

..FACTS FOR..

# Alaska, Klondike and Northwestern Territory **GOLD SEEKERS**

Experience of some of the most noted miners:

Joe Ladue, Clarence Berry, Alexander  
Orr, Jas. McMahon (Jimmy the Diver)  
and C. J. Mullins.

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Outfit, Boat Building, How to Prospect, etc.

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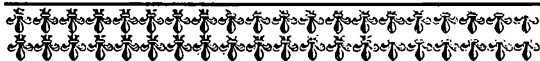
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## INTRODUCTION.

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In placing this little volume before the public, it is the sole object of the publishers to faithfully portray the exact condition of the routes of travel, trails, and the expenses of the trip to the Klondike region by the different modes of traveling, and of placing Chicago in the foreground as the leading outfitting point of the Pacific Coast.

In order to do this we have secured the services of people who have actually been over the trails, and are, therefore, competent to write intelligently upon the various subjects. The sole object of this book will be to tell nothing but facts.

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## DYEА AND SKAGUAY.

The route over which the greatest number of people have taken passage is by way of Dyea and Skaguay, starting from different points on the Pacific Coast. Chicago has been the starting point for more than 25 per cent. of the Alaska travel.

Daily trains have been leaving Chicago, but from the preparations now being made trains will leave Chicago regularly during the coming season.

The time consumed in passage from Chicago to Dyea or Skaguay is from seven to eleven days, according to the speed of the vessel and train. Upon arriving at Skaguay or Dyea freight is transferred to lighters and floated up on the beach at high tide; when the tide recedes, which it does for over a mile, it leaves the lighters high and dry, giving an opportunity for the goods to be carried to high ground on wagons.

The fare on all boats during the past season has been uniform, viz.: First-class, \$50; second-class, \$35, and trains \$31.50. What the rates will be next season it is hard to say, but it is not likely they will be materially changed.

During the coming season the facilities for unloading at Dyea and Skaguay will be greatly increased, as wharves have been built at Skaguay during the past fall, and one is planned to be built at Dyea this winter. With wharfage facilities at these points, it will obviate the necessity of hauling goods from one to two miles up the beach at low tide.

The distance from Chicago to Dyea or Skaguay is about 3,232 miles, mainly through an inland salt water passage, unequalled for scenery in any part of the world.

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## ST. MICHAELS ROUTE.

The St. Michaels route to the Yukon and Klondike country is the "all-water route" to that land of gold. During the past season passage by this route has been limited, but during the coming spring and summer the transportation facilities on this route will be greatly increased, and a large number of new boats will be placed upon the Yukon River. All the old companies are increasing their facilities, and many new companies are being organized to handle the trade.

This route is only open for the period of about three or four months during the summer season, and during the latter part of the season navigation is somewhat retarded on account of the low water in the river.

The principal lines of trains and steamers on this route will make Chicago their starting point, covering the distance to St. Michael in from fifteen to twenty days, according to the speed of the train or vessel. The rate of fare by regular transportation companies during the past summer from Chicago to Dawson has been: First-class, \$150; second-class, \$125. Some outside expeditions, organized after this season, will charge \$300.

The river boats from St. Michael to Dawson make the trip, a distance of 1,800 miles, in from ten to twenty days.

## OUTFITTING.

Proper outfitting is the most important factor that the prospective miner has to contend with, and in this respect Chicago stands unrivaled. It is essential that he should be well posted in

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# Goods for Klondikers

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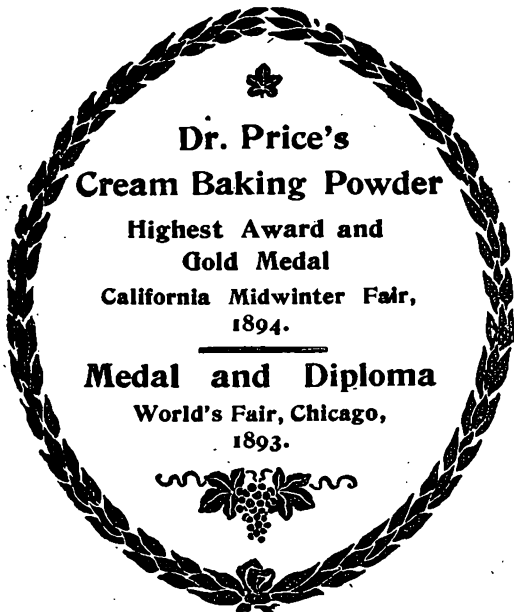
order to prepare himself for the rigorous weather he will have to encounter in the country for which he has started. No more severe winters are encountered anywhere than in the Klondike region. He should not be parsimonious, but outfit himself with the warmest and best clothing that money can buy. The essential thing is good blankets; not lighter than twelve pounds should be bought, and at least three pairs. A valuable addition to an outfit is a sleeping bag, made of canvas and lined with blankets. Next a rubber blanket, plenty of good, warm underwear, socks, arctics, a fur cap, two pairs of hip rubber boots, several pairs of heavy shoes, well spiked. We advise the buying of extra shoes before starting, as they will be needed before many miles are traversed on the trails, and then they will be hard to procure, except at exorbitant prices.

The necessary food outfit will have to be regulated by the party himself, according to the time he intends taking provisions for. The assortment should consist of plenty of flour, beans, bacon, evaporated vegetables of all kinds, baking powder, rolled oats, dried fruits, extract of beef, and an assortment of spices. The following assortment is considered ample to supply one person for a year:

|                                      | Lbs. |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| Flour .....                          | 360  |
| Bacon .....                          | 120  |
| Ham .....                            | 72   |
| Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder..... | 15   |
| Beans.....                           | 72   |
| Evaporated Vegetables .....          | 60   |
| Canned Beef .....                    | 48   |
| Butter .....                         | 48   |

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Put up in Patent Screw Top Cans especially  
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Owing to its purity, strength and its rare  
keeping qualities it is the only powder adapted  
for use in the Klondike.

