

NEWS OF THE WEEK

Interesting Collection of Current Events in Condensed Form From Both Continents.

The sultan is negotiating for the building of a first-class armored cruiser.

The steamer Concho has arrived in New York from Havana with 968 bales of Cuban tobacco.

The English engineers announce that they have plenty of funds and intend to continue their strike.

It is reported that the Afridis are assembling in tribal council, with a view to concluding peace.

Eight of the principal buildings in Lebanon, Tenn., were destroyed by fire Thursday night, with a loss of \$75,000.

The death rate of Chicago for the year was 14 in the thousand, the lowest recorded for any city of over 200,000 inhabitants.

The British bark Taymount, bound from Liverpool for San Francisco, is now 224 days overdue, and her owners have given her up.

John Williams, at Marseilles, O., attacked Mrs. Flint and cut her so badly with a knife that she is not expected to live. He then fatally cut himself.

British bark Samaritan, from San Francisco, arrived in Liverpool considerably damaged from a hurricane which she encountered December 23.

Walter Gregory and Phillip McNelly were instantly killed by a switching engine on the track in the yard of the Murden Boiler Works at Philadelphia.

A thief stole \$4,000 worth of jewelry from the house of Volney Mallett, president of the Indiana National bank, of Indianapolis, while the family were at dinner.

Joseph Lockley, clerk of the manager of the McHenry Estate Association, has disappeared from New York, after securing several thousand dollars by raised checks.

A fortnightly steamer service between this coast and Australia will commence in February, the Canadian Pacific line and the Oceanic line alternating their sailing dates.

French bark Lombard, from Mobile, Ala., sunk while entering the port of Cette, France. Five of the crew, including the captain, were drowned, and eight were saved.

Mrs. Sarah McGovern, wife of one of the wealthiest residents of Rankin, Pa., was shot and killed at her home Friday night, and her husband has been arrested for murder.

A new law went into effect on the first of the year in Massachusetts, providing that not over 30 per cent of the inmates of any penal institution in the state shall be employed in any one industry.

Ballie and Waldo Orem, children, were asphyxiated by coal gas at their home in Leipsic, O.

The barge Canisteo, which went adrift off Cape Cod, has been found in Barnstable bay, with all the crew well.

The Auditorium at Kansas City, recently burned, will be rebuilt at once, and will be ready for occupancy September 1.

In a saloon row between Kentucky mountaineers at Manchester, Will Burly, James Phlipot and Bob Gregory were killed.

Veins of gilsonite of sufficient size to warrant development have been discovered on Willow creek in the Middle Park, Colorado.

M. Tanakoshi, Japanese vice-consul at San Francisco, has been hurriedly recalled to Tokio. It was thought he would be secretary to the legation at Washington.

The French embassy at Washington denies that M. Maillard passed through Washington en route to Cuba to investigate for his government the conditions on the island.

Jacob Stryer and wife were cremated in their burning farmhouse in Fayette county, Pennsylvania. Within 48 hours, six others burned to death in that county.

Frederick Walsen, state treasurer of Colorado, was married to Miss Emma Storek, aged 25. After the war, Walsen's broken health was nursed back by the bride's mother.

Fire destroyed the large pipe organ in the Great Northern hotel, Chicago, entailing a loss of \$20,000. Although the fire was confined entirely to the organ, it sent out such clouds of smoke that many of the guests became alarmed, and a serious panic was narrowly averted.

The burgomaster of Wieschowitz, a suburb of Prague, has been arrested. Many compromising papers concerning the recent riots in Prague were found in his possession. It is alleged that he assisted in placing the bomb under the German schoolhouse at Wieschowitz, which the Czechs attacked and attempted to demolish recently.

Stenographers employed by the defense in the Luertger case have struck. Attorney Harmon will ask the state to furnish a copy of the testimony each day on the ground that Luertger has no money to pay for a stenographer.

Frank Murphy, a San Francisco patrol-wagon driver, admitted that he fired the shot that struck Baldwin Gardiner, the stock broker, Christmas night. He fired two shots at Stroh, the burglar, one of which struck Gardiner, and may cause his death.

Katherine Kidder's father says she will retire from the stage.

Countess Castellane, formerly Anna Gould, has given birth to a son.

The British cruiser Leander and the torpedo-destroyer Virago have left San Diego for Esquimaux.

