

mense warehouses costing \$100,000 stand as a monument to the immense business transactions of the firm. Large establishments are also maintained at Vancouver, Nelson, Victoria, Rossland, Atlin and Bennett, all in British Columbia; also in Exeter, Ontario, and last but not least, in Dawson, Y. T.

The Dawson establishment consists of a series of three warehouses and one other building at the corner of Second street and Fifth Avenue. An immense stock, aggregating \$100,000, now replaces the merchandise which was such a total loss during the big fire in April, when their entire establishment with all its contents went up in the general conflagration. Like a Phoenix it has risen from the ashes twice as large and trebly as important a concern as before. A burned child dreads the fire, and from their present location—well within the fire limits—they can view with equanimity the daily crowding together of Dawson's business districts.

The Dawson warehouses consist of first a building 30x60 feet in extent, built as a store and for warm storage. Next comes a warehouse 25x60 feet for such articles as do not deteriorate in a freezing atmosphere. The third warehouse is a trifle smaller, being 25x50 feet. Beyond all three is a good substantial building designed as a stable for dogs and horses, both for the animals of the firm and those of patrons and customers.

Mr. H. P. Hanson, the local manager, is a well known Manitoban of large affairs. His many old friends here remember him as the first mayor of Morden. Some two years ago his services were secured by the concern of which he is now local manager. The firm sent him here this spring to follow an immense consignment of goods, expecting they would reach the foot of Lebarge before the ice became impassable. Mr. Hanson overtook them at Bennett after all travel had ceased, and the result was that the P. P. Co. now has a large store and warehouse there.

Mr. Hanson is rapidly becoming one of the most popular men in Dawson from certain straightforward qualities inherent in himself, while Mr. Charles Milne, the traveling manager for the entire district, has already been favorably received by all who have had the favor of his acquaintance.

Altogether the firm is one of the most progressive and popular in Canada, and the Dawson branch has leaped into public favor with giant strides, as is testified by the volume of business already handled. They cater to the outfitting and wholesale trade, not making a specialty of retailing. Mr. John Parsons, the general manager, was in Dawson this summer and was very favorably impressed with the country, with the result that the Dawson branch is to be at once elevated to one of the first places in the concern.

HUMBOLDT GATES AND DR. L. O. WILCOXON.

For their age there are not two as successful Klondikers on the Yukon as the subjects of this sketch. Indeed, it is doubtful if there are many such in the world. Read the following stupendous list of gilt-edge properties and take into consideration the fact that not a dollar is owing on any of it:

28 Eldorado.
12 below on Hunker.
24 below on Hunker.
6 below upper on Dominion.
11 above lower on Dominion.
8 below on Sulphur.
18 below on Sulphur.
29 below on Sulphur.
42 below on Sulphur.
51 below on Sulphur.
74a below on Sulphur.
112 below on Sulphur.
10 left fork, Eureka.
5 hillside claim on Eureka.

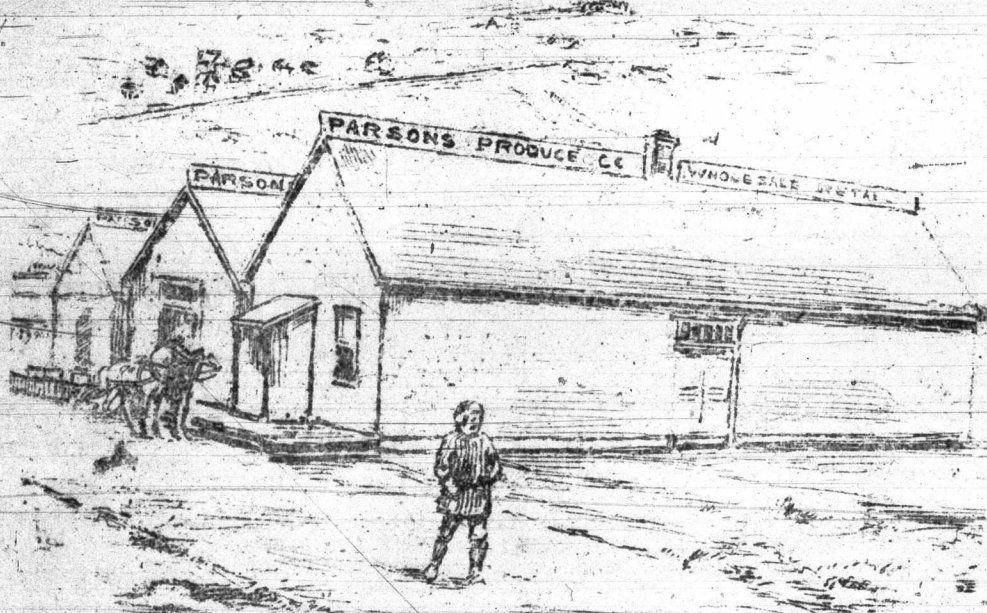
Everyone of the above is either being worked or undergoing extensive preparations for work.

