

## MUNN'S VIVID IMAGINATION

### His Story of Killing a Mammoth Sets the Nation Agog.

**Yarn of a Circle City Indian Inspires a Fake Story Which McClure's Magazine Accepts as "Hot Stuff."**

Many residents of Dawson will remember H. T. Munn, a peculiarly constituted individual of considerable literary ability, who spent some time here last year.

Before leaving the Yukon country Munn visited Circle City, where he met and conversed with an Indian of a romantic turn of mind. In the course of the conversation the native son told of how his grandfather's great grandfather had killed a "copy" of the largest animal ever known to scientists, the mammoth. The Indian's story, like a badly trained case of measles, "struck in" on Munn and so possessed his mind that on reaching the outside he wrote a most thrilling account of how he himself had, during his visit in the Yukon, met and killed a mammoth. The animal was described as being as big as a governor's house and having tusks as long as the moral law; its foot prints were 5x7 feet and its tail resembled the mainmast of a clipper ship. The writer further stated that the skeleton of the mammoth had been cut up into sections, taken to the outside and sold for an enormous figure to Horace P. Conradi who had presented it to the Smithsonian Institute at Washington City, where it had been put together by means of hinges and was at once the wonder, amazement and adoration of the scientific world. Under the nom de plume of "H. Tukeman," Munn sent his article to the publishers of McClure's Magazine who pounced upon it as a gem "of purest ray serene."

The result of the publication of Munn's dream is best given by the following, which is from an exchange just received by the Daily Nugget:

"The article on 'The Killing of a Mammoth,' by Mr. H. T. Munn, ('H. Tukeman') and which appeared in McClure's Magazine for September, appears to have been very widely read and to have created a storm of excitement among scientists and people of learning throughout the world, as the following telegram from Washington published in the New York Tribune will testify:

"The Smithsonian Institution is daily overrun with visitors who are attracted there by an article appearing in McClure's Magazine for October, written by H. Tukeman, describing how he, in 1890 killed in Alaska the mammoth known to scientists all over the world as Conradi's mammoth, and given by Horace P. Conradi to the National Museum in this city. At the same time the mail of the institution is deluged with letters from scientists and people of learning making inquiries as to the accuracy and trustworthiness of the article.

"Charles Schuchert, in charge of the division of paleontology of the Smithsonian, in the absence of Mr. Lucas, who has charge of the skeletons of large animals, made a sweeping denial of the Tukeman article. He said:

"We are greatly bothered by these requests for information which the Tukeman article has occasioned. In the first place, this institution has not, and never did have a mammoth. Nor have we ever heard of the Conradi mammoth, over which scientists have 'been quarrelling,' according to Mr. Tukeman. I regard this one of the greatest 'fakes' that has been perpetrated, and do not care how broad you make the statement. The mammoth has long been extinct, and the only carcass of one that I have ever heard of being in possession of a museum is now in St. Petersburg.

"The mammoth has been extinct

thousands of years, and you need have no fear in denying positively that there was one roaming about in the Yukon country in 1890, when Tukeman declares he killed his, which was subsequently purchased, under the seal of secrecy, by Mr. Conradi. It is an interesting story but without foundation in fact, and I have made this statement to a representative of 'McClure's Magazine' who called on me."

#### L. B. Roadhouse Dance.

An enjoyable dance was held at the L. B. roadhouse at No. 30 below on Bonanza last night. Mrs. Robert Birch acted in the capacity of hostess. Many persons from Dawson attended, and the dancers had a most delightful time.

The affair was managed by Prof. James Duffy and an orchestra under the leadership of Mr. Majuy, furnished excellent music.

#### Notice.

Notice is hereby given that application will be made to the Parliament of Canada at its next session for an act to incorporate a company with power to construct and operate a line of railway from a point at or near Pyramid Harbour, on the Chilkat inlet, near the head of Lynn Canal, or from the International Boundary line at or near the village of Kluckwan, northerly to Dalton's Post on the Dalton trail, and following the Dalton trail to Fort Selkirk, thence continuing by the most feasible route to Dawson City; with powers to construct and operate telegraph and telephone lines; to mine and deal in mines; to crush, smelt and work ores and minerals of all descriptions; erect smelters and other works and carry on a general mining business; to construct roads, tramways, wharves, mills and all necessary works; to own and operate steam and other vessels in the Yukon and all its tributaries and upon all inland waters in the Yukon district; to erect and operate all electrical works for the use and transmission of electrical power and to acquire and use water power for that purpose. Also to erect and maintain trading posts and carry on a general trading business in all merchandise in the Territory, and to acquire all other necessary rights and privileges, and to do all necessary things in connection with the business of the company.

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#### ASSAYERS.

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#### LAWYERS

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#### PHYSICIANS.

J. W. GOOD, M. D.—Removed to Third street, opposite the Pavilion, in Mrs. West's building.

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FOR SALE—Roadhouse at 17 Eldorado, left limit; cheap, for cash; party going outside; business good at present. Inquire of Mrs. E. Comer.

FOR SALE—One six-horse boiler, at Shindler's hardware store.

#### LOST AND FOUND

LOST—yellow dog, long hair; part St. Bernard; white stripe from forehead to point of nose; named Fido. Return to Klondike Hotel.

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