

GUSTIN'S PASSENGERS HAPPY

They Are Well Treated and Feel Like Lords.

Great Excitement Prevails at Circle Over Tanana—Plenty of Work for Packers at \$1.25 per Pound.

Under date of June 8th, Mr. Joe J. West, who left Dawson on the A. E. Co.'s steamer F. K. Gustin, writes as follows:

As per my promise, I drop you these few lines to inform you that we are having a most enjoyable trip. All the passengers consider themselves lucky for having shipped on the Gustin, as all are treated finely and the table is as good as I saw on any steamer in any country.

We were at Circle 5 1/2 hours and while there I made inquiry and obtained considerable information relative to the Tanana country, and from every quarter I heard the most flattering reports. There is no doubt but that they have struck it rich in the Tanana country and it is to be one of the big districts of the country in the near future.

Nearly all who left Dawson for Koyukuk changed their minds on reaching Circle and went to the Tanana.

There is great demand for packers to take goods out from Circle to the Tanana diggings a distance of 125 miles at \$1.25 per pound, and those who have horses and mules at Circle are making lots of money and are rushed with work.

Thus far I have been unable to obtain any favorable information regarding the Koyukuk. I talked with a number from there and when I told them I wanted only plain facts regarding the country, they had very little to say.

At all points where we have stopped the Merwin has been reported as getting along nicely. She was tied up by the officials for 10 hours at Circle, but arrangements were made by which she was allowed to proceed.

The Gustin's passengers held a dance while in Circle while the steamer was at the dock, and there was a hot time in the old town. It was thoroughly awakened from its winter's sleep.

Very few people are left in Circle, those who did not go to Nome over the ice having since gone to Tanana. A soldier told me at Circle that the distance to the Tanana discovery claim is only 80 miles, and that he and Jack Carr had made the trip into Circle in 24 hours, but I took his story with a grain of salt.

There is a great scarcity of grub at Fort Yukon. The Indians there say that the Chandalar trail to the Koyukuk is impassable in the summer season. The Dall river trail, however, is said to be good in summer.

Capt. Talbot boarded the Gustin at Circle also. G. B. Swinehart, who left Dawson on the Wyvern, which broke down; but she was repaired and left Circle under her own steam. She evidently had another mishap, as when she passed Rampart she had no steam and was being rowed.

Don't forget to mail me the Nugget regularly to Nome.

JOE J. WEST.

Swanson-Long Wrestling Match.

There have been so many things announced lately in the line of sports which never really took place, such as glove contests, that the audience which assembled last night, or rather very early this morning, to see the wrestling match between Swanson and Long, were in some doubt in the beginning as to whether they were to see a wrestling match or a pure and simple exhibition of gall. However, this point was made clear within a few minutes after the preliminaries had been arranged. The choice of referees was left to the audience which had some difficulty in deciding who was the proper one to decide the momentous question, but finally after the names of Leroy Tozier, Mr. Krelling and Eddie O'Brien had been thoroughly canvassed, the latter was selected and quickly arranged matters between the principals, who agreed to bar the struggle hold and favor the flying fall. Then they were introduced to the audience, and at the call of time stepped to the center of the mat and shook hands.

After a number of attempts to get satisfactory holds each seemed to be satisfied with the grip he had acquired upon the arm and back of his opponent's neck, and the big thing was on. The men were warned several times, with little cause, however, to be careful about chokers, and finally when they came to the mat it was very evident to

all that Long was considerably shy in averdupois and muscle, and although he did his best to earn the money he was never in it for a minute. His work was clever and rapid, however, and drew the proper recognition from the audience on several occasions when he neatly avoided falls which seemed inevitable.

The time of the first bout was eleven minutes thirty-five and a half seconds, and was given to Swanson on what the referee tacitly admitted to be a mistake by his decision, or lack of decision in the second bout. The fall, if it was a fall, occurred on a back corner of the mat, and even those sitting within a few feet of the men were unable to agree as to whether there had been a fall or not, so quickly was it done.

The men and their seconds went to the dressing rooms for 15 minutes, during which time—to such a pitch had enthusiasm reached—a match was arranged for a \$1000 purse between Eddie O'Brien and Tom Chisholm, catch-what-you-can.

At the expiration of the 15 minutes allowed between bouts the men once more faced each other and soon got down to business and the mat, where quite a long struggle took place. Two or three falls were called by the audience for Swanson, and they were not without cause. But the referee, seeming to think that he had possibly been mistaken in his award of the first fall would not allow any of them, and the bout lasted eleven minutes eight and a half seconds. Several times the men were called back to the mat, and once when Swanson gained a clear fall it was not allowed because it was off—the mat. Again and again it seemed that victory was certain for Swanson, but the lighter man avoided him with great cleverness and speed. It was only a question of time, however, till the extra weight of Swanson told, and with a half-Nelson he put his man down and held him long enough to leave no room to doubt his victory.

Notwithstanding his defeat, Long came out of the contest with flying colors and an acknowledgment from the public of his worth and cleverness. If he had 20 pounds more weight of the same kind he already had, the contest might have been different.

The audience was satisfied to an extent quite refreshing by its rarity on such occasions, and the patronage of events to come has received a stimulus much needed, and, but for this event but little deserved.

The Alert Changes Hands.

