

Cape Nome's Placers

Commodore J. C. Barr Gives Out a Statement Telling of Their Riches.

So Far as They Have Been Prospected, He Says, They Are Rich.

Much discussion pro and con has been aroused over the reports that have been received here of the lately discovered Cape Nome district.

Among those who say that Cape Nome is all right and that so far as it has been prospected it is exceedingly rich, is Commodore John C. Barr, an arrival on the steamer Roanoke, who is known to nearly everyone who has travelled up and down the Yukon river since 1882.

"Neither is the ground salted, the gold from Cape Nome is of different shape and color—a rusty iron shade—than any other yet found.

"The Cape Nome district was discovered late last fall and it is impossible to do any work there in the winter.

"To my personal knowledge, Mr. Price and five men from a space 30x50 feet took out \$9,500 in six days and did not go 18 inches deep. They hurried this out as the prospectors had to see immediately.

"On the way down we were overtaken at Dutch Harbor by a ship, which brought a letter from a friend whose word is not to be doubted.

"I tried to buy a claim of one of the original discoverers, an experienced miner, and he wanted \$70,000, \$20,000 down. This first convinced me of the richness of the district.

"Three thousand claims had been recorded on April 1. There is no prospected territory now unclaimed.

"Another man who has good things to say for the new district is J. Harrison Caskey, who, in a letter to friends, written from St. Michael island, says in part: "At Nome we heard the best reports regarding the country as a gold bearing district."

"The rich diggings are back in the hills from three to thirty miles and they produce from \$2.50 to \$3 to the pan.

"So far the camp is only in its prospecting stages, the most prospecting being done in the past two or three weeks, and in one instance five men panned out \$10,000 in ten days.

"Provisions were very high up to the arrival of the Garonne, flour selling for \$2 per sack, bacon 75 cents per pound and sugar almost even change for gold, but immediately after flour fell to \$3 per sack and other necessities in proportion.

try is the absence of timber, not a stick growing anywhere near, and the only wood for fuel to be procured is the driftwood on the beach cast up by the Yukon current.

HOW THE QUEEN HEARS OPERA. Description of the Recent Birthday Entertainment at Windsor.

The Royal Opera Company, of Covent Garden, recently gave a performance before the Queen at Windsor, and the next day, Her Majesty, with customary thoughtfulness, sent a telegram to them, expressing the hope that all the members of the company, who so delighted her with selections from "Lohengrin," on her birthday, arrived home safely after their journey.

The arrangements for the musical guests were splendidly carried out, making the trip to Windsor an even more delightful honor. A special train left Paddington at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, carrying Mr. Neil Forsyth and all the members of the opera company who were to take part with the exception of Jean de Reszke and Mme. Schumann-Heink, who, with the directors of the company, travelled down by the train arriving at Windsor at 6.30.

From the castle were sent carriages and other conveyances to meet the members of the company, including the orchestra, chorus, etc., and at half past three, except for the principals, a full rehearsal of the whole performance took place. With infinite care and liberality, the guests were entertained by Mr. Collman, Her Majesty's Inspector of the palace.

A 7 o'clock dinner was served, the directors dining with the household. Afterward the entertainers prepared for the performance, which took place in the Waterloo chamber, decorated with portraits of Wellington, Blucher and others.

When it was over Her Majesty sent for the principal singers of the company and M. Mancheville, the conductor, and after expressing her thanks presented them with special royal gifts, bestowing upon Jean de Reszke the Victorian Order, a delicate white enamelled Maltese cross.

To Edouard de Reszke the Queen gave a silver pitcher; a silver cigarette case to Mr. Bispham; to Mme. Nordica and Mme. Schumann-Heink brooches, with the letters V.R.I., in diamonds, and to other various gifts.

The whole of the company then left the castle, and, with the exception of Mme. Nordica, who remained in Windsor, travelled up to London by a special train, leaving at 10 a.m., and reached Paddington at 2.05 a.m.

A FRAGMENT OF ROMANCE. The Old Man Kicked Him Out and He Will Return the Compliment.

On one of the late steamers there arrived, and is now stopping at an unpretentious hotel, a young man who has hardly fairly entered upon his thirties, but upon whom Fortune has smiled her golden Klondike smile, and who is now on the way to his far Eastern home to take his friends with the slight of hand sack of crystallized sublimates of the North.

"Just after dinner," says Mr. Jackson, "Armitage came rushing in to tell me that through his field glass he could see the old man, although they had been out somewhat indistinctly a staff or mast, with another man apparently standing near it, close to the water's edge."

