

HOME GROWN VEGETABLES

What Is Being Done in the Way of Supplying Local Market With Choice Eatables—Past Delusions Shattered By Actual Demonstration—Acreage Cultivated By Local Gardeners.

During the past week a representative of the Nugget has made a complete tour of the vegetable gardens in and about Dawson, with the object in view of ascertaining the amount of acreage in cultivation this year, the amount of crops raised, the variety, and the probable tonnage of fresh vegetables which will be held over for winter use. To say that the result of this personal investigation is astounding will but feebly express it. Time and again the statement has been made that the Yukon in a comparatively short period could be made self-sustaining in the matter of the hardier varieties of vegetables, but the truthfulness of the assertion was always a question of doubt. Old timers have often referred to the garden truck grown in years gone by in small patches of ground at Portymile. Harter's vegetable ranch at Sixtymile was long a source of wonder to all. The fathers at the Holy Cross mission for years have cultivated the rich river bottoms, successfully growing sufficient for their own needs. About Dawson, however, ever since Carlmak's discovery first started the world, the race for gold has been so keen that during the first four years of the city's existence all other ways of suddenly acquiring wealth were overlooked, and rich pieces of alluvial river land here and there little while hundreds of men toiled in vain searching for the elusive pay-streak. During the winter of '96 there was not a potato or onion in the entire Klondike district; in '97 a very few of the chechakos arriving from the outside brought a small quantity of fresh vegetables with them for their own use and they could have been sold dozens of times over for \$2 a pound. The thousands of people who thronged the Dyea and Skagway passes in '97 never even gave the importation of fresh vegetables to the Klondike a thought, where by so doing they would have had a sorer, quicker, and more certain fortune than by digging it, out of the frozen gravel. In August of '97 an enterprising young man left Juneau with 12,000 pounds of onions and 150 boxes of apples for the Klondike trade, and had succeeded in reaching his destination with his outfit he would have easily cleaned up \$25,000 in a couple of weeks time. In '98 a few potatoes and onions were imported finding a ready sale even before the close of navigation at 50 cents a pound. Before the winter was half over they had all been consumed and again was recourse had to the granulated and sliced varieties. A greater amount was brought inside in '99 but nothing near sufficient to meet the demand. Potatoes never sold for less than 50 cents a pound, gradually becoming dearer and dearer until in April they commanded \$1.25 a pound. In '99, also, the first home products appeared, chiefly radishes, onions and lettuce, but the amount raised was comparatively so small that the native articles were looked upon more in the nature of curiosities—the result of an experiment. The following year found the commission men going more extensively than ever into the importation of vegetables and throughout the winter not only were potatoes and onions to be had in an abundance at a maximum price of 25 cents a pound, but cabbage, carrots, rutabagas, turnips, parsnips and sweet potatoes could also be procured pretty much during the entire year. True, some of the articles mentioned were frozen as hard as the rock of Gibraltar, but even at that they were luxuries compared with the canned variety. Last year also found a great many more vegetable gardens in existence and more varieties grown, the gardeners delivering to one's cabin fresh every morning their products but an hour or two out of the ground.

It has remained, however, for the present year to disprove fully and beyond all doubt the possibilities of the gardener's skill in this country. Not only have vegetables been successfully grown that never before were dreamed of, but their yield when cultivated to the greatest extent has been something prodigious. The ranches, so to speak, are essentially truck farms and are small in extent, four or five acres being all that two men can possibly handle successfully. As to productivity, some of the soil found here on the islands and along the river banks can not be excelled anywhere. Upon one ranch this year on a piece of ground 30x30 no less than

IMPORTANT DECISIONS

Handed Down Yesterday by Gold Commissioner Senkler.

Gold Commissioner Senkler handed down another bunch of decisions yesterday in cases heard some time previously, they mostly being questions as to priority of staking and disputes over boundary lines.

In the matter of 25 below lower on Dominion and the claimants Anderson and McNeely, the gold commissioner decides that McNeely is entitled to the ground and a grant is ordered issued to him.

In the case of John Brown and Rufus Buch vs. Noe Duault et al., over the boundary line between No. 1 claim on a pup at 8 above the mouth on Last Chance and the hillside, left limit, adjoining No. 9 Last Chance, the commissioner after a personal examination of the ground decides that the line should be in accordance with the plan of Barwell's survey, a decision in favor of the plaintiffs.

