RELIEF FOR KLONDIKERS.

REINDEER TO BE PURCHASED AND SENT ON FROM NORWAY.

Army Pack Trains Will Be Used to Move Provisions Across White Pass, and Accumulate Them at Lake Bennett—Then by Reindeer.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—The preliminaries for the Klondike relief expeditions are being rapidly arranged by the war department. Lieut. Devore and Dr. Jackson were busy this morning making final preparations for their trip to Lapland, and will start for New York tomorrow in order to sail on the Lucania tomorrow.

Secretary Alger has cabled to Mr. Kjellman, at Alten, Norway, to contract for 500 head of reindeer in advance of the arrival there of Dr. Jackson and Lieut. Devore. This was done to save time, so that all will be ready for the final purchases and the shipment of animals when Dr. Jackson arrives at Alten. Lieuts. Preston and Ryan, of the Ninth cavalry, have been ordered to take charge of the pack trains which are to be gathered up from points in Wyoming, and convey them to Vancouver barracks. Secretary Alger believes that these trains will be of great use in getting supplies to the interior of Alaska. The will be pushed forward as rapidly as possible and without waiting for the arrival of the reindeer at Skaguay or Dyea. It is hoped that a large amount of supplies can be gotten safely through White pass and placed in camp there, which will afterward be used as the starting place of the trains. If this calculation proves to be well founded, the reindeer will find a comfortable corral ready for them when they arrive in Alaska, and so can be used to great advantage.

There is a disposition just now on the part of the officials who are arranging the plans of the expedition to abandon the Dalton trail route, and instead to take the Lake Linderman route. This would involve the use of the frozen river for a large part of the way, but this is believed to be feasible. Capt. Brainard, who is now in Chicago, has been telegraphed to remain at that place until advised of the results of the efforts to get food supplies through public advertisement. The subsistence department is now preparing a schedule of what is wanted, and this will be put in the form of an advertisement and responses invited by telegraph from bidders. Thirty days will probably be the limit of the time allowed for the completion of deliveries of the food.

PORTLAND WANTS SOME OF IT.

Secretary Alger Requested to Let That City Handle Relief Money.

PORTLAND, Dec. 24.—The Portland Chamber of Commerce today sent the following telegram to Secretary of War Alger:

"It is feared by the people of the Northwest that the government relief expedition cannot reach the Yukon in time to prevent suffering. The city of Portland is prepared, with your assistance, to equip and forward an advance expedition with enough food to relieve immediate wants. We are prepared to start an expedition with experienced volunteers and reach Dawson in sixty days if the department will apportion $10,000 of the relief fund for this purpose.

"Do not be deceived by reports, emanating from interested speculators with cached supplies to sell at prohibitive prices, that there is food sufficient to prevent actual starvation."

Capt. Brainard at Chicago.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—Capt. L. D. Brainard, of the commissary department, U. S. A., has arrived in the city. He will confer with the Armours, Nelson Morris and other packers to see if they will deliver at Dyea whatever supplies may be contracted for. Capt. L. D. Brainard was a companion of Lieut. Lockwood on the unfortunate explorer's polar expedition.

HEAVY LIQUOR SEIZURES.

Collector Ivey Brings Down Nearly Twenty Tons From Alaska.

PORTLAND, Dec. 24.—The largest seizure of contraband liquor ever made in Alaska was brought to this city by the steamship George W. Elder, which arrived at 7 o'clock this evening from Dyea and Skaguay. The seizure consisted of twenty tons of liquors and was made by Collector of Customs J. W. Ivey, of Alaska, at Juneau, Skaguay, Dyea and Wrangel.

The liquor was packed in various kinds of packages for the purpose of deceiving the custom's officers. Many of the packages were shipped as "baking powder," "kerosene," "turpentine" and other devices were employed to get the liquors past the custom's officials. The liquor, which represents more than $10,000 in value, will be turned over to Collector of Customs T. J. Black, of Portland, by Collector Ivey, who was a passenger by the steamer Elder.

BACK FROM THE OVERLAND TRIP.

Campbell Returns From a Journey Well Towards Lake Teslin.

SPOKANE, Dec. 24.—John M. Campbell, the well-known bicycle racer, returned today from a midwinter horseback ride over the overland route from Spokane to Teslin lake, the source of the Yukon. He said to day: "It is the only safe and easy route into the Klondike." He went a few miles beyond Hazelton, about 1,000 miles from this city and within 350 miles of Teslin lake. His companion, Len Miller, of Seattle, remained at Hazelton and will push through to the Stewart river country as soon as the snow hardens sufficiently for dog trains.