"On our approaching each other, about three miles distant from the land, I saw a tall man on ski, with roughly made clothing, and he fell flat on his head. He was covered with oil and grease, and black from head to foot. I at once concluded from his wearing ski that he was no English sailor, but that he must be one of those who had come to the gold fields somewhere on Franz Josef Land in very rough circumstances."

"We shook hands heartily, and I expressed the greatest pleasure at seeing him. He said that he had been kicked out of the old man's place, and he was now in my hands."

IN THE ARCTIC.

Mr. Frederick G. Jackson Tells of One Thousand Days Spent in the Far North—Meeting With Nansen.

Messrs. Harper & Brothers have just issued "A Thousand Days in the Arctic," by Mr. Frederick A. Jackson. It is in two volumes and is illustrated with maps and plans. The book is a record of the Jackson-Harmsworth Arctic expedition, which sailed from the Thames in the Windward in July, 1894.

The work was carried out under the most difficult conditions, owing to the rapid currents between the islands, which kept the ice about constantly in motion, and the temperature in winter fell to a rapid fall, Jackson's cheerful endurance of three such years and his tenacity of purpose in carrying on scientific investigation have been rewarded by a long series of accurate meteorological and other observations, together with a great and interesting collection of specimens which amply repay the Jackson-Harmsworth expedition, an expedition that is being remembered by scientists of all nations for its rich contributions to their store of Arctic knowledge.

The absolute solitude of Jackson and his six companions at the quarters established upon the ice, and the fact that twice broken during the three years of residence there—once by the Windward, which vessel, having been compelled to spend the winter of 1894 at Franz Josef Land, returned there by a special train on July 28th, 1895, and the other on June 27th of the same year, by Dr. Nansen and his companion, Lieutenant F. H. Johannsen, who arrived at Kilmory on the ice.

His first question was in reference to his wife, and his second as to the politics of Norway, and "Were Norway and Sweden at war?" He was going gaily, but looked pale and anaemic and was very fat.

"I then sent Armitage on to tell Hayward to cook some food at once and heat the bath water. Of course I did my utmost to make him and Johannsen comfortable."

"On entering the hut I handed him a package of letters I had brought from London for him. There was no letter from his wife at which he was very downcast and I had again to assure him that she was very well when we left London in 1894, but a letter from his brother explained matters. He had then some fried looms rice pudding and jam and a little luxuries we could supply. He and Johannsen had lived almost entirely on bear and walrus meat for the last nine or ten months. He afterwards had a bath and I found him a change of clean clothes. I had sent all the party except Hayward with sledges to bring up Johannsen and the kayaks, and on his coming up I looked after him in the same manner as I had Nansen. Johannsen was in a dirtier condition than his leader, and was as black as a sweep with dirt and grease."

"Contrary to Dr. Nansen's experiences, our sense of smell must have become considerably lessened by our long absence from civilization, for strain our noses as we may we fail to discover the slightest trace of the 'monkey' or 'other known' brand about our distinguished visitors from the north."

"Johnsen is a short, sturdy, muscular little chap, and looks as fit and as well as he might have done had he just come off a racking trip. He hasn't turned a hair but looks the picture of health. He is a capital fellow. Nansen and I, on meeting, had fired four shots in quick succession to let Johannsen know that we were 'lost' and did not know where they were, which is hardly surprising, for they had no means of ascertaining their whereabouts as Payer's map north was unrecognizable,

one companion, who was on the ice edge.

"I then struck me that his features, in spite of the black grease and long hair and beard, resembled Nansen, whom I had once met in London before I started in 1893, and I exclaimed: "Aren't you Nansen?" "To which he replied: "Yes; I am Nansen."

"By Jove I'm d—d glad to see you, and congratulated him on his safe arrival. Then I inquired: "Where have you come from?" "He then gave me a brief sketch of what had occurred and replied: "I left the Fram 84 degrees north latitude and 102 degrees east longitude after drifting for two years, and I reached the 86 degrees 15 minutes parallel, and have now come here."

"I congratulated you most heartily," I answered; "you have made a deuced good trip of it, and I am awfully glad to be the first person to congratulate you." Again I shook hands with him.

"He then gave me a brief sketch of what had occurred. How he had passed close to the New Siberian Islands; had entered the ice about 80 degrees north, had drifted for two years, in a north-west direction, to the 84th degree north and 102nd degree east longitude. He had then left the ship with Lieutenant Johannsen (who was taking care of the two kayaks at the ice edge) and had pushed north as far as 84 degrees 15 minutes north latitude, 90 degrees east longitude, and then judged it advisable to return and try to reach Spitzbergen via Franz Josef Land."

"I replied, 'I congratulate you most heartily. You have made a jolly good trip of it, and I am awfully glad to be the first person to congratulate you,' followed by a good deal more handshaking."