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Condensed Milk .....                                      | 48 |
| Tea .....   | 12 |
| Coffee.....   | 36 |
| Cornmeal .....  | 60 |
| Rice .....  | 25 |
| Salt .....  | 10 |
| Lime Juice..... (bottles)                                 | 12 |
| Rolled Oats .....   | 24 |
| Sugar .....   | 60 |
| Dried Fruits (assorted).....                              | 75 |
| Pepper, Mustard, etc.                                     |    |
| Dr. King's New Discovery.....(bottles)                    | 6  |
| Dr. King's New Life Pills.....(bottles)                   | 6  |
| Hamlin's Wizard Oil.....(large bottles)                   | 6  |
| One Frost King Chamois Vest.                              |    |
| Thirty-six B. & B. Belladonna Plasters.                   |    |
| Two 10-yard Spools R. A. Plaster.                         |    |
| Four O. P. C. Suspensories.                               |    |
| Fifty-two packages of Weidner's Condensed Vegetable Soup. |    |
| Two pairs Henderson's Argonaut Nugget Finder Boots.       |    |

It is impossible to estimate the cost of an outfit, but we would advise the buying of only the very best articles to be had, as the climate of Alaska is very hard on all kinds of poor provisions.

The following is a list of clothing necessary, from the standpoint of experienced miners in that country:

One wall tent, three pairs of blankets, one Mackinaw coat, two pairs of Mackinaw pants, one Mackinaw shirt, one pair Mackinaw drawers, two pairs heavy overalls, one extra heavy pants (lined), one extra heavy overcoat (lined), three suits extra heavy all-wool underwear, twilled

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Another and one of the principal

## Facts for Klondikers

Coming from or returning to the West,  
is that the

# Northern Pacific Railway,

Running from St. Paul  
and Minneapolis to the  
North Pacific Coast, is  
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St. Paul, Minn.

tan Mackintosh suit, two pair extra heavy German socks, four heavy all-wool overshirts, two suits ladies' knit underwear, two pair snag proof hip Goodyear rubber boots, Goodyear Alaska socks, one pair Goodyear wool boots, one pair Perfection Goodyear rubber overs, one Goodyear protective rubber sheet, one pair men's hip boots (leather sole), two pair reindeer shoes, one pair heavy shoes, two pair walking shoes (spiked), one medicine chest, towels, thread, needles, handkerchiefs, rubber mittens and gloves, mosquito netting, Winchester rifle, revolver, hunting knife, sleeping bag, high-cut arctics and oiled canvas bags necessary to hold the outfit, together with a rubber and oil blanket.

The above outfit can be purchased at prices to suit the pocket of the prospective miner.

The following tools and cooking utensils are necessary to complete the outfit:

One ax, one hatchet, one hand saw, one whip-saw, one steel camp stove (very best), two frying pans, 100 feet manilla rope ( $\frac{1}{2}$  inch), three pounds of oakum, three pounds of pitch, one butcher knife, one coffee pot, two teaspoons, two tablespoons, one set tableware (aluminum or graniteware), one miner's pick, one small carpenter outfit, one pair snow-glasses, two cups, twenty pounds nails, one long-handled shovel, and one California Optical Co.'s compass and snow-glass.

## THE DYEA TRAIL.

(Chilkoot Pass.)

The Dyea Trail or Chilkoot Pass, which has been used for the past sixteen years by the In-

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But that which helps them after toil  
Is **Hamlin's** famous **Wizard Oil.**

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United States and Canada.**



dians and all of the original Yukoners who have crossed the mountains, is the trail over which the greatest number of people have traveled the past season. This trail for a mile from Dyea to the ferry is a good wagon road, and, after crossing the ferry, for a distance of four miles to Finnegan's Point, is a fairly good wagon road, making practically a wagon road for five miles from Dyea. The road from the ferry to Finnegan's Point cannot be used during high water in the spring, on account of the number of times the river has to be forded. At this period the goods are taken up the river to Finnegan's Point in boats or canoes. At Finnegan's Point commences the actual use of pack animals; the trail follows the river cañon for four miles to the foot of the cañon, and at this point begins the ascent of the mountains. For a distance of seven miles to Sheep Camp the ascent continues. This part of the trail is good until the fall rains commence, when it becomes very muddy, and if the rains continue for any period of time it becomes almost impassable. Animals are generally discarded at Sheep Camp, although some parties have used them to the Scales, about four miles above Sheep Camp, during the past season; but all regular packers pack only to Sheep Camp, as the road beyond is very hard on the horses. It is said that this part of the road will be improved next season for the proper use of horses.

In the early spring, while the snow is on the ground, large sleds are used to transport goods to the head of the cañon.

It is absolutely impossible to use animals for packing above the Scales. All packing from this point to Crater Lake, on the Summit, a distance

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of a mile and a quarter, must be done on the back.

From Crater Lake to Lake Linderman, a distance of nine and one-half miles, is made by crossing Crater Lake, Long Lake and Deep Lake, portaging between them, or by trail around the lakes. The quickest and the way most used is to boat across the lakes and portage between. Boats are found on each lake; the cost of moving goods ranging from  $3\frac{1}{4}$  cents per pound on Crater Lake to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cents per pound on Deep Lake.

The main points or landmarks on the trail, with distances and elevations taken from an aneroid barometer, are as follows:

|                                       | Mil.           | El'n. Ft. |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Dyea to Finnegan's Point.....         | 5              | 25        |
| Finnegan's Point to Head Navigation.. | 2              | 40        |
| Head Navigation to Foot of Canyon..   | 3              | 375       |
| Foot of Canyon to Pleasant Camp....   | 3              | 600       |
| Pleasant Camp to Sheep Camp.....      | 4              | 800       |
| Sheep Camp to Scales.....             | 3              | 2,450     |
| Scales to Summit.....                 | 1              | 3,350     |
| Summit to Crater Lake.....            | $\frac{1}{2}$  | 3,010     |
| Crater Lake to Head of Long Lake..    | 3              | 2,300     |
| Head Long Lake to Head Deep Lake..    | $3\frac{1}{2}$ | 2,000     |
| Head Deep Lake to Lake Linderman..    | $3\frac{1}{2}$ | 1,850     |

The trail is worse from Sheep Camp to the Summit, being full of slippery, jagged rocks. A company has been organized to build a cable tramway over this section by next spring, greatly facilitating the matter of moving freight. Part of the cable was at Sheep Camp September 15th, consequently it can be looked upon as an assured fact. It is expected to be able to move freight by February 1st, 1898.

