

HON. CLIFFORD SIFTON

Return of the Government Party Who Went North to Go Over the Trails.

Major Walsh and the Other Klondike Officials Start Down the Yukon River.

A Very Small Portion of the Miners' Outfits Are Admitted Free of Duty.

From Tuesday's Daily.

After an absence of about a month the Dominion steamer Quadra returned to port this afternoon, having on board Hon. Clifford Sifton, minister of the interior and superintendent general of Indian affairs; A. J. Magurn, Ottawa correspondent of the Toronto Globe; W. F. King, chief astronomer, department of the interior, Ottawa; William Ogilvie, astronomer and surveyor, department of the interior, Ottawa; W. T. Jennings, C.E., Toronto, who acted for the department in examining the Sticken route to Lake Teslin, and G. A. Strickland, of Peterboro, representing a Yukon mining, trading and transportation company, who obtained passage from Dyea on the Quadra by courtesy of the minister.

The Quadra arrived at Skagway on October 29th and after the provisions party were landed several days were spent in gathering information as to what had been done. All told the party had about 30 tons of supplies, and a week after the arrival of the Quadra they had succeeded in getting 20 tons over the Chilcot Pass from Dyea, the remaining ten tons being taken over the White Pass from Skagway. The cost of packing the supplies over the Chilcot was 50 cents per hundred pounds.

The first party sent over the trail was in charge of Capt. Norwood, inspector of mines. This party were sent to Lake Bennett to arrange for the building of boats on the day after the arrival at Skagway. Two days later Hon. Mr. Sifton and Major Walsh made a flying trip over the Chilcot Pass to Lake Bennett and thence to Lake Tagish. They established posts along the route, traveled and made other arrangements for the transportation of supplies. The customs officers at Tagish were found all well and hard at work raking in the checks of Americans in payment of duty on provisions, which, unfortunately for the owner, were not bought in Canada. Customs Officer Godson had then \$20,000 in hand and was still collecting, although the travel was somewhat limited at that period. Officer Godson, it seems, collects all that is due to Her Majesty's customs. If he would-be miner with American goods has not sufficient coin of the realm to satisfy the customs, the amount of duty is frequently in provisions. If he has not an over-abundance of provisions then the payment of duty is taken out in labor, the homeless Americans being compelled to dig timber and rip-saw it for the new building which the officers are erecting at Tagish, near by the famous Tagish house erected by the Tagish Indians. Although they do not like it, all comply with the regulations, saying nothing, but saving word.

The day following the return of the minister of the interior and Major Walsh to Skagway the first party was dispatched for Dawson to escort Judge McGuire, the new judge who is to dispense justice in the Klondike, and Registrar F. C. Wade. This party, which was in charge of Inspector Stornes, got safely over the trails and by this time they are well on their way in. The lakes are all open, and as far as can be learned the king has not yet set his seal on the waters. Major Walsh, the new administrator, and H. A. Bliss did not go in with this party, they remaining at Skagway a few days to make the final arrangements for the transportation of supplies before commencing the journey inland. All the new officials are, however, now well started on the journey towards the metropolis of the Klondike. The Quadra left Skagway on Thursday, October 21st, and on the way down Hon. Mr. Sifton visited Taku Inlet, which runs inland just to the southward of Douglas Island. All the information regarding this route and then the Quadra proceeded to Wrangell. Hon. Mr. Sifton and Mr. Magurn then started up the Sticken in the Quadra's launch, but as the tide was coming out and at low tide she has near the mouth were uncovered, they went but a short distance up the river. While on the Sticken they met a large boat, in which were W. T. Jennings, C.E., who has been surveying the Sticken and Teslin lake route, and E. J. Duchesneau, the C.E.R. surveyor, who was looking into the trails from Telegraph creek to Teslin lake, to find a place for a railway, which the C.E.R. propose to commence building. Mr. Jennings was taken on board the Quadra and was a passenger downward, while Mr. Duchesneau, with the assistants, remained at Wrangell to await the next downward passenger steamer.

Hon. Clifford Sifton declines to express an opinion regarding any of the routes to the gold fields. He has, however, investigated them all and has gathered sufficient information to lay before his colleagues at Ottawa on his return to the capital to enable them to act promptly in reaching a policy in regard to the best way of giving access to the Klondike and facilitating all matters of business relating to the business of the mining district.

