FAIL TO REACH YUKON

SIXTY FORTUNE-HUNTERS RETURN FROM DYEA.

Bring Discouraging Reports of the Condition of Affairs on the Trails Over the Divide—Company to Ship Dogs to Alaska.

New Route Into Alaska.

Sixty fortune-hunters who were engaged in an ineffectual attempt to cross the divide from Dyea and Skaguay into the Yukon gold fields via the White and Chilkoot passes returned to Seattle on the steamships Rosalie and Willamette. They report a distressing state of affairs along the trails. Less than 1,000 of the 7,000 persons who sought to go over these routes have been successful. Among the Rosalie's passengers was Sylvester Scovel. He left his wife encamped at Lake Lindeman. In a few days Mr. Scovel, who, with the assistance of a New York paper, has been assisting the miners to put the trail in better condition, will return to Skaguay and push on to Dawson City. His mission back, he says, is to confer with his paper relative to matters of a private nature.

Mr. Scovel is of the opinion that the Skaguay trail can never be made a practicable route. It is now in such a condition that possibly 2,000 persons will get across, but not in advance of the freeze-up of the Yukon. They will endeavor to pass the winter on the lakes, so as to make a rush for the Klondike district as early as possible in the spring. The heavier outfits are going over the White pass, the total cost of packing being about 60 cents a pound. Horses which were so valuable for packing purposes, the returning gold-seekers report, have come to be a drug on the market. Many are dying from starvation, their owners refusing to buy feed at the exorbitant prices.

Seek Gold in Copper River.

One of the most interesting expeditions that have yet gone to the gold fields of Alaska or the Northwest territory left Port Townsend last week in a twenty-ton schooner called the Janus, headed direct for the Copper River country. The party is in charge of a man named George J. Rinnacks, who has spent all of five years in the Copper River country and has brought out large sums of money at different times, aggregating fully $200,000. The other members of the expedition are mostly Californians. The party is incorporated as the "Oakland Mining and Trading Company" and starts out under a copartnership agreement that binds them to remain together for two years. Their schooner was purchased at a cost of $1,500, and they put on board $2,000 worth of provisions and supplies. In addition to this each man is supplied with two repeating rifles and 500 rounds of ammunition; also two revolvers.

The schooner Janus is headed direct for Hidalgo lagoon, which is a new route for entering Alaska, the Janus party being the first to go in this way. A landing will be made at a point called Turnigar, at the head of the lagoon, a place where no boat has yet landed, and which in reality has no official name. In order to reach this lagoon it is necessary to sail through the narrow passage between Seal rocks and Cape Hinchumbrook—a dangerous undertaking, on account of the shoals and treacherous currents. This passage leads into Prince William sound, with open-sea sailing until Snug Corner cove is reached, when another narrow body of water must be sailed through, with Bligh's island on the left. Here the lagoon is entered and the journey to Turnigar is continued. This lagoon is a narrow neck of water, at places very shallow, which makes it difficult of navigation.

The Janus party expects to reach Turnigar within thirty days. On the way north the schooner will call at Juneau and Sitka to take on board thirty dogs that will be used to transport the supplies overland from Turnigar to the Copper River, which will be reached at a point just above Beaver River. From this place the general direction of the river will be followed northward, and it will be crossed three times, the final destination of the expedition being Tonsina creek. Six members of the party will be left on Tonsina creek, where Rinnack's partner, Michael O'Donnell, is now holding their claims and doing some work, and the others will be sent eastward to a tributary of the White River, where it is claimed that location can be made that will not only rival but surpass the famous Klondike.

Copper River Indians.

Van Burin, a second partner of Rinnacks', says the Indians found near the mouth of Copper River are perfectly harmless, but those found a little farther up are quarrelsome and aggressive. He claims that the scheme to send an armed force of miners to the Copper River for the purpose of driving out the Indians is impracticable. The Indians, he says, are themselves well armed, to begin with, and are good shots. They occupy such formdable positions in the deep gorges and ravines through which the Copper River runs that they could slay an army of white men, no matter how well armed, by rolling rocks and bowlders down on their heads from above in any one of a half-dozen passes that must be gone through in going up the river.

