

A WARNING TO KLONDIKERS.

A Government Official Writes of the Situation at Dyea.

Thousands of People Who Will Not Get Through This Winter.

Hundreds of People Likely to Perish if the Rush to the Gold Fields Is Not Stopped—Vessels Carrying Twice as Many Passengers as the Law Allows.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—The Treasury Department to-day made public the following letter from a Government official on his way to the gold fields, stating at the same time that the writer, whose name is withheld, had been twelve years in service and was thoroughly reliable:

Dyea, Aug. 22d. I deem it my duty to write you on a subject that does not come strictly within my line of duty, as it trenches somewhat on the functions of the Treasury Department. I have had a long talk with Mr. Ivey, Collector of Customs for Alaska, who is at present at Skagway, three miles below here. The Skagway trail is the most largely used overland route (though by no means the best) to the Klondike. Mr. Ivey informs me that there are now between tide-water and lake something like 4,000 people and about 2,000 horses. The commander of one of the vessels now at Skagway states that sixteen vessels are chartered to land cargoes at that place between now and the 15th of September, and that the number of passengers will average 200 to each vessel, making 3,200 more people who will attempt to go in this fall.

I have talked with some of the most experienced traders and miners in the vicinity, and they are unanimous in the prediction that not over 20 per cent. of this vast number will get through to Dawson before winter sets in. The other 80 per cent. will camp on the trail, and those who survive and get back to tide-water will have to winter at Skagway, or return south. If the rush continues two weeks longer, hundreds of people will perish.

The Postmaster and Indian trader at this place (Mr. Heron) states that more than 1,000 men have gone up the Chilkoot Pass during the past thirty days, and that 700 of them are still this side of the lake, twenty-four miles from here. Vessels are arriving every four or two, and at the present rate of influx another thousand will enter the trail by September 10th. Mr. Heron is of the opinion that not more than 20 out of every 100 will get through, and says this trail is far more dangerous than the Skagway after the snow sets in. He says if the rush continues another week the resultant loss of life will be appalling.

It is difficult to suggest a way to stop this influx of people, but Mr. Ivey intimates that if the inspection rules of the Treasury Department were properly enforced it would materially decrease the number of passengers on the incoming vessels. Nearly every vessel that arrives here brings twice as many passengers as the law allows it to carry, and many of them are condemned craft, which have been fitted up for this trade.

I have talked with several men who have recently returned here from the Klondike, two of whom left there less than thirty days ago. They unanimously agree that there is a rich gold field there, but the facts do not justify the present stampede, and they say there is bound to be much suffering and actual starvation. Provisions are already scarce, and the prices of many articles absolutely prohibitory in the case of a man of ordinary means.

The mail facilities are very bad here, as the Postoffice Department has not made any allowance for the rapid growth of postal business.

SEIZED THE WHISKEY. PORT TOWNSEND, Sept. 7.—The steamer Al Ki sailed to-day for Dyea with sixty passengers, fifty head of cattle and several horses and sheep. While lying at the wharf to-day the customs officers boarded the Al Ki and seized several hundred gallons of whiskey and other property necessary for a well-stocked saloon. The spirits were in kegs and bottles. The outfit, which the customs officers estimate to have cost \$5,000, was put aboard and stored away either at Seattle or Tacoma, but it was not billed or marked in any way, and did not appear on the ship's manifest.

ANOTHER KLONDIKE PARTY. STOCKTON, Sept. 7.—P. O. Loeffler of San Andreas will leave next Friday at the head of a party of thirty overland to Victoria, where they will take the steamer. They will take fifty head of horses and 100 head of cattle. They claim their party is one of the best equipped that has yet started for the gold fields.

