













DEAL THAT FAILED.

There was a certain government, efforts for the purchase of certain mineral rights...

A TRIP TO DAWSON

Mr. Ben. Haigh Gives His Impressions of the Journey to Dawson and Prospects There.

He Advises Those Who Propose Going to First Ponder the Question Carefully.

Dawson City, June 28.—I arrived here on the 11th of June, just seven days' travel from Lake Bennett. In my last letter I promised to give you an account of the trip down the river, also what I thought of the country...

PADDLE AND OAR

Saturday's Regatta of the North Pacific Association of Amateur Oarsmen.

Victoria Senior Fours Retain Their Honors—Good Sport in Rough Seas.

A look of anxiety reigned on the faces of the officers of the N.P.A.A.O. on Saturday morning when they awoke and found that rain had fallen the previous evening, for experience has taught them that in Victoria showers are followed almost invariably by high winds...

TO BE EXHIBITED

Two Australians Will Try to Tour the Country Showing "Soapy" Smith's Body.

How the Sobriquet "Soapy" Was Obtained—The Uncooled Man Down.

Two Australians now in Victoria, Messrs. C. O. Venn and Herbert Savage, will leave for Skagway by the next boat to try to obtain the body of Soapy Smith by purchase or otherwise...

SLIP CHARLES HIBBERT TUPPER ON THE SEALS.

To the Editor of the Manitoba Free Press.

Sir,—An article appears in some of the papers copied from an issue of your Journal, it is dealing with a rumored demand for the seals represented by me from this province to attend the international conference at Quebec, and reads as follows:

IS NEARING THE LAKE.

Crow's Nest Road Making Swift Progress.

Kuskonook, B. C., July 12.—Progress has been made in this section of the new W. H. Armstrong road, which has been nearly a year ago, has been made and now lies well on towards completion. The contract for this section, amounting at Kootenay lake, was let to W. H. Armstrong, a landman well known in contracting circles...

FROM THE CAPITAL.

The Crow's Nest Inquiry—Latest Trade Returns.

Ottawa, July 16.—R. C. Clute, Q.C., has been furnished the report of the late commission in the Crow's Nest Pass railway case to assist him in the inquiry upon which he is now engaged.

THE VICTORIA

At 2.30 a couple of twelve oared cutters from the 5 o'clock regatta...

MUSIC AND SONG.

The concert in the Victoria theatre, given for the purpose of raising funds for the visiting orphans and of benefiting the B. C. Protestant Orphans' home, attracted a large audience...

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Is Very Prevalent in Quebec, and Tortures a Young and Old.

Dodd's Kidney Pills the Only Cure for it. They are the Only Medicine That Removes the Cause of the Disease.

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CABLE NEWS.

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MILLIONS IN YELLOW DUST

Three Treasure Ships Arrive Last Night With Over One and a Half Million Dollars From the Klondike Creeks.

About Fifty Fortunate Prospectors Out From the Mining District.

The Successful Trips of the River Steamers Up the River From Dawson.

The Trip From Victoria to the Klondike Now Occupies Ten Days.

Ten Millions Said To Be Coming Out by the Way of St. Michaels.

The eyes of the newspaper reading public of the world are no longer turned with such eagerness towards the seat-of-war, the curtain is descending and that act is fast coming to an end. To-day the topic of street gossip heard in places where men do congregate is once more the Klondike and the yellow metal being found there in such quantities by the much envied miners who are commencing to return to civilization.

Last night and early this morning a fleet of three treasure ships arrived safely, without molestation from the privateer, if he is really in business. The Cottage City was the first to reach the wharf, bringing about a million dollars in miners and about one million dollars in gold. The news of the arrival of the treasure ships, spread like wild-fire, and crowds hurried down to view the first of the treasure ships. The excitement was soon kindled and it seemed that the scenes of last summer when the rush was on were about to be re-enacted. The lucky prospectors, many of them sitting heavy sacks of the yellow metal, hurried to town and after placing their wealth in safety started in to "see the town." As can be imagined, the buskinites treasured contingent, especially the couples who carried so tenderly the heavy bags of gold, were the cynosure of all eyes.

Each of the miners brought from two to ten thousand dollars in dust, with the balance in drafts, and all are homeward bound. Forty of the new arrivals came out on the river steamers Goddard and Ora. The Goddard left Dawson on June 24th, and reached the Thirty-Mile, where she landed her passengers, on July 4th, and the Ora, leaving the Klondike capital on June 28th, arrived at the Thirty-Mile on July 10th.

