THE SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER.

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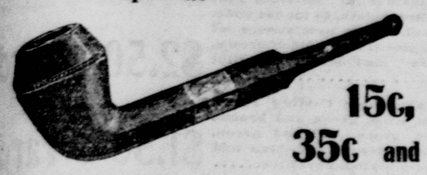
We have an assortment of Pipes at



15c, 25c, 35c and 50c,

That are the best values ever offered in this city. Cigar stores are asking double the prices for pipes that are not to be compared with these that we offer.

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KLONDIKE

A Commodious and Fast Sailing Steamer Will

LEAVE SEATTLE ON OR ABOUT JUNE 10, 1898,

And every ten days thereafter, taking freight and passengers,

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 for Circle City, Minook Creek, Fort Cudahy and Klondike gold mines.

Reservations for passage or freight on steamers may now be secured by making a deposit.

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.

We will issue letters of credit on our company at its posts—Circle City, Alaska, and Fort Cudahy, Dawson City and Klondike gold fields, Northwest Territory—at a charge of 1 per cent.

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

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ALASKA TRANSPORTATION SERVICE VIA YUKON RIVER.

We are building Boats expressly for above service and getting ready to do business to and from the Alaska Gold Fields and are prepared to furnish rates of transportation for passengers and freight between Seattle and Dawson City and all intermediate points. Now is the time to secure your passage and room for freight. Boat will sail from Seattle on or about March 15th.

Before making definite arrangements for taking the trip, call on or address,

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References—

Dun's Commercial Agency, Seattle, Wash.; Boston National Bank, Seattle, Wash.; Second National Bank, East Saginaw, Mich.; People's Savings Bank, Saginaw, Mich., Standard Building & Loan Association and National Building & Loan Association, of Detroit, Mich.; Bank of Nova Scotia, Woodstock, N. B.

COME AND GET A SHINE.

It costs you nothing if you buy your Shoes from us.

Another Large Shipment of Those New

$3 Waterproof Shoes

JUST RECEIVED.

They are the best thing on the shoe market for many years, and are just the thing for this climate.

San Francisco Shoe Co.,

722 FIRST AVENUE, CORNER COLUMBIA STREET.

OUR FOOTWEAR WILL OUTWEAR FOOTWEAR BOUGHT ELSEWHERE.

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NEW FALL GOODS AT POPULAR PRICES.

Agents for "HAPPY HOME" Clothing.

M. FURUYA CO., 203 Yesler Way, 802 Second Av. Japanese Curiosities.

FULL AUTONOMY GRANTED TO CUBA.

Spanish Minister Outlines the Reforms.

LIKE AN AMERICAN STATE

Federal Principle to Be Introduced in Its Full Extent.

Minister de Lome Says a Local Assembly Elected by Universal Suffrage Will Rule Under a Governor Sent From Spain—Delegates to the Cortes to be Elected—The Colonial Minister Also Gives an Outline of the Reforms—Cubans Insist on Independence — President McKinley Receives the Spanish Reply.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—The Spanish Minister, Senor Dupuy de Lome consented for the first time today to speak concerning the policy of autonomy which the Spanish government proposes to apply to Cuba. This has been referred to in general terms since the advent of the Sagasta ministry, but there has been lack of authentic details. Before leaving for New York today, where the minister and his family will spend several weeks, Senor de Lome gave the evolutions through which autonomy has passed, leading up to the present policy and the general outline of the policy itself.

Under the provisions of the treaty of Zankon, concluded in 1878 at the close of the last Cuban disturbance, it was provided that Cuba was to enjoy the same liberties as those accorded to Porto Rico. This latter has the same liberties as any province in Spain. This brought the autonomist party, so-called, into existence, its essential principle being that of self-government for Cuba, and not treating Cuba as a province of Spain, as was the system in Porto Rico. The party adopted a platform, and in 1886 offered a complete programme of autonomy for the consideration of the country. A peaceful agitation of this autonomy programme was then inaugurated. In 1893 for the first time a minister of a Liberal cabinet, Senor Maurau, saw the mistake of the rule known as "assimilation," which treated Cuba as a Spanish province, and he presented a plan of reforms. This was strongly opposed, and after two years of discussion, it was found impossible to put the plan through the cortes. Then a compromise reform measure was framed, which acknowledged the personality of Cuba as a separate body, but under the Spanish flag. These reforms having been considered insufficient on account of the state of the island, Premier Canovas proceeded to enlarge them, his plan being, however, short of absolute autonomy. Now Senor Moret, minister of the colonies in the new cabinet, fulfills the promises of the Liberal party when it was in the minority, and proclaims that autonomy has always been demanded by the home-rule party of Cuba.

