THE SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER.

VOL. XXXII., NO. 100. SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1897. EIGHT-PAGE EDITION.

If You Are Bound For the Klondike

And Want the Best Outfit That Money Can Buy, We Can Serve You Better Than Any Firm in Seattle.

COOPER & LEVY

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Chamois Skin Vests in Midsummer?

WHY, SURE—

For the Yukon.

They are the most comfortable garment you can take. We have them in large size for big-lunged men.

SOZODONT ACID prevents scurvy. We put it up in tin cans.

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The Commodious and Fast Sailing Steamer "Portland"

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For Fort Get There, St. Michaels Island, Alaska, mouth of the Yukon river, making connections with the river steamers Weare, Cudahy, Hamilton, Healy, Power and Klondike. Passengers will be landed at Circle City, Fort Cudahy and Klondike gold mines on or before June 15, 1898.

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Placer and quartz mines bought and sold. Investments in mining property made, saving expense of sending agents. Our agents and experts are on the ground and have been for years.

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To those taking passage on steamer Portland employment will be given if they desire cutting and banking steamboat wood at the rate of $4 per cord.

Large stocks of supplies of all kinds will be found at Fort Get There and Hamilton on the Lower Yukon. For particulars apply

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The Very Best Miners' Shoes and Rubber Boots

ENOUGH TO SUPPLY ALL THAT INTEND GOING.

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Max F. Wittnauer, Graduate Optician, has her office in our store. "A GUARANTEE WITH EVERY WATCH WE SELL."

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Japanese Tea, Fancy Goods, etc.

New Goods coming. Fans given away to customers.

ON CAPTURED TRAINS.

Ohio Miners Ride to the Scene of Operations.

COMPEL SUSPENSION OF WORK.

Conference Between Miners and Operators at Pittsburg Considers Two Plans of Settlement—Split Among the Operators—Debs Issues a Fiery Appeal Against the Judges Who Issued Injunctions—Official Report Says Indiana Miners Are Starving.

CINCINNATI, Aug. 23.—A special to the Commercial Tribune from Wellston, Ohio, says:

Seven hundred miners, headed by three brass bands, flagged a mixed freight and passenger train on the Cincinnati and Dayton road this morning at a crossing in the southern part of the city. The train came to a stop and was boarded by the men. Then the trainmen refused to proceed and backed the train to the depot, where they were ordered by the officials of the road to proceed. The miners were en route to Oak Hill. Arriving at Oak Hill, the strikers marched to the mine and demanded that the men come out. This the men did, but not before being assured that no harm was intended if they conducted themselves well. The men then held a meeting and informed the strikers that they would not work until the strike was settled.

Another Train Captured.

Returning to Wellston, the strikers captured a Baltimore & Ohio freight train. The conductor at first refused to move the train, but went on to Wellston when informed that the miners were going to stay on board until he did move. This is the second time that the strikers have taken the men out of the Oak Hill mine, and they informed them that if they were compelled to make anther trip they would make it unpleasant for them.

Two Plans of Settlement.

PITTSBURG, Aug. 23.—"Miners to resume work at the 54-cent rate, pending a decision of a board of arbitration.

"Miners to resume work at an intermediate rate between the rates demanded and the one paid before suspension, pending a decision of a board of arbitration.

"Miners to resume operations without a price named, pending a decision of a board of arbitration."

These three propositions were submitted by the special committee of railroad coal operators of the Pittsburg district at a conference held tonight.

"Miners to resume work at the 69-cent rate, pending the decision of a board of arbitration."

This is the proposition submitted by the officers of the miners to the special committee. The propositions were talked over in an informal manner by both sides, when an adjournment was taken until 10 o'clock in the morning. The operators hope that one of their propositions will be accepted, while the miners' officials say they will not recede in the least from the position they have taken. President Dolan, however, after the conference said that all were going to take a good sleep, and he was satisfied that they would come to some definite understanding within ten minutes after meeting in the morning.

Split Among the Operators.

