

The Dalles Chronicle.

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A REGULAR PICNIC

The Brave, But Foolish,
Camped at Skaguay.

EATING WHAT THEY CANNOT CARRY

The Trail Impassable and People Are
Waiting for Someone to Pilot
Them Through.

SEATTLE, Aug. 26.—Associated Press advices from the north under date of Juneau, Aug. 26th, confirm previous statements regarding conditions of incoming Yukoners, their successes and their failures in getting over the trails. At Skaguay the trail is found in a glutted condition, no progress being made there in going over the summit at what is known as White Pass, it having proven a complete failure this year, according to all reports. There are now between 4000 and 5000 persons camped along the trail between salt water and up five or six miles. They will remain there eating up their supplies until spring, or until they make up their minds to either go over to Dyea or return to Juneau or the states. Many have already sold out and abandoned the trip altogether, some gladly taking ten per cent of the original cost of the outfits, stowing the money in their pockets, and leaving that part of the country for milder fields of operation.

Those who started via Dyea or Chilkoot pass are getting along very well. Indians are charging at present 35 cents per pound for carrying from salt water to the lakes. Under present conditions it is expected that all who are now on that trail will safely reach Klondike before winter sets in.

News from the interior, under date of July 24th, is a repetition of what has been said before as to the richness of the diggings that have been worked up to that date. Some less valuable finds have been made near Stewart river. While there is a limited amount of provisions for those already at work, still if all newcomers bring sufficient there will be enough to go around, but it will take good management. High prices and wages remain as heretofore reported.

At Juneau boats are arriving almost every day from the Sound, bringing from 150 to 300 passengers each. The moment a vessel is seen down near Taku word is passed around, and a large proportion of the inhabitants flock to the wharves to greet the new arrivals. The islander arrived from Victoria with nearly 200 passengers August 19th, and the Utopia from Seattle the same day with a like number.

The U. S. steamship Concord is at present lying in port, having taken Governor Brady to various places in southeastern Alaska, and brought him here. She will doubtless take him to Dyea, afterwards going back to Sitka. The governor is thoroughly investigating many important matters relating to the welfare of Alaska.

The steamer Danube rather took the law upon itself, placing the vessel in a somewhat equivocal position, owing, perhaps, to some misunderstanding on the part of the master. It seems a permit was obtained from the deputy collector at Juneau for the vessel to land her passengers at Dyea, but instead of her doing so, she put cargo and all off at Skaguay, not going to Dyea at all, the latter place being a port of entry.

New customs officials are out making "records" at present, the scene of their operations being Dyea. There a schooner was captured loaded with some 300 gallons of Canadian whisky, which was

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confiscated. A lot of contraband stuff was also seized on the Pacific Coast Steamship Company's boat Willamette. According to recent news from the Yukon, water has been scarce for hydraulic purposes, but better arrangements will be provided for these operations next year. According to the latest advices flour is still selling in the interior for \$6 per sack of fifty pounds, and like prices for other staple articles.

Miners who were employed in the mines near Juneau and who went to the Yukon river have had their places all filled by recent arrivals, so that now there is no special demand for labor here, and it is worse than folly for a man to come to Juneau expecting to get work during the winter months. He should be provided with money enough to take care of himself until spring. The promised reduction in freight rates and passenger fare from Puget sound will prove beneficial to all, the merchant and the miner alike.

The weather has continued favorable for those on the trail to made good progress, and altogether it has been an exceptionally fine season for all outdoor operations and the weather prophets are inclined to expect a comparatively mild winter.

As the country around Dawson is taken up to such great distance in each direction, it is more than likely that many who are now on the road will proceed up to Circle City and other places and relocate abandoned claims that have been given up for other diggings. This will all have a tendency to populate the American side and thus American goods can pass through Canadian soil in bond and no duties will be paid, and a royalty on the gross production of the mines will be saved to the miner. This claim for royalty and customs duties by the Canadian government still continues to be a vexed question, and it would seem that some time must elapse before these matters run smoothly. If that government intends to take unto itself "Every other claim" or location, and demand a twenty per cent royalty on all gold found, and also collect twenty-five per cent duty on all outfits and supplies, it surely does not offer much inducement to the average prospector, who will probably push onward until he again reaches American soil, where he will not be so hampered.

Rough hewn logs at Dawson for building purposes are quoted at \$5 each and very scarce at that price. Ruby Sand gold diggings on the beach at Lituya bay have given better results than ever before, and next year greater attention will be given to those sea sands by others. Good reports also come from those who have passed the season in Cook inlet. These mines, while not developed in so wonderful a degree as at Klondike, still give indication of great richness in that section, although it was ignored to considerable extent this year

by newcomers. The most favorable reports come from Unga, and several good prospects have recently been reported from other islands to the westward.

A boat leaving Dawson about the last of July took fully two tons of gold dust, and it is calculated that next year's output will far exceed that of 1897. On the Yukon dust is valued at \$17 an ounce; a bartender gets \$300 per month, and no cast register in sight.