"I consequently abstained from asking any further questions about the ship, and gave my fellow a high later not to be so, as I feared to hurt his feelings. It was not until nearly an hour had elapsed that from some remark he made I gathered that the Fram was all right, and that he expected her to be on her way to Norway. Owing to discrepancies in Payer's map he could not make out where he was, and that he had let her watches run down, consequently could not get their longitude and tell their exact position. Owing to the fact that the ice at the floe edge repairing their kayaks before we saw them."

"Nansen had fancied he had heard dogs barking and two gunshots yesterday (I had been out twenty shots at looms near the top of the talus of Cape Flora) but he had come to the conclusion that they were only noises made by the ice. He was uncertain as to the date. Finding themselves on the 80th degree north latitude they were pushing west, knowing that by so doing on that parallel they might hit Spitzbergen, where they hoped to fall in with a walrus sloop. After hearing the noises I had mentioned in the foregoing paragraph, the fact, and Nansen's atmosphere, although warm, was very damp and saturated with the strong, peculiar odor that is characteristic of Siberian prisons."

"A person who has once inhaled that odor can never forget it, and yet it is so unlike any other bad smell in the world. I can ask you to imagine cellar air, every atom of which has been half a dozen times through human lungs and is heavy with carbonic acid, to imagine air still further vitiated by foul, pungent, ammoniacal exhalations from long unwashed human bodies; to imagine that has a suggestion of damp, decaying wood and more than a suggestion of human excrement—and still you will have no adequate idea of it."

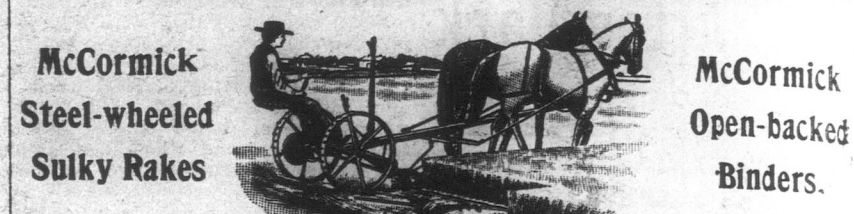
"The Gossack corporal who preceded us threw open the heavy wooden door of the first camera and shouted 'Smirno' (Be quiet). We stepped across the threshold into a room about twenty-four feet long, which contained twenty-five convicts. The air here was so much worse than in the corridor that it made me faint and sick. The room was lighted by two square, heavily-grated windows, with double sashes, that could not be raised or opened, and there was not the least apparent provision anywhere for ventilation. Even the brick oven by which the cell was warmed drew its air from the corridor."

"The walls of the camera were of squared logs, and had once been white-washed, but they had become dark and grimy from the lapse of time and were blotched in hundreds of places with dull, blood-red stains, where the convicts had crushed bed-bugs. The floor was made of heavy planks, and although it had recently been swept, it was incrustated with dry, hard-frozen filth. "Out from the walls on three sides of the room projected low, sloping, wooden platforms, about six feet wide, upon which the convicts slept side by side, in closely packed rows, with their heads to the walls and their extended feet towards the middle of the cell. They had neither pillows nor blankets and were compelled to lie down upon these sleeping benches at night without removing their clothing and without either covering than their coarse grey overcoats."

"The Cell was Locked for the Night. Each one of these twenty-nine prisoners would have for eight or ten hours consumption about as much air as would be contained in a packing box five feet square and five feet high. "The results of breathing such air for long periods of time may be seen in the Kara prison hospital, where the prevalent diseases are scurvy, typhus and typhoid fever, anaemia, and consumption. The prison surgeon admitted to me:—We have more or less scurvy here all the year round. You have been through the prisons and must know what their sanitary condition is. Of course, such uncleanness and overcrowding result in disease. We have 140 patients in the hospital now, frequently we have in spring 250."

"Most of these cases come from a prison population of less than 1,000, and the hospital records do not by any means represent the aggregate of sickness in the Kara penal settlements. Many convicts of the Kara free command lie in their own inmates, and even in the prison cameras there are scores of sick whose cases are not regarded as serious enough to necessitate their removal to a hospital that is perhaps overcrowded already.

McCORMICK MOWERS.



UP TO DATE AND BEST IN THE WORLD—BAR NONE.

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and they could not get their longitude owing to their watches having run down. They had a lump or two of evil looking walrus meat, and two or three dragged looking looms in their kayaks, which was all the food they had with them, poor chap!

"The Number of Criminals sent to Siberia annually at the time Mr. Kennan visited the country was over 10,000. To this should be added a still larger number of innocent wives and children, who followed their husbands and parents into exile."

