



A KLONDIKE GARDEN.

the carrying on of mining operations on a much larger, more systematic and profitable scale than during the present.

A placer camp is ever open to suspicion. It is always on trial. Popular opinion is always inclined to be prejudiced. To discover gold-bearing quartz in position is to touch the springs of life. In spite of an immense area of auriferous country, the great hope of those interested in the Klondike is to discover gold quartz. Of quartz prospects in the Klondike no one can even yet speak with assurance. Of Klondike nuggets, it may be said a large number show quartz as well as gold; and fine specimens of quartz rich in gold have been found in the creeks and in the neighboring

mines. Already several hundreds of quartz claims have been recorded, and in some of them much confidence is evinced.

As regards living expenses, people fare remarkably well in the North. The traditional pork and beans and canned goods of the early exploration parties have long been of the past. When on the creeks I invariably sat down to fresh beef, fresh vegetables, pastry and dessert, etc. Meals in Dawson cost fifty cents to one dollar. Board by the month costs from sixty to eighty dollars. Rents, as already remarked, are falling, and in the spring, when renewals are mostly made, more slumps may be expected; but they still remain at a fair figure. Fair living expenses of transients to-