

A YUKON OUTFIT

WHAT THE GOLD HUNTER SHOULD TAKE.

Sound Advice for Those Who Contemplate Seeking Their Fortunes in the New Gold Fields of Alaska and the Northwest Territory.

The most practical and vital question to be decided by the man who intends to go to the Yukon next year is the composition and quantity of his outfit. What should he take and how much of it. This is far more important a question than that of the route he shall select, since by any regular route he would probably reach his destination, while should he not have a proper outfit, he would be likely to find his labor to have been in vain, with failure and possible starvation staring him in the face.

Whatever a man would require to eat, to wear or to work with he should take with him. To go into that country depending upon being able to purchase any of the necessities of life or successful work is to run the risk of utter failure and calamity. Again and again was this asserted by experienced Yukoners when the excitement broke out in July. Publicly through the press and privately on all occasions they advised gold seekers to take with them a complete outfit for 18 months, certainly not less than a year, and to place no dependence whatever upon being able to purchase what they might need from trading posts. This advice was based upon the well-known conditions of work and transportation in that region. The miner might be located several hundred miles by a trail impassable in winter from the nearest trading post, while the post itself, even if accessible, might fail to secure a stock of goods.

The soundness of this advice has been amply demonstrated the present season. Hundreds who did not give it sufficient weight, have rushed into Dawson City with not enough food to last them through the winter, only to find that not a pound of food is to be purchased there, and that they are but adding to the distress of those already threatened with starvation. They have not done this in ignorance, but in defiance of the advice of men of experience. The golden mirage of their imaginations has blinded them to the practical, and they have rushed headlong to needless hardships, if not destruction. Yet the majority of them took this advice seriously at first, and equipped themselves well for the journey. Very few, indeed, of those who have reached Dawson with almost nothing for their support this winter, landed at Dyea or Skagway with less than a thousand pounds of supplies each. The secret of their present shortness is the difficulties of the trail and their intense eagerness to reach their destination. They have disposed of or abandoned the bulk of their outfit, trusting to luck, or the deity supposed to have fools in his special charge, to get through the winter somehow. They would have done better to have camped at the lake till spring, than to have gone on to Dawson short of supplies. They would have done still better, when they found they could not get through this fall in good shape, to have returned to the coast and waited until spring for another attempt fully equipped. Those who followed this course are infinitely better off than those who sacrificed everything to their insane eagerness to get through, and are now at Dawson with nothing to do and threatened with being overwhelmed by a calamity of their own creation.

The value of the advice given to those who started last fall has been demonstrated by their experiences. The same advice is as valuable to those who will go in the spring. Take everything with you that you anticipate to need for a year for any purpose, and do not depend upon being able to buy anything whatever. It is folly to take for granted that there will be so many new steamers on the river next year that the country will be amply supplied with food and other necessities. Assuming that transportation facilities will be increased ten times, this will be offset by the undoubted fact that more than ten times as many persons will go in as there are now, and that the added transportation facilities will be used to carry them and their outfits. To the thousands who are already there and must depend entirely upon supplies brought in for sale, must be added the other thousands who will not heed the voice of prudence and will rush in lightly equipped, depending upon purchasing what they need for the winter. It is extremely doubtful whether enough goods for sale can be taken in next summer to supply this demand. Indeed, in view of the experiences of this year, it is almost certain that they can not.

Even if it were not for this uncertainty, the conditions of successful work there require that the miner take in a full outfit and have it with him wherever he goes. The Yukon gold fields cover a great area of country, while the trading posts are few and at present only along the Yukon river. Other posts will doubtless be established next year, near such new districts as may become populous, yet even these will be only at points accessible to steamers. Those going to the gold fields must not expect to find claims near the present centers of population. They will be compelled to prospect distant streams and gulches, and if successful, they may locate several hundred miles from the nearest store. To be compelled to make a journey after supplies might cause the loss of the entire season's prospecting, even assuming that the things needed could be purchased at all. Every prospecting party should be fully equipped to subsist itself for a year. Otherwise it can not carry on its work under the conditions necessary for success. This is made clear when one understands the method of mining and the difficulties of travel in the winter season. In a mountainous region without trails, the ground covered with snow and the thermometer almost continuously below zero.

