Rike and the Robbers.

Roscoe Eades-whom his fellows commonly called 'Rike'-was 'nozzle boy' of a 'water gun' at Hyde's Gulch in Tuolumne County, California. It is an invention used in deep placer mining or 'hill diggings,' to take the place of the old ditch and flume. The water from some stream or lake, high up among the Sierras, is brought a long

be used, in huge pipes made of boiler Boys who have studied natural philosophy know that where water stands at a great height either in reservoirs or pipes, it will rush out at a vent at the bottom, with prodigious

way down into the valley where it is to

force and velocity. The mining engineers of California take advantage of this fact to throw strong jets of water upon the vast placers of hard, blue gravel, that contain gold. This is done to dissolve it, and wash it down through spouts made of deal plank. Each spout contains quicksilver in grooves made in the bottom, and, as gold has an 'affinity' for quicksilver, the particles of the precious metal are caught by it and held in safety, while the loose gravel and dust is washed away.

The huge pipe that brings the water from the mountains to the placer below, has at the end a knuckle joint, and to that is attached a huge nozzle, something like those used at the end of the hose of fire-engines, by which the fire-man directs the water upon a fire.

When the valve is opened, the water squirts from the nozzle with a force which is truly amazing, a force which one who has never witnessed its oper-

ation can hardly understand.

The jet of water from an eight inch nozzle is projected to a distance of two hundred feet, in an almost straight line.

To the eye it presents all the rigidity of an eight inch bar of gray iron.

If you should strike it with a cane, it would ring like a steel rod. You could no more thrust a cane or an iron crow into it than you could into a steel bar.

The water of some of these jets flies out at a velocity of more than a hundred

from its socket.

Before this powerful jet, the hardened blue gravel of the placer is loosened as quickly as if it were porous earth, and is washed away into the ditches and sprouts. Enormous quantities of gravel are thus daily dissolved, and a large amount of gold taken every evening from the refles and grooves, to which it sinks by reason of its great specific gravity.

But, though an engine of such power, the nozzle, or water-gun is easily managed; and an intelligent boy of fourteen, like Rike, is able to tend it, and direct the jet wherever it is necessary. against the gravel bluff.

which I am writing, a narrow ravine, River Restigouche, not lang syne, and On each side there were gravel-banks sent it home to her Queen mother with ravine opened at the west into a tribu- in its jaws, as a trophy of her prowess, but shut in at its upper end, was closed by almost perpendicular bluffs, over lency, the Marquis. It was my good fortune

A few small buildings had been erected by the mining company near the upper end of the ravine, in which to keep the tools; and a strong structure, called the 'office," was used for the temporary storage of mercury and the gold prior to its being sent to San

A large gang of men had recently been at work putting a blast of twenty kegs of powder into the great bank of gravel, to shake and loosen it, so that

brave exploit of Rike's, the lad was three Chinamen who were employed to watch the spouts, or "long Toms," to to keep them from clogging, etc.

Nothing was heard in the gulch but the whiz and splashing of water, as Rike

turned the nozzle up and down on the great cracked and fissured walls of gravel. Away down the gorge, the dumpy moving lazily about, here and there. But as Rike happened to look in that direction, he saw an unusual commo-

tion among them. First, they ran a few steps, then stood huddled together, looking down in the ravine. A moment, after, one of them, named, Cheng Sai, turned and ran at the top of his Rike called out to him.

'None of that outlandish jabber!' exclaimed Rike. 'Talkee English!-

right smart, too. Thus adjured, Cheng cried out, 'Sluicee rob! Plentee man! Gold takee!' This broken jargon Rike readily

understood to mean that a gang of sluice robbers had made a raid on the Countess. Both were at one time guests gulch, scraping out the gold and quicksilver from the grooves.

Rumors of such a gang had previously been current, though, as yet, the ruffians had not been seen in what

to the 'office,' where several loaded car- lights to test the mettle of his visitors PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON, bines were usually kept. But the office In an attempt to bring the fish to gaff, was locked. The foreman, who had the after a long struggle, he slipped on the key, was with the rest of the men. rocks and plunged into the drink. He Even while Rike was trying the door, got a thorough wetting, but saved his fish Cheng cried. -

'Comee! Sluicee-rob comee!' And Rike now saw four or five strange men coming up the ravine.

