

QUAINT NORWEGIAN CUSTOM

They Make Unique Presents on Christmas Day.

Birds Are Remembered With Plenty to Eat—Good Cheer Is the Order of the Day.

From Monday and Tuesday's Daily. Christmas is celebrated in many ways. In this country all know what is done—the giving of presents, the dinners, the church going and the general joy diffused in every possible way.

In England Christmas is celebrated with more boisterous enthusiasm than anywhere else. Every person who can read the English language knows the Christmas of Dickens, and the old English celebration of the feast has been described in detail by Washington Irving in "The Sketch Book." Feasting is characteristic of the English celebration. Eating has become such a part of the day in England that the Italians have the following proverb: "He has more business than English ovens at Christmas." The English probably do more eating Christmas than any other people.

In Norway there is a peculiar Christmas way of offering a lady a brooch or a pair of earrings in a truss of hay. The house door of the person complimented is pushed open, and there is thrown into the house a truss of hay or straw, a sheaf of corn or a bag of chaff. In some part of this "bottle of hay" envelope there is a needle or a present to be hunted for. A favorite way for a lover to send a present to his mistress is to make a large brown paper bundle, which on being opened reveals a second parcel, with a loving motto on the cover, and so on, parcel within parcel, motto within motto, until the kernel of this paper husk is arrived at, which, opened, contains some delicate and valuable ornament.

One of the prettiest Norwegian customs at Christmas is the practice of giving on that day a dinner to the birds. On Christmas morning every gate, gateway or barn door is decorated with a sheaf of corn fixed on a tall pole, wherefrom it is intended that the birds shall make a Christmas dinner. Even the poorest peasant will contrive to have a handful set aside for this purpose, and what the birds do not eat on Christmas day remains for them to finish at their leisure through the winter. The caroling of these birds about these poles makes a Norwegian Christmas cheery.

On New Year's day friends and acquaintances always call upon each other, exchanging calls and good wishes. In a corner of each reception room stands a little table, which is kept furnished all day with wine, cakes and sweetmeats for the visitors, who talk, flirt, compliment and sip wine and nibble cake from house to house with great perseverance.

Christmas brings its cheer and joy year after year to the little ones of the household, but the times come when they are supposed to be grown up beyond the desire for the Christmas tree, with its rich fruit of surprises. One of the jolliest Christmas celebrations possible, however, is to have a Christmas tree for the grown up folk.

In no country perhaps does Christmas wear so strange a garb as in the half Indian and half Spanish cities of the South American republic. Of these not one presents so singular and so interesting an aspect as Lima, the capital of Peru. Its Moorish architecture, its magnificent religious festivals, its many colored population, its picturesque costumes and its strange mixture of the customs of old Spain with these of the ancient empire of the Incas combine to form a picture of rare attractions.

On Christmas eve—noche-buena, the good night, as the natives call it—the whole city is alive with preparations for the approaching festivity. The alemdas, or public walks outside the walls, are on Christmas eve crowded with pleasure seekers, and the great square is filled by a motley throng, whose faces present every shade of human color, from the aristocratic white and slender figure of the pure Spanish creole through the jetty black and robust frame of the equally pure negro.

Numerous ice stills, surrounded with chairs and benches are scattered over the square and drive a busy trade, for to the Lima ice is a necessary of life, and never is it more welcome than during the sultry Christmas time. As the night deepens the crowd increases, and presently is heard above the hum of voices the wild chanting of

the Peruvian waits, bands of negroes dressed in flowing robes of red, with their black faces sometime disguised by ugly and still blacker masks and carrying in their hands calabashes filled with pebbles. To the monotonous music of the guitar and clattering castanets they sing guttural songs and dance uncouth measures, rattling the pebbles to mark time. After the negroes come groups of Indian women, loosely dressed, their long black hair, unbound, falling to their ankles, carrying long, slender wands fluttering with ribbons. In low, soft tones they sing sweet melodies and move in circles, performing the most graceful dances, waving their light wands in time to the music of a flute and harp.—Kansas City Times.

