

### NOTES ON THE CREEKS AND GULCHES

#### Extensive Preparations Being Made to Get Supplies Over the Divide.

Tramways to the Dome and Sleds to the Bottom of the Hill—Notes of a Traveler Up the Creeks—Many Lays on Sulphur Claims.

The fate of the Bonanza creek tramway is the subject of lively interest among the miners of Sulphur and Dominion creeks. Anxious inquiries are heard on all sides as to the intentions of its promoters or their possible successors. The problem of transportation, always an awkward and serious one on the Klondike, is causing the small army of laymen on these outlying creeks no little worry. Up to this time the human back has been the only means within the ability of most of them by which outfits and supplies could be got to the claims, and the time consumed in going to and from has greatly delayed the preliminary work. Now that development has begun in earnest and the laymen are busy in their shafts, they are anxious to get in their winter supplies as soon as possible, and at a cost within their means.

It has been currently reported for some time past that the tramway would carry freight to the summit of the big divide for 10 cents a pound. Such a rate would enable miners on Sulphur, Dominion and Quartz creeks to have their supplies freighted to the summit, from which they could easily sled them down hill to their claims. However, even if the tramway were not completed, its unfinished road would make sledding much easier than it was last winter, and would enable the numerous small freighters to transport supplies at a comparatively low rate. The benefit of the new roadway was shown at once by the fact that packers abandoned the old trails as soon as the first mile of tram road was cleared, and practically all travel now follows that route from the Klondike river to Victoria gulch.

Sledding up the creeks began last Sunday, and continued until the thaw a few days later. The creek bed of Bonanza made fine sledding, but many preferred the rougher but less tortuous tram roads. From McCormack's Forks to the Dome there is snow averaging eight inches in depth. Where there is as much as a foot sledding will be good.

It is expected, however, that much, if not the greater part, of the hauling will be done by way of the Klondike river to Hunker creek. Freight for Dominion would follow the main branch of Hunker to its head, and that for Sulphur and Quartz would ascend Gold Bottom and be hauled up the steep hill to the divide by means of ropes and pulleys. The rope is already on the divide between Gold Bottom and Sulphur, and four separate road houses are nearing completion at this point. Two of these expect to operate rope tramways. The ascent from Gold Bottom is nearly as steep as the approach to Chilcoot pass, and almost a mile in surface distance.

There are a number of road houses in process of erection in the neighborhood of Dominion Creek also, and the Sulphur Creek Hotel has already opened at a central point on the latter creek. Altogether it seems certain that there will be ample accommodations and plenty of good cheer for the thousands whom winter will find plodding between Dawson and the more distant mines.

The strike made on 81 below Bonanza last summer has given an impetus to mining in the vicinity. The benches of Trail gulch, off 79, were prospected on the supposition that that creek had carried down gold to 81. About 10 claims on these benches will be worked this winter, as well as several of the gulch claims. On 79 Bonanza good pay was reaped from a single hole this summer, and the claim will probably be well opened up. The owners of No. 80 will either sell for a high figure or work a portion of the ground on lays. It is reported that an offer of \$75,000 was refused by the owner of No. 81. On that claim the gravel immediately below the muck prospects from 25 cents to \$1 a pan, and bed rock is only about 16 feet. Much of the pay streak has been stripped during the summer by ground sluicing.

Up to the present time the numerous lay holders on Sulphur have been fully occupied in their preparations for the winter's work, and but few have as yet reached bed rock. Water stopped sinking on one of the higher claims as late as six days ago. At this date, however, there are in the neighborhood of half a dozen holes in which several feet of gravel, averaging say 25 cents, have been found on the bed rock. These holes occur at fairly regular intervals along the creek from several miles below to about six miles above discovery.

On 39 a pay streak of about this value, and at least 50 feet wide, has been located. From 74 above, which is within one-half a mile of the divide, clear down to 39 or 40 below, there is scarcely a claim on which there is not the liveliest bustle and activity. Half a dozen lays on a single claim is common, and there are quite as many cabins to the mile on Sulphur creek as there are on Bonanza and Eldorado.

THEODORE S. SOLOMONS.

#### Back from Chicago.

O. L. Wiley returned to Dawson last Thursday from his summer's outing. Thirty days was spent in Chicago among friends and Mr. Wiley has pleasant recollections of that month. When he left there the returning soldier boys from Cuba were arriving on every train and were being welcomed by the populace at every

stopping-place. Deputations of admiring citizens would meet them at the depots and carry them off to scenes of feasting and toasting. The yellow-faced "boys in blue" from the fever beds of Cuba were being welcomed as returning heroes should be and were being given the freedom of cities and towns, while their uniforms were the magical "open sesame" to theatres, gave them carte blanche to steamboats, the cars and the many other conveniences and resorts of pleasure everywhere.