They had guns in their hands, and that they meant to break open and plunder the office was clear enough to stood six feet two in his socks, and weigh-Rike. He furthermore knew they would not hesitate to murder him, and would probably do so to shield themselves from further identification. Escape was impossible, unless he

four hundred feet high. in a trap,' Rike afterwards said, in his account of the affair. 'That iron pipe ing? &c., &c. All of these and much was too big round to shin up. I more are the direct results of Dyspepsia, thought at first that I could get the LiverComplaint and Indigestion. GREEN'S carbines and pop at them from behind

the office as they came up the gulch.
When I found that the office locked, I knew that the only weapon of defence I had was the dugong' (water-gun). wonderful quality in curing all forms of And I hadn't any too much time, Indigestion. Sample bottles 10 cts. Re-I had was the dugong ' (water-gun). either, for the rascals were coming at the top of their speed.

gular size 75 cts. Sold positively by all first-class Druggists in the United States.

'When they saw me turning the nozzle, they yelled at me savagely, and swore most fearful oaths. 'Get you little sneaking coyote!' they shouted. 'Two of them at once took aim and fired. Their guns were charged with

buckshot. It pattered all about me, and hit the big pipe. It made it sing too. Cheng took to his heels, jabbering, scared half to death, and no wonder.' 'I got down partly behind the 'knuckle,' where I could haul the lever. you a have such a chance. Address H. HALLET

When they saw me crouching there, they made rush. I think the man ahead was a digger Indian. He had a big knife in his hand.

When he was within a hundred feet, I turned the jet upon him. At first, it went over him, -squizz! But I levelled it. Then it took him right square in the stomach. It just lifted him, -took him off his feet as if he'd been made of feathers! That big knife At the Miramichi Bookstore.

flew out of his hand, and he landed on

'The rest of the robbers scattered apart then. One of them ran around to the left side, to get behind me. "I turned the water a little too quick for him and caught him on the fly with an awful stiff jet. How he yelled when it struck him in the face!

Twas like skinning him alive I expect. "But I'd no time to give him more than one squirt, for two of them were running to the right of me, close up to the gravel-bank. They were within fifty feet of the spot where I stood when jerked the nozzle round. One of them fired his revolver. The ball came dreadfully close to my head! I fairly felt it; but he didn't get a chance to fire another.

'One was a step in the rear of the other, and fortunately, I took 'em both at the first squirt. It threw them up against that hard bank, just as you'd sling a cat against it. It must have knocked the breath squarely out of

'I let the jet go steady, and it pinned one of them up against the bank. When I turned it, he fell down like a

'Just then I saw the other one stirring, and turned it upon him again. When the jet struck him, I actually heard the buttons rip off his clothes! He did not move again. 'The Indian I had hit first now got

up and tried to run away. But he didn't get far before I sent him heels over head again. I could have kept him flat on the ground if I had not had the one who tried to get round on the left to attend to; for he was trying to crawl off on his hands and knees. 'I had seen other men besides these four down the gulch, and expected they would climb out and come along the bluff, and shoot me with their guns.

'I couldn't have reached them up there. But a minute or two after, I saw the two Chinamen, the foreman and a lot of other workmen, come running to the ladder on the left side. The robbers saw them, and took to their heels, and the Indian managed to run

away with the rest.
'But I had three of the rascals where and fifty feet a second. Were a man rash enough to thrust his hand against the jet, he would either lose the skin from his fingers, or receive such a jerk knocked out of him. But the other knocked out of him. But the other action they derange, and whose substance they disease and destroy. Aver's Sarsaparilla expels to run away. It would have been better for them, though, if they had been killed; for the miners hung them next morning as a warning to the rest of the gang.

Royal and Noble Anglers.

