

towns." And Dr. Alfred Russel Wallace, F.R.L., in "Vaccination a Delusion," gives the following table:

	Per Million.
Army (1873-94) small-pox death-rate.	37
Navy " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	36.8
Leicester " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	ages 15-45 14.4

and says: "It is completely demonstrated that all the statements by which the public have been gulled for so many years as to the almost complete immunity of the re-vaccinated Army and Navy are absolutely false. It is all what Americans call 'bluff.' There is no immunity. They have no protection. When exposed to infection, they *do* suffer just as much as other populations, or even more. In the whole of the nineteen years, 1878-1896 inclusive, unvaccinated Leicester had so few small-pox deaths that the Registrar-General represents the average by the decimal 0.01 per thousand population, equal to ten per million, while for the twelve years, 1878-1889, there was less than one death per annum! Here, we have *real* immunity, *real* protection, and it is obtained by attending to sanitation and isolation, coupled with the almost total neglect of vaccination. Neither Army nor Navy can show any such results as this. In the whole twenty-nine years tabulated in the Second Report (Royal Commission), the Army had not one year without a small-pox death, while the Navy never had more than three consecutive years without a death, and only six years in the whole period." In the German Army, from 1834 to 1887, there were no less than 7,505 cases of small-pox and 291 deaths. In Switzerland the Military regulation requiring the re-vaccination of soldiers was repealed in December, 1892, in consequence of so many soldiers having been injured by the operation. Re-vaccination was also made non-compulsory in the Dutch Army by reason of a disaster in 1883, whereby seven soldiers were seriously injured in the vaccinated arm, of whom three died after acute suffering.

It is to be hoped that, with these facts before it, Parliament will take early steps to repeal the obnoxious vaccination regulations in these two as well as in other services in the United Kingdom. Our soldiers, sailors, postmen, policemen and pupil teachers have sufficient hardships and perils to endure without the super-added risks of State blood-poisoning. Cordially thanking you in anticipation,

Yours faithfully,

42 Stibbington Street, JAS. R. WILLIAMSON.

London, N. W., England.

4th April, 1899.

LETTER FROM THE YUKON DISTRICT.

Fort Selkirk, March 3rd, 1899.

To the Editor of THE CHRONICLE:—

Dear Sir:—People dwelling in what is called here "the outside," or many of them, have an idea that this must be a terrible country to live in. But it is not really so. Sometimes, of course, the thermometer records as much as 60° below zero, but only occasionally. We have had only two storms of wind so far, and a winter is as enjoyable as it is in Montreal. The population is small, there are not more than 150 people outside of the Barracks, where there are 150 soldiers under command of Lieut.-Colonel Evans. This is a beautiful place in summer and in the Autumn. When I arrived in September, the scenery reminded me of what all travellers on the Hudson River have seen.

Opposite the town, which is splendidly situated, about 15 or 20 feet above the level of the Yukon, you see a palisade that runs from 10 miles below here up to the mouth of the Pelly; the townsites are almost quite level, and behind it hills. Fort Selkirk is as beautifully situated a place as can possibly be. The current runs very fast; at least 5 miles an hour in front of here. The great Yukon River has often been described; it is about 2,000 miles long from here to its mouth at Norton Sound on the Behring Sea; at its exit it is very wide, some writers say **about 70 miles**. I do not know if that is correct or not; there are many Islands and Channels, but only one Steamboat channel. It is a difficult River to navigate. The current, especially near Rampart City, is so swift that the water flowed about 2 feet over the bows of one steamer, the "D. R. Campbell," big and strong as she is. There are many sandbars on the way, and each day one managed to find one; it did not seem hard to do. The scenery at some points is very fine, particularly after you cross our own Canadian Boundary Line. But taking it all through, this great river of the North cannot in any way compare favorably for scenery, with our own St. Lawrence, Ottawa or Saguenay Rivers; the water is thick and dirty and unfit for use until you get up near here; then it becomes as clear as the St. Lawrence water. The Indians, specially the tribes down the river, near St. Michaels, are very poor specimens of the noble red man, and are not by any means the equals of the Indians living North and West of Lake Superior.

Mining is being carried on up here in a very satisfactory way; there is no doubt about this country's having lots of gold in it; it is expected that at least 2 1-2 times more gold will be got out this year than last. There are opportunities, too, for hydraulic mining, not everywhere of course, but in certain districts that cannot be successfully worked by individuals in the way that is so common here, and the only one that has been found so far to work satisfactorily, that is by wood fires. Mining, in the near future, will undoubtedly be done by corporations; the rich individual claims are nearly all held by some well-known men who seem to have blanketed most of the valuable properties, but there are several good locations for hydraulic mining to be had. In the opinion of men who are competent to speak on the subject, that will be the successful mining of the future, but, of course, it will have to be done by capital. As to the success of it in the proper localities, there can hardly be any question. The work can easily be carried on for 6 months of the year. Coal has been found in more than one locality up here. What has been brought from the Pelly River is not of much value, it is a poor sort of lignite; light in weight, and when tried in the forge did not give a very good account of itself. Good coal when found will be valuable. So far it has not been found, though I understand that some is being worked at a point not far below Dawson.

There is not a great deal of game in this country. Not nearly as much as we were told of on the outside. Once in a long while the Indians bring in a moose. Ptarmigan and partridge are brought in occasionally, but very seldom; the salmon in the river here is of a very poor kind; it is called dog salmon, and is not of any use as food. The days are lengthening out now, for a while we had only between 5 and 6 hours of daylight; now we have nearly 10 hours

There is not nearly as much snow as we had in