

87
Jeweller's Shop' was being worked,
and worked very unskillfully. I walked
down next morning to a party who
were working a shaft. I wanted a
job, they wanted a man, and they
engaged me at 25/- a week (put
myself to turn a windlass. I
jumped at the offer. There were four
men in the shaft, and everything
went well until dinner-time. After
dinner, one of the men refused to go
below, and there was a row about it.
I remember I was standing watching
them, and they said "What are you
doing? Why don't you go below?" I
did not mind going down, as I
wanted to see what a gold mine
was like, so I consented to go below.
In those days men were lowered
in a loop in the rope. I could go
aloft any height, but when I sat over
that hole I thought I would never get
up again. When I swung off I
held the rope so tight that my arms