

NEW ELDORADO

GOLD FIELDS OF ALASKA
AND THE YUKON.

Climate and Resources
of the New Famous Region of the
North—Great Extent of Ground
to be Prospected.

Correspondence.]
Purchased from Russia in 1867 for
\$72,000,000, Alaska was a portion of the
United States for 30 years without at-
taching the attention its resources and
merit. Everywhere apathy and
neglect prevailed in regard to this
territorial acquisition. Suddenly
it was changed. In a single day the
entire world was turned to
Alaska, and there they remain fixed.

On the 17th of last July the steamer
Albatross sailed into port with \$800,000
on board, and to the ends of
the earth was telegraphed the story of
the rich placer diggings discovered
in the Klondike and its tributaries.
It began that rush to the new mines
has filled the news columns of
every press with its varied experiences for
months. Ten thousand men
are in it. Some are now at the
mouth of the river scattered all along
the coast to the coast to the Klondike.
Still others are at Juneau, Dyea
and Skagway, awaiting a more favor-
able time for the journey, while not
a few have returned to civilization, sat-
isfied with their experience or to make
fresh start under better circum-
stances. Great and exciting as was
the rush, it was but the advance
of the great wave of gold hunt-
ing that will roll in upon the Alaskan
coast in the coming spring. Probably not
less than 50,000 men will start for the
next year, and possibly four
times this number may go. For this
is a clear and succinct description
of Alaska and its resources, with a
review of its routes of travel must
interest even to those who have
attention of seeking the northern
treasures.

At the first place, it must be under-
stood that the Yukon river flows partly
high Canada and partly through the
United States, and that the Klondike
is on the Canadian side of the
boundary line, though good placers, pos-
sibly as good as those of the Klondike,
are on the American side of the line.
Beginning at the Arctic ocean, the
boundary line runs due south along the
meridian as far as Mt. St. Elias,
marine leagues from the Pacific,
and it follows the coast line, pre-
serving a distance of 10 marine leagues
in a southeasterly direction to
latitude of 51 degrees and 40 min-
utes, which becomes the southern limit.
That of line belongs to Can-
ada and part in the province of Brit-
ish Columbia, the dividing line run-
ning east and west across both lakes
Tesslin and Teslin. The present gold
fields are all north of the British
Columbia line, but no one can tell
how far they may be revealed in the future.

A portion west of the boundary
and belonging to the United States
contains Alaska proper, and contains
an area of 617,703 square miles,
of which 57,596 square miles consist
of land along the coast. It is only on
the mainland that settlements
have been made and industries de-
veloped, except the gradual develop-
ment of placers along the Yukon, ending
in the recent startling discoveries.
The towns of Alaska consist of but half
of any prominence, besides the
places on the Yukon. They are
the capital, Juneau, Wrangell,
Metlakatla, Kodiak and Dutch
Creek. Sitka is on Baranoff island,
on the southeast coast, and has a popu-
lation of about 500. Juneau is on the
west coast, about 100 miles further
in. It is the chief commercial city
during the winter season its popu-
lation exceeds 3,000. New Metlakatla
is a new station and trading point near the
river's extremity, and Wrangell is a
new point on the coast at the mouth
of the Klondike. Kodiak is on the
same name south of the
peninsula, and is the seat of
salmon packing industry. Dutch
Creek is on the island of Unalaska, one
of the Aleutian group, where vessels
from the Pacific into Behring sea.
Alaska is a region of mountains,
being no great valleys nor plains.
The coast a high range of moun-
tains almost abruptly from the
edge, deeply indented with long
peninsulas. These present a series
of peaks of the most picturesque
description, the highest being the Fair-
weather alps, exceeding 15,000 feet,
and Logan exceeding 18,000.
Wrangell, further to the north-
west, is still higher. Down
slopes of these coast mountains
tremendous living glaciers flow
to the ocean, filling the bays
with great masses of floating
ice. Beyond this coast range the moun-
tains are lower, but almost continuous
to the north as the Arctic, and as far
as the great plains of Mackenzie
region. Yet there are many fine
mountain valleys, with occasional
peaks of rolling table land, in sum-
mer brilliant with a carpet of
flowers and flowers.

