

RECEIVED BY WIRE.

TOTAL WRECK

Pioneer Alaska Liner City of Topeka Sails Her Last Voyage.

TWENTY FOOT HOLE AMIDSHIPS.

Passengers All Taken Off and Safely Landed.

RAILROAD WILL PAY TAXES.

Captain Gage Dead—Sir Chas. Warden Commander of Canadian Troops—Prize Fights Licensed.

From Thursday's Daily.

Skagway, Dec. 13.—The steamer City of Topeka is a total wreck in Lynn canal four miles south of Eldred rock. The accident happened Saturday evening when during a blinding snow storm the ill-fated craft sought shelter behind Sullivan island in making which harbor she struck a rock tearing a 20-foot hole amidships. All the passengers were safely landed on the mainland, some of whom were taken to Juneau next day on the Alert, the others being taken today on the Flossie. There were no Dawsonites among the passengers.

Railroad Taxed.

Skagway, Dec. 13.—The city board of equalization has assessed the property of the W. P. & Y. R. within the city limits at \$900,000.

Captain Gage Dead.

Berkley, Cal., Dec. 8, via Skagway, Dec. 13.—Capt. Gage, the oldest of all Alaskan pilots, died at his home in this city today.

Sir Charles Warden.

London, Dec. 8, via Skagway, Dec. 13.—Lieut. Gen. Sir Charles Warden, once commissioner of metropolitan police, has been nominated as commander of the British troops in Canada.

License Prize Fights.

Denver, Dec. 8, via Skagway, Dec. 13.—The board of aldermen of this city has passed a bill licensing prize fighting, the license fee for each contest being \$250.

Foolish Mercier.

Paris, Dec. 6, via Skagway, Dec. 13.—In the senate today Gen. Mercier made a red hot speech in which he urges that France go to war with England without delay. He outlines how it will be easy to invade England and shows how France is numerically the equal of England and her superior in instruments of destruction. Mercier refers to the South African war and says the landing of French troops in England is practical. He pays a high compliment to the ability of French naval officers and moved that complete preparations be immediately made for the mobilization of an army for the purpose of proceeding to war against England without delay. The motion was declared out of order.

England Aroused.

London, Dec. 6, via Skagway, Dec. 13.—English newspapers are very indignant over the motion of Mercier in the French senate with the result that he is being scored most unmercifully.

Anvil Creek Case.

Skagway, Dec. 14.—The case of the Anvil creek claims, the most valuable in the Nome country, for which Alexander McKenzie is receiver will be tried before the U. S. court here in a

few days. There is a large array of counsel on both sides and it will be a hard fought legal battle.

At Washington.

Washington, Dec. 6, via Skagway, Dec. 13.—The first measure of the ship subsidy bill passed the senate today. In the house the army organization bill was discussed.

Joe Young's Escapade.

Old Seattleites well remember the escapade of Joe Young and his female "pal," who attempted to work a blackmail scheme on Assistant United States Attorney Relfe, father of the late Lynn Relfe, one of the Minto murder victims, for which attempted blackmail Young was tried, convicted and served five years in the Walla Walla penitentiary.

Five years labor in Washington's jute mills marked an apparent change of heart in the person of Joseph, and when he was permitted to lay aside the convict garb he blossomed out into a most enthusiastic Salvation Army worker in the vineyard of the Lord. But he wearied of well doing, resigned from the army and came to the broad, white north to carve out a name and fortune for himself. While in Dawson, where he was last winter, he did not make much headway towards laying the foundation for a fortune, those who knew him saying that most of his time and attention were devoted to efforts to keep out of the royal fuel refinery.

Young left Dawson last spring for Nome. There the goddess of fortune did not smile any more benignly upon him than in Dawson and he became in very straitened circumstances. Having heard, probably while a member of the Salvation Army, the homely motto, "God helps those who help themselves," Joe put it into force and effect by stealing some money in a Nome gambling house. He was detected, tried, convicted, and letters received by the last mail from the outside contain newspaper clippings which state that Young was taken below on one of the last steamers to leave Nome last fall en route to San Quentin, where he will spend two years. Joe Young is past middle age and has always borne a bad reputation.

