THE WEST.

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—AT—

FLORENCE, LANE COUNTY, OREGON

• • • BY • • •

W. H. WEATHERSON

Editor and Proprietor.

U. S. TREASURY ROBBED.

An Employe Caught Substituting Lead for Silver in the Bags.

Silver dollars are missing from the treasury which may number thousands. Treasurer Roberts has employed experts to count piece by piece the $100,000,000 which ought to be in the vaults.

Recently the coin was counted by the weighing process, but Roberts will not give a receipt to his predecessor, Morgan, until he knows the full extent of the robbery, which he suspects has been carried on for some time.

During this count a trusted employe was caught opening bags which contain $1000 in silver, taking out as many as he wished and making up the weight of the extracted silver with lead. At the conclusion of the count all of the bags showed the required weight.

Upon the treasurer's suggestion some of the bags were opened, and so much lead was discovered that a consultation was held and it was decided to employ a force of 50 clerks to go over the counting in detail. This task will consume six months and will cost the government $25,000.

GAMES FOR HALLOWEEN.

Fireside Diversions in Keeping With the Traditions of All Saints' Day.

Ladies' Home Journal.

Any innocent joke, perpetrated in a spirit of friendly mischief, will befit Halloween night. The idea of the olden time centred around the pairing of lad and lass, hence the chestnuts were put before the fire to test the future of those whose names they bore: If they burned steadily the courtship would go well, if they popped apart the course of true love would not run smooth. Hand-glasses, with apples beside them, should be placed here and there, so that the modern Eve may eat her apple and wait for Adam to peep over her shoulder.

Greater pleasure, however will be found in the games which all may play. The tub of water, with floating apples which must be lifted out by the teeth alone, and the fork suspended from the ceiling, with its lighted candle at one end, and the apple, from which a bite is to be taken, at the other, will cause much merriment. The search for the ring in flour is also much enjoyed. The flour containing a ring is packed upon a large platter. The guests each cut off a slice with a knife, and the one uncovering the ring must pick it up with his teeth.

Lead, melted in large iron spoons, may be dropped in water, and fortunes told from the shapes it assumes. Great amusement may be had by placing two hickory-nuts, about three inches apart, on the hearth in front of an open fire. One is supposed to represent the girl who places it there, and the other, her as yet undeclared, but mentally-chosen lover. Should the nuts burn brightly a happy marriage will result. Should the nut named after the man jump towards the nut named after the girl she may expect a proposal before the next new moon.

OUR INTERESTS IN CUBA.

S. F. Chronicle.

The believf that peace in Cuba is reasonably near is one that will give satisfaction to the mercantile element in this country as well as to those who regard the war only from the humane standpoint.

Our commercial losses since the outbreak took place, and as a consequence of it, reach a surprising total. During the fiscal year of 1896 the value of our Cuban trade amounted to only $47,548,610 as compared with $102,864,204 in 1893 the year preceeding the trouble. This is a falling off of more than 50 per cent in three years.

Returns for the present fiscal year, so far as they have been collated, show that the grand total will be only about $20,000,000, or one-fifth the value recorded for 1893. At that rate of decrease our trade with Cuba must be extinguished in another twelvemonths of war devastation.

It would not take long, however, after peace has been restored to put the trade back where it was, and in the case of a free and well governed Cuba, to build it up yearly. The plantations are not ruined. The owners may be, in which event they will sell their property to men who have capital to carry it on and production and consumption will be quickly resumed. It usually happens that commercial activity follows a war. That was the case in Mexico after 1866, and in France after 1871; again the case in China and Japan after 1894. Considering the demand there is for Cuban sugar, tobacco and produce, and the need Cuba will feel for material to replace that now destroyed, such as machinery, railroad and bridge iron, agricultural implements and lumber, it follows that the island only needs peace to become a very busy place. It is therefore to our interests to press for a speedy end of the war unless, as seems likely, the bankruptcy of Spain will bring the struggle to an end without intervention.

WANTED-TRUSTWORTHY AND active gentlemen or ladies to travel for responsible, established house in Oregon. Monthly $65.00 and expenses. Position steady. Reference. Enclose self-addressed stamped envelope. The Dominion Company, Dept. Y Chicago.

FACTS HAVE have lately come to light showing that Russia is destined to become one of the first gold producing countries. In Eastern Siberia, experts report, there are larger deposits of gold than are known in any other country. These mines now produce over $35,000,000 a year, and the country only waits the completion of the great Siberian railway to multiply its output several times. At present the Amoor river is the only route for reaching the gold regions, and transportation is secured with great difficulty, especially as everything is frozen up for eight months of the year.—*Clyde Herald.*

Educate Your Bowels With Cascarets.
Candy Cathartic, cure constipation forever. 10c, 25c. If C. C. C. fail, druggists refund money.