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# STRUCK IT RICH

**This Excels All Others.**

---

When a person's life is in actual danger and death is staring him in the face, that which he just then most desires is to strike something that will immediately remove him from all danger. Mr. Edwin Brown, of Hunnewell, Kansas, "struck it rich." When lying very low with a very serious attack of throat and lung disease, his father advised him to try **Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption.** To his great joy and surprise it completely cured him in a short time. He says he certainly "struck it rich" the day he followed his father's advice and procured this great remedy. It absolutely cures Pneumonia, Lung Fever, Asthma, Bronchitis and all affections of the throat and lungs.

---

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During the past season the cost of moving goods over this trail, by the packers, has varied, and been much higher than any previous year, on account of the rush. Up to the present season the Indians packed from Dyea to Lake Linderman for twenty-six cents per pound, but at the end of the past season the price had risen to thirty-eight cents per pound, and by having goods packed from one point to another and paying local rates, the price would average about forty-five cents per pound. It is not likely, though, that such rates will ever again prevail, as it is rumored that the company building the tramway is willing to contract at the present time to transfer goods to Lake Linderman from Dyea, at the rate of fifteen cents a pound.

The tramway company announces that its rates will be such as to allow a man to move his outfit at much less cost than heretofore.

In conclusion, we wish to advise people that during the past season the Dyea trail has been the only passable trail, and considering that for sixteen years it has been used exclusively by the Indians, we are of the opinion that it will continue to be so for the next season at least, unless extensive improvements are made on the other trails.

## THE SKAGUAY TRAIL.

(White's Pass.)

The Skaguay Trail, or White's Pass, is a new trail, used this past season for the first time, and has proven to be an utter failure as a trail, and a very costly experiment for the people who have tried it.

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**ESTABLISHED 1844.**

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**CHICAGO, - - - ILLINOIS**



It was boomed in the early part of the excitement as a first-class trail, and, being considerably lower than Chilkoot Pass, was the route followed by a great multitude of people bound for the Yukon.

It is utterly unreliable in every sense as a trail, and we would advise no one to try it, as the mud and rocks are insurmountable to man or beast. Horses are unable to pass over it with safety. Over seven hundred horses are lying dead at one point on the trail. Of the thousands of people who have tried to pass over this trail not over two hundred have succeeded, being not over 5 per cent. of those who started.

Our advice to people is not to take this trail, unless some positive assurances have been given in the spring that the trail has been put in proper shape for travel. Many people have spent thousands of dollars on this trail without going ten miles, although we are given to understand that a company has been organized to have this trail fixed for spring travel.

### THE DALTON TRAIL.

The Dalton Trail is the oldest trail leading into the Yukon country from any point in Alaska. It is reached by train and steamer from Chicago to Haines' Mission, which is located on Linn Canal, about fifteen miles below Dyea.

The trail has been used for the past two seasons for the transportation of cattle and sheep into the Yukon country. It crosses the summit of the Chilkoot Pass about twenty miles from Haines' Mission, and is presumably a practicable route.

Several parties came out over this trail the latter part of the season, and report it to be a

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180 Lake St., Chicago.

Special attention paid to outfitting  
Klondike Travelers with a full assort-  
ment of Tools and Hardware necessary  
in that country. Lowest prices for good  
articles.



very good one to travel over. It is considerably longer than either the Dyea or Skaguay trails.

In purchasing the above articles for outfitting, we would advise the buying of only the very best of everything, as it will pay better in the end, and all these articles can be secured in Chicago at prices to defy the world.

## THE FORT WRANGEL TRAIL.

(Stickeen Route.)

The easiest route to Dawson City is via the Stickeen River. Trains and steamers leave Chicago regularly, or will the coming season.

At Wrangel a change is made into a smaller steamer, which conveys passengers and freight to Telegraph Creek, 150 miles up the Stickeen River. The miner is now in the heart of a country known to be very rich in placer gold, but as yet only partly prospected.

The recent very rich discoveries in Omenica district will draw many parties who originally started for Dawson. Those who decide on continuing their course will proceed almost due north over a nearly flat country to Teslin Lake, distant 120 miles from Telegraph Creek.

They say that a railroad will be built over this country, but will not be ready for the spring rush of 1898. Miners will find this by far the easiest route to Dawson City, even without a railway, for a first-class trail is being built, over which horses carrying 300 pounds may travel.

Upon reaching the lake, steamers will be found which will convey the miner and his outfit to Dawson City, about 650 miles further north.

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ONE-HALF POUND PACKAGE makes three quarts of excellent, thick, creamy soup, equal in nutrition to FOUR AND ONE-QUARTER POUNDS OF LEAN MEAT.

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It is a dry powder, put up in parchment paper, light and durable for transportation. Can carry a good meal in your vest pocket.

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**Room 52, 53 River St., Chicago, Ill.**

**Room 13, Olympic Block, Seattle, Wash.**

## BOAT BUILDING.

At Lake Linderman and Lake Bennett.

One of the main features and difficulties the prospective miner meets with, after crossing the various passes and landing at the lakes, is the securing of a boat. The two main points for boat building are Lake Linderman on the Dyea Trail, and Lake Bennett on the Skaguay Trail.

All the timber suitable for boat building within six miles of Lake Linderman has been used, consequently parties have to transport their timber some distance from the source of supply, after cutting. Logs can be rafted down the river to the border of the lake to be whip-sawed.

A boat suitable for the Yukon River should be eighteen feet in length, made of not less than one-inch boards, well nailed, and calked with pitch. A boat this size will carry two men and their outfit of about 3,600 pounds.

The experiment of taking knock-down boats from the place of embarkation has proven to be a partial failure. If the lumber is sawed in lengths of not over five feet, it can be packed successfully, but where long boards are used it is absolutely impossible to pass them over the trails by man or beast. Boats have been selling at the lakes the past season for from \$300 to \$600, according to the capacity. At Lake Bennett there is a small sawmill, and one has been taken over to Lake Linderman this past fall to be put in operation during the coming season. It is also likely that more than one will be in operation at each place next year, thereby making the question of boats a much easier one. We would advise everyone, however, to carry a whip-saw,

---

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more than anything else is strength.  
Strength of body and nerves. Ability  
to do hard work, and plenty of it. An

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strain. Lessens the fatigue of physi-  
cal exertion and brings a sense of  
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mal heat of the body. The surest  
safeguard against Colds, Coughs,  
Bronchitis, Pneumonia and all Chest  
and Lung troubles. The knitted sides  
make them light, close fitting and  
comfortable.

