GOLD OF THE NORTH

The Latest Discovered Districts Told Of by Arrivals by the Cottage City.

Dalton Trail and Porcupine Creek Promising—Placers Between Atlin and Teslin.

The past season's experience in the Klondike transportation business has demonstrated one thing most conclusively—that the lower river route cannot be a successful competitor with the upper in the handling of passengers, mails, outfits or light freight. It was six months ago still regarded as the "natural highway" to the Klondike, and many were the arguments adduced to show that the upper river service could never be a success. In the face of these Mr. F. M. Rattenbury's firm, the Klondike & Lake Bennett Navigation Company, proceeded to demonstrate in practice the soundness of their conclusions with regard to the upper river, and now all who made light of their plans originally are quite ready to follow the example set by this hustling Victoria firm.

The last of these to take action is the pioneer commercial association of the Arctic country, the North American Trading & Transportation Company, whose traffic manager, Mr. A. N. Gray, was a passenger by the Cottage City yesterday, after several months in the North. As is well known, Mr. Gray's company is the original trading company of the gold fields, having formerly had trading stations at Circle City and other Yukon river points, and lost no time in establishing a station at Dawson as soon as the Klondike strike was reported. The all-water route from St. Michael by steamer to Seattle and San Francisco was their route, and on this all of the steamers of the company operated. It will be difficult next year and in succeeding years, however, for the company next spring will have six steamers on the upper river run. The boats, being built for this special service, will be put together at Lake Bennett, and while being modern vessels in every sense of the word, will be of very light draft.

"I went North for the purpose of looking into the feasibility of putting a line of steamers on this upper river run," said Mr. Gray to a newspaper man, on his arrival at Victoria from Dawson. "I have looked the field over, have been over both trails, have investigated the railway situation and have filed my recommendation that the steamers be built at Bennett and made ready for operation as soon as the season opens in the spring."

"Will your vessels operate in connection with the railway line?" was asked.

"I am not ready to answer that question yet," said Mr. Gray. "I would like to have a talk with Mr. Hawkins, of the railway, and see what he would be willing to do, but since he is south I will not see him this trip."

"Have you made any arrangements for the handling of freight at Bennett or elsewhere on the upper river run?" was next asked.

"No, I have not," he said. "I do not know whether the road will build to Bennett or reach the headwaters of the Yukon at some other point. I wanted to arrange for the purchase of warehouse sites at Bennett, but did not care to do anything until I found out just exactly what the railway will do. I understand that the final surveys of the Yukon have been completed to Bennet and also to the river by the Toochi route. I do not know where the road will end. I wish I did."

"Do you think there is any likelihood of your company making arrangements with the railway to use your steamers under a traffic agreement to accept freight at Seattle billed through to Dawson?"

"I am not prepared to say anything about that. As yet we have no such arrangement, for the steamers are not built, although it is true I have filled my mission here and have recommended that the steamers be built with all possible dispatch."

It is known that previous to Mr. Gray's arrival in Alaska the people in charge of the Dawson agency of his company recommended that the upper Yukon river run be utilized in preference to the lower all-water route. The Seattle office took this matter up, and the Chicago office then became interested. The result was that Mr. Gray was induced to give up his position with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha to accept the position as general traffic manager of the N. A. T. & T. Company. His first work was to investigate the feasibility of the upper Yukon route. His report, as sent in, recommends the immediate construction of six river steamers to be put together at Bennett. Inasmuch as it is a foregone conclusion that unless the railway makes a traffic agreement with some big company capable of handling the traffic of the road it will build steamers of its own, it is barely possible that some agreement may be entered into between the railway and Mr. Gray's company.

The matter of steamer connections between Skagway, Victoria and Puget Sound ports is another question that will be agitated before the winter is over, and will be settled surely before the middle of December, in order to accommodate the rush that will set in for the winter. If the railway can do what it claims, and it is believed that it can, it will be able to accept goods in New York or Jericho for Dawson and ship them through in bond, the owner of the goods following at his leisure, and not being troubled in any manner with duties, packing or anything else. The Dawson trip will in another season take on the appearance of a pleasure trip pure and simple, with all the old-time weary, back-breaking, trail hardship features eliminated. It is the impression that the N. A. T. & T. Company will handle the river end of the traffic for the railway, although it is by no means certain that such will be the result.

Mr. Gray would not talk much about his plans. He would only say that six steamers would surely be built, and that the upper river run would be utilized in the same thorough manner as the lower river in the past.

"Will not the building of these steamers entail a great deal of expense and work to build them quickly?" was asked.

"If it is deemed wise to build them the time and the work and the extra expense will not be a serious drawback," said Mr. Gray. He said it in a confident manner, and his demeanor suggested that he had in mind the unlimited resources of his company; it's more than $30,000,000 of capital in the gold fields alone, and its great wealth in the States. It was evident that Mr. Gray is confident the boats will be ready for active service when the river opens, whether it costs little or much.

