



## Mademoiselle Millie . . . A Central City Legend

*"Miss Millie is back!" was the town cry when Rose Brown, known as Mademoiselle Haydee, and the star troupe returned to Central City in June of 1860. The troupe had first performed in January 1860, six months after the first gold was discovered in the gulch.*

*Ms. Haydee was strikingly beautiful and charming to all. The miners thought Mademoiselle (Mlle) was short for Mille and she soon became known as "Miss Millie" to all. During the summer of 1860, Miss Mille performed in every play, both tragedies and comedies, every night at the remodeled Hadley Hall, known as the Mountain City Theater.*

*The year 1860 also brought gambling to the back rooms of vacated log cabins in Central City along with "Ladies of the Evening" to entertain the gamblers. One of the most handsome of the gamblers was Tom Evans. He wore pinstriped trousers, black boots, a black coat, a diamond ring, a flashing studded pin and carried a pearl-handled pistol. Tom was Central City's first "Dapper Dan".*

*November 13th found the miners in a rage. Miss Millie had been forced into a buggy and "stolen" by Tom Evans. They pressed criminal charges and intended to hang him immediately after the trial. The trial was set for 10:00 am on November 25th, but by 3:00 pm the defendant had not shown and the miners had dejectedly returned to their diggings. A copy of the Rocky Mountain news had been circulated:*

*"Married on the 24th inst by H.H.C. Harrison, esq., Thomas Evans to Rose M. Brown all of the City. The beautiful and fascinating danseuse now makes her debut in the matrimonial melodrama, and we wish her a brilliant and prosperous engagement..."*

*...Millie was gone, but it was still a grand & prosperous year for Central City!*

*We hope you enjoy Millie's and help keep her spirit alive!*

