

**The Klondike Nugget**

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**LETTERS**  
And Small Packages can be sent to the Creeks by our carriers on the following days: Every Wednesday and Saturday to Eldorado and Bonanza; every Saturday to Hunker, Dominion, Gold Run, Sulphur, etc.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1900.

**AN IMPORTANT ENTERPRISE.**

In yesterday's issue of the Nugget full details were published respecting the intention of the Alaska Exploration Company to begin work in the early spring on the construction of a system of railways. It is proposed to extend a line up the Klondike a distance of twenty-two miles, to Coal creek, with branches running up Hunker and Bonanza creeks. The entire amount to be expended will aggregate almost \$1,000,000.

This move on the part of an institution so thoroughly identified with the interests of the Klondike, and so well informed as to the probable future of the country as the A. E. Co. indicates very clearly the general feeling of confidence which is manifested by those who are most heavily interested in the development of our resources.

There is a distinct difference between an effort to interest outside capital in such an enterprise and the plain statement from the manager of a local concern that his company has determined to undertake the work. The Alaska Exploration Company would not inaugurate an undertaking of such magnitude and involving so large an expenditure of money did they not feel thoroughly satisfied that there are yet years of work to be done on the creeks in this district, and a long life of business activity and prosperity in store for Dawson.

In reaching this conclusion, the company in question but voices the belief of everyone who has taken the pains to investigate the actual condition of affairs in the territory. Compared to the known gold producing area the extent of ground already worked out is extremely small.

It is quite true that much of the fabulously rich ground has been pretty thoroughly cleared up, but it is equally a fact that the amount of such ground was comparatively small. The future prosperity of the territory at large will depend to a great extent upon the practicability of developing at a profit extensive areas of low grade ground now lying idle. This can only be brought about by a radical reduction in freight charges. Every decrease in rates of freighting to the creeks means an addition to the area of workable ground in the district. With the consummation of the plans of the Alaska Exploration Co. as outlined in yesterday's issue the question should be settled in such a manner that every foot of gold producing ground covered by the proposed railway line can be placed upon a working basis.

**CIVILIZING THE PHILIPPINES.**

The McKinley administration has now four years ahead in which to perfect and carry out its plan for restoring order and inaugurating a system of civil government in the Philippines. There will be much less difficulty to overcome in the future than there has been in the past. Aguinaldo and his followers have placed all their hopes upon the prospect that Bryan would be elected, and with the defeat of the latter there is no further likelihood of organized resistance. The Filipinos will begin shortly to understand what

the blessings of civil liberty really are. They will be taught as rapidly as possible to govern themselves and when they have learned enough to justify entrusting them with the direction of their own affairs, they will be given every opportunity to prove their ability. In respect to civilization the Philippine islands will advance more in the coming four years than they have during the past five decades.

The other day a rumor became started in town to the effect that Skagway was burning down. Investigation proved the report to be without foundation, but not until it had been passed from hand to mouth over Dawson and sent on to the creeks, where it is probably being circulated yet. How anyone can be guilty of starting such silly rumors is difficult to see. They do no one any good and cause untold and useless worry and anxiety. The rumor starter should be headed down the river.

The free reading room entertainments are among the events in Dawson which are looked toward to with much pleasure. The programs which have been rendered from time to time have served to develop a surprisingly large amount of talent.

We had an idea that the continuation of the prevailing cold weather was merely a coincidence. We are inclined now to think that it is in very grave danger of becoming a habit.

**Chief Isaac and the X Ray.**

A Klontit Indian, educated and traveled, a useful member of society, one day not long since visited Moosehide to meet and converse with Chief Isaac.

Isaac was at home and received his guest in as befitting a manner as the circumstances would admit of, but at the beginning of the interview a difficulty arose. The chief could not speak the Klontit tongue, and his visitor was equally unfamiliar with the language of the chief.

After some time, however, an Indian was found who understood both languages, and then they got down to business.

Isaac wanted to know of the things his guest had seen in his travels. The climate, the population, the extent of the cities—all about it, and the visit progressed swimmingly till the chief asked if his visitor had visited any towns larger than Dawson.

"Yes, many times larger," was the answer.

After considering the matter for a few minutes Isaac asked: "In these large towns, which you have seen, are the stores larger than the big stores of Dawson?"

"Ten times larger," said the visitor, thinking of the large department stores of the eastern cities.

When this statement was made known to him the chief became suspicious that he was being made the subject of a long distance jolly, and after thinking the matter over for a time conceived a cunning trap for his visitor, by means of which he would be sure to know if he were being trifled with under the guise of a joke.

"Do they light these very large cities in the winter time with little glasses, the same as they do in Dawson?" he asked.

