

NEWS FROM THE CREEKS.

Active Operations on Eldorado, Hunker and Dominion.

Trails Are in Excellent Condition—Many Roadhouses Have Been Opened Recently.

Owing to the progress of winter work the creeks present a lively appearance. As a general rule, preparatory operations have been completed, and the workmen are engaged in actual mining. The trails are in very good condition, and the freighters have more consignments than can be handled conveniently. Innumerable road-houses have been opened recently, which afford excellent accommodations for travelers.

ELDORADO.

There are many men at Grand Forks and vicinity who have been unable to secure employment. It seems that work is just as scarce and workingmen as plentiful as a year ago. This status of affairs is directly contrary to the expectations of last summer. Unquestionably this portion of the district will excel all others in the value of gold produced. Last winter, it was thought by some that Dominion would eclipse Eldorado and vicinity this season, but the aspects indicate that the older creek will continue to lead in the output of the precious metal. It is confidently asserted by people who are well informed that the clean-up of 1900 will exceed in value that of any previous year. Such statements are based upon the methods of mining, which are being employed by some of the claim owners.

Not only have steam thrawers been introduced generally, but in some instances the most advanced methods of placer mining have been adopted. On No. 16, Prof. Lippy is operating a steam hoist. The dirt is taken in wheelbarrows from the mouth of the shaft to the dump. An electric light plant is run in connection with this claim. On No. 17, Messrs. Hall and Picotte have constructed a gallow's frame and hoisting gear over the central shaft of their claim. Rails have been laid in the underground workings. The dirt is shoveled into cars, which are wheeled to the shaft and then loaded on the cage, when they are hoisted to the top. From the mouth of the shaft rails have been laid to the dumping ground. The cars are run off the cage, relieved of their load, and returned to the underground workings. The machinery, which is operated on No. 17 has a faint resemblance to that of a quartz mine. These two claims have the most modern improvements of any in the territory; but few if any of the claims on Eldorado will operate by the old process of firing the ground.

HUNKER.

Work on Hunker creek is being prosecuted vigorously. With the exception of probably 20 claims, every piece of property on the creek from No. 80 below discovery to No. 42 on the right fork above discovery are being operated. Many of the claims have been let on lays. The gentlemen who recently acquired discovery have freighted a large amount of machinery to their claim, and will conduct extensive operations this winter.

No. 33 below, of which Pete Verges is one of the owners, is being thoroughly worked. Messrs. Budleman and Swartz, on No. 41a below, have just completed the adjustment of their machinery. They have started operations and expect to hoist large quantities of pay dirt this winter. Many of the hill sides and benches will continue to work during the cold weather. Particularly is this true of the hillsides on the left limit in the vicinity of the hydraulic concession. Some little prospecting will be done on the creek claims of the left fork of Hunker.

Quite a town has been started on top of the hill near No. 30 below. Many cabins have been built in this locality during the past summer and fall.

Freighters are commencing to use Hunker as the route to Dominion and Gold Run, and there are several new roadhouses which have been opened in anticipation of such travel.

DOMINION.

Sled loads of machinery are arriving daily. Some of the claims have been compelled to defer the commencement of work on account of the freighters being unable to haul machinery, the transportation of which was promised a week ago. As a general rule, winter operations have been started. Lays have been let on No. 5 below lower, and the entire claim is being worked thoroughly. Messrs. Gerew and Whalley, on

No. 31 below lower discovery have uncovered some very fine pay, and will employ a larger force of men than they now have. The hillsides on the left limit in the vicinity of the seventies below lower are turning out better than the respective owners anticipated. In this locality, active operations will be conducted all winter.

The traveler on Dominion has no difficulty in securing accommodations. Messrs. Leaming and Morgan manage the Portland roadhouse, at No. 30 below lower discovery. J. F. Yeager conducts a hotel and store on No. 7 below lower. On No. 6 above lower discovery, the Shropshires have general merchandising store and also a roadhouse. On the adjoining claim, No. 7, a hotel is being constructed, which will be opened within the next week.

STEAMER CITY OF SEATTLE.

Carries Mail for Dawson Between Seattle and Skagway.

The steamer City of Seattle has a newer and larger boom hid away some where aboardship, which she expects to hoist above her beacon light on the mainmast some of these days. The City of Seattle is in on a new deal and has the honor now of transporting Uncle Sam's mail on the Alaska route, at a good, stiff figure per trip. The steamer has the mail contract and has signed with the government to carry three round trips a month. That will make her hustle and hustle she will.

She started out on her new contract on the first of September. There has been some talk that the steamer would go on the drydock when she came in for cleaning, but her manager said today that she would go out again on the 15th, as advertised. The contract she has with the government will put her on a ten-day schedule round trip from Seattle to Skagway and back again. This will give her time for loading and unloading at terminal ports and ports of call. She will give a 62 hour service between ports and the Alaska mails out of Skagway will get in here in the brief time of 62 hours, something new in Alaska mail.