O. H. McBra, Southern express agent at Brunswick, Ga., embezzled \$14,000. He stood high socially.

Rosa Medici, aged 9, was burned to death near Los Angeles. A spark from a grate ignited her dress.

Ed L. Parker tried to kill C. J. Sheets and wife, in Los Angeles, and then committed suicide. Parker was infatuated with Mrs. Sheets.

John Bergman, who lost his money on the Chicago board of trade, committed suicide in New York, leaving his body to a medical college.

Luertger's attorneys, unable to secure a stenographer at state expense, are taking down the trial in long hand, which may continue it for months.

Sam Turner, a dying negro, was lynched at Kingstree, S. C. He killed Deputy Poston Christmas eve, and during the shooting received a mortal wound.

Gladstone celebrated his 88th birthday. He received many congratulations at Cannes. His health is improving, though he is suffering from neuralgia.

Henry Oliver Goldsmith, a Wall-street broker, is wanted for stealing a \$3,000 check, belonging to Oscar Weisner, of Brooklyn. His victims are said to be many.

Many collieries in Silesia are provided with bombs filled with compressed oxygen for use in cases of accident or entrance into old galleries where the air is foul.

Lee Fat cut the throat of Lee Tong, in San Francisco's Chinatown. The murderer was caught in the act by an officer. Passengers on a street car witnessed the crime.

The 10-year-old daughter of Simon Barringer was accidentally killed at Glenair, Cal., by her brother, two years older, in a playful struggle for possession of a gun.

By the will of Mrs. Henrietta R. Files Baker, \$2,000,000 is bequeathed to the Pennsylvania hospital, contingent upon the death of the son and daughter of the testatrix without issue.

Mrs. Elizabeth Ellidge, aged 83 years, is dead in Breckinridge, Mo. She was the mother of 12 children and had 37 grandchildren, 40 great-grandchildren and 50 great-great-grandchildren.

An imperial decree has been gazetted in Vienna, authorizing the government during the prorogation of parliament to levy taxes and provide for state expenditures from January 1 to June 30 next.

A Miss Jennie Edwards, aged 19, and A. R. McMasters, members of wealthy families residing near Hopkins, Mo., were killed in a runaway. Miss Edwards' skull was crushed by striking a post.

Judge Woffard, of Kansas City, stopped a tilt between lawyers by remarking: "Hereafter when lawyers talk about fighting in this court, I shall adjourn court, and let them fight it out."

An engine and a caboose on the Chicago, Hammond & Western left the track while crossing a bridge over Salt creek, two miles north of Leagrave, Ill., and plunged into eight feet of water. Six men were injured.

Farmer Lawrence Walters, of Cass county, Mich., buried \$2,500 in greenbacks and \$4,000 in government bonds, notes, mortgages, etc., beneath the floor of his barn some months ago. Robbers dug up the treasure and disappeared.

Professor Willard B. Rising, dean of the college of chemistry, university of California, has been appointed member of the American committee for the third international convention of applied chemistry, to be held in Vienna in July.

Gustav Thelan, president of the El Reno, O. T., Stock Exchange bank; Michael Eschoff, cashier; Charles A. Newman, assistant cashier, and Louis Eschoff, a member of the board of directors, were arrested for receiving deposits when the bank was known to be insolvent.

Nellie Johnson, a Kansas City negroess, was chopped to death with a hatchet by her husband. Near by stood a horse and an express wagon, in which were ropes tied to a heavy stone. It had been the intention of the murderer to throw his victim into the river.

The San Francisco Miners' Association will prepare resolutions in favor of the creation of the cabinet office of secretary of mines and mining for adoption by the American institute of mining engineers and federations of miners throughout the East. Representatives Loud and Newlands favor the scheme.

Abe Balm and his two brothers, well-to-do farmers, lived near West Point. When their father died, a few days ago, it was claimed he had starved to death. The sons refused to pay the expenses of his burial. Last night a mob marched to the home of the brothers and called for Abe. The brothers opened fire. The mob returned the fire, and Abe was mortally wounded. The farmers will not countenance the arrest of the mob leaders.

French Royalists Protest. Paris, Jan. 3.—Baron Charette, Baron Lambert, the Comte de Lupe and other prominent royalists have issued a manifesto protesting against the Duke of Orleans' abdication.

