

The Colonist.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1897.

ANANIAS REDIVIVUS.

We print an interview with Collector Milne this morning and venture to say that the statement he makes is almost unparalleled in the history of journalism. The subject of his remarks is the so-called interview with him printed in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer of Friday, which he pronounces a pure invention. He denies in the most emphatic way that he gave an interview on the subject of duties on goods taken into the Yukon to a representative of the Post-Intelligencer or any other newspaper. Mr. Milne is a gentleman whose word will be taken on this subject, and we therefore feel warranted in saying that the Post-Intelligencer has been guilty of knowingly publishing a deliberate falsehood. We can conceive of no greater offence against the public than that of which the Seattle paper has been guilty. In order that the nature of the outrage may be better understood, we give some of the facts of the case.

The Post-Intelligencer on Friday printed an interview in double-column width, in order to give emphasis to it, placed above it a great head like a hand-bill and set occasional sentences in a heavy lead letter. Nothing was lacking to make the so-called interview appear as an authoritative statement coming from "the Chief Officer of the Service," as Collector Milne was described. The interview purported to be a special dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer and bore date Victoria, November 4. The interview began with some complimentary references to the Collector, and then the interviewer went on to say that he had prepared a list of questions before calling on the Collector. "He received me with courtesy," says this lineal descendant of Ananias, "and devoted an hour to give the information sought." Then follow the questions, and then a long interview in quotation marks from Mr. Milne.

We regret for the honor of journalism to be compelled to brand this whole thing as untrue. No newspaper man sought or obtained an interview with Collector Milne; no one ever prepared a series of questions for him to answer; he never gave an hour to anyone, newspaper man or anyone else, to explain the policy which Canada will follow in regard to the Yukon trade.

"Collector Milne reached for his letter file," says this unparalleled interview, "and so on. We say most frankly that on any other authority than that of Mr. Milne himself, we would refuse to believe that any paper would have been guilty of such a base and dishonorable act. By what principle of conduct the Seattle paper will seek to defend its infamy we are unable to imagine. Mr. Milne recalls that a person, who said he was going to the Yukon, called on him to ask what amount of goods would be exempted; but not even to this person did he speak as he is reported in the Post-Intelligencer, and the conversation was in no sense an interview, but simply the case of a business man calling to make a few business inquiries, which did not occupy ten minutes time. Collector Milne is unable to imagine any other incident than that that could be twisted by the most infamous ingenuity into an interview, and if the Post-Intelligencer has had the baseness to amplify a short private conversation on business into a newspaper interview, it has parted with its last fragment of respectability. The occurrence is a most painful one, for it places Mr. Milne in a false position and compels us to speak in such terms of a contemporary.

OF INTEREST TO FARMERS.

Yesterday's steamer from Seattle brought to this city about twelve hundred sheep from Oregon. Saturday's steamer brought more than seven hundred, and there are several hundred more on the way. Probably the receipts of Oregon sheep in Victoria during ten days will reach nearly 2,500 head. This large number of animals is not being brought in because of any exceptional demand for them here, but simply for the reason that the price of sheep is going up, and it seems good policy to buy now rather than wait until later. Speaking of the supply of sheep and wool in the United States, "Farming" says that there is less than one-half in sight of what next year's market will demand. The consequence is that ranchers everywhere are holding sheep for a rise, and the last market report from Chicago says that farmers in the Middle West are buying all the sheep they can get for feeding.

We mention this matter for the purpose of emphasizing what we have already referred to as the immense importance of the farmers of British Columbia giving their attention to the raising of sheep to supply the home market. There is a steady demand now, and this will certainly be greatly increased as the population of the province and the requirements of the Yukon increase. We, therefore, again urge upon the farmers of British Columbia to give closer attention to sheep-raising. They can depend upon it that nothing will yield them greater returns for the money invested. It is safe to say that, enlarge their flocks as rapidly as they may, our farmers cannot hope to supply the home market during the next few years.

WILL THEY FIGHT?