Another case in which the dispute arose over the side lines of a creek claim and the hillside adjoining was that of S. A. Ripstein vs. Carlo Tilly, the ground being 2 above the mouth on Last Chance and the left limit hillside contiguous. The case was referred from the territorial, the decision being in favor of the plaintiff.

In N. E. Sechorn and N. A. McClure vs. Maud Westwood over a bench in the third tier opposite discovery on Bonanza, the question being one of priority of staking, judgment is rendered in favor of plaintiffs.

Richard Harms and George Threlkel vs. Charles Bowhay et al., concerning the boundary lines of a bench in the third tier, left limit, opposite 7 and 8 below on Bonanza, decision is in favor of defendants.

The case of G. H. Stevenson et al. vs. P. W. Parks was also effecting the side boundary line of 44 below on Hunter. Some time previously the plaintiff, owner of the creek claim, was granted an extension of boundary on the left limit and on March 13 defendant Parks staked a fraction at the mouth of a pup, which enters Hunter at 44 and which conflicted with the extension of 44's side lines already granted. The gold commissioner decides that plaintiff is entitled to the ground held by him under the extension granted prior to the location of the fraction at the mouth of the pup.

IS A SPLENDID COUNTRY

So Says Emil Stauff of the Stewart River Section—Paradise for Sportsmen—Quite a Large Number of Men Rocking on Old Bars Which Were Worked Fifteen Years Ago.

Emil Stauff returned last night in his gasoline launch from his trip up the Stewart river, accompanied by Herbert Robertson and R. E. Englebrecht, arriving shortly after midnight. Contrary to expectations he did not portage his launch around Fraser Falls on account of the absence of a sufficient number of men to render him the needed assistance. Captain Ritchie of the steamer "Prospector" offered Mr. Stauff the use of his crew in taking the little craft up, but as there would be no one at hand to help him on his return he declined the captain's proffer. In speaking of the matter this morning Mr. Stauff expresses regret at having done so as he is confident after a thorough examination of the rapids which has been named the Falls he could have successfully run them with his boat in comparative safety. The falls, so called, do not drop precipitately but instead plunge down an incline at an angle of perhaps 15 or 20 degrees. The channel is wide and there seems to be no obstructions in the way to prevent shooting them in a boat that is decked over. Mr. Stauff may make another trip to Stewart yet this fall and if he does he will transport his launch to the upper river and try the thrilling experiment of navigating the falls upon his return. There is lots of water in the Stewart and it is still rising. There is a sort of portage around the Falls but whoever laid out the skid road made the mistake of putting it on the right hand side of the river going up. The portage on the opposite bank through a steeper climb is much shorter.

"That is a magnificent looking country," said Mr. Stauff, "and there is going to be gold and lots of it found there within the next year or two. There is not a bar below Clear Creek that will not yield a prospect and I saw a number of men rocking on old ground that had been worked out 15 years ago. They don't make much, probably only \$3 or \$4 a day, but it is a grubstake for them and shows conclusively that there is gold somewhere above them. I was very sorry I was unable to explore the upper river, but

INCREASED EXPORTS

Puerto Rico Business Assumes Large Proportions.

Washington, Aug. 18.—Exports of American products to Puerto Rico in the fiscal year just ended were, according to the figures of the treasury bureau of statistics, more than three times as great as they averaged when Puerto Rico was under the Spanish flag and more than 50 per cent in excess of those prior to the enactment of the Puerto Rican tariff law which went into effect May 1, 1900. The total domestic exports from the United States to Puerto Rico in the fiscal year 1897, which entirely preceded the beginning of hostilities with Spain, were \$1,954,850. In the fiscal year 1900, ten months of which preceded the rate at which the Puerto Rican tariff went into effect, our domestic exports to Puerto Rico were \$360,892.

In the fiscal year ending June 30, 1901, all of which was under the Puerto Rican act which levied 15 per cent of the regular Dingley law rates on goods passing into that island from this country, the total domestic exports from the United States to Puerto Rico were \$6,861,91. These figures include only exports of domestic merchandise and do not include foreign merchandise brought into the United States and re-exported to about a half million dollars, since the Puerto Rican statement of imports from the United States for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1901, shows the grand total including domestic and foreign to be \$7,414,502.