The Yukon gold fields extend for a
thousand miles along the stream, with
a width of 500 miles. In this vast area
there are hundreds of streams and
gulches, offering ample room for the
thousands of gold seekers to prospect for
new diggings. The new discoveries re-
ported this year are on Dominion creek
and on the tributaries of the Stewart
river, on the Canadian side, and on
McNook creek and its tributaries on
the Alaska side, near the mouth of the
latter the new town of Rampart City
having sprung up.

very different. The rains are cut off
by the high mountains, and the
warm ocean air is not felt. From No-
vember to April the mean temperature
remains continuously below the freezing
point, often remaining for weeks at a
time below zero and occasionally going
as low as 60 or 70 degrees below zero.
It snows about one-third of the time in
winter, but the snow does not become
excessively deep, though frequently the
storms are very severe.

The mean temperature of the interior
during the summer months is 60 to 70
degrees, there being many very warm
days. The Yukon region, being so far
north, has the long summer days and
long winter nights of that latitude,
though, being south of the Arctic cir-
cle, it just misses the continuous day
and continuous night of the Arctic
summer and winter.

Aside from gold, the chief resources
of Alaska are timber, fish and fur-
bearing animals, including the famous fur
seals which are giving the United
States, Great Britain, Russia and Ja-
pan so much trouble. Salmon are
plentiful in all the streams of the
islands and mainland, and millions are
annually packed for market. Halibut
and cod, herring and smelt, or col-
luchon, abound and have become of great
commercial importance. The seal and
sea otter in the water, and the fox, bear,
lynx, otter, beaver, etc., on land,
contribute thousands of their skins an-
nually to the world's fur supply. The
fur trade is handled by the Alaska
Commercial Company and the North-
west Trading and Transportation Com-
pany, both of which have headquarters
on St. Michaels island, near the mouth
of the Yukon, while the Hudson's Bay
Company operates on the Canadian
side of the line.

Coal and coal oil have both been
discovered and may be of future value.
The timber of the coast and islands
grows very large, owing to the humid
atmosphere. It is chiefly cedar, spruce
and hemlock. It has been little used
thus far, though several small mills
have cut it for local purposes. The
timber of the interior is much smaller,
and is found only along the lakes and
water courses. It is chiefly spruce,
alder, cottonwood and willow. Several
small mills have been taken in for cut-
ting this timber. Agriculture is as
yet an experiment, but little having
been attempted. Conditions on the
islands are favorable for grass and such
vegetables and cereals as mature quick-
ly. Even along the Yukon region
summer vegetables may be grown and
possibly wheat. A few years will show
what can be done in agriculture and
stock raising.

The great interest in Alaska at the
present time centers in the Yukon
placers on both sides of the boundary
line. Prospecting on the Yukon began
in 1881. In the fall of 1883 the
first gold was brought to Juneau from
the interior. The next year 300 men
crossed the mountains and the number
of miners steadily increased each year.
The first work was on Stewart river and
then Big Salmon, both in Canada. In
1886 the Forty-mile creek placers, also
in Canada, were discovered, and the
next year the famous Franklin gulch,
on the same stream. In 1892 the Miller
creek diggings were found, also a tribu-
tary of Forty-mile, and on the Cana-
dian side of the line. The next year
there was a large influx of miners, fully
300 working in the Forty-mile district.