Mr. Campbell says the route traverses an open, undulating country the entire distance, with no severe grades at any point. At Hazelton he conversed with men who came in from the Teslin lake country, and they reported the trail open over that part of the route. Some of them have been packing and driving cattle over it for fifteen years and arrangements have been made to take 7,000 head of cattle over this route in the spring. Campbell says there is good grazing along the entire route and abundance of wood and water. Between Quesnelle and Hazelton, he met Indians coming in from Fort George, who reported rich strikes on the Salmon river, the returns being $2 to the pan. The route for a long distance follows the old telegraph trail cut out by the Western Union. Much of the wire is still there, though the Indians have taken most of it. They use it for fencing, to tie the ends of their snowshoes and make nails.

BIDS WILL BE ADVERTISED FOR.

Secretary Alger Now Taking Preliminary Steps for the Yukon Relief Expedition.

The next active step of the national government toward forwarding relief supplies to the Yukon valley is soon to be taken in the shape of advertising for competitive bids. This purpose, together with some of the conditions, will be seen in the following telegram, received yesterday by Schwabacher Bros. & Co., from Secretary Alger:

"Washington, Dec. 24, 1897.

"Schwabacher Bros. & Co., Inc., Seattle: Capt. D. L. Brainerd will advertise for supplies as soon as the proper proportions of different kinds of food are made out and amount we can send in by first expedition determined upon. All goods must be delivered in Dyea. It is the custom of the war department to advertise for everything the government purchases. "R. A. ALGER, Secretary of War."

The stipulation that the goods must be delivered at Dyea will give Seattle bidders an opportunity to demonstrate both the fairness of prices in this city, and the unrivaled transportation facilities which Seattle possesses as a port of supply for Alaska and the Yukon. As the award of the government contract will of itself be a great advertisement for the city that secures it, no doubt the competition among bidders will be very keen.

The actual text of the congressional bill for the relief of the Yukoners will be interesting to Seattle readers, as well as the estimate of transportation expenses made by Sheldon Jackson to Congressman Cannon, chairman of the house appropriations committee, upon the strength of which congress passed the bill. The act reads:

"A bill (H. R. 5173) authorizing the secretary of war, in his discretion, to purchase subsistence stores, supplies and materials for the relief of people who are in the Yukon river country, to provide means for their transportation and distribution, and making an appropriation therefor.

"Be it enacted, etc., That the sum of $200,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, to be expended, in the discretion and under the direction of the secretary of war, for the purchase of subsistence stores, supplies and materials for the relief of people who are in the Yukon river country or other mining regions of Alaska, and to purchase transportation and provide means for the distribution of such stores and supplies.

"That the said subsistence stores, supplies and materials may be sold in said country at such prices as shall be fixed by the secretary of war, or donated where he finds people in need and unable to pay for them.

"That the secretary of war may, in his discretion, purchase and import reindeer and employ and bring into the country reindeer drivers or herders not citizens of the United States, or provide any other means of transportation as in his judgment he may deem practicable. The said reindeer or other outfit may be sold and disposed of by the secretary of war when he shall have no further use for them under the provisions of this act, or he may turn over the same, or any part thereof, to the department of the interior, and the proceeds arising from all sales herein authorized shall be covered into the treasury.

"The secretary of war shall make report, in detail, to congress, at the beginning of its next regular session, as to all purchases, employments, sales and donations, or transfers made under the provisions of this act."

Sheldon Jackson's estimate of expenses for the transportation of provisions by 600 reindeer from Dyea to the Yukon is as follows:

600 reindeer, at $100	$ 60,000
60 Lapp drivers, at $500	30,000
3.7 pounds, a day's army ration, 18 cents: 18 cents for 90 days equals $16.20: 5,000 men at $16.20, equals 81,000. Approximately, one-fourth rations, $24,300	24,300
Miscellaneous	50,000
Total	$164,300

NO MONOPOLISTIC RIGHTS.

Law to Be Framed Governing Alaskan Transportation Routes.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—The sub-committees of the senate and house committees on public lands appointed to consider bills dealing with public land questions in Alaska held a brief session today, devoting themselves exclusively to the question of rights-of-way for transportation companies in that territory. No conclusion was reached on any point, except that a general bill should be formulated covering this phase of the public land question in Alaska, instead of taking action upon each of the right-of-way bills before them.