To sink a shaft down to this requires a great deal of fuel, and it takes many weeks of hard work in the open season to gather fuel enough to last through the winter for heating and working purposes. Water for washing out the dirt and extracting the gold can be had only in the summer and early fall. In some districts water flows only a few weeks each year. All the dirt taken out of the shaft is piled up near it till the following summer, and until then the miner can not tell what will be the result of his year's labor.

This is the ordinary programme of the Yukon miner. He reaches the gold fields in June or July. He spends the next few weeks in prospecting and finally locates a claim. There is then but a short time left in which to gather fire wood and prepare for work. During the winter he sinks his shaft and piles up the dirt to be run through sluice boxes the next summer. When he can get water he begins washing, and by the time he has completed it more than a year has passed from the time he first arrived in the gold fields, and it may then be too late for him to get out of the country that season. If he went in supplied for 18 months and has kept his supplies he is all right. If not, he may be in the position of those Klondike miners this winter, who have not supplies to carry them through till spring and can not buy them at any price.

So much for the necessity of an ample outfit. Now a few words about the nature of it. Some things are absolute necessities, and one of these is quicksilver for saving the gold. Take five pounds. To be without it would be like a soldier without ammunition. It should be in a metal flask of some kind, something that will not break, and care should be taken not to spill it. A pick and long-handled shovel are necessary tools, also a gold pan. You will want a kit of tools for making a boat, as well as for building a cabin, flumes, etc. It should consist of whipsaw, handsaw, jack plane, draw-knife, axe, claw hatchet, hammer, square, chisel, files, whetstone, chalk line and wire and galvanized nails, also oakum, pitch, cots, rowlocks, calking iron, boat cotton, twine, sail needles, wooden block and manila cotton rope.

The necessary camping outfit consists of a tent, a Yukon stove, a nest of three camp kettles, fry pan, bake pan, water bucket, plates, cup and saucer, coffee pot, knives, forks, spoons, two large spoons and a butcher knife. The best materials for utensils are aluminum, granite ware and steel in the order named. No tin, china or glass is desirable. There is no economy in not getting the best and a full equipment. Food must be good and properly cooked if one would retain health and be in condition to work. Insufficient or poorly cooked food, with little variety, is the chief cause of scurvy. Too much care cannot be exercised in this particular.

As for food, an adequate supply for 18 months weighs about a ton. The chief items are 600 pounds of flour, 300 pounds of bacon, 150 pounds each of beans and sugar, 75 pounds each of rolled oats or other mush material and corn meal, 50 pounds of rice, six dozen cans of condensed milk, 35 pounds of butter in sealed cans, 150 pounds of evaporated vegetables, 100 pounds of evaporated fruit, 50 pounds of prunes and raisins, 30 pounds of dried fish, 40 pounds of coffee, with baking powder, soda, salt, pepper, ginger, mustard, yeast cakes, tea, soap, matches, lime juice (very important), dried beef, extract of beef, soup in tins, sausage, tobacco, etc., as desired, bearing in mind always that variety of food promotes health. There has more or less been said in the papers about various concentrated foods, but with the exception of evaporated vegetables and fruit, condensed preserves, condensed milk and beef extract there is nothing yet been brought forward which has been proved desirable. One can not afford to experiment with his stomach in Alaska.