"The largest strikes made by my partner, O'Donnell, and myself, said Mr. Rinnacks, "were in placer diggings on Teikhell river, Alta creek, Beaver river and Tonsina creek. The largest clean-up made in one day was at Tonsina creek, when $3,100 was washed out. One pan yielded $310. I do not care to state how much we have taken out of the Copper river country altogether. You can put it down at $200,000. I have with me here papers and receipts showing that it was at least that much."

PLAYING WITH DEATH.

England Irritated by the Bad Management in India.

Popular irritation increases in England over the conduct of the campaign against the tribesmen in India. There is a cry for such another man as Lord Roberts of Kandahar to crush the growing revolt. In government circles there prevails a feeling of gratitude that parliament is not in session. They know that embarassing questions would be asked touching the recent reverses, and that Lord George Hamilton, secretary of state for India, would find himself sorely puzzled to explain the culpable dilatoriness that has marked the actions of the India Government.

People say that officials danced and banqueted at Simla while the rebellion was hourly gaining in force. It took days for Lord Elgin and his entourage to grasp the situation. They believed at first that the tribesmen would disperse upon viewing the red coats of the British punitive force—that it would be hardly necessary to fire a shot. These dreams have been shattered in a tragic manner.

A dozen officers and scores of the rank and file have fallen before the unerring aim of the Afridis, Orakzais, Mahmonds and other wild dwellers of the frontier. Many posts have been captured and destroyed, and the fearful work is still progressing. News comes that the lower Mohmands, whose habitat is south of Peshawur, have submitted and have agreed to pay a heavy fine and to surrender their arms, but these are only a few of the thousands who are now fighting against British rule.

PASTOR WILL SEEK GOLD.

Rev. Frank P. Vrooman, Tired of Ministry, Will Go to Klodike.

Rev. Frank Buffington Vrooman, assistant pastor of the People's Church, Chicago, has confirmed the report that he will go to the Klondike. He has decided to leave the ministry of the gospel so as to be able to devote his entire time to the race after Mammon. As one of the promoters of a company to be capitalized for $10,000,000, the preacher recently

REV. F. B. VROOMAN.

made a trip to St. Louis to prepare for an expedition to the Yukon.

In shaking the dust of a clerical career from his feet Mr. Vrooman takes the opportunity to remark upon the unremunerativeness of the profession he is leaving. He says that he received only $25 from the People's Church in the time he served it. It is his opinion that being a clergyman is too expensive a luxury for him and he is tired of it. Mr. Vrooman's controversy with the Presbyterian church and his acceptance of the position of assistant to Dr. Thomas are matters of recent history.

COMMISSIONERS ACCEPT.

Several Plans Offered for Solution of Financial Problem.

All of the appointees of the sound money commission have signified their acceptance. Several plans have already been prepared for submission to the commission. One of these looks to the retirement of the greenbacks, as suggested in Secretary Carlisle's last report, while another is in effect to retire all bank notes under $5, substituting instead silver. Still another proposition looks to a gradual extinguishment of the national debt, which necessarily will modify the present banking system, and that the government authorize the organization of national banks, the same to deposit a sum equal to their capital stock in gold or silver.

Chairman Hanna is anxious that suggestions be made to the commission, promising to each careful consideration, as in the preparation of the proposed new financial system every means should be employed to create something which will commend itself to public confidence.

BOYCOTT THE POSTMASTER.

Hogansville, Ga., Citizens Find the Negro Backed by the Law.

The recent shooting of the negro postmaster at Hogansville, Ga., threatens to entail no end of trouble for the people of that town. It is stated that two of the most prominent business men in the town will be arrested on a charge of attempting to assassinate the postmaster.

The people of the town have never yet patronized the negro postmaster directly, the old postmaster, Hardaway, maintaining his old postoffice and sending for and obtaining in bulk the mail matter for all his white patrons. The ex-postmaster will will be prosecuted for this. When this action was announced a few days ago the citizens conceived the plan of having their mail sent to the next nearest postoffice and sending a carrier for it. They are now told that this would be in violation of the law which permits only the government to maintain a post route.