Full Canadian Home Rule.

Under this policy, as applied to Cuba, the island will have a system on the lines of Canada or of the American states, maintaining its individuality on internal affairs and yet retaining its place as a part of the Federal system. It will have a viceroy or governor general, as is always the case in the maintenance of a colonial system, such as that of Australia, New Zealand or Canada. The island will have its own legislature, chosen directly by the people, who will enjoy universal suffrage. From the majority in the legislature, the governor general will choose his ministry, consisting of a president of the ministry and ministers of the interior, public works, public instructions and finance.

At the same time, Cuba will have representation in the Spanish cortes, as well as her local legislature. The representatives to the cortes will also be elected by the people of Cuba, through universal suffrage, and will not be selected by the ministry, as has been erroneously stated. The ministry will be responsible to the legislature and not to the governor general. The subjects before the legislature will include those of taxation, tariff, public instruction and all matters of the internal administration of the island in the broadest sense of this term.

Woodford Cables the Message.

The event of the day at the state department was the receipt of the long-expected cablegram from United States Minister Woodford at Madrid, transmitting the answer of the Spanish government to his representations in the interest of peace in Cuba. This message began to come in installments at 2 o'clock last night, and it was noon today before it was all in at the state department.

It had to be translated from cipher, which occupied nearly all of the day, so that it was half-past 3 o'clock before the first copy of the message was turned out. It was not so long. In fact, there was a little less than 1,000 words in the message, for Mr. Woodford, instead of cabling the whole of the Spanish answer to his note, had contented himself with reducing the matter to a brief outline.

The first copy was taken at once to the president, not being intrusted to a messenger, but being delivered by Chief Clerk Michaels in person at the White House. After due opportunity had been allowed the president to read the message, an application was made for a statement of its contents or nature. This was declined by Secretary Porter, and it was said that under no circumstances would the correspondence be made public before consideration by the cabinet.

The Message Not Offensive.

From unofficial information that has reached certain administration officials in advance of this message of Mr. Woodford as to the nature of the Spanish reply, it is evident that in neither language nor subject matter is the communication likely to be taken as offensive by our government. It may be, it is true, regarded as insufficient to meet the issue presented by Mr. Woodford in his note, but officials of the state department say that in view of what has already been accomplished by the new Spanish cabinet by reforming abuses in Cuba, in removing Weyler and projecting what appears a liberal measure of autonomy, our government will certainly rest, at least until congress assembles, and afford the new Spanish government a reasonable length of time to carry out its plans.

Two Americans Pardoned.

Vice Consul General Springer, at Havana, has telegraphed the state department that the Spanish authorities have pardoned Frank Agramonte and Tomas Julio Saenze, two American citizens, who have been imprisoned at Santiago de Cuba since June, 1895.

Spain's Plan of Autonomy.

NEW YORK, Oct. 27.—A dispatch to the Herald from Madrid says: Senor Moret y Predergast, the new colonial minister, has outlined his plan for Cuban reform as follows:

The autonomy which the cabinet of Senor Sagasta purposes to bestow on the island of Cuba and Porto Rico, in fulfillment of the manifesto of June 14, is a special autonomy founded on the aspirations adopted in the platform of the Antillian autonomists and not identical with the other colonial constitutions. It is clear that in its essential principles the future constitution of Cuba and Porto Rico agrees with those colonial constitutions that start from self-government as the capital idea—self-legislation, responsible to the government and the supremacy of the governor, who, either under that name or that of viceroy, shall represent the mother country, and who shall choose the ministers who shall be the executive in that colony.

Starting from the above basis, the project of the Spanish government contains, first, partition of those matters and concerns that belong to the colonial parliament and to the imperial parliament, that is, to the national cortes. The partition is founded upon a careful discrimination between what interests the islands themselves in a local sense and what is of national importance. The project in operation will interpret in the most generous manner the phrase "local interests," since it will not only grant to the colonists complete control of all that relates to education, charity, etc., but it also intrusts to representatives of the local government the right of drawing up their customs tariff without any limitation beyond those mutually arranged.

