THE ROAD TO THE GOLD FIELDS.

Yukon basin for years to come. This excess will stimulate further developments. The country offers the widest field, for it is inexhaustibly rich.

Nowhere else as on this gold trail has the genius of engineers wrought such beneficient and rapid change in so short a time.

The evolution from hunter's path to railroad, through the intermediate steps of pilgrim path, mule trail, wagon road, was two thousand years in making in the Saint Gotthard Pass, the great high road between the most civilized portion of the ancient world and of the mediæval world, the road that led from the gloomy north to the rich south, rich in treasures, in food, in spiritual tradition and comfort.

Two short years as against two thousand have evolved the same succession of improvements on the highway over the White Pass back to a north, hideous in climate, without history, without sentiment, without food, but abounding in gold.

The author desires to acknowledge the permission given to him by Messrs. Winter & Pond, of Juneau. Alaska; Mr. E. A. Hegg, of Skagway, Alaska; by the White Pass and Yukon Route Railway and by the Chikoot Pass Railway, for the use of the copyrighted photographs from which the illustrations have been made. None of these illustrations may be reproduced without the permission of the owners of the copyrights.