All supplies should be carefully packed in canvas sacks of a total weight of 50 pounds each as nearly as possible. Canvas of superior quality should be used, the object being to preserve the food from loss by dampness as well as by breaking or tearing of the packages. Fifty pound packages are the most convenient for handling, and this is often as great a weight as one man can carry. It is better to have these canvas sacks paraffined, to resist dampness. Do not use oiled canvas, as the extreme coldness causes it to crack, with consequent loss of the contents of the sack. This is true also of oiled clothing, sleeping bags, etc. Plain canvas is better than oiled, and paraffined better than plain. A canvas tarpaulin is necessary as an outfit cover, and this may also be fitted up and used for a sail. The canvas sacks should be numbered and a list of the contents of each kept. The owner's name should be plainly marked on each. Such necessities as matches, candles, etc., should be distributed throughout the sacks, so that a loss of a portion of the outfit will not deprive the owner of these things. Put matches in tin boxes. The camper will require a tent, 8x10 or 10x12 being the usual sizes taken. Each man should have a canvas sleeping bag, preferably paraffined, with a hood to draw over his head. He can have another heavy woolen sleeping bag to go inside this, or use blankets, as he may prefer, though there is more warmth to the same weight in the sleeping bag.

As for clothing, the essentials are Mackinaw suits, heavy woolen underwear and overshirts, heavy woolen socks, woolen mitts and fleece lined leather mitts, heavy leather boots, gum boots, overalls, woolen cap, soft felt hat and a waterproof clothing sack. To this equipment one may add whatever he may think desirable, but these at least are necessary. The question of footwear is an important one. Gum boots are worn only while at work in the water, either in a claim or along the trail. Leather boots crack and are easily ruined in the snow and cold. The Indians make a moose skin boot, called "muckluk," which is the best footwear along the Yukon, but it is of course impossible for them to supply the demand for them next year. This renders it advisable for the gold-seeker to take at least one extra pair of boots with him. The most desirable is the style of boot worn by lumbermen.

There are numerous little things that are a necessary part of an outfit. Every man should have a small kit of shoemaker's tools and supplies, also a complete mending outfit for clothing, toilet articles, etc., all in a case with pockets, one that can be rolled up and tied. A few yards of mosquito netting are necessary, for mosquitoes are a pest. Goggles to protect the eyes from snow blindness are necessary. Pens, ink, pencils, paper and government stamped envelopes, both Canadian and United States, should be taken. A few books are worth their weight. Fishing tackle and shot guns are likely to prove of service, as the streams teem with fish and water-fowl are extremely abundant in summer. Traps are useless, as all taking of animals for their fur is done by Indians. A compass is desirable, also snow calks for the feet. For travel on the snow a Yukon sled is needed. No matter by what route one travels or how he expects to route one's outfit, there will be times either on the journey in or later when he will have to pack supplies on his own back, and he should be equipped for it. The ordinary packing straps cut and gall the shoulders and let the load lie like a dead weight on the small of the back and the kinders. There are various devices for overcoming these troubles. The best of them are the Merriam pack, by which the weight is thrown upon the hips, and the Yukon packing frame, which places the weight on the shoulders. Either is worth far more than it costs to the man who has to pack his outfit. In packing it is a great mistake to overload oneself or to carry a load too far. The best plan is to move the entire outfit along by short stages, and then to stop work before completely exhausted. One should be especially careful not to sit around without a coat when heated or to wear wet clothing when not at work.

Every man going to Alaska should take a small supply of medicines and surgical necessities. These outfits, both regular and homeopathic, may be procured in specially prepared cases, and cost about \$10. He should also understand the use of the remedies and appliances.

Finally, the best advice of all is to take only the best quality of everything, whether clothing, provisions or utensils, and to procure them from experienced outfitters, who know just what is wanted and how to pack it. It is poor economy to save a cent or two a pound on provisions and then pay a dollar a pound to get this cheap food to its destination.

These things can all be bought cheaper and to better advantage at the outfitting points from which the steamers sail than at any other place. It is both economy and wisdom to wait until the final starting point is reached before outfitting, as a perfect equipment, selected under the advice of reliable outfitters and properly packed, is half the battle for success.