The Colonial Government's Powers.

With the metropolis to co-ordinate in their respective mercantile and commercial interests, the above functions will be performed by an insular chamber, totally electoral in nature, without restriction as to subsequent subdivision into two similar chambers—that is, the house of representatives and the senate. Members of this parliament shall be elected by the same suffrage system as that which regulates the elections in the peninsula. The same electoral body shall represent Cuba in the imperial parliament. The governor general, as the representative of the central power, shall choose the ministers, who are to be the executive body, responsible to the insular parliament, thus completing the reorganization of the parliamentary government and endowing it with that degree of responsibility characteristic of every colony administered on the principles of self-government.

The ministers shall be responsible to the colonial parliament, and every enactment of the governor general, as the representative of the executive power in all that touches the local government, shall be treated in the council.

Powers Reserved to Spain.

The ministerial functions reserved to the metropolis are:

First, those that concern international relations; second, military and naval matters; third, organization of the law courts; fourth, those depositions that under the name of patronage really regulate relations between the church and state. At the same time the new constitution shall grant to the Cuban people the use of, and the protection offered by, the civil and political rights sanctioned by the Spanish

SENOR DUPUY DE LOME.

Continued on Page 2.

BITTER WORDS SOFTLY SPOKEN.

Fill Conference Room at Dr. Brown's Trial.

BUYING OF WITNESSES.

Charges Reiterated Against Him by the Bay Conference.

The Congregational Conference Trying the San Francisco Pastor's Case Handles Such Oily Words as Perfidy and Malice, and When Brown Is Accused of Calling His Opponents Dogs, Hypocrites and Other Things, He Says It Was Hypothetically—His Friends Alleged to Have Turned Against Him

CHICAGO, Oct. 27.—There was a fairly large audience of Congregational ministers and laymen present at the second day's session of the inquiry into the charges against the Rev. C. O. Brown, made by the Bay district conference, San Francisco. In calling the meeting to order, Dr. Little said that the first thing in order would be the Bay conference presentation of its case. While the Californians were consulting, Dr. Brown arose and remarked that he would reserve the right to object to certain paragraphs in the Bay conference's findings. He denounced these paragraphs as perfidious and untruthful. The Bay people came back with similar adjectives, and for a few minutes the reverend gentlemen, with the softest tones and the gravest of behavior, showered charges of "perfidy," "malice," etc., upon one another.

Some Hypothetical Epithets.

Dr. R. C. Brown, of Oakland, who is the speaker of the Bay conference, took the stand against his namesake. He stated frankly that he had every reason to believe the Bay conference had done rightly by the accused minister, and that the latter's suspension was not, as he had claimed, causeless and without investigation. Dr. Brown concluded by declaring that the action of the Bay conference was imperatively necessary.

Dr. Hatch, another Californian, remarked that he and his friends had been called dogs, hypocrites, liars, drunkards and serpents in the grass.

"Hypothetically, Dr. Hatch," interrupted Dr. Brown.

"Well, then, we have been hypothetically called all these names—also monkeys," resumed Dr. Hatch. He then said he went to the Bay conference as a friend of the accused minister, and was actually forced to believe the charges made against him.

Dr. McLean was the next speaker. Disclaiming any personal hostility to Dr. Brown, he said the scandals affecting that minister had seemed overwhelmingly strong in their character. The speaker then declared that Dr. Brown's suspension was justified by the following reasons:

That Dr. Brown had paid $600 to escape public notoriety in the case; that he failed to explain the incriminating letters, and that he had paid a witness to leave San Francisco at the time of the investigation.

"No, no," exclaimed Dr. Brown.

"Yes," answered the speaker.

Dr. McLean then added a fourth charge to the three already alleged against Dr. Brown—that of using threats against a young woman of his congregation.

The Course of Bay Conference.

Reports of the California credential committee, which was given the findings of the trial council, and, in turn, passed the findings on to the Bay conference, were then read. The conference, continued the speaker, had acted without a trial, simply because the original council and the credential committee had fully investigated and recorded the four specific charges. Dr. Brown, he said, had been given every opportunity to defend himself. The vote in the Bay conference was 49 to 32 against Dr. Brown, and the conference simply confirmed the judgment already given by the San Francisco council. Dr. Brown's delay in summoning the Bay conference to a mutual council was also commented upon.

