

**THE SAZERAC
LYING CLUB, A
NEVADA BOOK**

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The Sazerac lying club, A Nevada book by Fred. H. Hart

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LYING CLUB, A
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THE
SAZERAC LYING CLUB.

A NEVADA BOOK,

BY



FRED. H. HART,

EDITOR OF THE AUSTIN "REVEILLE," STATE OF NEVADA.



"Staging aint what it used to be."

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DEDICATION.

To each and every person who may purchase
it, and pay cash for it, this volume is
respectfully dedicated, by

THE AUTHOR.

INTRODUCTORY.



LIKE other arts and sciences, keeps pace with our education, refinement, and culture, and is fast becoming familiarized to the American people. Though I have classed it with the arts and sciences, and although there *is* something artistic in the construction of a good lie, and notwithstanding that a good, square, solid lie is a scientific triumph, still, I am of the opinion that lying should more properly be considered as an accomplishment. A "gentlemanly accomplishment," it was once designated by a Nevada newspaper. And yet, I have seen men who possessed the accomplishment in the highest degree of perfection, and still were not gentlemen. That, however, does not prove or premise that gentlemen cannot lie.

In the days of the Father of his Country—if we are to believe a little story about an adventure he is said to have had in connection with a cherry tree, and which story is still extant—lying was looked upon as wrong. But that was before the time of the steam-engine, the electric telegraph, daily newspapers, stocks and stock-brokers, and other modern improvements. To-day, to lie, and lie well, is meritorious, and besides, there's money in it, which of itself is sufficient to make it commendable. I am personally acquainted with some of the most prominent citizens of the Pacific Coast, who have made colossal fortunes simply by lying, or—to speak with gloved words—by doctoring the truth about stocks and mines; and those men are respected and looked up to, courted and flattered, called smart, and good business men, when the unadorned English of it is that they are only good liars, and have made their lying pay.

It is hardly worth while to say anything about political liars, because every one knows that lying is part of a politician's trade, and will continue to be, in spite of the Scriptures, earthquakes, and Civil Service Reform, as long as politicians are human. There may be politicians who cannot lie by word of mouth, but they *lie* in the silent tomb. In other words, the race of truthful politicians is extinct; or if there are still living men who will not or cannot lie to get office, it is because they are not office-seekers.

This purports to be a book on lies and lying, but it does not treat of the lies of politicians, stock-brokers, newspaper men, authors, and others, who lie for money; neither does it touch on the untruths of scandal, mischief, or malice, but only on those lies which amuse, instruct and elevate, without harm. It is a record of lies told in a club known as the Sazerae Lying Club, whose objects, as its name implies, are lying. A chapter is devoted to the rise, progress, and history of this club, interspersed with these lies. The book contains a number of sketches of odd characters in Nevada, and local narratives of life in Austin, written by the Author, and published from time to time in the columns of the AUSTIN REVELLE, of which paper the writer has for several years been editor, and which have been clipped from the files of that journal, and made to do service in padding out this book to a sellable size.

The book has been compiled and prepared in the intervals of daily editorial labor, and no claim of literary merit is made for it. The majority of the clipped sketches have been widely copied by the press, which circumstance has had weight in causing him to believe that they possess some little merit in a humorous sense; but of that, as well as the other material herein contained, which has never before appeared in print, the reader must be the judge. This is not a "no cure no pay" book, and booksellers are instructed, under no circumstances, to return money to persons who pronounce it a fraud. If his wishes in this matter are strictly carried into effect, the bookseller will at once proceed to bounce the dissatisfied customer, and reason with him to the fullest extent of his muscular ability. All of which is respectfully submitted by

THE AUTHOR.