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table being supplied with coffee, dried apples, and pudding. At the mouth of the Tanana the first "run" of salmon was encountered, and some of the passengers of the *Weare* bought fresh fish, which they were permitted to take aboard, but against the protest of the purser, who, with unprecedented consideration, objected to the cook being overworked. Finally the purser was persuaded to supply the boat with fish, and during the last five days of the trip dog salmon was served once or twice a day. Three deaths occurred among the passengers of the *Hamilton* and the *Weare* during the latter part of the voyage.

The steamer *Bella* and barge, of the Alaska Commercial Company's fleet, left Dawson on June 26, with 150 passengers, and about two tons of gold, worth \$1,000,000, and arrived at St. Michaels July 3. The charge for passage on the *Bella* was \$100 from Dawson to St. Michaels, and the company charged from \$100 to \$150, according to accommodations, for passage from St. Michaels to San Francisco.

At St. Michaels the magnitude of the Klondike "boom" became fully apparent. The first ocean vessel arrived on June 13, and up to July 5 there had been forty arrivals, with 30,000 tons of merchandise, coal, etc., and nearly 2,000 passengers, while at the last-named date less than 1,000 tons of freight and not to exceed 250 passengers had entered the mouth of the river. (a) Twenty-two ocean vessels were lying in the harbor, nearly all loaded with merchandise for the Yukon, which they were unable to discharge because of a lack of wharf facilities and the nonarrival of the new river steamboats which had been constructed on Puget Sound and elsewhere on the lower coast for the Yukon trade. Many types of sailing craft were represented, from a 47-ton sloop to a five-masted schooner of 2,500 tons, and a half dozen large ocean steamers lay far out in the offing, most conspicuous of all the great *Garonne*, carrying 3,000 tons of freight and 400 passengers, while closer inshore was anchored the United States gunboat *Wheeling*, reported to have been sent by the Navy Department to Bering Sea in response to representations that \$30,000,000 of Yukon gold would be brought out, to protect this potential treasure from Spanish privateers. In the inner harbor a score of new river steamboats, which had been towed from Puget Sound or Dutch Harbor, were being completed by the erection of wheels, the setting of engines, etc., and on shore a dozen more were in course of construction, while at the wharves four or five steamboats belonging to the old companies were loading for the Yukon, the whole scene presenting all the bustle and activity of a great Atlantic seaport.

On October 20, 1897, the Secretary of War issued the following order:

By authority of the President, the land known as St. Michael Island,

<sup>a</sup>The latest reports show that 43,000 tons of freight were landed at St. Michaels during the season, and that all stations on the river have ample supplies, about 12,000 tons having been carried to Dawson.