Mr. Gray also states that in the spring his company will in all probability arrange to accommodate the travel of the Atlin gold fields, and a trading post be established in the gold fields by his company. He will probably go North again in the spring and look the field over once more, at that time going on to Atlin.

"I have implicit faith in the Atlin country," said he, yesterday, "and I think that we will establish a trading station in the region. We have been the pioneer company on the Yukon, and think that we have to be the pioneer company at Atlin."

Stop that Cough! Take warning. It may lead to Consumption. A 25c. bottle of Shiloh's Cure may save your life. Sold by Cyrus H. Bowes.

WATCHING HER GROW.

One of the Waterous Engine Works Firm Having a Look at British Columbia.

Mr. C. H. Waterous, of the Waterous Engine Works Company, Limited, whose extensive works are at Brantford, Ont., left Victoria this morning and after a short stay in Vancouver proceeds East. His visit to the West has been in connection not only with the large trade which his firm does in the Northwest and British Columbia, but also in regard to the Australian business, which Mr. Waterous says, is growing very satisfactorily. The Waterous company have also a large connection among the mines for boilers and machinery and consequently are in touch with British Columbia in that respect as well as with the lumbering industry, for quite a number of the big mills have been outfitted by them.

It is seven years since Mr. Waterous was in British Columbia last and he expressed himself yesterday as very much impressed with the growth made since then. Times are good in the East; and in the Northwest where the Waterous company have put in seventeen elevators this year, the reports of loss by bad weather have been highly exaggerated. If nothing untoward has happened since he was there a couple of weeks ago, there will be practically no loss to speak of. The good times in the Northwest and the high opinion Eastern people have of British Columbia, together with Canadian progress generally, have given a healthy tone to business and a feeling of great confidence in the future. The consequence is that the wheels of industry are buzzing merrily and the Waterous company are helping to supply those wheels.

Incidentally speaking of fire protection, Mr. Waterous referred to a town not a great distance from Brantford where the people deferred taking precautions and he had hoped that they would not be obliged to call on his company's help some day when disaster came. Sure enough this fire did come and what is more the Waterous company sent out an engine to help quell the flames, though it was not in time to stop a loss of over $100,000. A first class engine which would send a couple of streams 250 feet would cost about $5,000 delivered and would suit Victoria's needs just as well as the bigger kind the firm makes for large cities.

Mr. Waterous was making some enquiries into BritishColumbia's capabilities for making wood pulp for paper and said that in the East this and the attending business of paper making is advancing very rapidly.

THE FUTURE OF ALASKA.

Fate of the Territory When Its Resources Are Exhausted.

David Starr Jordan in the Atlantic.

Under the present conditions, when the sea otter are destroyed, the fur seal herd exterminated, the native tribes starved to death, the salmon rivers depopulated, the timber cut and the placer goldfields worked out, Alaska is to be thrown away like a sucked orange. There is no other possible end, if we continue as we have begun. We are "not in Alaska for our health," and when we can no longer exploit it we may as well abandon it.

But it may be argued that it will be a very costly thing to foster all Alaska's wide-separated resources, and to give good government to all her scattered villages and posts. Furthermore, all this outlay is repaid only by the enrichment of private corporations, who, with the exception of the fur seal lessees, pay no tribute to the government.

Doubtless this is true. Government is a costly thing, and its benefits are unequally distributed. But the cost would be less if we should treat other resources as we have treated the fur seal. To lease the salmon rivers and to protect the lessees in their rights would be to insure a steady and large income to the government, with greater profit to the salmon canneries than comes with the present confusion and industrial war.

But admitting all this, we should count the cost before accepting "colonies." It is too late to do so when they have been once annexed. If we cannot afford to watch them, to care for them, to give them paternal rule when no other is possible, we do wrong to hoist our flag over them. Government by the people is the ideal to be reached in all our possessions, but there are races of men living under our flag as yet incapable of receiving the town-meeting idea. A race of children must be treated as children, a race of brigands as brigands, and whatever authority controls either must have behind it the force of arms.

Alaska has made individuals rich, but the government has yet to get its money back. But whether other colonies pay or not, it is essential to the integrity of the United States itself that our control over them should not be a source of corruption and waste. It may be that the final loss of her colonies, mismanaged for two centuries, will mark the civil and moral awakening of Spain. Let us hope that the event will not mark a civil and moral lapse in the nation which receives Spain's bankrupt assets.

THE SALARIES OF JUDGES.

