

ODD NOTES FROM SKAGWAY.

ONE would hardly expect to find the son of a prospective millionaire occupying the position of a purser in the employ of a local navigation company, yet such is the case in the person of Mr. J. W. More, who fills the above mentioned office on the *Islander*—plying between Victoria and Vancouver. Mr. More's father, Mr. Bernard More—the name was originally spelt Mohr, for the family is of German extraction—is no less a person than the original locator of the present townsite of Skagway, which is even now a thriving "city," and, owing to its favourable location, promises to attain a much greater growth in the next few years, as, being the terminus of the first railway built in the country, it indeed should. Notwithstanding the fact, however, that Mr. More had been in tranquil and legal possession of this property for a number of years, he has had the greatest difficulty in securing a title from the American authorities, who, pending the settlement of the international question of boundary demarcation, administer the affairs of the territory. But the American officers have, according to a report which is to be found in a "special extra" edition of the *Skagway News*, at last rendered their decision, and this in favour of Mr. More, who now finds himself in the proud position of "lord of all he surveys," in this case a very cheerful, not to say a valuable prospect. Mr. More meanwhile displays a very kindly disposition, not unmixed with a certain shrewdness, for, to quote again from the "extra-special" alluded to, we are told that when he became aware of the success of his suit, he remarked: "Well, it is only just; but now that the property has been located upon and improved by others, I will not be hard on them. They will find me lenient and amiable. I have no desire to become a millionaire. Skagway is now a great city, but there is lots of room here, and we should live together in a spirit of perfect har-



"NELLIE" AND "DAISY," THE FIRST TEAM TO CROSS THE WHITE PASS.



MR. BERNARD MORE, PROPRIETOR OF SKAGWAY TOWNSITE, TALKING WITH AN OFFICER OF THE "ATHENIAN."



ONE OF THE FIRST BUILDINGS ERECTED IN 1892 BY MR. MORE ON THE PRESENT SITE OF SKAGWAY.

mony and brotherly love. No, I will not be hard on those who have located and are living on my land." Nevertheless, I venture to say that Mr. More did not always entertain so amiable a view of matters. Once for instance—it was in the beginning of the boom—he returned from a trip over the Pass to find his own private house full of strangers, who were making themselves extremely at home with his household gods. "Hullo!" cried the strangers in chorus, when the rightful owner appeared, "what are you doing here?" "What are you doing?" replied Mr. More, elevating his rifle (I am not sure whether he found it necessary to fire), and the hint was sufficient, for the uninvited guests departed hurriedly. On another occasion "jumpers" erected some buildings on a cleared plot of ground, owned by one of Mr. More's sons, who is somewhat proud of his physical powers. Like a modern Sampson this gentleman entered the hastily constructed dwellings of the intruders, and, bracing himself for the effort, actually pushed the walls down. But once the "jumpers" were too strong to be resisted, and this was when the civic authorities took forcible possession of Mr. More's blacksmith shop, a well-built construction of logs, and turned it