Looks Like McKinley.

George McMillan, mining engineer, and sometime actor, bears the distinction of looking like the chief executive of the United States.

The aforesaid George is much younger than President McKinley, and dresses somewhat differently, but add to his present age the score or more of years which go to make the difference in their ages, also the lines of care resultant from long and intimate acquaintance with the lamp which burns the midnight oil, and one will have a striking likeness of the first man in America.

"See here!" exclaimed Mr. McMillan, when a day or two since the resemblance was noticed, "I have traveled several times around this mundane sphere, and because my name happens to begin with 'Mc,' people seem to think that the latter part of it don't matter much, and in consequence I have been called everything from the 'Bold McIntyre' of song fame to 'McGinty' who wore his best clothes when he committed suicide, and now they're calling me McKinley. Between the name and the face which fortune has dealt out to me I am wondering whether I am destined to have greatness thrust upon me or by myself thrust into jail or an insane asylum.

"Well, at all events I guess I have very little to do with it myself; it all depends on what the Mc's do, and they are a great family."

Dave Lockridge's Nerve.

An incident occurred yesterday on Dominion creek which proves the truth of the old saying that a drowning man will grasp at a straw.

Dave Lockridge was working in the shaft at 30 below lower discovery yesterday when he was overcome by gas, and being alone he could get no assistance. He found the crane rope dangling from above, and not having the strength to climb it he still knew that it was his only source of hope, so he tied it securely about his body under the arms, and then he lost consciousness.

After a time his brother returned to the mouth of the shaft, and getting no reply to his calls, pulled at the rope, which of course came hard, owing to the heavy weight of the body attached to the lower end. He persevered in his efforts and at last succeeded in bringing to the surface the apparently dead body of his brother.

Restoratives and fresh air finally resulted in bringing back the patient to consciousness, and at last accounts his recovery was regarded as certain.

Special Power of Attorney forms for sale at the Nugget office.

Its Up To Kelly

Jim Kelly, of 22 below upper Dominion and "Happy" Jack Felix, of 10 above lower (on the same) creek, are deadly rivals. That is to say neither of the two ever undertakes anything but what the other will see him and offer a raise if such a thing is possible. If Kelly discovers a big nugget hidden down on bedrock of 22, "Happy" is never happy until No. 10 has produced a bigger one even if he has to paste two small ones together to get the required weight.

Felix is known to have spent two entire weeks in inventing a yarn of horrors endured on the trail to score against one from the voracious Kelly, who is no small potatoes himself when it comes to a question of Yukon stories.

Some time ago there came to the cabin on 22 a small Kelly in the shape of a bouncing maiden, who tipped the scales at exactly 12 pounds avoirdupois. Since that time Kelly has been high man. He has looked upon his rival with scorn and contempt and the once "Happy" man of No. 10 has since worn an expression of deep despondency. But it is a long road that has no turn. The gods have turned a listening ear to "Happy" Jack's prayers for vengeance. Fourteen pounds of infantile masculinity arrived on No. 10 two days ago and the smile that since has broadened the Felix face has been good to look upon.

It is up to Kelly now, but he doesn't know what to do. He vows that Felix weighed the boy on the gold scales and figured only 12 ounces to the pound. Jack declines to argue the question and has politely told his neighbor to go and get a reputation. Thus it comes that there is a ring of blood around the Dominion moon.

Delayed Mail.

Harry Murray who reached here yesterday afternoon only nine days from Skagway, brought with him a large stock of late papers and magazines. Murray passed everybody along the trail and has thus far the best record of the season. He says that at Renton, about 40 miles above Selkirk, are 75 sacks of mail and a large amount of express, all of which was brought that far by horse team, but which, owing to the condition of the trail, could not be brought further by that means of transportation. This story probably accounts for the tardy mail service to which the people of Dawson have been subjected for the past two months.

