

FROM FORTY MILE DISTRICT

Prospectors Return With Glowing Accounts of Gold

Chicken Creek Is Proving Rich Its Entire Length—Preparations for Winter Work.

Messrs. A. W. Kendall, H. N. Feldmann, A. A. Turnbidge and T. S. Walcott recently returned from a trip over the various creeks in the Forty mile district, where they hold some valuable mining properties. The reports of the creeks in that district brought back by these gentlemen are of a most encouraging nature and show promise of a bright future for that country.

Mr. Walcott, who has spent considerable time in the district and who has some valuable interests there, in speaking with a Nugget representative yesterday of their trip and the prospects of the district said:

"We left Dawson in a small boat for Forty mile from which place we traveled overland to the diggings. From Forty mile to Steele creek is a distance of 40 miles. There is a good trail between the two places and by stiff walking the ground can be covered in one day's traveling. The big companies have stores located at the mouth of Steele creek which is the distributing point for the surrounding creeks.

"Franklin gulch, which bears the distinction of being the first creek in this country where gold was discovered in paying quantities is 250 miles above Steele creek by the U. S. mail trail, but is 40 miles by the river route.

"Gold was discovered on this creek in an accidental manner on what is called Troublesome bar right at the mouth in 1887, by George Mock. The creek has never received any large extent of development work, the old miners knowing that gold in paying quantities is there have been content to take grub stakes by ground sluicing from their claims and do prospecting work in the surrounding territory. This creek has been the source of the grub stakes of the miners ever since gold was discovered and we saw one man rock \$50 in a day on discovery claim.

"Martin Nellis and others are shoveling in good pay on the creek near the mouth.

"The first gold on Chicken creek, which empties into Forty mile river 170 miles from the mouth, was discovered in 1894. This creek derives its name from the immense number of chickens and grouse which are found on the flats near its mouth and which the miners from Franklin were in the habit of hunting every year.

"Louis Meyers and Fred Hines made the discovery on what is now called Meyers Fork, a tributary of Chicken, in '94, and the discovery was made on claim Nos. 6 from the mouth. The first pan yielded 50 cents. Madison and Dyer made the discovery on Chicken creek proper in 1896 and in 1898 the claim was let out on 50 per cent lags and upon good authority we learned that over \$100,000 had been taken from the claim since then.

"Nearly the whole of Chicken creek was staked by miners from Franklin gulch, who, as has been stated before, got their grubstakes from Franklin and then prospected the other creeks in the district. Nothing less than 10 cents to the pan was considered worth working and this has resulted in retarding development work to a large extent on the creeks. In the last 18 months gold has been found in paying quantities on nearly every claim on Chicken creek from 2 above discovery to its mouth averaging from five to fifty cents to the pan. I was present and washed out on No. 7 below discovery four pans with a net result of \$8.80. The entire dump averaged 51 cents to the pan. The pay is on the extreme right limit and is very fine. The only steam thawer on the creek has been installed within the last six weeks on 6 below discovery by the owners of the claim, Messrs. Holbrook and James. The Peco Brothers, who own 1 and 2 above and 1 and 2 below and half of discovery are working three men shoveling in. What the exact results of their work is we could not ascertain but the owners are very well satisfied with their property. Mr. Driver, who owns two bench claims on the right limit adjoining No. 8 creek claim, has sunk a number of holes to bedrock with an average pay of at least five cents to the pan in three feet of gravel. George Traube on No. 11 creek claim, is taking out \$20 per day with a rocker. McDermott and Sutherland, of 4 below discovery, say they have four feet of gravel averaging 10 cents to the pan.

"Messrs. Kendall, Feldmann and myself have purchased No. 3 below discovery and will do extensive development work this winter. We will buy our outfit in Dawson and take it in over the ice in the early part of the winter.

Continuing, Mr. Walcott said: "With the exception of the benches above stated there is plenty of opportunity not only on that creek but on

other creeks in the district for men who are willing and able to combat hardships and difficulties to make a good stake, with the possibility of making a fortune. The benches have not been considered of value as yet but there is every indication of gold being there in as good paying quantities as has been found on the creeks. Indications of the same white wash gravel, in which the big pay on Bonanza benches has been found, is discoverable all through the country and there is no question in my mind but what the benches will prove of exceeding great value.