In 1893 the first important discover-
ies on the American side of the line
were made on Birch creek, and the
town of Circle City, now having 500 log
houses, was started on the Yukon as a
supply point. The next year over
\$400,000 were taken out along Birch
creek and Forty-mile. In 1895 Eagle
and Porcupine creeks began to produce
in the Birch creek district. The total
output of that year exceeded \$700,000.
In August, 1896, it was reported at
Forty-mile and Circle City that won-
derfully rich placers had been discovered
on the Klondike, a small tributary
of the Yukon entering that river about
50 miles southeast of the international
boundary and on Canadian territory.
There was a great rush to the new dig-
gings, the older ones being nearly de-
serted. In a few days \$1,000 were
taken out on Bonanza creek, a tributary
of the Klondike. By January 1, 1897,
400 claims had been located on Bonanza
and Eldorado creeks, and 200 on Hunker
creek, and later many others on Bear,
Gold Bottom and Too-Much-Gold creeks
and their tributaries. Fully \$1,400,-
000 were taken from the Yukon placers
in 1896.

It was not so much the amount of
gold brought out by the first steamer to
come down last summer, as the news
that this was the result of but a little
work in a few claims only, and that
there would have been many times as
much had the hundreds of other claims
been worked in time to send the gold
down the river. The excitement of the
month, which caused the excitement. The
out, which caused the excitement. The
method of working these mines is to
sink a shaft into the frozen ground in
winter, taking out the rich gravel near
bed-rock and piling it up to be washed
out when the water runs in summer
time. For this reason the gold washed
out last summer could not be sent
away, and will not be brought down
until next July, when it is expected
that several millions of dollars will
come out as the result of the first year's
work along the Klondike. The com-
mon work along the Klondike district
merchandise point for the Klondike dis-
trict is the new town of Dawson City, sit-
uated on the Yukon just below the
mouth of the Klondike and reached by
river steamers.

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thousand miles along the stream, with
a width of 500 miles. In this vast area
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When a girl is worried about the kind
of neckties a young man wears she
loves him.—Somerville Journal.

The difference between the astron-
omer and the chorus girl is that one
studies the stars and the other under-
stands them.—Philadelphia Record.

"These lake excursions seem so lone-
some." "Lonesome? Why, I am with
you." "Yes, I know, but I couldn't
bring my wheel along."—Chicago Rec-
ord.

She—"The Sanfords contemplate tak-
ing a trip to Europe. I wish we could
afford to do it." He—"Why, there's
nothing cheaper than contemplation."
—Puck.

Watts—"Getting a little rest out your
way since the piano girl took to the
wheel, aren't you?" Potts—"Naw.
Her bicycle suit is looser than the
piano was."—Indianapolis Journal.

Fuddy—"I understand that Wigley
spends most of his evenings here at
your house?" Duddy—"I had an im-
pression that it was my evenings that
he spends here."—Boston Transcript.

The Judge—"Didn't I tell you the last
time that you were here that I wanted
to see your face in this court no more?"
Weary Watkins—"You did, yer honor,
and that is exactly how I feel the cop."

There's the bicycle face and the bicycle
neck.
With its queer, altitudinous curve;
And the hump, the hump, in the middle
hump.

And the screecher's bicycle nerve.
—Queensland Wheel.

Customer—"Do you guarantee these
porous plasters to be good for a week
back?" Druggist—"Yes, sir; they are
good for a week back—and for a month
to come after you put them on."—Judge.

A Remarkable Woman.—Mr. McCor-
kile—"My wife has a better memory
than any other woman I know." Mr.
McCrackie—"Indeed?" Mr. McCorkle
—"Yes; she always remembers what's
trumps."—Judge.

"I told her I was afraid to kiss her
while we were on the tandem for fear
we would both fall off." "What did he
say?" "She said she hoped I didn't
call myself an experienced wheelman."
—Chicago Record.

Fuddy—"They say you have a liking
for Miss Spontel." Duddy—"Nonsense!
The woman is insupportable." Fuddy
—"That's just it. You won't have to
support her. She's got enough for
two."—Boston Transcript.

Gent (solicitously).—"Sir, I have here
some indestructible plates." Mr.
Hall Bedroome (grimly).—"Well, you
have come to the right house to sell
them. That's the sort of pies Mrs.
Skinner gives us."—Puck.