Should Tell It All.

The Rev. Mr. Sinclair gave a lecture in Toronto recently and, as reported by the Globe, he described the killing of "Soapy" Smith at Skagway, and the capture of a lot of his desperadoes. Among them, says Mr. Sinclair, who was in charge of a church at Skagway at the time, was "the editor of a local newspaper, and a member of the board of trustees of a church."—Yukon Sun, Jan. 26.

The above was at the time of the trouble supposed to be true, except that one of the supposed members of "Soapy's" crowd was a member of the board of trustees of a school instead of a church.

The man referred to is Dr. J. Allan Hornsby, who at that time was quite active in Skagway affairs, being editor of the Daily Alaskan, a member of the city council and school board. A few would-be reformers, among them being F. H. Whiting, division superintendent of the White Pass & Yukon Ry., decided that Hornsby must go and he went at the instigation of the citizens' committee, being shipped below on the steamer Tartar with 13 other supposed disciples of the fallen "Soapy."

Two months later Manager E. C. Hawkins of the railroad, having carefully investigated Hornsby's connection with the "Soapy" gang decided that a great injury had been done an innocent man, with the result that Dr. Hornsby was sent for and offered the position of assistant surgeon for the railroad company at a large salary.

This was done as a sort of reparation to Hornsby who had been made a victim through the over-zeal of one connected with the railroad. Hornsby held his position long after Whiting was fired. The doctor resigned to come to Dawson last February, going from here to the Koyukuk in March.

In his lecture Rev. Sinclair should tell it all and not leave the impression that the editor and prominent man had not been vindicated.

New B. C. Railway.

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 29.—Application will be made next session for an act to incorporate a company to construct and operate by steam, electricity, single or double track, standard gauge railway, for the purpose of conveying passengers, freight, merchandise and goods commencing near Penticton, Yale, southerly and westerly along Shingle creek to Fish Lake pass, thence southerly along the pass to Fish lake, thence along Keremeos canyon to Keremeos valley, and southerly through the said valley to Keremeos, and thence southerly through Similkameen valley to the international boundary line at or near its crossing of Similkameen river in British Columbia; also with power to build a branch from the lake westerly through the upper Keremeos valley to Nickel Plate camp and Twenty Mile creek, and also a branch westerly through the Similkameen valley to Princeton.

Application will also be made next session for an act for a railway commencing at a point on the Canadian side of the international boundary line near Cascade City in Osoyoos division of Yale district, B. C., thence along the westerly side of the Kettle river by the most feasible route to a point off the Canadian side of the international boundary line near Carson, Yale, with power to construct and operate branch railways and tramways in connection therewith not exceeding 25 miles in length, and all necessary roads, bridges, ways and ferries.

Victoria's Reign.

On June 20th, 1837, Queen Victoria, then only 18 years of age, was called to the throne of Britain and was loyally received by her subjects. That warmth and love which was extended to the girl sovereign never cooled during her long and successful reign, but grew in ardor until the last moment of her useful life, and in every nook and corner of her vast empire has she been regarded with respect, affection and love.

On the 10th of February, 1840, the young queen was married to her cousin, Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, who, after Irving a life that gained for him the respect of the en-

tire nation, died on December 14th, 1861, after 21 years of life with the best of wives, mothers and sovereigns.

In the early part of Victoria's reign the most important public measure handled was what has been handed down in English history as the repeal of the corn laws, which laid a heavy duty on the importation of foreign corn. A band of free traders formed what was known as the Anti Corn Law League. From 1839 until 1846 the matter remained unsettled, but in the last named year there was a potato famine in Ireland and the law practically abolishing duty on all importations of corn, cattle and other productions was passed and the free traders, after a long struggle, carried the day.