Mr. Magurn, who has also looked into the routes, is of the opinion that the Sticken route is the most favorable. When the steamers of light draft, especially constructed for river travel, are placed upon the river in the spring, and the pack trains from the head of Teslin Lake, no other route will have so many facilities to aid the traveller. While Mr. Magurn was at the head of Chilcot Pass the Newell Gold Mining company were stringing a cable

from the foot of the pass to the summit. Buckets were to be suspended from the cable, and these were to be filled with freight and hauled to the summit. The buckets were taken up by the steamer City of Seattle on her last trip, and the new freight railway will be ready for business by this time. The minister and the others who went over the trails tell the same story as have the hundreds before them of the terrible condition of the trails and of the hundreds of dead horses found by the way-side.

Assistant Commissioner Melroe, of the Northwest Mounted Police, was a passenger from Skagway, where he has been stopping, to Vancouver, from which point he started for Regina. Of the party who went up with the minister, W. F. King, chief astronomer of the department of the interior, who was a member of the boundary commission of 1894, went up to advise the minister on all points relating to boundaries, distances, etc. William Ogilvie, astronomer and surveyor of the department of the interior, was also a valuable member of his party owing to his extensive knowledge of the Klondike country.

Speaking of the exemption from duty of 100 pounds of a miner's outfit, Hon. Mr. Sifton said that the officers were treating the men just as they would treat people entering Canada at any other point. A man's personal baggage, and his clothing in use, or that has been used, is not taxed, but on everything else they have to pay duty.

This evening Hon. Mr. Sifton will be the guest at a dinner to be given in his honor at the Mount Barr Hotel, and tomorrow morning will receive a delegation from the board of trade, who will present him with an address.

AS TIME GOES ON.

"Nothing continueth in one stay." A comforting consideration or the reverse, according to circumstances. It depends on the condition in which those matters that chiefly concern us are developing. When we are growing richer every year and experience no calamities, time slides agreeably by and we are inclined to wish the future would hurry along as fast as it conveniently can. One likes to see the fruit ripen rapidly on his own trees; but when every step forward is also a step downward it is quite another thing. Then we would put the steam brakes on Time, and wish it would stop.

And the latter is the sense in which a woman uses the phrase, "as time went on." For her it went on badly—every day being like the postman, come again, with letters containing evil tidings.

"For ten years," she says, "I was almost continuously ill. I suffered from indigestion and weakness. I had no appetite and the little food I took gave me great pain at my chest. I had also a sinking feeling with burning pain in the stomach. I was always belching up a sour, disagreeable fluid. I had a gnawing pain in my back and was frequently troubled with palpitation of the heart. "As time went on I became so weak I had to be assisted to my bed. I could not bear the least noise; my nerves were so irritable and sensitive that I trembled at the slightest unusual sound or occurrence."

"Considering what the writer has thus far told us, we shall agree that she was sure to have been nervous." When the wind blows the cradle will rock; and when the body is weak from semi-starvation and racked with pain, the nerves are like people in a hunted house—excited and open every impression, besides sharing the weakness common to the entire system of which they are a part. As we shall see, the nerves came right when the condition which upset their system was removed. Nervousness is a symptom, not a disease; don't take narcotics to cure it.

"Year after year," the lady says, "I continued like this. I saw a doctor from time to time, but was no better for anything I took. "In September, 1891, Mrs. Scholer recommended me to try Mother Seigel's Syrup. I got a bottle and soon found it was doing me good. I could eat and enjoy my food, and it agreed with me. After further use of the medicine (in but a short time) I could do my housework and felt stronger than I had done for many years."

"I have since been in good health, taking a dose or two of the remedy when needed. I may mention that I had two attacks of influenza and Mother Seigel's Syrup soon put me to rights. I have recommended this medicine to many persons, who have benefited by using it. You are at liberty to publish my statement if you like. (Signed) Mrs. Elizabeth Pike, 3 Waterloo Cottage, Barendse road, St. Mary's Church, Toronto, September 25th, 1896."

