Story of Adolph Sutro's

By John Bonner.

ample sumclency in his old age. Yet he took ship for the region of gold, where his instinct told him that mind and energy would tell. The boy want-ed to stand on his own feet. In 1849, at the age of 19, he landed in San Francisco and opened a cigar store. It prospered. But he had not come to California to live on the profits of retail trade. Stories of wonderful mineral discoveries in Nevada were buzzing in the air. He turned his stock into money, mounted a pack horse and rode to Washoe, where ore worth \$4500 to the ton, one-third gold and two-thirds silver, was being dug out of shallow holes. A camp had been founded at the base of Mount Davidson and a town which took the sturo pitched his tent, and by dicker-ing in mining locations and operating a she was, one of the most substantial in merchandise he scon became, young as he was, one of the most substantial such that opposition and calumny only citizens in the place. Far-sighted ob-servers remarked that that young Ger-man would get there. Indeed, in the jargon of the camp, he soon had money to burn burn.

was a man in whose hands y was never idle, nor time thrown In 1861, long before the discov-He



son River, if it was to be a permanent the drills, and had to be carried out

HE passing of Adolph Sutro de-serves something more than a bare announcement of the fact and a memorandum of his life work. It fell to his lot to illus-trate the period in which he lived. Half a century ago he was one of the ardent youths who cut loose from family and home to seek his fortune in a land where success meant riches, and failure hardship, privation, and possibly death. There was no reason and failure hardship, privation, and possibly death. There was no reason why he should wander afield. His father was a prosperous manufacturer at Aix La Chapelle, in Rhenish Prus-sia; he himself, at 18, was foreman of the factory. He was industrious and smart. A life of plodding industry was pretty certain to insure him an ample sufficiency in his old age. Yet he took ship for the region of gold, where his instinct told him that mind

But the fiber of the man's soul was

WHEN HE JOINED THE SUTRO TUNNEL WITH THE COMSTOCK MINES

ut all his own money and the money f his personal friends in the tunnel reasury. He stumped the State on be-

erved him to more energetic work. He ut all his own money and the money his personal friends in the tunnel foremost among the drill crews, cheer-WHEN HE KEPT A CIGAR STORE IN THE '50'S.
ery of the great bonanzas, he set up a quartz mill on the Carson River, and he grew richer day by day. But even then he realized that the great depti-tion the realized that the great depti-tion the non-the state on the scale he had origin.
But all his own money and the money of his personal friends in the tunnel, was proken with his reutonic accent. And thoutgo he could not make coverts in the drive he could not make coverts in the drive he could not make cover to the scale he had origin-tion for the staffs on the Carson River, and the grew richer day by day. But even the he realized that the great depti-tore proved higher than could reasona-bly be expected. It cost more to hother any ore was worth. A plan must be rource of profit. He spent anxious
and the carson River, and the grews in the towned to the comparison of the burd, and the intense heat prevailing on the boxe over 100 feet a day. Three years aft the end of the workings was 52 de-grees frain the lowned was counted to make over 100 feet a day. Three years aft the end of the workings was 52 de-grees frain the lowned was counted to such and the corried of the working the such and the corried fill the was the end of the such and the the spent anxious

EC

adjudged mentally incompetent by Superior Judge Belcher last week. His daughter, Dr. Emma Sutro-Merritt, who has been in constant professional attendance on her father for many months past, was appointed guardian of his person and estate, her bonds being \$100,000. Her two brothers and her sister, who reside in this city, became sureties on the

Adolph Sutro, ex-Mayor of San Francisco and builder of

the famous Sutro tunnel, was

ADOLPH SUTRO

bond. Mr. Sutro is 81 years old. The loss of his mental faculties is attributed to the weight

Sreat Successes in Life.