Side by side with the corn law struggle went chartist agitation. The chartists were mostly working men who looked to parliament for betterment of their condition. Then, as now, the labor question was a perplexing and intricate one. The chartists demanded universal male suffrage, annual parliaments, vote by ballot and no property qualifications. From 1839 until 1848 the chartists were very much in evidence, but not until the last named year did the members of the party become demonstrative. On the 10th of April of that year a large crowd mustered on Kensington common and declared their intention to march through the streets of London to the house of commons, where they averred they would present a petition bearing 5,000,000 signatures. The government met this movement with coolness and firmness, although 250,000 conservative, law-abiding citizens were enrolled as special constables. Then it was that the chartists began to wane as an organization although three of their platform planks—no property qualification, well-nigh universal suffrage and vote by ballot—have since been adopted.

Through all this agitation there was never breathed a breath which savored of disloyalty to the young sovereign, who, even at that early period of her reign, had a strong hold on the hearts of her subjects.

The first wars her majesty had to contend with, except incipient uprisings in distant parts of the world, began in 1840, when England took the part of the Sultan of Turkey against Mohammed Ali, Pasha of Egypt. In this action war steamers were employed for the first time in the world's history.

For the next few years there were many small wars in all of which her majesty's troops conducted themselves as became the defenders of the earth's greatest empire.

In 1857 Great Britain and France, joined later by Victor Emmanuel, king of Sardinia, engaged in behalf of the Turks, in war with Russia, which war was carried on mostly in the Crimea. It was in this war that took place the famous siege of the fortress of Sebastopol which lasted 349 days before the Russians evacuated. It was at the termination of this war that there became fears of a French invasion and the Volunteer Force was formed for the defense of the country.

Early in 1857 occurred a very sad affair in the queen's reign, it being the mutiny of the Sepoys, or native soldiers, in East India when the regiments at Meerut were killed and terrible slaughter was made among the English residents, including women and children. The mutiny which threatened the overthrow of the British dominion at the time was put down the next year and by act of parliament the government of India was transferred from the East India Company to the crown. Nearly 20 years later Queen Victoria took the title Empress of India by which her majesty was proclaimed at Delhi on January 1st, 1877.

During all this time the colonies of the empire were not neglected, Canada, Australia, India, New Zealand, South Africa and others were never lost sight of by the sovereign who ever manifested a mother's interest in their growth, development and welfare.

The war which has waged in South Africa for the past 16 months, which war it is confidently believed is now about to close, has been a source of great anxiety to the aged ruler and it is a matter of general regret that her last days did not see the country over which she reigned so long and successfully at peace with all nations, kindreds and people.

The above are a few of the most important matters and questions with which her majesty had to contend and issues that she was called upon to meet in her public life.

Of her private life we have heard much and naught to her discredit. As wife and mother, as a kind-hearted, loving woman she was indeed a queen even had she never seen a throne; and in her death one of the noblest creations of God has gone to its reward.

Her star has sank to rest Upon the Golden shore,

And there in Heaven's diadem T'will shine forever more.

The queen is dead. She fell as falls the giant oak in a vast wilderness during a dead calm. As fruit in its season and as wheat ripe for the gleaner has she been garnered.

And I am glad that she has lived thus long, And glad that she has gone to her reward.

Nor do I deem that nature did her wrong, Sottly to disengage the vital cord; For, when her arm grew palsied and her eye Dim with the mist of years, It was her time to die.

Skagway Alaskan.

The last mail brought copies of the third annual special edition of the Skagway Daily Alaskan, a 28-page, 7-column paper, filled full of writeups and illustrations descriptive of that town, its citizens and their enterprises. The paper is a mechanical gem, but is what might be expected of its enterprising proprietor, Geo. W. De Succi. The Alaskan office has lately added a Mergenthaler type-setter and is one of the best papers published north of Seattle.

Last Night's Concert.

