

Stroller's Column.

"The devil is the matter this time," she said, a moment ago have \$5.25 to an account in the savings bank will leave me the same \$5.25." She laughed and said, "I must be a good manager of business than being a social delivery."—W. J. Ireland Plain Dealer.

ing at Nugget office.

uta, beef, mutton at Anzanza Market, next P.

's facilities for turning job work cannot be made of San Francisco.

foreign events for the

GET

tegraph service news gathering and will be de-

Month!

PROMISE ME YO'LL SCATTAH PEANUT SHELLS O' MAH GRAVE."

Lian wah dah an' I seed huh up de rose; but in de scitment dese feyt 'bout it till las' night she wah out an' I looked tru de private box an' foun' de selfsame rapped up in de very hankchief I had de mawwin' ov de picnic to de Sink. An' das' why I 'se dese to kill mahself."

"You are welcome to the office any time you want it for that purpose," said the Stroller, "and when you are ready to do business, see that you fall on the floor away from the paper for Old Sonnam is sure to make a mess of you. He hasn't been anything but flies for several weeks and he'll think a hundred and fifty pounds of fresh nigger is quite a picnic."

Zion looked grave and returned to his work. In less than an hour he was singing about "hearin' de gospel an' boot aroun' de curve." That afternoon Lian showed up with a policeman and while they were eat-



one leg taught to skate now and by the end of the week he hopes to be able to wear two skates instead of, as at present, one skate and one ice creeper.

"Come out for a skate?" said a neighbor to the Stroller a few evenings since, and when the latter temporarily forgot himself and said: "Please excuse me, but I took four on my way to dinner," it lowered his social standing at home to such an extent that things have since been very unpleasant for him.

The present mild weather, while yet it seems far too early, is very suggestive of the moist and misty spring time, and could we but smell the incense of burning overshoes in the back yard we could feign believe even at this early date that spring is upon us.

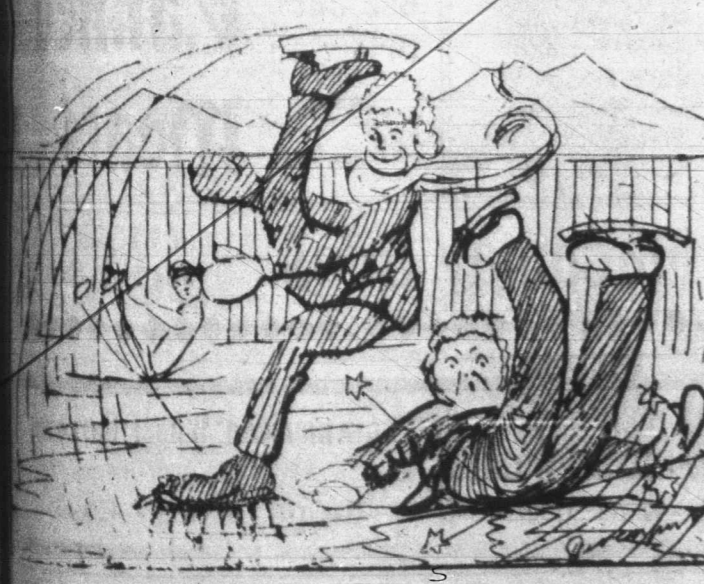
And yet until we see the barefooted boy with but one suspender, we must not get too far away from our furs and felts.

Speaking of barefooted boys, who would ever think that Clifford Sifton and Admiral Hobson were once barefooted boys with one suspender apiece and an ungovernable desire to wiggle their toes in the ambient air and soothe their parboiled heels in the yielding mud?

This fable teaches us that when spring does come and we meet the barefooted boy coming home from the "swimmin' hole" with his pants on wrong side before, that we must treat him with respect, for in after life, like Sifton, that same boy may shine either as the chief concession grantor or, like Hobson, the champion kisser of a nation.

A word in the above put the Stroller in mind of a story:

An Irish brick-mason who had a job on a four-story building, overslept himself one morning and on awaking found he had but two min-



utes to dress, travel three blocks and get to the top of the building and be ready to go to work on time.