Reichsrath Session Closed. Vienna, Jan. 3.—An autograph letter of Emperor Francis Joseph addressed to Baron von Gautsch von Frankenthurn, the Austrian premier, is gazetted, ordering the session of the reichsrath to be closed.

SIX WERE CREMATED

Awful Fate of a Jersey City Family.

SEVERAL MORE SEVERELY HURT

Father, Mother and Four Children the Ones That Perished in the Burning of Their Home.

New York, Jan. 4.—Six members of one family were killed by flames and smoke in a fire that occurred early this morning in Jersey City. The dead are: Adolph Reich, 45 years old, the father; Emma Reich, 42, mother; Tillie Reich, 22 years; Ida Reich, 15 years; Albert Reich, 14 years; Gustave Reich, 8 years.

Several others were injured, and it may be that another member of the ill-fated family will die. He is the 19-year old son, and his body is covered with burns. John Canway, chief of the Jersey City fire department, was very badly burned. He fell through a burning floor, and was rescued with difficulty. Henry Reich, 18 years old, managed to make his way from the house with bad burns, but he is not seriously injured.

Adolph Reich's home was at 317 Germania avenue, near the Hudson county boulevard, in the Hudson City district. He was a real estate agent and well-to-do, living in a pleasant house of three stories.

It is thought the fire broke out from a heater in the basement and worked its way up to the third floor, where the sleeping apartments of the family were located.

Henry Reich said it was late when the family retired, the evening having been spent in entertaining New Year's callers. Early in the morning he was awakened by shouts. Running into the hall, he saw smoke and flames in the lower hall. His father was there, and they managed to get out of the house in their night clothes. Young Reich ran down the steps and gave the alarm. When he returned his father was nowhere to be seen, but one of his brothers, Sigmund, was there, badly burned. He was taken to a neighboring house, where he said he had jumped through the blinding smoke and darted down the stairs out into the open air.

Several engine companies responded promptly to the alarm, and in a few minutes the fire was out. Then began the search of the house. The rays of the lanterns disclosed the charred bodies against the wall at the foot of the stairs. They were those of Adolph Reich, his daughter, Tillie, and little Gustave. The father had fallen upon the daughter, and his son was in his arms. They were burned almost beyond recognition. In the basement of the house the searching party stumbled over the remains of Ida and Albert, two blackened corpses with arms intertwined. Portions of the limbs had been entirely burned away, and the faces were horribly distorted. The mother was found in the sitting-room. She was but slightly burned. Her face showed no look of pain. She undoubtedly died from suffocation. The bodies were sent to the morgue.

Theatrical Train Affre.

St. Louis, Jan. 4.—A theatrical company playing "In Old Kentucky" left Kansas City at midnight last night on a special train of three coaches, over the Wabash, en route to St. Louis. An hour after leaving, the front end of the baggage car was discovered to be on fire. The engineer crowded on all steam to make a siding at Fleming, 10 miles ahead. They could be heard above the roar of the flying train. When the siding was reached, the baggage car was a loss and left to burn. The company lost its scenery and three valuable horses. Nobody was injured, and the train of two cars arrived here this morning.

A FEARFUL EXPERIENCE.

Missing Boats of the Steamer Gerona Beach Seal Island.

Halifax, N. S., Jan. 4.—The two boats containing Captain Baxter and 36 of the crew of the Thompson line steamer Gerona, which was lost off Seal Island, while on a voyage from Portland, Me., to London, reached the island safely. One man named Carl, who was supposed to be in the boat in charge of Second Officer Alfred Watson, which landed at Wood's harbor, is missing, and it is thought he was drowned. Most of the men, who were in Watson's boat, were cattlemen.

Watson and his men had a fearful experience, being afloat for nearly eight hours before they made the shore at Fortress point. It was pitch dark, when they pulled away from the helpless steamer, and it was not until after daylight that they were able to determine which direction to point their craft in order to make land. A fierce gale beat upon them all the morning, and the sea threatened to swamp them at every moment. The weather was bitterly cold, too, and they suffered terribly from exposure. When they finally pulled upon the rocky beach at noon, they were thoroughly exhausted, having been rowing constantly through a stormy sea since shortly after 4 A.M.

