

The Hon. CLIFFORD SIFTON,  
Minister of the Interior,  
Ottawa, Ont.

DEAR SIR,—

The following brief account of my trip to the Klondike, made this summer at your kind invitation, in company with Prof. A. P. Coleman, records some of the impressions of an English traveller to whom the country and its conditions were entirely new, and who visited it without any personal or professional interests.

I regret that the time which I spent in Dawson and its neighbourhood was too short to enable me to acquire much new information, or, indeed, to make more than a very superficial examination of the district. Owing, however, to the liberal provision which you made for our guidance and assistance, we were enabled to do more than could possibly have been accomplished by an ordinary traveller in the same time.

I feel sure that we could not have made our visit at a more interesting time ; the following account will, I hope, make it clear that a great transformation is now taking place in the district, and as regards the mining in particular, the old order is changing and giving place to a new one which can this year be watched in process of active development.

Our principal object being to study the mining methods and the auriferous deposits of the Klondike district, this period of eleven days was mainly occupied by a visit to the more important "creeks" or valleys which are being worked for gold, and we