TERRORS OF CHILCOOT PASS. PORT TOWNSEND, Sept. 7.—From a letter received here last night from John James, who left here six weeks ago for the Alaska gold fields, an idea

of the present condition at Dyea may be obtained. James and his partner, Lawrence, succeeded in packing 1,200 pounds of provisions over Chilkoot Pass to Lake Linderman. The letter says that recent heavy rains have made the trail impassable, with the result that horses which two weeks previous were selling for \$150 per head are now a drug on the market at \$10. Horse feed is selling at \$70 per ton, and is hard to get at any price. James says it will be cheaper for those who cannot get over the pass this fall to kill their horses now and ship in others in the spring. He says language is inadequate to describe the terrors of the pass since the rainy season began.

THE CLEVELAND OVERDUE. PORT TOWNSEND, Sept. 7.—At midnight nothing had been heard here of the steamship Cleveland, now past due, and supposed to be gold laden from St. Michaels. It is believed she will arrive for a certainty within the next twenty-four hours.

ANGUS-CRAVEN CASE. Closing Scenes in the Famous Trial Before Judge Slack.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 7.—The closing scenes in the case of Angus vs. Craven which has occupied the undivided attention of Judge Slack and a jury for five months commented to-day, when Garrett McEnerney, the representative of the executors of the Fair estate, opened the argument for the plaintiff. The issues to be submitted to the jury are:

First—Were the deeds in controversy signed by James G. Fair? Second—Were they duly acknowledged by him? Was there a conspiracy existing between Mrs. Nettie Craven, Martin Kelly and Mrs. Atkins, which had for its object the looting of the Fair estate?

Mr. McEnerney began his argument by showing the improbability of the signing of the deed by the late Senator Fair, and went over testimony relative to the Craven deeds, which he denounced as most palpable frauds and forgeries. Mr. Delmas will take up the cudgels on behalf of Mrs. Craven at the close of Mr. McEnerney's address, and Judge Curtis, the "will smasher," will probably occupy part of the allotted time for the defense. Messrs. Mitchell and Wheeler will divide the time allowed for the closing argument on behalf of the plaintiff.

CHINESE LAUNDRIES. Judge DeHaven Decides That They Are Not Necessaries.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 7.—In the United States District Court Judge De Haven rendered a decision of considerable interest to municipal authorities throughout the State. Hoag Wah, a Chinese laundryman of San Mateo, applied for a writ of habeas corpus under the provision that he was illegally detained by the Sheriff of that county upon a commitment ordering that he be confined in the County Jail for three months in default of the payment of a fine of \$300, for having conducted a laundry within certain proscribed limits of San Mateo. Judge De Haven, after hearing the matter, held that the ordinance under which the petitioner was convicted and sentenced was unconstitutional, and, therefore, ordered that Hoag Wah be discharged from custody.

Double Tragedy. SALT LAKE, Sept. 7.—A special to the "Herald" from Rawlins, Wyo., says word has just reached Lander of a double killing which occurred in the Big Horn country fifteen miles north of here. Henry Morse, a cowboy in the employ of the Pitchfork Cattle Company, went to the round-up camp and ordered Bob Jackson, the cook, to get supper. Jackson did not move fast enough, and Morse shot him through the body, killing him instantly. He then fired two shots at a cowboy named West, who he could fire again West shot him through the heart.

Miller & Lux Estate. SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 7.—The United States Circuit Court has made an order restraining parties in the Miller & Lux suit from further proceedings. The order was issued at the request of the heirs of Charles Lux, who asked for a distribution to them of \$2,400,000 in cash, and that the Miller & Lux corporation be required to wind up its affairs; that the interests of Charles Lux and Henry Miller be divided, and the Lux interests in lands and live stock be distributed to the Lux heirs.

Murderer on Trial. SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 7.—Dick Beel, a half breed Indian, accused of the murder of George Steels on the Round Bay reservation about a year ago, is on trial before United States District Judge De Haven, sitting as Circuit Judge in place of Judge Morrow. A jury was impaneled to-day, and several witnesses for the prosecution examined. They made out a strong case against the accused. The defense will be justifiable homicide.

Suicide at Oakland. OAKLAND, Sept. 7.—Mrs. Mary Hawley, wife of Wm. E. Hawley, a capitalist, committed suicide to-day by shooting herself in the head during a fit of despondency caused by long continued ill-health. She was a native of this State, and 46 years of age.