Reports from along the coast today indicate that the Gerona foundered not long after the crew took to the lifeboat. At Cape Sable a number of cattle and a badly shattered boat have been washed ashore. Immediately after the receipt there last night of the news of the wreck preparations were made to dispatch steamers in search of the missing boats and the abandoned ship.

A dispatch received late tonight from Yarmouth reports the arrival there of Captain Baxter, and crew.

A STATEMENT BY EARL LI.

German Occupation of Kiao Chou a High-Handed Outrage.

New York, Jan. 5.—The Herald today publishes the following copyrighted letter from its correspondent in Peking: "Peking, Jan. 5.—According to instructions received from the Herald, I requested an interview with Li Hung Chang, and informed him that the New York Herald offered the publicity of its columns for any statement that China desired to make to the Western world in respect to the actual crisis in the East.

"The great statesman replied that China was anxious that the Western people should understand thoroughly matters as they were. His excellency's views are given herewith in the following interview, which he approved: "The forcible occupation of Kiao Chou by Germany is a direct violation of existing treaties and of international law. The pretext made to this act of war was the murder of two missionaries by robbers in the interior of the province of Shan Tung. The Chinese government offered immediate and full redress for this outrage, punishment of the criminals, dismissal of the local officials and large compensation for all losses.

"Anxious to avoid hostile acts, the Chinese troops were withdrawn from Kiao Chou when the Germans landed, and, despite strong public feeling prevailing throughout the country for the defense of Chinese territory against aggression, my government has not sent reinforcements to Kiao Chou.

"Outlaws exist in China, as well as in all countries. Neither treaties, law nor religion can entirely suppress crime anywhere in the world. There are places in every country where lawlessness abounds, and to such a place in Shan Tung the German missionaries determined to go, knowing that the natives themselves were often victims of these bandits.

"Unfortunately China has not yet recovered from the effects of the late war, and the country requires a period of peace to carry out the work of reform lately begun.

"Of late years, from instruction and observation, the Chinese have come to regard the countries of the Western world as models even greater in justice than in arms. Is it right to oppress us while we are struggling to emerge from the restraints of our ancient civilization, while improvement and progress steadily continue? Should China be distressed by having her shores invaded and her territory occupied because of an occurrence which Western countries would deal with by law and not by war—an unexpected incident, deplored by my government and followed by full redress?

"Our desire is to preserve our territory intact and to steadily improve it as a field open to all countries equally for the development of commerce."

THE BREACH WIDENING.

A War Between Costa Rica and Nicaragua Imminent.

New York, Jan. 5.—A dispatch to the Herald from Panama says: The trouble between Costa Rica and Nicaragua has taken a new phase, according to advices from the Herald correspondent in Managua. The Costa Rican consul at Managua has been sentenced to five years' imprisonment, and has fled.

The Costa Rican consul at Managua, Senor Eduardo Beeche, was arrested in that city on September 17 last year and imprisoned. The charge against him was complicity in a revolutionary movement against President Zelaya. Senor Beeche's exequatur was canceled at the time of his arrest. He was in prison for several weeks, despite the representations made by the Costa Rican government to Nicaragua to secure his release. Costa Rica demanded that proofs against her consul be produced, but the demand went unheeded, though finally he was released on bail. Considerable friction between the two governments was caused, and this was followed by the interchange of several sharp notes. There were reports that both Nicaragua and Costa Rica were quietly preparing for war, and these reports were not altogether unfounded.

Finally, despite protests from Costa Rica, the trial of Consul Beeche by court-martial began. President Zelaya swept aside Costa Rica's demands, and a few days ago the court-martial sentenced the prisoner. The sentence was kept secret until yesterday. Senor Beeche in some way learned of this sentence about a week ago, and immediately left Nicaragua, though there was a report that he would be pardoned. It was supposed he went to Costa Rica. This has aroused new friction between the governments, and the end cannot be foretold. War is believed in many quarters will result.

Nicaragua is threatened from another source. Believing that war between that country and Costa Rica is probable, Costa Rica is going to Salvador to induce President Gutierrez to aid her against Nicaragua. Salvador, however, is in great danger of revolution, so President Gutierrez in the present case is an unknown quantity.

An outbreak in Salvador is imminent. A correspondent telegraphs that the situation, financial and political, could not be worse.