The sacred concert given last night at the Savoy theater was deserving of much better patronage than was bestowed upon it, the program being most carefully selected and exceptionally well rendered. It was as follows:

March, "N. W. M. P.," Al Hart; Miss Elaine Forrest, solo, "Dreams," Strezelski; overture, "Pique Dame," Suppe; Rannie and Evans, cornet and trombone duet; overture, "Beautiful Rhine," Kela Bela; Miss Lillian Walters, "Recessional," Kipling; overture from "Rigoletto," Verdi; Prof. Parkes' wondrouscope, a Scottish tour; Oriental Patrol, "La Caravane," Ash; Misses Walters and Forrest, "The Miserere," Verdi; march, "Hoheznoltern," Unrath; Prof. Parkes' wondrouscope, new moving pictures "God Save the Queen."

Information Wanted.

Editor Daily Nugget:

Dear Sir—To decide a wager, will you kindly state what city in the world has the greatest number of lines of rail road.

B. F. GERMAIN.

(Until within recent years Indianapolis, Ind., had more railway lines running into it than any city in the world; but Toledo, Ohio, is now said to have two more lines than Indianapolis. We would be obliged to have any information that may be given on the subject by any person having reliable information concerning it.—ED.)

Notice.

Whereas, under instructions from the department of the interior, Ottawa, all crown placer claims, whole or fractional, in the Yukon territory, were offered for sale at public auction on November 5th and succeeding days, with the exception of such claims as it was necessary to withhold for various reasons, and

Whereas, grants for a great number of the claims so offered have not been taken out, and

Whereas, due notice has been given by advertisement in the newspapers and by a notice posted in the gold commissioner's office, warning all persons to apply for their grants immediately, otherwise after the first publication of this notice no grants would issue for claims purchased at public auction, as aforesaid,

Now, therefore, to whom it may concern, take notice that thirty days after date, namely, on February 26th, 1901, all crown placer mining claims, whole or fractional, in the Yukon territory, situated on the following creeks, namely:

Mooshide and tributaries, Deadwood, Fresno, Colorado, Pocket, Yukon river (below West Dawson), Clear creek (Klondike district), Quebec, German, Cassiar, Courtney bar, Dawson creek, Stone, Kentucky, Ballarat, Yukon river (right limit, above mouth Dion creek), Ophir, Nine Mile, Sixty Mile, Thirteen Mile, California, Glacier (Sixty mile), Little Blanche, Swedish, Gold Run, Sulphur, Hunker, Bonanza, Eldorado, Bear, Last Chance, Gold Bottom, Klondike, Dominion, Quartz, Canon, Calder, Eureka, Indian, Sixty Mile, Montana, Baker, Bryant, Ensley, Reindeer, Rosebud, Henderson, Dion, Gunenee, Alki, Mansean, Plat, Wells, Shell, Smith, Leotta, Lucky, Excelsior, Monte Cristo island, Oka, Too Much Gold.

Stewart River Mining Division.—Thistle, Statuit, 59 Gulch, California, Freddie, Telford, Blueberry, Buffalo, Lulu, Alder, Tulare, Ballarat, Coffee, Roy, Selwyn.

Hootalinqua District.—Livingston, Cotton Eva, Little Violet, Mendicino.

Tagish District.—Macdonald and Morse.

Forty Mile and tributaries, together with all other crown placer claims, whole or fractional, in the Yukon territory, will be open for staking and entry, under the regulations in that behalf, with the following exceptions, namely:

Sulphur creek—48a above discovery. Hunker and tributaries—Creek claims, 4, 5 and 6 on 80 pup of Hunker. Creek claims 11 to 20, inclusive, Soap creek, tributary to Gold Bottom. Fitz & Zimmerman benches off 35 below, Hunker. Bench 2nd tier u 1/2, r 1, 11 below, Hunker. Bench 2nd tier, 1 1/2, r 1, 10 below, Hunker.

Fraction between 8 and 9, r 1, Hunker, below discovery. Fraction 250x130, more or less, between hillside u 1/2 11, No. 5 above discovery, Last Chance, and creek claim No. 5.