Fell Into Boiling Lye. SANTA CRUZ, Sept. 7.—S. Frazer was badly burned last evening on a ranch near Watsonville by falling into a 400-gallon vat of boiling lye while drying prunes.

AN EXPRESS MESSENGER'S DEATH.

J. C. Sullivan Accidentally Shoots and Kills Himself.

The Tragedy Occurs at Baxter Station in Mariposa County.

Los Angeles Infected With a Gang of Burglars—Daylight Robberies of Almost Daily Occurrence—The Thieves Have No Use for Silverware.

MERCED, Sept. 7.—J. C. Sullivan, Wells-Fargo's shotgun messenger on the Merced-Coulterville stage, accidentally shot and killed himself yesterday at Baxter station, between here and Coulterville.

Sullivan has for some months been making two round trips per week on the stage to protect Wells-Fargo's treasure from stage robbers. Yesterday, on the way up, the stage stopped at Baxter and Sullivan got out to get some figs from a tree. He stood his gun against the trunk of a tree and began shaking a branch that was within reach.

This jarred the tree and the gun fell with the barrel pointing toward Sullivan. The gun was discharged, tearing all the flesh from the calf of one leg and shattering the bones in the other leg. The injured man was taken on to Coulterville, that being the nearest point where medical assistance could be found. His wounds were dressed, but at an early hour this morning he died from blood poisoning.

His widow and two children live here. Saturday night lodge of Knights of Honor was installed in Merced, and Sullivan was one of the charter members. By his death his family will receive \$2,000 from the lodge.

BICYCLING AT SEATTLE. Five of the Best Men Fall and Are Severely Injured.

SEATTLE, Sept. 7.—In the final of the half-mile scratch race for professionals held here to-night under electric light five of the best men on the coast fell and were severely injured. John Staver of Portland sustained serious injuries about the head and body, Otto Zeigler, the Californian, was badly cut about the face and head; Dan Whitman of Los Angeles was badly bruised, as was also Hardy Downing of San Jose and George Crawford of this city. It is not thought that any very serious results will follow. Summaries: Half mile, professional, final heat—George Sharrick of Tacoma won, Harry Downing of San Jose second, Danny Whitman of Los Angeles third. Time—1:10-1-5. Half mile, amateur—Wing of San Francisco won, Frank Polton of Tacoma second, Percy Mott of Oakland third. Time—1:21. One mile, professional, final heat—George Sharrick won, Allen Jones second, Whitman third. Time—2:21-1-5. Two-mile pursuit race—Wing and Mott, representing California, against Shipp and Cotter, representing the Northwest, won easily by the California pair. Time—4:56-2-5 for winners; for losers, 4:59.

AN UNFORTUNATE PRINTER. Dies Just as He Was About to Receive an Inheritance.

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 7.—After nearly a lifetime spent as a printer, enduring hardships from privation and sickness; after a suit for divorce from his wife, in which judgment was given in his favor only last Saturday, Charles H. Young died yesterday from tuberculosis, with a small fortune almost within his grasp. When the court rendered judgment in Young's favor granting him absolute divorce, his attorneys announced that they would present the decree to Judge Van Dyke for his signature on Monday. Before the decree was signed, however, he died of the disease. Young was just about to come into possession of his interest. Mrs. Young will now come in for her share of the property, of which, had her husband lived a few hours longer, she would have been deprived.

FIGEL'S EXAMINATION. The Defendant Takes the Stand in His Own Behalf.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 7.—Theodore Figel took the witness stand in his own behalf to-day when his examination upon the charge of murder was resumed before Judge Campbell. He was entirely self-possessed, and gave his testimony, which was merely a repetition of the statement made shortly after the mysterious death of Isaac Hoffman, his employer, with unusual coolness and deliberation. On cross-examination Figel stated that he was 26 years old, and had been in the employ of Isaac Hoffman since 1888, when he entered the office as office boy. Later he became assistant cashier, and finally rose to the position of confidential clerk and cashier.