BAUER & BLACK, MAKERS, Chicago.

boat building outfit, and supply of pitch and oakum.

Several parties during the past season have taken in canoes and canvas boats, but as yet no reports have been received as to whether they were successful or not in going down the river.

## NOTED MINERS OF THE KLONDIKE.

Joseph LaDue, Founder of Dawson City.

Joseph LaDue went into Alaska about fifteen years ago, and began trading, prospecting, milling, building, etc., and about two years ago he made a strike and founded the now famous Dawson City, Klondike, at the junction of the Yukon and Klondike rivers.

Mr. LaDue says: "The country is richer than anyone has told, and the finds so far as made are only the beginning, as the country has only been prospected in spots. The gold has been found in the small creeks that flow into the Klondike. Bonanza Creek, thirty miles long, is very rich; El Dorado Creek is the most productive stream yet found. It is all staked out in claims, and runs in places \$250 to the pan, and I estimate that the yield will be \$20,000,000. Seven miles above Bonanza is Bear Creek, which is also good; Hunker Creek, fifteen miles up, and a small stream called Gold Bottom. All these streams flow from the south, and they come from hills that must have lots of gold in them, for other creeks that run out of them into Indian River show yellow, too. Indian River is about thirty miles south, or up the Yukon, from Dawson. Stewart River and Sixty-Mile Creek, with their tributaries, all south, and Forty-Mile Creek, with its branches,

---

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# BEGGS' GERMAN ...SALVE...

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cure for....

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ETC., ETC.

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*Beggs' German Salve*

off to the northwest—all have gold, and though they have been prospected some they have not been claimed like the Klondike. Claims have to be staked out, of course, according to Canadian laws, which I think are clear and fair. The only fault I find with them is that they recognize no agreements that are not in writing, and they do not give a man who 'stakes' a prospector any share in a claim. Another point that is hard to get over is that you have to swear that no man before you took gold off that claim, which you can't do, not knowing whether there was anybody ahead of you or not. The rest of the requirements are sensible.

"Working a claim can go on at all seasons of the year, and part of the process is best in winter, but prospecting is good only in the summer, when the water is flowing, and the ground loose. If you strike it you can stake out a claim, clear a patch of trees, underbrush and stones, and work the surface until winter sets in. As soon as the water freezes so that it won't flow in on a man, we begin to dig to bedrock, sometimes forty feet down. The ground is frozen, too, in winter, of course, but by 'burning' it, as we say, we can soften it enough to let pick and shovel in. All the dirt is piled on one side, and when spring opens again, releasing the water, we put up our sluices and wash it all summer, or until we have enough.

"Life on the Klondike is pretty quiet. Most of the men there are hard workers; but the climate, with the long winter nights, forces us to be idle a great deal, and miners are miners, of course, and there is very little government.

The point is, however, that such government as there is, is good. Most of the time when the men

---

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Sole  
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Mr. Mullin, the great Klondike guide, recommends them.

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cannot work is spent in gambling. The saloons are kept up in style, with mirrors, decorations, and fine, polished hardwood bars. No cheating is allowed, and none is tried. The saloonkeepers won't have it in their places. Nobody goes armed, for it is no use.

"We need a great many things besides gold. Carpenters, blacksmiths—all trades, and men who can work at them can make much more than the average miner. They can't make what a lucky miner can, but if they are enterprising they can make a good stake. Wages are fifteen dollars a day, and a man who works for himself can make much more than that.

"The future of the Northwest country is not so secure as that of a country that can look forward to other industries than mining, and the business that depends on mining, but it is longer than the lifetime of any of us. The surface has been pricked in a few places, but I do not know that the best has been found, and I am quite sure no one has any idea of the tremendous extent of the placer diggings, to say nothing of the quartz that is sure to follow. Then all the other metals, silver, copper and iron, have been turned up, while coal is plentiful. I believe thoroughly in the country."

### CLARENCE BERRY.

Probably the most noted man who has returned from the famous Klondike country is Clarence Berry, of Fresno, California. Mr. Berry went into the Yukon two years ago, accompanied by his wife, and returned last July with the sum of \$130,000, the result of one season's work in that region.

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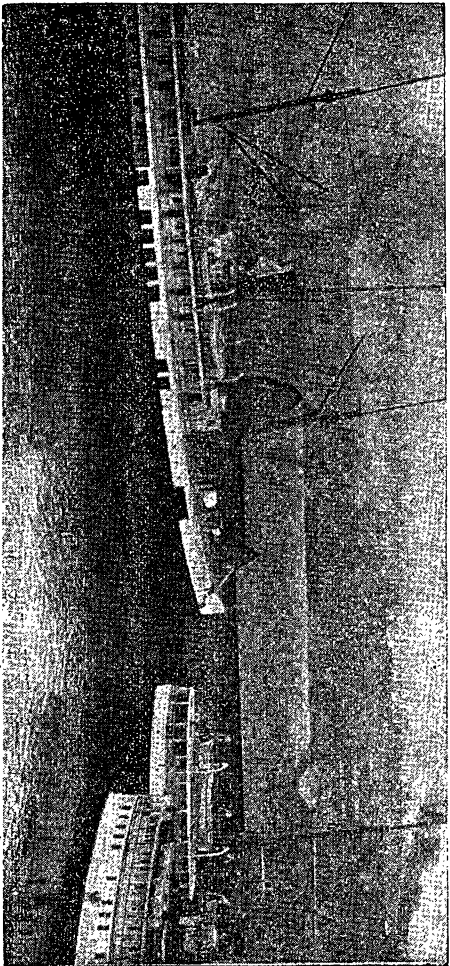
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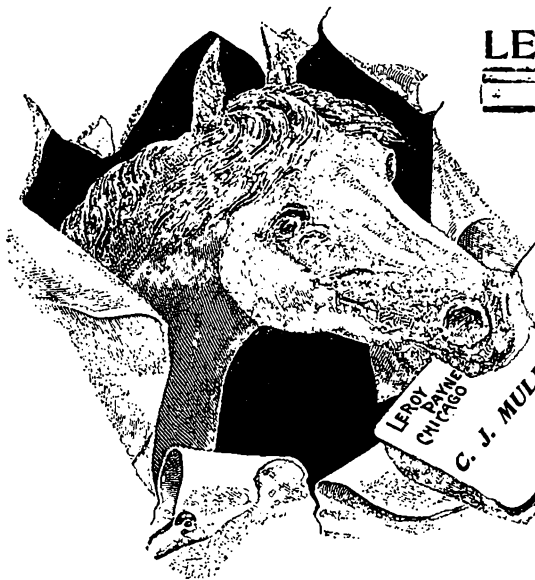
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**Rubber Tires.**

