

# Frontier Golden North.

## Str. Amur Brings a Budget of Late and Interesting News.

## A Miner From McQuesten Tells What is Being Done There.

## A Skeleton of Gold and a Mysterious Note—Upper Stewart Unknown.

## Evidence of an Early Breakup of the Ice on the Yukon River.

## Dawson is Quiet and Prices No Higher Than They Are Here.

## Other Items of Interest From the Gold-Fields of the Yukon.

Steamer Amur, of the Bennett Lake & Klondike Navigation Co., has returned from another Alaskan trip. As Victorians were sitting down to dinner on Saturday evening she swung in to her wharf and made fast amid a number of excitements. Excitement number one was caused by the snapping of a hawser, but this was not the greater stir. The most excitement was caused by Captain LeBlanc's dog. It awaited the arrival of the captain on the wharf, and as the boat came near the wharf it jumped. As it did so a young man stepped on to the edge of the wharf and in his way, with the result that both dog and man went over and into the harbor. Both were soon fished out unhurt. The Amur made a smart run from Skagway, which port she left on Tuesday last. Among her passengers were two from Dawson, and the lower Yukon. One was Hugh Wright, of this city, who left Dawson on March 9th, the other was Isaac Jones, who left Dawson the day previous.

Jones has spent the winter and last summer on the McQuesten and the Stewart. He says that the mines of that vicinity, although they promise well, have not given much to the band of prospectors who have worked there with the last year. Before the cold weather had got fairly started there was about 18 inches of snow, and a thaw coming on, this caused floods; in consequence nearly all the placers have been almost entirely washed away. On Johnson creek, on which Jones has a claim, no one was able to get to bedrock on account of the water. On Haggard creek bedrock was reached on two or three properties, but nothing worth anything was found. On several of the claims above and including discovery, on Haggard, five cents to the pan is being taken out between four and five feet below the surface, but as on Johnson, work is greatly handicapped by water. In the most favorable portions of the creek—from a surface point down to the water will not allow miners to get down at all.

Good Surface Prospects have been found on Dublin gulch, a feeder of Haggard creek, but this was not thoroughly prospected last fall. A number of miners will, however, spend the summer there, endeavoring at least to take out the price of a grubstake.

Mr. Jones went all over this district, and he says it promises exceedingly well, but so far no strike has been made. Clear creek is perhaps one of the best known creeks in this section. It unites up the Stewart from the McQuesten. It was worked all last summer and has been staked and staked. There are 225 claims there, but, as on Johnson and Haggard, the business of the miners is water. A number of claim owners have formed a combine with the intention of draining it this summer. On Barlow creek there are a number of locations, but it has not been prospected, in fact no thorough test has been made of the district; it is scarcely more than a prospect as yet.

There were about 150 men there this winter, and some of these are coming out, as they have used up their grubstakes. Many stayed right up till they were on their last pound of beans in it.

The Hope of Finding Pay Dirt, and one of two, seen by Jones, had even stayed after their supply was exhausted to continue the search. On Barlow creek he came across a man from Minnesota, a Scotsman, to judge by his speech. He was hairy and ragged, but presented indications of boldness and determination. When Jones came across him he was trailing a moose, and when conversation was exchanged told of his anxiety to "hog" his quarry, for he had not eaten anything for two days. Jones gave him some of his supply, and he ate like a famished wolf. The rescuer also asked him to accompany him out and share his grub until they reached the coast, but no, with the persistence of his race the Scotsman remained with the hope of finding "it." He was on his uppers, he said, and would rather leave his bones there without enough grub to make a strike. Mr. Jones left him and the chances of his leaving his bones there were very good, providing his indomitable will refused to yield to the pangs of hunger.

A number of those who are now coming out, Jones being among the number, will go back to the district, for, said Mr. Jones, "the gold is there all right, and if you only prospect long enough you will find it. As in all frontier sections,

however, it looks as though the good fortune will fall to the class who have hit and not to the pioneers of the district." The majority of the creeks, Haggard in particular, offer splendid opportunities to a company taking in hydraulic mining machinery.

The upper Stewart is as yet an Unknown Country.