It was a lively meeting of operators. During the forenoon there was a split among the producers. The miners' officials wanted to know if every operator in the district was represented. They had received a negative answer, and in return said there were downstairs John Shields and others, who were not represented. They adjourned and promised to have the rest of the operators present. At the afternoon session there were present on behalf of the Miners' National Union President Ratchford, Secretary-Treasurer W. C. Pearce, District President Patrick Dolan, First Vice President Edward McKay and Secretary William Warner. The operators' committee was composed of J. C. Dysart, G. W. Schuldenberg, J. N. O'Neil, J. J. Zerb, F. M. Osborne, U. A. Andrews, W. P. Bonte and W. P. Reid.

President Ratchford, in an interview, said he wanted it distinctly understood he had never been asked by the operators to confer with him.

"The statement," said he, "that I had refused a conference is not correct. I am here now at the request of Dolan. We will only agree to the operators' proposition if they will pay 69 cents. That is the lowest rate the miners will accept. It must be 69 cents, or the strike will be continued until the demands are granted."

At the De Armit Camps.

The striking miners encamped about the De Armit mines were permitted to march in small groups today, but not allowed to get within speaking distance of a working miner. All the men in camp were sent out this afternoon on scouting and missionary work, to visit the house of each miner. About 250 strikers succeeded in eluding the deputies during the night, and visited the working miners at their homes. This morning a raid was made on the camp of negro railroad laborers at Unity. Constable Carson and four assistants, heavily armed, went to the camp, and, after destroying the gambling tables, demolished the unlicensed liquor saloons and set fire to the house. The negroes offered no resistance.

MONONGAHELA, Aug. 23.—About 300 strikers marched on the Bunola mine today, but were forced to return to their camp by deputies.

Debs' Attack on Judges.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind., Aug. 23.—Eugene V. Debs today issued a call to the "Social Democracy and all lovers of liberty and fair play" to attend the conference at St. Louis next Monday, when, he says, "prompt, united and vigorous action will be taken in regard to the miners' strike, and especially the court of judiciary in issuing restraining orders." He says: "The hour has struck to call a halt." In conclusion, he says: "Every atom of American manhood revolts against the spectacle of judges who, by the usurpation of power and playing the role of tyrants, have annihilated the constitution, abrogated the right of trial by jury, forbidden free speech, suppressed peaceable assemblage and transformed our republic into an absolute despotism. They are guilty of judicial treason, and should be made to answer at the bar of an outraged people. The issue has been forced upon us, and we have retreated before it to the very verge of slavery. Let us now meet it as it would have been met by the patriots of 1776."

Destitution in Indiana.

LEBANON, Ind., Aug. 23.—Judge Thomas J. Terhune, the commissioner appointed by Gov. Mount to investigate the condition and grievances of the striking coal miners of this state, says that 8,000 families in the Indiana mining districts are completely destitute, and that unless relief is afforded the result will be beyond imagination. Hundreds of men, Judge Terhune said, had not had a dollar in months. The speaker declared that the operators are to blame, and said that the sooner they are forced to adjust the price of coal so as to enable them to pay reasonable wages to their employes, the sooner the miners' troubles will end.

Literally Gemmed With Gold.

SALT LAKE, Aug. 23.—A special to the Herald from Lander, Wyo., says Daniel Tracy, a miner from Leadville, Col., has uncovered a vein of gold ore two feet eight inches wide in the Wind river range, on Gold creek. The ore is literally gemmed with gold the full width of the vein.

GREAT CONTEST ENDED.

Heirs of A. J. Davis Agree to Distribution After a Long and Costly Struggle.

BUTTE, Mont., Aug. 23.—The long fight over the estate of Andrew J. Davis is practically settled. A petition was filed in the district court today dropping the contest to the alleged forged will and agreeing to the distribution.