GOV. MOUNT IN DEAD EARNEST.

Says He Will Insist on the Indictment of the Osgood Lynchers.

Gov. Mount announces that if the present Ripley County grand jury fails to indict the men who participated in the Versailles lynching, he will send Attorney General Ketcham to the county to conduct an inquiry before a new jury. There will be no relaxation of effort, he says, until the lynchers have been punished. The Governor says he still has confidence in the present jury, but he wishes it understood that he is deeply in earnest in this effort to have the lynchers punished.

A dispatch from Osgood says several persons have suddenly disappeared from that place, and the impression prevails that all the ringleaders in the lynching will leave the State as soon as they find that the grand jury is close after them.

High Officers Taken.

Eduardo Velasquez, chief of police of City of Mexico; Lieut. Cabreta, assistant chief of detectives; and Commandant Mauro Sanchez were arrested and taken to prison and placed in solitary confinement by order of the fifth criminal judge, to whom had also been turned over twenty-one prisoners arrested for entering the municipal building on the night of the recent lynching of the man who attacked President Diaz.

If the police authorities are proved criminally negligent in guarding the prisoners they will undoubtedly be severely punished, and whoever took part in killing the prisoner will be held for murder, even if they were merely passively acting as investigators of the crime.

Collide Near St. Louis Depot.

A collision occurred near the union station in St. Louis between the outgoing Wabash passenger train and an incoming St. Louis, Kansas City and Colorado train. The Wabash engine was thrown from the track, overturning and partly demolished. Conductor Charles Williams was the only one who received serious injuries.

INDIANA LYNCH LAW.

DETAILS OF THE RIPLEY COUNTY AFFAIR.

Summary Punishment Visited Upon a Gang of Evil Characters—People Tire of an Extended Series of Criminal Acts—Gov. Mount Indignant.

Deed of Infuriated Mob.

The lynching of the five Osgood men at Versailles, the county seat of Ripley County, has, perhaps, no parallel in the history of Indiana. The prisoners were confined in the county jail on the charge of burglary. They all resided in the town of Osgood, and were supposed to belong to an organized band of thieves and highwaymen which has been robbing and terrorizing the citizens of Ripley County for a number of years. They were awaiting trial for having attempted to break into the general store of Wooley Bros. at Correct Saturday night. Gordon and Andrews were captured at the time after a running fight, and after each had been severely wounded. The other prisoners were detained on the charge of having assisted in the attempted burglary, and whose guilt seemed evident. Public feeling had been aroused against the prisoners because they had so often escaped the penalties of the law.

Sheriff Henry Bushing and wife were away from home. He had been badly wounded while trying to capture the men Saturday night, and the jail was in charge of his brother-in-law, W. T. Kennen, turnkey, and William Black. At 12:45 o'clock they were aroused by the ringing of the door bell. Kennen and Black went down and opened the door. Three masked men with a revolver in each hand confronted them. The leader said: "Hold up your hands! We demand the keys of the jail." Kennen looked into the muzzles of six revolvers, and after some resistance was taken to the kitchen and found the keys. Kennen and Black were locked in a cell and three men with revolvers made their way through the grating and others went to find the prisoners, who had all retired.

In the lower cellrooms were confined Levi, Shuler and Jenkins, and there the visitors proceeded first. Levi was first awakened, and, refusing to throw up his hands at the command of the leader, two pistol shots were heard, and he fell to the floor pierced to the heart. Shuler, lying on his cot, refused to get up, but begged for his life. A stroke upon the head from a heavy stick silenced him, and he rolled to the floor. Jenkins' fate was similar, and the three bodies were carried to the main corridor, and the lynchers made their way upstairs, where Gordon and Andrews were found. They, being wounded, submitted without much effort. Their hands were tied behind them, ropes were placed around their necks and they were dragged down the stairway where their companions lay. Ropes being placed around the necks of all the order was given, "Pull on the ropes, boys, and hurry up."

Hanged to an Elm Tree.