"Yes, they have little glasses which are mostly used inside, and they use larger lights in the streets. But they have also another kind of a light which they use to look inside of a man with, when he is sick or his bones get broken. They hold this light against the part they want to see inside of, and if there is a bullet there or if the bones are broken, or anything at all the matter, it becomes plain to see by the strong light."

That settled it with the chief. Here, he thought was a man who was born an Indian, yet came out of his way to tell him, Chief Isaac, a lie, after the white man's manner of being funny. To show his marked disapproval of such things, and that he could not be stuffed by every one who dealt in Oriental pipe dreams, the chief arose and told his visitor in good English that it was about dinner time in Dawson, and if he didn't hurry back there his friend the white man would have the dishes washed and things put away till supper time. He also intimated that the next time he came to Moosehide it would be well to bring with him one of those big lights so that he could see just what damage had been done to his interior. The visitor left.

**The Line to Dawson.**

The Canadian government telegraph line to Dawson will not be finished this winter.

That is the bitterly disappointing news which reached the city by Mr. J. B. Charleson, superintendent of construction, and which was confirmed

# A Statement of Facts



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## HERSHBERG

The Reliable Seattle Clothiers  
Opp. C. D. Co.'s Dock.

on the arrival of J. V. Rochester, who has been in charge of the northern gang working southward.

Away up somewhere at the headwaters of the Naas river there is a gap of 33 miles which the northern gang worked might and main to cover before the early northern winter cut them off.

It was as bitter a fight against the elements as ever was waged, and in the end nature proved the stronger.

Briefly told the story is this: On October 4th Mr. Trodden, who was in charge of the southern party, wired to Mr. Charleson from the headwaters of the Naas, at a point distant 167 miles north of Hazelton, "All wire strung and three miles of clearing done ahead. Start for Hazelton today." This meant simply that he had finished his section of the work to the Naas river, where he was to meet the northern party. He put a cross-section trail so that the northern party would recognize the signs when they came along, and then went out.

On October 2 Mr. Rochester had sent the following wire to Mr. Charleson: "End-of-Wire, B. C., Oct. 2, 1900. (Ningunsaw river.)"

"Line completed to this point on September 29. Three hundred miles from Atlin.

"I have lost 70 pack animals within the past two weeks, and the remainder will scarcely hold out for another ten days; so find it impossible to go any further, and have decided to make my way back to Telegraph creek and try to get down Stikine river to Wrangel.

"The men whom I sent out to locate Trodden returned yesterday after traveling out east and down Naas river for a distance of about 40 miles from here, and could find no trace of Trodden.

"Under the circumstances and in order to save what pack animals I can, have decided to return. Have built cabin, stored all supplies and am leaving two men in charge.

"I leave here tomorrow, and expect to reach Telegraph creek in 10 or 12 days. Have had no reply to my telegram to you of 14th September."

On the 15th of October Mr. Rochester and his gang got back to Telegraph creek. Thence they came down the Stikine to Wrangel in canoes, and from Wrangel by the steamer Amur they arrived in Vancouver today.

By a careful comparison of notes it is found that Mr. Trodden left his "end-of-the-wire" at a point 167 miles north of Hazelton. Mr. Rochester's "end-of-the-wire" is about 160 miles south of Telegraph creek. The distance from Telegraph creek to Hazelton is approximately 360 miles, so that the gap between is 33 miles in length. It is needless to say that in that country of magnificent distances 33 miles may mean a good deal more. It is a land of terrifying precipices. Morasses of vast extent and glaciers of unknown size are other features of the landscape.

"As to there being an overlap," said Superintendent Charleson this morning, "I am able to say positively that no overlap exists. Our men worked heroically to get through but were beaten by the climate and the difficulties of the trail. I am, of course, deeply disappointed at not getting through, but I have not a word of blame for the men. No overlap was possible as Rochester was to work up the Naas river and could in no possible manner have passed Mr. Trodden's end of the wire. I have every hope that we will be able to establish a team service over the gap for this winter so that messages may go through with little or no delay."

Among the men who came down on the Amur today was Archie McCulloch, who has visited both ends of the wire, teaming poles. He places the gap as even less than the estimate of Mr. Charleson.—Vancouver Province, Oct. 29.

- Flashlight powder at Goetzman's.
- Goetzman makes the crack photos of dog teams.
- Films of all kinds at Goetzman's.
- Mumm's, Pomerey or Perinet champagne \$5 per bottle at the Regina Club hotel.
- Elegantly furnished rooms with electric lights at the Regina Club hotel.