"The first gold was discovered on Napoleon creek, which is a tributary of the Forty mile river six miles above Franklin gulch, by Napoleon Jewett from whom the creek derived its name. The discovery claim was staked at the mouth of the creek and afterwards sold to Ned Elwell who took out of the claim \$35,000. The claim was afterwards sold to J. J. Healy in 1896 who at the time tried to purchase all the claims on the creek. He succeeded in getting five claims which have since been transferred to the N. A. T. & T. Co. Since 1898 the company have not done any development work on the claims, asserting the creek to be of no value but that is considered by the miners to be a pretext by which it can obtain control of more property. Three men are at work on discovery claim now and we saw one clean up 17 ounces the result of their work for one week.

"Barrett and Jacobson on 6 and 7 above discovery, have cross-cut their claims in three places with an average result of from \$2 to \$5 to the bucket in four feet of pay dirt; the paystreak being more than 35 feet in width.

"On one of the dumps on these claims Mr. Kendall picked up a nugget weighing \$9.50. The owners of the claim are going to put a steam thawer on No. 6 this winter and conduct their work on a large scale.

"We are going to open up a fractional claim between Nos. 5 and 6 this winter and are expecting good results from it.

"We did not take a trip to Walker's Fork, but the reports we heard of it were all good. Bradford and Bragg on upper discovery intend putting a steam thawer on their claim this winter.

"On Jack Wade creek the best claims have been tied up in litigation for several years, but Mr. McCourt who just arrived in Dawson from Skagway informs me that the litigation has been settled and that work will be resumed this winter. There is no doubt but what this creek will make a good showing when the claims are developed as good prospects were found before the litigation began.

"The handicap to the development of that country has been the extremely high prices asked by the companies' stores for what was once first-class goods, but at the present time is old and hardly fit for eating. The miners are very much dissatisfied with the treatment they have received and will hereafter purchase their supplies in Dawson where they can be obtained at a reasonable price and get first-class goods.

"Prices at Forty mile are about the same as at Dawson now on most of the staples but there is no doubt that the goods are two and three seasons old and are far from being satisfactory.

"What I have just told you," said Mr. Walcott in conclusion, "are absolute facts concerning the country, without any sensational coloring whatever and not only in my opinion but also in that of everyone interested in the country, and those who have only made a trip of inspection over the creeks concur in the opinion that it is bound to be recognized as one of the leading gold producing districts in the whole country."

TRAIL WILL BE BUILT
From Dawson to Glacier and Miller Creek Districts.

Miners and claim owners in the Glacier and Miller creek districts will be gratified to learn that the trail promised them from Dawson by Governor Ross some time ago is now an assured fact, ten miles of it being already constructed. Engineer Thibedeau has a force of 25 men at work and hopes to have the new route to the mines fully completed by the last of the present month. The trail is located on an easy grade so situated that with comparatively little work it can next summer be widened out to a wagon road. The work at present is confined to grubbing out obstructions in the way of niggerheads, stumps, etc., and with the arrival of cold weather and snow a good sled road will be had this winter.

The creeks at the head of the Sixty mile are naturally tributary to Dawson and the trail now being put in is in answer to a petition from the miners of that district sent to the governor some time ago. Heretofore, their supplies have had to be procured from Fortymile and transported over a trail that was a trail in name only, passable for the most part in the winter time alone. The new trail to Dawson will be approximately 50 miles in length.

WILL SOON CRUSH QUARTZ

Messrs. Munger & Spencer Preparing for Business.

Stamp Mill Located on Left Bank of Klondike Near Ogilvie Bridge—Everything Modern.

The Tremaine stamp mill which arrived a few days ago for Mr. George M. Munger and associates, a full account of which appeared in the Nugget, has been set in position and will in a couple of weeks be ready to begin the testing of ore. The mill is located on the left bank of the Klondike a short distance below the Ogilvie bridge, the building being 20x30 in size. The boiler is in position and but little remains to be done before the sound of the falling stamps will reverberate up and down the valley. Within the building a well has been sunk to sufficient depth which will always insure a plentiful supply of pure, clear water for the battery and plates. The mill has a capacity of from 10 to 13 tons every 24 hours according to the quality of the ore handled. To a Nugget reporter neither Mr. Munger nor Captain Spencer had anything further to state in regard to their future operations.

Both gentlemen are very conservative and act upon the principle that works and not words are what are most needed to show up the value of a ledge of ore. The location of the mill being so centrally situated any ledge in the country can receive a thorough mill test at a minimum expense. Roads now lead from practically every creek in this vicinity to the city and during the winter time it will be an easy matter to sled in a sufficient number of tons of ore to make a thorough test. The owners of the mill have extensive interests in a number of different locations and these will receive their first attention.

