

for the whole. Their find, after exhausting the bed of the river, somewhat fell off; but while washing the banks they got, for instance, one day 1 pound, and the following 10 ounces. But it must be remembered that this was with the assistance of a ground sluice, whereas previously they had used only a tin pan. Their largest piece was sold for \$200; the next largest weighed almost a quarter of a pound. What they found in all they did not know themselves, as they frequently sold parcels of gold without keeping accurate account of it; but the proceeds of the summer did not probably amount to less than 24 lbs., which would give 6 lbs. (worth \$129¢) to each man; or, supposing them to have worked eighty days, that is twenty days a month for four months, which is more than probably they did, their wages were per man over \$16 a day, and deducting tribute during the early part of the season and the price of location, say \$14. One day Rodrigue, working alone with an old man, panned 2 ounces 2 dwts. and 8 grains, worth \$38. Their success, however, must not be taken as the measure of others' fortune. None else were so lucky as they, and few of those who purchased locations higher up than Rodrigue's or further from the river, were repaid for the outlay and their time. This has been and always will be the fate of gold diggers. To reduce the average find to one dollar a day per man, which is Australian wages, sixteen men must find nothing to compensate for the good fortune of one such as Rodrigue.

The conditions under which the alluvial gold is found vary with the different character of the river beds. The Des Plantes, between the lower and upper falls, where alone any mining has been done, is narrow and precipitous; there is, therefore, but little depth of deposit upon the ledge, and that of a gravelly nature; hence the gold is found in largest quantity upon the ledge. The bed consists of a hard grauwaake schist, dipping almost perpendicularly and interstratified by large dykes of serpentine. Above the second fall its character totally changes, and it runs sluggishly over a kind of plateau. This part has not been thoroughly ex-