The prosecuting attorney then attempted to extract from the witness the history of the firm, but the defense objected, and the remainder of the morning session was consumed in a lengthy argument, during which Attorney Ach took occasion to score the defendant and the latter's attorney. Reviewing the testimony of the defense as to Hoffman having been seen alive after Figel was on his boat, General Barnes made the statement that there was no evidence to hold Figel. Judge Murphy cited cases in support of his argument, that Figel could be cross-examined as any other witness. The argument was closed by Mr. Ach. He said it was no more than natural that Mrs. Hoffman should desire the prosecution. General Barnes interrupted, and said he understood it was entirely against Mrs. Hoffman's wishes that the prosecution was being conducted.

Judge Murphy and Mr. Ach both declared that it was her wish, and asked that the request of Barnes to the contrary be put in the record of the proceedings. Judge Campbell reserved his decision on the point until to-morrow.

LETTER CARRIERS. Opening Session of the National Association.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 7.—The opening session of the convention of the National Association of Letter Carriers was not called to order until some three hours after the appointed hour to-day. The delay was occasioned by the non-arrival of the credentials of the delegates, which had been expressed from the East by National Secretary Victory, and also by the failure of the Eastern delegation to make its appearance until after 11 o'clock. President Parsons called the convention to order at 11:15 o'clock and at 11:30 the session on Credentials, consisting of B. F. Newell of San Francisco, J. C. Keller of Cleveland, W. H. Keyes of Baltimore, A. J. Berenson of Kalamazoo and J. E. Havens of Brooklyn.

Another committee, consisting of Thomas Smith of Chicago, E. Curran of Lynn, Mass., and Thomas Parren of Boston was appointed to draft rules and regulations to govern the conduct of the convention. While these committees were preparing their reports, George Kibbe, one of the attorneys for the letter carriers, addressed the delegates upon the subject of back pay. At the afternoon session President Parsons presented his report, reviewing the work of the association for the past year. He said an effort should be made to secure the friendly cooperation of the postal officials in Washington.

The Committee on Credentials reported that 361 delegates were present, representing 141 branches by delegates and 177 branches by proxy, a total of 667 votes in the convention. The Committee on Legislation reported that efforts to secure a bill fixing the salaries of the carriers with a minimum of \$1,200 had not been introduced, owing to the opposition of the Speaker of the House. It is expected that the question will come up again at the next session of Congress.

BURGLARS AT LOS ANGELES. Daylight Robberies of Almost Daily Occurrence.

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 7.—Despite the numerous captures of burglars made by the police within the past few days, daylight robberies continue to be of almost daily occurrence in this city. On Sunday two houses were looted, and a valuable lot of plunder made away with. The home of S. V. Landt, in the western section of the city, was entered about 6 o'clock in the evening, during the absence of the family, and many articles of jewelry and silk garments were stolen. The same afternoon the home of Otis E. Tiffany, in the same locality, was entered by thieves, who carried away numerous silk gowns and two sealskin wraps. The burglars were evidently aware of the depreciated value of silver, as in both cases a quantity of silverware was ignored.

The police have a good description of two men who are suspected of the robberies.

NATIVE SONS. Flocking to Santa Rosa to Celebrate Admission Day.

SANTA ROSA, Sept. 7.—The Native Sons are already coming in from different parts of the State to attend the great Admission Day celebration here this week. Thus far, however, only the skirmish line has arrived. Each visiting delegation has sent a delegation in advance to their headquarters ready, and the work of decorating them is already well advanced. The work on the big arches will soon be completed, and they will surpass anything ever seen here. The decorating is being done by the merchants, and is beautiful, nothing like it having been seen here before.

The Stanford Estate. SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 7.—Mrs. Jane Stanford, executrix of the estate of Leland Stanford, to-day applied to Judge Coffey for an order approving her recent action in discharging several legacies of \$100,000 each by the distribution of property. The legatees were the following: Charles Stanford and Winfield Stanford, assigns of Jane E. Stanford and Charles Stanford, executor of the estate of Jane E. Stanford; Jane Stanford Byington; Stanford Wells, Maud Stanford Kimmonth and Leland Stanford Lathrop.