Girl Fishers in a Church.
Because the members of his church were negligent in attending Sunday services and still more so in contributing to the support of himself and the church, Rev. Maurice Penfield Fikes, pastor of the First Baptist church at Trenton, N. J., decided to try an innovation to attract people to hear him preach and their nickles and dimes from their unwilling pockets. He introduced pretty girls as ushers, and is more than pleased with the results of the first experiment. Mr. Fikes had the sagacity to make announcement of the fact that the young women would show folks to their seats and take up the collection. He was careful, too, to pick out six of the prettiest girls in his flock, so the church had more young men in its pews than had ever before been seen there. Every seat in the church was filled long before services were begun, and it was necessary to get chairs in the aisles. As ushers the girls were a grand success, but their best services were given when the time came to take up the collection. The innovation doesn't meet with the approval of the other members, who say that when people are drawn to a church simply for the privilege of looking upon a bevy of pretty girls there is no lasting good to be expected from it. But Mr. Fikes says that he believes in getting people into his church and he doesn't care how he does it so long as the means are legitimate and honest. It took a long time to take up the collection, but when it was over and the money counted there was nearly \$300 to add to the treasury of the church.

Zertucha's Treachery.
Dr. Zertucha, who was the physician of the late General Maceo, has been appointed mayor of Bejuco, Havana province. Zertucha has belonged, in his day, to all the political parties in Cuba. At one time he was a bandit in the Vuelta Abajo, and his record was very discreditable. It was quite inexplicable to the friends of Maceo that he kept the physician on his staff for so long a period, notwithstanding the warnings given him. Maceo used to say that Zertucha's fault was his drinking habit. At the time the famous Cuban commander was killed, Zertucha was charged with leading him and his party into the fatal ambush, but he issued a long statement in which he tried to show that Maceo met his death in battle in the usual way. Zertucha also bitterly assailed the honor of the Cuban leaders. After the killing of Maceo the dishonored physician was allowed to go free by the Spaniards, and it was said, and generally believed, that his pockets were well lined with Spanish gold.

King of a South Sea Island.
About six weeks ago John F. Hobbs, a citizen of South Carolina, was cast upon the island of Ililka, in the South sea. He lived among the natives, for he could not get away then. He taught the uncivilized people many things and instructed them in arts unknown to them. So, when a year later their king died, he was chosen to rule over the four islands. Mr. Hobbs had a commission to the World's Fair and the Atlanta exposition. While in New York last year in May on his way to Australia, and his far-off kingdom, he met Miss Ella Collins and made her his wife, wife of King Umoalea, of Ililka, and postponed his trip to this island. But now, as soon as the princess is able to go, the royal family will begin the journey. The natives of the island of Ililka are akin to the Samoans. It is said Mr. Hobbs once refused an offer by England of £15,000 and a knighthood for his little kingdom.

It is reported that quite a serious landslide occurred in the neighborhood of the Seven Devils, below Cape Arago, during the recent storm.

WEEKLY MARKET LETTER.

(Office of Downing, Hopkins & Co., Chicago Board of Trade Brokers, 71-714 Chamber of Commerce Building, Portland, Oregon.)

The trade has fallen into a way of thinking that the big receipts of the past week will clean up the surplus wheat that is liable to come out at present prices. Most of this wheat is contract, when it is all in the bulls think that they will control the situation.

In the Northwest the claim is made that 80 per cent of the crop has been marketed, and that country elevator stocks are very light compared with previous years. Every one is looking for a sharp falling off in receipts after the first of the year; also for higher prices, while the situation on all sides is admittedly bullish the world over, the prices have not responded to what the bulls think the position of stocks to estimate requirements justifies. They have fixed the standard of values in their own minds, and because they are not realized they feel disappointed. Most of them are too much inclined to lose sight of the fact that the price of wheat has reached a point where substitutions of other articles out greatly into the consumption, and that the speculators are more solicitous as to the price and the probable supplies than the consumers.

The outlook for supplies from Argentina is uncertain, the probability being that the exportable surplus will not exceed 30,000,000 bushels. Traders lose sight of the fact that Argentina is a large country, and that unfavorable conditions will hardly exist over the entire territory.

Harvesting is now in progress, and the rains might reduce the exportable surplus. There will be little wheat to ship from Australia, but India's prospects are evidently good, judging from the free offerings in Liverpool for September. The American visible supply this week showed a larger increase than expected, being 1,051,000 bushels more than last week, or now totals 36,616,000 bushels, as compared with 54,443,000 bushels at the same time last year.