The intention in pursuing this course is to avoid granting monopolistic rights.

ALLIANCE SAILS FOR SEATTLE.

Comes Here to Get Passengers for Points in Alaska.

Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 24.—The Pacific Steam Whaling Company's steamship Alliance cleared today for Seattle. She is expected to sail tomorrow morning. At Seattle she will take on board a large number of passengers for Copper river and other Alaska ports. She takes only eleven passengers from this port.

Consul for the Yukon.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Dec. 24.—Hon. Edwin Dudley, United States consul here, has received word from Washington that the Yukon territory has been added to his consular district.

AN ECCENTRIC KLONDIKER.

Milt Dix Will Use a Curious Wagon for the Long Journey.

Philadelphia Record.

Milt Dix is a queer frontier character, with gypsy blood in his veins and a nomad's fondness for traveling. Twenty years ago he drove into North Platte, Neb. then a mere mining camp—in a queer, box-like house mounted on wheels and drawn by three big horses, bringing with him a wife and five children. Dix left his family in North Platte, while he journeyed about the country, always in the same kind of a wagon. When one wore out he would manage to secure another built on the same lines.

Now, he has started for the Klondike in one of those queer house-wagons. He has another young wife and several little children, all of whom he is carrying with him. He is probably 60 years of age, though a well-preserved man, and has a wide knowledge of the world, having read and traveled to much advantage, though always in this queer manner.

The top of the vehicle is of tin, painted white. The running gear differs somewhat from the ordinary two-horse wagon, as it has six wheels—two in the center. In this manner Dix says he can carry double the load that can be carried in the ordinary way, and be in no danger of breaking down. Then, too, if one of the wheels breaks he can utilize the extra wheels and operate his vehicle as a two-horse affair until repairs can be made.

IF you are going East at Christmas or New Year, you will find the Northern Pacific is the line to use. Trains run on time and passengers' comfort at this season of the year specially looked after. Its dining car service, as usual, is unexcelled.

GOLD watches and charms at Wm. H. Finck's, 816 Second ave.

The Weekly Post-Intelligencer will be mailed to any address in the United States or Canada, 5 cents per copy. Issued today.

FOOTBALL today at 12 o'clock. Admission 25c.

DURRANT'S LONG FIGHT.

Now Declares That One of the Jurors On His Original Trial Had Prejudged the Case.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 24.—The long promised sensation in the Durrant case developed late this afternoon, when W. A. Durrant, father of the murderer, presented an affidavit to Superior Judge Seawell, in which he charges Juror Smyth with having knowingly used certain information not presented at the trial of Theodore Durrant in deciding the merits of the case in his (Smyth's) mind. Durrant, sr., charges that Smyth talked of the case to reputable persons before the trial was concluded, and Juror Smyth told these persons that Theodore Durrant had been on terms of criminal intimacy with near relatives, and that he was abnormally developed sexually; that Juror Smyth had intimated that Durrant, sr., knew of these relations; that Smyth had made up his mind as to the defendant's guilt before the trial was half concluded.

Durrant's attorneys today formulated papers on a motion for a writ of probable cause and presented them to Judge Bahrs, but he denied the motion and gave notice that an application for a writ of probable cause should be made before the supreme court. This will be done in a few days, the attorneys for Durrant say.

MEDAL FOR MRS. REED.

Lloyds' Acknowledgment for Her Services on the Oakes.

HAVERHILL, Mass., Dec. 24.—The closing chapter in the celebrated case of the ship T. F. Oakes, of which Capt. E. W. Reed, of this city, was the commanding officer, brings with it honor to Mrs. Reed, who, when her husband was ill, together with the largest part of the crew, steered the vessel safely into port, thus to meet charges of mistreatment which the crew preferred against her and her husband, and of which they both were honorably acquitted after a legal fight which lasted ten weeks. Reed has just received the following letter:

"Lloyds of London have bestowed Lloyd's medal for meritorious services on Mrs. Reed as an honorary acknowledgment of her extraordinary services on the occasion of the disablement by sickness of the crew of the United States ship T. F. Oakes, on a voyage from China to New York, July 4, 1896, March 21, 1897. By order of committee of Lloyds.

"H. M. HOSIER, Secretary."

CRIMINAL INQUIRY WILL BE HAD.

The Death From Freezing of Albert Ashton Being Investigated.