When Davis died in 1890 his estate was valued at $8,000,000. Of this Andrew J. Davis, jr., a nephew of the dead millionaire, was given the stock of the First National bank, of Butte, valued at $2,000,000, by an alleged deathbed bequest, and the stock of the Butte & Boston Mining Company, valued then at $2,500,000, since sold to the reorganization committee of that company for $180,000. An inventory filed with the court gives the amount in the administrator's hands as $972,000; real estate, $290,000; notes, $110,000; property in the hands of the auxiliary administrator in Boston, $450,000; total, $1,732,000. The debts of the estate were $135,000; expenses of the administration, $110,000; bequests in will, $4,000; total, $259,000, leaving $1,483,000, of which $670,000 is ready for distribution now.

The court is asked to allow this to be distributed right away. In the agreement dropping the contest, all the blood relatives of the dead millionaire are taken care of, but Diana Davis and Erwin Davis, sister and brother. The former is barred by the statute of limitation, never having been party to the contest. Erwin Davis is also barred for the same reason, besides being indebted to the estate. The agreement divides the estate into eleven hundredths.

The case was one of the most famous contests in the country. When Davis died his relatives all over the country put in claims to portions of the estate. John A. Davis, a brother, since dead, produced a will made in Iowa in the fifties making him sole residuary legatee, after a few bequests to the natural son and daughter of the head millionaire, who never married. The will was contested on the ground that it was a forgery. The trial resulted in a disagreement of the jury. The second trial was set for several months ago, but postponed to allow a chance to settle it out of court. It is believed that Erwin Davis will make a fight. He already claims one-half of the bank stock awarded to young Andrew Davis.

M'KINLEY ON PROSPERITY.

Due Not Only to Good Crops, but Tariff and Sound Finance.

NEW YORK, Aug. 23.—A dispatch to the Journal from Hotel Champlain, N. Y., says: President McKinley said to a Journal representative that it should be a source of pleasure to every American citizen to know that there was a return of prosperity to the country.

"The cause of the present boom in the West," he said, "is undoubtedly due in a great measure to the large crops and high prices caused by the failure of crops in other countries. But the fact that prosperity has set in in the East cannot be accounted for in any other way than by the wise policy of the Republican party in restoring a protective tariff.

"The present boom is not spasmodic. It will continue to increase, and not only the manufacturers but the people generally will soon realize that it is only with a protective tariff and sound financial principles that the country will be prosperous and remain in that condition.

"With the restoration of confidence will come a restoration of prosperity."

McKinley's Last Day on Champlain.

HOTEL CHAMPLAIN, N. Y., Aug. 23.—The last day of the stay of the presidential party here was a quiet one. The president visited Secretary of War Alger early and they reviewed the Twenty-first United States regiment. The remainder of the day was given up to preparations for the journey to Buffalo.

THE SEALS DYING OFF.

Jordan's Report to Washington—Denial That Branding Takes.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 23.—Assistant Secretary Howell today received the following telegram from Seal Commissioner Jordan, from Seattle:

"Investigation successfully completed. Shrinkage of breeding rookeries 50 per cent, since last year; of killable males, 33 per cent. Latter due to starvation of pups from pelagic sealing in 1894, former due to last year's destruction of females, plus starvation of pups in 1896. Conclusions of last year completely vindicated in all important regards."

CLEVELAND, O., Aug. 23.—The remark of Dr. Jordan as contained in press dispatches on the 21st inst. that "skins of branded cow seals returned this year to the islands show clearly the permanency of the mark and its efficiency to render the skin unsalable without injury to the animal or to the herd," was commented on by Prof. Elliott today as follows:

"I yield to no one in my esteem for Dr. Jordan's ability and integrity, but in this declaration I believe him to be premature. The seals which were branded last year and which Jordan speaks of as returning this year so marked were some 350 female pup seals, or young of the season of 1896. They were branded between the 14th and 20th of September, or after they had shed their natural coats and put on their sea going jackets for the coming year. Fur seals renew their hair once every year. Jordan has not yet had time to observe the effects of branding. I was forcibly impressed by the fact that all scars and wounds in the skin of fur seals healed without a cicatrice while studying these animals on the island in 1873. It was a very singular deviation from the law which governs such healing in the hides of horses, cattle, dogs and cats. I followed it closely in 1873 and again in 1874, and found it to be constant."