Her Simple Request.

"I am going to ask a great favor of you," she said hesitatingly.

"It is already granted," he answered devotedly.

"A very great favor," she repeated, as if doubtful of the propriety of stating it. "You're sure you won't think it presumptuous or forward in me?"

"Never," he answered. "I glory in this evidence of your trust and confidence. Only tell me what I can do for you." "Well," she replied with evident reluctance, "would you mind getting up off that rustic bench? Papa painted it this afternoon, and he will be awfully provoked if he has to do it over again."—Chicago Post.

The Moonshiner's Woe.

"This here government wants the earth," said the old moonshiner. "The revenue man caught me in the act and hauled me up before the judge. The judge looked like a reasonable man, and I told him that I only run a still to buy shoes for my family. That's what I made a break, for he says right off, says he, 'Well, I'm goin to give you a chance to make shoes for the government, an I'll see to it that ver family gits a pair o' 'em every six months.' Then he sent me up for two years."

A Senatorial Slander.

Two ladies visiting in Washington during one of the sessions of congress went to the capitol to hear the proceedings in the United States senate. Most of the galleries being filled, they approached the doorkeeper of the senator's gallery, where admission is by card. As they did not possess this passport, the doorkeeper suggested that they procure one from any senator they might be acquainted with.

"But we do not know any senator," they replied.

"Well, it is very much to your credit. 'Pass right in, ladies.'—San Francisco Argonaut.

Accumulations.

Old Friend—And have you succeeded in laying up anything?

Unsuccessful Merchant—Nothing but a lot of fine grudges—Indianapolis Journal.

Yearning for the Unattainable.

"The howling of a dog is a sure sign of disaster!"

"Oh, I don't know. Sometimes it is only a sign that the cat has run up a tree!"—Chicago Record.

This Is the Age of Trusts.

Proprietor—I am looking for a man I can trust.

Applicant—We'll get along then. For ten years I've been looking for a man that would trust me.—Detroit Free Press.

SPAIN'S FORMER COMMERCE.

Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines Require \$42,000,000 Worth of Goods.

Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines have afforded Spain a market for \$42,000,000 worth of goods per annum, according to a statement of the British consul at Barcelona. About three-fourths of this amount was in manufactured goods. According to the statement the exports from Spain to Cuba in 1890 amounted to \$26,892,235; to Porto Rico \$7,532,161, and to the Philippines, \$7,671,551, making a total of \$42,096,048.

Of the \$26,892,235 exported to Cuba, \$16,530,418 consisted of manufactured goods, and \$10,170,111 of provisions. To Porto Rico, of the \$7,532,161, about \$5,821,195 was in manufactured goods and \$1,680,300 in provisions. To the Philippines, of the \$7,671,551, value of goods exported from Spain, \$6,850,178 was manufactured goods and \$814,111 provisions. Spain paid the steamship companies \$4,600,000 for the carrying trade to and from its colonies.

The imports into Spain in 1896 amounted to 260,877 tons from Cuba, 26,071 tons from Porto Rico and 40,985 tons from the Philippines. It is computed that the amount paid in freights amounted in the commerce with Cuba to \$1,565,262; Porto Rico, \$156,426, and to the Philippines, \$550,815, or a total of \$2,172,503.

What It Costs to Murder a Foreigner in the United States.

New York, Oct. 20.—Lynchings in which foreigners are the victims are proving a heavy item of expense to the government.

The demand which Italy is about to make for the recent lynching of three Italians in Louisiana has called attention to the international complications growing out of this lawlessness and to the actual cost it involves to the United States. Indemnity claims of this sort in the last few years have been about \$500,000.

The following large payments were made by the government in these cases:

Paid China for Rock Springs (Wyo) massacre	\$147,748.74
Paid China for outrages on Pacific coast	276,619.75
Paid Italy for massacre of Italian prisoners at New Orleans	24,830.00
Paid Italy for lynchings at Wallaceburg, Col.	10,000.00
Paid Great Britain for outrages on James Bain and Frederick Dawson	2,500.00

How the Japanese Treaty Affected Kelly.

The case of Convict Kelly is attracting great attention in the Orient. Kelly is an American citizen. He killed a man in Nagasaki and was sentenced to seven years' imprisonment by the American consul. His term had not expired when the United States consular system ceased to exist in Japan. The question was, what is to be done with the prisoner.

Kelly was asked if he would consent to serve two years in the United States. He consented, and the United States government was asked to draw up a declaration for the prisoner to sign. This they neglected to do until it was too late and the Japanese government was obliged to liberate him. The newspapers in Japan are accusing the American minister at Tokyo of having failed in his duty. Kelly was liberated two years before the expiration of his term.