A great number of people went in last summer and but few have come out and whether they have struck it or not is not known. Those who have come out say it is a flat country and seemingly a rich one. The story of some time ago of the arrival at the mouth of the Stewart of an insane miner with gold from the upper Stewart was told along the creeks, but on investigation the insane miner proved to be a man who had been working on Clear creek, and who had got "on a jag" at the town at the mouth of the Stewart.

A story went around the creek this winter of the finding of a skeleton, whose bony fingers grasped a handful of nuggets, about a hundred miles up the Stewart above Clear creek, but Mr. Jones could not verify it. According to the story, a gold in the McQuesten district, when the skeleton was found a note was picked up near by which read, "Big gold in gulch, no white man, no swash. Food gone and dying. Bill is lost. The note, which was unsigned, was shown around the camps on the Stewart, but no particulars were ever learned as to who its writer was or where his big find was situated.

Although comparatively little suffering was reported in that district this winter, the cold weather was not without its hardships. Last November two miners, whose only known names were "Dug" and "Pete," for the surname is never heard in the gold fields, started down Thirty-Mile with only two days' grub. They were lost in a snowstorm, and had been four days without food when a search party found them and brought the two weary, worn-out and famished miners back to camp.

Three miners who left the camp on the McQuesten about two weeks after the above mentioned episode have, in the supposition of the majority of their late comrades is correct, met with a worse fate. They went to the Mayo river intending to prospect and have not been seen or heard of since. A search party spent two weeks without avail in search of them. It is thought that they have been

Murdered by Indians, as several times the swiftness have made angry threats. The Indians are extremely jealous on account of the fact they consider the encroachments of the whites, and although they have made no open attacks, it is feared that they would not hesitate to do away with any stray prospector who fell into their hands in the wilderness.

A small band of prospectors are at work on the Mayo and good surface prospects have been found. None have been seen or heard of since.

Of the other creeks in the Stewart district Mr. Jones says: In the Black Hills, Skookum gulch has given slight prospects, but the others have proven failures. Brewer creek is simply a prospect as yet, and Maesle May was a big disappointment. It was reported that 75 cents and \$1 per pan were taken out and then the water rushed there, but when the stampede began work they found that their locations did not pay wages, and the boom exploded.

When Hugh Wright, who tramped out from Dawson in 14 days, left the Klondike capital the waterfront was for the third time in three weeks stretched with destruction. Fighting against a strong down river breeze and a fire that was literally a furnace, the firemen did not get a mastery until about a two-story building and one occupied by Mrs. Fancher were entirely destroyed, and the Eagle restaurant badly damaged by water. The heaviest losers by the conflagration were Mr. and Mrs. Adeock. They were barely able to escape with their lives. The various losses were: Adeock building, \$5,000; stock in same, \$3,000; Rosenthal building, \$2,000; barber shop and laundry, \$3,000; Mrs. Fancher, \$2,000; Eagle restaurant, \$1,000; total, \$20,000.

The office of the Dawson. Midnight Sun came near going up in flames in the fire. Some blankets were taken out of the office and piled in the street when the office seemed in danger. The fire was put out and the blankets carried back. It was not noticed that they had taken it and the newspaper office was nearly burned before the smell of burning wool attracted attention. There have been a score of small fires in various parts of Dawson, and the chief of the volunteer fire department has asked for more paid men. It is said that the government looks with favor on the proposition.

Mr. Wright, who calls Victoria home, has a number of promising properties in the Klondike. He took a steam-sawing machine some time ago and is now out to take in a sawing machine, having sold the saw he took in.

Mr. Wright says that the wood question is becoming a very serious one in Dawson. The woods of a very considerable distance. The price, too, has advanced to \$35 a cord, which, combined with the growing scarcity of the timber itself, makes it imperative that means be taken to obtain the fullest possible service from the wood burnt. It

is for this reason that he intends to take wood claims near discovery from the recorder and others.

A miners' meeting considered the proposition of lynching him, but finally gave him up to Lieut. Bell. He will be sent to Sitka.