Republican Campaign Plans.

CHICAGO, Aug. 23.—The national Republican managers are preparing to take part in the campaigns in half a dozen states where local elections are to be held this fall. Henry C. Payne, national committeeman from Wisconsin; Charles G. Dawes, of Illinois; Col. W. A. Rand, of Wisconsin; E. V. Smalley, of the National Sound Money League; George E. Roberts, of Iowa, and S. A. Perkins, private secretary to Senator M. A. Hanna and assistant secretary of the National Republican League committee, are in the city, and two conferences have been held with M. J. Dowling, secretary of the National Republican League, regarding the policy of the various state campaigns in which the election of a United States senator is at stake. It is probable that the management of the last national campaign, under which the league acted as an auxiliary to the national committee and under its immediate direction, will be continued.

Not one complaint has ever been made by those using Ayer's Sarsaparilla according to directions. Furthermore, we have yet to learn of a case in which it has failed to afford benefit. So say hundreds of druggists all over the country. Has cured others, will cure you.

For Dawson City Direct.

Steamship Noyo will sail from San Francisco August 22, from Seattle August 25, making close connection at the mouth of Yukon with river steamer for Dawson City. No delay. Inquire E. E. Caine, agent, Arlington dock, Seattle.

For Skaguay Direct.

The steamer George E. Starr leaves Arlington dock Thursday, August 26, at 9 o'clock a. m. Room for 100 horses. Telephone Pike 74.

Van Camp's Macaroni and Cheese.

A new delicacy. At your grocers.

THE EXTREMES MEET.

Head of French Republic Embraced by the Czar.

BANDS PLAY FREEDOMS HYMN.

To the Music of the "Marseillaise" and Amid a Wildly Cheering Populace the Chief Representative of European Democracy Is Welcomed By Europe's Greatest Despot—Afridis Attack Indian Forts—The Ameer Denies Inciting, But England Suspects Him and Fears Russian Intrigue.

CRONSTADT, Aug. 23.—The French warship Pothuau and her two consorts arrived here at 11:30 this morning. As the Pothuau steamed slowly into the roads, heading toward the imperial yacht, Standart, she was saluted by the Russian artillery. The French warship eventually anchored near the Standart. President Faure stood on the deck of the Pothuau, wearing a frock coat and the ribbon of the order of St. Andrews.

The Grand Duke Alexis, the high admiral of Russia and uncle of the czar, put off in the Hisotrita, which was flying the czar's standard, boarded the Pothuau and conducted the French president on board the Alexandria, when the imperial standard and the tricolor of France were run up to the masthead. After the most cordial greetings had been exchanged the Alexandria steamed to Peterhof. The weather was cloudy.

ST. PETERSBURG, Aug. 23.—From early this morning there has been a scene of great animation here and a steady flow of people toward the quay, where they embarked on profusely decorated steamers to meet President Faure at Cronstadt. The magnificent park between the palace and the sea was gloriously decorated with the flags of Russia and France. The streets of Peterhof were crowded from early morning and were gay with court equipages.

About 10 a. m., when a message from Cronstadt announced that the French fleet was approaching, the czar emerged from the Peterhof palace, entered a carriage, drawn by two gray horses, and drove to the landing stage. His majesty wore the uniform of a captain in the Russian navy, with the ribbon of the Legion of Honor on his breast. Grouped at the landing stage were the court dignitaries and the diplomatic corps.

A large fleet of pleasure steamers had by that time assembled in the roads, and the most intense enthusiasm was manifested when the Grand Duke Alexis and President Faure left the Pothuau and proceeded to the Alexandria. The czar awaited the president at the top of the Alexandria's gangway, and the moment M. Faure set foot on the deck of the imperial yacht warm embraces were exchanged between the czar and the president, which were the signal for a storm of cheers, waving of handkerchiefs and other marks of popular and enthusiastic delight. The sailors manned the ship at the same time and gave the regulation cheer for the czar and his guest.

