



## From the Truckee Historical Revue

It's a powerful notion  
A young man's desperate and romantic  
dream  
Strike it rich in the west rumor had it  
Such a foolish and far-fetched scheme  
It was east coast dreamers and exiles

And the Irish and Chinese too  
Rogues, refugees, and the foolhardy  
How bad it would get no one knew  
Even gettin' here was enough just to kill ya'  
Lack of food, the heat, or the snow  
Your neighbor's steak and eggs look so tempting  
When your stash is runnin' real low  
If you're lucky enough just to get here  
With your pick and your shovel in tow  
But those pesky 49ers beat you to it  
You'll slave for years with nothin' to show  
Work hard as you can  
Diggin' rock and hardpan  
Breakin' your back  
Then your claim gets hijacked  
Eatin' beans and cold grits  
If you had a lick of sense you'd quit  
So it's for sure you'll never strike it rich here  
After workin' your fingers to the bone  
It was a powerful notion that brought you out west  
Time to pull up stakes and head on home