Grabbing his clothes, he started down stairs and by the time he reached the street he was dressed. He rushed wildly along and managed to reach the top of the building just as the foreman called "time." Without thought for other than his work Pat labored for an hour or two when, by a misstep, he fell from the building to the ground forty feet below. His fellow workmen hastened to the rescue but when they arrived Pat was brushing the dirt from his clothes and then it was that he saw the rear part of his pants in front.

"Pat, are yez boort?" asked the foreman.

"Th' saints be praised," said Pat, "O'm not boort, but O'm dommed badly twisted."

The Stroller would be pleased to know why ice taken from the Yukon river for domestic purposes has to be cut from in the neighborhood of the old brick yard five long miles up the river. Has someone with a pull a la Treadgold been granted an ice concession or is it done in the interests of teamsters?

While it cuts no ice with the Stroller either way, he is anxious to know why ice should be hauled several miles over ice.

To the Evaporated Kid:

The Stroller has acted on your suggestion and spoken to Manager Bittner about a benefit for us, but he does not take kindly to it. He wishes us well, but there is a yawning abyss between good wishes and a meal ticket. Bittner says he has been broken in on enough lately and will now run his house a few nights for himself.

To the delegates who are going to Ottawa on the Treadgold matter: Don't blow out the gas!

The Stroller suggests the organization in Dawson of a "He Never Cares to Wander" club to which every man who has been here three years without once leaving the country shall be eligible for membership. Colonel Macgregor is the man for chairman and Dr. J. N. E. Browne for secretary. There should be no initiation fees or dues, but when a member goes to the outside he forfeits his membership and pays into the treasury the price of a case of Scotch. This would be a great thing for the remaining members and at the same time it might prevent some from going outside and squandering money that is needed here.

Call a meeting, Colonel!

February 13 - March 30.
Dawson, Feb. 24th.

Editor Nugget:

Dear Sir,—Please inform me the beginning and the ending of Lent, to decide a wager.

Yours,
A SUBSCRIBER.

Lent began on Thursday, February 13, Ash Wednesday being on the 12th. It continues throughout March, Easter this year falling on Sunday, March 30.

MORE WATER FOR LESS PAY

Was Order Presented by Sifton Yesterday

As the Latest Treadgold Concession Feature—Petition Regarding Two Railways.

Ottawa, Feb. 25.—Hon. Clifford Sifton presented to parliament yesterday the orders-in-council re the Treadgold concession, the latest of which makes provision that the concessionaires shall supply to miners on Bonanza, Bear and Hunker creeks and all affluents two thousand inches of water at 25 cents an inch. The original order fixing a charge of one dollar an inch, required that the company should supply one thousand inches.

A petition was introduced yesterday respecting the Lake Bennett Railway and Coast Kootenay Railway.

"H. M. S. Pinafore."

Rehearsals for the three performances of Gilbert & Sullivan's opera, "H.M.S. Pinafore," by the Dawson Amateur Operatic Society, are progressing most satisfactorily. The performances will be given on March 13, 14 and 15. The box plans for the first two performances will be opened at the Auditorium Theatre on Thursday next at 12 o'clock noon. The box plan for the performance on March 15 will be opened at the same place on Saturday next at 12 o'clock noon, in order to allow the residents on the creeks an opportunity of witnessing the opera and giving them time to reserve their seats. As a rumor is afloat that a number of the boxes and seats have been already sold privately, the Executive Committee wish it to be contradicted. Every part of the house will be for sale when the plans are opened, and after that it will be "first come, first served."

A GREAT COUNTRY

Rich in Mineral and Grazing Resources

Is That Tapped by Iliamna Trail Expedition Planning for a Railroad.

Seattle, Feb. 10.—The Trans-Alaskan Company and the Trans-Alaska Railway Company, which are engaged in the struggle for the coveted right of way across Alaska from a point on Iliamna Bay northward to a point on Bering strait are not confining their efforts to the work of influencing congress by representations of the things they intend to do, but are both represented on the ground in an effort to prove their right to be considered as legitimate and reliable claimants for the privileges which they covet.