Time now goes on with our correspondent more pleasantly than it did, and the tide was coming out and at low tide she has near the mouth were uncovered, they went but a short distance up the river. While on the Sticken they met a large boat, in which were W. T. Jennings, C.E., who has been surveying the Sticken and Teslin lake route, and E. J. Duchesneau, the C.E.R. surveyor, who was looking into the trails from Telegraph creek to Teslin lake, to find a place for a railway, which the C.E.R. propose to commence building. Mr. Jennings was taken on board the Quadra and was a passenger downward, while Mr. Duchesneau, with the assistants, remained at Wrangell to await the next downward passenger steamer.

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OTTOMAN GOVERNMENT OBJECT.

Constantinople, Nov. 1.—The Ottoman government has notified the powers that it objects to the appointment of Colonel Schaeffer, an officer in the army of the Bulgarians, as provincial commissioner of the powers for the island of Crete. The German government supports the objection of Turkey.

AUSTRIA AND ITALY.

London, Nov. 1.—The Rome correspondent of the Daily Mail says that the visit which Count Goussowski, the Austro-Hungarian minister for foreign affairs, is about to pay King Humbert at Monza, northern Italy, is not, as has been asserted, devoid of political significance, but is really a special mission to the Italian government with a view of getting its consent to the definite and effective annexation by Austria of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

TO PREVENT FILIBUSTERING.

Washington City, Nov. 1.—The administration has determined to add another man-of-war to the naval force now on the coast for the purpose of filibustering. The cruiser Detroit, now at Puerto Bello, Guatemala, will leave that port to-day or to-morrow to resume duties on the coast. With the Detroit at Key West the navy will be represented by four vessels—the Detroit, Montgomery, Annapolis and Vesuvius, and the revenue cutter service by four revenue cutters in Florida waters.

POSSIBLE COURT MARTIAL.

New York, Nov. 1.—A dispatch to the Herald from Washington says: "Gen. Miles approves the findings of the court-martial. Capt. Lovering, Fourth Infantry, who kicked and pricked with his sword Private Hammond at Fort Sheridan, Ill., will be tried by court-martial. General Miles has not telegraphed the findings of Secretary Alger, who is in Detroit, because, as acting secretary of war, he is empowered to take action in the case, and especially as it is a matter affecting army discipline.

JOHN HANDBS.

In Telling of the Curing Powers of Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart.

M. V. Thomas, of the Stanley House, Kingston, writes: "Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart has been a wonderful medicine in my case. I was a great sufferer from heart trouble. I found it a great health builder and have received great benefit. My wife also has used the Heart Cure and can bear equally as strong testimony of the wonderful benefit received." It relieves in 30 minutes.

Sold by Dean & Hiscocks and Hall & Co.

THE BRITISH AT KARAPPA.

Simla, Nov. 1.—According to a dispatch from Karappa, the expected advance to Arhangha, his capital, on the 17th of the month, General Westmacott seized the village, covering the line of advance, and the artillery soon expelled the tribesmen from the sand bars. Only slight opposition was met with. The pass was captured by General Westmacott. The British sustained only a trifling loss. Capt. Searle, of the Sikhs, was slightly wounded. The Mullah of Salsakbar has fled to Kelalabad and Sir William Lockhart is now descending into the Afridi trah. The Amer of Afghanistan received a detention of the Afridis and Orasais at Cabul in the month of August. In notifying the British agent at Cabul of the fact, he wrote that the tribesmen were full of alarm and reluctance and had asked him to submit their appeal to the British government and to ascertain the condition of pardon.

IMPORTATIONS OF GRAIN.

Washington City, Nov. 1.—Secretary Wilson, of the Department of Agriculture, has just issued a report prepared under his direction by Frank H. Hitchcock, chief of the section of foreign markets, that gives some interesting facts relative to the present wheat shortage in Austria-Hungary and the consequent importation into that country of American grain. At Reichenberg, Austria, an importation of 400 carloads of American wheat was made as early as August, coming by the way of Hamburg. Other importations were reported, among them one of 36,700 bushels of wheat from No. 2 and Kansas wheat, purchased through the Vienna produce exchange.