When the imperial yacht was safely moored alongside the jetty, the French president was the first to land, and the band of the imperial guard struck up "La Marseillaise." The czar followed M. Faure ashore and immediately presented his guest to the grand dukes present.

A detachment of marines, with colors flying, then marched past the czar and the president, who afterwards reviewed them, the marines cheering as they went by. The czar and President Faure then drove to the palace. The route to the palace was lined with troops, and behind the soldiers were massed enthusiastic crowds of people, who were frantic in their acclamations.

Upon arriving at the Peterhof palace, the czar presented President Faure to the various court officials, and then, reentering the Victoria, his majesty drove along to the Alexandria palace, the residence of the czarina. A few minutes later President Faure emerged from the Peterhof palace, accompanied by Gen. Bildering, and drove to the Alexandria palace in order to offer his homage to the czarina.

A private luncheon followed in the white hall of the Peterhof palace. M. Faure sat on the right of the empress. There were thirty-four guests, the company including M. Hanotaux, the French foreign minister. The empress and emperor received M. Faure in the Louis XV. salon, which is in that part of the palace called "the farm." The czarina, who wore a lovely costume of pearl-gray silk, asked M. Faure about his voyage and referred to her own pleasurable visit with the czar to Paris last fall.

At the grand gala banquet given tonight at the new Peterhof palace, Emperor Nicholas toasted M. Faure. M. Faure, replying, said:

"Responding to the profound sentiment of the whole French nation, the president of the republic comes to the capital of your majesty's empire to affirm and knit closer the powerful ties that unite the two countries. And as the president of the republic touches for the moment the soil of Russia, the hearts of both nations are beating in unity with the same thought, the thought of reciprocal fidelity and peace. I raise my glass in honor of your majesty, emperor of all the Russias, in honor of the empress and the whole Russian nation."

The palace is guarded tonight by a regiment of the czarina's lancers.

PARIS, Aug. 23.—Much bunting was displayed here today in honor of the meeting in Russia of President Faure and the czar.

ARMENIANS ARE DESPERATE.

Weary of Waiting for Relief, They Will Resort to Extremes.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Aug. 23.—A circular letter received by the ambassadors of the powers from the Armenian Dashnakzutrum, committee, almost identical with the one sent to the ambassadors in 1896, declares that the Armenians are tired of waiting and are resolved to take action for the redress of their grievances. It also appeals to the pity of the nations of Europe not to allow the Armenian nation to be annihilated, and asserts that the Turkish promises of reform are a dead letter and that in this extremity the Armenians are resolved to carry out what was foreshadowed by the occurrences of August 26th, 1896.

The confessions of two Armenians arrested on Saturday, at whose residence two bombs were found by the police, are said to have been prompted by the Turkish authorities.

STRIKERS FIGHT DESPERATELY.

Many Builders Injured in Conflict With the Police.

BUDAPEST, Aug. 23.—A great strike in the building trades began here today. More than 20,000 men are involved. The strikers, in the endeavor to prevent others from working, came repeatedly into conflict with the police, and desperate pitched battles ensued in several of the principal streets of the city. Two hundred persons have been injured, some dangerously. The police have arrested a hundred of the ringleaders.

May Trade Off Alsace-Lorraine.

LONDON, Aug. 23.—A German diplomat whose name is not mentioned, in an interview is quoted as saying:

"Germany will not give up Alsace-Lorraine without compensation, but France has every reason to hope that Germany will do so for a promise of compensation, even if made at a distant date."

THE AMEER DENIES IT.

He Did Not Incite Indian Rising and Denounces It—Suspicion of Bad Faith and Russian Intrigue.

