

WEALTH OF THE YUKON.

Ten to Fifteen Millions of Dollars Will Be Cleaned Up This Year—Dawson City, With Ten Thousand People, Is the Greatest Mining Camp in the World—The Greatest Known Gravel Deposit—What the Districts Show.

The output of the mines of the Yukon district this year, while it has reached between \$10,000,000 and \$15,000,000, has disappointed even the more conservative estimates made last fall, and based on the prospects then existing. Three things have contributed to shorten this spring's clean up: The Canadian royalty, lack of men and lack of strengthening food. One of the most prominent civil engineers on the Pacific coast, who has spent this winter in the mines, has said:

"Considering the fact that less than 2,000 poorly fed men have gotten out this winter almost \$15,000,000, the Klondike has made a showing that entitles it to consideration as the greatest gravel deposit in extent and richness in the world. The placer mines of California in early days are its only rivals."

The great riches of claims on French, Chief, Little and Big Skookum gulches are the wonder of mining men in the interior of Alaska. A claim owner on French gulch offers a standing bet of \$20,000 that he can rock out of his claim, single-handed, \$5,000 on any given day. The benches are old river beds, which have been broken up by an eruption of the earth. A continuation of the old river bed has been found near Hunker creek, and while little prospecting has been done, it is thought that it will turn out very well.

Eldorado and Bonanza creeks have proven all that was expected of them. Much more could be seen in actual results if the clean-up had been completed this spring. But hope that the royalties may be called off, and the early drying up of the water which could be used in sluicing, has caused many big claim owners to leave about a third of the dirt taken out on the dump. The wash-up has been completed on very few claims, and on fewer still can a statement be obtained as to the real amount of the clean-up. This makes it impossible to state positively the output of the mines.

Of the less known streams, Dominion creek is giving evidence of mineral deposits which may make it known as the richest strike yet made. The conflict of claims, owing to the two discoveries allowed, is about settled, and there is nothing to interfere with the development of the mines. Hunker creek is rich in placer, but, unlike the rest of the country, is spotted. Gold Bottom is not turning out as well as expected. Many other creeks which promise well have not been sufficiently developed to make an estimate of their wealth safe.

So many are the disadvantages in mining in the Northwest territory that attention is being once more directed to mines on the American side. It is believed that many surprises are in store in this direction. Forty-mile creek has been relocated and many new claims recorded. Chicken creek, which has been known for the last two years, but not worked, will be developed this year. Canyon Nugget gulch and Franklin creeks and the bars on Forty-mile will be worked by the hydraulic process. It will be a good camp

at the mouth of the river within two years. American creek, 40 miles down from Forty-mile, is known as good; the ground is high and well laid out. Pans are taken running from 50 cents to \$5. The Mission creek district has three formations—placer, quartz and coal. At its mouth is Eagle City, in which will be established the United States barracks and the custom house.

Twenty miles below Eagle City is Star City, guarding the mouth of Seventy-mile river. The bars of this river have been worked for many years. On Barney creek, from three to six ounces to the day has been taken for the last three years. The other tributaries are as good as Barney, but it is only now, when people are spreading out, that much work will be done. A number of men are now at Star City getting their outfit up to the mines.

From Seventy-mile to Circle City has been prospecting, and creeks are found here and there which give good indications. Coal and Sheep creeks promise especially well, and also the Charley river.

Circle City has been practically deserted since the rush to Dawson and the riches of Mastodon, Independence, Eagle, Deadwood and a dozen lesser gulches in the Birch creek district will revive the town. A moderate fortune can be made in that district in the whole length. It will be cheaply worked, because of being so readily accessible to the Yukon river.

Further down is the Minook creek district, which has been thoroughly advertised this year. It has developed some claims which have paid \$27,000, \$25,000 and \$15,000 for the winter's work. The country is to a great extent an unknown quantity. The discovery of Idaho bar, from which men have taken out \$100 a day with a rocker, is a great boom for the district, and the prospects of the camp are extremely bright.