KASLO, B. C., Dec. 24.—The case of Albert Ashton, found frozen so badly that he afterward died, at South Fork, last Friday, is developing into a criminal action. Charles Borene, a hotel man at Whitewater is under arrest. It is alleged that Ashton and his partner, Callahan, had an altercation with Borene. Ashton was badly hurt. The two started to walk to Kaslo. Ashton gave up, was deserted by Callahan and was afterwards found in a dying condition.

Pope's Encyclical Published.

ROME, Dec. 24.—The pope's encyclical on the Manitoba school question is published here today. After recalling the religious history of Canada and eulogizing its scholastic institutions, his holiness expresses regret at the decisions taken seven years ago in Manitoba, relative to the Catholic schools and points out the rights of Catholics, according to the federal agreement.

Increase in Railroad Business.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—The amount of business, both freight and passenger, handled by the Western lines thus far in the holiday season has been at least 60 per cent above that of last year. The bulk of the passenger traffic is yet to come, and en many of the roads more people have already been handled than were handled throughout all the season last year. The freight has been very heavy.

Movements of Gold and Silver.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Heidelbach, Ickelheimer & Co. announce that they have $500,000 in gold leaving London tomorrow consigned to them.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The steamship Lucania, sailing for Europe tomorrow, will take $55,000 ounces of silver and 25,000 Mexican dollars. The Normandie will take 160,000 ounces of silver.

Miss Herbert's Body Reaches Home.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Dec. 24.—Hon. Hilary A. Herbert and his son-in-law, Benjamin McCou, and Mrs. McCou reached here this morning at 10 o'clock. They brought the remains of Miss Herbert for interment today. A large number of relatives and friends were waiting at the station for the arrival of the train.

Pension Swindler Fined.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—In the United States circuit court today May E. Reynolds, who had been for seven years illegally drawing a pension, was fined $1,000, which she was unable to pay. A similar sentence was given to William F. Wheeler, who was found guilty of being implicated in a pension fraud.

Redeeming U. P. Bonds.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—United States Treasurer Roberts has mailed checks in redemption of bonds issued in aid of the Pacific railways, maturing January 1, aggregating $11,732,829. The remaining $7,000,000 will be redeemed as fast as presented.

CASTORIA.

The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.

ALL RECOGNIZE SEATTLE.

NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS SHOW WHAT THE WORLD THINKS.

In the East, in the South, in the North and in the West the Great Press Is Unanimous in Recognizing the City Leading to Alaska.

Eastern papers are just now devoting considerable space to articles concerning the gold fields of Alaska and the Northwest territory, and to the rush of people to that section that is promised for next year. In the majority of cases, Seattle figures as the city of chief importance with reference to the Alaska trade.

Travelers returning from the East have remarked on the immense amount of advertising that Seattle has received from the Klondike excitement. Below are given a few excerpts from Eastern papers of late date, showing that this city's importance as the commercial entrepot of the northwest and its advantages as the outfitting point for the Yukon mines is fully understood in the East:

The following from the Pittsburg Press of December 12 gives an idea of the estimate placed on Seattle by the people of that section:

"Seattle has for years controlled the Alaskan trade, and there is every reason to believe that it will remain the natural headquarters for the bulk of the trade of the northwest. In consequence of the recent wonderful gold discoveries in the Northwest Territory, there was a sudden and unprecedented demand for mining outfits, which was met by the merchants there promptly, and as though they had anticipated the mining excitement of the century. Every grocery, hardware, clothing and shoe company immediately awakened to the fact that it must have its proportion of the vast increase of trade. Needless to say competition is very keen and prices are close to bed-rock. Any one going to Alaska and the Northwest Territory not knowing what a proper outfit consists of (and few there are in proportion to the many who do know) should trust to the experience of the merchants here to make the selection. One of the most important features in the outfitting is the shape in which provisions and clothing are packed, so that rough handling, rain or snow will not damage them. This also is made an inducement to the purchaser.

"Seattle is wide-awake, and is also aware of the fact that there are others cities on the coast making every effort to corral the trade of Alaska. Not only are the outfitting facilities unexcelled here, but the abundant means of transportation makes this the most convenient starting point for Alaska. There is every natural advantage in this section of the country to make this a first-class city. It is considered the best port on the coast in many respects. The mountains near here are rich in minerals, and the present excitement at Mount Baker has created a stampede which is second only to the rush to the Klondike. Quartz has been discovered that assays $10,700 to the ton, and the ledge has been located five and a half miles already. The Seattle newspapers are kept posted about this new strike by their special correspondents, who are keeping the trail hot between Hannigan's pass and Sumas. Mining in Southeastern Alaska is much more extensive than the majority of people imagine."