Mr. Wiley went out for his health July 28th and regained both his health and lost flesh. He found the hard luck stories of the many disappointed Klondikers had destroyed all faith in this country, and it has become fashionable to abuse the territory and everything in it.

An interesting item of news from Mr. Wiley is that the steamer Merwin, which left here over 20 days ago, had just succeeded in breasting the Five Finger rapids and had run out of provisions. A temporary supply was secured from the Thorpe scow on which Mr. Wiley was a passenger. The Merwin bought all they had and went on her way rejoicing. The Gold Star was also at Five Fingers. Nineteen steamers were passed tied up in sloughs, etc., for the winter. Four large barges of provisions were stranded on bars, one of them loaded with thousands of pounds of evaporated potatoes. Six large scows loaded with meat were found between Five Fingers and Dawson.

#### Social Events.

The beaten snow has improved the trails and roads until a couple of miles of a walk for the exchange of social visits is but an enjoyable incident of the occasion. So it was found last Saturday evening when a party of ladies and gentlemen walked over the trail to the handsome cabin of Messrs. Acklin and Morley, the successful Arctic gardeners, on the banks of the Klondike, just west of the ferry. The large, handsome cabin perched on the side of the hill was the scene of much gaily music and dancing until early morning. A tasty lunch prepared by ex-chef John L. Gage, was enjoyed just before midnight and with occasional refreshments the dance went on. There were present Messrs. Acklin, Morley, Gage, Col. Miles, McCann, Johnson, Bartholomew, George, Storey, Hemen, Mr. and Mrs. Semple, Mr. and Mrs. Case, Mrs. Wilson and Mrs. Lawrence.

Assiduous court is paid at the shrine of Bohemia every Sunday evening at the comfortable residence of Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Semple. The meetings are wholly informal and enjoyable and the evenings are a pronounced success. Quartette, singing and solos, instrumental music and literary contributions pass the hours merrily away. As a hostess Mrs. Semple is unequalled, and with the assistance of Mrs. Agnew makes the evening's entertainment easily the most enjoyable event of the week. Additions are made weekly of congenial spirits and there are no seasons. One peep into Bohemia and then one becomes a regular worshipper.

#### Chinese Revolution.

Dispatches from China have been received to the effect that an important edict, just issued, definitely announces that the emperor of China has resigned his power to the empress (dowager empress), who has ordered the ministers to deliver to her in future their official reports. It is difficult to obtain reliable information at the palace in regard to the proceeding, but the recent reformatory edicts probably caused the change. While the emperor was subservient and a mere figurehead, the dowager empress permitted him to remain in peace, but as soon as he attempted to act on his own initiative his practical deposition was the result. His principal adviser, Kang Yumel, the Cantonese reformer, fled, in spite of the vigorous attempts made to arrest him, and it is said he is now on his way to Shanghai. The effect of the change must be great, and in all probability Li Hung Chang will be reinstated in power, and Russian influence will increase. The hopes of reform, so ardently cherished by the intelligent factions of the Chinese, are now impossible of fulfillment.

A local rumor is current at Shanghai to the effect that the emperor of China is dead. No details are obtainable, but it is said the gates of Peking are closed.

#### Robbed Twice in two Months.

The very nature of life in these Arctic regions requires that a man shall risk losing his household valuables time and again, and renders it most desirable that our population should remain as free from the criminal element as it has always been. Cabins and caches are repeatedly left unprotected by their owners for weeks at a time, and people are more dependent upon the honesty of their fellow-man than anywhere else in the world. About two months ago Henry Baatz reported to the police the loss of his outfit by theft from a cabin at the edge of town. The thief or thieves had left him his blankets, but little else, and he had only been out of town three days. Sunday night Baatz and his partner, Louis Hansen, returned from a two weeks' trip up the gulches. They found the staple of the door fastener broken and the cabin robbed. Hansen had been robbed of a large share of his outfit, while Baatz had nothing left but a stove and one can of milk. Clothes, blankets and everything eatable had been taken, and now the ex-owner invites the thief or thieves to come back and get the stove to cook the food upon, as raw grub is conducive of scurvy and kindred complaints.