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Hansom  
Cabs.**

**All Kinds of  
Light Livery.**

**Special Attention to Transient People.**

Mr. Berry and his wife crossed over the Dyea trail in January, waiting at Lake Linderman until the river broke up, when they went down the river in their boat. Mr. Berry says:

"Here is what ought to constitute an outfit: A camp stove, frying pan, kettle, coffee pot, knives and forks, a good tent, ax, hatchet, whip-saw, hand-saw, two-inch auger, pick and shovel, ten pounds of nails, pitch and oakum. For wear, heavy woolen clothes, and the stoutest shoes you can get, with arctic socks. Then there is a 'sleigh,' as we call it, really a sled, six or eight feet long and sixteen inches in the run.

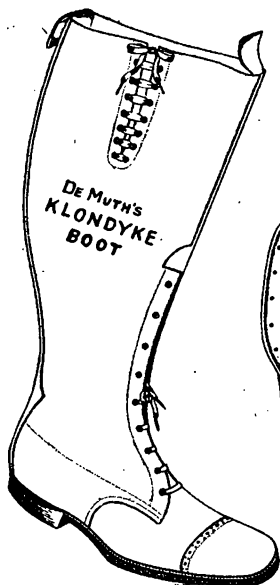
"A year's supply of grub, which can be bought as cheaply at Chicago as anywhere, to consist of flour, bacon, sugar, beans, oatmeal, dried fruits, salt, and about ten dollars' worth of small groceries and spices, and a small medicine chest. The total cost of this outfit is \$200, but no man should start with less than \$500, and twice that much is ten times as good.

"The easiest way to get there is by boat, which will take you around by St. Michaels, at the mouth of the Yukon, and transfer there to the river boats, which carry you seventeen hundred miles up the river to Dawson. But that isn't independent. If a man wants to go down with his own provisions, free of connection with the transportation companies, which will sell, but will not let anybody take along his own supplies, the Dyea or Chilkoot Pass route is the best. You start from Chicago by train and steamer for Dyea, where you hire Indians to help you to the summit of the Pass. From Dyea you walk twelve miles through snow to Sheep Camp, which is the last timber. From there it is a climb of six miles to the summit. Leaving the

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CHICAGO.

Indians there, you go down, coasting part way, fourteen miles, to Lake Linderman. That is five miles long, with a bad piece of rapids at the lower end. But if it is early in the season you sled it on the lake, and take the mile of rapids in a portage to Lake Bennett, which is a twenty-mile tramp. It is four miles' walk to Caribou Crossing, then a short ride or tramp to Takoon Lake, where, if the ice is breaking up, you can go by boat or raft, or if it is still hard you must sled it twenty-one miles to the Tagish River and Lake, four miles long. Take the left bank of the river again, and you walk four miles to Marsh Lake, where you may have to build a raft or boat to cover its twenty-four miles of length. If not, then you must at the terminus, for there begins the Lynx River, which is usually the head of navigation, for, unless the season is very late, or the start very early, the rest of the way is almost all by water.

Thirty miles down the Lynx River you come suddenly upon Miles Canyon, which is considered the worst place on the trip. I don't think it is dangerous, but no man ought to shoot the rapids there without taking a look at them from the shore.

"The miners have put up a sign on a rock to the left just before you get to it, so you have warning, and can go ashore and walk along the edges of the ice. It is sixty feet wide, and seven-eighths of a mile long, and the water humps up in the middle, it goes so fast. Below the canyon there are three miles of bad river to White Horse Rapids, which are rocky and swift. After the rapids it is thirty miles down to Lake La Barge, the last of the lakes, which is thirty-one miles to row, sail or tramp, according to

---

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# FOR THE KLONDIKE



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the condition of the winter. From there a short portage brings you to the head of Lewis River, really the Yukon, but we do not call it that till, after drifting, poling or rowing two hundred miles, the Pelly River flows in and makes one big stream. I must warn men who are going in to look out for Five Finger Rapids, about one hundred and forty-one miles down the Lewis River, where you must take the right-hand channel. That practically ends the journey, for, though it is one hundred and eighty miles from the junction of the Pelly and Lewis, it is simply a matter of drifting."

#### ALEXANDER ORR.

Alexander Orr, one of the successful miners who came out of the Klondike last summer with a snug fortune, has spent the past few seasons prospecting in Alaska, and when the rush for the Klondike region commenced he was among the first to stake out a claim in that country. He says:

"That the country is very rich is beyond dispute, and is probably the richest piece of ground in the world to-day. El Dorado, Bonanza and Bear creeks, tributaries of the Klondike River, are rich beyond measure. All the claims on these creeks are taken up, but there are other creeks in Alaska which are undoubtedly as rich as any yet discovered. The Stewart River country from indications will prove a rich country when properly prospected, as it undoubtedly will be in the next year or two.

"The trip over the Dyea Trail or Chilkoot Pass is better in the spring than at any other time of the year. Starting in February or March, the trip

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stores in all principal cities.**

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**THE**  
**TAILOR**

**Cor. Clark and Adams Sts., - - - CHICAGO.**

can be made with perfect safety, and in from twenty-five to forty days. The hardest part of the journey is from Dyca over the summit to Lake Linderman, a distance of about twenty-eight miles. On the river are several bad places, such as White Horse Rapids, the Canyon, and Five Finger Rapids. Prospecting and washing can only be carried on in the summer-time; the mining is carried on during the winter. The ground is thawed out by burning, and the loose ground thrown up during the winter. When the water commences to flow in the spring washing begins, and is continued until all the ground thrown out is washed.

