

of the dwellings of that prehistoric race called the "Cliff dwellers." He said he could reach it after a pretty stiff climb and offered to up with me. As it was only a square hole in the rock anyway, and no one knew who the cliff dwellers were and I had all the climbing on hand I could attend to, I did not accept the offer.

The recreations of a mining camp are not altogether confined to the saloon. Finding the time hanging heavily on our hands, one winter, the miners of Silver Canon decided to start the Great League for American Miners. The ostensible object of the league was improvement and protection of the horny handed sons of toil against the bloated aristocratic monopolists and bond holders, but the real object was fun. All the best talent of the camp was pressed into service to get up the initiation ceremony. The candidate was blindfolded and before he became a full fledged member of the great League of Nevada Miners went through a ceremony most unique in its way. He was tossed in a blanket, travelled over the Rocky road to Jordan, had a cold water bath and interrogated on all sorts of ridiculous matters. The only two questions that I remember which were asked of the candidate to show his proficiency in the noble art of metallurgy were the following: "What is the difference between porphyry of the silurian period and decomposed carboniferous lime rock quarts?" and "What is the difference between argentiferous galena and anoygdaloid highly metaliferous in its character.

The great trouble with our league was that by the time we had initiation ceremony properly prepared to our satisfaction every one in camp knew all about it and there were no candidates to initiate. This was a state of affairs we had not looked for. Finally a Mormon charcoal burner named Woolsey, offered himself as a candidate for initiation, provided we trusted him for the future payment of the initiation fee. Needless to say we gave him unlimited credit and we duly initiated him. He took it very pleasantly and after the ceremony was over, as he stood wet and dripping, our hearts relented