Creek claims 16 to 25, inclusive, on 15 pup Last Chance creek. Fractional hillside, between hill claims 17 and 18, 11, hydraulic reserve, Hunker.

The following claims above discovery, Last Chance:

Bench 5th tier, 1 1/2, r 1, 11. Bench 4th tier, u 1/2, r 1, 11. Bench 5th tier, u 1/2, r 1, 11. Bench 4th tier, u 1/2, r 1, 10. Bench 4th tier, u 1/2, r 1, 9. Bench 3rd tier u 1/2, r 1, 9. Bench 3rd tier, 1 1/2, r 1, 13. Bench 3rd tier, u 1/2, r 1, 12. Bench 3rd tier, 1 1/2, r 1, 12. Bench 4th tier, 1 1/2, r 1, 10. Bench 4th tier, u 1/2, r 1, 10. Bench 3rd tier, u 1/2, r 1, 8.

Dominion and tributaries—Creek claims 10a, 12b, 23, 25, 34, 36, 37, 71, 80, 81a, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 87a, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

Hillside fractions adjoining 87, 87a and 87b, below lower, 11 Dominion.

Fractional hillside between 1 1/2 35 and 34a, hillside, 11, Gold Run.

Creek claims 42a and 44a, Gold Run. Dominion creek lower five miles, extending from mouth up, in width from summit to summit.

Eldorado and tributaries—Lower half, right limit, 37 Eldorado, 140 ft up hill.

Upper and lower halves No. 4, 1 1/2 No. 5, and fractional ground 100 ft opp 1 1/2 No. 4, by 200 ft up hill, French gulch.

Fraction Sox80, adjoining 11, 17 and 18 Eldorado.

Hillside 50 ft on No. 6, and 200 ft on No. 7, 11, Eldorado.

Bonanza and tributaries—Fraction, Chechako hill, bounded up stream by McDonald, down stream by Ellis, and up hill by Ward.

Fraction, Gold hill between Williams, Fraser & Ledebur claims.

Fraction, Gold hill, between Williams, Fraser & Elliott claims.

Creek claim 27b above, Bonanza creek.

Creek claim 24b above, Bonanza creek.

Fraction off 44 below on Bonanza, bounded by Biggs, Vogel, Grade, Armstrong and Hawkins, according to plan of T. D. Green, D.L.S.

Fraction off 44 below, adjoining Williams & Wells claims, according to plan thereof by T. D. Green, D.L.S.

Fractional bench, adjoining Mulrooney on south side, and Woods' claim on north, Chechako hill, opp r and 2 below on Bonanza.

The following claims above discovery on Bonanza:

Bench 3rd tier, 1 1/2, 11, 17. Bench 2nd tier, u 1/2, 11, 17. Bench 3rd tier, u 1/2, 11, 17. Bench 2nd tier, 1 1/2, 11, 17. Bench 2nd tier, u 1/2, 11, 18. Bench 3rd tier, u 1/2, 11, 18. Bench 3rd tier, 1 1/2, 11, 18. Bench 2nd tier, 1 1/2, 11, 18. Bench 2nd tier, u 1/2, 11, 16. Bench 3rd tier, 1 1/2, 11, 16. Bench 3rd tier, u 1/2, 11, 16. Eureka creek—Creek claims 32 and 33 above discovery on right fork.

Fractional creek claim, 20a above discovery, right fork.

Thistle creek—10 below discovery, to 20 above.

All ground closed against placer location for hydraulic purposes.

And with the further exception of any other claim, or claims, whole or fractional, which may have been omitted from the above list of exceptions through any inadvertence.

A list of claims open for location, as far as the office is able to ascertain, may be seen in my office any time during office hours.

Neither the government nor this office will be held responsible for the correctness of said list. Persons seeking information are warned that the records should be searched in each case.

(Signed.) J. LANGLOIS BELL, Assistant Gold Commissioner. Dawson, January 26th, 1901.