Inspected Fruit. LOS ANGELES, Sept. 7.—Mexico is beginning to send oranges across the border, and the Chamber of Commerce is preparing to institute a sharp hunt for the dreaded Mexican worm. Secretary Wiggins, in a communication with the Department of Agriculture at Washington and with the Fruit Inspector at Nogales, with the view to prevent if possible the introduction into this country of the infected fruit, the chief fear for California orchardists lies in the fact that the fruit carries with larvae from wormy Mexican fruit.

Committed Suicide. STOCKTON, Sept. 7.—The Coroner's jury called to inquire into the death of the man whose nude corpse was found in the willows near the junction of Stockton Channel and the San Joaquin River, returned a verdict of suicide. The fact that all the clothing of the man had been burned and a revolver found under the body caused the jury to accept the suicide theory.

The Justices' Courts. BERKELEY, Sept. 7.—A decision of the Superior Court declaring illegal the Justice Courts at Berkeley, left the administration of justice in the college town in a peculiar position. The Town Marshal and his deputies will not be able to convict offenders against town ordinances, and the Justices will close their offices.

Tape Games Running. LOS ANGELES, Sept. 7.—At a meeting of the City Council held to-day the City Attorney was requested to give an opinion as to whether it is in the power of the Council to pass an ordinance to regulate or suppress the tape games, such as recently were declared legal by Justice Murray. The tape games are again running in full blast.

Scaled to Death. RENO, Sept. 7.—A steam wagon engaged in hauling timber from Loyalton to Verdi vied up this afternoon one mile east of Sardine Valley, scalding the fireman, named Gilbert Litberg, so badly that he died this evening.

Royal Baking Powder. ROYAL BAKING POWDER. Absolutely Pure. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

JAPAN-HAWAII CONTROVERSY.

FORMER GOVERNMENT WILLING TO ARBITRATE. Agreement Delivered to Secretary Sherman by the Secretary of the Japanese Legation.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—The full text of the formal acceptance by the Japanese Government of the proposal to arbitrate its differences with Hawaii has been received in this city, and a copy was to-day delivered to Secretary Sherman by the Secretary of the Japanese Legation, Mr. Matsui. It is from Count Okuma, Minister of Foreign Affairs, to H. Shimamura, Japanese Minister to Hawaii. After acknowledging the receipt of Hawaii's offer of arbitration, it says: "The Imperial Government are firmly convinced that their complaints in this matter are well founded, and that their demands are just and reasonable. Nevertheless, in a spirit of conciliation, and in the hope that their action may contribute to the good relations of the two countries, they have resolved to accept, subject to certain necessary limitations and qualifications, the proposal of the Government of Hawaii. Accordingly, on the 29th ult., I telegraphed to you to the effect that the Japanese Government accepted in principle the suggestion of the Government of Hawaii for arbitration, and that the terms and conditions of such acceptance would follow by mail. I now confirm that telegram, and the object of this instruction is to explain the nature of the terms and conditions, an adhesion to which is, in the estimation of the Imperial Government, essential to a satisfactory issue of the contemplated arrangements. The reasons assigned by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Hawaii in favor of arbitration make it also desirable that the award when pronounced, shall be of the highest and most commanding character. Consequently, the Imperial Government proposes that the two governments shall, when the proper time arrives, unite in requesting that his majesty, the King of the Belgians, may be pleased to accept the position of sole arbitrator. The Imperial Government is, moreover, persuaded of the desirability of expressly defining the scope of the reference, not only in order to lighten the labors of the arbitrator, but with the view, as well, that the decision may address itself solely to the actual points of divergence. We therefore propose that the two governments shall agree to the essential facts of the case, and that the arbitration shall be limited to specific questions at law (in case the award is in favor of Japan) as to the measure of the Imperial majesty's responsibility. It is due to frankness that I should, in this connection, state that for reasons which are fully set forth in another instruction, the Imperial Government cannot consent that the question of the possession of \$50 million of the Hawaiian Islands, or of the applicability of the treaty of 1871 to the Japanese subjects, other than those belonging to the merchant class, shall be regarded as points of issue upon which the decision of the arbitrator is to be asked. If the Government of the Republic is prepared to meet the Imperial Government upon the foregoing essential points, it is not apprehended that any difficulty will be experienced in arriving at an agreement in reference to questions of minor importance. You are consequently directed to communicate a copy of this instruction to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, as the reply of the Imperial Government to the suggestion made in his note of the 28th of June. You will at the same time urgently impress upon him the importance of immediate response. I am, sir, etc., Count Okuma Shigenobu, Minister of Foreign Affairs."