Incidentally, the speaker said that Dr. Brown's guilt or innocence in the Overman scandal was not proved, but that the charges arising out of Dr. Brown's action toward witnesses in that case were so much talked about that investigation was necessary. The council, he went on, had met with a hope of clearing Dr. Brown, but as the investigation continued, had been compelled to admit his guilt. By his own friends, claimed the speaker, Dr. Brown had been condemned.

Dr. McLean continued his speech in the afternoon and, aside from frequent interruptions and objections, consumed the greater part of the afternoon. He took up the findings and endeavored to explain what the council meant in each instance. This action was necessary, he said, because the findings were ambiguous, owing to the desire of the majority of the council to shield Dr. Brown as much as possible from the unkind comments of the public. The findings seemed to show conclusively that Dr. Brown's clerical brothers on the Pacific coast were far from satisfied with the explanations he made of his conduct.

THE JAPAN-HAWAIIAN DISPUTE.

Japan Is More Pacific, But Negotiations Still Drag Along.

HONOLULU, Oct. 22 via San Francisco, Oct. 27.—The Hawaiian government's reply to Japan's latest letter will soon be forwarded and another step taken in that diplomatic controversy. The president and cabinet are busy at work on the last letter from the Japanese government. The tone of the document is much more pacific than any previous communication. This government will have some amendments to make to the latest proposal.

The Japanese government is still very vague as to the amount of damage it will claim, and it still seems as if the main point was the establishment of a precedent rather than compensation for the supposed injury inflicted upon its subjects.

The negotiations will have to be continued some time longer, as Minister Shimamura has no authority to accept the amendments to the protocol, and these will have to be forwarded to the foreign office for approval. It seems now that the controversy will go to arbitration within a few weeks. The China, sailing for Yokohama on October 29, will carry the reply of the Hawaiian government. By the middle of November the letter should reach the foreign office at Tokyo.

A reply from the Japanese government may possibly be received here on the Doric, due here on December 13. By Christmas the whole imbroglio may be in the hands of the arbitrators, providing there is not too much correspondence between the two countries to determine who the arbitrators shall be.

The United States ship Yorktown arrived on October 15, fourteen days from Yokohama. She will probably remain here until the arrival of the Baltimore. The Yorktown has been on the China station since 1894. Nearly all of her present officers were transferred to her from the Machias when the fleet met in Cheefoo harbor a few weeks ago.

A SAN FRANCISCO TESTIMONIAL.

The Argonaut.

VOL. XLI. No. 1056. SAN FRANCISCO, OCTOBER 25, 1897. PRICE TEN CENTS.

... and a large part of the other ...ness from San Francisco. A special issue of the *Post-Intelligencer*, of Seattle, recently issued shows that the Queen City of the Sound is no laggard in the race for supremacy. Last year, eight thousand people, or three-quarters of all those who went to Alaska, got their outfits in Seattle and started from there. Every steamship line running to Alaska has head-quarters in Seattle. The Great Northern, Northern Pacific, and Canadian Pacific Railways all enter that city, and, by way of the Northern Pacific and Portland, there is connection with the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific roads. Last year, before the rush for the Klondike began, Seattle produced $5,497,000 worth of manufactured goods, and its jobbing trade amounted to $15,332,000. The Seattle Chamber of Commerce and the merchants are devoting their energies to making Seattle the central starting-point for Alaska next spring. The special issue of the *Post-Intelligencer* is filled with information intended to secure this result, and copies of it will be sent to every section of the United States. San Francisco will have to look out for her northern trade.

At a meeting of the board of supervisors held last ... proposition was presented by ...

HOW SEATTLE REACHES FOR TRADE.

HE DODGED THE PENITENTIARY.

Chinaman Secures a Free Trip Home and Escapes His Sentence.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 27.—United States District Judge De Haven rendered an important opinion this morning in the deportation case of the United States vs. Chunk Ki Foon. It was sought to deport Foon because he was without the certificate of residence required by Chinese laborers by section 6 of the act of congress of May 5, 1892.