This from the Boston Herald of December 14 indicates that the "Hub" is willing to recognize the greatness of Seattle:

"While interest in the Alaskan gold fields has spread throughout the country, yet the great excitement on account of the reported rich finds of the precious metal in the region of Ice is more pronounced in the West than any other section of the country.

"The rush to Seattle by those who contemplate going up to Juneau, Dyea and Skaguay this winter so as to be on hand to continue their journey to Dawson, Circle City and other points in the Klondike region in the early spring, has given the far northwestern city a tremendous boom.

"Seattle is not slow in spreading broadcast the advantages she offers in the way of being a depot of supplies for those who are going to the new Eldorado. Her newspapers are ablaze with facts and figures of her importance as a commercial center. The Post-Intelligencer in one issue devoting no less than sixty-four columns to this feature alone."

In speaking of the coming rush of people to the north, the Herald mentions the lines that have their termini at Seattle, but says nothing of any other city on the coast.

A special article in the St. Paul Globe contains this very fair reference to the merchants of Seattle:

"Many articles of outfit are better and cheaper here than in St. Paul, and the merchants here are as fair and as accommodating as any I have ever met."

That Seattle's fame as the gateway to the Klondike has penetrated every town and hamlet of the East is attested by an article published in the Marquette, Mich., Journal, announcing the departure of Charles Wesiss with a party of four for the gold fields, via Seattle.

STANDARD OIL COMPANY SUED.

Pipe Line Charges It With Conspiracy to Prevent Competition.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Papers were filed today in the United States circuit court in a suit brought by the United States Pipe Line against the Standard Oil and other interested companies. Conspiracy is charged and damages amounting to $758,446 with interest and $10,000 as attorneys' fees are asked for. The pipe line alleges that the conspiracy has been in existence since January, 1882, and prevents any persons or corporations other than the defendant from storing and transporting oil and conducting operations incident to the oil business. The defendants enter a general denial.

Standard Oil Plant Burned.

SAN JOSE, Cal., Dec. 24.—The plant of the Standard Oil Company, near the Southern Pacific depot, in this city, was totally destroyed by fire this afternoon. There were two warehouses and eight tanks of oil, containing about 125,000 gallons, besides several tanks of gasoline and benzine. The origin of the fire is a mystery. The loss is about $25,000.

SITTING DOWN ON SEDITION.

Canadian Papers Advocating Annexation Will Be Confiscated.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—The New York correspondent of the Morning Post says: The Canadian government, at the request of Great Britain, has ordered the confiscation of seditious publications. This is primarily due to a desire to prevent the Canadian independence movement from stimulating disaffection in India, but it will have the effect of suppressing all public discussion as to annexation to the United States and collateral subjects.

THIS COUNTRY'S ATTITUDE.

The Situation in China Will Be Closely Watched by Government.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—This country's attitude toward what appear to be efforts on the part of Europe to dismember China was the principal topic of discussion at today's cabinet meeting. While no formal action was taken, in the absence of specific information as to the intention of the powers of Europe, it was determined, as a member of the cabinet expressed it, "to keep a watchful eye upon the situation as it develops, in order that full protection may be given to the interests of the United States in China, as guaranteed by our treaties with that country."

TIGHTENING HER GRIP.

Russia Now Preparing to Quarter 10,000 Troops at Port Arthur.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—Russia, according to a special dispatch from Shanghai, is preparing temporary headquarters for 10,000 troops at Port Arthur. She has obtained a half-promise from the grand council at Peking to dismiss Sir Robert Hart, director of the Chinese imperial maritime customs, and other high customs officials, in addition to the British railroad officials and the German officers and instructors.

Japan's Relations Friendly.

YOKOHAMA, Dec. 24.—On the reassembling of parliament today, the mikado declared that the relations of Japan with all the foreign powers were friendly.

Poisoned Her Children and Herself.

PARK RIVER, N. D., Dec. 24.—The wife of Jacob Peyer, living near this place, today poisoned her four children with strychnine and then took poison herself. All are dead. Mrs. Peyer had quarreled with her husband and had several times threatened to kill her children and herself.

