

HERE ARE SOME QUEER GEMS

Extracted From Our Contemporary's Market Report.

Eggs Sell at \$100 Per Case Wholesale and Retail at \$2.50 Per Dozen—Turkeys, \$1.50 Each.

It is not often that the reading people of Dawson have so much information fired at them in one discharge as was contained in a recent article in our evening contemporary. The article in question appeared last Friday, occupied the leading position on the first page of the paper and was headed "Dawson Meat Market." Some portions of the dissertation would strike terror to the heart and purse of a hungry man, while other portions of it would be like a summer shower to the parching desert to the same heart and purse.

The "grub" editor of the News, after disposing of the beef, mutton, pork and butter situation, tackles eggs and perhaps, knowing them to be nearly all frozen, handles them quite roughly. Here is what he says:

"Eggs are practically cornered by a few and \$100 a case is eagerly paid wherever offered. These are now retailing at from \$3 to \$2.50 a dozen."

Unless egg cases have been through a course of green persimmon treatment, a mathematical problem is suggested in the above. A case of eggs, by all the laws, customs and rules of all countries, contains 30 dozen, for which, according to the News' "grub" editor, "\$100 a case is eagerly paid." The following sentence reads, "These are now retailing at from \$3 to \$2.50 a dozen." The mathematical problem suggested by the above is: If a merchant pays \$100 per case for eggs and retails them at from \$90 to \$75, how many cases will he be compelled to handle before he is justified in presenting Rachel "mit a dimunt."

Not satisfied with his brilliant disposal of the egg proposition, the "grub" editor must needs attack the ancestry—the parent stem, so to speak—of succulent hen fruit, which he does by quoting the following prices which his paper asserts are now current in Dawson:

"Chicken, \$1.50 each; turkey, \$1.50 each; goose, \$1.50 each; mallard duck, \$5 each.

Now this is the portion of our contemporary's market report that would cause the little birds to warble "lays" in the hearts of hungry people. Think of it, chicken, turkey, goose, \$1.50 each." How it must thrill with pride the heart of a brown leghorn hen to reflect that she can produce the price of herself at six sittings of 15 minutes each day. But what must the turkey, that great American bird which the News quotes at \$1.50 per copy, think of the same paper's compliment to game, which is:

"Rabbits, \$1.50 each; ptarmigan, \$1 each; grouse, \$2 each; quail, \$2 each; prairie chicken, \$2 each."

Imagine, dear reader, if you can, the pompous Chesterfieldian strut of the Bob White quail when he sees in the News that he is worth 50 cents more than a turkey. Can the meat and poultry editor of the News complain if the next goose he meets hisses at him after rating it 50 cents lower than a common grouse? If that benighted space writer again finds himself in a barnyard, he will do well to keep himself as he now quotes salmon bellies, "very scarce."

The Question of Fuel.

The coal industry of the Yukon has attracted the attention of capitalists. The consumption of fuel in this territory is increasing annually, and the scarcity of wood has compelled the larger companies to direct their efforts to the development of the coal fields. There is a profitable market in Dawson for this sort of fuel; but this fact is not

the inducement which has occasioned wealthy concerns to prospect the country so thoroughly and to expend thousands of dollars in tentative developments. The enormous quantities of fuel, which are required by the navigation business, is the reason why coal deposits have been sought so eagerly. The supply of wood, on the Yukon, is not exhausted, but such timber as the steamboats use is scarce along the banks, and is difficult to obtain, when situated, as it is, a mile or so from the shores of the river. Last season the fuel accounts of all of the navigation companies exceeded the estimate. A few of the boats burned coal, and these had a most successful summer.

Several deposits of bituminiferous mineral have been located in the territory adjacent to the Yukon river. Some of the claims have prospected exceedingly well, and promise to produce vast quantities of a good commercial quality. To the present time, operations have been confined to the trading companies.

The N. A. T. and T. Co. is developing its property very extensively. In reference to the matter, Capt. Healy said:

"Our coal deposits are located about 60 miles down the Yukon river. We have been conducting work on a large scale for the past two years. The ground has verified our anticipations; and the body of mineral is not only extensive but of a good quality. We employ about 50 miners, and have an expensive plant of machinery in operation. The product is conveyed from our mine to the river on a railroad, the rolling stock of which is comprised of 20 cars and a locomotive. Next summer, we shall be able to supply not only our own wants, but those of the citizens of Dawson. Before the river closes in the fall, our property will produce, and we can deliver in the city, 50,000 tons. We marketed a small quantity during the past summer; but this year, we have better arrangements, and we expect to offer an excellent commercial commodity for \$12 per ton. One ton of coal will go farther than two cords of wood." The A. C. Co. is interested in coal lands at various points on the river. About two miles up Nation river, which flows into the Yukon 75 miles below Eagle City, the A. C. Co. did considerable work last year. At this place, 40 men were employed, and a tramroad transported the product. Part of the output was marketed in Dawson and sold as high as \$100 per ton. Operations are suspended now; and it is said that the deposit was a "blow-out" and not extensive enough to warrant further developments. The same company has a field in the vicinity of Minook, which has given good prospects and promises paying quantities.

Mr. Fulda of the A. E. Co., when questioned relative to the properties of his concern, replied:

"Last summer, we bonded from Miss Gates some coal land on Rock creek, about 22 miles from Dawson. The ground has been prospected, and showed well enough to warrant us in taking up the land. We have expended thousands of dollars on the property, and, at the present time, there are 30 men engaged in development work. I consider the quality of our coal 50 per cent better than a y which I have seen in this country. The only question which remains for us to solve is that of quantity. If the deposit is extensive, Dawson will be incalculably benefited, for the mineral is applicable to all ordinary use. I burn it in my office, and it has given me the utmost satisfaction."

The Down Town Bank.

The business of the down town branch of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, will until further notice, be transacted at the main office near the barracks. The books and records of the branch were removed to the main office before the fire.

Get your eyesight fixed at the Pioneer drug store.

Bargains—Watches and diamonds at reduced prices. Uncle Hoffman.

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TYRRELL & GREEN, Mining Engineers and Dominion Land Surveyors. Office, Harper st., Dawson.

ASSAYERS.
JOHN B. WARDEN, F. I. C.—Assayer for Bank of British North America. Gold dust melted and assayed—Assays made of quartz and black sand. Analyses of ores and coal.

LAWYERS
WADE & AIKMAN—Advocates, Notaries, etc. Office, A. C. office Building, Dawson.

BURRITT & MCKAY—Advocates, Solicitors, Notaries, &c. Offices, A. C. Office Building. Safety deposit box in A. C. vaults.

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TABOR & HULME—Barristers and Solicitors—Advocates; Notaries Public; Conveyancers Offices, Green Tree Bldg.

ALEX HOWDEN—Barrister, Solicitor, Advocate, etc. Criminal & Mining Law. Room 21 A. C. Co's office Block.

PATULLO & RIDLEY—Advocates, Notaries Conveyancers &c. Offices, First Avenue.

PHYSICIANS.
J. W. GOOD, M. D.—Removed to Third street opposite the Pavilion, in Mrs. West's building.

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