Will the United States and Spain go to war? The question is of great interest to the whole civilized world and especially so to Canada, for anything that touches the welfare or the future of our great neighbor touches us only second to what affects the welfare of our own Empire. There seems to be a very general impression that they will. The United States has gone so far that it can hardly recede without a compromise by Spain with its wishes in regard to Cuba, and these are more than the Spanish monarchy can grant without precipitating a revolution at home. It is probably very true that the average Spaniard cares nothing about Cuba and that to the most of the people of the kingdom the island represents a grave where some of her best sons and much of her treasure has been buried; but for all that Spain cannot let her grasp upon the colony without such upheaval as will overthrow the throne. The nations of Europe recognize this and may not be unwilling to prevent it. Spain must realize that however successful she might be for a time in an encounter with the United States, however able a resistance she might be able to make, in the end defeat would be inevitable and Cuba would be lost. The actual present fighting force of the United States is not great, but its reserve force is enormous and in time this would be available. It therefore seems highly unlikely that Spain would risk an armed collision with the United States, at least strong moral backing from one or more of the Continental powers. We do not suggest that any power would espouse the cause of Spain at the outset and act offensively against the United States, but just as Great Britain interfered when the Czar's troops were in sight of Constantinople and prevented Russia from reaping the full harvest of her success in the last war with Turkey, so when it came to the settling of terms of peace between Spain and the United States, it is possible that one or more of the European nations might interfere.

There are reasons why they might desire to take such a course. If Cuba passes out of the control of Spain or into the hands of the United States, what is the Monroe doctrine? It is a highly aggravated form. Germany has designs upon a portion of South America. France has by no means abandoned her claims to the region between the recognized boundary of Guiana and the Amazon. The last for territory is upon the nations of Europe as never before, and there is something in the claim that so inferior a stock as that which possesses South America should not be allowed to control a continent which in some respects is the richest and most desirable of the earth's surface. That South America has not played a great role in human history is due to the character of the people who inhabit it and not to its lack of natural possibilities. We may feel very sure that if the government at Washington is allowed to dictate the future of Cuba, it will claim the right to exercise the same prerogative in regard to the whole of South America. The nations of continental Europe will not view any such consummation as that with equanimity.

We do not believe that Spain will receive either physical or moral support from Great Britain in any struggle with the United States. The people of England would never countenance anything that resembled an attempt to foster oppression on the people of Cuba. Moreover, Great Britain would not raise any great objection to an agreement with the United States whereby the acquisition of any territory in South America by her continental rivals could be prevented. Such a war would probably result in a rapprochement between the two great English-speaking nations.

In the event of war many things not now discussed would happen. For instance, the sea would probably swarm with privateers and many of our neighbor's cities would suffer severely. The United States not having entered into the convention prohibiting privateering, Spain would be at liberty to employ that means of warfare against her, and while the American navy is very formidable, it is not numerically strong enough to guard the whole coast. Take, for example, the Pacific Coast. It is vulnerable at several points, and there are not enough vessels on the North Pacific station to defend it. San Francisco being the chief city, would call for most of the ships, which would leave exposed the ports of Southern California, Portland and the cities of Puget Sound to the raid of privateers. So too on the Atlantic coast. The great strength of the navy would be gathered to defend New York, and this would leave the rest of the Atlantic and Gulf seaboard practically defenceless against swift steaming armed craft. If Spain acted with vigor she could inflict many severe blows upon her enemy at the coast, by destroying property of immense value and levying tribute to large amounts. If the United States' fleet could get a fair chance it would make short work of anything that Spain can put afloat, but nothing short of the navy of Great Britain could hope to defend the long coast line against privateers. On the other hand the United States could not accomplish very much in the way of retaliation, for the reason that the Spanish seaboard cities are few and better defended. The plan of cam-

paign which the United States would probably pursue would be to pour troops into Cuba and capture that island, to buy ships wherever money could get them and chase the Spanish privateers from the ocean. This could be successfully done, but before it had been accomplished many of the seaboard cities would doubtless be made to experience the horrors of war, or at least the sensation of being held up at the cannon's mouth for the payment of ransom.

THE ALL-CANADIAN ROUTE.