Wages kept up to \$10 and \$15 a day, but there will be very little work at present. The miners are now waiting for the new arrivals to get on their feet. The new arrivals place the output for the coming summer at from seventeen to twenty-five millions. Each man has done well, but as did the majority of those who came out last season, they decline to give figures, in fact, the majority of them are shy, and when they are asked to give figures, they say "Oh, I've got enough."

According to the Butler Brothers, who have claims on almost every creek in the district, the Canadian government has already collected from \$300,000 to \$400,000 in royalties. This in itself is sufficient evidence that the output will be a large one. Like many others who have just arrived, the Butler brothers do not like the mining laws as applied in the Klondike district. They say many changes will be necessary to ensure the permanency of the diggings and the contentment of the claim owners. The powers of the gold commissioner are too arbitrary, and the right of appeal is, owing to the conditions, practically non-existent. The ten per cent. royalty is considered excessive, and although the larger claim owners can stand it, it works a severe hardship on the smaller owners. Many of the smaller claim owners have endeavored to avoid payment of the royalties by hiding the result of their work, but the authorities are ever on the quiver and their suspicions on such occasions are aroused by the approximation of the results of nearby claims.

The Butler brothers say that the North American Trading and Transportation Co. have despatched five million dollars down the river on the river steamer Fort...

Awarded Highest Honors—World's Fair. Gold Medal, Midwinter Fair. DR. BAKER'S BAKING POWDER

A Pure Grape Cream of Tartar Powder. 40 YEARS THE STANDARD.

about B. Wearo. This, in their opinion, will be the biggest single shipment of the season. They, in common with others, express the opinion that fully one-half of the proceeds of the clean-up will remain in the mining country, as the miners have great faith in the district, and many will prefer to invest their earnings there. The Dawson Midnight Sun, referring to the shipment down the river, does not put them as high as the "out-coming" miners. It says the Charles H. Hamilton, Bella and Wearo have but four million dollars on board altogether. It, however, adds to its statement that "there is on these boats more or less gold in private sacks not included in these figures. The Dawsonites may, however, be said to have taken a more conservative view, and have become modest as to their riches.

The steamer May West, which left Dawson on June 24th, and \$750,000 on board. The steamer Belle Isle, Wearo and Hamilton left about the end of June. Even if these boats make connection at St. Michaels, which is extremely doubtful, it will take them under the most favorable circumstances, twenty-six days to reach Victoria while on the route it took the hardy pioneers eight days between Dawson and Skagway, which included a wait of two days at White Horse for the transshipment from Lake Bennett. When this news gets back to Dawson it will turn the bulk of the trade this way.

Editor Shipley, of the Skagway News, who was a passenger on the Cottage City, says a conservative estimate of the year's clean-up places the amount at slightly less than twenty million, but probably three-fourths of this is in the custody of the two great trading companies, and they will, of course, send it out in their own boats by way of St. Michaels. The remainder is sure to come out by way of Skagway.

The news of the clean-up is enthusiastically received in and about Dawson. The richest strikes recently made have been on the hillsides of Skookum Creek and the richly productive gulches. A man picked up with his hands \$2,000 in nuggets in two hours. The richest of these benches claims to have yielded great excitement and turned the attention of gold seekers in a new direction. On the Skookum bed diggings as deep as 4000 feet, the miners have found great excitement and turned the attention of gold seekers in a new direction. The latest discoveries on Monte Cristo island have caused that district to rank high as a gold producer.

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Soapy Smith's Checkered Career Terminated on Friday Last in a Most Tragic Manner.

While Endeavoring to Bluff the Indignant Skagwayans He Was Shot by City Surveyor Reid.

Trouble Was Caused by the Robbery of a Klondiker's Earnings by One of Soapy's Gang.

"Soapy" Smith, one time known as Hon. Jeff. Smith, gambler, politician, "sure thing" man, and for a long time the uncrowned king of Skagway, is dead.

He bluffed the residents of the Gateway City once too often, and at last the bluff was called and Soapy lies cold in the hands of City Surveyor Frank H. Reid.