[Forest and St ream.] Salmon fishing has been ennobled, as a sport, by her Royal Highness, the Empress of India, and conjointly by her loyal spouse, the Marquis of Lorne, Governor-General of Canada. With her own regal hands the Princess Louise has cap-Hyde's Gulch was, at the time of tured a twenty-five pound salmon in the three or four hundred feet high. The the Jock Scott fly which caught it fixed Sarsaparilla tary of, I think, the Stanislaus River; and affidavit that the feat was all her own!

which the great water pipe, was bent, and brought down to the bottom of the eve of his excursion down river. The occasion was this: Our yacht, the Cruiser. lay at Quebec, with steam up for below A messenger from the Naval Office found me then waiting at the St. Louis Hotel. He presented an official envelope superscribed: "On Her Majesty's service." Under the seal it ran:-" Dear H .: The Marquis will be at my office in a few minutes. If you wish to see him, come down Yours truly, "J. U. GREGORY." I jumped into a cab and hastened to the lower town, rattling down the almost precipitous streets, which even then were all ablaze with bunting and embowered the water jet would work with better with triumphal arches of evergreen, inscribed with words of loyalty and welcome But on the afternoon following the to "Lorne and Louise," who were that blast, and that on which occurred a day to inaugurate the new Dufferin Terrace. I found the royal party on board the tending the jet with no companions but steamer "Druid," inspecting cabin quarters which they were going to occupy en route to the Restigouche, where they were going to fish. The "Druid" is a Government

vessel, commanded by Capt. Marmion, with whom it had been my pleasure to make several voyages around the Gulf of St. Lawrence as many as fifteen years before. While I was pleasantly engaged in a friendly chat with the veteran salt, figures of the Chinese could be seen my friend Gregory came up the companion-way in company with Major De Winton, His Excellency's aide-de camp, and having presented me, announced that the Marquis would be pleased to see me presently. I held one of Abbey & Imbrie's oreide reels in my hand, and, like an old helms-man, "stood by the wheel," determined to shirk no duty. With a natural good speed towards Rike, the other two flee-ing across the gulch to where some steps upon the Marquis that, although the editor and a long ladder led up the face of the of a journal, I was neither a penny-a liner, nor an interviewer; and so when I came 'What's the matter now, Chengy?' to a front face and present, I was introduced simply as a fellow sportsman. His 'Chi-wee Tr-huntai!' cried the Celes- Excellency graciously took me by the tial, relapsing in his terror, into his hand, and we occupied common ground at once. We talked fish and fishing tackle, the natural history of the country, and kindred topics; and when we finally parted I was quite at my ease, and felt

more than ever the truth of the old adage, that "one touch of nature makes the whole kin." Had we never fished, we had never met. Earl Dufferin, his predecessor, was a most proficient angler; and so was the spouts below, and were coming up the on the Godbout. They fished the river in a Age 1873, staid two days, and are credited with a score of seven fish aggregating 71 lbs. pounds in weight. The other evening mine host was recounting some of the incidents of that visit. Dufferin had on one occasion fought a fish manfully in "the Shea," one of the most difficult pools on

Shutting off the water-jet, Rike ran the river, where the old Scotchman deand won a reputation. The laugh, however, does not come in here; but when his lordship appears an hour after in a dry suit of Mr. Gilmor's habiliments, loaned in extremis, which were as much of a fit as one could expect where one man was only of fair average size, while the other

ed at least sixteen stone!

Ask Yourself these Questions Are you a despondent sufferer from and Chinaman could climb a well-nigh Palpitation of the Heart? Have you Diz perpendicular gravel-bank, three or ziness of the Head? Is your Nervous our hundred feet high.

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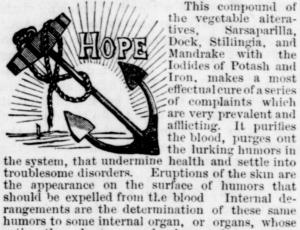
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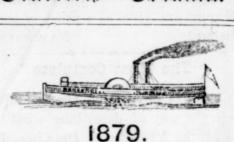
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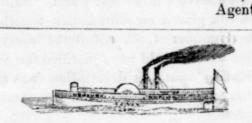


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