It is satisfactory to know that the provincial government intends to take early steps to secure the opening of a road from the Stikine river to Teslin lake, and that the expenditure may in the first place be for the purpose of opening a road that can be used by sleighs in the winter. The Dominion government is also fully alive to the importance of this step and will undoubtedly co-operate with the province in making a summer trail, if no more. We have also the best reason to believe that the Dominion government will either itself construct a railway to Teslin lake or substantially aid a company in so doing. That an all-Canadian route will be assured may be taken for granted, and it is also absolutely certain that it will be ready for traffic early next year.

The step is important for several considerations, and for none more than to prevent a recurrence of the scenes of Skagway during the past season. We have not been of those who have condemned the Skagway trail, for the reason that we understood the nature of the trail from the start and represented its nature correctly as one that was sufficient for the purpose it was intended for, which was not to provide a way for thousands of people and horses to cross the Divide in a hurry. The construction of the trail were building something primarily for their own use, and that it broke down when subject to extraordinary pressure was no fault of theirs nor sufficient ground to condemn the trail as useless. At the same time it is obvious that next year, beginning as early as January, there will be a rush of people into the Yukon and the greater part of the people will seek the Stikine-Teslin route. It is of prime importance therefore that nothing should be left undone which will prevent a repetition of such scenes as transpired on Skagway trail. The Canadian route must not receive a black eye at the outset if a reasonable expenditure of money can prevent it, and only a reasonable sum is necessary.

There is probably no one thing which will be viewed with more general approval than the immediate opening of a road to Teslin lake. It will mean very much to the business interests of this city as well as of Vancouver, Nanaimo and New Westminster. In fighting the battle for the Yukon trade, the Colonist has felt that it was working almost as much in the interests of the other cities named as in those of Victoria, for the reason that the amount of outfitting to be done will give the merchants of all the British Columbia coast cities all they can attend to, provided the business is directed into the right channels. So also anything which either government or both of them can do to further the trade from Canadian cities to the Canadian Yukon through Canadian territory will be of as much value to one locality as another. It is, as we have said, highly satisfactory to feel assured of the readiness of both governments to co-operate in this matter.

SIR JOHN MACDONALD
AND THE C. P. R.
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The Baroness Macdonald in her review article has hardly given a correct idea of the circumstances attending the construction of the Canadian Pacific railway. In its brief comments upon her observations, the Colonist said that they had the charm of entire novelty. They seem open to another criticism, namely, that they are either indefinite or erroneous. It is a part of the history of Canada that the original idea for the building of the transcontinental line was by means of a company, of which Sir Hugh Allan was to be the head. When Alexander Mackenzie came into power he went on with the work as a government undertaking, and during the early part of the second Macdonald regime contracts were let for the construction of portions of the line. Experience showed that government construction was attended with enormous difficulties, and the resolution was formed to abandon it. The contract was according to the Stephen-Smith syndicate, a part of the terms being that the government should complete the work then in hand and turn it over to the syndicate together with a bonus of \$25,000,000 and 25,000,000 acres of land.

This statement of the case is not quite consistent with Lady Macdonald's explanation as published, but it may be that she has reference to something of which the public has no knowledge. As we have shown, the government deliberately abandoned the construction of the road as a public work, and it is hardly possible that this would have been done without the full knowledge and approval of the Premier.

These papers are reprinting the alleged will of Peter the Great, said to be the key-stone of Russian diplomacy. There is no doubt that the whole thing is an ingenious forgery.

A VERY NARROW VIEW

COMBATED.

The Toronto Globe in the course of an article on the Yukon mines, makes the following remarkably narrow observation:

It is natural to estimate this as the great development of a Canadian industry, but in that respect its economic importance may be over-estimated. Its chief value to the Dominion will be the amount of public wealth reserved by the prompt action of the Dominion government in requiring a 20 per cent. royalty on the richer workings and in reserving alternate claims.

The policy of Canada in regard to the Yukon mines should be governed by no such small conception as this. The Globe will be somewhat surprised to learn of the likelihood of a complete reservation of the regulations in regard to the reservation. We fancy also that it will have to prepare itself to abandon its advocacy of a high royalty. Hon. Mr. Sifton was very explicit in his statement on the former point, and we believe he will be made to see the error of his views on the former before the next season's work begins. As will have been observed by Colonist readers, the latest news from the Yukon is that the royalty has not yet been exacted, although we understand that Major Walsh takes instructions with him to enforce that portion of the regulations. As it is now too late to do anything this year, we hope that before the work of next season begins the government will have seen its way clear to modify the rule in this respect as well as in regard to the alternate claims.

