

NO STARVATION AT DAWSON CITY.

Sending of a Relief Expedition by the Government Unnecessary.

Such is the Unanimous Expression of People Just From the Klondike.

More Alarm Over the Situation Outside Than at Dawson—While There May Not be a Surplus of Supplies, the People Have Sufficient to Last Them Until Spring.

SEATTLE (Wash.), Dec. 28.—There will be no starvation at Dawson City this winter and the sending of a relief expedition by the United States Government is unnecessary.

The last party to leave Dawson left November 25th. All of them came up the frozen Yukon and out over the Chilcoot Pass.

The last to leave Dawson were Egan and Keistlein. They made the trip from Dawson to Dyea in the remarkably quick time of twenty-three and one-half days.

As to the food situation at Dawson, all say there is more alarm on the outside than is felt by the people at Dawson.

As has been reported, the most serious shortage is in flour, and oil.

Edward Conrad, when asked if there is danger of starvation at Dawson, replied emphatically: "No, sir; there is no great surplus of food, but there will be no starvation."

When asked for an opinion of the Government expedition, he said: "It is a humbug, and I doubt if it can get down to Dawson before the ice breaks up."

Conrad's statement, so far as they related to the improbability of starvation, were indorsed by all the other arrivals here.

Barrington said: "There is no need of any one worrying over their friends starving. Of course, provisions are not plentiful, and supplies should be taken in the spring, at which time all the provisions in the country will be exhausted."

Speaking of the rush to file claims, Barrington says: "For some time before I left the Commissioner's office was unable to accommodate the miners."

S. W. Foote says: "A great many people went past Dawson in boats with the floating ice, and make a landing."

"Beef and mutton at Dawson are being sold at \$1 to \$1.50 per pound. Nothing in the food line can be obtained from the companies without an order."

T. H. Mallory believes the output next season will be between \$1,000,000 and \$2,000,000. J. J. McKay estimates it at \$800,000.

On November 20th the English Church known as the "Klondike" was destroyed by fire.

mouth of Stewart River, which stream they will prospect this winter. No new gold discoveries are reported.

SPANISH VICTORIES IN CUBA.

HAVANA, Dec. 28.—According to announcements from Spanish sources, the combined operations undertaken by General Aguirre in the Province of Santa Clara have resulted in the capture of an insurgent camp, twenty of the enemy killed and three captured.

It is further reported that the Spanish troops have been engaged with insurgents commanded by Napoles. In this case the insurgents are said to have lost several men killed, and the Spaniards say after the engagement an insurgent Captain and seven armed privates surrendered.

Advices from Manzanillo say that Spanish troops have left there to relieve the garrison of Santa Cruz, which is threatened by the insurgents.

A report is current here that the son of Calixto Garcia died recently from wounds received during the insurgent attack upon Guanamo.

The insurgents have dynamited a railroad bridge at San Rafael, between Linaas and Campo Florida, this province.

Congressman William H. King has gone to Matanzas, Sagua La Grande and other towns in the interior, bearing letters from Senor Jose Congosto, Secretary General of the Government, to the local authorities.

DECLARED A DRAW. The Glove Contest Between Daly and Everhardt.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 28.—Jack Daly and Jack Everhardt met before the Tulane Avenue Athletic Club to-night for a percentage of the receipts. The match was originally for twenty rounds, but the Mayor would not issue a permit for over ten rounds, and charged \$500 for that.

Everhardt said he had trained for twenty rounds, and refused to go on until he secured an agreement that if both men were on their feet at the end of the ten rounds the fight would be declared a draw.

Everhardt tried to make it a rough and rushing fight from the start, but Daly was clever enough to keep away from punishment. Daly's left was weak, so there was not much harm done until he used his right, and kept it going on the body.

PHILADELPHIA BANK FAILURES. The plan for liquidation of all claims against the Chestnut-street National Bank and the Chestnut-street Trust and Savings Company, as far as could be learned to-day, are quite acceptable to the general body of depositors of both of these institutions.

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THE MURDER OF PETER FRENCH.

Additional Particulars of the Killing of the Oregon Cattleman.

The Tragedy Occurred on One of His Ranches in Harney County.

Was Shot in the Head and Instantly Killed While Riding Away From the Assassin—Deceased Well Known in California, Being a Son-in-Law of the Late Dr. Hugh Glenn.

WINNEMUCCA (Nev.), Dec. 28.—Additional particulars were brought here to-day by messenger of the murder of Peter French, the largest land holder and cattle owner of Eastern Oregon.

French was shot and killed on his ranch in Harney County, 225 miles north of here, last Sunday afternoon. David Crow is the messenger who arrived here this afternoon with the news, having been in the saddle forty-three hours with nine changes of horses.

Crow left the scene immediately after the homicide. He says French and a band of vaqueros had rounded up a band of cattle, and were about to drive them into a field on his ranch.

French was 48 years old, and one of the best known in Harney County. He had a ranch of 10,000 acres in Harney County, Oregon, and had often expressed the belief that he would be murdered some day. He was in the habit of going armed, but was without a weapon when shot down the day before yesterday.

