Shopping in Victoria, however, is out of the question as persons of ordinary means can not afford to pay the prices asked by Victoria merchants. The chief point of interest is the harbor of Esquimalt where generally lie five or six English men of war. From Victoria the steamer will go to Nanaimo to take on coal. Nanaimo is on Vancouver's Island seventy-five miles from Victoria, and is the last point touched by the Alaska steamer before starting on its voyage of a thousand miles to Sitka. Leaving Nanaimo the steamer turns its head northward and plows its way through the waters of the Gulf of Georgia. At the further end of Vancouver's Island, Queen Charlotte's Sound is crossed, and here for about three hours is felt the swell of the Pacific.

The rest of the voyage is, with one or two exceptions, scarcely worth mentioning, made through the narrow channels of the Archipelago, and is spoken of as the inside passage, and without doubt is one of the most wonderful, beautiful and delightful trips, not only on this continent, but on the entire globe.

To latitude 54° 40' the voyage is through British waters, but at this point the boat again enters the United States' possessions. Its first stop will be made at a trading post called Loring, its next at a fishing station called Kasa-an. This fishery is owned by Capt. Carroll the man in command of the steamer which carries you to Alaska. The next stop will be Ft. Wrangell though possibly the boat may put in at old Ft. Tougass, both of which places were formerly occupied by United States troops, but are now abandoned, and quiet and decadence reign supreme. At Ft. Wrangell parties who are desirous of visiting the Cassiar Mines in British Columbia, leave the Alaska boat and voyage up the Steekene River in canoes.

Leaving Ft. Wrangell the steamer makes its way to Juneau; the most important mining camp at present in Alaska, containing six hundred inhabitants. Opposite Juneau is Douglass Island, upon which is located the famous Treadwell Mine. The mill at this mine is said to be the most complete and largest of its kind in the world, having 120 stamps under one roof. The vein of gold bearing quartz is 430 feet