

# Gold at Great Slave Lake

Rich Strike on Hay River between the Peace and Liard

To the friends of the movement to develop a route to the Canadian gold fields, by the water courses this side of the mountains, the following dispatch printed in the Winnipeg Free Press on Tuesday of this week, Feb. 1st, will be welcome news:

Prince Albert, Sask., Jan. 31.—Word has just been received by Bishop Pascal from northern missionaries that gold in large quantities has been discovered on the Hay, Buffalo and other rivers running into Great Slave Lake, a distance of about 700 miles north of here. The information is considered perfectly reliable. Citizens are greatly excited, and parties are preparing to start as soon as possible. The route is a comparatively easy one. The discovery was made by a party of twenty-seven who were wintering there en route to Yukon; and the missionary there reports that gold is being brought in every day by Indians.

## THE NEWS AT REGINA.

Regina, Jan. 31.—News has reached here that the first batch of persons for Yukon by the Regina and Prince Albert route have found gold in large quantities in the rivers running into Great Slave Lake, 700 miles from Prince Albert. The news comes through Bishop Pascal, and is considered trustworthy.

## HAY RIVER.

Hay river is a large stream running into Great Slave lake at its western extremity. The river takes its rise not far from the headwaters of the Nelson river, sometimes called the south branch of the Liard, and runs in a northeastern course diagonally across the area between the Peace and Liard rivers and almost equidistant from these two rivers all the way. Moreover it enters Great Slave at a point on the great Mackenzie water course, about half way between the mouths of the Peace and Liard.

So much for the location of the stream on which such rich finds have been made. The parties who have made the strike have been in camp at Great Slave Lake. They were on route to some part of the gold regions and having started late in the fall were camping until spring would allow them to proceed by water. It is known that several parties about sixty in number were at Great Slave lake, and advices received from them stated that they were encamped at Fort Resolution, mouth of Slave river, and not 100 miles from the Hay river. It is by one of these parties that the discovery was made, and the fact that Indians are bringing in gold as reported, would lead to the conclusion that inquiries among the Indians had as much to do in leading to the discovery and location, as actual prospecting. Indians are proverbially close and keen observers. In the woods, the rocks, the grass, the sky, the running stream, they for ages made their studies, and to them nature is as an open book. They are familiar with every stream and with

the rocks and pebbles on its banks and in its bed. If they had never looked for the precious grains of gold, or discovered them before, the presence of a large number of strangers, an unusual occurrence in that region, would attract attention to the object of their visit. And during the summer a number of parties passed down the Mackenzie, who would also be noticed and their purpose commented on.

From whatever immediate cause, the result is of immense importance to Canada, to the Northwest, to the routes on the hither side of the mountains, and to the many who are desirous of joining the rank and file of the great army of prospectors already on

cheapness. The cost of getting there and living after reaching the Peace, Liard or Hay rivers will not be more than one-fifth that of the Klondike, and the great material advantages of the country will act as an inducement, where, in the other case, the lack of these advantages acts as a deterrent. The rush will be this way!

## W. J. MITCHELL & CO. DRUGGISTS.

The accompanying view gives a fair idea of the interior of the above firm's Prince Albert drug store, a thoroughly up-to-date institution with a complete and fresh stock of the best drugs in the market. They are making a specialty of a medicine case for northern miners. It is a small leather case, of nineteen small bottles, containing in concentrated tablet form all the principal ingredients for the treatment of all ordinary ailments, as headache, cold, sore throat, cough, diarrhoea, etc. Another article is saccharine tablets, 200 times stronger



W. J. MITCHELL'S DRUG STORE

the march for the gold fields of Northwestern Canada. The movement is one of the greatest on record, unparalleled in the history of gold rushes, and not exceeded by any other great industrial movement. The discovery just recorded will accentuate it to a degree that will be hard to credit.

Not that it may open any very large hitherto unknown field, but situated between the two great gold rivers, the Liard and the Peace, themselves scarcely begun to be prospected, though known to be rich, this Hay river discovery practically demonstrates the truth of the claims of richness made for the country east of the Rockies. That is settled now and henceforth nothing remains to be done to "draw" people that way. All the territory is open to prospectors and the practical demonstration of its wealth will be all the inducement necessary.

A comparison of this region and the inhospitable Yukon and Alaskan country tells immensely in favor of the eastern country from the points of climate, proximity, ease in reaching it and taking in supplies as well as

than sugar. One hundred of them carried in a tiny vial in the vest pocket equals ten pounds sugar. Supplies of mercury, cyanide of potassium, etc., for treatment of gold bearing sands and rock, miners' glasses, retorts, and necessaries for any requirement of metallurgy, supplied from stock at once. No delay. Tests made, and assays from samples of ore or auriferous earths on the premises by a practical analytical chemist. W. J. Mitchell & Co., Prince Albert, Sask.

## MONTREALERS GOING VIA PRINCE ALBERT.

One would hardly expect that so newly settled a country as the Yukon gold fields would afford such an extensive choice of routes, but after exhausting a long list of entrances by the ocean parties are now turning their attention to the different overland routes which may offer a choice. A party of Montrealers are at present outfitting very systematically along the line suggested by an Eng-