WELL KNOWN IN CALIFORNIA. SAN JOSE, Dec. 28.—E. C. Singletary and G. W. Cozzens of this place, received telegrams from Canyon City, Or., this morning, telling of the cowardly murder there yesterday of Peter French by one Oliver. Oliver stole up behind French and shot him in the head with a big pistol. The ball passed entirely through the brain. Death was instantaneous.

Peter French was a rich cattleman, and well known in California. He was the son-in-law of the late Dr. Hugh Glenn, and was for a long time associated with him in his big wheat and cattle ranch enterprises. He was a brave, generous man, and had an excellent character, having won fame in border wars with the Indians. Of late years he has been raising cattle and Oregon, spending some time there and some time in San Francisco and other California points. Cozzens and Singletary of this place have been interested with him.

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asked that official to make an investigation. This was done, and to-day Murphy stated that he fired two shots at Stroh, the second of which was discharged as the burglar swung onto the balcony of Gardiner's house.

Stroh insisted when arrested that he had never carried a pistol, and after a most diligent search of the neighborhood the police failed to discover the weapon which it was believed he had thrown away after wounding Mr. Gardiner.

LYNCHING OF UBER. A Grand Jury Called to Investigate the Matter. GENOA (Nev.), Dec. 28.—This morning a Grand Jury met called to investigate the recent lynching of Adam Uber. The names of some of the Jurymen appeared on a petition against the Genoa "Courier," which virtually declared in favor of mob law.

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THE SITUATION IN THE FAR EAST.

China Becoming Alarmed Over the Present State of Affairs.

Calamitous Forebodings Connected With the Coming Eclipse of the Sun.

Large Fleets of British and Japanese Warships Arrive at Port Hamilton, a Small Island South of Korea—To the War Spirit in Japan is Due the Dissolution of the Diet.

PEKIN, Dec. 28.—The German question is unsettled. China's difficulty is increased, owing to the uncertainty of the attitude of the powers. Germany's withdrawal from Kiaochow Bay is said to be conditional upon her finding a suitable naval station elsewhere.

WARSHIPS GATHERING. LONDON, Dec. 28.—The "Globe" this afternoon says a private telegram reached London last evening announcing that over twenty British warships have arrived at Port Hamilton.

JAPAN READY FOR WAR. LONDON, Dec. 28.—A special dispatch from Shanghai, dated yesterday (Tuesday), says: "It is reported that a Japanese fleet of warships is waiting near Goto Island, outside of Nagasaki, fully equipped for war and only awaiting instructions. This includes the Yamashima and the Fuji, two of the finest vessels in the Japanese navy, and the Chen Yuen, which was captured from China. The Japanese fleet, it is understood, is acting in close touch with the British squadron under Vice Admiral Sir Alexander Bullock, Commander-in-Chief of the China Station."

COMMERCIAL BANKS. Semi-Annual Report Showing Their Financial Condition. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—The following semi-annual report showing the financial condition of the 157 interior commercial banks of this State at the close of business November 30, 1897, has just been compiled by the State Board of Bank Commissioners.

RESOURCES.—Bank premises, \$1,738,391.26; real estate taken for debt, \$5,817,819.42; miscellaneous stocks and bonds, \$2,770,610.72; loans on real estate, \$14,390,558.58; loans on stocks, etc., \$2,406,476.71; 13,402; loans on securities, \$2,196,232.15; loans on personal security and overdrafts, \$18,342,805; money on hand, \$4,496,870.83; due from banks, \$8,869,143.77; other assets, \$1,428,099.84; total, \$62,973,135.45.

LIABILITIES.—Capital paid in coin, \$19,003,882.50; profit and loss and contingent fund, \$6,981,483.36; due depositors, \$24,282,928.62; due banks, \$1,457,449.23; dividends unpaid, \$28,106.16; other liabilities, \$1,019,185.55; total, \$62,973,135.45.

A RUNAWAY WITNESS. Arrested at Redlands and Will be Taken to Portland, Or. REDLANDS (Cal.), Dec. 28.—United States Deputy Marshal Fred Ponrade arrived here yesterday evening from Los Angeles, and at 9:30 arrested O. S. Dwyer, an absconding witness from Portland, Or. Dwyer was Assistant Superintendent of the registry division of the Portland Postoffice, and an important witness in a big job for robbing the Los Angeles bank.

SECRETARY GAGE. A Report That He Has Tendered His Resignation. WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Assistant Secretary Vanderlip, when asked to-day concerning a report that Secretary Gage had tendered his resignation, and that Mr. McKinley had refused to accept it, said: "There is nothing in it."

SCHOOL DIRECTOR WEBB. Acquitted of the Charge of Misconduct in Office. LOS ANGELES, Dec. 28.—After being out for a few minutes, the jury in the case of School Director Walter I. Webb, accused of misconduct in office, brought in a verdict of acquittal.

FATALLY KICKED BY A HORSE. FRESNO, Dec. 28.—James F. Kerriek of Saner was fatally kicked yesterday by a vicious horse. The animal had almost killed her owner on several previous occasions. Yesterday as he was driving the carriage to which she was attached to splinters, her heels striking Kerriek in the head, Kerriek cannot live.