Stewart and Indian river claims pan out only \$10 to \$15 per day, so that if they don't make a better showing wages must necessarily come down. Four thousand dollars was contributed by the miners in Dawson for the defense of Birch, who is now in Sitka jail under a charge of murder, awaiting the fall term of court. His brother just arrived in Juneau, bringing the dust with him.

WHEAT SHOT UPWARD TODAY.

Five Minutes After the Opening \$1.03 Was Quoted.

CHICAGO, Aug. 26.—Wheat shot upward today as if a volcano had burst under the market. September, which closed last night at 96½¢, started today on the regular board with sales all the way from 98½¢ to \$1. Within five minutes it was selling at 1.03, amid tremendous excitement. Before the upward rush closed the quotation was 1.03½¢ for September. Today was the first time the bulls had carried the price past the dollar mark in Chicago, dollar, wheat having only just touched for a moment some days ago.

Besides the action of the French government in upholding the duty on cereals, opening Liverpool quotations showed an advance equal to from 2½¢ to 3 cents a bushel. The shortage in the potato crop abroad was estimated at the enormous amount of 1,000,000 bushels, increasing the demand for American wheat.

Later advices from Liverpool timed 1:30 p. m. show a further recession in prices there, and Chicago followed suit, September declining almost as rapidly as it had advanced. The price twenty minutes after the opening was 98½¢. At 10 a. m. another rally carried September up to \$1.02½¢.

Concession to an American Company. KANSAS CITY, Aug. 26.—A Kansas City syndicate representing the Pittsburg & Gulf railroad interests, has secured a concession from the government of Colombia giving valuable commercial privileges in the South American republic.

This concession, which was secured through J. Edward Buckley, United States vice-consul at Bogota, gives the right to navigate the Magdalena river and to build a railroad across the country from a point 250 miles from the mouth of the river at Bogota, and thence on south through the whole of the country.

The project also carries with it the establishment of a line of steamships from some point on the Gulf to some of the ports of Colombia on the Caribbean sea. It is the aim of the Pittsburg & Gulf Company to build up a profitable traffic between Kansas City and South America.

A Valuable Prescription. Editor Morrison of Worthington, Ind., "Sun," writes: "You have a valuable prescription in Electric Bitters, and I can cheerfully recommend it for Constipation and Sick Headache, and as a general system tonic it has no equal." Mrs. Annie Stehle, 2025 Cottage Grove Ave., Chicago, was all run down, could not eat nor digest food, had a backache which never left her and felt tired and weary, but six bottles of Electric Bitters restored her health and renewed strength. Prices 50 cents and \$1.00. Get a Bottle at Blakeley and Houghton's Drug Store.

Gold Dust From Sawdust. PORT TOWNSEND, Wash., Aug. 26.—By the schooner J. N. Colman, which arrived this morning from St. Michaels, it is learned that the sealing schooner Eppinger, from San Francisco, when spoken July 20 had a total catch of 221 skins and 11 sea otter. The latter skins are valued at \$175 each. Last year's Eppinger's seal catch was 1450.

Mr. J. Metcalf, of Detroit, Mich., who came down from St. Michaels on the Colman, states that he saw a man wash \$12.50 from one pan of sawdust which he took from the floor of a barroom in Dawson City. It is said to be a common practice for miners to open gold dust bags and take out a pinch of gold dust in payment for drinks.

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Quartz Mining More Certain.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 26.—General W. W. Duffield, superintendent of the coast and geodetic survey, in discussing the gold discoveries in Alaska, gave this advice to young men:

"If I were a young man," he said, "I should get about a 75-ton schooner at Seattle, take supplies and engage the services of a first-class prospector. Then I should cruise along the southeastern part of Alaska, in what is called Alexander archipelago. There are a number of islands there and more gold lodes than at any place with which I am acquainted. The mining would not be 'placers,' but the ore can be gotten out very cheaply and being directly on the sea, the transportation amounts almost to nothing, except the time spent."

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Watching for the Portland.

PORT TOWNSEND, Wash., Aug. 26.—The steamer Portland is due here from St. Michaels today. Every available tugboat on the Puget Sound has been pressed into service by the various newspapers, and the race from the Straits of Fuca to the nearest telegraph station will be exciting. The weather down the straits is very thick this morning, and the Portland might easily slip in without being sighted.

Hundreds of thousands have been induced to try Chamberlain's Cough Remedy by reading what it has done for others, and having tested its merits for themselves are today its warmest friends. For sale by Blakeley & Houghton.

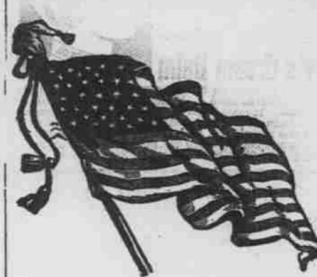
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Rev. John Reid, Jr., of Great Falls, Mont., recommended Ely's Cream Balm to me. I can emphasize his statement, "It is a positive cure for catarrh if used as directed."
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New York Weekly Tribune



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—FOR—
Fathers and Mothers,
—FOR—
Sons and Daughters,
—FOR—
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