"I understand their engagement has
been broken." "Yes, she says she was
deceived. He had only six century runs
to his credit instead of sixteen, and as
she had fourteen herself, he was clearly
out of her class."—Chicago Post.

Advice from the Heart.—Barrow—
"That's a dandy wheel you have there,
old man. I'll take a little spin on it
some day. By the way, what kind of a
wheel do you think I ought to ride?"
Marrow—"One of your own."—Brook-
lyn Life.

"He is an awfully wise young man,
to have seen no more than twenty-
three summers." "He may have seen
but twenty-three summers, but the
number of summer girls he has met
runs up to the hundreds."—Indianapolis
Journal.

"Seven dollars for a room and break-
fast? Great Scott! man, that is awfully
steep. And awfully high," said the
victim. "Yes," admitted the summer
landlord, "it is so high and steep that
I don't see how I can come down."—In-
dianapolis Journal.

A Game Law in Itself.—Gobang—"I
think I'll do quite a little shooting this
summer. I wonder what the close sea-
son is?" Buckshot—"Well, in your
case, old man, I fancy if you applied to
the Legislature, they'd throw the whole
year open to you."—Truth.

"It's surprising how impractical some
very learned men are." "Yes, there's
Prof. Lingvist, for example. He spent
over half his life in acquiring fluency
in nine or ten different languages and
then went and married a wife who
never gives him a chance to get a word
in edgeways."—Truth.

"I happened to remark a little while
ago, in the presence of Miss Billmore,
that some persons carried their fond-
ness for cycling to extreme lengths. I'd
like to know what there was in that ob-
servation to cause her to turn red and
say, 'Sir'." "Great Scott! Don't you
know? She is engaged to a young bi-
cyclist nearly six and a half feet high."
—Chicago Tribune.

A man had been up for an examina-
tion in scripture, had failed miserably
and the relations between him and the
examiner had become somewhat strained.
The latter asked him if there were any
text in the whole Bible he could quote.
He pondered and then repeated: "And
Judas went out and hanged himself."
"Is there any other verse you know in
the Bible?" the examiner asked. "Yes.
'Go thou and do likewise.'" There was
a solemn pause and the proceedings
terminated.—Argonaut.

A gentleman had left his corner seat
in an already crowded railway car to
go in search of something to eat, leav-
ing a rug to reserve his seat. On re-
turning he found that, in spite of the
rug and the protests of his fellow pas-
sengers, the seat had been usurped by
one in a lady's garments. To his pro-
testations her lofty reply was: "Do you
know, sir, that I am one of the direc-
tor's wives?" "Madam," he replied,
"were you the director's only wife, I
should still protest."—Argonaut.

NEVER AWAKE.

Some people will never wake up till the
last horn blows, and then they'll ask if
that's the horn for dinner. Delays are dan-
gerous and ruinous. Thousands can say if
they hadn't put off an opportunity, they
would have been rich and happy. Some
never know they have rheumatism until
crippled by it, and all the while in pain,
thinking it will pass off. But St. Jacobs
Oil never delays, and is always wide awake.
It goes straight to its work of cure in a busi-
ness way, and cures rheumatism in any
form at its worst stage. It's a live
remedy.

Mid-Channel Mines a Failure.
The recent experiments made by a
special commission to ascertain whether
the mines laid in the Dardanelles are
capable of preventing the passage
of ships have proved the utter useless-
ness of the present mines, and at the
same time the extreme difficulty of lay-
ing down mines at all on account of the
strong current.

A BIG REGULAR ARMY.
The mightiest host of this sort is the army of
invalids whose bowels, livers and stomachs have
been regulated by Hostetter's Stomach Bitters.
A regular habit of body is brought about
through using the Bitters, not by violently agi-
tating and gripping the intestines, but by con-
ferring their energy and causing a flow of the
bile into its proper channel. Malaria, jaundice,
dyspepsia, and a tendency to inactivity of the
kidneys, are conquered by the Bitters.