rations for work. Then there are the following, all bearing the name of Gates or Wilcoxon, or both:

"Cariboo," quartz claim, Hunker.
Two hillside claims, 41 above on Bonanza.
5 on Last Chance.
5 and 6 on Green gulch.
11 on Pure Gold.
23 above on American creek.
20 below on American creek.

Besides the foregoing the young "hustlers" have several other claims on the Yukon and extensive copper and quartz holdings at Haines' Mission and Juneau.

The combined age of Messrs Gates and Wilcoxon are not much more than that of the average Yukoner, Mr. Gates being but 24 and Mr. Wilcoxon 26—a total of but 50 years. But in this rapid land of the northwest it is not age that counts, but the qualities of courage, brain and brawn. These, our subjects have in large degree. Their grand good fortune is in no particular the result of luck, but of industry, intelligent grasp of opportunity, and a courage which must be born in a man, for it can never be acquired. Both men are of absolutely correct demeanor, perfectly upright in



Parsons Produce Co.

their dealings, and inspire the confidence of all with whom they are thrown in contact, to an unusual degree. Both are perfect specimens of physical manhood—men to whom the rigors of an arctic climate are mere nothings—simple invigorators—and the enforced "mushing" of this strange land merely invigorators and appetizers for the next meal.

To the confidence of youth is added the wisdom of experience, which, together with native shrewdness has landed them upon a wave of prosperity which will quickly place them in a position, though only yet on the threshold of life, to pursue their own ambitions no matter to what heights they may soar.

HUMBOLDT GATES

is a native of Kilburn, Wis., but was removed to California at a tender age. Nurtured amidst scenes and stories of



Humboldt Gates.

one of the greatest gold stampedes the world ever knew, it is not at all surprising that at the age of 19 he struck out for a new world in a search for the precious yellow metal which is, after all, the inspiration of the world. It was the spring of 1894, before Klondike was dreamed of, that the subject of our

sketch crossed the snowy heights of Chilcoot, built his boat on Lake Marsh, and, with his year's provisions, launched his craft and embarked upon the mighty Yukon for he knew not whither. Fortymile was then the great camp on the Yukon, and, without much loss of time the industrious Gates was at work upon Miller creek, upon a claim staked by himself. He joined in the stampede of '96 to the newly discovered gold fields of the Klondike and arrived there in time to find the new Bonanza creek staked to the headwaters. However, the then "Whipple" creek—now Eldorado had vacant ground yet, and No. 28 was staked and recorded in the name of Humboldt Gates. The most wonderful discoveries on that stream the following winter, which made millionaires by the dozen and turned the heads of a world, gave the subject of this sketch at once ample means to follow his bent and speculate to his heart's content. How well he invested, his holdings will show. While many an older miner struck greater luck at the first go off, we cannot readily point out another than Alex McDonald himself who more substantially and deservedly profited by his first good luck than Humboldt Gates.

To illustrate the character of our subject a story is told how in the height of the Eldorado staking excitement of 1896-7, learning of the critical condition of a miner at the then "Loustown," he did not hesitate a moment in speeding away, for Fortymile for the only qualified practitioner in the land. That the wounded man's life was saved by this promptness is only one of the many incidents of an eventful life. Many stories are also told of his prowess as a hunter, the results of his skill in this line having in the early days provided many a miner's table with the delicacy of fresh meat in midwinter.

Notwithstanding his remarkable success, Humboldt is one of the most easily approached men in the district. Though of rigidly correct habits himself, his leniency with the foibles of his brother miners retains to him the hearty estimation which he early secured. Today, though a wealthy man, his frequent references to the past show him to retain a warm place in his heart for the people and places of the early days—for the time when miners were more like brothers than eager rivals.