Lord Aberdeen is exercising his privilege of criticising us on the eve of his departure from Canada. His Lordship paid an agreeable tribute to the reputation of the bench in Canada, and urged that the salaries of the judges should be increased. He might have done us the justice to say that parliament, no later than last session, assisted the judges in two ways, by increasing the number, and in some cases the salaries. It must be remembered that the face salaries of the judges is smaller than their income. It is hard to say just what are the incomes of our judges. They range from $8,000 a year down. The average salary of a judge in the province of Quebec is $5,000 with $1,000 additional provided in certain cases. In Ontario the average salaries of the Superior court judges is $5,000, and that used to be supplimented by $1,000 each from the Ontario legislature, under a legal fiction. That practice is probably continued in Ontario to this day. Over the rest of Canada the salaries of the Superior court judges are $4,000, and in all these cases the chief justice receives $1,000 more, and every judge in Ontario receives $100 each time he holds an assize court. Each judge in Quebec receives $100 for going on the bench to hear an appeal, elsewhere, and $6 a day for each day he is absent from home. Under this provision it was stated in parliament last session that one of the judges fraudulently obtained a lot of public money. The extra $100 for holding court is paid in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and $200 in Prince Edward Island. In Manitoba and British Columbia no such allowance is made, but instead, travelling allowances are to be determined by the Governor-in-council. The Governor-in-council doubtless deals liberally with the judges in the matter of travelling allowances, and it will be seen how difficult it is (and we have not recited all the perquisites) to say what is the income of a Superior court judge.—Winnipeg Tribune.

THE DOOMED MINISTER.

It is, as the Globe would say, of the "first importance" that a minister should be acceptable to the people of the section he is supposed to represent. All the visible signs and tokens indicate that the Liberals west of Lake Superior do not regard Hon. Clifford Sifton favorably—in fact he is developing into the greatest weakness of the government which was to draw a share of its support from his strength in the West.

The multiplying signs of Mr. Sifton's weakness in the West fulfil the expectations formed at the time he broke into the cabinet. Small groups of official Liberals in two or three Manitoba constituencies clamoured for Mr. Sifton. There was some slight enthusiasm for Mr. Sifton in Regina, but the rank and file of the party in Manitoba and the Territories did not want him, and the Liberals in British Columbia knew little and cared less about him.

The trials of a little less than two years in the cabinet have aggravated the original weakness of Mr. Sifton's position. He has not united Manitoba in admiration of his greatness. The Territories outside of Regina are hostile or indifferent, and British Columbia, conscious of its strength, looks coldly on Mr. Sifton, and may make direct representation in the cabinet the price of its continued support of the Liberal party.

It is difficult to see how Mr. Sifton can be useful, let alone indispensable, to Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The fatal friendship of the C.P.R. has blighted his career. Just as soon as the Laurier government feels its need of strength in Western Canada it will go to Manitoba or the Territories or to British Columbia to find the strength which Mr. Sifton lacks. Sir Wilfrid Laurier can butter the Minister of the Interior with smooth words, but the Premier, who allowed circumstances to compel him to play the part of cold blooded ingrate to Joseph Martin, to whom he owed a great deal, is not likely to sacrifice much in the cause of friendship for Clifford Sifton, to whom he owes nothing.—Toronto Telegram.

TRADE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The province of British Columbia is one of great natural resources in timber, fish, and minerals, and the exports of that province should naturally cut a very respectable figure. The imports of the province are of course exceptionally large, because of the seaports of Victoria and Vancouver, and the large amount of food products required to feed the miners in the Kootenay country. For this reason the imports credited to British Columbia in the trade returns are as large as those of Nova Scotia, where the population is five times as great. Per head of the population, however, British Columbia probably consumes more than the residents of any other province in Canada. The total imports and exports of the province for the last ten years are as follows:

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
1889	$3,763,000	$ 4,334,000
1890	4,379,000	5,763,000
1891	5,477,000	6,199,000
1892	6,358,000	6,574,000
1893	4,918,000	5,641,000
1894	5,268,000	8,142,000
1895	4,379,000	9,121,000
1896	5,566,000	10,576,000
1897	7,031,000	14,017,000
1898	8,690,000	15,919,000

It will be seen that while the imports of 1897 had increased by one-fourth over the preceding year, the increase in exports, which amounted to one-third in 1897, is about one-fifth in 1898. Nevertheless the increase for the fiscal year ending June, 1898, is very satisfactory, the total trade being $4,500,000 more than in 1897. The record is one of which British Columbia has a right to feel proud, and is one which the whole of Canada views with great satisfaction.—Winnipeg Free Press.

TEMPERANCE IN QUEBEC.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's statement that nearly two-thirds of the province of Quebec now enjoys the benefits of prohibition or partial prohibition will surprise many people. A traveller who has been through the prohibition states of Iowa and Kansas is authority for the statement that it is easier to procure liquor in almost any part of those states than in the counties, say, of Nicolet and Lotbiniere. In these and other counties there are no bars. There are liquor shops, but no drinking is allowed on the premises and it is doubtful if there is anywhere, in Anglo-Saxondom at least, a single place where regulations of a similar nature are so strictly observed.—Toronto Globe.