We take exception altogether to the assertion of the Globe that the chief value of the Yukon mines to the Dominion will be the amount of public wealth "reserved" by the royalty. We claim, indeed, that more good has already resulted to Canada from the Klondyke discoveries than would have resulted from the payment into the Dominion treasury of the whole output of those mines. The great benefit which Canada will derive from the gold discoveries will not be measured at all by the treasury receipts in the way of royalty. The Globe itself estimates that half a million people will seek the Yukon next year. If this is the case, and they contribute to the revenue of the Dominion in the same proportion as the population of British Columbia, they will pay \$9,000,000 a year, which will be equal to the royalty on \$45,000,000 of gold at the maximum figure. That the output of the Yukon next year will reach such a sum is highly improbable. That a continuous output of such an amount can be looked for is also improbable; but that a half million people will reside permanently in the Yukon country and engage in mining is beyond all reasonable doubt. It is, indeed, safe to estimate that the contribution of the residents of the Yukon valley, directly and indirectly, to the revenue of Canada will after the close of next year reach the vast sum of \$10,000,000 a year, that is if the expectations of the Toronto Globe in regard to the influx are verified, and our contemporary can hardly object to our arguing from its own premises.

But the revenue standpoint is by all means the smallest in importance of those from which the consideration of this question can be and ought to be approached. Gold is not mined without great expense, and every dollar's worth of the precious metal taken out of the Yukon will cost a very large part of a dollar. It has been estimated by economists that the actual production of gold costs as much as it is worth. This does not mean that if a man gets out \$1,000 of the metal he has spent a million dollars to get it, but simply that the expenditure in labor, machinery, prospecting, transportation, food, clothing and all the other commodities used in connection with mining, including what is spent without anything being realized, is equal to the value of the gold obtained. Of course this is a matter of opinion, and there are exceptional localities from which gold can be got at a less aggregate expense of labor and capital than from others. The Yukon is not one of these, and great as is the wealth of the Golden North, we venture to predict that, if an account could be taken of what it would cost to exploit its wealth, the amount would not fall very far short of the money value of that wealth. Practically everything which the miners over a great part of the Yukon country will need must be produced elsewhere and be carried into the country. It is not wholly true that no part of the Yukon valley is fit for settlement. Dr. Dawson says quite the contrary, and claims that some of the harder grains can be profitably grown in some of the valleys. Grasses and cereals, and if roads can be successfully grown, there is no reason why cattle cannot be kept further north than the 60th parallel. But dismissing all possibilities in this direction as too uncertain to be taken into account, it is undoubtedly true that a vast region in British Columbia and the Territory of Alberta, lying immediately south of the Yukon district, is fit for settlement, cultivation and stock raising. That this great area will be populated in order to supply the Yukon miners, in the first place, and remain a prosperous agricultural and pastoral country, finding markets for produce in mines nearer home, cannot be successfully denied. It is one of the great points in favor of the Canadian gold fields that they have, either sur-

rounding them or adjacent to them and easily accessible, vast areas that can produce food for the use of the miners. We shall not attempt to give any figures bearing upon this point, but it ought not to be necessary to quote statistics to the Globe to prove the force of what we say. We take the position that the settlement of those portions of British Columbia and Alberta adjacent to the Yukon gold fields will be of more value to Canada than any royalty which the government can exact.

But it is not the direct benefits alone to which we must look in considering a question of this nature. We do not believe in that conception of statesmanship that looks so far ahead that it cannot see what is close at hand, but we do say that the standing which will be given to Canada by the fact of her possessing rich gold fields is of greater value to the country than any amount of money that can be "reserved" from the miners of the Yukon. Already, as we have said above, great good has resulted from the Yukon discoveries. The whole world is re-talking of Canada. The eyes of millions are turned in our direction, and we have only to show to the world that we make a welcome to all who choose to make their homes with us, in order to turn to our shores the tide of immigration which hitherto has gone elsewhere. With millions of acres of fertile lands awaiting colonization, with all our vast resources in forest, mine and fisheries awaiting development, surely anything that will contribute towards bringing people to our country to remain with us is not to be brushed aside, as unworthy to be taken into account in comparison with the amount of royalty that may be derived from the Yukon mines. The cry of Canada has been for people. The effort of every administration has been to attract people to the country and to keep them after they come here. In this great mining development we have the means of accomplishing what we have for three decades been striving to do, with very slight success; and yet we find the chief organ of a great political party, the party now in power, throwing it aside and treating the amount of tribute which the country can bring from miners, and the practical confiscation of half the result of their arduous labor in prospecting, as of infinitely greater importance and of such immense value that "it is a line of policy which could be prosecuted even further in the public interest."