Henry has a good claim, but having already bought and lost two outfits finds himself without means to commence the winter's operations. To lose two outfits in two months would try the patience of a philosopher and make one wish it were legal to leave poisoned grub in the one's cabin or to fortify it with trap guns. The one's cabin or to fortify it with trap guns. The first man captured robbing miners should be dealt with to the full extent of the law as an example to the balance of his kind.

### IT WAS A WARM GO WHILE IT LASTED

#### Carroll and Murray had a Lively Bout at the Tivoli Friday Night.

A Spirited Wrestling Match Between Connors and Ritchie of San Francisco—Dawson Sports Enjoy a Clean Entertainment.

Friday night last was a special occasion at the Tivoli and a crowded house gathered to witness a boxing contest of four rounds for points between the popular Jimmy Carroll and Tom Murray, a promising young fellow who has appeared on the boards in Dawson before. There was also a wrestling contest in which ex-champion Connors agreed to throw Mayo Ritchie, of San Francisco, in 15 minutes catch-as-catch-can or forfeit \$25.

The sparring contest turned out to be mighty interesting, for Murray had improved since his last appearance and for the first round taught ex-champion Jimmy the power of his swinging left. The first round gave the impression of evenness in the two men, for while Carroll was evidently an all-round man with tricks up his sleeves, Murray was strong and made some clever blocks and swings. The audience became quite enthusiastic at the "viii" and "go" of the combatants and greeted the end of the round with vociferous applause.

The second round showed both men nerved for a good display. Carroll showed great cleverness with his head in getting it out of danger. Murray was still strong and giving a good account of himself, in spite of Carroll's cleverness.

The third round showed Murray's wind gone and Carroll continuing his exhibition of cleverness, which called out thunders of applause, and showed him to be a favorite. Carroll would repeatedly evade blows by dodging his head and at the same instant would counter severely left and right. Still, if Carroll's head had only been where Murray calculated it would have been if those swinging blows would have told a different story.

The fourth and final round brought blood from Murray's nose and distress to his breathing apparatus. Carroll easily made his points and was awarded the contest by referee Ed. O'Donnell—a decision, by-the-way which gave immense satisfaction to the audience. Murray thought if he trained for one week for wind he could win the contest and a return match was agreed upon in one week's time. The work of the two men had enthused the audience until they noisily testified their approval at the return match.

But, if the sparring contest was interesting the wrestling bout was ten-fold more so. Connors has been meeting all comers and throwing them in 15 minutes or forfeit \$25. There is no doubt of Connors' ability, and generally his opponent is so cleverly overmatched as to suggest "hippodrome" for the first 12 minutes. Friday evening Connors' opponent was Mayo Ritchie, of San Francisco, a comparatively known young fellow. All he had to do was to avoid being thrown for 15 minutes and pull down \$25. To the delight of the audience the young fellow essayed from the first moment to place the veteran hors du combat, so to speak. He stood him on his head, put his head in "hock," threw him over his back by the left arm swing, took the strangle hold, the half-Nelson, and for 12 minutes it was only Connors' great skill saved him from being "two points down." The yells of delight from the audience nerved the old veteran wrestler to his best, and for the last three minutes he used almost superhuman strength in an endeavor to win, but in vain, for the end of the fifteen minutes found neither man defeated and Connors dripping with sweat.

Connors made a little speech and believed if he trained a bit for wind he could defeat the youngster. Mayo lightly said he could not do it in 15 minutes nor in 20 either. The audience testified its approval of everything by shouts and applause, and the contest will be continued in one week.

Ed. O'Donnell refereed the wrestling bout and declared Ritchie the winner; Regan was timekeeper. Carroll and Stephens were timekeepers for the boxing match.

#### A New Law Firm.

Messrs. J. B. Pottello and H. E. Ridley, who for ten years past have been practicing law in Toronto, Canada, arrived in Dawson last week, and have opened offices in the handsome A. C. office building. The gentlemen came in with Mr. Dufferin Pottello, the new commissioner of abstracts, a young gentleman well-known here as the private secretary of Major Walsh, the late commissioner of the Yukon. The party joined Judge Dugas on the way in. We have no doubt that the success which attended the firm in the East will follow them in here.

#### Associated Press Dispatches.

London—The Daily Mail says the Rothschilds will loan Spain \$4,000,000 or £1,600,000 on the security of Almaden quicksilver mines, when the treaty of peace shall have been signed.

Paris—The minister of foreign affairs, M. Delcasse, has offered the peace commissioners the use of the foreign office for their meetings, which commence on Oct. 1.

London—There is a growing belief in Indian circles here that Great Britain will shortly take possession of the Khyber pass, the principal northern pass from Afghanistan into India.

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