Proposed Floating Tunnel.
In connection with the railway com-
munication between Scotland and Ire-
land it is proposed to send trains
through a tunnel which shall float at a
depth of 60 feet below the surface, and
which shall be kept steadily in its place
by means of anchors.

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 Hingham, Massachusetts,
was the originator of "PITCHER'S CASTORIA,"
the name that has borne and does now bear the
fac-simile signature of CHAS. H. FLETCHER 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 kind you have always bought, and has the
signature of CHAS. H. FLETCHER on the
wrapper. No one has authority from me to use
my name except The Centaur Company of which
Chas. H. Fletcher is President.
March 8, 1897. SAMUEL PITCHER, M.D.

Giraffes are from 15 to 16 feet from
the ground to the tip of their horns.
Specimens from 18 to 23 feet have been
known.

If you look at the map you will find
that the mountain chains of the Old
World lie east and west, while those of
the New World lie north and south.

Benjamin Bissell, who lives near
Ballston Spa, N. Y., says he has voted
for 18 presidential candidates, not one
of whom was elected.

FREE TO OUR READERS.

Our readers will be pleased to learn
that the great discovery, Dr. Kilmer's
Swamp-Root, has been so universally
successful in quickly curing all forms
of kidney and bladder troubles, that
those who wish to Prove for themselves
its wonderful merit may have a sample
bottle and a book of valuable infor-
mation both sent absolutely free by mail.

Nothing could be fairer or more gener-
ous than this liberal offer, and we ad-
vise our readers to write, mentioning
this paper, and send their address to
Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y.
Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root is the dis-
covery of a great physician, and as
such is not recommended for every-
thing, but will be found just what is
needed in cases of kidney and bladder
disorders—or troubles arising from
weak kidneys, such as gravel, rheuma-
tism, pain or dull ache in the back, too
frequent desire to pass water, scanty
supply, smarting or burning in passing
it. Swamp-Root stands the highest
for its wonderful cures. The regular
sizes are sold by druggists, price 50
cents and one dollar.

English Peers.
Of the entire number of English peer-
ages, only five go back as far as the
13th century. Of the 538 temporal
peers, 350 have been created during the
present century, 126 during the last
century, and only 62 trace their titles
beyond the year 1700.

A HEALTHY WIFE

Is a Husband's Inspiration.

A sickly, half-dead-and-alive woman,
especially when she is the mother of
a family, is a damper to all joyous-
ness in the home.

If a woman finds that her energies
are flagging and that everything tires
her, her sleep is disturbed by horrible
dreams, and that she often wakes
suddenly in the night with a feeling
of suffocation and alarm, she must at
once regain her strength.

The following from Mrs. F. S. EX-
BERT, Westphalia, Kans., shows the
power of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vege-
table Compound, and a letter of advice:

"Dear Mrs. Pinkham:—I have suf-
fered for over two years with falling,
enlargement and ulceration of the
womb, and this

spring, being in
such a weak-
ened condition,
caused me to
flow for nearly
six months.
Some time
ago, urged
by friends,
I wrote to
you for advice.
The treatment
advised for a
short time, that terrible flow stopped.
I am now gaining strength and flesh
and have better health than I have had
for the past ten years."

After using
which you
short time, that
terrible flow stopped.
I am now gain-
ing strength and
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The South Polar Expedition.

The commercial and scientific expedi-
tion to the South Pole, under Herr
Borchgrevink, will start from England
next July. Inquiries are now being
made for a suitable ship in Scotland
and Norway. The object will be to
reach Cape Adair and proceed to the
South Pole on Snowshoes. The party
will include several scientific men.
Herr Borchgrevink will go to Norway
at Christmas, and, with some Nor-
wegian friends, practice snow-shoe run-
ning.

HOW TO FIND OUT.

Fill a bottle or common glass with
urine and let it stand 24 hours; a sedi-
ment or settling indicates an unhealthy
condition of the kidneys. When urine
stains linen it is evidence of kidney
trouble. Too frequent desire to urinate
or pain in the back is also convincing
proof that the kidneys and bladder are
out of order.

