Cocos Island
San Francisco Call, 31. October 1879:

'Cocos Island, situated off the coast of Central America, is popularly supposed to be thickly planted with bags of reassure, left there by the ancient buccaneers and freebooters who plundered the seas in days gone by. One tradition says that on several occasions the genial old prates, who made the island their headquarters sank their galleons along the shores to save their treasure, and that much money formerly belonging to Spanish merchantmen is now lying around in the vicinity. Several expeditions have gone to Cocos Island in search of these mythical millions, but none has yet found them. The schooner Vanderbilt, which sailed from this port on the 12th of April last for the purpose of discovering and bringing back some of the treasure planted by the exterminated pirates, has been heard from, having arrived at Santa Barbara a week ago with a discouraged, goldless crew (...) For three months they toiled up under the tropic sun, running tunnels and drifts, and sinking pits and ditches; but their labor was in vain mans as their supplies ran low, they were compelled to leave.'
New York Times, November 1904

‘Captain Gissler is a man of 47 years, and a breathing replica of Michael Angelo’s heroic statue of Moses. His reddish beard reaches to his waist, his hair is luxuriant on a splendidly poised head, his eyes are as clear and searching as an eagle’s, his nose is classic, his voice is profoundly mellow, fitting the man to perfection.’