LONDON, Aug. 23.—A dispatch to the Times from Simla says the following official communication was issued tonight (Monday):

"The ameer has promptly replied to the letter in which the Indian government called his attention to information received by it to the effect that Afghan subjects had joined Haddah Mullah. The ameer distinctly denies the truth of the reports that Afghan regulars have joined the mullah. He engages solemnly and personally, on behalf of Gen. Gholam-Haidar and the regular army that no such act of hostility will ever be committed by them. He alleges that, if the tribesmen have joined at all, they must have joined secretly, for they would not have dared to do so openly, because of fear of him. He attributes the disturbances to the action of the mullahs, especially Haddah Mullah, who in former years incited his people to rise against him in Afghanistan, and he denounces their conduct."

This is a most important pronouncement, and if published broadcast on the frontier, may have a great effect upon the tribesmen.

Gen. Elles will endeavor to induce the Afridis to leave the hills and venture into the open, but it is feared they will cling to the various spurs running out toward Jamrud and Peshawur. This may delay the dispersal, and they may become troublesome demonstrations against the Kuki Khel villagers living near the hills. Kohat and the Mohmudd orders are still quiet.

A special dispatch from Simla says the belief prevails there that the government, in the official communication, has suppressed a portion of the ameer's reply, owing to a difference of opinion between Lord Elgin, the viceroy, and the military authorities. Lord Elgin desires to act cautiously and to avoid an open rupture with the ameer. The military authorities, on the other hand, are convinced that the ameer is acting in bad faith, and they urge Lord Elgin to act quickly before the ameer is able to make formidable military preparations. The generally well-informed correspondent of the Times at Simla says nothing about this suspicion, which is probably born of the feeling that the ameer, although he disowns, does not disapprove of the doings of the tribesmen, while there is the further possibility of Russian intrigues in the background.

Curiously enough, the Paris Memorial Diplomatique, which is supposed to have connections with Russian diplomacy, announced in its Sunday issue that the ameer was preparing for the eventuality of war in any case. The Afridis have always displayed a keener readiness for plunder than for fighting, and the fact that they have advanced to the attack of fortified posts for the protection of caravans traversing Khyber pass, while under pay of the Indian government, indicates that some strong motive animates them.

The Afridis number about 20,000 first-class hill fighters. An anxious feature of the situation is that the Anglo-Indian army is largely recruited from the Afridis.

LONDON, Aug. 23.—An official dispatch from Peshawur announces that the Afridis attacked Ali Misjed this morning, and adds that they were attacking Fort Maude at 10:30 a. m. The enemy's line is a mile and a half long. All the Afridis are said to have joined in the uprising.

SIMLA, Aug. 23.—A large force of Afridis has just been reported to be advancing down the Khyber pass, and the so-called "mad mullah" or fanatical priest, who is inciting the natives of that territory against the British, is said to have collected the Mohmads for an attack upon Michni and Shab. The Royal Irishmen and a regiment of native infantry, with a battery of mountain artillery, have been ordered to Kohat. Fighting is reported at Murjede between the Afridis and the British garrison of that place.

PESHAWUR, Aug. 23.—The Afridis began an attack upon Ali Musjed at 8 o'clock this morning, and upon Fort Maude shortly after 10. Both are garrisoned with Khyber native levees. The enemy is also entering the Khyber pass. Gen. Wesmacott has sent artillery to the mouth of the pass to shell them if possible. The artillery was accompanied by the Ninth Bengal lancers.

Workmen's Congress in Session.

ZURICH, Switzerland, Aug. 23.—The international congress called to discuss measures for the protection of workmen opened here this morning. There were 500 delegates present, and all countries were represented.

Brazilian Rebels Are Strong.

RIO JANEIRO, Aug. 23.—The fanatics around Canudos, to the number of 8,000, are well intrenched in fortified positions awaiting an attack. They have invaded the states of Sao Paulo and Harran in large force, raided several towns and plantations, and are interfering with the transportation of supplies to the government troops, which have lost 2,400 wounded in the last few weeks.

GUVNOR TEATS ON TRIAL.

Tacoma Hears Policemen Tell How He Fixed the Civil Service Examination.

Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer.