Two squares north of the jail on the bluff near the famous "Gordon's Leap" was found an old elm tree, and to its toughened limbs were hanged the maimed and bruised bodies of the five prisoners, naked and ghastly. The scene was appalling, and the bodies were soon cut down and covered under the shade of the tree. Hundreds visited the scene the following day, and hardly a twig of the old elm remains, having been carried away by the curious throng.

A man named Hostetter a couple of weeks ago had given a tip to the county officials, and through him the men were caught. He said they met and planned at Jenkins' house, and he (Jenkins) said he would help them out at any time, but how much, if any, they were implicated will never be known, as they were given no chance to deny or defend themselves.

Osgood had grown notorious the last two years on account of the many highway robberies and hold-ups committed there. Last winter an aged couple—Mr. and Mrs. Rineking—living north of town were tortured and robbed while alone at their home. The night of April 1 Mr. and Mrs. Baulkman, living six miles from Osgood, were tortured by three masked men, who demanded their money. They made the old lady, who was quite inhrm, walk over red-hot coals to tell where her money was. They got nothing but a gun and a few trifles. The latter part of the same month Mr. and Mrs. Kammon of Milan were treated in a similar manner by masked men. The two Dr. Josephs of Osgood place were arrested, charged with the robbery, but proved an alibi and were acquitted without trouble. Men have been held up on the streets and houses without number broken into the last two years, but it seemed as though the guilty ones could never be caught. How much or how little these men were implicated in these robberies may never be known.

Largest Number Ever Lynched.

The hanging is a blot on the name of Ripley County. It is the largest number ever hanged at a lynching in the State and only the second rope execution ever in the county. Twenty years ago Tim Boyd of Moore's Hill, who was in jail for committing an assault, was visited by a mob and seventeen bullets shot into him, but nothing has ever aroused the people like this tragedy. People drove into Versailles from all over the county and groups stood around discussing it. Schools were dismissed and business is at a standstill. The families of the men are almost insane from the shock. The bodies were taken to Osgood and delivered to their several homes.

The sheriff received a message from the Governor to use all means in his power to apprehend the men composing the mob. However, it seems that the sheriff is powerless, as no means of identification of a single man has been obtained. The Governor, realizing this and also that the sympathies of the community seemed with the lynchers, sent Merrill Moores, deputy attorney general, to the scene of the lynching, with instructions to make a full investigation and spare no expense in bringing the lynchers to justice.

Miss Cornelia Barnden Wright, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carroll D. Wright, was married at Marblehead, Mass., to John Bruce McPherson of Gettysburg, Pa., a son of Edward McPherson, for many years clerk of the National House of Representatives.

Capt. Samuel McConihe, of the Fourteenth Infantry, died at St. Luke's hospital, New York City, from Bright's disease. Capt. McConihe was one of the heroes of the civil war and received six brevets for gallant and meritorious service.

TRIES TO KILL DIAZ.

President of Mexico Is Assaulted by an Anarchist.

President Diaz was assaulted with deadly intent during the ceremonies in the City of Mexico attending the celebration of the declaration of independence. Ignacio Arroyo, a violent anarchist, broke through the line of soldiers that marked the line of the procession to the Alameda and attempted to brain the president with a heavy cane as he was walking to the national palace. The blow, which he aimed at the president's head, fell short and the would-be murderer was immediately seized and handed over to the police. Intense excitement prevailed when it became known that an attempt had been made upon the life of President Diaz.

President Diaz was the coolest man of all who witnessed the assault. He turned around as his assailant was seized, and looked at him somewhat curiously, and

PRESIDENT DIAZ.

then resumed his march, bowing right and left to the people. The effect upon the crowd that saw the affair was instantaneous and awakened the greatest excitement. The police started away with the prisoner by a side street, hoping to avoid any further disturbance. Hundreds of men ran after the police shouting for vengeance upon the man. "Give him to us," they cried, "and we will hang him."

But the gendarmes succeeded in keeping their prisoner, being re-enforced by cavalrymen, the great crowd shouting and running behind. The man was taken to the palace and stripped, but no weapon was found on his person. He was taken away to the city hall, securely bound and placed in solitary confinement.