Previous reports to the effect that the incoming mail had passed Ogilvie are incorrect, as, up to noon today, it had not even reached Stewart. As compared with the service of this time last year the present is a mere travesty. It is in order for somebody to stand up and explain.

Has Been Overlooked.

Companies for carrying on nearly all kinds of business and the importation of all classes of goods to the Klondike have been organized by the thousands within the past few years, yet one very important article has not been provided for. It is understood, however, that steps are being taken to remedy the oversight by the organization of what will be called the Yukon Christmas Tree Importing Association, and by next year it will be possible to order a Christmas tree from the wholesaler's just the same as it is now possible to order a Christmas turkey. A full report of the organization of the company will be given later.

Thought They Were Kettled.

Yesterday afternoon there was a run-away on Second avenue, which, if it endangered no lives, drew plenty of attention. The sleigh was small but its contents were such as to raise consternation in the minds of all pedestrians who heard the racket. It was a load of empty milk cans, and the team was made up of three spirited dogs, tired of waiting at the Melbourne corner. The dogs started for home, the cans began to rattle, which seemed to act as an incentive to greater speed on the part of the canines, who drew their tails close and only touched the high places till they reached home. The dogs had evidently had other and unpleasant experiences with tinware.

Tried Steamboating.

Tom Bruce, of the Holborn cafe, arrived in Dawson Monday after an extended trip to Nome and the States via the lower river route. While in Nome last summer he, together with Chas. Adams of Gold Hill, purchased the steamer Lavelle Young and dispatched her up the Yukon to Dawson with 300 tons of freight and 75 passengers. Un-

fortunately, through the carelessness of employes the flue sheet of the boiler cracked disabling the boat completely and necessitating her return to St. Michael. A new boiler is now being built for her in Seattle and the boat will be placed in commission next spring, probably going up the Koyukuk. This unfortunate accident cost Mr. Bruce something like \$10,000, but he is not daunted by his experience and will try it again next season, he still owning his interest in the craft.

Anniversary of Washington's Death.

Tomorrow, December 14, will be the one hundred and first anniversary of the death of George Washington, the first president of the United States—the man who earned the praise, "First in war, first in peace, first in the hearts of his countrymen." George Washington died at his home, Mount Vernon, on the banks of the Potomac, not many miles from the city of Washington, the present capital of the United States. At the time of the death of Washington, December 14, 1799, the capital of the United States was at Philadelphia. The sixth congress had just assembled, and to that city the news of the death of Washington was brought on the evening of December 17, the traveler who brought the news having heard it when passing through Alexandria, which is near Mount Vernon, the home of Washington. This traveler had passed through Baltimore and announced the death of the first president there the preceding day. The Alexandria Times was the first newspaper to print the news, in its issue bearing date of December 15.

Washington was buried on December 18. At the time the funeral services were being held at Mount Vernon, John Marshall, a member of Virginia, and later chief justice of the United States, announced the death of the first president to congress, then in session. The greatest grief was manifested; an immediate adjournment was taken, and the members voted to wear mourning and to drape the senate chamber. President Adams' wife postponed a levee one week, and notices were sent out requesting the ladies who attended to wear white dresses trimmed with black ribbon, and black kid gloves.

In Boston the tolling of the bells on Christmas morning announced the death of Washington to the people, just 11 days after it occurred.

Funeral services were held in all the principal cities of the country. In New York, in St. Paul's church, on December 31; in Boston, in the Old South church, on February 8. Harvard college is said to have been the only college that held special funeral services. Two of the members of the senior class took part. The president of the college read an address in Latin.

We can realize how slowly people traveled in those days, when it took three days for the news of the death of the greatest citizen in America to reach the capital of the country—a distance traveled today by railroads in three hours, while a telegraphic message would pass between the two places in but a few minutes. This is but one of the many proofs of the wonderful changes in the conditions of life in this country in one hundred years.