New World's Record Made.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 24.—E. W. Purser's aged bay gelding Buckwa, by Buckra-Wewa, lowered the world's race record for a mile and a half at the Oakland track this afternoon, winning in 2:32¾. The former record for the distance was held by Lamplighter. Buckwa carried 103 pounds and was ridden by W. Martin. Mason & Co.'s 3-year-old chestnut colt Salvado, by Salvador-Oran, established a new record for a mile and one-eighth, traversing it in 1:52¾. He carried 107 pounds and was ridden by W. Taylor.

Football Game Today.

The Seattle high school football team will meet a team from the Everett high school today at Y. M. C. A. park. Play will commence sharp at 12 o'clock. Jess Brinker will referee and E. Larsen Blanck umpire. The teams will line up as follows:

Seattle.	Position.	Everett.
Humes	Left end	Pendleton
Sheafe	Left tackle	Burrigan
Griggs	Left guard	Tegmire
Campbell	Center	Thayer
Harper	Right guard	Durea
Brown	Right tackle	Church
Callahan, O.	Right end	Harrigan
McNaught, c.	Quarter back	O'Leary
Hergert	Left half back	Thayer
Callahan, H.	Right half back	Gardner
Remington	Right half back	
Burrows	Full back	Gedeau

Substitutes—Seattle, Vinnedge, Yergy; Everett, Majors, Spencer.

Oakland Races.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 24.—Results at Oakland:

Four and one-half furlongs—Lord Marmion won, Good Friend second, Albino third. Time, :55.

One mile, selling—Cappy won, Lucky Star second, Mollie third. Time, 1:41.

One mile, selling—Polish won, Devil's Dream second, Bernardillo third. Time, 1:40¾.

One mile and a half, special purse—Buckwa won, Judge Denny second, Grady third. Time, 2:36½.

One mile and an eighth, selling—Salvador won, Argentina second, Don Clarencio third. Time, 1:52¾, California record.

Seven furlongs—May W. won, The Roman second, Paul Griggs third.

CONDENSED DISPATCHES.

Tom Nolan, ex-pugilist and saloon-keeper, shot and fatally wounded James O'Rourke, a race track tout, in San Francisco Friday.

The Junction Mining Company, of Sagamon county, Ill., has brought suit against the Springfield Junction Coal Company for $400,000 damages.

It is in contemplation to send a team of representative American riders to compete for the world's championship to be decided at Vienna during August of next year.

Justice B. C. Burgess, who, it is alleged by Joseph Waters, married him on March 24, 1892, to Miss Anna Mintzer, was produced as a witness in the suit over the estate of the latter, and denied that he performed the ceremony. He is an inmate of an insane asylum.

AMERICAN SILKS.

Noticeable Increase in the Amount Manufactured This Year.

Boston Transcript.

The expectations of those who have been predicting a large increase in American silk manufacture are being realized in the enormous imports of the raw material as shown by the government statistics just issued, and which indicate an increase of $3,200,000 in September over the corresponding month last year, while for the nine months of the calendar year the imports of unmanufactured silk were nearly double those of 1896.

There is no valid reason why, with the same opportunities in the way of raw material open to us as is enjoyed by other nations, we should not only supply our own wants as we are practically doing now, but supply a portion, at least, of the foreign demand as well.

And in this freedom from a tax of any kind on raw silk for forty years lies, to a great extent, the secret of the immense strides made by the industry within that time. While a tariff framed for the avowed purpose of fostering sericulture was in effect, hundreds of thousands of dollars were lost in the attempt to perform what subsequent events proved an impossibility. During the era of this tariff the few mills that had gone into silk manufacture were obliged to shut down from time to time for want of the material which, despite the inducements offered for its production, could not be turned out in adequate quantities.

Our manufacturers of silk goods are selling today their fabrics upon their own reputation, shrewd buyers appreciating their superiority. Time was, however, when the foreign label facilitated sales, and it is noteworthy that a Massachusetts mill was the first to put its goods upon the market under its own trademark as a domestic product. For some years silk manufacture has been carried on principally along the Schuylkill valley, and at Paterson, which is the acknowledged silk center of the country, having 350 mills in operation, employing 25,000 workers. Lately, however, there has been a growing tendency on the part of the manufacturers to distribute the business, due mainly to the labor troubles which they have had to contend against at Paterson and other towns where silk manufacture is the predominating business. The result of this movement has shown conclusively that the industry can be prosecuted successfully elsewhere than at established points.