At night a great mob of common people broke into the jail by forcing the doors with huge timbers handled by 100 men. They overpowered the guards and surrounded them, while a detail of men ran down the corridor, dragged out the trembling Arroyo and lynched him. The mob had apparently no organization, but it was directed in some mysterious way. About twenty of the lynchers were arrested.

WILD TIME IN PRISON.

Convict Assaults a Guard, Seizes His Revolver and Escapes.

A sensational escape and a quick capture caused much excitement at the Ohio penitentiary Thursday night. Just before the hour when the prisoners wash for supper and the guards are shifted for the night turn, William Clark, a Cuyahoga County murderer doing a life sentence and employed in the broomshop, called Guard Duncan of Mount Gilead, ostensibly to show him a hole in the floor. Duncan leaned over and was struck a vicious blow in the back of the neck with a piece of gas pipe. Bert Spriggs, a Delaware County convict, started to assist the guard, when Clark, advancing with Duncan's revolver, which had fallen from his pocket, threatened to shoot.

Clark ran to the guardroom at the front gates and gave the guard's signal with the iron handle. Capt. Saxbe, as usual, opened the gate. As soon as Clark passed the gate he opened fire on the crowd of guards and spectators. His aim was wild. In the guardroom he pulled the trigger again and shot Benjamin F. James, a Delaware County colored sub-guard, in the chin.

Clark was closely followed in his attempt to escape by William Dempsey, jointly convicted with him of murder. Clark ran through the guardroom, fired at the guard in the reception room, and escaped into the street.

A federal prisoner named Sarter, employed as a "trusty" in the prison yard, seized a rifle which a guard had dropped in the excitement and ran past the guardhouse close on the heels of Clark. When the fugitive reached the bank of the Scioto River he paused a minute. Sarter quickly leveled the rifle and commanded Clark to surrender on pain of death. The convict obeyed, his revolver being empty, and was recaptured by the guards, who had recovered their presence of mind by that time.

OF INTEREST TO BICYCLISTS

Cycling has caused a decrease in the number of cabs in Berlin.

Madrid has a club composed entirely of children, none of whom is over 8 years old.

In Bremen drivers of vehicles and horsemen are prohibited to use the street cycle paths.

Cycling is greatly on the increase in Genoa, according to the British consul in that city.

The Cyclists' Touring Club has recently added Rudyard Kipling's name to its list of membership.

The sultan of Lahore, it is stated, possesses a bicycle of pure gold, set with precious stones.

In the great pilgrimage recently made in Hungary to the shrine of Maria-Tadax there were over fifty cyclists.

It has been stated that policemen in Prescot walk about in plain clothes with hooked sticks to stop cyclists.

A Scotchman has constructed a bicycle which can be taken apart, and folded within the space occupied by three umbrellas.

A Philadelphia firm proposes having something unique at the great exhibition in Paris in 1900, namely, a bicycle made in solid gold about 8 or 9 feet high, with a handle-bar studded with diamonds.

PULSE OF THE PRESS

Shooting of Miners.

The action of the posse seems to have been criminally precipitate.—New York Herald.

The sheriff and his deputies appear to have been demoralized by fear.—Boston Transcript.

It is awful. A tremendous necessity must be shown for such a murderous order.—Pittsburg Post.

Sheriff Martin has inaugurated all the horrors of martial law without any of its excuses.—Boston Traveler.

The circumstances did not justify the wholesale slaughter. The shooting was cowardly.—Birmingham (Ala.) News.

It is an unnecessary slaughter. It is a most deplorable blunder. Even the statement of the sheriff does not excuse it.—Louisville Post.

Back of it all is a damnable system whereby the courts, through unconstitutional injunctions, become the oppressors of the weak.—Omaha World-Herald.

The appalling tragedy was the logical outgrowth of conditions which have been tolerated in some of our mining regions for some years past.—Philadelphia Times.

The case is one that calls for rigid examination and if the sheriff exceeded his authority he should be dealt with in a summary manner.—Albany Evening Journal.

Everything points to the suspicion that Sheriff Martin lost both head and heart and ordered the destruction of life when no real necessity for it had arisen.—Detroit News.