With the news service of 101 years ago in vogue at the present time, upwards of a year would be required for the transmission of news from Mount Vernon, which is 14 miles down the Potomac river from Washington, to reach Dawson. "The world do move."

Leaders Foment Trouble.

Hong Kong, Nov. 19.—Because of the conduct of the customs house at Manila trade with the Philippines has been dislocated, and it is a standing remark on this coast that in this respect things are in a much worse condition than under the Spanish regime.

This is due in a large measure to the inexperience of the officials in the customs house. It can hardly be expected that officials drawn directly from the army can become at once customs house experts. Still after two years' occupation of Manila one would naturally expect some improvement.

Hardly a ship from Hong Kong now enters that port without being fined for some trifling clerical error in the manifest or without being delayed in the harbor for some fancied small infringement of the regulations. When it is remembered that these ships and these lines have been carrying on trade with Manila for 20 years no one can believe that these infringements are committed intentionally.

Still the same trouble occurs from week to week until matters are in such a state that if it were not for the large amount of money invested in the lines there is hardly any doubt that the steamers would be withdrawn.

Off for Whitehorse.

The four-horse stage of Robinson & Co., Fred R. Knight, driver, left for Whitehorse at 10:45 yesterday with seven passengers. The interior of the stage, with its cushioned seats, many fur robes and hay covered floor, presented a very cheerful and inviting appearance.

RECEIVED BY WIRE.

M'KINLEY'S MESSAGE

To Congress Speaks Hopefully of the Settlement of Chinese Matters.

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RESTORED

The Real Culprits Must be properly Punished.

DEALS WITH THE BOER WAR.

Relations With Great Britain are Very Friendly—Vexatious Questions Settled—Japan Complimented.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 8, via Skagway, Dec. 13.—The president's message dealing with the terms of settlement resulting from the recent Boer outbreak in China states that the proposition looking to the restoration of the Chinese imperial authority in Peking has been accepted by the powers in full harmony with the desires of the United States government.

"We have held and do hold," states a clause dealing with the question, "that effective reparation and an enduring settlement, which will make a recurrence impossible, will best be accomplished under the authority which the Chinese nation reverences and obeys. For the real culprits full expiation becomes imperative within the rational limits of retributive justice."

Respecting the war between Great Britain and the Boers the message says that relations with the latter power continue to be of the most friendly nature. The war introduced certain vexatious question, all of which were amicably adjusted. Vexations arose over Great Britain's action with respect to neutral cargoes but resulted in an agreement on the part of that nation to purchase all goods shown to be the property of Americans. Japan is highly complimented on the advancement shown by her in the past four years.

Great satisfaction is expressed over the results of The Hague peace convention.

The attention of the senate is directed to the proposed conven on with Great Britain for the purpose of facilitating the construction of the Nicaragua canal. The convention is expected to remove any objection which might arise from the terms of the Bulwer-Clayton treaty.

A Groundless Rumor.

The report was current on the streets this morning that Miss Marion Tracie was dead. As it was known that she had been ill at the private hospital of Miss Hannah for several days the rumor was given credence.

A call at the hospital, however, developed the fact that Miss Tracie was somewhat improved in health since yesterday.

Queer Trees.

The musical, or whistling, tree is a native of the West Indies and the Sudan. It possesses a peculiar shaped leaf, and pods with a split or broken edge. The wind passing through these causes the sound which gives to the tree the name of "whistler." In Barbados there is a valley filled with trees of this character, and when the trade winds blow across the island a constant moaning, deep toned whistle is heard from it.

The electric light tree, says Answers, gives a light so strong that a person can read or write by it at night. The milk tree has a thick, tough skin that can be used for soles shoes. To obtain the milk a hole is bored in the trunk; then it produces a sweet sap. The bread tree has a solid fruit, a little larger than a cocoanut, which, when cut into slices and cooked, can scarcely be distinguished from excellent bread.

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