The cause leading up to the trouble which ended Smith's life had its origin on the morning of the 8th, when J. D. Stewart, a young man just out from Dawson, was robbed of a sack containing \$2000 in gold. There are conflicting stories of how the robbery was committed, the accepted version being that Stewart desired to sell his gold and that one Bowers, a well known member of Smith's gang, represented to Stewart that he was there for the purpose of buying gold for some big mining company below. The unsuspecting stranger accompanied Bowers to a point in the rear of Smith's place on Holy avenue, where two of Bowers' pals were waiting. The three men overpowered Stewart, wrested the sack of gold, containing \$2370, from his hands and disappeared from sight around adjoining buildings, leaving the returned Klondiker as poor as when he started for the land of gold and hard-ship a year before.

As soon as the news of the bold and daring bold daylight robbery became known about Skagway there was great indignation. Business men quickly ascertained that it was Smith's men who did the deed, many of the best and most influential citizens went quietly to the leader and informed him that the gold must be returned, and that he and his gang must shake the dust of Skagway from their feet. During the earlier part of the excitement Smith partially promised seven men that he would return the gold, but he failed to do so, and the men were angry.

The gold was not returned, however, on the contrary, Smith began to drink heavily and talk in a rash, defiant manner. When some of his lieutenants gathered about him, he was very angry and there might be trouble if the gold was not returned, he said, "By —, trouble is what I am looking for. He got it in my mind to get the gold back."

The gold not being returned, public indignation continued to increase until at 8 o'clock on Friday evening, a mob of about seventy men, including the best of Skagway's citizens, which planked said "Sure-thing men must go."

Later in the evening a big indignation meeting was held in the Juneeau dock, and a committee of four, including City Surveyor Reid, was appointed to guard the Juneeau dock in order that no objectionable characters might be admitted to disturb the deliberations of the meeting.

Smith, who was then well primed with liquor, hearing that the meeting was being held, went to it. The committee of four who were stationed at the end of the dock, saw Smith coming, but did not notice that he was carrying a Winchester until he was right on them. He walked straight up to Reid and with an oath, asked what he was doing there, at the same time striking at him with the barrel of the gun. Reid grabbed the gun in his right hand and descended pushing it down towards the ground, and drawing his revolver with his right hand at the same time. When the point of the rifle was close against Reid's right groin, Smith pulled the trigger. The ball passed clear through and came out at the lower part of the right hip. At about the same time Reid fired two or three shots in rapid succession, one of which pierced Smith's heart, another striking one of his legs. Smith also fired a second shot, striking Reid in the leg. Both men fell at about the same time, "Soapy" Smith stone dead, and City Engineer Reid dangerously, perhaps mortally, wounded.

The meeting was at once adjourned and the bodies were taken to the morgue and brought to town. At first it was thought the wounded man could live but a few hours, but he has since rallied materially and his chances for recovery are now considered very fair, and strong hopes are entertained.

Later in the evening the citizens again convened the meeting and a thorough organization with the object of clearing out the gang of "sure-thing" men was effected, and appearing to the citizens that Deputy Marshal Taylor, by his Smith's lower part of the right hip. At about the same time Reid fired two or three shots in rapid succession, one of which pierced Smith's heart, another striking one of his legs. Smith also fired a second shot, striking Reid in the leg. Both men fell at about the same time, "Soapy" Smith stone dead, and City Engineer Reid dangerously, perhaps mortally, wounded.

Another passenger from the north, talking to the cause which led up to the shooting of Smith, said that the United States deputy marshal, though notified of the robbery, refused to interfere. United States Commissioner Selbiede was then sent for and he arrived at Skagway about four hours after the robbery. He at once sent for Smith and told him he would have to call his satellites to give up the gold they had stolen from Stewart. Smith said "the boys had won in a gambling game and he would stay by them." Judge Selbiede then made arrangements for the arrest of Smith and a number of his followers. The warrants were being prepared when Smith was seen running down to the Juneeau dock with his Winchester.

At the inquest held on the following day the jury returned a verdict of justifiable homicide.

Mr. C. E. Bush, president of the Gilman county court, tells briefly his experience with an epidemic of bloody flux in his family. He writes under date of October 8, 1896, at Auburn, W. Va.: "During the past summer we had three cases of bloody flux in our family which were cured in less than one week with Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. In some instances there were twenty hemorrhages a day! This remedy never fails to cure the worst cases of bloody flux and all bowel complaints, and every family should keep it at hand. For sale by Langley & Henderson Bros., wholesale agents, Victoria and Vancouver.

