

Clive Forrester's Gold

different being. The task I had set myself seemed as nothing in comparison with the reward. What was a journey to the Yukon and a few months, or even years, of privation and hardships in the gold-fields compared to the winning of such a wife as Grace? And she had promised never to marry any one else.

As for her father, I knew that gold—abundance of gold—was all I needed to secure his consent, though without it, or its equivalent, I might plead in vain ; and therefore I determined to lose no time in securing as large a fortune as possible. It was, however, only as a means to an end that I looked upon it—for gold as gold I cared little enough.