Flynn is very disappointed in Minook. He says that Governor McGraw is the only man who is taking out any considerable amount of gold. He thinks that a pocket has been struck on the McGraw claim. Twelve men are employed at \$5 a day, and there is no other work available. He predicts a great exodus in the spring.

He is also very doubtful about Koyuk. He says that the stampede started by Folger on the strength of his story of a 50-cent to the pan find dwindled down to 15 cents and then to nothing.

The winter at Rampart city has been a river of ice, a criminal sort of way. The guardhouse filled over by Lieut. Bell, U. S. A., is well filled, most of the criminals being thieves.

A man from San Francisco is in jail, charged with attempting to murder and suicide.

On January 2 he tried to kill his mistress, Bessie Hamilton, but his bad aim saved her life. He was about to turn the gun on himself when captured by the soldiers. He will be sent out of the country.

H. H. McConnell, another arrival from Minhook, tells of several good finds on Little and Big Minook and adjacent creeks. He says that he has found \$40 to the pan on course he took. "Knapp, on No. 20 above discovery, on Hoosier creek, has been taking out from 50 cents to \$1 per pan," said he.

The creek empties into the Big Minook, about half above Little Minook. But magnificent discoveries have been made on the Idaho bar, which is between Little Minook and Hoosier creek. A man named Range recently found \$1 to the pan on Hunter creek, which empties into Big Minook a mile below Little Minook.

"Ex-Gov. John H. McGraw has forty men at work on his claim, No. 8 above discovery, Hunter creek. He has recently found a \$145 nugget, and has been taking out 50 cents and \$1 to the pan. He also owns No. 19 on Hoosier creek, and has another claim on Quail creek, over the divide from No. 8. The water has driven them out of this one, but it was told that both of them were good claims. Mr. McGraw has a total of \$150,000 and \$200,000 at the clean-up this summer. He has with him Gen. and Mrs. Carr, of Seattle."

Gave Up His Life in a quest for gold is what is said by the Klondike Nugget of Knut Alfstad, of his head off. The judge finally sent Rosenbaum to jail and fined him \$50 after arriving from Forty-Mile over the ice. His death, according to Dawson papers, was the entirely to exposure and over the divide from Forty-Mile.

During the last summer and winter Alfstad worked on a claim on Forty-Mile without result. He finally decided to try his fortune at Dawson. Loading a sled with 300 pounds of provisions he started up the river over the ice. He finally arrived utterly worn out. He was taken out by a wandering prospector nearly a year ago. It is said that he was heard in his room and when the proprietor arrived he was dead. He was buried by the Odd Fellows.

Steamer Clara, belonging to the Northwestern Trading Company, has been Sold at Dawson to satisfy the demands of creditors. San Francisco people are interested in the management of the company. The boat was owned by Rancovier, formerly the leader of a band in Francisco. He bought it last summer from A. Housier, the managing director of the company. On the way up the river the boat encountered all sorts of trouble, and it was very late in the season when she arrived on the Yukon flats. On her way to the abandoned her barge, which was loaded with provisions, was 54000 destined for the winter market at Dawson.

This freight was mostly owned by San Francisco people. The Clara also carried a drift steam launch, the launch and contents belonging to F. de Jormal and G. S. Wilkins. When she arrived at Dawson Rancovier boarded her, and he was taken back for the barge mortgaged the Clara. The people interested complained about it, and as a result, United States Consul Cook took charge of her and sold her.

The Tramless Tram Road has been taken away from the O'Brien Company and the Klondike miners no longer have to pay tribute to them. O'Brien and others were granted a franchise to build a tramway up the Klondike to the junction of Eldorado and Bonanza creeks. They put up nothing but toll gates, took possession of the regular road, and charged exorbitant prices for hauling freight over the public trail.

When the Klondike Nugget sent a team over the road and protested against the payment. They then brought suit against the O'Brien Company for illegally obstructing the public highway. The paper won its suit, and the tramway has gone out of business.

A Gigantic Scheme. Count Carboneau, the irresistible, who killed a score of dogs trying to break the Dawson-Skagway record, but failed by a whole week's time, and toward the story of a bitter and bloody war between Norway and Sweden, has bobbed up with another scheme, says the Klondike Nugget. He has asked the local authorities for another tramroad franchise.

