

7000  
772,2  
5772

# OUTING.

VOL. XXX.

SEPTEMBER, 1897.

No. 6.



DRIVING A BARGAIN WITH THE NATIVES.

## FROM THE COAST TO THE GOLDEN KLONDIKE.

THE RECORD OF AN OFFICIAL JOURNEY.

By Edward Spurr.



THE question of the veracity of the rumors from time to time reaching the Government as to the mineral wealth, especially in gold, of the upper Yukon district of Alaska, and the conditions under and means by and times of the year at which the district

could best be reached, were in the early part of last year subjects of departmental consideration.

In order to gather reliable information on the geological questions involved, and, incidentally, of course, some others, I, in the spring of 1896, as a member of the United States Geological Survey, was officially requested to undertake a journey into the interior of Alaska.

I had never been west of Utah, and, judging from the few accounts of travelers who have written concerning this remote region of central and northern Alaska, the difficulties were considerable. Only one season was possible, and that was the near-approaching one of high summer, and only two routes are available. One must either go to St. Michael, in the Behring Sea, and thence

Copyrighted, 1897, by the OUTING Publishing Company. All rights reserved.

37682

Pacific N. W. Hist.

PROVINCIAL L.

VICTORIA, B. C.