If the official estimates quoted are fulfilled, the combined wheat production of Austria and Hungary will amount to more than 130,000,000 bushels, or 91,000,000 bushels short of the crop harvested in 1896. The facts set forth are certainly of interest as indicating the lessened importance of Austria-Hungary among the countries with which the United States is obliged to compete in the grain markets of the world.

THE BRASS BAND IN CHURCH.

Chicago, Nov. 1.—A mild strain of martial music from a full-fledged brass band, the congregation of the First Methodist church at Clark and Washington streets assembled for the service last night. A military band occupied the rostrum behind the pulpit. This departure from the trodden path of religious service by the pastor, Rev. Dr. Brashingham, was followed by another on the part of the congregation. When the band had finished playing a lively selection in wait time the audience applauded and cheered heartily. The demonstration by his flock was not forgotten by the pastor. On the contrary, his eyes sparkled with good humor as he stepped up to the pulpit and said: "I don't wonder you feel like cheering; this music is what the people all want and what we must have."

When about half way through the sermon Dr. Brashingham turned toward the young men in the bright uniforms behind him and remarked: "I must hasten toward the close of this sermon, for when I finish these boys are going to give us some more music, and I am anxious to hear them play again."

Margherita.

Margherita's head was small and shapely, her hair fine and silky like the hair that is supposed to be nourished by the blue blood.

But there was no blue blood in Margherita's veins, at least if there was it had never been boosted of in her family. The blood that tingled to red the olive of her cheeks was warm, rich blood, such blood as the honest Italian peasant women delight to keep pure.

There was a touch of yellow in her hair that just showed from beneath black and gave to it little blinks of gold when the sunlight fell on it here and there. This she owed to the Saxon blood of her mother, as her father was Italian.

How shapely her figure! And her hands—her hands were very small, Pedro had often noticed, in spite of much hard work in the garden.

The gold in the hair Pedro had also long ago noted, and the fine set of the small nose, as he gazed at her, he had noticed.

Perhaps he noted it all more particularly this bright summer afternoon than he ever had before. There came a change into Margherita's life, and she was telling him about it.

Had a stranger chanced along the road just then, past the little house with its great garden that lay just outside the town, he would have cast more than a curious glance at the young couple who sat at the gate.

The girl wore a blue calico dress, cut round the neck, with a high collar, and fell loose to just below the elbow. Resting her elbows on the top piece of the gate and her chin in her palms, she gazed full away and left her slim, rounded arms bare almost to the shoulder.

The young man stood outside the closed gate, as he earnestly down into the girl's laughing face.

"He is as handsome as the girl is," the general remarks were not infrequently made. "Just as handsome and unmistakably a child of the sunny clime."

Pedro's garden was but a bit of a way from those of Margherita's, and the lettuce was always the crispest and greenest, and his celery was famed the country round. Margherita often helped him tie it up into bunches, and she would go away to market with a merry girl's bright laughter to season it. Pedro's cart never came back with a net.

"You will go, then?" And the young man's gaze travelled across the wide slope of Margherita's garden, green grass until it rested on the turret-like end of a big house that just peeped up over the brow of the hill and was the seat of the family.

"You will go up there and serve rather than—oh, Pedro! What am I saying?" Margherita looked up eagerly now into his eyes, as if she expected him to bear equally as strong testimony of the wonderful benefit received.

"It relieves in 30 minutes." Sold by Dean & Hiscocks and Hall & Co.

His dark cheeks were burning now, and he had stretched his arms out over the gate. To get out now to see that no other musical accent his words would have meant much, but Margherita had known him all along. Why, then, since she had that tiny child, and he not much larger, when he used to break the orange flowers from the garden, as he had done when he was a boy, he had in the garden of their poor but sunny home across seas.

Some day—yes, maybe, some day, when Pedro had his cart, and the ladies and—men and men. You are pretty. You will lay by your calico dress and put on the clothes. You'll forget about the gardens, and now to bunch celery and lettuce and—"

Here the spirit of coquetry seized her. But Pedro was to blame. She would never have thought of it, but she had had said about the fine men up at the big house and herself? But Margherita could not remember.

"There were only occasional glimpses to be had of Margherita now when Pedro came to the back door of the house each morning. Margherita's young mistress had long been one of Pedro's patrons, and Margherita would take care now to see that her carts were so liberally patronized as his.

