



From a mountain 6,350 feet high between Davidson and Rainbow Glaciers, looking east towards Point Seduction.

From a mountain 6,250 feet high between Davidson and Rainbow Glaciers, looking S. S.-E. down Lynn Canal.

LEADING TO THE KLONDIKE PASSES.

From Photos by W. F. King, Chief Astronomer to the Dominion Government.

to accompany the major and his party as far as Tagish, so as to inspect for himself the facilities for landing passengers and traffic, and conveying them over the summits of the passes. In order to keep the balance of justice in case of differences or crime, Judge McGuire, of Prince Albert, has been transferred to Dawson City, where his court will be held. A gold commissioner has been appointed to take over some of the duties hitherto performed by Inspector Constantine, and has power to make such regulations as his experience proves necessary for enforcing the law on placer mining, and a force of eighty Mounted Police, with a Maxim gun, are already on the way. This force is likely to be increased to 125.

The arrangements for the carrying of mails are nearly complete. This has been done by the friendly co-operation of the Canadian and American Governments. The latter Government will carry the mails free from Victoria to Dyea, when they will be handed over to the Mounted Police, and the Canadian Government undertakes that the mail shall be carried once a month between Dawson City and Dyea. Both these cities will be declared International Postage Exchange offices. There are already post offices at Dawson City, Fort Cudahy, and Forty Mile, and others will necessarily follow. This arrangement is to be supplemented by the work of a Government commission consisting of an astronomer, surveyors, geologists, and telegraph experts, part of whose business will be the establishment of telegraph communication between the various important points and telephone lines

The number of edible vegetables and fruits that can be grown in the region is larger than at first supposed. Wild onions, rhubarb, blueberries, cranberries, salmonberry, wild raspberries and red currants grow in abundance on the sides of the mountains, and the Department of the Interior has just received from Mr. Ogilvie a bunch of wheat bearing the following card: "Grown at Fort Cudahy from accidental planting in the autumn of 1895. All from one root and cut 14 inches above ground, Sept. 7th, 1896." August 27th, min. temp., 31.8. August 31st, min. temp., 27.2; Sept. 1st, min. temp., 27.6. The wheat is not of the highest grade, but it is good nourishing grain.

The severe cold for so many months in the year seems to present the greatest ultimate difficulty, but Mr. Ladue says he has chopped wood in his shirt sleeves when the thermometer registered 70 degrees below zero and suffered no inconvenience.

Judge McGuire, who will preside over the courts of the Yukon district, was formerly a partner of the late James O'Reilly, in Kingston, and has for about twelve years been one of the judges of the Supreme Court of the North-West Territories.

A. E. Mills has gone from Victoria to Lake Teslin to erect a saw-mill there for F. M. Yorke, who also contemplates building a steamer on that lake.

A report from Lake Lyndeman, dated last month, says there are about 400 men on that lake and Lake Bennett building rough boats in which to descend the river to the Klondike mines.



NEAR THE HEADWATERS OF MILLER CREEK, YUKON DISTRICT. From a Photo by Capt. Deville, Surveyor-General.

between the principal mining camps. That so much has already been done for a hitherto almost inaccessible district in the interest of human life and comfort, affords a strong presumption that ere long the only deterrent will be that of the climate, and even that is in some measure subservient to the advances of industry and civilization.

Both Dawson City and Shkagway are assuming the appearance of municipalities. Late last year the inhabitants of Dawson City numbered 4,000, and Mr. Ladue, who owns the site, estimates that next June it will have run up to 25,000. It may not, of course, remain at that figure; but a residue of the miners, and the certain increase of stores of various kinds, will make Dawson a very considerable town. Already it has a saw mill and Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist and Roman Catholic churches. It is the headquarters of the Mounted Police, and the Government intends to establish a bank there, where the gold of the miners can be deposited and exchanged for drafts. This will, of course, necessitate the establishment of an assay office. Shkagway has already a Broadway and several avenues, and many of the miners are locating lots and building houses. It is estimated that next year its population will reach 5,000.

James D. McGregor, of Brandon, has been appointed inspector of mines for the Yukon, and is on his way to the Klondike.

On the authority of Hon. James Orr, the first member for Cariboo in the crown colony parliament of B.C., and John King, a Spokane miner, the B.C. *Mining Journal* gives the following as an easy pack route: Ashcroft to Quesnelle, 220 miles; Quesnelle to Fort Fraser, 140 miles; Fort Fraser to Decker Lake, 30 miles; Decker Lake to Hazelton, 75 miles; Hazelton to Kispiox, 9 miles; Kispiox to Stickeen above canyon, 90 miles; Stickeen above canyon to Teslin Lake, 120 miles; total, 684 miles, with good feed from the first of May until fall all the way. At no point is there a stretch of more than 20 miles without good feed. For hundreds of miles peavine is found in profusion, and blue joint stands along the lakes and water courses higher than a man on horseback in places. There are no high divides to cross, and good roads could easily be made from Quesnelle to Lake Teslin, on which route fresh horse feed can be had in plenty from 1st May to 1st November. The Hudson Bay Company turn out its "cayuses" all winter, and in the spring they are fat. They paw up the snow and get at the grass. In Lake Teslin salmon are captured weighing as much as 40