SENTENCED TO PAY A HEAVY FINE. EUREKA, Dec. 28.—B. McGarraghan and Harry Bask, members of the no longer fashionable "One Night Club," who were caught in the act of stealing Policeman Frank Barnum's poultry last week, being charged with burglary and afterward being allowed to plead guilty to attempted petty larceny, were each fined \$150 to-day.

INCENDIARY FIRE NEAR CHICO. CHICO, Dec. 28.—By an incendiary fire this morning on the ranch of Park Henshaw, 5,000 fruit trays were destroyed.

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YUKON RELIEF EXPEDITION.

Canada Will Co-operate With United States Authorities

In Their Efforts to Aid the Miners in the Klondike Country.

Explorer Nansen Points Out a Difficulty to be Met With in the Use of Reindeer as Transport Animals, Suggesting That Iceland Horses Would Likely be Found More Available.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—The Canadian Minister of the Interior, Mr. Sifton, and his Secretary, Mr. McKenna, were waited upon at their hotel this morning by Assistant Secretary McKenna, in the name of Secretary Alger. They were then driven around the suburbs, including the Soldiers' Home grounds, until noon, when Secretary Alger, who has arisen from his sick bed for the purpose, entertained his visitors at luncheon.

It is learned that Mr. Sifton, in accepting Secretary Alger's invitation to come to Washington for the purpose of consulting respecting Klondike relief measures, telegraphed that his Government was ready in favor of co-operation with the United States authorities in their efforts to aid miners in the Klondike. It is expected a plan of operation will soon be arranged between Secretary Alger and the Canadian officials.

Captain Brainard has been authorized to issue to-morrow the advertisement for the supplies that are to be carried on the relief expeditions. The list is as follows: List 1 includes absolutely indispensable articles, and is made up of bacon, flour, pea meal, onions, tea, salt, and pepper. These things are to go, if anything is taken. It will be noticed that in food value onions are set ahead of potatoes, and that tea is taken instead of coffee.

Both potatoes and coffee are provided for in list No. 2, which is made up of articles that are to be carried in addition to those in the first list, if there is accommodation for them. This list is: Dried fruits (apples, prunes or raisins), desiccated potatoes and coffee. If the transportation facilities are equal to still further loads, then the articles in list No. 3 will be added, as follows: Fresh meat in cans, sugar and tobacco.

Mr. Sifton said to-night that he hoped to conclude his visit within the next two days, and that there was no doubt the two Governments could make a mutually beneficial in extending relief to the Klondikers.

ARE REINDEER AVAILABLE? BIRMINGHAM (N. Y.), Dec. 28.—Dr. Fridtjof Nansen, the Arctic explorer, has been asked by the United States government to bring reindeer from Norway to carry relief supplies to the Klondike miners. He said if the reindeer were taken overland across the country they would probably reach Alaska in time to accomplish the desired object, and if they could reach Alaska they would undoubtedly be of great assistance in the relief work. The difficulty, however, would be to get the deer transported.

Dr. Nansen said the moss on which the reindeer live is about the only food they will eat, and they will starve before they will eat much of anything else. They have sometimes been trained to eat bread, but not very successfully. While there is an abundance of moss in Norway, he thought it would be impossible to gather it in such quantities as would be necessary for the feeding of 500 deer in transportation from Norway to Alaska. The deer themselves seem to know how to gather it better than human beings. He believed that if 500 reindeer were shipped from Norway it would be impossible to keep more than a small percentage of them alive until Alaska should be reached.

According to his opinion, Iceland horses would be better for this work, for they would subsist on the moss of the Arctic regions and also on hay or other provender. They were also hardy, and would do the work after they reached Alaska almost as well as the deer. It would be much easier to transport them, he said.

D. M. CARMAN ARRESTED. Charged With Swindling a Citizen of Chicago. CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—D. M. Carman, member of the Chicago Commons, was arrested by the Chicago police to-day for making a tour of the United States to interest prospective Klondikers to sail by way of San Francisco, confronted Justice Martin in the Harrison-street Police Court to-day. He was charged with swindling William Binns of 3751 Indiana avenue. The latter claims to have lost \$1,100 as the result of a California real estate deal with Carman several years ago, and upon learning of Carman's arrival in Chicago caused his arrest. The hearing was continued until to-morrow, bail being furnished in the sum of \$1,100.

WILL BE GRANTED AN EXEQUATOR. BERLIN, Dec. 28.—The Government has expressed its willingness to grant an exequator to Edmund Z. Brodowski of Illinois, recently appointed United States Consul at Breslau, if he should be appointed United States Consul at Fuerth, Charles W. Erdman of Kentucky, who was appointed United States Consul at Fuerth, being transferred to Breslau.

A STEAMER'S CARGO ON FIRE. NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—A cable dispatch received in this city to-day announces that the British steamer "St. Rouke," Captain Zabrone, which arrived at New York December 26th from Galveston, November 25th via Norfolk, was on fire in hold No. 3, containing 2,000 bales of cotton. The fire broke out at sea.

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