

CHAPTER X.

Boxer and Bess—Prospectors on the trail—Specimens of ore—
A chinook—Safe home.

THE following morning Mr. Lees took the botanists for a row on the lake, accompanied by their two faithful friends, Boxer and Bess. Although neither of these has received any notice in this narrative since we left the home ranch, they will be remembered by all our party for their superior sagacity and dignified and amusing ways.

Boxer, a famous retriever, was brought from England in 1883 by the Earl of Lathom, and is mentioned in Mr. Staveley Hill's book, "From Home to Home." Bess also came across the sea the same year; she was descended from a famous prize-winning family.

Mr. Bourne photographed the party in the boat. (See illustration.)

"What is that?" asked Percy, pointing outward to a lone cayuse coming around a bend of the trail towards our camp, with a huge pack on his back.

"Prospectors! That looks natural!" replied Bear Paw. "You will soon see others."

A minute more brought into view three weather-beaten, bronzed men, dressed in buckskin, mounted on cayuses, with other cayuses carrying packs.