Anstin, Tex., Jan. 4.—W. J. Bryan and wife, accompanied by ex-Governor Crittenden, of Missouri, arrived here last night, and today was tendered a reception at the home of ex-Governor Hogg. About 2,500 people attended. Bryan authorized a statement that he will not make any statement on his Mexico trip until he reaches Lincoln, when he will give the public his views in detail. However, he expressed himself as delighted with the country and people.

AUTONOMY IN CUBA

General Blanco to Control All the Departments.

CROWN MINISTERS TO DICTATE

The Edict As It Is Set Forth—Cubans Will Not Accept It—Gomez on Annexation.

Havana, Jan. 3.—The Gazette (official) has printed the autonomic legislation for Cuba. General Blanco in his edict assumes supreme command of all branches of the government as the delegate of the crown ministers of state, war, navy and foreign affairs, who reside in Madrid, and who will continue to dictate to General Blanco what he shall do in carrying out his functions.

General Blanco, or any other captain-general who might be appointed in his place, will be simply a vice-royal governor, and will be assisted by six secretaries assembled with their chairman in a council of government. The government will go into effect on Saturday next, and will be formed of five secretaries with their chairman (six altogether). The list of five secretaries has already been forecasted by cable, with the exception that the department of posts and telegraphs will be under Senor Rodriguez.

The correspondent of the Madrid Imparcial, who has ridden over a greater part of the island, writes in his paper that he saw at San Jose Lajas, this province, 4,500 reconcentrados thrown into the streets or dying in wretched huts, mere living skeletons. He stated that 10,000 have died within a year. Most of the reconcentrados, he says, do not care to work when they leave their homes. They carried with them all their belongings, and have gradually sold them. Their physical strength is wasted, and they need a helping hand to lift them even from the gutter.

Several correspondents of El Diario de la Marina describe the horrible misery due to fevers and sickness in different towns in the province of Santa Clara. The people are without shelter or medical assistance. The winter season increases the suffering among them. The women are half nude, with their naked infants wasted with cold and hunger.

Independence Their Goal.

New York, Jan. 3.—A Herald correspondent has just returned to Havana after having visited the camp of General Gomez. After a long and perilous ride through country infested with Spanish troops, he reached General Gomez' camp, December 18, and found the general in excellent health and spirits. He was able for the first time in many months to mount his horse and make a long journey of inspection of the various camps into which the men under his immediate command were divided.

The correspondent put before General Gomez the programme of autonomy to secure his opinion. The general smiled contemptuously, after glancing over a copy of a Havana paper containing the terms, and said:

"There is no use wasting time in discussing these terms. It makes no difference whether they be regarded as liberal or not, the fact remains that we are not fighting for autonomy, but for independence. This Spain seems utterly unable to realize. We have been told that the autonomy offered is an act of liberality by the mother country to induce the patriots in arms to resume their allegiance to Spain. That is worse than folly. It is an insult to the men fighting for freedom. There is not in the Cuban army one man so base as to accept such terms. We will not even listen to any overtures, and any person entering our camps for such a purpose will be put to death in accordance with my general orders."

Continuing, General Gomez said he had no faith in the ability of Spain to immediately enact autonomy, even in the sections under Spanish control, but whether she succeeded or not, the matter was of no moment to the men in the field, who would continue to fight, animated by love of freedom and an absolute confidence in ultimate success.

The correspondent asked General Gomez for his opinion as to American intervention and the annexation of Cuba to the United States. He replied that intervention does not necessarily imply annexation.

"I would gladly accept the former, as I would accept aid from any quarter, though I believe if left alone we will accomplish our own independence unaided, and I am loath that we should be robbed of any share of the honor of expulsion of the Spaniards.

"As far as annexation is concerned, I cannot admit its possibility. To that proposition I make the same reply as I do to the autonomy plan: 'That our object is independence; we have among us young men who have sacrificed everything to this sacred cause. For myself, I am an old man, who now has but one object in life, and that is to see the flag of Cuba supreme from Cape Maysi to San Antonio. We have made fearful sacrifices and we stand ready to make more in order to achieve this glorious end.'"

TWENTY-FOUR DEAD.

Terrible Accident in a Canadian Town—Caused by Floor Collapsing.