Portland Market.
Wheat—Walla Walla, 75¢@76¢; Valley and Bluestem, 77¢@78¢ per bushel. Flour—Best grades, \$4.25; Graham, \$3.40; superfine, \$3.25 per barrel. Oats—Choice white, 35¢@36¢; choice gray, 33¢@34¢ per bushel. Barley—Feed barley, \$19@20; brewing, \$20 per ton. Millstuffs—Bran, \$17 per ton; middlings, \$21; shorts, \$18. Hay—Timothy, \$12.50@13; clover, \$10@11; California wheat, \$10; do oat, \$11; Oregon wild hay, \$9@10 per ton.

Eggs—18@25¢ per dozen. Butter—Fancy creamery, 55¢@60¢; fair to good, 45¢@50¢; dairy, 40¢@50¢ per roll. Cheese—Oregon, 11¢; Young America, 12¢; California, 9¢@10¢ per pound. Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$1.75@2.25 per dozen; broilers, \$2.00@2.50; geese, \$5.50@6.50; ducks, \$4.00@5.00 per dozen; turkeys, live, 8¢@9¢ per pound. Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, 35¢@45¢ per sack; sweets, \$1.40 per cental. Onions—Oregon, new, red, 90¢; yellow, 80¢ per cental.

Hops—5@14¢ per pound for new crop; 1896 crop, 4¢@6¢. Wool—Valley, 14¢@16¢ per pound; Eastern Oregon, 7¢@12¢; mohair, 20¢@22¢ per pound. Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, \$3.50; dressed mutton, 6½¢; spring lambs, 5½¢ per pound. Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$4.00; light and feeders, \$3.00@4.00; dressed, \$4.50@5.00 per 100 pounds. Beef—Gross, top steers, \$2.75@3.00; cows, \$2.50; dressed beef, 4½¢@6¢ per pound. Veal—Large, 4½¢@5¢; small, 5½¢@6¢ per pound.

Seattle Market.
Butter—Fancy native creamery, brick, 28¢; ranch, 16¢@18¢. Cheese—Native Washington, 12½¢; California, 9½¢. Eggs—Fresh ranch, 28¢. Poultry—Chickens, live, per pound, hens, 10¢; spring chickens, \$2.50@3.00; ducks, \$3.50@3.75. Wheat—Feed wheat, \$22 per ton. Oats—Choice, per ton, \$19@20. Corn—Whole, \$22; cracked, per ton, \$22; feed meal, \$22 per ton. Barley—Rolled or ground, per ton, \$22; whole, \$22. Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef, steers, 6¢; cows, 5½¢; mutton sheep, 7¢; pork, 6¢; veal, small, 7¢. Fresh Fish—Halibut, 5¢@6¢; salmon, 2¢; salmon trout, 7¢@10¢; flounders and sole, 3¢@4¢; ling cod, 4¢@5¢; rock cod, 5¢; smelt, 2½¢@4¢. Fresh Fruit—Apples, 50¢@1.25 per box; peaches, 75¢@80¢; prunes, 35¢@40¢; pears, 75¢@1 per box.

San Francisco Market.
Wool—Nevada 11¢@13¢; Oregon, 12¢@14¢; Northern 7¢@8¢ per pound. Hops—10¢@14¢ per pound. Millstuffs—Middlings, \$20@23; California bran, \$17.00@18.00 per ton. Onions—New red, 70¢@80¢; do new silverskin, \$2.00@2.25 per cental. Eggs—Store, 24¢@28¢; ranch, 30¢@34¢; Eastern, 16¢@20¢; duck, 20¢@25¢ per dozen. Citrus Fruit—Oranges, navels, \$1.50@3.00; Mexican limes, \$2.00@3.00; California lemons, choice, \$1.50@2.00; do common, 50¢@1.25 per box. Cheese—Fancy mild, new, 12½¢; fair to good, 7¢@8¢ per pound. Hay—Wheat, 12¢@14¢; wheat and oat, \$11@14; oat, \$10@12; river barley, \$7@8; best barley, \$10@12; alfalfa, \$8.50@10; clover, \$8.50@10. Fresh Fruit—Apples, 25¢@31.25 per large box; grapes, 25¢@50¢; Isabella, 60¢@75¢; peaches, 50¢@61¢; pears, 75¢@1 per box; plums, 20¢@35¢. Butter—Fancy creamery, 38¢; do seconds, 35¢@37¢; fancy dairy, 32¢@34¢; good to choice, 30¢@31¢ per pound. Potatoes—New, in boxes, 35¢@55¢.