At the present time Mr. Gates is buffeting with the ice on the Yukon river. One scow of machinery and provisions out of three was wrecked a few weeks ago in Miles canyon and one man lost. The balance are frozen in on the way down. Mr. Gates is a man of resources in extremity, and getting frozen in on the Yukon, half way to Dawson, while of sufficient importance to break the fortunes of some men, will prove but one more difficulty overcome to this manly young fellow, who at 19 years of age had the courage to face a new life in the unknown regions of the far north.

Mr. Gates has had the cheering companionship of a number of his relatives in Dawson at various times. His stepfather C. W. Hall, has acquired several good interests, as has also a brother, Edgar Gates, while Miss Mimosa Gates, a most estimable sister, by an unusual

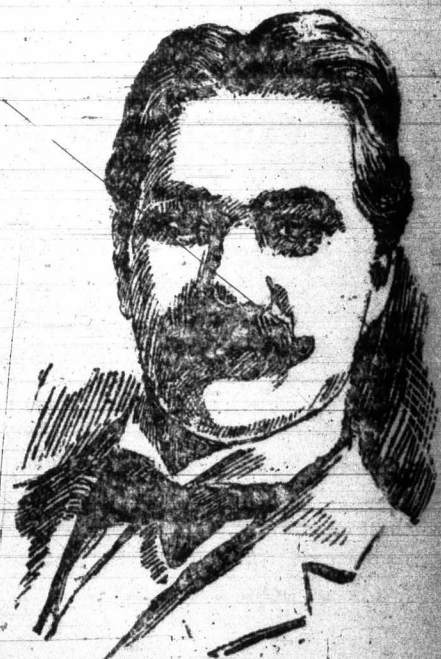
business acumen, has become one of the few self-made young ladies of America.

DR. L. ORVILLE WILCOXON.

The doctor is a native son of Iowa, though he grew to manhood in Chicago. The medical profession attracted him and he followed his bent with an unwavering persistence which promised much in future conflicts for the hand of Dame Fortune. Special studies were taken up at Rush Medical college, and it was in the class of '96 that he graduated from the C. H. M. C., and received his sheepskin. Hospital practice was secured at Cook county hospital, besides several private sanitariums with which he was connected.

In 1898 the stories of Klondike's opportunities for the brave and the hardy caused him to quit his hospital and private practice and engage with one of the numerous Klondike expeditions as chief surgeon. As was the case with so many of these Klondike companies, it went to pieces at the first reverses encountered. The doctor found himself on the Klondike without the backing of his company, but fully equipped by nature to hold his own in any event. No trip was too arduous, no hardship too considerable and the early winter found him well on his way to fortune. During the winter a partnership between Messrs. Wilcoxon and Gates was brought about by a mutuality of interests, similarity of tastes, and the perfect trust between the two men.

In the summer of 1899 was consummated the one cherished romance of the doctor's life—he returned to civilization with ample means to appropriately wed "the girl he left behind him," when he started out on his chase of fortune. The Chicago Times-Herald, speaking of the wedding, said: "The bride is a beautiful young lady * * * and a talented young woman of a decided brunette type. She is a graduate of Salina university, of Kansas." The doctor's many friends unite in congratulating him that in but little more than one short year he was able to return to the girl of his choice with the wealth to establish a home beyond the heart's fondest desire. The young lady was Miss Claire Josephine Foote, the confidante of the young man's earliest ambition; his encouraging angel in his long struggle for an education and practice.



Dr. L. Orville Wilcoxon.

and whose promise to wait had proved the one spur necessary to fully arm him to wrest fortune from an unwilling land that the ambition of a life might be consummated.

The doctor attends strictly to his numerous business affairs, the hour never being too late, the journey too long or the burden too heavy, wherever his business interests require him.

Economy in Crises.

Russian Nobleman—What is the occasion of such a prolonged crisis in your country?

French citizen—Alas poor France! Mon Dieu, yes! It has come to pass that we may no longer have a fresh crisis every day!

The Reason.

Mr. Spelter—Oh, you may talk as you please, Jane, but you were an ignorant woman when you married me! Mrs. Spelter—Yes, that probably accounts for it.

DAWSON

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