London, Ont., Jan. 5.—Twenty-four persons are known to have been killed and many injured by the collapse of a floor in the city hall this evening. Tonight closed the municipal campaign, and the hall was crowded to hear the address of the successful candidates. At midnight the bodies of the following had been taken out and identified:

F. Heaman, C. Breckett, E. Lupton, N. Carothers, R. Leigh, —, Harbott, T. W. Burke, John Smith, —, Talbot, A. Phillips, John Turner, Ben Nash, J. W. Bortland, —, Hilburn, Frank Robinson, James McLean, John Barridge, Oswald Bruce, B. Jacques, W. H. Dell, Stephen Fellows, Allen Love, unidentified man.

Those who were more seriously injured were taken to neighboring drug-stores, whence they were taken to hospitals or to their homes, after their injuries had been attended to.

The dead were taken to the committee rooms of Alderman Parnell, the defeated candidate for mayor, directly across the street.

At the close of the polls a crowd had gathered in the city hall, where it had been the custom in years past, for the successful candidates to address the people. The hall was crowded to the very doors, probably 2,000 people being jammed in its narrow space. There was a lull in the proceedings, when the audience called for several of the newly elected aldermen at once, and there was some delay in securing a speaker to address them. Alderman Carothers joined the mayor in an effort to secure quiet. In response to numerous calls, R. M. Toote was pushed forward to the platform on which the speakers stood. As he reached it there was an ominous crackling, and the raised platform on which the mayor and the newly elected aldermen were seated seemed to pitch forward to the floor.

There was a sagging of timbers, and the next moment 150 people were hurled 20 feet to the floor below. A beam running 20 feet along the center of the hall had given way, and the crowded mass standing above that section of the floor was thrown in a heap to the bottom. A large safe stood in one corner of the hall, and, with a huge steam coil, weighing half a ton, came crashing down on the heads of the victims.

Following the crash there was a wild rush for the doors. At the south door, where the majority of the crowd had entered, there was a terrific panic. Those in front were thrown down by the oncoming rush, shrieking and fighting for the door and safety. Only one-half of the rear door, a space of probably three feet, was open, and, in the mad rush, no one thought to open the door to its entirety, and 60 people struggled through the narrow space, the strong bearing down the weaker.

Alderman Neil Cooper was among the first to be dragged out of the mass of broken beams. He was quickly carried to an adjoining room, and in a moment half a dozen more were keeping him company.

Several men lowered ropes and endeavored to haul the wounded out of the pit. From under the massed weight of the broken beams came many cries for help. The windows on the ground floor were broken in, and the living and the dead were tenderly passed to the waiting ambulances.

An investigation of the wreck after the catastrophe had happened disclosed the fact that a whole section of the floor had dropped, the joists having been as neatly cut off as though the work had been done with a saw.

The building was an old one, having been erected in the early '50s, and of late years additional stories had been placed on the old walls.

OVER A MILLION IN GOLD.

Corona Said to Have Brought That Much From Klondike.

San Francisco, Jan. 5.—A Chronicle special from Port Townsend says: There was over \$1,000,000 in gold dust and nuggets on the steamer Corona which has arrived from Alaska. The treasure on the steamer was carefully guarded on the trip down by two watchmen on day and night shifts. Some of the nuggets averaged as high as 15 ounces. A man named Davidson, from Cripple Creek, Col., had a nugget that weighed 15 1/2 ounces. One of the drawers in Captain Carroll's room was packed with nuggets of all sizes. Your correspondent had the pleasure of seeing this wealth through the kindness of Captain Carroll. In addition to this amount there was considerable more tied up in sacks among the returning Klondikers. From a careful estimate, it is safe to say that in drafts and dust there was about \$1,200,000 in wealth aboard the Corona.

F. Harmon McConnell, of San Francisco, was one of the returning passengers. He verified the estimates given that over a million was brought out by the miners. In his opinion it is a conservative estimate.

The monthly statement of the public debt shows that at the close of the business December 31, 1897, the debt, less cash in the treasury, amounted to \$999,111,899, a decrease for the month of \$10,114,899. This decrease in the debt is due principally to an increase in the cash, which is accounted for by the sale of the Union Pacific railroad.

Unalaska Mail Contract.

San Francisco, Jan. 5.—The Pacific Steam Whaling Company has been awarded the contract for carrying the United States mails from Dyea to Unalaska. The steamer Excelsior will be put on the route, and will run at regular intervals during the spring and summer. The whaling company also intends increasing its steamer facilities between here, Copper River and Skagway, and intends, if possible, to get its full share of the Klondike travel.