TACOMA, Aug. 23.—The council played to full galleries tonight at the investigation of the charges preferred by Mayor Fawcett against Civil Service Commissioner Teats. The proceedings resulted in nothing so much as an airing of the fusionists' linen, and the big split which has occurred in the ranks of the triple alliance in this city was apparent throughout the meeting.

Nearly all of the witnesses introduced by the city were members of the police force. All told the same story of having contributed to Mr. Teats' fund, ostensibly for payment of the expenses of the Mullen-Doherty appeal, and each man insinuated that unless he paid up he was given to understand that his job was off.

The council took a recess at 11 o'clock this evening until tomorrow night, when the investigation will probably conclude.

NEARLY $100,000 SHORT.

Startling Revelation Regarding Affairs of Building & Loan Society.

TRENTON, N. J., Aug. 23.—Peter Croseer, secretary and treasurer of the Mercer and Merchants' Building and Loan Association, is short $98,700 in his accounts, if the report made today by the committee of investigation appointed some weeks ago is well founded. Croseer, who is about 65 years old, has not been arrested.

DEATHS.

Mrs. Nellie E. Moore, of Walla Walla.

Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Aug. 23.—Mrs. Nellie E. Moore, wife of Thomas Moore, a well-known citizen of Walla Walla, died in this city Sunday morning of consumption, aged 28 years. Deceased had been a resident of Walla Walla twenty-five years.

Roasted Alive in His Home.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Aug. 23.—A special to the Gazette from Baxter, Ark., says: Edward Williams, colored, was killed and burned in his home, three miles north of this place, about 2 o'clock yesterday morning by a posse headed by deputy sheriffs, because he resisted arrest. About a month ago Williams committed an outrage on a colored woman and sent word to the deputy sheriff residing here that he would kill him if he undertook to arrest him.

For Skaguay Direct.

The steamer George E. Starr leaves Arlington dock Thursday, August 26, at 9 o'clock a. m. Room for 100 horses. Telephone Pike 74.

BLASTING OUT A TRAIL.

Skaguay Miners Unite to Clear the Road.

HUNDREDS OF MEN AT WORK.

Dynamite and Giant Powder Employed to Shatter the Rocky Barriers—Steep Places Braced Up by Logs, and Swampy Lowland Made Solid by Corduroy—No One Permitted to Cross the Mountain While the Work of Improvement Proceeds—Skaguay Soon Will Have a Population of 10,000.

Balked by an impassable mountain barrier, with the prospect of spending a long Alaska winter on an inhospitable sea coast, where blizzards and storms have free play for four months of the year, 6,000 miners at Skaguay have assailed the Skaguay trail with dynamite and an army of picks and shovels. Nearly two thousand men were placed at work on the trail Tuesday night last and it was closed to travel until the army of workmen could get it open for all.

This news was brought down from Skaguay on the steamer Rosalie, Capt. Oliver, arriving yesterday morning. On the Rosalie was Frank Clancy of this city, who came after supplies for his pack train. Clancy says there are at least 10,000 people at Skaguay and Dyea and the trail by this time. Not more than 200 out of 1,000 of these people will penetrate the Yukon before the Alaskan winter sets in.

Three weeks ago the first train over the pass crossed in safety, losing one horse. Instead of thirty-six hours, which the projector of the route said would be required to make the lakes, it took the train six days to make the round trip and the horses, belonging to Geo. Ames, were completely exhausted. The muddy pathway over the mountains was enough to strike terror to the heart of an ordinary man, to say nothing of a horse laden with 250 pounds of freight.

Trail Is Closed Temporarily.

Since that time the trail has been impassable. Weary weeks of waiting on the part of the thousands of gold hunters at the base of the mountains brought desperation. The executive committee, D. J. McKinney chairman, was called together Sunday night, a week ago. It was decided to at once close the trail until a new pathway could be blown out of the solid rock with dynamite. A mass meeting confirmed with one voice the action of the committee. Notices were posted all along the trail warning miners to get out of the way on pain of severe punishment. The trail was closed to all travel at 9 o'clock last Tuesday morning.

