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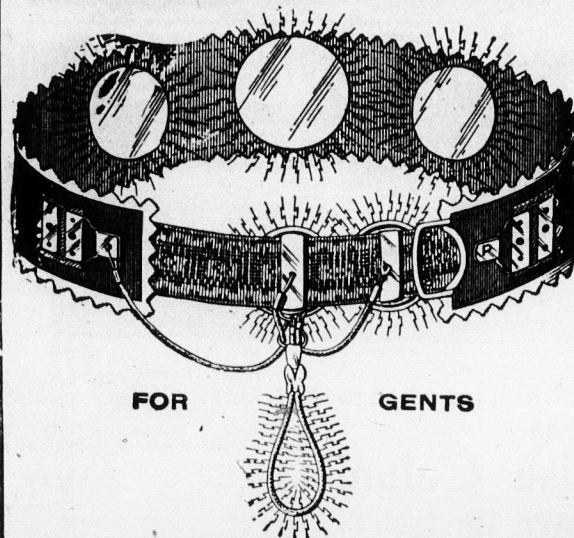
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CARRIAGE BUILDERS
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 CATALOGUE ON APPLICATION.

First Prayer at Hanney's.

By John Habberton.

Hanney's Diggins certainly needed a missionary, if any place ever did; but, as one of the boys once remarked during a great lack of water, "It had to keep on a-needin'." Zealous men came up by steamer via the Isthmus, and seemed to consume with their fiery haste to get on board the vessel for China and Japan, and carry the glad tidings to the heathen. Self-sacrificing souls gave up home and friends and hurried across, overland, to brave the Pacific and bury themselves among the Australasian savages. But, though they all passed in sight of Hanney's, none of them paused to give any attention to the souls who had flocked there. Men came out from 'Frisco and the East to labor with the Chinese miners, who were the only peaceable and well-behaved people in the mines; but the white-faced, good-natured, hard-swearing, generous, heavy-drinking, enthusiastic, murderous Anglo-Saxons they let severely alone. Perhaps they thought that hearts in which the good

post-office at Hanney's a document addressed to "Preacher in charge of Pentecost Chapel." The postmaster went up and down the brook in high spirits and told the boys: they instantly dropped shovel and pan, formed line and escorted the postmaster and document to the chapel. Pentecost acknowledged the joke and stood treat for the crowd, after which he solemnly tore the wrapper and disclosed the report of a certain missionary society. Modestly expressing his gratification of the honor, and his unworthiness of it, he moved that old Thompson, who had the loudest voice in the crowd should read the report aloud, he, Pentecost, volunteering to furnish Thompson all necessary spirituous aid during the continuance of his task. Thompson promptly signified his acquiescence, cleared his throat with a glass of amber-colored liquid, and commenced, the boys meanwhile listening attentively and commenting critically.

"Too much cussed heavenly twang,"



"Thompson gracefully concluded his service by passing the hat."

seed had once been sown, but failed to come up into fruit, were barren soil; perhaps they thought it preferable to be killed and eaten by cannibals than to be tumbled into a gulch by a revolver-shot, while the shootist strolled calmly off in company with his approving conscience, never thinking to ascertain whether his bullet had completed the business, or whether a wounded man might not have to fight death and coyotes together.

At any rate the missionaries left Hanney's alone. If anyone with an unquenchable desire to carry the Word where it is utterly unknown, a digestion without fear, and a full-proof article of common-sense (these last two requisites are absolute), should be looking for an eligible location, Hanney's is just the place for him. If he has several dozens of similarly constituted friends, they can all find similar locations by betaking themselves to any mining camp in the West.

As Hanney's had no preacher, it will readily be imagined it had no church. With the first crowd who located there came an insolvent rum-seller from the East. He called himself Pentecost, which was as near his right name as is usual with miners, and the boys dubbed his shop "Pentecost Chapel" at once. The name, somehow, reached the East, for within a few months there reached the

observed one, disapprovingly, as one letter largely composed of Scriptural extracts, was read.

"Why the deuce didn't he shoot?" indignantly demanded another, as a tale of escape from heathen pursuers was read.

"Shet up wimmin in a dered dark room! Well, I'll be durned!" soliloquized a yellow-haired Missourian, as Thompson read an account of a Zenana. "Reckon they'd set an infernal sight higher by wimmin it they wuz in the diggins' six months—hey fellers?"

"You bet!" they emphatically responded.

Before the boys became very restive Thompson finished the pamphlet, including a few lines on the cover, which stated that the society was greatly in need of funds, and that contributions might be sent to the society's financial agent in Boston. Thompson gracefully concluded his service by passing the hat, with the following net result: Two revolvers, one double-barrelled pistol, three knives, one watch, two rings (both home-made, valuable and ugly), a pocket-inkstand, a silver tobacco box, and forty or fifty ounces of dust and nuggets. Boston Bill, who was notoriously absent-minded, dropped in a pocket-comb, but on being sternly called to order by old Thompson, cursed himself most fluently, and redeemed his

disgraceful contribution. The double-eagle. The legal tenders were into gold-dust, and patched by express, from Pentecost, treasurer at Boston, was controlled by which does not und can come out of evi contribution ever a But a few months t appear at Hanney's large-headed youth loaded mule, who as duly accredited tioned society to p among the miners. him cordially, and him the nightly ho up to sleep in from fire-place. His mul consist largely of vigorously distribut boys used to wrap nearly starved while cook his own food boys took him in a tried to persuade drinking, and the laughed; but when break up the "little the only amusement only steady amusem short and irregular its wrath, and the rose and went for

But at the time treats a missionary even worse, for the absorbed by a ver still very darling, p veteran knifeists. w other at sight for every time they m themselves in the s Hanney's had the particular settleme one of the heroes, f ore discussed with Bent, the merits brands of mining course of the chat erable villainous ally resorted to kr ments. The matter here had either ga vantage over the o skilful—each inflie so near the same that the wisest me able to decide wh to average Califor this is a most c affairs; the spectat the combatants w time, liquor and bl while the combatat unspeakably uneas ground between v At Sonora, were had their first enc verdict so the shook the dust fro elsewhere. Soon at the same place curred at sight, in was not disarrange about, for a month ed-up condition, a ed off, to be soon with the usual res known by reput gold regions, an either at any "g was the best saloon-keeper cou Hanney's had be a week, for the Ju week before, and carefully scrutinize and again, by ever There seemed not him—he was of long hair and bea expression and ve never jumped a cl whisky straight, pl of poker as the a and never stole a whiter than a Mex just about ascer made their "blind" of the next fight w was convulsed w that Billy Bent Work immediat the immediate vi plous, and the boy chapel, that being encounter should Miners thronged around, and not male express say the horror of P