Charge Against Cooper Dismissed. SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 7.—"Sir" Harry Westwood Cooper was tried before Police Judge Low to-day on a charge of obtaining money on false pretenses from Landlord Gallagher of the Langham Hotel. Gallagher was the only witness who testified that Cooper told him that he had \$85,000 to his credit in a New South Wales bank, but was forced to admit that he did not know that Cooper's story was false. The charge was therefore dismissed.

Decided in Favor of Heirs. STOCKTON, Sept. 7.—Judge Bndd to-day decided the case of the Campbell heirs against the Drais estate in favor of the heirs. Half a section of slide was involved. The heirs' portion was mortgaged against their consent, and the court restored the property to them after the mortgage was foreclosed.

Senator Morgan. SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 7.—United States Senator Morgan of Alabama sailed this afternoon on the steamer Australia for Honolulu.

Griffo-McKeever Fight. PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 7.—Young Griffo of Australia and Charlie McKeever of this city met at the Olympic Club at Athens, Pa., to-night in a fifteen-round contest, which was decided a draw, although a majority of the 2,000 spectators believed McKeever had a shade the better of the contest.

Opposed to Bishop Keane. LONDON, Sept. 7.—The "Daily Chronicle" publishes a dispatch from Rome saying that several members of the Sacred College of Cardinals, particularly Cardinal Ledochowski, strongly oppose the nomination of Bishop Keane, formerly rector of the Catholic University at Washington, and now counselor to the congregations of the propaganda and studies, to the Archbishopric at New Orleans.

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Handsome Brocaded Silks, in many new weaves and beautiful combinations of colorings. There are large and medium sized brocades, and among them you will find shadings of the newest blues, greens and reds. Prices, \$1, \$1 25, \$1 50, \$2 yard.

New Black Silks, for skirts or entire suits, in soft, lustrous bengaline effects, with small dashes and figures. These are to be the popular silks for this season. Price, \$1 25 a yard.

A large variety, comprising fifty pieces or more of light evening Brocades, in Gros Grain and Plain Satin Grounds, with self-colored brocades, in the most exquisite shadings imaginable and most artistic designs. Priced from 85c up to \$1 25 a yard.

Be sure and get a pretty and stylish waist of one of the new Roman Stripe Silks, in lovely combinations of colorings, and can be worn with very stylish effect with a black skirt. \$1 25 a yard.

Just Received. A handsome assortment of new Silk Skirts, in fancy, bright colors, Roman stripes and checks, silk lined and unlined; also, saten, moreen and alpaca skirts, in a variety of styles.

Tooth Powder. Colgate's Antiseptic Tooth Powder, for cleansing and whitening the teeth, contains no ingredients injurious to either the gums or teeth. By virtue of its antiseptic qualities, it prevents decay and decomposition in the mouth, preserves and hardens the gums, sweetens the breath. Price, large screw top bottle, 18c.

New Ribbons. Handsome lines, new colorings, in Ribbons, are daily coming to us. Ribbon richness centers in Roman Stripes and Plaids this season. We are to-day showing a line 1 inch, 1 1/2 inches and 4 inches wide, for hat bands, belts and ties. Prices 15c, 25c and 30c yard.

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