INJUNCTION DISMISSED
Difference Between Meadows and Cummings Adjusted.

The injunction proceedings brought by Chas. Meadows, of the Savoy theater, to restrain Ralph Cummings from acting at the Standard theater has been dismissed without costs. Subsequent to the order of the court yesterday requiring the litigants to appear before Clerk McDonald for an examination for discovery, the parties interested agreed upon a dismissal of the proceedings. The order was accordingly granted this morning by Justice Dugas and the case is at an end. The termination of the matter leaves Mr. Cummings free to act wherever he chooses and he will continue with the Standard company.

Send a copy of Goetzman's Souvenir to your outside friends. A complete pictorial history of the Klondike. For sale at all news stands. Price \$2.50.

For garments repaired at Mrs. Roberts' Second avenue.

AUCTION NOTICE.
In the assigned estate of George Kruse, John Cogan and Charles Humphries, I will sell by public auction at the Plantery hotel on Saturday next, 7th September, at 2 p. m., that valuable mining property known as the

MCCORMACK CLAIM.
ON CHECHAKO HILL.
G. VERNON, Assignee.

Also same time and place I will submit for sale:
Ophir—Upper 1/2 No. 12 above.
Dominion—Upper 1/2 1, 1, 1, 80 below.
Dominion—Lower 1/2 1, 1, 1, 122 below.
Montana—No. 7 below Steeles.
Hunker—No. 43, 1, 1, upper 1/2.
Hunker—108 above.
French Hill—No. 4 north, 9 west.
Clear Creek—No. 14 above the gorge.
Eureka—Nos. 4 to 8 on 14 p.p.
Gay Gulch—No. 9a.
Eureka—No. 14, left fork.
Indian River—Conglomerate claim.
Mint Gulch—Upper 1/2 No. 5.
Sulphur—1/2 No. 42 above.
G. VERNON, Auctioneer.

No Prizefight.
In yesterday's morning paper a silly notice was written in reference to the coming contest between Bates and Perkins in which it refers to that event as a "fight" between two men. It might be well for the sport to inform that paper that a "fight" is not allowed to be "pulled off" in Canada, the laws of the country prohibiting the same. Consequently, no fight will occur tonight but a stubbornly contested scientific boxing match will ensue which is entirely within the pale of the law, and which being devoid of brutality can be heartily enjoyed by all lovers of clean sport. The go will commence at 8 o'clock sharp as the regular performance will follow the conclusion of the match.

A Dry Smoke.
If you see a man with an unlighted cigar between his lips it is not because he is looking for a light, but because he is indulging in the pleasure of a "dry smoke." How there can be any enjoyment in this to a smoker is not readily apparent, but the fact remains that there is much satisfaction in the habit, and, besides, there are no beneficial effects.

For inveterate smokers the dry smoke is a good habit to cultivate. It enables many slaves of the weed to decrease the number of cigars actually smoked in a day without causing much inconvenience. Of course, an inveterate smoker would find no pleasure in the habit at the start, but perseverance is necessary, and after awhile he will enjoy his dry smoke almost as much as the real one. It is a very good way to begin if you desire to stop smoking. Try it and see.

Cabin for Sale.
A warm, comfortable, furnished double cabin, best location in town, for sale cheap. Owner going outside. Apply at once Nugget office.

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Bon Voyage.
Mrs. Georgine Bryant has disposed of her cosy little home on No. 90 below on Bonanza and leaves this evening for an extended visit outside.

She will go to Seattle, Portland and San Francisco and will then proceed to Minneapolis and St. Paul, where she has a number of friends and relatives. Later she will visit Washington, D. C.

and New York city, where she expects to spend several weeks.

A visit to relatives in Norway is included in Mrs. Bryant's plans and she expects to reach Astre Thoten in that country in time for Christmas dinner. Mrs. Bryant has numerous friends in Dawson and on the creeks, all of whom unite in wishing her bon voyage.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

PLANNERY.
Mr. and Mrs. Geo. E. Derby, Seattle; R. Weerde, Bonanza; J. A. Penderberg, Calder creek; G. Clapp, New Zealand; N. Baril, Bonanza; P. Fitzgerald, Indian river; B. Darrak, Stewart river; W. Bell, Bear creek; W. S. Smer, Fortymile; H. Humsey, Dominion; Thos. Lamantagu, Last Chance.

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