A MINING paper, alluding to the predominance of Americans and American capital in Alaska, says this is out of the usual order of things, as "British gold has developed a huge amount of mining property." This is a mistake or the misuse of the word develop. Large amounts of British capital, it is true, are invested in American mines, but it was not put into "development." Capital is timid, British capital most of all, and American mines were pretty well "developed" before they could secure the investment of English money. American nerve and capital have done far more towards developing the mines of British Columbia than has British money done on this side of the line. Americans take chances, while the British capitalist wants to see what he is buying.—*Tacoma Ledger.*

Merit

Made and Merit Maintains the confidence of the people in Hood's Sarsaparilla. If a medicine cures you when sick; if it makes wonderful cures everywhere, then beyond all question that medicine possesses merit.

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That is just the truth about Hood's Sarsaparilla. We know it possesses merit because it cures, not once or twice or a hundred times, but in thousands and thousands of cases. We know it cures, absolutely, permanently, when all others fail to do any good whatever. We repeat

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Hood's Pills cure nausea, indigestion, biliousness. 25 cents.

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These Goods Will Run Out at Rates so Low That It Will Make Quick Work of Their Distribution.

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ALASKA GOLD MINING AND NAVIGATION CO.

ALASKA.

Golden Alaska; Once thought to be impracticable and impervious to settlement and civilization is now the most sought for and famed region on the face of the earth. Its territorial extent embraces an area of land, five times larger than England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales combined, and more than three times the size of the German Empire and eight times larger than the states of New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. It is comparatively an unexplored country, but that which is known, with its marvelous richness in gold, surpasses anything of record in the annals of the world's history; that today there is more gold in this region than all the world combined. Gold is now found in large paying quantities in almost any of its prospected districts. Its vast and unexplored area hardly touched as yet by the force of civilization, extends its inviting hands to the hardy toilers of every clime, with the assurance of room and opportunity for adventure, with the alluring certainty of reward to the frugal and industrious.

INCORPORATION.

The Alaska Gold Mining & Navigation Company of Florence, Oregon is incorporated under the laws of the state with a capital stock of $100,000, non-assessable and divided into 10,000 shares of $10 each.

THE PURPOSES OF THE CORPORATION.

Are to carry on mining operations on the Yukon river and its tributary waters in Alaska and Northwest territory—to acquire mining property either by discovery or purchase, and to operate the same, and in connection therewith to develop a general trading and transportation business.

TRANSPORTATION.

The company provides its vessels and makes its own transportation equal to, if not the best in the Pacific Northwest. In order to accomplish this the company deemed it prudent in justice to its patrons to construct its vessels and not attempt to charter (as frequently happens) old and worn out hulks risking the safety and lives of the thoughtless thousands in their eager rush accepting any thing that floats in order to get there; but on the other hand its vessels are being constructed of the best material, by mechanics of the highest order and under the direction of a master builder. Its ocean steamer is of standard size and design, staunch, provided with the best machinery, and will run regularly between Portland and St. Michaels and other Alaskan ports. In connection with this vessel, the company will provide a steam barge or river boat adapted especially to the Yukon river, of light draft to ply between St. Michaels and Dawson City and the Upper Yukon and which will afford the travelling public a line of steamers with transportation facilities combining speed, safety and comfort.

COMMERCIAL.

As the company's vessels are not chartered but its own property, it naturally possesses an advantage over other companies in bringing goods, wares, merchandise, mining supplies etc., into the Klondike district and other available points where trading posts will be established as may be most advantageous to the best interests of the company.

TOWN SITES.

One of the purposes of this company is to locate town sites and supply depots at available points, thereby paying tribute to its own revenue and not to others. Being thus equipped and possessed of its own transportation and supply depots, this company can afford to "Grub Stake" men of known ability and worth, and for that purpose will keep a goodly number constantly in the field.

SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS.

To those of limited capital the company has arranged a price which includes fare from Portland, Oregon, to Dawson City including meals on ship and food supply for one year for $400 payable in installments if desired. In this way a person with limited means can feel assured of his living for at least one year and not dependent on others.

PRICE OF STOCK.

The stock of this company will be sold at par until the sailing of its first vessel in the spring for the Klondike country; after which all unsold stock will be advanced in price or held as company assets. Being organized on the principle of justice to all, and special privileges to none, it is expressly understood that all stock holders will be treated alike. There will be no "sky parlor" or ground floor. The poor man's dollar is just as valuable as the rich man's and has the same purchasing power.

OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTY.

All property that the company has or may acquire hereafter either by discovery, purchase, or otherwise becomes the property of the company the title to the same being vested in the stockholders pro rata, in proportion to the number of shares possessed by each.

SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION OFFER.

The following proposition is an extreme low rate which includes fare from Portland, Oregon, to Dawson City for $400 and the following food supply for one year:

360 lbs. of flour,
150 " " bacon.
50 " " canned beef.
50 " " ham.
75 " " beans.
48 " " butter.
60 " " dessicated vegetables.
30 " " dried apples.
60 " " sugar.
12 gal. N. O. molasses.
48 cans of fruit, 2 lb. cans.
25 lbs of cracked wheat.
60 " " cornmeal.
24 " " rice.
60 " " salt.
36 " " coffee.
12 " " tea.
12 bottles lime juce.
48 cans condensed milk.
Pepper, mustard, soda, baking powder and yeast.

