

DESCRIPTION—Continued.

the Porcupine to a point which was supposed to be within British jurisdiction, where he established Rampart House; but in 1890 Mr. J. H. Turner of the United States Coast Survey found it to be 20 miles within the lines of the United States. Consequently in 1891 the post was moved 20 miles further up the river to be within British territory.

Extract from Assistant Surgeon A. E. Willis' Report for 1895.

It may be of interest to mention something concerning the climate, mode of living of the people generally, and diseases met with.

The climate is wet. The rainfall last summer was heavy. Although there is almost a continuous sun in summer time evaporation is very slow owing to the thick moss which will not conduct the heat, in consequence the ground is always swampy. It is only after several years of draining that ground will become sufficiently dry to allow the frost to go out and then only for a few feet. During the winter months the cold is intense with usually considerable wind.

A heavy mist arising from open places in the river settles down in the valley in calm extreme weather. This dampness makes the cold to be felt much more and is conducive to rheumatic pains, colds, etc.

Miners are a very mixed class of people. They represent many nationalities and come from all climates. Their lives are certainly not enviable. The regulation "miner's cabin" is 12 feet by 14 feet with walls 6 feet and gables 8 feet in height. The roof is heavily earthed and the cabin is generally very warm. Two, and sometimes three or four men will occupy a house of this size. The ventilation is usually bad. Those miners who do not work their claims during the winter confine themselves in these small huts most of the time.

Very often they become indolent and careless, only eating those things which are most easily cooked or prepared. During the busy time in summer when they are "shovelling in," they work hard and for long hours, sparing little time for eating and much less for cooking.

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