

### COUNTRY NOT PROSPECTED.

That Is What A. J. Paxton Says of Fortymile District.

Military Road to Be Built This Year From Valdez to Fort Egbert Will Open It Up.

Mr. A. J. Paxton, who at one time was editor and proprietor of the Friday Harbor (Wash.) Islander, the only newspaper in San Juan county, is in the city, having arrived a few days ago from the Fortymile country, where he has been for the past 20 months. While here Mr. Paxton is the guest of his cousin, Joseph Green, the well-known waterworks man.

Mr. Paxton's experience in the far northland has been extensive and varied. In the fall of '96, a full year before there was any excitement over or rush to the Copper river country, he landed with his partner at Port Valdez and pushed into the interior of the country. When they had reached a point 75 miles up the river, having packed their outfits that distance of a hard, laborious and formerly untrodden route, they were overtaken by winter, and the snow being of such depth as to preclude further traveling, they erected a cabin in which they lived for five long months without gazing on the face of a human being except that of each other. With the advent of the spring, 1897, they got out and for several months prospected the Copper river and many of its tributaries but were not rewarded for their labors by the discovery of any paying property. In the fall their stock of supplies having run low, they returned to the Sound country.

The lust for gold, like an incoming tide, is hard to stem; and before Paxton had been one month on the Sound, he had secured a second outfit and was ready to start for Dawson. He arrived here early in '98, but stayed for only a few days, pushing on down the river to the Fortymile country where he has since been. Most of his time there has been spent about 100 miles back from the Yukon and but little farther from the Alaskan coast. He has done considerable prospecting, but is reticent as to details of his discoveries.

In a general way, however, he speaks very favorably of the entire district, but says on Jack Wade are the best paying properties yet discovered; but he says that is due to the fact that Wade has been more thoroughly prospected than the other creeks on which shallow holes only have been sunk, and that at irregular intervals. Three or four claims on Chicken creek are being worked and are yielding high grade gravel. Pay has also been struck on the Hutchinson creek, but the latter has been but little prospected.

Although but a very few holes have been put down on the hillsides on Jack Wade, good pay has been found and there is every indication that there is an abundance of gold on that stream both in the creek and hillside claims. Mr. Paxton gives it as his opinion that the history of Sulphur creek in the Klondike district will be repeated in the case of Jack Wade, in that the more it is developed and worked the better and more extensive in gold-bearing gravel it will prove to be. No prospecting has yet been done on hillsides and benches of Chicken, Hutchinson or any other of the tributary streams.

Mr. Paxton sees a brilliant future for the Fortymile district from the fact that a military road over which it will be possible to freight supplies and machinery from either Valdez or the Yukon to intermediate points is to be constructed by the U. S. government this season. Col. Ray, commanding the U. S. troops of Fort Egbert has received orders from the war department to put men to work on the construction of the road as soon as the weather will permit, which time will be within the next 30 days.

By the use of this road it will be possible to transport mining machinery into a large area of country where the hydraulic process can be worked with profit. Two hydraulic plants are now lying at Valdez awaiting transportation to the Chistchina country, where there are excellent hydraulic propositions, the gravel being low grade but very easy of access when once the machinery is on the ground.

#### Danish West Indies.

The resignation of the Danish cabinet means two things of importance to the United States, says a Washington dispatch to the World. First, it is probable that this country will be able to buy the Danish West Indies for \$4,000,000, as provided for in the Gardner

bill now before the foreign relations committee of the house, or for any other sum. Second, by the time this congress adjourned the German flag will be flying over the islands of St. John and St. Thomas, of the Danish West Indies group, by right of lease from the Danish government to the Emperor of Germany.

Negotiations between this government and Denmark for the purchase of the islands were practically terminated yesterday by the resignation of the ministry, headed by Prime Minister Hoerling. The cabinet resigned because of the great popular movement against the sale of the Danish West Indies to the United States. The new cabinet will be made up of Danish politicians in favor of retaining the islands.

#### Bicycling in 1900.

Last fall, when the outlook for bicycle racing in America this season was especially black, all the best professional speed merchants began to make arrangements to go abroad this spring and spend their summer racing in Europe. Since the cycle show was held in New York last month, however, the atmosphere has cleared somewhat, so that now the indications are that 1900 will be one of the banner years as far as racing is concerned. Several of the big manufacturers have said that they will go back to the old plan of supporting racing teams. This made the professionals think that there was a probability of the bonanza times of 1895 and 1896 being again seen, and plans to go abroad were thrown overboard in a hurry.

Of course a few Americans will race in Europe this season, for some of them have already signed contracts to appear on Parisian and other tracks. Harry Elkes, the middle distance champion, is already over there, and Arthur Zimmerman and Eddie Bald are to ride in a match race next summer, while one or two others may go over for some of the big races.

Instead of a big exodus of American cyclists to Europe this year it now looks as though several Europeans would cross over to race on this side. In a private letter recently received by a Boston man it was stated that Johnny Walters, the crack British racing man, would shortly come over to America, and several of the Frenchmen who were over here during the winter expressed a desire to return. Altogether the outlook for cycling next summer is very bright.

#### Decline in Horses.

Within the past 60 days horses in Dawson have depreciated in value more than 150 per cent. An animal that would readily sell at from \$200 to \$250 in February is now lucky to find a buyer at from \$75 to \$100, and especially is the animal lucky if the new owner has any hay and grain.

There are several reasons for the decline in the price of horses in the local market.

First—The large number which have recently arrived with freight over the ice have overstocked the market.