HOOLEY'S PEACHING.

Sixty Thousand Pounds Offered for a Baronetcy But failed to Secure It.

London, Nov. 14.—The examination in bankruptcy proceedings of Mr. Ernest Terah Hooley, the company promoter, was resumed this morning.

Sir William Marriott took the stand and declared that Mr. Hooley's statement that he had paid witness £10,000 for an introduction to the Carlton Club was a "pure fabrication and abominable lie." Sir William added he knew nothing at the time about Mr. Hooley's alleged donation of £10,000 to the Conservative party funds through the Marquis of Abergaveny, though Mr. Hooley told him afterwards that he had given the Marquis £10,000 for the "fighting funds" of the Conservative party, which Sir William explained had nothing to do with the Carlton Club.

The witness also said he had helped Mr. Hooley in political and financial matters, but always declined remuneration for services. Later Sir William said Mr. Hooley told him in December, 1896, that he was engaged with an American syndicate which was going to raise an enormous loan for Cuba, and that he (the witness) had been appointed counsel to the company, and was to visit Cuba and his fee was to be £10,000, in view of which Mr. Hooley paid him £1,000 on account.

On cross-examination Sir William Marriott admitted that he had received a check for £50,000 from Mr. Hooley, which he handed to a representative of the Conservative party. Mr. Hooley believed this would secure him a baronetcy at the jubilee, but he was informed he could not have it, and the check was returned to him.

During Sir William Marriott'e examination Mr. Hooley made a scene and threatened to pitch the witness out of the box. While Sir George Lewis, Q. C., was examining Sir William, the witness several times got angry and refused to answer questions put to him.

Mr. Hooley, on cross-examination, flatly contradicted the evidence of Sir William Marriott. He reiterated his statement that he had promised and had paid to Sir William £1,000 for an introduction to the Carlton Club. Sir William, Mr. Hooley added, told him that he did "all the dirty work" for the Conservative party. Sir William suggested the giving of £50,000 by Mr. Hooley for a baronetcy, and he was to get £10,000 if Mr. Hooley was made a baronet.

GOLD ON THE STIKINE.

Promising Placers Reported From Widely Separated Localities.

Glacier Creek Will Be the Scene of Continuous Operations During the Summer.

Two promising discovers of placers are reported from the Stikine. One is on a creek flowing into that river at what is called the Big Bend, some fifty miles above Glenora. The gravel here has yielded 50 cents a pan for an average of fifteen pans. Quartz running $97.50 has been found in the same vicinity. The discoverer says he panned out gold enough to live on all summer and to bring him back to Vancouver.

The other discovery is at Glacier creek, a tributary of the Stikine flowing in from the south and six miles below Glenora. The creek was first prospected by Mr. McDuffee, of Portland, and some associates, who were members of the unlucky Eugene party. He says that he felt pretty badly over his disappointment in connection with that expedition, but is inclined to think that he was in luck after all, for he is sure he has a good thing in Glacier creek. The Colonist is indebted to him for the following statement regarding the creek. Mr. McDuffee comes recommended as a reliable man and his statement may be accepted as correct.

Glacier creek is about thirty miles long. It rises in a lake surrounded by glaciers, streams from which feed it. No gold is found at the lake. The stream is very rocky and flows through many canyons. It cannot be followed to the lake, to reach which it is necessary to climb over two high ranges of mountains. There is gold in the bed of the creek, but the boulders are so many that except very rich deposits are found there will be no profit in working it. Between the canyons are benches. At discovery the benches are four in number, one above the other and each is from 300 to 400 feet wide. In these the gold is found distributed through a pay streak about two feet thick. The gold is gravelly, to use Mr. McDuffee's adjective; that is, it is rough and angular. The samples which he had with him looked as if they migh thave come from disintegrated rock. As high as 50 cents a pan has been taken out of discovery, with an occasional piece worth more. The opinion of the experienced miners on the ground is that bed rock has not been reached, and that what was thought at first to be bed rock at the river's edge is simply an outcropping. The strata of earth dip away from the stream, and it is thought that if these are followed until they strike the base of the mountain ledges, nuggets and very rich gravel may be found. Forty-seven men will winter on the creek and at least two of the claim owners, namely McDuffee and his associates and Shaw and Tomlinson, traders of Glenora, will run tunnels through the benches with the hope of striking bed rock at the base of the mountains. The other miners all keep busy, and they expect to have considerable gravel ready for a clean-up as soon as spring comes.