**STROLLER'S COLUMN.**

"In early days here and before we knew anything about felt shoes, German socks, fleece-lined underwear and such, we didn't think nothing of being frozen stiff as pokers clear up to our waists," said Jack McQuesten's old partner one day this week in a certain saloon which is famous for its forty-rod brand of home brew. Continuing, the old advance guard said:

"Eighteen years ago about now me and Jack left Fortymile to come to see our squaws, whose tribe lived where Klondike City now is. There was no thermometer in the country and there was no telling how cold it was, but it must have been 110 below zero if not more. All the way up the river our breaths froze into solid chunks, which fell and rattled around on the ice like dice in a box. Well, we got here at last, both of us frozen plum to the waists and so hard a wild cat couldn't scratch us. Never having been frozen much higher than the knees before, me and Jack were both sorter green about knowing what to do, so we very naturally supposed that the thawing out process would be not only slow but very painful. But the squaws knew a trick or two that we had not learned, and but for their knowledge both of us would probably have been cripples for life.

"You ask what they did? Well, I'll tell you. Seeing our condition they drove us out of the tent with fire brands and one of them herded us out in the cold while the other went down to the river and cut two holes in the ice just big enough to put a man's body in. Then they took us down and dropped us in clear up to the arms, allowing our bodies and legs to protrude through into the water below. Then they put a tent over us and built fires around to keep our upper works from freezing. About every two hours through the night one of them would come down and fix up the fires and give us just a small nibble of dried salmon. Well, sir, they left us there for upwards of 16 hours and when they took us out we were thawed out until we were as mellow, plump and smooth as boiled wienewursts, and in addition to being as good as ever, we had each had a bath that lasted us for several months. What the early day squaws didn't know about thawing out a frozen man hasn't since been learned."

And the old man drew a piece of dried salmon from his pocket, held it to his nose and emitted a loving and caressing smile.

"No," said Dr. C. H. Wells, the dentist, "I am not taking any part in any Christmas tree business this year, as my last experience in that line was not such as would justify me in going in to it again."

When asked the nature of the experience that had disgusted him with the time-honored custom of having Christmas trees he said:

"Last year I was beguiled into assisting with a Christmas tree, and, in order that my own name would be called out, I bought a dozen handkerchiefs, a fountain pen and a smoking jacket and had them put on the tree for myself.

"Well, when it came to divesting the tree of its fruit, the man who read off the names was a poor reader, with the result that Dr. Wells got all my presents. Of course, I couldn't say anything, so I had nothing else to do but sit there and see another man loaded down with presents I had bought for myself and all because the chump who was reading off the names could not distinguish between an 'e' and an 'i.'"

**To the Outside.**  
Mr. P. G. Wells, engineer for the A. E. Co., will leave for the outside about January 1st for a new stock of boilers,

engines, pumps, etc. Special orders will receive prompt attention. Intending buyers should see him concerning their needs for the coming season. cr

Any kind of wine \$5 per bottle at the Regina Club hotel.

**FOR SALE.**  
FOR SALE—Restaurant, in good location, doing first-class business. Owner wishes to engage in other business. Apply Nugget office.

**FOR SALE—Grocery Store,** with stock fixtures, etc. A bargain. Present owner compelled to go out. Apply 3rd and Mission. p10

**WANTED.**  
WANTED—Girl as night cashier and assist at waiting on table. Hoffman Grill. e6

**LOST AND FOUND**  
LOST—Mail package addressed to Miss M. J. Cantwell, Malone, N. Y. Return to Cantwell, Photographer, 3rd Ave. p10

**PROFESSIONAL CARDS**

**LAWYERS**  
CLARK, WILSON & STACPOOLE—Barristers, Attorneys, Notaries, Conveyancers, etc. Office Monte Carlo Building, First Avenue, Dawson, Y. T.

BURRITT & McKAY—Advocates, Solicitors, Notaries, etc. Commissioners for Ontario and British Columbia. Aurora No. 2 Building, Front street, Dawson.

MACKINNON & NOEL, Advocates, Second st., near Bank of B. N. A.

HENRY BLEEKER, FERNAND DE JOURNEL, BLEEKER & DE JOURNEL, Attorneys at Law, Offices—Second street, in the Joslin Building. Residence—Third avenue, opp. Metropole hotel Dawson.

PATULLO & RIDLEY—Advocates, Notaries, Conveyancers, etc. Offices, First avenue.

WADE & AIKMAN—Advocates, Notaries, etc. Offices, A. C. Office Building.

TABOR & HULME—Barristers and Solicitors, Advocates, Notaries Public, Conveyancers. Telephone No. 48. Offices, Rooms 1, 2, 3, Opheum Building.

N. F. HAGEE, Q. C., Barrister, Notary, etc. over McLennan, McFeely & Co., hardware store, First avenue.

**MINING ENGINEERS.**

J. B. TYRRELL, mining engineer, has removed to Mission st., next door to public school.

**Mail Is Quick**  
**Telegraph Is Quicker**  
**Phone Is Instantaneous**

YOU CAN REACH BY PHONE

**SULPHUR, DOMINION, GOLD RUN**  
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When in town they stop at

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