The Globe sees nothing in the Yukon mines but a source of possible relief for the Canadian taxpayer. We do not believe it voices the sentiment of its people, or of the government which it supports, in putting so narrow and statesmanlike a view of the case forward as the one that ought to prevail. We say further, that if its conception of the policy which ought to prevail in dealing with the undeveloped resources of Canada correctly reflects the views of the Laurier ministry, it is a most unfortunate thing for the Dominion that men with a broader grasp are not at the helm at this crisis. We are unwilling to claim such to be the case, and it would be unfair to do so, in view of the statements made by Hon. Mr. Sifton to the citizens of Victoria in his Board of Trade address. We are hopeful that Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues will rise to an appreciation of what the slight idea of the country demand, and will not barter the enormous stocks carried by many of the local merchants. Views of the principal streets and the public buildings will add those at a distance in the appreciation of the extent and importance of the city. This will include churches and the educational establishments. Views of the more pretentious private dwellings, together with bits of scenery in and about the corporate limits, will add beauty to the pages of the publication, and in this particular feature of Victoria's environment it is proposed to do justice to the Queen City of the West.

As directly bearing on miners' outfitting many of the wholesale and retail establishments will also form subjects of illustration, both interior as well as exterior views, giving to all a slight idea of the enormous stocks carried by many of the local merchants. Views of the principal streets and the public buildings will add those at a distance in the appreciation of the extent and importance of the city. This will include churches and the educational establishments. Views of the more pretentious private dwellings, together with bits of scenery in and about the corporate limits, will add beauty to the pages of the publication, and in this particular feature of Victoria's environment it is proposed to do justice to the Queen City of the West.

As regards the Yukon district itself, reproductions of latest views procurable will be included in the list of illustrations, as well as photographs along the various routes leading to the mines. Interesting articles descriptive of the mines and the country from the pens of the best authorities will form a large portion of the letter press.

In fact the entire edition will be gotten up in such a manner as to be eminently fitted to mark what all will agree will be one of the most important mile posts in this city's progress towards increased prosperity and importance.

The appointment of Mr. William Templeman to the position of Senator vice the Hon. Mr. McInnes, who becomes Lieutenant-Governor, will cause a good deal of hard feeling in Liberal ranks. So far as the Colonist is concerned, although it has not often been able to see eyes to eye with Mr. Templeman on public questions and has had many a heated controversy with the paper controlled by him, it most cordially congratulates him upon his political promotion and hopes that he may long enjoy his new honors. Mr. Templeman is in a position to do much good to the province and we feel sure will spare no effort to make his appointment reflect credit upon the government by which it has been made.

A FAIR TRIAL.
"I was troubled with a very bad headache last winter and decided to give Lazarus Pills a fair trial. One box of them cured me and I have not had a headache since. They are a long way of any other remedy I have ever tried."
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but it is rather extravagant to say that they are now the cause of international complication. When they do come up for reconsideration, we suggest that there are one or two points in regard to fisheries on the Pacific coast that might also be disposed of, especially the right of United States citizens to take halibut in Hecate strait. United States citizens have no rights in the Fraser river and there can be no controversy over them. Canadians claim no rights on Puget Sound and there can be no controversy over them, so-called, and reciprocity. In respect to the former, the habits of our neighbors is to discuss it as something enormously for the benefit of Canada and in which they have no interest, except to do a neighborly act for a rival people. This is an entirely false conception of the matter. We venture to say that if the bonding privilege were rescinded there would be a greater out-cry from the United States business men than from Canadians. Among the people who clamor at times for the rescinding of this regulation are the newspaper men of Seattle, and yet it is recognized by the business men of that city that the ability to use the Canadian Pacific as a competitive route to and from the East is of vast benefit. We fancy that Portland, Me., and Boston would clamor more lustily against the abolition of the privilege than St. John or Halifax. Reciprocity on a fair basis will always be welcomed by Canada, but the day has gone by when any ministry dare go to Washington to ask it as a favor or offer to sacrifice anything in order to obtain it. We want reciprocity, but it must be reciprocity. We will not have a surrender, masked under a more attractive name.