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over the dome down Sulphur and Dominion, across the Stewart, and then across country to Fort Selkirk. Here he would connect with the White Pass & Yukon Railway. He promises to have the road completed by December 1 if given the franchise.

Changed Her Mind. Emil Rodenbach, a Frenchman from Johannesburg, Africa, is under arrest at Dawson for stealing \$10,700 in gold and \$300 worth of provisions from Mile. Hermine Depauy, a typical representative of Dawson tenderfoot society, but richer than most of them.

An outcry is being made at Skagway over the wholesale Slaughter of Deer on the Alaskan coast. A Skagway paper says: "Nearly every steamer brings from Wrangle hundreds of carcasses of these murdered animals, which are more fitted for crop bait than they are to serve on the table. The only thing about them worth a cent is their hides. They are poor and unfit for consumption. There is a severe penalty for the killing of the innocent and harmless animals, and the wholesale slaughter of law should be punished to the full extent of the law."

Squatters Must Vacate. Commissioner Ogilvie has ordered Dawson's water front vacated immediately. The order is final and the squatters on the water front will have to move. There has been much excitement at Dawson over the seizure of the stocks of water from merchants for rent. The occupants of the buildings paid the rent to the owners, who failed to pay Morrison & McDonald.

News given by late arrivals that Nellie La More, the youngest and prettiest of the "Switzer Gates" sisters, is having trouble at Dawson. She has too many admirers.

One of her ardent suitors recently made things exciting for Justice Harper's court at Dawson.

Sam Rosenbaum is a great lover of absinthe, as well as the fair Nellie. He had smiled upon the terrible green drink and was trying to smile on the La More girl at the Monte Carlo theatre when he got into trouble. Manager Sullivan ordered him in front of the stage and on his refusing to go started him down stairs in a new and improvised fashion.

At the landing a colored actor, known as the Black Prince, caught and passed him on to the bottom. He was recently found a \$145 nugget, and has been taking out 50 cents and \$1 to the pan. He also owns No. 19 on Hoosier creek, and has another claim on Quail creek, over the divide from No. 8. The water has driven them out of this one, but it was told that both of them were good claims. Mr. McGraw has a total of \$150,000 and \$200,000 at the clean-up this summer. He has with him Gen. and Mrs. Carr, of Seattle."

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News is given by Mr. Fulton, who established a branch of the Merchants' Bank of Halifax at Dawson, that on Friday, March 24th, there was a Blockade on the Skagway trail which lasted 10 hours, owing to the action of Mr. S. C. Phillips, United States customs officer at Skagway. It appears Commissioner Ogilvie had forbidden Canadians bringing in whiskey without a permit under any circumstances. Several cases were seized. Then Customs Inspector Phillips took the precaution of sending two teams of mules with the whiskey, but again the fire water was confiscated by the police. On a third attempt the mules were themselves arrested by Phillips, who took the precaution of bringing the whiskey, an hearing which Sinclair held off the haul and forbid any more whatever going into Dawson in bond until the police released the officers and mules themselves. The officers apologized for having lands on American officials in the discharge of their duty. When the Amur left Skagway Sinclair's blockade was still on.

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# Filipinos Discouraged

## Natives Are Reported Seeking the Protection of Americans.

## Many Are Returning Homes—U. S. Soldiers at Malolos.

New York, April 3.—A Manila dispatch to the Herald says: Reports locate the insurgents army at Malolos have been unsuccessful. Forces are therefore still required for the situation. The command on the forces under General MacArthur suggests that concentrating in that direction.

Colonel Denby's arrival early issue of the proclamation Philippine commission probable.

Returns Return to Their Manila, April 3, 6:30 p. m. The insurgent government. Many are coming in all over the island, and many of the promises of good treatment are inducing their relatives to their homes.

Major-General Elwell's command of the American militia has received the following: "Early congratulations on different work army. (Signed) The United States Philippine mission, the last member of Colonel Charles DeWitt, form to China, having arrived here in the situation. The command are hopeful of a speedy respite, believing hostilities were confined to habitual revolts.

