

The Klondike Nugget

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NOTICE.
When a newspaper offers its advertising space at a nominal figure, it is a practical admission of "no circulation." THE KLONDIKE NUGGET asks a good figure for its space and in justification thereof guarantees to its advertisers a paid circulation five times that of any other paper published between Juneau and the North Pole.

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.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1900.

AN ALL YEAR CAMP.

The theory that the Klondike is exclusively a camp for winter diggings has been proven by long experience to be entirely erroneous. In the early days of placer mining in this territory it was accepted without question that winter time was the only season when dirt could be successfully taken out, and the idea that summer work can be prosecuted to any extent is of comparative recent origin.

The successful operation of summer work has come about largely as a matter of necessity. If all creeks in the district were as rich as Eldorado there would have been no necessity for practicing economy in developing the district. To the fact that so large an amount of ground of comparatively ordinary richness has been discovered, must be attributed the extraordinary efforts that have been put forward to prosecute summer work.

In order to pay for its development such ground must be worked by economical methods. Obviously, ground which will run from fifty cents to twenty-five dollars to the pan can be worked with much less regard for economy than ground which will not average above fifteen cents.

The steam thawer, operated in summer time, when one handling completes the entire work, has solved the problem. So generally has this become recognized that it is probably safe to say that more than one-half of the work of placer mining in the Yukon territory will hereafter be done in summer time, the winter work being confined largely to creek beds which cannot be worked except when the ground is solidly frozen.

As a result, there is no distinctly idle season, operation being distributed, according to the nature of the ground, over the entire twelve months of the year. The Klondike is neither a winter nor summer camp. It is an all year proposition.

REQUIRES A FACILE PEN.

On Wednesday of this week, the contest for the prize of \$50 offered by this paper for the best story contributed for publication in our special holiday issue will close.

All contributors are requested particularly to see that their respective manuscripts are in the Nugget office on the date mentioned. By the terms of the contest none received after the 5th inst. will be considered.

This move inaugurated by the Nugget has served to stimulate interest in literary matters to a marked degree and will demonstrate to a certainty the possibilities of the Klondike country as a source of original literary material. India, Africa and Australia have proven fruitful in this respect, each having been celebrated in song and story until their characteristic features are matters of common knowledge to all readers of contemporary literature.

There is no reason why the same thing should not be true of the Yukon territory. The material is here in plenty, the only requirement being the facile pen which will properly portray the situation as it is.

We think our prize story contest will

constitute a very good start toward a solution of the matter.

The local water company is to be congratulated upon the success which has met their efforts in keeping the water mains open thus far during the winter. We hope that no greater difficulties than those which have already been overcome will be met during the balance of the cold season. No greater inconvenience to the community could be imagined than the necessity of again resorting to the river for water for household purposes.

The News weared the public with its tale of woe respecting its French-Canadian editorial as much as it did when the subject of "exclusive telegrams" was under discussion. It is so seldom that a new idea ever illuminates the columns of our contemporary that when one does happen, by chance, to creep in, it is treated by the News with the veneration due a patron saint.

The prevalence of severe colds and diseases resulting therefrom is somewhat alarming. Every precaution must be taken to avoid general sickness or our reputation as a healthful community is liable to suffer.

St. Andrew's night has gone by, but the memory of it will linger long with those whose pleasure it was to attend the splendid event.

Catastrophes in the United States.

The greatest conflagrations which the United States has ever had were the one in Chicago in 1871, in which \$199,000,000 of property was destroyed; the fire in Boston in 1872, in which the damage was \$80,000,000; and the blaze in New York in 1835, in which 600 warehouses were destroyed, and the damage was \$30,000,000. As the population of New York at that time was only about 250,000, or about like that of Newark, N. J., now, the loss was severer proportionately than one many times larger would be in 1900. Chicago's fire, though—and Chicago had a population of only a little over 300,000 at the time—was the most destructive which ever occurred anywhere in the world, with the possible exception of that in Moscow in 1812. Chicago's certainly exceeded the damage at the conflagration in London, which is called the Great Fire, which occurred in 1666.

Johnstown, Pa., in 1889 furnished the most destructive of the floods (Johnstown's being from a bursting reservoir) of the United States, until that at Galveston on Sept. 9, 1900. The property loss at Johnstown was approximately \$10,000,000, and the loss of life at 2150. The destruction at Galveston was over 5000 in life and about \$30,000,000 in property. The bursting of a reservoir in Mill River valley in Massachusetts in 1874 destroyed several little villages and drowned 150 persons. Floods on the Mississippi have frequently destroyed from \$5,000,000 to \$10,000,000 of property at a time, and more than once drowned from 1000 to 1500 people.

