

ing the boats up to a high figure, the representatives of the companies stating that the total expense was nearly \$15,000. The *Victoria* was launched on May 30, and proceeded to Fort Yukon, where she loaded with 45 tons of flour, nails, etc., and returned up river to Dawson. The other boats were not launched until June 4, when the *St. Michael* left for St. Michaels. The *Weare* went to Fort Yukon, where she loaded for Dawson, which point she reached on June 11 with 150 tons of merchandise and 158 passengers. The *Bella* proceeded to Fort Hamlin and loaded for Dawson, taking in tow her barge at Fort Yukon on her return, and arrived in Dawson on June 24 with 390 tons of merchandise and 50 passengers, having spent a week on a sand bar just below Circle City.

The steamer *Hamilton*, which was frozen in at Russian Mission last October en route to Dawson, was launched June 1, and arrived at Dawson on June 17 with a full cargo of merchandise, 74 tons of which were taken on at Circle City, and 150 passengers.

The *Margaret* and the *Alice*, of the Alaska Commercial Company's fleet, wintered on the lower river, and on June 27 had reached a point about 20 miles below Circle City, where the *Alice* was fast on a sand bar and the *Margaret* was trying to get her off.

The *John J. Healey* lay in the canal at St. Michaels all winter, and left for Dawson on June 16 with a barge and about 60 passengers. She dropped her barge at Anvik, and on June 29 was taking on wood at Weare, the town established by the North American Transportation and Trading Company opposite the mouth of the Tanana.

Of the numerous steamboats belonging to private expeditions that attempted to ascend the Yukon last year, only one, the *St. Michael*, succeeded in getting above the Tanana. The details of her trip from St. Michaels to Circle City were given in the former report. The *Mare Island*, a large side-wheel boat from San Francisco, was abandoned last fall, and is lying in the canal 18 miles from St. Michaels, it having been found that she drew too much water to get across the bar at the mouth of the Yukon. The *Merwin* and the *Thomas Dwyer*, two small stern-wheelers, went into winter quarters at Nunivak, on the lower river, and were successfully launched in May. On June 26 the *Merwin*, with about 40 passengers aboard, was 100 miles above Circle City, en route to Dawson, and making a progress of 50 miles a day. The *Thomas Dwyer* ran onto a sand bar just above Minook and was abandoned. The *Governor Stoneman*, a small tugboat owned by a party of prospectors, wintered at Nowikakat, 50 miles below the Tanana, and arrived at Fort Yukon June 3, with 10 men and their outfits. She ran onto a sand bar a few miles above Fort Yukon and stuck until June 27, when she was launched and proceeded up the river. The *May West*, a small boat of 54 tons register, was caught in the ice about 10 miles below the Tanana, and her passengers, 35 in number, wintered at Minook. She got afloat May 25 and reached Dawson on June 8, being the first boat