It is the worst exhibition of race hatred and diabolical fury of an armed force, vented on an unarmed procession, that ever occurred in our country.—Chattanooga Times.

Assuming that the facts were as they have been reported, the sheriff and his deputies were utterly incompetent and guilty of cowardly and criminally careless conduct.—Buffalo Courier-Record.

Killed officially and shot in the back. Does anything appear in the story of this tragedy to give the slightest provocation for this horrible blunder, this terrible crime, this official murder?—Toledo Bee.

The shooting of unarmed men on slight provocation, for merely insisting upon marching peaceably along a public highway, is a very serious matter and may lead to the gravest consequesces.—Minneapolis Times.

There is no room for acts like this in the United States. There is no place in a republic of freemen for the punishment of an unascertained intention, which is the ultimate goal of government by injunction.—St. Paul Globe.

When a sheriff's posse can fire into a crowd of several hundred Pennsylvania miners without hitting an American, the public ought to secure a fair idea of one of the prime causes of labor troubles in that State.—Washington Post.

If the sheriff's statement is true, and we do not see that it is credibly contradicted, his firing upon the mob seems to have been a necessity to save his own life and the lives of others summoned to maintain the law.—Philadelphia Times.

Forgetfulness of the real character of our citizen-soldiers is at the bottom of the hesitancy and delay about calling out "the troops" that is continually leading to just such deplorable results as this Hazleton slaughter.—Rochester Democrat and Chronicle.

Those men in Pennsylvania who were marching had a right to that highway. They were injuring no one's property. The sheriff who ordered the deputies to fire on this unarmed crowd of men simply ordered them to commit murder.—Peoria Herald.

This outrage should nerve every American heart to support by all legal methods the suppression of this iniquity of government by injunction. This un-American, uncivilized, un-Christian system must go if the liberties secured for us by our forefathers are to be preserved.—Indianapolis Sentinel.

We say that the powers of the courts are and must be restrained within moderate and reasonable limits. We say that the injunctions issued in this strike are an insult to freemen, and we point to the Hazleton horror as the natural and necessary consequence of the issuance of those extraordinary orders.—St. Paul Globe.

The system which has collected bodies of ignorant and excitable workers and brought them by inadequate wages into a state of exasperation needs reformation. But this country will not be worth living in if the fiat of an excited mob can override the commands of the legal authorities without suffering for it.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

Even the dastardly and cowardly sheriff who ordered his posse to fire upon those defenseless men admits that they had committed no overt acts of lawlessness. He is a murderer, and his men are murderers, and each of them should be tried and punished for the commission of the highest crime known to the law.—Kansas City Times.

If the sheriff was indiscreet, if he fired into the crowd without due provocation, the demand for his punishment will be summary. If, on the other hand, it be found that he acted strictly within the lines of his duty, he will not lack in public commendation and support. Meantime legislators, mine operators, and miners will grow more thoughtful.—Macon Telegraph.

It is questionable whether under the law the attempt to interfere with the peaceable marching of the strikers on the highway was not of itself a breach of the law. It is the duty of the sheriff and all peace officers to protect the lives and property of citizens. It is their duty to maintain law and order and prevent lawless trespass upon private premises. It is neither their duty nor their right to molest people passing over the public highways even though they may be suspected of unlawful intent.—Omaha Bee.

It is a noticeable fact that the men who set themselves up in this matter to defy the constituted authorities were foreigners and the names of those who were killed and wounded show the same fact. It will be well worth the while of the authorities in making the investigation, which must necessarily be had, to inquire how far the trouble which has culminated so terribly was due to the large admixture of the foreign element among the miners, and how far our immigration laws are responsible.—Detroit Free Press.

WHO OWNS THE JUNGFRAU?

A Novel Question Brought Up by the Project of Building a Railroad Up It.

A curious question has arisen in Switzerland. It is, who owns the Jungfrau? Probably few of the thousands of travelers who have gazed at the snowy peak of the Virgin of the Bernese Oberland from Interlaken have ever thought about the matter. Apparently the people who have lived for generations at its base have considered it still less. Ordinarily questions of proprietorship cease at the line of perpetual snow. Even thrifty people like the Swiss do not see any particular benefit in claiming what lies above. It may possibly be necessary enough to know to whom belong the fir trees, which one can cut down, or the Alp-pasturages, which nourish so many cows and goats, but when one gets above 7,000 feet or so one gets indifferent about the glaciers and fields of snow which constitute the wealth of these high altitudes.