"The laws of the Klondike country are, in my opinion, very just, clear and fair to all. When you find the gold, to which you swear, you mark off your claim along the bed of the creek and stick up four stakes with your name on them, one at each corner of your land. Across the ends you blaze the trees. This done, you go to the register of claims, pay fifteen dollars, and, after awhile, the surveyor will come along and make it exact.

"Claims are limited, practically, only by the width of the ground between the two 'benches' or sides of the hill that close the stream. The middle line of a series of claims follows the 'pay streak,' which is usually the old bed of the creek, and it runs across the present course of the water often several times in a short distance."

JAMES McMANN.

James McMann, known as "Jimmy the Diver," went into the Yukon about three years ago, and

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Five Pioneer Miners' History of the  
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Proper Trails To Go Over



How To Outfit



How to Prospect, Etc., Etc.



For sale by all news companies. Price, 10 cts.  
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in stamps.



Names of books:

Facts for Klondike and Alaska Gold  
Seekers

and

Facts for Alaska, Klondike and N. W.  
Territory Gold Seekers.

came out the past summer with \$65,000. He says:

"The riches of the country will only be known when the country is thoroughly explored. It is saturated with the precious metal, and almost any creek in the Yukon basin will pay a man from \$10 to \$20 per day. Of course, every man who goes into that country cannot expect to strike it rich, but every man has a chance of making a stake in a few years. Every man going into that country should be prepared with a year's supply of provisions and plenty of warm clothing; it is not necessary to take furs—good, heavy woolen clothing will do just as well.

"Guns are not necessary in that country, as there is no game in the Yukon country at all.

"A great deal of the government is carried on in that country by miners' meetings. When Bonanza Creek was opened up some of the claims got mixed up in the rush, and the measurements were all wrong. Notices were posted on the store doors and houses, calling a miners' meeting to settle the boundaries of claims. Sometimes in winter, when there is plenty of time, a dispute that is left to the miners' meeting grows into a regular trial, with lawyers (there are several among the miners) engaged for a fee, a committee in place of a judge, and regular jury. Witnesses are examined, the lawyers make speeches, and the trial lasts for some time.

"The only society or organization for any purpose besides business in there is the Yukon Pioneers. It is something like the California Pioneers of '49. They have a gold badge in the shape of a triangle, with Y. P. on it, and the date '89. To be a member you must have come into the country before 1889. The Society does much

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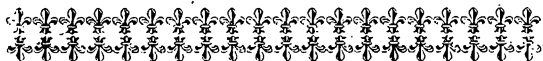
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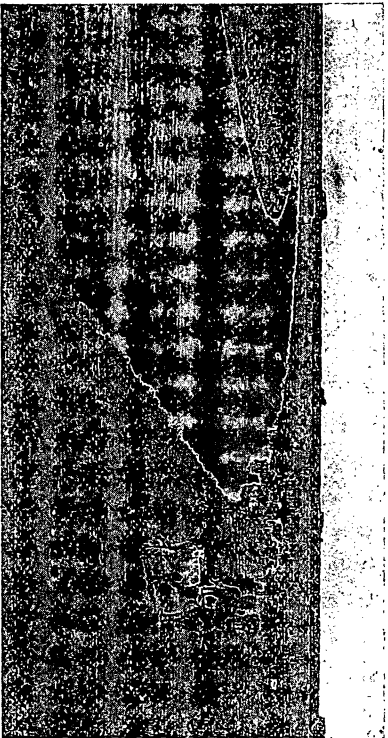


*C. J. Mullins, one of the returned Klondike miners and compiler of this book, is ready to make contracts with all parties to guide them over the trails into the Klondike regions and vicinities.*

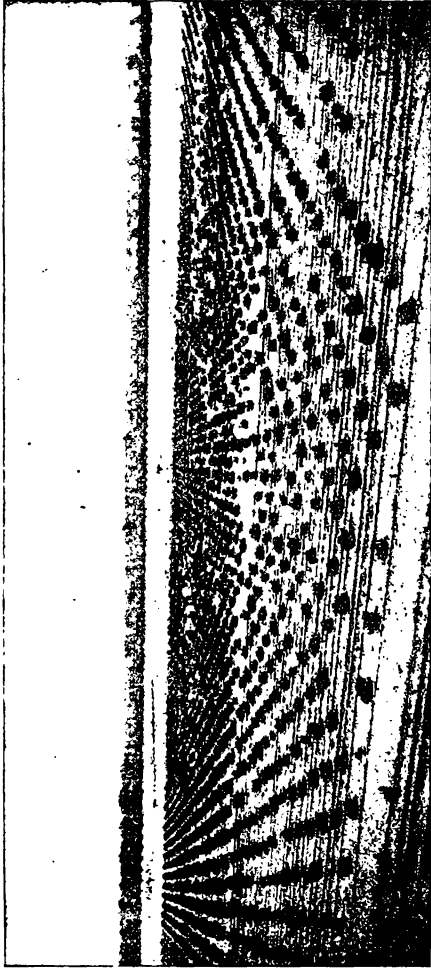
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good. When a man gets sick and caves in, it raises money to send him out. Now and then it gives a ball, and there are plans on foot to have more pleasure of that sort this winter.

"The best time to go into the country is in the spring, when the ground is frozen, and you can use sleds for packing your goods.

"Every man going into the country stands as good a show as his companion, but it means hard work, privations, sacrifices and constant toil."

### C. J. MULLINS.

C. J. Mullins, one of the lucky ones who came out lately, will give herein his version of starting to reach the interior of Alaska, which he thinks an essential thing for Alaska travelers to know:

"The proper way to start is by Dyea or Chilkoot Pass, or Fort Wrangel, or Stickeen Trail. I would advise people who intend going to start early this spring, from February to March, if by Dyea Trail. Take one horse to each man and two sleighs. Pack your goods to Stone House, then have them taken over the Summit by tramway; then sleigh them up the lakes and avoid the rush that will come later in spring, by waiting to have your boat built. I would advise each man to take from two to four dogs, my preference being Esquimaux, St. Bernard or Newfoundland. If a person starts as above stated the trip can be made with perfect safety and in from twenty-five to forty days. The hardest part of Dyea Trail is from Dyea to Lake Linderman, a distance of about twenty-nine miles. The only dangerous places you have to

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ATTRACTIONS.