A great country will be opened up in the Koyukuk. It has been known to miners for 10 years, and no prospector who went in there has failed to bring out a good grubstake. The territory to be worked is of a vast extent, and offers many opportunities to the new comer. Tanana, Kuskokwim and Chander rivers have all been brought prominently to the notice of mining men this year. All things considered, the American side would seem to be the place of the future.

As for Dawson City itself, it is unquestionably the greatest mining camp in the world. Frank Canton, United States deputy marshal in Circle City, and in former years an officer of the peace in many of the largest camps of the West, has said that nothing he has ever seen approaches Dawson as a model mining camp. Accustomed as he has been to dealing with the roughest class of criminals, his commendation of Dawson, as a law-abiding town, has great weight. The sidewalks are crowded

with men and women from morning to night. People are even forced to walk in the middle of the streets to make progress. It is a great jumble of the good and the bad, and the only pledge of respectability required is regular attendance at church. Dawson's population has grown until it is now between 8,000 and 10,000.

Nine-tenths of the newcomers are not in the country to work, and when they find that success in the Klondike can only be bought by hard labor, they will be ready to come out. A great exodus of unsuccessful men will take place this fall, and the cities of the Pacific coast, to which these people will go, will be overrun with a rough, desperate and altogether undesirable class. They are now in Dawson as the advance guard of the more substantial men to follow. It is a repetition of the history of Circle City. When the Birch creek mines were discovered, two years ago, double the usual invoice of people went there, but soon left disgusted. Had they remained, they would have been in on the ground floor in the Klondike discovery.

The Cuban Machete.

Much has been said of the terrible machete, a deadly weapon indeed in the hands of a desperate man, and when used against a defenseless person. The machete was never intended for a weapon of warfare; it is an instrument of husbandry carried by the Cuban peasant in times of peace, and is his one familiar daily companion. It cuts his fire wood, aids him in building his hut, levers his path through the mangrove, and performs many other offices.

The machete is a straight, heavy blade about two feet long, with a wooden or bone handle, having no guard; consequently it is utterly unsuited as a weapon to be used in a conflict with an armed man. The Cuban, of course, by reason of his long familiarity with the instrument, is an adept in its use, and its effect upon a group of unarmed workmen is truly terrible. It is in the foray against the defenseless and unarmed that the most serious work of the machete has been done in the island of Cuba.—"Cuba as Seen from the Inside," by Osgood Welsh, in the August Century.

For the Babies Who "Toe In." The little tots who are inclined to "toe in" when they begin to walk can attend to it in time. The mother or nurse should rub (at least twice a day) the outer side of the little legs with a firm upward stroke.

This can be done regularly when putting baby to bed, and at such other times as may be convenient. When the little one climbs into your lap for a "cuddle" or a story is a good time. Hold the little foot in your hand in the correct position. Recollect, do not rub down, and not on the inner side of the leg. The object is to nourish and strengthen the outer muscles, which are proportionately weak.

Begin below the ankle and rub to the knee, slowly and quickly, but not too lightly. This treatment faithfully persevered in will soon correct the trouble.

Advices from Honolulu state that the executive council of the island government has signed a contract with the Berlin Mozart society to lay a cable from the American coast to Honolulu and Japan.

Hans Makart's monument in the Vienna city park has just been unveiled. The painter's son made a speech on the occasion.

The Fad of Vegetarianism.

An article by Sir Henry Thompson, entitled "Why Vegetarians?" in the April number of the Nineteenth Century, is an exhaustive treatise on the subject of diet. He demolishes the theory of vegetarians that they are total abstainers from flesh products, as in their use of milk, butter, and cheese they indulge in highly concentrated protoid—containing food of animal origin, to say nothing of eggs, which contain the material of the developed chicken. There are few vegetarians who confine their diet absolutely to productions of the vegetable kingdom.

To this practice Sir Henry Thompson opposes the argument that no form of vegetable nourishment has been discovered upon which it is possible to rear the young mammal, in which man is included. He wishes to be informed why an animal that is born into the world by carnivorous parents, which is solely dependent for its existence upon animal food—milk—should suddenly adopt a vegetable diet, and at what age such a change should be made. In the matter of food Sir Henry Thompson denies that there is any reason for exclusive forms of diet. Considerations of age, personal habits, occupation, climate, and surroundings should be the determining factors in governing a choice of food. All facts that ignore this principle, whether they take the form of exclusive adherence to a flesh or vegetable diet, are not conducive to the maintenance of health and physical activity.