The short blue calico frock and the gay handkerchief that came over her hair and rounded figure was clad in a dark blue cloth gown with white lace frills at the neck and sleeves. The dark hair was tossed up in a fluffy mass at the back of the little head, and a tiny cap of lace and ribbon topped it all. From the throat a leather shawl slipped down in slippers, with saucy bows that called attention to them, were on her feet.

The first day that Pedro saw her like this she had run down the steps all out of breath and flushed like a child, to show respect to him. She had overturned a work basket from the little house by the window where she was sitting, putting buttons on a long pair of gloves, when she espied Pedro's cart coming over the hill. The mistress had seen the flight of the little maid, and guessing the meaning of it, stooped, smilingly, and picked up the scattered buttons.

Pedro looked at the girl and sighed. "Why do you look so, you stupid! Don't you want to see me in pretty clothes? Well, look!"

Margherita caught hold of her skirt at each side and spread it, displaying as she did so her shapely ankles and small feet. There was a check enclosed for Margherita's last wages, which she had not asked or waited for.

How the winter came and wore away, and spring once more, with its warm sun, coaxed the seed in the garden to send up fresh green shoots. Pedro could never remember. But all the warm seasons had been good, that was certain, for the last of the debt was paid.

Next summer there would be a stall in the market for Pedro to tend, and a man to look after the garden and the wagon. Margherita had only waited a little longer. But it was winter now and she longed to see the stall in the market would need attention, and there was plenty of time to think in the long evenings of Margherita, from whom no news had come.

"It will never come," Pedro said to himself, but he observed the old father with the assurance that Margherita was a good girl and that in time she would send them some word; that never would do but what was right, never fear.

The only Pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Advertisement for Castoria. SEE THAT THE FAC-SIMILE SIGNATURE OF EVERY WRAPPER OF EVERY BOTTLE OF CASTORIA. Castoria is put up in one-size bottles only. It is not sold in bulk. Don't allow anyone to sell you anything else on the plea or promise that it is "just as good" and "will answer every purpose."

Are You Alive

To the fact that Victoria MUST come to the front? Help to advertise, use envelopes with a map printed on its back, and write your friends about Klondike. First buy some of our offerings.

- Fleishman's Compressed Yeast, all the same home made. Raisins, 3 lbs for . . . 25c. Cleaned Currants, 3 lbs. 25c. Peel . . . . . 20c. New Figs at . . . . . 15c.

Morgan's Fresh Frozen Oysters. Always Reliable. Dixie H. Ross & Co.

Springtime again and a letter for Pedro. The postman who rode out that way on horseback brought it just as it was time to light the lamp and put more wood on the fire that Pedro had now almost done. Pedro had been waiting through long, weary months for, and now delayed it?

It was just a scrap of writing. It only said, "Pedro, come," and gave an address. "Back to Italy, Pedro, think of that!" she had exclaimed the day she had told him that her going was certain.

Slowly the days were passing for Pedro, but, oh! how fast they went for Margherita. Margherita was light-hearted, but Pedro's heart was aching. There was gossip about, and Margherita was the one whose name was whispered.

"No good will come of it," said busy gossip. "No good will come of it. It means no good when a girl meets a man to take walks only after the sun is down, and he one who is a fine gentleman, Margherita should know better. And then she goes no more to confession. Poor Pedro! If he knew!"

And Pedro did know, though he said over and over to himself that they were busybodies who said that Margherita was being walking alone in the moonlight with a handsome stranger.

It was one moonlit evening that Pedro, still strolling by the great house, to maybe catch a glimpse of Margherita as she would chance to fit by some window, saw a figure going along a secluded path of the wide lawn. One was Margherita's, the other that of a man, tall and young. Pedro's heart grew sick. But he had just come up to see Margherita pass a window. He would do so mean a thing as spy. He knew that Margherita had always loved him. He could trust Margherita. She was so good and honest. But it was Margherita walking there.

One day there came a letter. It was written on delicate paper and bore a crest. Margherita's father walked across the now almost bare garden to where Pedro lived. He put the letter in Pedro's hand and said not a word as he turned away.