Foon arrived in Portland, Or., in 1876 and engaged in the general merchandise business until the year 1882, when he came to California and went into the business of restaurant and lodging house keeper. In November of that year he was arrested on a charge of robbery, and remained in the Kern county jail until January 25, 1894, at the end of which time he was convicted and entered upon a five years' term of imprisonment at San Quentin.

In the opinion, Judge De Haven held that the defendant was a laborer at the time of his arrest, and therefore ordered him deported from the United States to China.

BIG CHECKS ARE PASSING.

Signs of Hot Competition Between U. P. Reorganizers and Syndicate.

DENVER, Oct. 27.—A special to the Times from Omaha says: From absolutely authentic sources it was learned that two certified checks for $2,000,000 each were deposited with Judge Cornish master in chancery in the Union Pacific foreclosure case, at the United States National bank today. They come from the Sage syndicate and the reorganization committee, between which, it is asserted, there will be sharp competition.

NEW YORK, Oct. 27.—In anticipation of the sale of the Union Pacific under foreclosure, a check for $6,000,000 was deposited today for the reorganization committee with Special Master Cornish. The check represents 10 per cent. of the sum to be paid for the road.

ST. PAUL, Oct. 27.—At 4 o'clock this afternoon Judge Sanborn granted the motion of ex-Gov. Hosdley and Gen. Cowan, for the postponement of the sale of the Kansas branch of the Union Pacific railway system, from November 6 to December 15.

RUMORED NEWS OF ANDREE.

Shipwrecked Mariners Said to Have Brought it to Spitzbergen.

CHRISTIANIA, Oct. 27.—Advices from Spitzbergen say that the crew of a wrecked ship has reached that part of the world, and that a rumor prevails that they brought news of Prof. Andree, the Swedish explorer, who left Danes island in a balloon on July 11 in an attempt to cross the north pole.

BLIZZARD TRAVELING EAST.

Having Choked Denver With Snow, It Blocks Kansas Railroads.

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 27.—The Western blizzard reached Kansas City from the Colorado state line last night. West-bound trains got through several hours late. Snow plows from both ends of the Western division are at work clearing cuts, in which are four to twelve feet of snow.

DENVER, Oct. 27.—The blizzard which began on Monday night lasted until early this morning. Not only did the storm cause universal discomfort, but it inflicted heavy pecuniary loss as well. The streets, piled high with snow, present a curious spectacle this morning. On all sides broken poles hang in midair or peer from big snow drifts. It is estimated that throughout the state no less than 3,000 miles of wires are strew on the ground.

Steamer Beached at Cape Henry.

CAPE HENRY, Va., Oct. 27.—The large steamer which stranded in front of the weather bureau here last night was this morning discovered to be the German steamer Polaria, which sailed from Galveston on October 18 for Norfolk to finish loading for Hamburg. She lies about 700 yards out from shore. None of her crew or passengers has been landed, but the ship is resting easily and is in no immediate danger of breaking up.

Emmons-Disston Wedding.

QUINCY, Ill., Oct. 27.—Lawrence D. Emmons, jr., son of Judge Emmons, was married tonight to Miss Eva Disston, only daughter of Col. William Disston, surveyor general of Alaska.

Paxton-Wade Wedding.

CHICAGO, Oct. 27.—Hon. Osgian Franklin Paxton, of Portland, Or., was married at South Bend, Ind., today to Miss Wade, daughter of the late Col. Alfred B. Wade.

Army of the Tennessee Meets.

MILWAUKEE, Oct. 27.—The twenty-ninth annual meeting of the Army of the Tennessee convened today. Over 200 members are in attendance, prominent among whom are Gen. Dodge, president of the society; Gen. Swain, P. T. Sherman, Col. Grant, Col. Ruggles, Maj. H. L. Swords, Capt. John Crane and Col. Horatio T. King. The annual report of Secretary Hickenlooper, of Cincinnati, showed a loss in membership of eleven, caused by death, and while it was being read the gray-haired veterans and the women present rose in a body and remained standing. Resolutions were passed indorsing the bill now pending in congress to establish a military park to commemorate the campaign, siege and defense of Vicksburg. The society was formally welcomed to the city tonight and Father Sherman delivered the annual oration.