"These criminals are divided into five great classes, viz.: First, hard labor convicts; second, compulsory convicts; third, communal exiles; fourth, communal exiles of their generally bad character; fifth, political and religious exiles. Here are the official figures for one year: Hard labor convicts, 1,551; communal exiles, 2,841; communal exiles, 3,751; vagrant, 1,719; political and religious exiles, 368; total, 10,220."

"The hard labor convicts and the vagrants are shut up in prisons in Siberia. The forced convicts, the political exiles and the rest of them are assigned to places of residence," and allowed to find a living as well as they can.

"As a result of this system Siberia is swarming with hundreds of thousands of destitute and starving criminals. They wander over the country, Murdering, Robbing, and committing all sorts of outrages. As an example of this, Kennan mentions the case of a forced convict in the little town of Marinsk who choked a helpless woman to death, dashed out the brains of her three-year-old child, and finally cut off the head of a chicken, the only living left in the house. In the town of Palangan, with a population of 5,000, in the province of Irkutsk, there were sixty-one cases of murder in a year. This state of affairs is more or less prevalent throughout the country."

"On an average more than 10,000 criminals or other offenders are turned loose every year in Siberia. "STRIKERS ACCUSED. Of Having Attempted to Blow Up the Brooklyn Elevated Railway. New York, July 20.—William Askey, employed as an investigator by the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company, made an affidavit to-day, in which he said he had attended a meeting of the strikers late Monday night, at which the statement was made that unless the elevated people joined the strikers they would purchase dynamite and blow up the elevated structure. Askey affirms that sixteen men arrested this morning were at the meeting. President Rossiter has offered \$1,000 reward for the arrest and conviction of one or more of the dynamiters. General Master Workman Parsons today offered a reward of \$500 for any legal proof that legitimate strikers had organized in violence against human life, such as the use of dynamite or other explosives. He said: "I condemn most emphatically the blowing up of the L structure in Brooklyn in General Parsons' name. The strikers repudiated by the organization. This says too much, however, of the old tactics employed by companies in former strikes to create public sympathy."

\$1.50 Per Annum

VOL. 18.

The Pacific

The Postmaster-General How the Government... Sir Charles Tupper... The Government... (Special to the Ottawa, July 25.—) day Hon. W. Mulock is committee on a report proposed to pay 5-18 the Australian colony would have two representative colonies three. He is being of national interest. Sir Charles Tupper Mr. Mulock on the 14th he put his resolution, related the government induce Britain to aid Mr. Charlton thought enterprises, such as railway, the Yukon taw and Georgian B more deserving of aid ever, would not oppose Messrs. Craig and O the scheme. Mr. Bostock pointed fit the project would be a first time. Statement in the London, July 25.—) Commons to-day Rt. Hon. Broderick, replying on restary of State for the general lines of an reconstruction of the been reached between Colonial authorities. The government has Mr. Broderick said any graph Company, that ed to lay a cable from Australia without pe of any kind, and that handling rights for the forthwith reduce the four shillings per word. Ottawa, July 25.—) of the House of the Act ed its third reading. On the Immigration Clifford Sifton said some consideration to getting Old Country fa the unoccupied land a vineas. It was not a done by the present ration. Conservative There was a Consen after noon. Resolutio were passed with the Senator Sanford and Sir Charles Tupper to leave for England. Frongation is expected West Huron Exe At the privileges an tea meeting to-day M was examined and see in connection with borne poll, West Hur the only ballots used w pad as supplied. J. La gave similar evidence. NOTY Major Perry, of the Vancouver, is here. Senator Templeman Sunday. There was another vilages and elections but nothing new was. POISONED BY CA (Associated London, July 25.—) of a score of guests of Hotel, which, it is all American cannot fruit Mr. T. W. Bartlett, or slightly on Monday night, at which the statement was made that unless the elevated people joined the strikers they would purchase dynamite and blow up the elevated structure. Askey affirms that sixteen men arrested this morning were at the meeting. President Rossiter has offered \$1,000 reward for the arrest and conviction of one or more of the dynamiters. General Master Workman Parsons today offered a reward of \$500 for any legal proof that legitimate strikers had organized in violence against human life, such as the use of dynamite or other explosives. He said: "I condemn most emphatically the blowing up of the L structure in Brooklyn in General Parsons' name. The strikers repudiated by the organization. This says too much, however, of the old tactics employed by companies in former strikes to create public sympathy."

MONTEAL STON (Associated Montreal, July 25.—) ing board, War Exp 190, 135; Montreal & Public, 120, 119. Sales 125 at 190; Montreal &