The most destructive tornado which ever hit a large city in the United States was that which destroyed 400 lives and \$10,000,000 in property in St. Louis in 1896. Louisville, the second largest city ever struck in the United States by a tornado, lost 100 lives and \$2,500,000 of property in 1890. A tornado ravaged the coast of Georgia and South Carolina in 1893 which destroyed 1000 lives and \$2,000,000 of property. The most remarkable collection of tornadoes which ever visited the United States at any one time was on Feb. 9, 1884, which affected Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky and Illinois, sixty distinct storms being traced on that day in those states, in which 1000 persons were killed and 15,000 buildings destroyed.

Charleston, S. C., in 1886 had the severest earthquake ever experienced in a city of the United States, in which the destruction of life was 50 and that of property \$5,000,000. New Madrid, Mo., and the lower Mississippi valley had a series of earthquakes shocks in 1811 which destroyed many villages, but the aggregate losses were not as great, owing to the region being sparsely populated, and most of it having no people at all, as in Charleston.

The coast of the Atlantic and of the Gulf of Mexico has had many hurricanes and a few tidal waves, but none of them approached in destructiveness that which has just occurred at Galveston. With characteristic American courage, elasticity, and adaptability, however, the afflicted communities quickly recovered from the effects of

these disasters. New York more than doubled in population in the 15 years immediately following its great fire in 1835. Chicago has five times as many inhabitants now as it had at the time of its conflagration in 1871. Before the embers of Boston's fire a year later were put out the property owners of the burned district were offered more for the land which was covered than was asked a day earlier for the land and the buildings which were upon it. A new and greater Galveston is already rising on the ruins of the old. This is the American way.—Leslie's Weekly.

The Treasure Island.

Some days since mention was made in this department of the fact that Los Angeles business men were preparing to send out an expedition to look for great riches on an island off the coast of Alaska. The greatest secrecy has been maintained regarding this project, and even now no very clear statement can be made.

It appears that a short time ago there came to Los Angeles a sea captain who had been shipwrecked on the island in question, bringing with him samples of beach sand which he had taken from the island when he made his escape. He claims that there is an immense quantity of sand of the same richness in gold as that which he exhibits, and the mildest estimate is that it runs to \$500 per ton. He seems to show faith in his own discovery, asking simply that an expedition be fitted out at an expense of \$25,000, to be in charge of Los Angeles men, when he will guide the party to the island. In case the conditions there prove to be just as he has described them he is to receive \$75,000 from the Los Angeles men; otherwise he is to get nothing for escorting them to the island.

Naturally the captain has not revealed the location of the island to any one, not even the investors in the syndicate which has been formed, for his alleged secret is his stock in trade. Of course, if there are miles of sea beach which run to \$500 per ton in gold, only requiring washing to recover it, it is about the richest thing ever known, and even the wonderful story of "Treasure Island" may be discounted.

It is understood that there has been no difficulty in getting up the syndicate, and that a vessel will leave for the island in the course of a few days, spending the winter there, ready to begin work early in the spring, if nothing can be done during the winter.

The members of the syndicate, however, are most reticent, and while it is known that a wholesale merchant of Los Angeles is president, and that several of the leading bankers are members, most of the members are unknown, and no one wishes to be advertised as being counted in. There is evidently a feeling on the part of all that possibly the stories told are too good to be true, and they do not care to become known as rainbow chasers. But, at the same time, their confidence in the enterprise is sufficient to warrant them in "taking a flyer" on the quiet, in the hope that it may be proven to be as described.—Los Angeles Herald, Oct. 23.

Taught Chinese Emperor.

"When Kwang Hsu was a child there were two foreign stores in Pekin that had been established without permission from the Chinese government. As they were on Legation street, they seem to have been too unimportant to attract official attention. Yet these same stores were destined to have a mighty influence on the future of China. One of them was kept by an illiterate Dane, who sold foreign tops, notions and dry goods such as might please the Chinese or be of use to the scanty European population of the capital. By chance, some eunuchs from the imperial palace bought toys in this shop for his infant majesty.

Special Values

No. 1

Keep your feet warm. For a little two-bit piece you can buy from us a pair of heavy All Wool Socks. We want to close out 200 dozen.

No. 2

We will sell 50 extra fine quality Double Breasted Reefer Coats, warmly lined with wool. All sizes, at \$7.50 each.

No Discount If You Buy The Lot.

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A Gentleman's Resort.

Socious and Elegant

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FOUNDED BY

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Offices: At Mill, at Upper Ferry on Klondike river and at Boyle's Wharf. J. W. BOYLE

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MEET THE BOYS AT HOME
When in town they stop at

Hotel Flannery

HADLEY'S STAGE LINE Leaves Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for Gold Run, Dominion, Etc., reasonable rates from Hotel Office.

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