



From a Photo. by]

MINER ASCENDING THE CHILCOOT PASS.

[Winter & Pond.

baggage to the Lakes, twenty-four miles distant over the Chilcoot Pass. By the way, the Indian packers, or porters, usually carry 100lb., and the cost of such a pack over the Chilcoot trail for miners used to be from nine to twelve dollars."

Dogs and sleighs are bought at Dyea. In the next photo. we see a miner and his dog team near Stone House, the first halting-place up the Chilcoot Pass. A good dog team is valued at 300 dollars. Bought singly, the dogs fetch seventy-five dollars each. They are of a greyish colour, with hair like that of a seal.

The difficulties may be said to commence at Dyea. When Mr. De Windt arrived, a bad anchorage compelled him and his fellow-passengers to wade ashore a full mile through a rough sea, much to the detriment of the bacon and beans.

"Things won't be quite so bad in the spring of '98," remarked Mr. De Windt, "for

then the recently discovered White Pass will be open. Travelling by the White Pass route, you go to Skagway Bay, at the head of the Lynn Canal. The total distance

by this route from Victoria (B.C.) to the Klondike River is 1,400 miles, as against 4,000 miles by the sea route to St. Michael's. Besides, the latter is only available for three months of the year, while the White Pass is open for nine months. However, all those who have already made their fortunes on the Klondike, or are still making them, have travelled over the Chilcoot, as I did. I see, by the way, that a United States official reports: 'There are nearly 1,800 persons in the Dyea and Skagway routes. Both trails are blocked. People are throwing away packs and provisions, and rushing headlong to the mines. They'll never get there alive,'

commented Mr. De Windt, with conviction.

The Chilcoot Pass—the gateway of the new El-Dorado—is seen in the next illustration. It lies about midway between



MR. DE WINDT CLIMBING THE CHILCOOT PASS.
From a Photograph.

Dyea and
De Windt
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4,000ft.

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