Puerto Rico imported in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1901, goods amounting to \$9,357,430 in value, and of this, \$7,14,502 came from the United States, the total from other countries being \$1,952,728. Of this \$1,952,728, \$1,952,728 was imported from countries other than the United States, the value of \$868,144 was from Spain; \$347,837 from the United Kingdom, \$394,067 from Canada, \$66,723 from France, \$152,300 from Germany, and \$6,838 from the Netherlands.

The Sheriff Mediated. A few days ago Sheriff Ellbeck conducted an annual sale, the property disposed of being 6 above lower on Dominion. The claim was owned by Eddie Lewis' partner who could neither agree as to its management nor proposed division. It was finally decided to put the claim up at auction, the highest bidder to take it. Lewis bid \$11,500 and the property was knocked down to him.

TOO MUCH OIL OF JOY

Causes Little Boy Blue to do Other Than Blow His Horn.

The "oil of joy" that is dispensed in Dawson proved too much for a number of Uncle Sam's soldier boys yesterday with the result that its effects became very apparent towards evening. The fighting brand seemed to be the most popular with "Little Boy Blue" which had all the features of a fight in that the participants went all in the mud a la bull dogs. Two sturdy members of the N. W. M. P. picked up a couple of the scrapers, bodily carried them aboard the steamer where, at the order of Lieutenant Fitzpatrick they were lashed to their bunks sufficiently long to allow the hooves to expend its strength. But as a well-known Southerner was heard to remark last night "What can be expected of abled bodied young men who have no more ambition than to join the regular army at \$4 per month in times of peace?"

The remark was pregnant with meaning in its times of peace in the States. It is about a standoff whether a young man goes into the regular army as a private or goes to the penitentiary for horse-stealing so far as the odium on his family is concerned, as in either case it shows utter lack of both pride and ambition.

All Good Boys Together. It was a jolly crowd of U. S. soldiers and members of the N. W. M. P. that dined on the steamer Victoriana at her dock here yesterday evening and good fellowship was the reigning spirit. (Of course there were other spirits). Nearly all the non-commissioned officers of the police force and a number of constables were present. The steamer's chef served an excellent dinner and everything passed off in a most happy and enjoyable manner. About 100 covers were laid and all the seats were occupied. Only two or three persons not in uniform were present.

At intervals during the dinner rousing cheers were given for the officers and men of the N. W. M. P. and everyone was a jolly good fellow.

Mr. F. J. Hemen, of the Nugget force, started for a trip to Dominion and Gold Run creek this morning. He expects to be gone for several days.

TO PROTECT ITS SERVICE

Water Company Will Employ Heated Wigwams.

The wigwams which the Dawson Water & Power Company will use to cover its hydrants this winter are now under construction and will be ready for placing before the pipes begin to freeze. There will be about 15 of the houses installed at different parts of the town which will give a greatly increased service this year over last. The houses will be absolutely fire proof being made out of corrugated iron and asbestos and large enough to accommodate a good sized stove. Aside from the fact that the houses are fire proof, they have a certain picturesque appearance which makes them attractive and a number of people have requested the manager of the company, Mr. Matheson to place one of the houses in front or near their place of business or in the vicinity of their residence so that they will have the water near at hand.

Killed by Train. Chicago, Aug. 15.—A young woman, killed on Saturday evening by an Illinois Central suburban train in the South Park station in the presence of a throng of suburbanites, was last night identified as Joanna Eugenia Walsh, a student of the University of Chicago. Miss Walsh is a native of New Brunswick, Canada, where her mother still resides. Her friends declare their belief that she, being afflicted with heart disease, fell accidentally before the train.

Killed in Quarrel. San Francisco, Cal., Aug. 10.—George D. Gillespie, well known as a politician, shot and killed Wm. P. Griffin, a plumber's apprentice, tonight. Griffin, who roomed in a lodging house conducted by Gillespie, was quarreling with his wife, when Griffin entered their apartments and endeavored to pacify the angry husband. According to Gillespie's statement, Griffin made a move as though to throw a knife and a knife, when he drew his pistol and fired with fatal result.

C. W. Martin, formerly a resident of this city but now with the Klondike Corporation at Whitehorse, is shaking hands today with old time friends.

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SIFTON

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Wednesday!

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Yukon Route

Dealers

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