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GAYEST MANHATTAN,

A TRIP TO CHINATOWN,

THE TARRYTOWN WIDOWS.

---

SUMMER OPERA SEASON **May 1, '98.**  
—COMMENCING—

pass are White Horse Rapids, Miles Canyon and Five Finger Rapids.

The public have been greatly deceived in the past by exaggerated reports of the different trails for them to go over, but my advice to them is to take only the trail that the older and experienced miners have taken in the past, and that is the Dyea Trail (or Chilkoot Pass), and then they will not be losing any time or their outfits.

### CANADIAN LAWS.

For Placer Mining Along the Yukon River and Its Tributaries in the Northwest Territories is Regulated as Follows:

“Bar diggings” means any part of a river over which the water extends when it is in its flooded state, and which is not covered at low water. Mines on benches are known as “bench diggings,” for the purpose of defining the size of such diggings from dry diggings.

“Dry diggings” means any mine over which a river never extends.

#### Nature and Size of Claims.

“Bar diggings,” a strip of land 100 feet wide at high water mark, and thence extending into the river to its lowest water level.

The sides of a claim for bar diggings are two parallel lines run as nearly as possible at right angles to the stream, and marked by four legal posts, one at each end of the claim at or about the edge of the water. One of the posts at high-water mark must be legibly marked with the

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name of the miner and the date upon which the claim was staked.

Dry diggings are 100 feet square and must have placed at each of the four corners a legal post, upon one of which shall be legibly marked the name of the miner and the date upon which the claim was staked.

Creek and river claims are 100 feet long, measured in the direction of the general course of the stream, and extending in width from base to base of the hill or bench on each side; but when the hills or benches are less than 100 feet apart the claim may be 100 feet in depth. The sides of a claim must be two parallel lines run as nearly as possible at right angles to the stream. The sides must be marked with legal posts at or about the edge of the water and at the rear boundaries of the claim. One of the legal posts at the stream must be legibly marked with the name of the miner and the date upon which the claim was staked.

A bench claim is 100 feet square, and must have placed at each of the four corners a legal post upon which is legibly marked the name of the miner and the date upon which the claim was staked.

Entry is only granted for alternate claims, the other alternate claims being reserved by the Crown to be disposed of at public auction, or in such manner as may be decided by the Minister of the Interior.

The penalty of trespassing upon a claim reserved for the Crown is immediate cancellation by the Gold Commissioner of any entry or entries which the person trespassing may have obtained, whether by original entry or purchase, for a mining claim, and the refusal by the Gold Commis-

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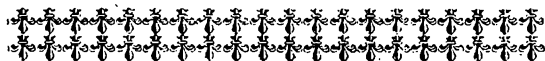
C. J. Mullins, the miner publisher of this book, desires to hear from capitalists who wish to take stock in his company, that is now being formed for the purpose of buying up claims on the ground in the Klondike and vicinities.

For information address

C. J. MULLINS,

Tremont House,

Chicago, Ill.



sioner of the acceptance of any application which the person trespassing may at any time make for a claim. In addition to such penalty, the Mounted Police, upon a requisition from the Gold Commissioner to that effect, take the necessary steps to eject the trespasser.

In defining the size of claims they are measured horizontally, irrespective of inequalities on the surface of the ground.

If any person or persons discover a new mine, and such discovery is established to the satisfaction of the Gold Commissioner, a creek and river claim 200 feet in length may be 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 the same locality shall have been previously worked at a different level.

An entry fee of \$15.00 is charged for the first year, and an annual fee of \$15.00 for each of the following years. This provision applies to locations for which entries have already been granted.

A royalty of ten per cent. on the gold mined is levied by officers appointed for the purpose, provided the amount so mined and taken from a single claim does not exceed over \$500 per week. In case the amount mined and taken from any single claim exceeds \$500 per week, there is levied and collected a royalty of ten per cent. upon the amount so taken up to \$500; and upon the excess or amount taken from any single claim over \$500 per week, there is levied and collected a royalty of twenty per cent.

Default in payment of such royalty, if continued for ten days after notice has been posted upon the claim in respect of which it is demanded,

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or in the vicinity of such claim, by the Gold Commissioner or his agent, is followed by cancellation of the claim. Any attempt to defraud the Crown by withholding any part of the revenue thus provided for, by making false statements of the amount taken out, is punished by cancellation of the claim in respect of which fraud or false statements have been committed or made. In respect of the facts as to such fraud or false statements or non-payment of royalty, the decision of the Gold Commissioner is final.

### HOW TO PROSPECT.

First Lessons in Yukon Gold Hunting, for the  
Benefit of the Tenderfeet.

The Mining and Scientific Press tells editorially how a tenderfoot who doesn't know dolomite from a mule track should hunt for gold when he gets up there in a wild, gold-bearing region, hundreds of miles in extent, and is ready to get rich. Of course, most tenderfeet will rush to where they see others rushing, or follow rumors and do as they see others do, but this practical advice will be valuable to some and interesting to many.

The great majority of the men rushing to the Klondike are "tenderfeet." They have never seen a gold mine, and their comprehension of what is a gold mine is derived from a perusal of the flotsam and jetsam of the daily press. Few of them go prepared to buy claims already opened, and must locate and prospect claims for themselves, brim-laden with absurd ideas as to the origin of gold, and ignorant of the natural laws of its distribution, confronted in the coun-

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try with the severest physical conditions under which gold mining is followed anywhere. It is impossible but that there should be many disappointments before a sufficient number of successes shall have come to accumulate the needed experience.

On the ground, and presuming all of the possible ground of the Klondike already apportioned, the attention of the miner should be first given to unproven possible ground in the valleys of streams adjacent to those in which gold has been found, and to the valleys of streams which head in the same hills or mountains as do these known gold-bearing streams. It is possible for the lode system which has enriched one stream to have been cut by the drainage basin of another, so that it has enriched them as well. In the Yukon, as elsewhere, the mountain uplifts have resulted in forming fissured or fractured zones in the rocks, which have filled with the gold ores. These, if on one side of a mountain, are apt to be duplicated on the other, and, though neither can be seen, both can be inferred from the discovery of gold on one side of the drainage. It is judicious to look for gold on the other side as well.