The small screw steamer brought here from the lakes and till recently owned by Orr & Tukey, was sold a few days since to Jules Stockford, Brandmire and Cunningham. The little steamer will be taken back up the river as far as Lake LeBarge, where she will be used as a tow boat. Many who crossed the Chilcoot pass in '98 will remember gratefully the speedy little boat which carried passengers and towed scows across Lake Lindeman. The Alert was shipped in sections over the Chilcoot from the Sound in the spring of '98.

Beef for Uncle Sam.

Yesterday afternoon Hanley and Dalton brought to the yards across the river, 46 head of beef cattle, en route to United States posts down the river. These cattle are the first of a consignment of 300 head which Messrs. Hanley and Dalton are bringing in over the Dalton trail to fulfill a contract with the U. S. government. The cattle go through in bond.

Drowned in the Klondike.

Eight horses and two wagons, the property of Mr. Cameron, a Klondike City freighter, got beyond their depths in the Klondike river at the portage yesterday. All the horses except one, which was swept away and drowned, were saved. One wagon which was loaded is still in the river and will be saved, while the other, which was empty, was swept away.

Reported Riches.

It is known that when the steamer Lightning sailed for up the river a few days ago she carried a party of men headed by Messrs. Matlock and Frazier, and that they took with them eight small boats and three months' provisions. Where they were going was not then stated at the time of their departure, as every man was as mum as a clam when questioned as to their intentions. It is since reported, however, that two of the men had but recently returned from a prospecting trip on Stewart river and that the exodus of the party was due to reports of the finding of a small stream tributary to the Stewart on which dirt was found which yields two ounces of gold to the pan.

As there are said to be better bar diggings on the Stewart than any of the other rivers on the whole Yukon, there is no doubt but that there is a head from whence comes the bar gold, and there is further no doubt but that per-

sistent prospecting will result in its discovery if it has not already been found. The return of the mysteriously acting party will be awaited with no small degree of interest.

Curtain Raisers.

Dave Henderson is back from Havana with his tobacco sance show. It lost money, as has nearly everything he has touched lately.

The play made of "David Harum" for Charles Frohman, in accordance with his advice, by R. and M. W. Hitchcock has been approved by William H. Crane, who will appear in it early in April.

"Since her marriage," says a dramatic writer, "Mrs. Mansfield has better advanced her husband's interests by the recent investment of his fast growing estate than possibly she could have done by remaining on the stage."

Some theatrical facts: Barnabee is 63 years old. Irving is 5 feet 11 inches in height. Edna May has \$100,000 worth of diamonds. Crane has been on the boards 35 years. Paderewski's opera will be produced next summer.

When Maude Adams reopened in "The Little Minister" in New York, a pleasant feature was the presence in a stage box of Robert Edson, the original of the title part, who, be it added to his credit, liberally applauded the work of his successor, Orrin Johnson.

The new play "Vanity Fair," which the late Charles Coghlan was writing, was dictated to Mrs. Coghlan. It is all finished, except the last act, for which Mrs. Coghlan has many of her husband's notes and addenda. It is said that Clement Scott, the English critic, will finish the piece and that Miss Coghlan will star in it next season.

A Future Possibility.

It may be that there'll come a time some day when it can be said there are "cattle upon a thousand hills" in the vale of the Yukon. There is a fair start towards this condition as one hill across the river was spotted with cattle this morning, both milch cows and beef steers, 31 head of the latter having arrived on the steamer Lowe.

Table de hote dinners. The Holborn

Otis Sea Island Balbriggan underwear, silk finished. Star Clothing House.

Potatoes, only the best. Mohr & Wilkens.

Linen coats, straw and linen hats, at the Star Clothing House.

For the latest in clothing, hats, shoes, underwear, Star Clothing House.

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David Harum, Richard Carvil, King Atwood, Red Rock, Janice Meredith, Resurrection, and all the latest at the Standard.

Short orders served right. The Holborn.

Potatoes, eggs, lemons. Mohr & Wilkens.

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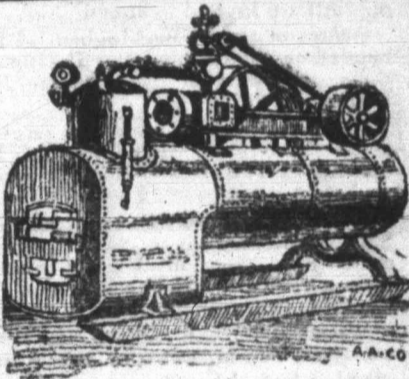
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FOURTH OF JULY

CELEBRATION.

EVERY woman and child should turn out and see the sports and contests and above all the parade, which will, no doubt, be the grandest sight ever seen in this country.

The day may be very warm, so prepare yourself with suitable clothing for the occasion, especially in Headgear and Footgear. We will place on sale our entire stock of MILLINERY, PATERN HATS, TRIMMED HATS, SALOR HATS, GIRL'S AND MISSES' HATS, BOYS' AND YOUTHS' CLOTH AND STRAW HATS, at ONE-HALF their former prices. Also a complete line of LADIES' OXFORD TIE SLIPPERS and HIGH CUT SLOGS, at prices ranging from \$2.50 to \$5.00. Don't overlook this opportunity, as everything goes; no reserve.

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