Both companies are represented in Alaska by pioneer parties who are doing the advance work preliminary to the actual beginning of the work of construction and both companies claim that they will begin the actual work of laying track on the proposed railroads during the coming season.

While the Trans-Alaska Company is engaged in proving its claim to the privilege of constructing the railroad, the Trans-Alaskan Company, its rival is not by any means idle. The latter company has a corps of surveyors in the field mapping out the country and getting things into condition at Iliamna to proceed early in the spring with the actual work of railroad construction. Extensive terminal grounds at Iliamna Bay have been surveyed and filed on and detailed surveys are being extended into the interior for the purpose of obtaining data upon which contracts for construction can be let early in the coming season. The company has already secured one of a fleet of steamers which it intends to put on the run between Seattle and Cook's Inlet as soon as it is in a condition to begin shipping materials and supplies north for the construction work.

W. F. Smith, chief engineer of the Trans-Alaskan Company, who has spent several months in Alaska recently in charge of the company's surveying and pioneer work, returned on the steamer Bertha on Wednesday, and in speaking of the condition of the work in conversation with a reporter at the general offices of the company in the Pacific Block yesterday said:

"Preliminary to making any statement regarding the company and its work in Alaska I wish to make it plain that I will not partake in the controversy which is now going on between the Trans-Alaskan Company and the Trans-Alaska Company for the possession of the right of way. The higher officers of the two companies will attend to that matter and that is their portion of the work. As for myself, I am merely a hired man, as it were, and my business is to do as I am told in regard to prosecuting the work which the company has decided to do.

"But I will say that the Trans-Alaska Company is getting ready to commence the actual work of construction during the coming season. We now have a party of men at Cook Inlet doing the surveying and pioneer work preparatory to the commencement of more active operations. My brother, who represents the rival company, and his party have just arrived from the interior after having some trying experiences."

A striking thing about the controversy for the possession of the right of way for the construction of the railway is the unanimous agreement on the part of all persons interested in any manner in either scheme upon the wonderful richness and promise of the country which the proposed roads will tap. Upon this subject Mr. Smith said:

"There is no question of the phenomenal richness and possibility of the country. The surveyors who have from time to time made the surveys and the prospectors who have been through the country for the precious and other metals all agree that the country will prove to be immediately an immensely productive one. In mineral wealth the country is not to be surpassed by any other section of Alaska. There are large deposits of gold, both in the quartz and in the placer conditions, also of silver, copper, cinnabar and graphite. There are immense deposits of asphaltum; while many promising oil claims have been located and one company is already engaged in sinking an oil well. Two varieties of oil have been found by the assays, oil with a paraffin base and oil with an asphaltum base.

"There is no room for doubt that the country will prove to be an excellent grazing country. There are immense stretches of lands which are covered with a heavy growth of grasses. In places this grows as high as a man's head and samples have been brought out from the country which measured nine feet in length. This wild grass can be cut in the summer time and stacked up against the winter season, thus enabling stock raisers to bring their herds through the closed season with but very small expense comparatively. There are immense herds of large game in the country, and where these thrive there is no reason why cattle and horses should not do well. Little has been done in the way of experimenting with agricultural products in the country which will be tapped by the railroad, but those few experiments which have been made indicate that the country will prove immensely rich in agricultural resources."

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SOCIETIES.

THE REGULAR COMMUNICATION OF Yukon Lodge No. 7998, F. & A. M., will be held at Masonic hall, Mineola street, monthly, Thursday on or before full moon, at 8:00 p. m.

W. M. H. WELLS, W. M. A. DONALD, Sec'y.

...J. J. O'NEIL... MINING EXPERT

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Address, - General Delivery, Dawson

Back From Tennessee.

Benjamin Joshua Thompson who, previous to going outside last fall, was in the employ of the Nugget for over two years, returned to Dawson last night. In order that he might be better able to study the scenery, he walked from Whitehorse, being 14 days on the road. He spent most of the time he was away in Arkansas and at his old home in Tennessee. He reports everything prospering in the south, the possum crop being unusually good.

For Sale.

THREE-QUARTER interest on lower half left limit hillside, 27 Gold Run, at a bargain. Apply R. N. Robertson, Log Cabin Hotel, South Dawson.

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