An Englishman named Miller is the first foreigner to be incarcerated in a jail under the new treaty. He is accused of murdering three Japanese. The Japanese are rigidly carrying out the terms of the treaty and it is officially reported that the triple murderer is receiving four times as much to eat as the Japanese murderers in the same jail. He has a big cell of his own and is allowed to take liberal exercise.

How He Was Cured.

Mrs. McPherson was attracted by the following advertisement the other day: "To the Public—A gentleman who was cured of drinking, smoking, talking too loud, going out at nights, going to the races and gambling and who also gained 20 pounds of flesh in three years and was completely restored to health, will sell the secret to any respectable person for half a crown. If no cure, money refunded.—Address, in confidence," etc.

Mrs. McPherson sent for the remedy and received the following reply: "I was cured of all the bad habits mentioned by a three years enforced residence in her majesty's prisons."—London Tit-Bits.

How Long Will You Live?

There is a very simple rule for finding the average number of years which persons of any age may expect to live. If the present age be deducted from 80, two-thirds of the remainder is the answer required. This result is not absolutely accurate, but it is near enough. For instance, a man aged 20 might by this rule expect to live 40 years longer,

which is just what the latest actuarial tables give. At 40 the expectation of life works out at nearly 27 years, while the tables give it as more than 25 years. At 60 the above rule allows just over 13 years, and the table shows a little less.

Tantalizing.

"She's the most tantalizing girl I know," he said bitterly. "She wears the prettiest little old fashioned sunbonnet you ever saw when she goes for a stroll in the woods, and she always asks a fellow to tie the bonnet strings under her chin. Of course to permit him to do that she has to tilt her head back a little, and then, when she looks most inviting"

"Well?"

"Well, he discovers that he can't possibly get his own face into the opening in the bonnet."—Chicago Post.

Calculated to Warm Him.

He was suffering from a bad attack of fever and ague. The doctor was at his bedside watching his shivering fit and to calm his nerves a little remarked: "I will write you a prescription which you must have made up at once, and after you have taken the first dose you will be warm in no time."

"You don't mean to say, doctor, that it will be as fatal as that?" cried the frightened patient.—Pick Me Up.

The Only Way.

"Keep her trade!" he said when asked about the woman who wanted everything below cost. "Why, of course, I keep her trade. It's easy when you know how. I just quote prices to her about 10 per cent higher than they should be so as to give plenty of leeway for the bargain she always wants to make."—Chicago Post.

He Confesses.

"Doctor, how did you find your patients when your vacation was ended?"

"They were all doing nicely."

"Then why were you in such a hurry to get back?"

"Because I didn't want to come home and start the business of building up a new practice."—Chicago Times-Herald.

Lease of Six Inches of Land.

A lease of six inches of ground at 117 Franklin street, Chicago, for 91 years and one month was recorded the other day. It runs from George L. Barber to Hiram P. Peabody and is for an annual rental of \$45. The property has a depth of eight feet and comprises the party wall between 117 and 115 Franklin street.—Chicago Times Herald.

Muscles of the Head.

The head has 77 muscles—eight for the eyes and eyelids, 1 for the nose, eight for the lips, eight for the jaw, 11 for the tongue, 11 for the larynx, 11 for the ear, 17 for motions of the head and neck, one to move the hairy scalp and one for the eyebrows.

Making Allowances.

"Isn't there some tautology in this letter?" asked Mrs. Cumrox's daughter.

"Well, dear," answered her mother, "I s'pose she couldn't help talking shop a little. You know she's studying to be a teacher, and her mind is naturally on her favorite science!"—Washington Star.

After Patrick Henry.

Henpekt—Emily, these biscuits aren't the kind that—

Mrs. Henpekt (glaring)—Go ahead, Henry; go on!

Henpekt—That I used to get down in Cuba in the war?—Brooklyn Life

Mystifying.

"I guess you'd better summon some handwriting experts," exclaimed Aguiinaldo as he looked wearily at a slip of paper.

"What has happened?"

"I am in trouble. I can't tell whether this is a diagram of a masse shot in billiards or a map of my line of march."—Washington Star.

A Designer's Pun.

"What's that?" asked the rich man who was buying a few paintings.

"That's Pegasus," replied the dealer. "Pegasus, you know, was a winged horse."

Send it back to the artist and tell him to put the wings on an automobile, and I'll buy it," said the rich man.—Chicago Post.

Since Murphy's Record Ride.

"Young man," said the fatherly individual, "if you continue at this pace you will shorten your days."

"Would that I could," responded the youth who deals out ribbons ten hours out of 24. "If I thought I could shorten my working days, I'd try a mile a minute pace."—Chicago News.

The Nugget Express has made a special rate of 50 cents for carrying the Nugget's special illustrated edition to the coast. The first dog team will start as soon as the ice will permit.

First-class goods only. Mohr & Wilkens.