It was from Margherita's mistress, saying Margherita had left her before the steamer sailed from New York, leaving a note behind, telling that she would be happier where she was going, and begging that no one look for her, as she would be safe. "But please send word to the folks at home," Margherita had asked, "that I will not be home for a long time."

There was a check enclosed for Margherita's last wages, which she had not asked or waited for. How the winter came and wore away, and spring once more, with its warm sun, coaxed the seed in the garden to send up fresh green shoots. Pedro could never remember. But all the warm seasons had been good, that was certain, for the last of the debt was paid.

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Most a year ago tenders were for a semi-weekly mail service to the Klondike. This board would urge that such a service be established without delay, as much business is experienced at present on account of the delivery of mails only weekly. Insolvency. We hope at the ensuing session of

GOVERNMENT POL

Hon. Mr. Sifton Intimates W Government Will Do fo the Yukon.

Strongly in Favor of an Al adian Route to the Gold Mines.

The One Hundred Pounds Ex Was Only a Temporary Arra ment, He Says.

From Wednesday's Daily

In response to the invitation Board of Trade, Victoria business this morning crowded the board when an address was presented by Clifford Sifton, minister of the interior. After a few introductory remarks President Kirk, who occupied the read the following address: To the Honorable Clifford Sifton, of the interior: Dear Sir—We, the members of the British Columbia Board of Trade, avail ourselves of the opportunity by your visit to this city, the capital of western province of the Dominion, to express our hearty and cordial welcome.

It is gratifying to know that your government is so important. Immense trade which will result from the discovery of gold in the Northwest Territories of Canada. It is to the credit of your government that it has taken these steps. Duties. You are doubtless aware that the fitting trade is in present principally hands of the Puget Sound and the Columbia River. The Board of Trade, therefore, considers that these allowances be discontinued as soon as possible and that an authority and explicit declaration be made accordingly. In any event it is hardly to be expected that this course will fully meet the other expedients are therefore suggested. Sticken Route. The value of an all-Canadian route Klondike gold fields is beyond all doubt. It is believed that the most practical route is via the Sticken river and Teslin. There will be no difficulty in getting Klondike and Telegraph creek by during the summer months, but the postage between the river and Teslin a light railway is required. We are encouraged by your assurance that reasonable government agents be authorized to meet with your construction will meet with your approval. With such a railway, and the steam navigation on the Teslin river and the Klondike principal passenger and light traffic would doubtless be secured.

Mail Posts. We would ask the Dominion government to consider the establishment of mail along this route. Miners' Licenses. In the province of British Columbia compulsory that every miner take a license. It is strongly urged that a similar law be enforced in the Northwest Territories. Such license should be upon personal application only in the Dominion government agents be authorized to meet with your approval. With such a railway, and the steam navigation on the Teslin river and the Klondike principal passenger and light traffic would doubtless be secured.

Gold Escort. The establishment of a gold escort along this route would be a great benefit to the Dominion and would materially assist in the retention of the precious metal within Canada. Purchase of Gold. This board is informed that the Dominion government has been authorized to purchase gold. It is believed that the purchase of gold will be a great benefit to the Dominion and would materially assist in the retention of the precious metal within Canada. Royalties, Alternate Claims and Alaska Boundary. With regard to the royalties which are levied on the gold output of the Klondike, it is believed that a temporary expedient is in order. It is hoped that the Dominion government will soon repeal the present law and that the retention of the royalties will be a great benefit to the Dominion and would materially assist in the retention of the precious metal within Canada.

Alaska Boundary. Before concluding this reference to Klondike matters, we would urge upon the Federal government the importance of promptly settling the boundary dispute. It is believed that this boundary dispute is a great benefit to the Dominion and would materially assist in the retention of the precious metal within Canada. Railway Construction. In view of the very rapid development of British Columbia, it is important that the Dominion government grant a subsidy to the Klondike and Teslin routes. It is believed that the construction of a railway to the Klondike and Teslin routes is a great benefit to the Dominion and would materially assist in the retention of the precious metal within Canada.

Comox Mail. Almost a year ago tenders were for a semi-weekly mail service to the Klondike. This board would urge that such a service be established without delay, as much business is experienced at present on account of the delivery of mails only weekly. Insolvency. We hope at the ensuing session of

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