A railway is to be built up the Jungfrau, and a summer resort hotel erected somewhere near its summit. That is what has caused all the trouble. The projectors, before going ahead, have been desirous of applying to somebody for permission, so that there may be no question of damages in the future. But so far they have been unable to find the owners. It is uncertain even in what canton the railway and the hotel will be, for the boundary line between the cantons of Berne and Volais cuts the Jungfrau in two, and the line has never been surveyed and nobody knows which is which. This is an important matter on account of the taxes, for Switzerland is a great taxing country. Although the property has been there all along, no one has ever claimed it, and it has never been assessed. Since 1811, when the ascent was first made by Rod and Meyer to a height of 12,500 feet, many climbers have crawled up the flanks of the mountain, but until now no one has ever thought of asking whose property he was trespassing upon.

The railway, which has been projected for some time, will be a ratchet wheel arrangement, like the one on the Rigi. It will be carried up as far as it is practicable to go, and will be supplemented by an elevator in a shaft which will run to the summit. There, upon a huge platform leveled in the snow, it is the intention to build a hotel with all modern improvements.

The Alpine clubs, which have built so many refuge huts in the mountain tops, have never had any difficulty in getting concessions for the purpose, but that has been because the buildings came under the head of works of humanity and were never taxed; but when Joseph Vallot built his observatory on the summit of Mont Blanc there was unwound a lot of red tape. The municipality Chamonix was afraid he was going to set up a tavern 15,000 feet or so in the air, and the mayor spoke in indignant terms of the outrage it would be if travelers went on to the summit without stopping for refreshments at the inn on the Grand Mulets—already licensed. Everybody who has been at Chamonix knows that they squeezed more out of you there in the name of the village law than in any other place in the world, and therefore M. Vallot was not surprised that, before he could go ahead with his observatory, he was obliged to agree to build an addition on the Bosses a refuge hut containing bunks, tables, chairs, stove and kitchen utensils, which was to become the property of the commune, and for the use of which for a single night the commune was to tax each traveler $1, and an additional $1 as indemnity to the innkeeper of the Grand Mulets. These conditions complied with, science was allowed to have a show, and the observatory was built where it now stands.—New York Sun.

England's After Dinner Speakers.

Twenty years ago the best dinner-table talkers in England were thought to be Lord Chief Justice Cockburn, Queen's Counselor Judah P. Benjamin, Mr. Gladstone, Cardinal Manning, Lord Rosebery and Dean Stanley. Twenty years before that Macaulay and Carlyle headed the list. In Dickens' time he ranked as the best after-dinner speaker, and Sala enjoyed that distinction for a few years before his death. There is now rather a dearth of talkers and speakers of the first luster in that country, though both are likely to appear at any time. The advent of a new Brougham or Macaulay cannot be expected every day, but the possibility of it is by no means extinguished. Should it ever come to that, she may import her talent from this side, though it must be said that the supply and the quality are variable sometimes under the requirements of the home market.—New York Tribune.

Rotating Field Generator.

A new design of multiphase generator, notable for its simplicity, has been recently developed by the General Electric Company. This machine is a three-phase alternator, with rotating fields and stationary armature, a design which greatly simplifies insulation for high voltages. The rotating field has a substantial spider support of soft steel and a yoke magnetized by movable coils constructed to permit free ventilation. Current at low voltage is supplied this field by two collector rings mounted upon shafts. The armature coils are wound on forms and afterward placed in position, and thus a large portion of the current coils remain exposed for ventilation.

An Old Tree in France.

The citizens of Dijon, France, recently voted a sum of money for putting a railing around a tree standing within the city limits. The tree bears a label which informs the sightseer that it is the oldest poplar in France. The town council has a record tracing the history of the tree since the year 722 A. D. It is 122 feet in height and 45 feet in circumference at the base.