Under the leadership of the committee, the army of miners attacked the mountain barrier lying between them and the gold fields of the Yukon and Stewart rivers. Until this time but five parties had crossed the summit. The others were strung along between Skaguay bay and a point fourteen miles in the interior up the mountains.

Five boats have landed their passengers at Skaguay since the Rosalie sailed, and the colony numbers now close on to 8,000. Mr. Clancy says that even the lucky few who get over the summit before the Yukon freezes will not be able to get boats at Lake Linderman, because the sawmill there is incapable of filling the demand.

Not a Sign of Disorder.

Mr. Clancy, grown brown as a berry under the sunshine of the Skaguay trail, and with a ten-day's beard bristling on his face, was besieged with questioners from the moment of his arrival in the city until late last night. Wherever he stopped on the street, a crowd of his associates and friends quickly assembled to gain information as to the condition of affairs at Skaguay and Dyea.

In conversation with a representative of the Post-Intelligencer, Mr. Clancy gave the following account of the Skaguay camp, which is just now the center of interest in the Klondike rush:

"The greatest order is maintained at Skaguay. The committee of miners attends strictly to business. All disputes are referred to it, and it acts as a sort of governing body over the whole camp. Its decisions and regulations are received with respect and obedience.

"As to the condition of the trail, I do not believe that the accounts printed of it have been in the least exaggerated. Yet the miners have finally organized to open the path into the lakes beyond, and with three or four days' work should be able to get a very fair trail over the summit.

"They have begun work in a systematic and vigorous manner. The executive committee barred every one from the trail after 9 o'clock Tuesday morning, and a gang of 700 men was set at work that afternoon. They had plenty of giant powder and dynamite, and were prepared to obliterate all the bad places in the road. Each gang selected its own foreman, and set out to perform some task allotted by the general committee.

Bad Places on the Road.

"The committee ordered a gang to blow out the slate rock on Porcupine hill. The powder will be freely used on other places where the horses have had to climb up a steep incline. It is such spots as these that have caused the trouble. Horses have been unable to carry more than 125 pounds over the worst places.

"Around Porcupine hill the trail is very slippery. It was the intention when I left to lay a line of logs around this part, braced with stakes driven into the ground. This will prevent the trail from sliding down the hill, and will give the horses a foothold.

"The marsh beyond the hill is another bad place. Logs were cut from the timber in the vicinity and will be laid over the wet places like a corduroy road. I think that the miners there have determined to get over the summit before winter sets in, and they will work like beavers to get a way open.

"The greatest difficulty has existed on Porcupine hill. It is here that so many horses have been lost and injured, although the report that 500 horses have been killed is untrue. One of Harry Struce's horses broke a leg going around this place, and had to be shot. Another, a fine gray mare, was going over with a bale of hay strapped to her back. Another train was coming this way. The trail was too narrow for them to pass. The horse coming this way took a bite at the bale of hay, and the mare went sliding down the bank to a shelf of rocks sixty feet below. Rather than have her die there they pulled her out and turned her over to a veterinary surgeon at Skaguay. This incident illustrates one difficulty that the miners have to contend with. The trail is not wide enough to prevent confusion and a blockade when two trains meet, or when one tries to pass another party camped on the way up.

Part of the Cargo Damaged.

"The Willamette arrived Saturday morning, before we left. Her passengers organized and set to work in a systematic way to get their stuff off the ship. The committee would not allow any man to take his goods from the shore till the last pound had been cleared out. The goods were placed on the shore in alphabetical order, so that each man could take his effects when all was clear. It was expected that the Willamette would finish discharging freight Wednesday night, the day we left Skaguay.

"Many of the passengers suffered loss on the goods. They were placed in the hold under the between decks, where the horses and mules were loaded. The offal from these filtered down into the hold, and quite a lot of goods were ruined. The matter was taken up by the committee, who went to the captain of the ship. He promised to see that the goods were paid for by the company."

Pushing Toward the Gold Fields.

Mr. Clancy said that Archie Hammell, of Port Townsend, formerly well known