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Chairman. Eastern Eggs, 2 dozen 35c. Freezing Salt, 50-lb. sacks, 75c. Pat's Malt Extract, 35c. 3 for \$1. Vin Mariani, \$1.25 bottle. Staminol (Fluid Beef with Hypophosphites) at Headquarters for Preserving Cods and Jars.

Dixie H. Ross & Co. COLUMBIA FLOURING MILLS CO. ENDRBY AND VERNON. Hungarian, Premier, Adapted for Klondike. R. P. RITHET & CO., Victoria, Agents.

THE ECLIPSE STAKES. London, July 15.—Lord Rossbery's four-year-old colt Velocquet won the Eclipse stakes of 10,000 sovereigns at Sandown Park summer meeting today.

Catarrh Cured for 25 cents. I suffered from catarrh for years, and have found Dr. Chase's Catarrh Cure the best that I have used, and I can recommend it to sufferers. Yours truly, HENRY (OTHERWISE SAMUEL) CLAPHAM.

It is a letter received by the Klondike and Bennett Navigation company from Mr. Fall, their agent at Dawson, that Dawson, tons upon tons which were being taken in on scows have been lost. Grain and feed will be very high, as many of the boats have been wrecked. Beef is selling at from \$1.25 to \$1.50 a pound. Land is being sold in Dawson from \$10 to \$20 an acre.

There is considerable dissatisfaction among the liquor men who have taken in the wet goods to the mining country. A large number of the boats are at Lake Bennett, the Northwest Mounted Police having refused to recognize the permits obtained in British Columbia and the Northwest Territories. Another cause which grieves them is the charge of \$2 per gallon levied by the Northwest Mounted Police on the liquor men, which they say is already paid a similar sum in the Northwest Territories when they received their permits.

THE CITY OF SEATTLE. Brings Seventeen Klondikers and Over Half a Million Dollars. The steamer City of Seattle, which arrived this morning, had on board the following passengers who are returning from the Klondike: J. D. Stewart, J. Beckman, David Gunn, H. A. Oann and William Wilson, who came over the Dalton trail, and Peter Frisell, W. J. McLean, J. W. McLean, C. Johnson, M. Veire, Theo. Habernal, M. Sullivan, J. Anderson, W. H. Snyder, W. C. Duncan and E. Lewin. They brought with them \$400,000 in gold and \$183,000 in gold dust. The alleged wife of "Soapy" Smith attempted to come down on the Seattle, but was refused passage by the city committee, who, it is said, released her of \$3,000. She came down on the steamer Tartar, which arrived this morning.

A LUCKY OREGONIAN. After an absence of three years in the Klondike Theodore Hemenworth, of Oregon, is returning with \$400,000 in gold. He can live without working for the rest of his days, and he is still a young man. He went in with six companions, and they all made money. Hemenworth, who cost them \$150, and he estimates that they have already on the dump \$150,000 worth of dirt.

DIPLOMATS IN CONFERENCE. Foreigners Try to Arrange Peace Terms For Spain. Washington, July 14.—The Star claims to be in a position to state authoritatively that an active exchange of views among the diplomatic corps of the United States, Germany, France, and Spain, who are endeavoring to arrive at a peace understanding between the United States and Spain.

It is also stated that the Spanish government is ready to agree to evacuate Cuba if her soldiers are allowed to depart in a manner acceptable to an army which has not been defeated by the United States, and is ready to assume the Cuban debt. The greater difficulty is with the question of war indemnity, but a solution of this may perhaps be found in a proposal from the United States to the German government to repay the United States its war expenses in 20 annuities, taking in turn the tobacco monopoly and the railway concessions in Cuba, and the Philippine Islands.

NO COMPLAINT TO GERMANY. Washington, July 14.—It can be stated positively that no representations have yet been made to the German government respecting the actions of the German naval commander in the Philippines, which leaves no room for suggestion or representation on the part of the state department, and so long as this state of affairs continues not likely there will be any interference with this able officer.

NO ADVANTAGE IN DELAY. London, July 14.—The Times, commenting editorially upon the situation this morning, says it thinks the outbreak of disease in Manila and the Philippines is due to the delay in the final terms of the peace negotiations, and that the delay in making the final terms all the harder, as it is necessary for the United States to make a decision as to whether to delay the peace negotiations.

\$1.50

VOL. 17

A THRILL

Unfurling of the flag at Santiago

American Forces

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