

A MAN WHO WROTE ONE SENTENCE

owen wister
of harvard college
wrote
in the virginian
the line,

"when you call me that, smile."

TIME IS THE ULTIMATE EDITOR

horace greeley did not say,

"go west, young man."

what horace greeley actually said
was,

"if any young man is about to commence in
the world, with little in his circumstances
to prepossess him in favor of one section
from another, we say to him, publicly and
privately, Go to the West: there your
capacities are sure to be appreciated
and your industry and energy rewarded."

probably horace should just have said,

"go west, young man."

AND I REMEMBER WHY I FLED WEST

in the first week of november
i have to turn back from my drive
to visit my daughter at cornell
because cars are already skidding
off the thickly icing road
into trees and ditches and each other.

A TRUE MINING TOWN

lead, south dakota, is not
just a mining town.
it is, in fact, a mine where
a mountain once was.