<text>

instructed to spare no expense to ac-quire rare and valuable works; they have fulfilled their task admirably. Of the collection as it stands, An-drew T. White, now Embassador to Berlin, has said: "With considerable acquaintance among the libraries of the United States, I should rank this one already among the first four in value. * * Every branch of science, literature and art is well rep-resented. Many of the works are of the costliest. Among them are num-bers of rare illuminated maunscripts, a very large collection of early printed works, especially of the Reformation and early renaissance periods, with over 30,000 volumes dating from the civil wars, and Cromwellian period in England. Especially curlous from a historical point of view is a collection which will prove a mine for the coming investigator of Spanish-American civ-which will prove a mine for the coming investigator of Spanish-American civ-which will prove a mine for the coming investigator of Spanish-American civ-which will prove a mine for the coming investigator of Spanish-American civ-which will prove a mine for the coming investigator of Spanish-American civ-which will prove a mine for the coming investigator of Spanish-American civ-which is without a rival tracted visitors to California from all parts of the world, a pleasure resort which is without a rival



He formed far-reaching plans which, at first vague and shadowy, were turned over and over, until they took tangible shape. His foresight taught him that the empty land which divides San Francisco from the ocean must event-ually be covered with buildings, and possess a value to which its actual ture. possess a value to which its actual market price afforded no clew. He be-gan to buy this land. The San Miguel Rancho passed into his hands, and was

ulties is attributed to the weight of years, combined with the ef-fects of two strokes of apoplexy suffered within the past few months. disappointment and despair. He did not propose to repeat the journey. When his name was in every man's mouth and operators were figuring on the millions which would fall into the lap of the fortunate holders of Sutro

will evidently some day reward investi-gators in Semitic history and litera-

ture." Professor Burr of Cornell wrote: "The Sutro Library is, I think, beyond all comparison the best collection in America, both as to numbers and as to the quality of the books of the fifteenth century, and I gravely doubt if it has any rival this side of the Atlantic for its literature of the sixteenth century. In travels of every age, in church his-tory, canon law and theology in the the natural sciences, in the history of all the sciences, especially the natural sciences, in curios of many sorts, its shelves are a golconda of treasures." The number of books in the library, exclusive of manyscripts is at present

exclusive of manuscripts, is at present about 230,000. Among them are the Par-liamentary documents and proceedings namentary documents and proceedings which Macaulay used in writing his history; the laws of England as com-piled by Lord Cairns, and a vast as-semblage of medical, botanical, geológi-cal, astronomical, mathematical and other scientific collections; among the manuscriptis are many on predment in

ments which will preserve their names from oblivion, and, though their aim was rather personal gain than public service, they are still fairly entitled to gratitude because in promoting their own ends they ministered to the pros-perity of the people at large. Sutro, from the time he became a millionaire and the increase of his wealth became a matter of secondary importance. the millions which would fall into the lap of the fortunate holders of Sutro stock, he quickly sold out his shares and placed the proceeds in banks of undoubted solidity. That was twenty years ago, and Mr. Sutro was in the full vigor of man-hood. He had a wife and six children. Which had been won after so desperate a struggle? Rest and placed response to the suff. Which had been won after so desperate a struggle? Rest and placed response to the solf-importance and shilly-plied by Lord Cairns, and a vast as shallying and stupidity of the Board of semblage of medical, botanical, geologi-and the increase of his wealth became a matter of secondary importance, and the increase of his wealth became a matter of secondary importance, subordinated the pursuit of gain to his benefactors of humanity. He was glad to see his lots appreciate in value; but, those institutions were dispersed of spaces of the ocean that rolled at his feet, his mind turned gladly from thoughts of real estate to revel in the joy that when he was gone generations priceless. Such are books printed by would thank him for what he had done Fust of Mainz, by Aldus of Venice, by for them and theirs

WHEN HE WAS MAYOR

Other men besides he have expend-ed their millions in erecting monu-ments which will preserve their names

31

son River, if it was to be a permanent the drills, and had to be carried out accept as collateral for the smallest source of profit. He spent anxicus senseless into the open air. The mules loan, was now everywhere admitted to be property. He was as shrewd as he the problem, and at last he solved it. In 1863 the great bonanzas in the ing, begrimed with dirt and smoke, and

since have been were solved when after so desperate now of water from the fraction. The when the properties of a struggle? Rest and pleasure, soft constructed an aquarium which, when those institutions were dispersed, Mr. Sicilian days, and gay Parisian joys it is completed, will contain specimens Sutro acquired editions of early works would have commended themselves to of all the fish that swim in our waters, which are now so rare as to be almost many men. Repose was not in Sutro's and a visit to which will be an educa-instincts. His mind could not be idle. tion in zoology. He built a railroad