Business at the Knoxville, Tenn., knitting mills is booming. A few months ago a night force was put on in addition to the day workers. Recently the business has increased so that all orders cannot be filled, and new machinery will be put in and more help will be employed. Mr. G. S. Andes is manager, and the product is seamless cotton hosiery.

DARING FEAT OF SURGERY.

A WOMAN'S STOMACH ENTIRELY REMOVED WITH THE KNIFE.

Yet the Aged Patient Recovers, Eats and Digests Solid Food Without Difficulty and Apparently Does Well Without This Useful Organ.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—The Medical Record will tomorrow publish the following account of the first success of the removal of a human stomach:

"The feat itself is the most brilliant and daring ever attempted in recent surgical history, but the attendant discovery that the stomach is not a vital organ is even more important. Heretofore it has been considered utterly impossible to live without a stomach. With the fall of this long recognized axiom, the old theories of medicine and surgery may be entirely changed and the field of possibilities which the discovery opens up is practically limitless.

"The operation which has so startled the medical world was performed in Zurich, Switzerland, by Dr. Carl Schlatter, on September 8 last. The subject was Anna Landis, 56 years of age and a silk weaver. This woman had complained for years of stomach trouble. Dr. Schlatter diagnosed the case and found that she was suffering from an exceptionally large oval tumor in her stomach. Laporotomy was performed and Dr. Schlatter found that the woman's outer stomach presented a hard mass. Then this daring operator, seeing that the organ was useless, went to work and freed it from its delicate attachments, cutting, twisting and clamping among the most vital organs with the coolness and deliberation of an expert dentist drawing a hard tooth. The technical details of the operation can only be appreciated by members of the medical profession.

"When Dr. Schlatter had excised the entired stomach, he firmly united a small coil of intestines to the aesophagus, thus making a direct connection between the alimentary canal and the bowels. The work of joining the intestine and the aesophagus was most delicate. They were bound together with sutures. The organs were allowed to drop back into their positions, the abdomenal wound was sewed up and all there was to show that Anna Landis had lost her stomach was a slight retraction toward the diaphragm. The operation lasted nearly two hours and a half. The loss of blood was slight. The period following showed that the sterilization was perfect and the operation wonderfully performed. The patient, although old and feeble, exhibited but few of the serious symptoms that usually follow a vital operation. Minute quantities of liquid food were given her at short intervals. With the exception of occasional vomiting, this food seemed to be assimilated, despite the absence of a food receptacle.

"The second week after the operation she was given solid food. It was retained and digested without discomfort. And even Dr. Schlatter himself marveled at the almost unexpected success of his bold work. He was handicapped in giving the patient solid food because she only had one tooth left in her head.

"On October 11, a month and five days after the stomach had been removed, Anna Landis left her bed. By November 1 she was feeling perfectly well and was walking about. Her weight increased, and apparently she was in far better health than before the operation."

Dr. Edmund Charles Wendt, of New York city, the correspondent of the Medical Record, who obtained Dr. Schlatter's personal account of the feat, states that on the 9th of this month he saw Anna Landis, and that to all intents and purposes she is a well woman.

Saved by a Bold Stroke.

Detroit Free Press.

"It makes me tremble when I think of it," laughed the merchant who is sure that he has one of the best wives now on the footstool. "No other man was ever so blessed, and yet it was just a scratch that she did not become the light of some other man's household.

"I was one of half a dozen competitors in the field. The rivalry was fierce, though decorous, for this fair maid would have countenanced no unseemly scramble for her hand. I was handicapped by the fact that I was a grave and reverend senior at college and could only show the devoted quality of my affection at stolen intervals.

"The break came in this way: It was before the giving of slippers at Christmas had become a joke, and with her own pretty fingers she had worked a pair that were as handsome in design as they were expensive in material. Of course, the first evening of my holiday vacation was spent with her, and she presented me with the gorgeous footgear. After duly admiring them and thanking her I put them on a convenient sofa and proceeded to the more serious business of the occasion.

"To my everlasting shame and confusion I went away and left the slippers. She was always slow to wrath, but such an indifference to suggestive kindness was enough to stir the ire of any woman, and she mentally marked me off the list, sending the slippers to a crabbed old uncle.

"How did I get out of it? I had no sooner reached home than memory struck me like a blow. In the morning a reward of $50 for those slippers appeared in three papers. After that I had the pole against all rivals. But it was a close call."

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