

Clive Forrester's Gold

flour and other provisions to Juneau and Skagway Bay, or Dyea, and dispose of it to the merchants there, and as soon as navigation was open further north to carry a light cargo to St. Michael's at the mouth of the Yukon. He also told him to further our plans as far as he could consistently with his duty to the firm.'

'Bravo!' I exclaimed; 'that will doubtless be to our advantage, as now I suppose we shall get a free passage for ourselves and luggage to Dyea, where our land journey commences.'

'Exactly,' answered Lou, 'and if you had only seen what I have of the crowded condition and general discomfort of the regular steamers you would be still more rejoiced at escaping that part of the trials entailed by a journey to Klondike, not to mention the saving of expense.'

'But won't it cause us some delay while the cargo is being shipped?' I asked.

'No,' replied Lou, 'for most of it is already on board, thanks to the energy imparted to the crew by the promise of an extra bounty for every day saved. In fact,' he continued, 'we shall have to look spry, as the Americans say, or we shall not have completed our own preparations before the Dolphin is ready to sail.'