Mazatlan's Last Bullfight.
City of Mexico, Dec. 28.—The last of the series of bullfights by Mazatlan was given this afternoon, and was attended by 7,000 people. Tomas Mazatlan narrowly escaped with his life, being tossed by an infuriated bull, and gored in the hand. Ten horses were killed, and six bulls, the usual number. The fight was not up to the usual standard.

Seven lions are among the pets of the sultan of Morocco.

Ten Were Cremated.
London, Dec. 28.—Mrs. Jarvis and her nine children, the youngest about 8 months old, were burned to death in a cottage occupied by the Jarvis and two families in Bethnal Green, London. The family lived on an upper floor. By a strange coincidence, Mrs. Jarvis, the woman's husband, who had been suffering from consumption, died in the workhouse infirmary this afternoon, without having heard of the disaster. Mrs. Jarvis earned a scant livelihood by making matchboxes, and her rooms were filled with inflammable material.

Mr. Gladstone will shortly celebrate his 88th birthday. The "grand old man" was born in Liverpool December 29, 1809, and as things look now, he bids fair to welcome the dawn of the 20th century. If he survives till next year he can participate in the centenary celebration of the Irish rebellion. As he comes of a sturdy race, the chances are that he will live even beyond his 90th birthday.

TO ACQUIRE MORE TERRITORY

Senator Lodge Wants Us to Buy St. Thomas, St. Croix and St. John.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—A special to the Times-Herald from Washington says: Senator Lodge is preparing a bill favoring the purchase of the three islands of St. Thomas, St. Croix and St. John, owned by Denmark, in the West Indies. The senate passed a resolution a year ago asking the state department to ascertain whether the islands were still for sale, at what price they were held, and whether any other country was after them. Denmark has replied that she is still willing to sell, and that two European governments are now negotiating for their purchase. These are supposed to be Great Britain and Germany. The United States has been discussing the purchase for nearly 30 years. In 1868, negotiations went so far that a treaty was negotiated for the purchase, by which this country was to pay \$8,000,000 for the islands, but it failed of ratification. It has been determined by Denmark to either sell these islands or give them away. St. Thomas has a harbor large enough to accommodate the navies of the entire world, and in view of the advantages to be gained, Senator Lodge is sanguine of securing an appropriation that will enable the islands to be transferred to the jurisdiction of the Stars and Stripes. The three islands have a total of 100 square miles of territory and a population of 40,000.

INDIANS FIRED FIRST.
Special Agent Reynolds' Report on the Rounty County Conflict.
Denver, Dec. 28.—The report of Special Agent E. B. Reynolds, on the recent conflict between Indians and game wardens in Rounty county, is a complete vindication of Warden Wilcox and his men. Mr. Reynolds, after taking the testimony of six Indians and the 12 wardens who were in the unfortunate affair, said: "I am fully convinced, after having examined the case fully, and after taking the testimony of both parties, after meeting the men face to face and reading their character and noting their demeanor, that the Indians fired the first shot."

He further states that no blame whatever can by any possibility be attached to the wardens. He finds that, after the first shot, the shooting became general, and when the smoke cleared away, it was found that several Indians had been killed. The wardens declared there were six Indians shot, while the Indians say there were but three killed. Mr. Reynolds agrees with the Indians on this point.