The creek has been staked for about ten miles. The stakings are not continuous, because the claims occur at short intervals and all the stakings are on the benches. About twenty miles of the creek are as yet unprospected. The first discovery was made on September 12 and since then 100 claims have been prospected and staked. Between twenty and thirty log cabins have been put up and arrangements have been made with the postmaster at Glenora to forward mail. There is a good pack trail from the river for a distance of six miles, made by the claim owners, who each contributed a specified number of days' work to make it. Four pack trains have been busy taking in supplies. During the winter Shaw and Tomlinson will build a wharf and warehouse at the mouth of the creek, so as to be ready to handle goods when steamboat navigation opens.

Mr. McDuffee says that he simply claims that Glacier creek is likely to give very good returns next year. He makes no claims to its being a bonanza. There may be some sensational news to tell in the spring as the result of the winter's operations, but if there is not, there will be profitable work next year for a considerable number of people. The twenty miles which are unprospected may yield equally good results with those located. Every located claim has, he says, been sufficiently prospected to show that it is worth opening up.

While the gold looks as if it had not come from any distance, no one has yet found any quartz ledges, but not very diligent search has been made for them.

The following letter from Mr. E. B. Shaw, of Glenora, gives a good idea of present conditions on the Stikine and refers also to the Glacier creek. After giving a general sketch of the conditions prevailing during the summer, which has already been covered in the Colonist, Mr. Shaw says:

"There are at present (Nov. 2) several hundred people at this point and scattered along the trail to Teslin Lake. The town of Glenora is daily growing, as small log houses are being built for winter dwellings. The future of this country is an unsolved problem. Although at the time of the Cassiar excitement considerable prospecting was done, there was not enough to test the section fairly as a placer gold country. There is a probability that much ground has been located in several sections that will give good returns next season to those, who work their prospects judiciously.

"Six miles below Glenora on the east side of the river is what is known as Glacier creek. Although this has not been thoroughly tested yet some coarse gold has been obtained. Pieces to the value of $1 and $1.50 have been found. The gold on Glacier creek is unlike that on the Stikine, which is fine and flaky Next season will be the scene of much activity in this section, as many who have gone home for the winter intend returning in the early spring to develop their properties.

"The Indians will have opposition this winter as many white men intend hunting and trapping fur-bearing animals.

"Glenora is now a typical mining and forwarding camp of the North, as dog teams are now employed in hauling freight, but as development proceeds this primitive mode of transportation will have to be abandoned as there will be an immense amount of machinery and provisions to be carried into the country."

"There is one thing in the complicated philosophy of our existence that I have solved and confirmed by long observation. People who are quick to anger are just as quick to get over it."

"How do you account for it, professor?"

"I have concluded that they get so hot that their wraths melt suddenly away in fervid heat."—Detroit Free Press.

CHILDREN'S CARNIVAL.

An Attractive Enterprise Designed in Aid of the Royal Jubilee Hospital Funds.

The date for holding the children's carnival on behalf of the Children's Ward for the Royal Jubilee hospital is fixed for Wednesday and Thursday, December 14 and 15. It is hoped that this will strike the happy mean, not being sufficiently near Christmas to interfere with the private arrangements of families, and yet near enough to give the carnival something of the true character of a Christmas festival.

The carnival will take place in the A. O. U. W. hall, on Yates and Blanchard streets, which will be decorated to match the idea to be carried out by the children of a "Dream of Fairyland;" and it will be opened by a procession of very old friends out of that wonderland we none of us ever grow old enough to forget.

Stalls will be held by the following ladies:

The Society of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Royal Jubilee Hospital, represented by Mrs. A. J. Smith and Miss Ross.

The society of the King's Daughters (Mr. H. Barnard).

Mrs. Croft.

Mesdames G. C. Shaw and O. M. Jones.

Mrs. Hasell, assisted by Mesdames R. Jones and Wilson.

Mesdames Le Poer Trench, Dyne and Caswell.

Mrs. E. G. Tilton.

Mrs. W. S. Gore.

The Misses Loewen.

The Misses Pemberton, Mesdames W. F. Burton and F. B. Pemberton.

Mrs. William Lewis, of Nanaimo, hopes to provide a stall representing that city, and contributions are promised from Comox (Mrs. Willemar; Duncan (Mrs. Maitland Dougall), and other districts.

There will be a central stall for flowers held by the Misses Prior and Keefer, and a Christmas tree—which will take the place of a lucky bag—will be in charge of Mrs. MacPherson and Mrs. Butler.

The arrangements for tea and refreshments have been entirely undertaken by Mrs. Walshe-Windle. Besides these, there will be various attractions which we will not anticipate by advertisement, and two stalls are being planned, the one for fresh butter and nests of fresh eggs; the other for Christmas puddings, cakes and mincemeats. All good housewives are asked to remember and to contribute to the latter, while friends in country districts are begged to help with the former wherever it is possible.