Officers of Scottish Rite Masons.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Oct. 27.—The supreme council of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, Thirty-third degree Masons, for the Southern and Western Masonic jurisdiction of the United States of America, held its eighteenth annual session here today. These officers were elected: Grand commander, John G. Jones, Chicago; lieutenant grand commander, Richard F. Greene, New York; grand chancellor, C. W. Newton; minister of state, W. L. Kimburg, Texas; grand auditor, R. J. Fletcher, Sacramento, Cal.; grand secretary general, D. F. Scoville, Washington; grand treasurer general, W. R. Morris, Minneapolis; general marshal, Spencer N. Gilmore, Providence; assistant grand auditor, James Hill, Jackson, Miss.; assistant secretary general, E. E. Pettibone, Granada, Miss.

Manufacturers Want Free Alcohol.

CHICAGO, Oct. 27.—The congressional committee to investigate the use of alcohol in the arts and manufactures opened its Chicago session today. Senator Platt, of Connecticut, and Representatives McMillan, of Kentucky, Evans of Kentucky and Russell of Connecticut were present. Walter Parker, of the American Spirits Manufacturing Company, and Samuel Woolsey, of the Atlas distillery, both of Peoria, appeared and advocated free alcohol or reduced tax. Members of the varnish trade also appeared.

Luetgert's Second Trial Set.

CHICAGO, Oct. 27.—State's Attorney Deneen has arranged to place the second Luetgert trial on the docket for Monday, November 8.

MAY BECOME A DICTATOR.

Possible Action of Austrian Emperor Hinted at in Hungarian Parliament—Deadlock the Cause.

BUDAPEST, Oct. 27.—In the lower house of the Hungarian parliament today Baron Banffy, the premier, replying to Herr Francis Kossuth, son of the celebrated Hungarian patriot, who urged the government to "take advantage of Austrian chaos and try for Hungary's independence," declared that the ministry had no intention of turning Austria's difficulties unreasonably to the advantage of the Hungarians.

"The union of the two countries," he declared, "must be regarded as indissoluble. Should the Austrian constitutional system break down, which God forbid, the Hungarian government would be obliged to act independently regarding the joint questions of the customs and commercial treaty between Austria and Hungary, and of the charter and privileges of the Austro-Hungarian banks."

This announcement caused a great sensation, and it is believed that Baron Banffy spoke with the consent of the emperor-king, and that his statement points to the possibility of absolutist government in Austria.

VIENNA, Oct. 27.—The present deadlock in the reichsrath, owing to the German obstruction, has created a critical situation, and in some quarters a suspension of the Austrian constitution is believed possible.

At today's session of the lower house, after an uproarious dispute between Dr. Kramrez, the acting president, and the opposition, the chamber adopted by a large majority the acting president's proposals to discuss the motions for the impeachment of the ministry at the morning sittings, and to devote the evenings to the bill for the extension of the compromise with Hungary for a year, the delay in adopting which is causing much resentment in Hungary and rendering the passage of the treaty by the Hungarian parliament extremely doubtful.

BASIS OF THE DIFFICULTY.

France Wants the Text of Niger Traders' Treaties With Natives.

PARIS, Oct. 27.—It is understood that the fundamental basis of the difficulty between France and Great Britain in West Africa is that France refuses to recognize the treaties between the native rulers and the British Niger traders, until the texts have been officially communicated to France.

May Settle the Engineers' Strike.

GLASGOW, Oct. 27.—It is now understood that a conference has been arranged between representatives of the employers and the striking engineers, the latter agreeing to withdraw their demand for eight hours' work, which has been the great stumbling block in the way of arriving at a settlement of the great strike.

Will Resist the British Advance.

SIMLA, Oct. 27.—Replying to the proclamation of the British commander on the frontier, the Mazozais protest against the occupation of the Khyber pass, Samana range and Swat valley by the British forces, and declare their intention of opposing the British advance.

Arthur Kahn, who fell down an elevator shaft in the Golden Rule Bazaar building, Portland, on Monday, died the next day from his injuries.

ANOTHER STRIKE AT DAWSON CITY.

The Camp Is on Fire With Excitement.

GOLD UNDER BOULDERS.

Bench Claims in the Skookum Gulch Marvelously Rich.

In Half a Day Two Men With a Rocker Pick Out $585 in Gold—Hundreds of Nuggets Worth From $3 to $20 Taken Out of the Side Hills—Miners Believe Rich Beds of Quartz to Be Beneath the Surface, Concealed by a Layer of Moss—Alex. McDonald Says They Have Found Only Edge of Pay Streak.