Payments may be made as follows:

One fourth on signing contract.
One fourth January 1st, 1898.

Balance 30 days prior to sailing from Portland. Should it appear that any party to the above contract should be unable to make any further payments, or in case of inability to complete arrangements for passage, or in case of default in making payments, the company agrees to issue paid up stock to the full amount paid in.

TRANSPORTATION RATE.

The rate or fare from Portland, Oregon to Dawson City (without food supply) is $200. Each passenger is entitled to 300 pounds of baggage free of charge, and ten cents per pound for all baggage in excess of that amount. An exception however, where passengers have freight in excess of one ton. Tonnage rates 6 cents per pound.

INFORMATION.

The general office of this company is located at Florence, Lane Co., Oregon, where all communications should be addressed to the Alaska Gold Mining and Navigation Company, Florence, Oregon.

CONCLUSION.

Be it said that it is the desire of this company to give the public its best assurance that its affairs will be managed and conducted on a broad liberal policy, conservatively administered. No expenditure will be made that will not be beneficial to the profits of the company and stockholders and no risks entertained that can be possibly avoided. The welfare of the stockholders means its own welfare and in every way it will strive to merit the confidence of its patrons.

MINING LAWS.

For the information of our patrons we quote the mining laws of both the United States and Canada now in force.

In the United States the term placer mining as defined by the supreme court is ground within defined boundaries, which contains mineral in its earth, sand or gravel; ground that includes valuable deposits, not of place, that is not fixed rock, but which are in a loose state and may in most cases be collected by washing without milling. The manner of locating placer claims differs from that of locating claims upon veins or lodes. In locating a vein or lode claim the United States statutes provide that no claim shall extend more than 300 feet on each side of the middle of the vein at the surface and that no claim shall be limited by mining regulations to less than 25 feet on each side of the middle of the vein at the surface. In locating claims called placer, however, the law provides that no location of such claims upon surveyed lands, shall include more than 20 acres for each individual claimant. The supreme court has held that one individual can hold as many locations as he can purchase and rely upon his possessory title.

Locators, however, have to show proof of citizenship, or intention to become citiziens. This may be done in the case of an individual by his own affidavit, or in the case of an association incorporated by a number of individuals by the affidavit of their authorized agent made on his acknowledgement, or upon information and belief. And in the case of a company organized under the laws of any state or territory, by filing a certified copy of the charter, or certificate of incorporation. The claimant has a fee of $5 per acre in the case of a lode claim, and $2.50 per acre for placer. The locators of placer claims and keeping possession thereof until a patent shall be issued are subject to local laws and customs.

CANADIAN MINING REGULATIONS.

Are extracted from compiler as follows:

ARTICLE 7: If any person or persons shall discover a new mine, and such discovery shall be established to the satisfaction of the Gold Commissioner, a claim for the bar diggings 750 feet in length may granted, a new stratum of auriferous earth or gravel situated in a locality where the claims are abandoned shall for this purpose be deemed a new mine, although this same locality shall have previously been worked at a different level.

ARTICLE 9: A claim shall be recorded with the Gold Commissioner in whose district it is situated within three days after the location thereof, if it is located within 10 miles of the commissioner's office. One day extra shall be allowed for making such record for every additional 10 miles or fraction thereof.

ARTICLE 11: Entry shall not be granted for a claim which has not been staked by the applicant in person in the manner specified in the regulations.

ARTICLE 12: An entry fee of $15 shall be charged for the first year and an annual fee of $10 for each of the following years.

ARTICLE 13: After recording a claim the removal of any post by the holder or any person in his behalf for the purpose of changing the boundaries of his claim, shall act a forfeiture of the claim.

ARTICLE 14: The entry of every holder for a grant for placer mining must be renewed and his receipt relinquished and replaced every year, and an entry fee each year.

ARTICLE 15: No miner shall receive a grant for more than one mining claim in the same locality, but the same miner may hold any number of claims by purchase, and any number of miners may unite to work their claims in common, on such terms as they may arrange, provided such arrangement be registered with the Gold Commissioner and a fee of $5 paid for each registration.

ARTICLE 16: Any miner or miners may sell, mortgage, or dispose of his or their claims, provided such disposal be registered with a fee $5 paid to the Gold Commissioner, who shall thereupon give the assignee a certificate of title.

ARTICLE 17: Every miner shall, during the continuance of his grant, have the exclusive right of entry upon his own claim for the miner-like working thereof and the construction of a residence thereon and shall be entitled exclusively to all the proceeds realized therefrom, but he shall have no surface right thereon.

ARTICLE 18: Every miner shall be entitled to the use of so much of the water naturally flowing through or past his claim, and not already lawfully appropriated, as shall in the opinion of the Gold Commissioner, be necessary for the working thereof, and shall be entitled to drain his own claim free of charge.

ARTICLES 19: A claim shall be deemed to be abandoned and open to occupation and entry by any person when the same shall have remained unworked on working days by the grantee thereof, or by some person in his behalf, for the space of seventy-two hours, unless sickness or other reasonable cause may be shown to the satisfaction of the Gold Commissioner, or unless the grantee is absent on lease given by the commissioner.

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