The working committee have tried to reach all friends in their respective districts, but possibly this has not been completely achieved in every case. Should this be so, it is here stated that contributions will be thankfully received by any of the stall-holders, or by Mrs. E. G. Tilton, 17 Heywood avenue, from all who feel interested in the hospital, and in sympathy with the object of the carnival. Such contributions should be of a nature especially attractive to the little ones—as dressed dolls, all kinds of dolls' clothing, (individual articles) cradles, miniature toilet articles, fancy boxes, home-made candy, simple toys, and prizes for the Christmas tree.

Prizes will be offered for the best dressed, and the most effective, among the dolls; three having been already promised, viz., by Mrs. W. F. Burton to the Younger King's Daughters; Mrs. Le Poer Trench to Saanich; and Messrs. Challoner & Mitchell, towards the general number.

So much for the special effort now being made. One word more for our "larger hope." The promoters of this festival desire to hold it as inaugurating a wider love and interest in hospital work. The need of a children's ward and of a maternity building in connection with the Jubilee hospital is most pressingly felt by all concerned in its welfare, and we earnestly desire that the interest will be steadily maintained until these objects are accomplished. Both of them are a perpetual need; both appeal to every womanly instinct; and both are so intimately associated with the dear story of Christmastide that no woman's heart can remain untouched by the appeal.

"There is a vision in the heart of each
"Of Justice, Mercy, Wisdom, Tenderness
"To wrong and pain, and knowledge of their cure;
"And these embodied in a woman's form,
"Which best transmits them pure—as first received
"From God above her—to mankind below."

Thus does Browning express the holy lesson of the Divine Son, and, as "the Christ child stands on the threshold of Heaven," so we begin with the children, who "hold the latch-key of love." For the comfort Christmas brings comes to all, and especially to those who have suffered loss and separation, or who have no children of their own. The motherhood in the Kingdom of Heaven will be wider than any earthly motherhood, and no woman need mourn because it is only in dreams that she

"Sees their unborn faces shine
Beside the never-lighted fire"

while she takes her part in the eternal motherhood contained in the promise, "For as much as ye have done it to the least of these little ones, ye have done it unto Me."—(Com.)

Good health is worth more than anything else to you, and every bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla contains health.

With Military Honors.—Seldom has there been a larger attendance at a funeral in Victoria than there was at that of Henry Edward Smith, the victim of the Saanich murder, which took place on Sunday afternoon. There was a large muster of the members of the Fifth regiment, who, headed by the Battalion band, preceded the hearse from the residence to St. John's church, and thence to Ross Bay cemetery. The Sons of England and A. O. F. also attended, making the procession a very large one. At the church impressive services were conducted by Rev. Percival Jenns, who also read the burial services at the cemetery. The services of the Sons of England were conducted at the cemetery by Mr. Wager. Three volleys were fired by a party from No. 3 Company, under Sergt. Hollyer, as the casket was lowered into the grave. On the casket was the helmet worn by the deceased and a profusion of floral offerings from the members of No. 3 Company, the societies of which he was a member, and numerous friends. The pall-bearers were Bombardier Scott and Gunners H. Wilder, C. Wilder, Fawcett, Margison and H. Morse.

Catarrh Cured. A clear head and sweet breath secured with Shiloh's Catarrh Remedy. We sell six bottles for $5 and guarantee an absolute cure. Sold by Cyrus H. Bowes.

THE DANGER OF DELAY

Forcibly Illustrated to the People of Dawson by a Disastrous Fire.

Hrlf a Million Dollar Loss Involved—Bush Comes to the Front.

Fire originating in the Green Tree saloon, through the hurling of a lighted lamp by Belle Mitchell, a woman of the town, laid in ashes four central blocks of Dawson City on the 14th October, occasioning a total net loss of half a million dollars, and rendering hundreds homeless on the eve of an Arctic winter, with no material available for the rebuilding of the obliterated section. More than forty buildings were destroyed, inclusive of the newly renovated post office and a number of the larger saloons.

The fire was started at about five in the morning and was fanned by fierce winds from up river. It took the city unprepared, for although the fire apparatus had arrived weeks before, it had only been partially set up, and no department organized to handle it intelligently. In this crisis Charles Bush, ex-engineer of the Victoria fire brigade, formed an emergency company, to whom the salvation of the city is attributed.

The burnt tract takes in all of both sides of Front street from the Green Tree to the Pioneer hall with no insurance on any of the buildings or upon the valuable stocks in which the principal loss lies. Fifty thousand dollars' worth of damage to stocks was occasioned by water, and accepting the loss at 50 per cent. of the losers' estimate, the total is placed at $503,000. No lives were lost, but Private Mullens, G. O. Ellis, Dan Millen, W. A. Jones, Constable Tripp, Private Enfield, and Al. Haskens received serious burns and other injuries in fighting the flames.