Brigadier-General Harris, who has never been used in the United States transport Sherman says he believes the insurgent received its death blow. The command will be heard of Colonel John Hay, Secretary and Senator Hale of Maine, witnessed much of the fighting army.

Official Despatch. Washington, April 3.—The cablegram was received at the department early this morning. Manila, April 3, to Adjutant Washington: Present indications are that the insurgent government is in a perilous condition, its army discouraged and scattered. Agents are returning to their homes, and villages between points north of Manila, reconnoitering parties have more encouraging every day.

The Losses of Foreign Men. Chicago, Ill., April 3.—The Tacoma special says: Foreign horses lost over \$1,000,000 by traction of Illinois by Filipino. The men captured by Steven & Co., an American firm, mates its loss at \$140,000. Various firms had y and stocks destroyed. Eng and stocks destroyed. Eng and stocks destroyed. Eng and stocks destroyed.

Cheering News. Washington, April 3.—The department officials are pleased cheering dispatches from Otis to-day. They contain a great encouragement, and the reference of General Otis makes it not clear that a rosate view of the situation there are reasons for it. gned at the department that it is evident by the reference of warfare the Americans them and for that reason they aware that it has been impossible to accomplish anything by it is evident by the reference of General Otis makes it not clear that a rosate view of the situation there are reasons for it. gned at the department that it is evident by the reference of warfare the Americans them and for that reason they aware that it has been impossible to accomplish anything by it is evident by the reference of General Otis makes it not clear that a rosate view of the situation there are reasons for it. gned at the department that it is evident by the reference of warfare the Americans them and for that reason they aware that it has been impossible to accomplish anything by it is evident by the reference of General Otis makes it not clear that a rosate view of the situation there are reasons for it. gned at the department that it is evident by the reference of warfare the Americans them and for that reason they aware that it has been impossible to accomplish anything by it is evident by the reference of General Otis makes it not clear that a rosate view of the situation there are reasons for it. gned at the department that it is evident by the reference of warfare the Americans them and for that reason they aware that it has been impossible to accomplish anything by it is evident by the reference of General Otis makes it not clear that a rosate view of the situation there are reasons for it. gned at the department that it is evident by the reference of warfare the Americans them and for that reason they aware that it has been impossible to accomplish anything by it is evident by the reference of General Otis makes it not clear that a rosate view of the situation there are reasons for it. gned at the department that it is evident by the reference of warfare the Americans them and for that reason they aware that it has been impossible to accomplish anything by it is evident by the reference of General Otis makes it not clear that a rosate view of the situation there are reasons for it. gned at the department that it is evident by the reference of warfare the Americans them and for that reason they aware that it has been impossible to accomplish anything by it is evident by the reference of General Otis makes it not clear that a rosate view of the situation there are reasons for it. gned at the department that it is evident by the reference of warfare the Americans them and for that reason they aware that it has been impossible to accomplish anything by it is evident by the reference of General Otis makes it not clear that a rosate view of the situation there are reasons for it. gned at the department that it is evident by the reference of warfare the Americans them and for that reason they aware that it has been impossible to accomplish anything by it is evident by the reference of General Otis makes it not clear that a rosate view of the situation there are reasons for it. gned at the department that it is evident by the reference of warfare the Americans them and for that reason they aware that it has been impossible to accomplish anything by it is evident by the reference of General Otis makes it not clear that a rosate view of the situation there are reasons for it. gned at the department that it is evident by the reference of warfare the Americans them and for that reason they aware that it has been impossible to accomplish anything by it is evident by the reference of General Otis makes it not clear that a rosate view of the situation there are reasons for it. gned at the department that it is evident by the reference of warfare the Americans them and for that reason they aware that it has been impossible to accomplish anything by it is evident by the reference of General Otis makes it not clear that a rosate view of the situation there are reasons for it. gned at the department that it is evident by the reference of warfare the Americans them and for that reason they aware that it has been impossible to accomplish anything by it is evident by the reference of General Otis makes it not clear that a rosate view of the situation there are reasons for it. gned at the department that it is evident by the