ANOTHER SOCIETY SUICIDE.
That of Miss Annie Virginia Wells, a Friend of Miss Herbert.
Washington, Dec. 28.—The death of Miss Leila Horbert, daughter of the ex-secretary of the navy, is given as the reason of the suicide which occurred today of Miss Annie Virginia Wells, an accomplished young society woman, and daughter of Lewis S. Wells, a well-known attorney. The young woman shot herself through the heart with her brother's revolver at the residence of her father, 1311 N street. Miss Wells had met Miss Herbert a number of times, and was very much attached to her. She herself had been confined to the house for four months by illness, and this, combined with the shock caused by the death of her friend, brought on melancholia, which resulted in suicide. The deed was apparently unpremeditated, and, coming immediately after the Christmas festivities in the house, completely prostrated her aged mother. Miss Wells was 33 years of age, and very beautiful.

HE INTENDED TO KILL.
But His Victim Died of Heart Failure Caused by Excitement.
San Francisco, Dec. 28.—A Japanese known as Je Tagoni fired four shots at Mary Costello, a Spanish woman, in the lodging-house at 91 Sacramento street, this morning. None of the bullets struck the woman, but she dropped dead. The body bears no sign of a wound, and the physicians say death was caused by heart failure, induced by extreme excitement.

About a year ago, Tagoni opened an employment agency, and engaged Miss Costello as an assistant. By promising marriage he induced her to live with him. Recently she left the place where they had resided. After making many threats to kill her on sight, the Japanese met her today and accomplished his murderous design, though in an unexpected and sensational manner.

Digging Near Dyea.
Dyea, Alaska, Dec. 28.—Considerable excitement prevails here at present over the reported gold finds on one of the tributaries of the Dyea river, only a mile above the town. Prospectors have been flocking in, and have staked the creek off for a distance of 10 miles. The creek has been named Boom creek, and from 200 to 300 men are now on the ground and at work.

The surface indications are excellent, running in places 25 cents to the pan, and increasing as the shafts go down. Many companies are forming, both to work claims and purchase properties. All the diggings are on American soil, and many more claims will be staked off within the next few days.

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NEVER CONTENT.

Some people are never content with anything. They will not find exactly what they want even in Heaven, if they know some one is there ahead of them. For instance, some are great sufferers from neuralgia. Friends have told them what is best and certain to cure them. Not content with what is said, they suffer on. Pain ravages and devastates the system, and leaves it a barren waste. St. Jacobs Oil has cured thousands. Just try it.

John E. Redmond, M. P., the well-known Irish leader, will sail for this country on December 30. He is coming to America at the invitation of prominent workers in the Irish cause to speak on the rebellion of 1798, to arouse the enthusiasm of Irish-Americans in the pilgrimage to Ireland next July to celebrate the rising.

WHALING FLEET IN DANGER.
It is predicted that the vessels of the whaling fleet, most of whose crew members are in San Francisco, have been caught in the ice and some may not last through the siege. Danger is also threatened to the whalers who are called "trailing" albatrosses, for they may not last through the crisis. Resort to Hester's Stomach Bitters at once for indigestion, rheumatism, malaria, constipation, nervousness and kidney complaint.

In Japanese saws, the teeth point toward the handle, and both saws and planes cut toward the workman.

AN OPEN LETTER TO MOTHERS.
We are asserting in the courts our right to the exclusive use of the word "CASTORIA," and "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," as our Trade Mark. I. Dr. Samuel Pitcher, of Hyannis, Massachusetts, was the originator of "PITCHER'S CASTORIA," the same that has borne and does now bear the facsimile signature of CHAS. H. FITCHER on every wrapper. This is the original "PITCHER'S CASTORIA" which has been used in the homes of the mothers of America for over thirty years. Look carefully at the wrapper and see that it is the "PITCHER'S CASTORIA" wrapper, and has the signature of CHAS. H. FITCHER on the wrapper. No one has authority from me to use my name except The Centaur Company of which CHAS. H. FITCHER is President.
March 8, 1897. SAMUEL PITCHER, M.D.