Few Remaining Buffaloes.

Lieutenant Lindsey, of the Fourth cavalry, on duty at Yellowstone Park, has submitted to the secretary of the interior a report covering the condition of the game in the park, says the Washington Star. He says:

"There is no reason to suspect that any buffalo have been killed since the rendition of my last report on November 4 last. The scouts discovered during the winter between 30 and 40 head in four different localities. They are so wild that if they see or wind a man they will run a long distance. So, to prevent driving them from their winter range, strict orders were given to all stations and scouts not to pursue them nor follow their trails with a view to seeing the animals themselves. For this reason no buffalo has been seen this winter, but the trails show the above number, and that in one bunch, numbering 21, there were four or five calves.

"Their protection is the most difficult task intrusted to the superintendent of the park. Their natural range is on the open plains of a much lower altitude; they are now driven by fear into the most inaccessible portions of the mountains and timbered country. Besides the danger from poachers, their young must suffer from the ravages of wild beasts and from the rigors of the climate. They are said to be peculiarly susceptible to the bad effects of inbreeding and an eminent scientist thinks that this cause alone will insure their destruction in a few years more. I can think of nothing that has been neglected which would tend to their better preservation."

Mozart's note book of first draught of compositions made when he was a boy of 8, has been discovered in Berlin, and will be published soon by the Berlin Mozart society.

Professor Michelson, of the National Academy of Science, Washington, has invented a new form of spectroscope, made by building up steps of equal thickness of optical glass.

KANSAS SUPERSTITIONS.

Carry a potato in one's pocket to cure rheumatism.

The skin of a black cat worn in one's clothing will cure rheumatism.

Hold your hands above your head and your nose will cease bleeding.

Never let a chicken die in your hands and you will not have palsy.

Hold a silver spoon against the back of the neck to stop nosebleed.

Wear a red string or red beads around the neck to prevent the nosebleed.

The skin of a snake worn around the one's hat crown will cure the headache.

Wear a string of gold beads around your neck and your nose can not bleed.

Headache may be prevented by wearing in one's hat the rattles of a rattlesnake.

The negro sometimes sleeps with a young dog in order to transmit rheumatism to the dog.

At Delphos, Kan., lives a young man who gallantly procured his sweetheart's warts by purchase.

A sty may be cured by rubbing it with a gold ring, a silver spoon, or one's finger moistened with saliva.

If you see any one asleep in church say to yourself: "When you awake take these warts."

Bore a hole in the wall the height of a child's head; when the child grows above the hole it will be cured of asthma.

In order to cure the toothache out your finger nails on Friday. Another sure cure is to wash behind your ears every morning.

Write on a stove with a piece of chalk the number of your warts. When the number has burned off the stove your warts will be gone.

Rub the wart with seven pebbles, wrap the pebbles in a parcel and throw them away; if the parcel is picked up the wart will go away.

You may always prevent cramps in the feet by turning your shoes upside down every night beside your bed.

Graduate C. Davenport, of the Journal of American Folk Lore.

Steal a dishcloth, rub the wart with it, and then bury the cloth under the eaves of the house. If you tell no one and no one finds out your theft, your wart will go away.

If you have a wart and see a man riding on horseback in the rain (or, as another version runs, riding on a gray horse), say: "Take these along;" rub the wart and it will leave you.

Put into a red calico bag "hearts" from grains of corn; "run down the road;" throw away the bag, not looking where they fall; run home again, and if any one picks up the bag your warts will go away.

Some of these cures, which were collected in Coffey county, were obtained from colored people. The majority of the superstitions, however, were collected from Douglas county, where were obtained from people who declared they knew no superstitions and believed none; namely, students in attendance at the University of Kansas. These students came from nearly every county in the state.

The depth to which the sun's rays penetrate water has been recently determined by the aid of photography. It has been found that at a depth of 553 feet the darkness was to all intent and purpose the same as that on a clear and moonless night. Sensitive plates exposed at this depth for a considerable length of time gave no evidence of light action.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

The river Jordan makes the greatest descent in the shortest distance of almost any stream.

