Kidneys and Bladder Right

The

Royal Oak Savings Bank

Of Royal Oak, Mich.

Solicits Your Patronage

The steady growth of our business is simply a natural outcome of our policy. It is the result of confidence on the part of the people who recognize the value of our service.

Every customer of this Bank has evidence of able organization. Prompt attention, courteous treatment, superior facilities, safety and ample care, even in minor matters—all these give the depositor the advantage of high-class service.

A little personal talk with the Cashier will clear any doubtful points that you may have.

M. I. BRABB, President. JACOB ERB, Vice-President.
GEO. J. BAKER, Cashier.

Men's.... Fine Footwear

New Fall and Winter Shoes

All the new styles in Patent Colt, Dull Leathers, Vici Kid, Box Calf, Velour Calf, and Cordovan. New pointed toe, swing last. Round toes, broad foot-form last. Blucher cut, lace or button, light or heavy soles. Dozens of different styles.

Ralston Health Shoes, $4.00
Packard Shoes, $3.50, $3.75, $4.00
Beacon Shoes, $3.00

MERRITT'S SHOE STORE

PONTIAC

Gregg Hardware Co.

EXCLUSIVE DEALERS
Builders' Hardware
Contractors' Supplies
Corbin Locks a Specialty

GRANITE ROOFING

If you are contemplating building, our prices will interest you.

48 Cadillac Square and 43 Congress Street East, DETROIT, Mich.

Harper Rye

"On Every Tongue."

Scientifically distilled; Naturally aged; Best and safest for all uses

SOLD BY A. ANDERSON.

WHY NOT

Let your wife or daughter open an account in her own name and pay all her own bills and the household expenses with her own check? She will like it and it will help her business education. You may not live always, and your wife may have to take charge of what you have. A little previous experience will be an advantage. We will take pleasure in receiving the account.

EXCHANGE BANK

BIRMINGHAM MICH.