Second—The scarcity of feed which prevails makes it almost impossible at any price to secure sufficient to enable the owner of a team to feed it sufficiently well so as to keep his animals in fit condition for heavy work, and the freight in this part of the country is of the heavy order.

Third—Even with plenty of feed, if it could be had, there are not wagons sufficient in Dawson to employ one-fourth the number of horses and mules now here, and as the sledding season is past, no man can afford to keep his team in his stable at the present price of feed for the reason that, to use an agricultural expression, a horse will "eat his head off" in a very short time.

It is estimated that between 400 and 600 head of horses and mules have reached Dawson over the ice in the past 45 days, and that fully 200 are yet on the trail and will arrive before the ice goes out. Not in one case in a dozen has a horse or mule hauled to Dawson sufficient feed to last a week after arrival, with the result that the feed market has been bare of its stock, and men from the outside who are now arriving with additional horses are in luck if they can dispose of them at any price.

#### Liquor License Rebates.

The saloon men desire that the new liquor license law be construed retroactively, and they intend to ask that a part of the money, which was formerly required as license fees be refunded by the government. A petition, which is addressed to the Yukon council, is now being circulated. It has received the endorsement and is approved by property owners and business men.

"Mainland" and "British Lion" cigars 25 cents. Rochester Bar, cor. Second ave. and Third sts.

The warmest and most comfortable hotel in Dawson is at the Regina.

Two bits for joy at Rochester Bar.

### TWO NOSES COME TO GRIEF

And Are Now Held in Position by Court Plaster.

How a Judas Betrayed His Make-Believe Friend While the Latter Snoozed.

It is doubtful if at any time during the past two years Dawson has been without from one to a half dozen men within her confines who were sticking plaster on some spot or other of their faces. The explanation, "a stick of wood flew up and hit me," is heard from the Everglades of Florida to Fort Yukon, and is, therefore, heard in Dawson.

But there are now two noses here that are being held in form and position with courtplaster that the "stick of wood" explanation will not stand for. The two noses are worn by men of convivial habits and on one occasion recently conviviality on the part of the nose owners led to a dispute in which one of the contestants hit the other in such a way as to cause his nose to crack open like a frozen egg.

Seeing the damage he had done, the man who had administered the blow felt sorry for his antagonist and had the manhood to tell him so. A reconciliation followed; the injured nasal appendage was patched up with courtplaster until it looked like a checker board; the late enemies became ever-loving friends; they looked upon several "fingers" of red hooten, all the time expressing, the one for the other, undying love and admiration. Friends persuaded them to get a room and sleep off the effects of their jollification; they did so, each going to the same room and retiring in the same bed. Both soon fell asleep, but after a short time the man with the checkered face went to turn over and, of course, hurt his nose. This awoke him and he decided to get up and take a look at himself in a glass; he did so. What he saw reflected in the glass caused his Hibernian blood to boil; he looked towards the bed; there lay the despoiler of his face in profound slumber; satan tempted him and he did yield; for picking up a heavy water pitcher he smashed his room-mate on the nose with such telling effect as to cause the member to flatten out all over the face it had formerly adorned.

The injured man sprang from the bed, rushed from the room and started in quest of friends and courtplaster; he found both, and the fragments of his nose, after being corialed and put back in position were fastened there with long strips of plaster which run transversely across his face from whither to thence, something on the plan of a spider's web.

And now the hard-hearted friends of the two men in speaking of them singly say: "He nose more than he did a week ago," while the men themselves are scared half to death lest they should sneeze, knowing that if they do, it will be off with them.

#### A Slow People.

The average Boer, says Mr. de Noon, while there are exceptions, is of course little better than a white Kaffir. All the Kaffir wants are wives and cattle. He does not favor the coming of the white man and the white man's ways. He wishes to remain just as his fathers were. The Boer is the same. They live as their fathers did, with a few cattle around the house; if food is needed they can go and shoot a springbok. Advance is not wanted. The coming of the British or other outsider, saving the Hollander is looked upon with disfavor. They wanted to fill the country with Hollanders, and like the Irishmen, who are appointed to the police force on arriving at New York, the Hollanders who go to the Transvaal are soon given government offices in preference to all others. The Orange Free State people are a much more enlightened people on the whole than the Transvaalers, and had it not been for President Steyn, Attorney-General Reitz and other political leaders, it is doubtful if the people would ever have joined the Boers. After the British defeated them at Bloemfontein, and having defeated them, handed back their country to them, one would scarcely think they had a grievance against the British. Nor have the people. President Steyn and his henchmen are responsible for the Free Staters entering the field. Had Sir John Brandt, now landrost at Bloemfontein, been still in the presidential chair, things would have been different.—Ex.

#### For Sale.

Steam launch, with boiler and engine complete. Apply Nugget office at 4 p. m.

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Do you want a new pair of...  
Dress Shoes, or High Top Walking Shoes, or Heavy Crail Shoes, or Rubber Boots or Storm Rubbers?  
If so we have them and at prices to suit you. We have also a complete line of...  
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NOTE—This beef has been brought in over the ice from Selkirk, where 119 head of choice stall-fed cattle were slaughtered.

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For All Physical Ailments  
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The Business Known as the Juneau Hardware Co. Will in the Future Be Known as the  
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**One 10-inch Centrifugal Pump**  
Complete With Pipe and Two Engines, 10x12 Cylinders, at a Bargain. Also a Large Quantity of 1 1/2 inch Pipe.  
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A Grand Triple Bill With all the Celebrated Artists of the  
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Grand Easter Festival  
**VOCAL & INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT**  
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