Three drops of a black cat's blood is a sovereign cure for croup in the folk lore of some people.

After being swindled by all others, send us stamp for particulars of King Solomon's Treasure, the "PITCHER'S CASTORIA" wrapper, and see that it is the "PITCHER'S CASTORIA" wrapper, and has the signature of CHAS. H. FITCHER on the wrapper. No one has authority from me to use my name except The Centaur Company of which CHAS. H. FITCHER is President.
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The oldest married couple in the United States are Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Mannel of Cape Porpoise, Mass. She is 88 and he is 101 years of age, and they have been married 77 years.

Money back if you don't like Schilling's Best Tea and money at your grocer's.

A Cart-Load of Gold
"If you dumped a cart-load of gold at my feet it would not bring such joy and gladness into my life." So writes a prominent man after using the method of self-treatment that has restored so many men who had been wrecked by excesses, over-work or evil habits of youth. A little book that makes it all plain may be had without charge by writing THE ERIE MEDICAL CO., 65 Niagara St., Buffalo, N. Y. No C. O. D. scheme; no patent medicines—just the book under plain letter seal.

FREE TO ALL MEN
makes it all plain may be had without charge by writing THE ERIE MEDICAL CO., 65 Niagara St., Buffalo, N. Y. No C. O. D. scheme; no patent medicines—just the book under plain letter seal.

POWER
...FOR...
PROFIT

Power that will save you money and make you money. Hercules Engines are the cheapest power known. Burn Gasoline or Distillate Oil; no smoke, fire, or dirt. For pumping, running dairy or farm machinery, they have no equal. Automatic in action, perfectly safe and reliable. Send for illustrated catalog.

Hercules Gas Engine Works
Bay St., San Francisco, Cal.

BRAVE SPIRITS BROKEN.

How often women wake up in the morning cheerful and happy, determined to do so much before the day ends, and yet—
Before the morning is very old, the dreadful BACK-ACHE appears, the brave spirit sinks back in a fright; no matter how hard she struggles, the "clutch" is upon her, she falls upon the couch, crying—"Why should I suffer so? What can I do?"
Lydia E. Pinkham's "Vegetable Compound" will stop the trouble and restore courage. All such pains come from a deranged uterus. Trouble in the womb blots out the light of the sun at midday to a vast number of women. You should procure Mrs. Pinkham's Compound at once and obtain relief.
Mrs. F. M. Knapp, 633 Wentworth Ave., Milwaukee, Wis., says: "I suffered with congestion of the ovaries and inflammation of the womb. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound cured me as it will others."

Travelers in Sweden report that the street cars in that country seldom stop for passengers. Both men and women jump on and off while they are moving, and accidents are scarcely ever heard of.

DEAFNESS CANNOT BE CURED
By local applications as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out of this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; and cases of deafness caused by Catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surface. Send for our circular at once. We will give you one hundred dollars for any case of deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circular free.
P. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by druggists, 75c.
Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Authorities of the Kansas university dismissed all the natural history classes on circus day recently to enable the students to study the animals.

HOME PRODUCTS AND PURE FOOD.
All Eastern Syrup, so-called, usually very light colored and of heavy body, is made from glucose. "Zea Golden Syrup" is made from sugar cane and is strictly pure. It is for sale by first-class grocers, in cans only. Manufactured by the FAIRBANKS COAST SYRUP CO. All genuine "Zea Golden Syrup" have the manufacturer's name lithographed on every can.

C. E. Green of Ellingham, Kans., has the Continental currency his great-grandfather received for his services in the Revolution.

BROKEN DOWN MEN
Men Who Have Wasted the Vital Power of Youth—Who Lack Vigor—Can Be Cured by Electricity.

SANDELL ELECTRIC BELT CO.
253 West Washington St., Portland, Or.
Please mention this Paper.

FERRY'S SEEDS
In buying seeds "economy" is not the object, "because the cost of cultivation wasted on inferior seeds always largely exceeds the original cost of the best and dearest seeds to be had. The best is always the cheapest. Pay a little more for
FERRY'S SEEDS<