Belle Mitchell, who caused the fire, was also the maker of the fire of a year ago and burned down her own place less than two months since by throwing a lamp in precisely similar manner. She has not yet been arrested but it is expected that she will be. The Dawsonians have

ONLY THEMSELVES TO BLAME

for this latest disaster that has come upon them, the extent of which can but vaguely be realized by the people of any other community. It is not in the power character of the buildings destroyed that the town will feel their loss most keenly, nor yet in their value in that land of big figures, but through the fact that there is no possibility of replacing the destroyed places of habitation, and hundreds will in consequence be forced to face the winter that is now upon them with no shelter worthy of the name. The present catastrophe would not have occurred had ordinary prudence been exercised in either of two directions—if Belle Mitchell had been dealt with by the law when she endangered the town a year ago or when she burned down her own cabin even more recently; or if the equipment and organization of the fire department had been intelligently completed as it was well begun. How, with no insurance obtainable on their valuable properties, the business men of Dawson could have been so blind as to permit of delay in this respect seems past understanding, more particularly so as their home paper—the Midnight Sun—pointed them plainly to their danger in such direct words as the following quoted from the issue of September 24:

"The fire occurring Tuesday morning near the very business centre of the town, and the rapidity with which a cabin and its entire contents were consumed, the occupants barely escaping with their lives, must necessarily force itself upon the minds of all business men of Dawson. Many people deem a cabin constructed of huge logs practically fire proof, under the mistaken idea that it would take these logs so long to become ignited that little difficulty would be experienced in extinguishing them. Any one laboring under this impression should visit the scene of Tuesday morning's conflagration and his mind will be readily disabused. Unless more fire protection is established, and especially now that cold weather is coming on apace and the stoves kept at a white heat, the rumor that was rife in the outside world last winter that Dawson was burned to the ground will become an established fact. It would be extremely inconvenient to attempt to rebuild the city after winter has set in. Get the fire equipment in shape to be utilized, organize the volunteer corps, and be in readiness at the first call, or pay dear for the uncalled for delay." And again elsewhere in the same issue: "It is a shame that the wheels are not put on the fire engine. If a fire should break out on the water front this costly and excellent fire apparatus would certainly be destroyed, while the less valuable chemical engines, hose carts and hook and ladder could easily be removed to a place of safety."

It is generally understood that a desire to choose fire department heads at the time of the civic elections in January was the cause of

THE FATAL DELAY

in organization; and while the city waited for fire protection at command of the petty politicians, the most important portion of the newly acquired apparatus—the steam fire engine—remained but partially put together and lacking the wheels that would enable it to be drawn to the scene of danger should a call to action be sounded. The result is written in the dust and ashes of much-needed buildings that it is now impossible to replace.

News of the fire was brought out by passengers who came up the river on the Ora, leaving Dawson on October 20 and occupying 14 days in the navigation of the ice-choked river, five days seeing the steamer a prisoner of the chop and floes. One of these passengers was O. P. Atwood, of the Globe Wall Paper Co., of Seattle, and here is the account of the conflagration that he supplied to the Daily Alaskan on his arrival at Skagway:

"The blaze started at about 5:30 o'clock in the morning, as the sequel of a row between two women at the Green Tree saloon. One of these women, known as Belle Mitchell, threw a lighted lamp at the other. The lamp broke, the oil spread, and in a few seconds the building was on fire. The fire of a year ago was caused by this same woman, who at that time threw a lamp at a man with whom she had a quarrel. A month ago she burned her own place up on Third avenue in Dawson by throwing a lamp at a woman; and now she caused a conflagration by again losing her temper and wielding another lighted lamp.

"At the time the police gong sounded the alarm there was

A LIGHT WIND BLOWING

down the Yukon, and the people at once saw that it would require speedy work to save the town from total destruction. The post office was the next building south of the Green Thee saloon, and the work of getting the letters and parcels of mail matter out was attended to quickly. Although nearly all the mail was saved, it is in great confusion. The post office building had just been completed and was fitted up with call boxes and private boxes.