As an additional guide, the gravel rock fragments in the gold-bearing stream should be compared with that being prospected. If the two contain identical rocks, and particularly if they both contain quartz, diorite, diabase or porphyry pebbles, it is worth the chance to extend the prospecting, even if the first efforts disclose no gold. When gold is found in several claims in the same valley, the direction of the line of deposits should be noted and the first prospecting should be done in that line as being the most probable one for the

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placer. The gold produced by the several claims going up stream should be compared both in total quantity and size of grains. With the data of this comparison it is possible to reason out the locus of the richest ground, and also to know when the lode source of the gold is being approached.

Coarse gold, gold with attached quartz fragments, and rough gold, all indicate that the source is comparatively close at hand—that a point is being reached beyond which there will be no placer. The Russians, in their mining of the Siberian placers, failed generally to recognize the lode sources of the gold, and in many instances carried their prospecting for placers miles up stream beyond the lodes from which the gold came. There is no reason for American miners making the same mistake. Another indication of nearness to lodes is the presence of rough fragments of pyrite, chalcopyrite or galena. Even if these last do not lead to gold-bearing lodes, they may lead to valuable lodes of copper or lead.

Generally, anything heavy that is found in the mining should be determined. Silver, quicksilver, tin and nickel ores and platinum are all worth considering, even in Alaska. The possibility of their occurrence should not be lost sight of, the more particularly as their discovery is only to be made by following up the stream indications. The covering of snow over the surface for seven months of the year, the covering of moss for the other five months, precludes the possibility of prospecting by the ordinary surface methods.

Where it is necessary to prospect without the guide of discoveries already made adjacent, almost total dependence must be placed on the character of the pebbles in the gravel uncovered

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in prospecting. If much quartz is found, even though no gold at first, it is advisable to cover the possible ground for a new placer pretty thoroughly before abandoning it finally.

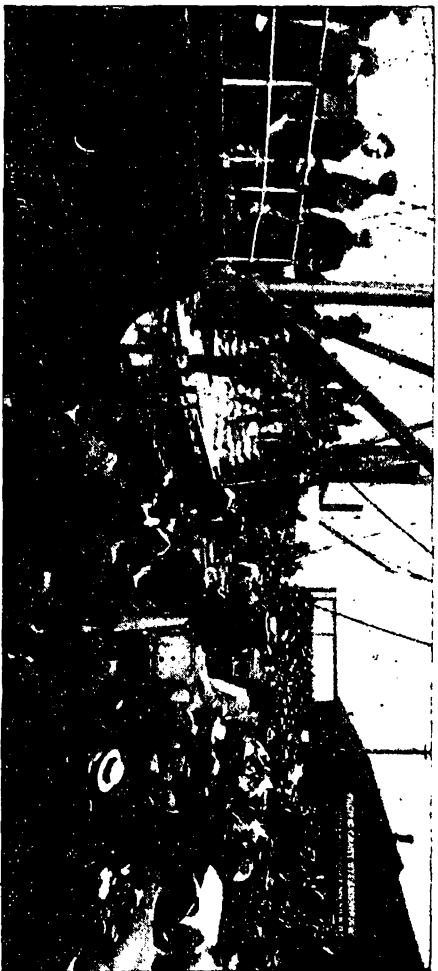
As a general proposition it will prove very advantageous for a dozen or more miners to cooperate in making a systematic exploration of unknown ground. Work can be done cheaper, faster and surer than by the same men acting independently. Coöperation admits of increasing the tool outfit by a blacksmith shop and drill outfit. Powder can be used and the prospect holes sunk through the frozen ground much faster than by fire.

Prospecting can be spread over a much larger area by coöperation than by the same men each acting for himself. Coöperation, once the gold is found, the whole company are in a position to intelligently secure a valuable claim for each member, and to get the claims so connected that they can be economically exploited as one property. It must be remembered that the present cumbersome method of exploitation will soon be replaced by quicker and better ones, admitting of the profitable working of the ground now left unworked, and distinctly advantageous to large claims, compared with small ones.

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Pacific Coast Steamship Co.'s Str. "Willamette" sailing for Alaska Aug. 9, 1897.



## Distances from Chicago to Circle City:

|   | Miles. |
|---|--------|
| Chicago to Tacoma.....                  | 2,332  |
| Tacoma to Juneau.....                   | 900    |
| Juneau to Dyea.....                     | 100    |
| Dyea to Summit.....                     | 19     |
| Summit to Lake Linderman.....           | 9      |
| Linderman to Bennett.....               | 1      |
| Head of Bennett to Caribou Crossing.... | 30     |
| Length of Tagish Lake.....              | 17     |
| Foot of Tagish Lake.....                | 6      |
| Length of Marsh Lake.....               | 20     |
| Foot of Lake to Canyon.....             | 26     |
| Canyon Head to Rapids.....              | 2½     |
| Rapids to Takhena River.....            | 13     |
| Takhena River to La Barge.....          | 9      |
| Lake La Barge to foot of La Barge.....  | 44     |
| Foot of La Barge to Hootalinqua River.. | 32     |
| Hootalinqua River to Big Salmon.....    | 33     |
| Big Salmon to Little Salmon.....        | 36     |
| Little Salmon to Five Fingers.....      | 69     |
| Five Fingers to Rink Rapids.....        | 6      |
| Rink Rapids to Pelly River.....         | 53     |
| Pelly River to White River.....         | 96     |
| White River to Stewart River.....       | 10     |
| Stewart River to Sixty-mile Post.....   | 20     |
| Sixty-Mile Post to Indian Creek.....    | 18     |
| Indian Creek to Klondike.....           | 43     |
| Klondike to Fort Reliance.....          | 6      |
| Fort Reliance to Forty-Mile Post.....   | 34     |
| Forty-Mile to Circle City.....          | 250    |

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Band 517?

see 201: 343

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**Prospective**  
**Klondiker**

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