WHAT TO DO.

There is comfort in the knowledge so
often expressed, that Dr. Kilmer's
Swamp-Root, the great kidney remedy,
fulfills every wish in relieving pain in
the back, kidneys, liver, bladder and
every part of the urinary passages. It
corrects inability to hold urine and
scalding pain in passing it, or bad
effects following use of liquor, wine or
beer, and overcomes that unpleasant
necessity of being compelled to get up
many times during the night to urinate.
The mild and the extraordinary effect
of Swamp-Root is soon realized. It
stands the highest for its wonder-
ful cures of the most distressing cases.
If you need a medicine you should
have the best. Sold by druggists, price
fifty cents and one dollar. So remark-
ably successful has Swamp-Root been
that if you wish to prove its great
merit, you may have a sample bottle
and pamphlet both sent free by mail.
Mention this paper and send your ad-
dress to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Bingham-
ton, N. Y. The proprietors of this
paper guarantee the genuineness of this
offer.

Sensational Predictions.

Old Moore's almanac, which won
notoriety the past year by predicting
the Paris fire, predicts for 1898 a ter-
rible civil war in the United States,
the death of the czar and the kidnab-
ping of the young king of Spain, and
that about the second week of Novem-
ber of that year communication will be
opened up with Mars.

"King Solomon's Treasure," only Aphrodisiacal
Tonic known. (See Dictionary.) \$3.00 a box,
3 weeks' treatment. Mason, Chemical Co., P. O. Box
77, Philadelphia, Pa.

The Century Magazine, with its No-
vember number, enters its twenty-
seventh year. During its long exist-
ence, by reason of its many notable
successes, it has won an assured and
commanding position. During the
coming year The Century will maintain
its exceptional position as a magazine
of entertainment and as a leader in art
and thought.

Its pictorial features will be notable,
and it will command the services of the
foremost artists, illustrators and en-
gravers of this country and of Europe.

Nothing like a complete announce-
ment of its literary features can be at-
tempted now. Dr. Weir Mitchell,
whose novel of the American Revolution,
"Hugh Wynne," is the great suc-
cess of the year, has written a new
story for the present volume. It bears
the piquant title: "The Adventures
of Francois: Foundling, Adventurer,
Juggler and Fencing-Master during the
French Revolution." The tale is full
of romance and adventure. Mrs. Bur-
ton Harrison contributes a new novel
of New York life, called "Good Ameri-
cans," in which contemporaneous social
types and tendencies are brightly mir-
rored and described.

There will be a group of clever stories
about horses and people who like
horses, under the general title of "Gal-
lopes." "A Woman's Reminiscences of
the French Intervention in Mexico"
will be given in a series of graphic and
highly picturesque papers by Mrs. Cor-
nelius Stevenson. Further contribu-
tions to the interesting series of
"Heroes of Peace" will be made by
Jacob A. Riis, Gustav Kobbe, Elizabeth
Stuart Phelps Ward, and others.

For the benefit of readers of The
Century an unusual combination offer
is made for this year. There has been
issued "The Century Gallery of One
Hundred Portraits," made up of the
finest engravings that have appeared in
the magazine, and representing a total
expenditure of nearly \$30,000. These
are printed on heavy plate paper, with
wide margins, like proofs. The retail
price of the gallery is \$7.50, but this
year it will be sold only in connection
with a subscription to The Century,
the price of the two together being
\$6.50.

Piso's Cure for Consumption is our only
medicine for coughs and colds.—Mrs. C.
Beitz, 439 8th ave., Denver, Col., Nov. 8, '96.

The earth probably receives about
one two-thousandth-millionth part of
the total radiation of the sun's rays.

Try Schilling's Best tea and baking powder.

The production of India rubber in
Mexico is attracting attention, and the
samples which have been exhibited are
said to be of fine quality.

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