"Within ten minutes the Green Tree saloon was in ruins, and it was seen that the whole block was gone. Over four blocks were soon burning, and the magnitude of the disaster became understood. Within ten minutes after the throwing of the lamp, the Green Tree was a seething mass of flame, and the post office was also ablaze. Another five minutes and the whole block was a seething sea of fire. When the firefighters, hastily organized by Charlie Bush, completed their labors, it was found that the losses, as stated by the Nugget of the following morning, were about as follows:

Werden hotel, total loss	$ 40,000
Pattinson & McGrath's New England saloon	44,000
Post office building, owned by Alex. McDonald	10,000
Green Tree saloon, total loss	35,000
Empire bakery building, fully occupied	40,000
McPherson & Johnson, stock and building	20,000
Vancouver hotel	25,000
John Sargeant, new saloon	3,000
New York Store and Ladies' Bazaar	21,000
Case & Gilsey	8,000
Maison Tortoni, Jack Thirn, proprietor, and Nellie Lewis and several others	43,000
Hibbart boot and shoe store and sixteen small buildings	6,000
E. A. Suter, jeweler, lost everything he had; I. Flatew, tailor, had building with him; both were away; total loss	16,000
John McDonald, tailor, stock and building	6,000
George Brewett, tailor	8,000
Foley, butcher	5,000
Seattle Lunch Counter, total loss	9,000
Restaurant, small stores, etc., on opposite side of street	29,000
Twelve cabins, occupied by demimonde, furniture, etc	18,000
Damage to buildings by water, to stock, etc	50,000
Damage to goods and stocks throughout entire burnt district, claimed by losers to be $100,000, deducting 50 per cent	50,000
Total	$503,000

During the progress of the fire a new danger presented itself in the presence in nearly every building of powder and cartridges in various quantities. These as they were discharged at intervals created temporary panics, although fortunately no one was struck by the wild bullets. The only injuries resulting from the fire were received by those most zealous among the fire fighters. Privates Mullens and Enfield were badly burned, the former receiving a number of ugly cuts in addition; G. O. Ellis had his shoulder dislocated and his head cut; Dan Millen's scalp was cut and his skull cracked; W. A. Jones had his head almost crushed and his body frightfully burned; Constable Tripp suffers from burns and sprains; and Al. Haskens has a broken leg. In

FIGHTING THE FIRE

Charles bush and others who served their apprenticeship as firemen in this city came to the front in a way that will long be remembered by the Dawson folk. Bush is slated for engineer of the new department, and in the absence of any other person in authority he took command as soon as the alarming proportions of the fire became apparent. He had just completed the setting up of the chemical engine and promptly had it at work, while others got out the steamer, put the wheels on, and within two hours had it in running order. Bush had as his lieutenants for the hard night's work a number of old veterans of the city and the Sound brigades—J. Sears, T. J. Lain, H. B. Mitchell, Wm. Kerr, L. Griffin and one of the Petticrew boys—while their efforts were well seconded by the police and the military, with upwards of 2,000 civilian volunteers, provided with buckets, axes and blankets.

The lesson taught by the fire will not be lost upon Dawson and the organization of the fire department will be completed at once—now that the damage is done.

IVEY UNDER ARREST.

Juneauites Keep Their Promise and Arraign the Collector for Criminal Libel.

Collector of Customs Ivey, of the Alaska district has during his tenure of office made himself quite as much talked about as any man could wish to be. First it was in his capacity of Nemesis on the trail of the whiskey ring that he secured advertising; then by his outspoken arraignment of numerous prominent citizens of Juneau as identified with the so-called "whiskey smuggling brigade." Now the citizens aforesaid have their inning, and the collector is under bail bonds to appear at the first court of competent jurisdiction, and defend an action for criminal libel.

It was promised by the people of Juneau that should the collector return to their city they would immediately cause his arrest—the collector did return there, and the Juneauites carried out their declared intention with businesslike alacrity. Immediately upon the arrival of the steamer on which he was a passenger, Mr. Ivey was served with a warrant charging the criminal libel and informed that he was a prisoner. He at once gave bonds in the sum of $500, Mr. Valentine becoming his security, and proceeded on his way to Skagway and Sitka, whence he is to return in about two weeks to face his accusers.

The arrest and the circumstances leading up to it are full of interest and the whole affair borders on the sensational. There is one thing on which the press and public of the territory appear to be agreed—that if the collector has been guilty of of unjustly and maliciously maligning the citizens he should be punished to the full extent of the law. On the other hand if his accusations are sustained, those against whom they were directed should have no better fate.

To quote the independent Daily Alaskan of Skagway: "If his charges are true the people of Alaska should know it; and if there is a whiskey smuggling ring at Juneau, the members of the ring should be made to suffer. It does seem strang, however, that Mr. Ivey should have made his accusations through the newspapers of Seattle instead of bringing the alleged lawbreakers before a court of justice. It is somewhat irregular, to say the least for a collector of customs to amass evidence against smugglers and then tell the world about it through the newspapers and there let the matter end."

DR. CHASE CURES CATARRH AFTER OPERATIONS FAIL.

Toronto, March 16, 1897.

My boy, aged 14, has been a sufferer from catarrh, and lately we submitted him to an operation at the general hospital. Since then we have resorted to Dr. Chase's Catarrh Cure, and one box of this medicine has made a prompt and complete cure. H. G. FORD,
Foreman Cowan Ave. Fire Hall.