The average height of the human race is, men, five feet six inches; women, five feet two inches.

Pendulums are affected by variations of density of the air, as well as by changing temperature.

According to Professor Galton, a few persons see mentally in print every word they hear uttered.

Water pipes are now often made of glass and covered with asphaltum, with highly satisfactory results.

The entire collection of coins and medals in the British museum consists of nearly 250,000 specimens.

Dartmoor is the largest tract of uncultivated land in England; it occupies one-fifth of the county of Devon.

Gen. Peter Tracy, of Memphis, enjoys the double distinction of being a cousin of Dewey and the uncle of Hobson.

The bull ring of Madrid stands a mile or so outside the city. It was built in 1874 at a cost, it is said, of \$80,000.

Millions of pairs of doll shoes are sold in this country annually, the great part of which are imported from Germany.

The youngest volunteer in the naval reserve is Cadet Roland S. Gielow, a boy on the training ship New Hampshire.

Forteen children—seven sets of twins and all living—is the record of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Harris, of Richmond, Mo.

It is computed that when marching soldiers take 75 steps per minute, in quick marching 108, and in charging 160 steps.

British trade with the Philippines last year was \$9,984,590; that of the United States, \$5,145,303, or about half as much.

At its present rate of combustion it is thought the sun will last from 7,000,000 to 15,000,000 years before burning itself out.

The average duration of human life in European countries is greatest in Sweden and Norway, and lowest in Italy and Austria.

Barcelona is now the most populous city of Spain, the result of the census just taken showing 520,000 inhabitants, to Madrid's 507,000.

The St. Louis team of the National Baseball league has been sold to Edward Becker, a retired capitalist and principal creditor of the club.

Alexander Gregg, Belleville, of St. Louis, who recently buried his seventh wife, has married again, this time to a girl of 15. He is 57 years old.

Judge John S. Candler, of Atlanta, who has been appointed colonel of the Third Georgia volunteers, lost both his feet in a railroad accident in 1881.

Mrs. L. N. Barber, principal of the St. Paul school of fine art, committed suicide at Mendota, Minn., where she was in charge of the summer art school.

Owing to the extreme drought placer mining in the northern counties of California has been suspended. It is thought that operations will not be resumed until next spring.

King Malletto, the Samoan monarch, is a unique figure in royalty. He gets \$150 a month, and that magnificent budget is usually in arrears. Though his sartorial needs are few, he is continually behind with his tailors.

Strategic Value of Porto Rico.

Mr. Frederick A. Ober writes an article for the August Century on "The Island of Porto Rico." Mr. Ober says:

Until it was discovered that Porto Rico possessed great value as a "strategic center" of naval operations, the fair island slumbered undisturbed, merely a link, and no important one, in the emerald chain that separates the Atlantic and the Caribbean. Suddenly naval folks became aware of its importance; they saw that while it borders on the Caribbean sea, yet it broods the rough Atlantic waters; that it is equidistant, or about 1,000 miles, from Key West and Colon; from New York 1,500 miles, which is half the distance from Cadiz; 1,800 from Newport News, which is half the distance to the Canaries. It lies, in fact, at the very point that we should have selected for a coaling station, had we unrestricted choice of location. All the arguments that have been advanced for the acquisition of the island of St. Thomas, 60 miles distant, and for which at one time we were almost ready to pay seven million dollars, apply with tenfold force to Porto Rico, with its six good harbors to the east of St. Thomas, and its commercial as well as strategic possibilities.

It has been found in Germany that lightning rods do not protect high furnaces, the electric discharge preferring to pass to the earth by the column of heated smoke, which of course is rich in carbon, a conductor of electricity. It is partly for this reason that so many smoking chimneys are struck by lightning and that to sit near a fireplace is dangerous.

Gov. McCord has received indefinite leave of absence from his duties as the executive of Arizona, and will take command as colonel of the regiment of infantry now being recruited in the four territories.

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M. Phisalix announced to the Academie des Sciences, Paris, some time ago that cholesteroline injected into the blood of animals made them resist the venom of vipers.

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