DAWSON CITY, N. W. T., Sept. 14.—Another strike has been made and the camp is on fire with excitement. In the last twenty-four hours nearly 400 bench claims have been staked out on a sidehill in Skookum gulch. In half a day last Friday a foot below the surface two men with a rocker picked out $585 in gold. Two nuggets valued at $47 and $27 respectively were found, and hundreds of others worth from $3 to $20 were taken out of the sidehills. Thousands of people in the last year have walked over the ground and no one suspected its richness. Yesterday and today boulders were turned over and there lying exposed to the light of day were nuggets scattered in the gravel. The moss is about twelve inches thick, and beneath it two men yesterday picked up over $800 in coarse gold. Experienced miners are unable to offer a theory as to how the gold got there. It is worn but little, and just below in the gulch some rich specimens of float were found. The opinion is general that rich beds of quartz heavily impregnated with gold lie concealed just beneath the surface, and that they are concealed by a heavy layer of moss. In many places small pieces of quartz were found lightly adhering to the gold, which is not worn nor polished. Some one advanced an idea that it is the bottom of an old bed of El Dorado creek, but the condition of the gold and the lay of the land alongside of the mountain exploded the theory. From surface indications it would seem that the claims are destined to produce far more wealth than the mines of El Dorado or Bonanza creeks. Alexander McDonald, the richest man in camp, said that the locality of the gold proved the old saying that "gold is where you find it." The best miners in Alaska have walked past the location, and no one ever dreamed of looking for gold in that barren-looking hill. In speaking of the output of gold and the recent discovery Mr. McDonald said: "It is my opinion that we have only found the edge of the pay streak, and in the next year or two the world will be dazzled with the riches of the Klondike. Who ever heard of finding nuggets under boulders, and on the top of the ground of such a barren-looking mountain as that one? If science went for anything there would not be an ounce of gold in the mountain. No, I am free to confess that I know nothing about placer mining. These recent discoveries have been too much for me, and some one will be sure to find a world of weath."

The excitement each hour grows more intense. Hundreds of ounces of gold are being taken out with the rocker and cradle, and the miners are wildly excited. The entire mountain is staked and people are leaving Dawson City by the score, notwithstanding that a violent snowstorm prevails. For miles around the new discoveries there are hundreds of camps, and many of the miners who are taking nuggets off the ground are guarding the claims with guns to prevent thieves from stealing the gold.

All along the hillside, hundreds of feet above the river bottom on Boulder creek, many men are working the top layer of ground and taking out surprising quantities of gold. Many of them are thawing away a few inches of snow and a foot or two of moss, and exposed on the surface of the ground are nuggets varying from $2 to $16. Many instances are noted where claims have yielded to two men from $100 to $800 a day, and they had to carry the gravel several hundred feet to the water and work it with the rocker and cradle, as was done in primitive mining. I walked out to the diggings today, eighteen miles from here, and saw dozens of men picking the gold off the ground like so much gravel, while others were standing guard to prevent thieves stealing the nuggets.

The Berry brothers, of Fresno, who own one of the richest, if not the richest mines in the district, have notified their workmen that after the 1st of October they will pay only $10 a day. Several other mine owners are lending their silent support, and there is hardly any doubt but that a preconcerted effort will be made to lower the existing standard rate, $2 1-2 per cent. The situation, concisely given, would not seem to warrant this proposed cut at this time, for the reason that if all the lays are vigorously worked in the contracted agreement, namely, to be fully drifted and all of the pay dirt on the dumps by May 1 ready for sluicing, there will not be more than enough workmen to supply the demand at the present rate of $15 a day. Many of the heaviest mine owners, while silently encouraging the Berrys to inaugurate a reduction to $10 or $12 a day, are afraid to offer their active and open support lest the wage-workers should conclude to operate their own properties, as most of them own undeveloped claims, and discriminate against those in sympathy with the contemplated cut. The situation this season will hardly be favorable enough to warrant the successful consummation of the Berrys' plans, yet there is hardly any doubt but that it will be attempted. The wage-workers are quite bitter, and denounce in unmeasured terms the announcement made by the Berrys, averring that less than a year ago the Berry brothers were but poor miners and were only too glad to obtain employment of any character, and that just because they