THE NEW YEAR'S "COLONIST."
The approaching New Year's edition of the Colonist is intended to be made one of unusual interest. The paper will upon this occasion be enlarged to 24 pages and an addition of at least 25,000 will be worked off. The number will be freely illustrated with half-tone reproductions, and to permit of this being done a much better quality of paper will be used than that upon which it is ordinarily printed. In fact the entire publication will be carried out on a scale never hitherto attempted in this city, and will afford the outside world a correct idea of Victoria's importance, not only commercially, but as an unrivaled residential city. As a matter of course it will be a principal object to attract the attention of some of the hundreds of thousands whose eyes are turned towards the Yukon and whose armies will be in motion early in the new year on all routes leading towards the golden Northland. Victoria's commanding geographical position in connection with the Klondyke trade will be illustrated by means of maps, and under the head of "Ships and Shipping" the home fleet of steamers engaged in the Northern trade will also be prominent features—photographic reproductions of many of the vessels enabling travellers to form a correct idea of this city's capability of handling the traffic.

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NOTICE.
Notice is hereby given that two months after date I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase the following described land situated in the District of Columbia, and described as follows:—Commencing at a post situated on the west shore of Teslin Lake and about 8 chains north from the "O" post the said place of commencement and occupation notice, thence west 40 chains, thence south 40 chains, thence east 40 chains, to the lake shore, thence northerly along the lake shore to place of commencement, containing one hundred and sixty acres more or less.
Dated the 25th day of October, 1897, at
J. P. CALDERHEAD.

NOTICE is hereby given that two months after date I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase the following described land situated in the District of Columbia, and described as follows:—Commencing at a post situated on the west shore of South Arm of Teslin Lake, marked "James Damsch's land," thence west 80 chains, thence south 80 chains, thence east 80 chains, thence north 80 chains, to the lake shore, thence northerly along the lake shore to place of commencement, containing one hundred and sixty acres more or less.
Dated this 10th day of October, 1897, at
A. BOYD.

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NOTICE is hereby given that sixty days after date I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase the following described land situated in the District of Columbia, and described as follows:—Commencing at a post situated on the west shore of South Arm of Teslin Lake, marked "James Damsch's land," thence west 80 chains, thence south 80 chains, thence east 80 chains, thence north 80 chains, to the lake shore, thence northerly along the lake shore to place of commencement, containing one hundred and sixty acres more or less.
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NANAIMO, Nov. 8.
Steamer George W. arrived here to-day several passengers, Donald Nicholson, of Free Press publisher, in with Mr. Nicholson, the food perplexing question left there were seen. The stores have used to sell any stores. Nicholson said the boats not arrive there privation and probable good many.

Mr. Nicholson by country to be rich says it can never be until provisions are plentiful at \$1.50 per bushel to reduce wages to \$1.00 per bushel. Mr. Nicholson says he is per hour; and others. The Mounted Police, places in the establishing posts or are taking in United dailies. Commence a monthly mail service, carrying letters.

The gold commission Police did not consider the existing circumstances of the 20 per cent reservation of altered have been laid over of Commissioner W. The miners are no out licenses, but each staking a claim, while and surveying. The privilege of a second. The Mounted Police visited several boats. Mud lake to camp as they had not a reach Dawson before in. When the Nic month of July the freely. He says the current of good finds Pelly rivers.

Several crafts were river loaded with tons carcasses of mutton, on frame of work of weather was cold. Meat in good condition and party was in October 30 preparing river.

Mr. Nicholson says go in over the Skagway known in the spring return as the Big F

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HAVANA, Nov. 8.
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