

IS OWNER OF DAWSON.

THE BARNEY BARNATO OF THE KLONDIKE.

Remarkable Success of Joseph Ladue—Owns Land of Untold Value—One of Twenty Who Went Out Foolish and Found Millions at Their Feet.

A Fortune in One Year. Joseph Ladue, the founder of Dawson City, in the Klondike gold region, has returned to his former home at Schuylers Falls, New York. He returns to civilization from bleak Alaska to claim for his bride the woman whose parents frowned upon his suit years ago. Mr. Ladue left home in 1882 for the Northwest. At that time he was 35 years old. When the gold fever broke out in a mild form two years ago he went to Alaska, after a failure in the Black Hills, and found enough to



JOSEPH LADUE.



DAWSON CITY, THE 'METROPOLIS' OF THE GOLD REGION.

certain quantity of land which was then for sale at a very low figure, and started in to look for gold. His first find brought settlers there by the dozen. 'Dawson' the place was called, and as the owner sold off small portions of the land his fame grew and spread. He now owns Dawson, having



LADUE'S HOME IN DAWSON.

gold but little, and is so many times a millionaire that his wealth cannot be estimated. He is the Barnato of Alaska, the man who struck it rich, and knowing a good thing when he saw it, held on to it. It is only another tale of South African luck, but much nearer home—enviously near.

At present, if you want to get to Alaska and become a Barnato, there are two ways of going. One is by sea and the other is overland. If you take the sea route you can start by steamship from Seattle, and, crossing the Gulf of Alaska, touch first at Unalaska, passing through the Aleutian Islands. From there the route lies directly north, getting colder and colder every minute. Here you will need all the Arctic wraps you have brought with you. The ship's fare will be warm, nourishing food—cereals, chocolate, meats and spices. But for all that you will need fur overcoats, fur hoods, blanket wraps, woolen mittens and big, warm, fur-lined bags in which to sleep. For one going from a very warm city into this region the change is so great and so sudden that there is sure to be great suffering, and many of the would-be Barnatos turn back.

The steamship stops at St. Michael's; and here, within sight of Bering sea, almost within hailing distance of the Bering strait, you leave the steamship and start inland to search for gold.

The Barnatos have nearly all followed the Yukon. It leads into Klondyke, and one of its tributaries is the Klondyke River. Dawson, Joseph Ladue



JACK McQUESTEN. 'The Father of the Yukon.'

Barnato's town, is on the Yukon; and Circle City, another rich spot, lies on its banks. Land is for sale here very cheap. Or you can do as many prospectors have done—start in hunting for gold without making too many inquiries. The find is so sudden that there is no sharp line drawn between that

TWO WAYS OF CROSSING MILES' CANYON, ON THE YUKON.



which is sold and that which belongs to the United States, and a man is free to hunt where he will. For your own comfort, however, it is well to have some definite arrangement made with the nearest authorities, so as to avoid trouble in case of a rich find.

Another way to reach the gold fields is by the overland route. Many journey this way in wagons, as they went to 'Mike's Peak or Bust' years ago. The route begins at Seattle and follows the coast north past Sitka, past Juneau and through the Chitchee pass, and so north through the gold fields to Dawson. The 'finds' here are rich, and when Klondyke is reached, on the other side of Dawson, a man finds himself in the very middle of the gold country. The distance to be traversed is great and the journey is a long, hard one, but, notwithstanding this, thousands are struggling Alaska-wards.

Cost Ladue nothing to become a Barnato. But those who want to follow in his footsteps will need something like \$1,000 in money. The country is more thickly populated now and prices have gone up, whereas they used to be

little lady will come into one of the biggest private fortunes in the world. Barney left another and an elder child, if Mrs. W. W. Blackman, of Cleveland, is right in her claim, for she says that she, too, is the daughter of the diamond



PRINCESS OF THE KAFFIRS.

king of Africa. Mrs. Blackman's mother has gone to England to contest Barnato's will. The mother is a Russian, and she says that Barnato married her in Russia twenty-seven years ago. The Kaffir king was known at that time as Barney Brobajitsch, and he disappeared in a most mysterious manner many years ago. Mrs. Blackman says that, although she was very young when her father disappeared, she remembers him very well and readily recognizes him from his latest photographs. Her mother is now at work with her lawyers in England, making arrangements to go into court and contest the will, in which Barnato left the bulk of his hundreds of millions to his widow and his little daughter. The case promises a big fight.

Kind Forbearance.

Frederick Walker, who did such beautiful work in art, and who died so young that all the great promise in him could not be disclosed, began his drawings for the Cornhill Magazine by an interview with Thackeray, wherein he was much agitated, and the great writer proved correspondingly kind.

Walker had an exceeding reverence for Thackeray, and greatly dreaded an interview with him.

'Bring him here,' Thackeray had said, 'and we shall soon see whether he can draw.'

So, early one morning, the young man was taken to the author's house in Onslow Square. The drive was a silent one, for the artist became every instant more agitated and distressed. This Thackeray noticed at once, and did his best to set him at ease.

'Can you draw?' he asked, after a little general conversation. 'Mr. Smith says you can.'

'Yes, I think so,' stammered Walker.

'I'm going to shave,' said Mr. Thackeray. 'Would you mind drawing my back?'

So he turned about, and Walker made



VILLAGE ON FORTY-MILE CREEK.

drugs, and one should be able to sew. A woman is of the utmost assistance, but few of the sex have ventured out. In the baggage which the four carry should be pieces of tanned skins, shoe leather, flannel and wool, everything for repairing the Alaskan wearing apparel. One of the number should be able to cook and the fourth should understand the art of putting up a quick shelter. All should be willing and ready to share and share alike in hardship.

One of the hardest things the prospector has to endure is the sight of the sacks of gold dust that are being shipped from every seaport and the tons of ore that are being sent down from St. Michael's and south from Juneau. In one day there came advices from St. Michael's that \$1,400,000 worth of gold dust would be shipped by the Wells-Fargo south, and that \$708,000 in dust was awaiting transportation. In one day there came down on the Puget Sound steamship \$200,000 in Alaska gold.

Ladue was one of the first to strike the Yukon region, rich in gold. He settled Dawson City and built a sawmill. However, he found it difficult to get men to work for him at \$15 a day. He has made a fortune out of the mines and will return to Dawson in the spring with his wife.

PRINCESS OF THE KAFFIRS.

Barney Barnato's Little Daughter Who Will Inherit Millions.

Barney Barnato left a little 'princess of the Kaffirs' to inherit his great wealth. If the noted financier and promoter really possessed all the money he was said to have been worth this

a most excellent likeness of him in that position. If the lion had faced him, subjecting him to the ordeal of scrutiny, it was probable that he could not have worked at all. Doubtless Thackeray knew this, and so took his delicate precaution.

Hands Off!

In connection with the recent death of Blondin, the greatest of funambulists, it is recalled that President Lincoln once made use of him for one of his characteristically apt illustrations. To a fault-finding delegation that visited him, Mr. Lincoln said:

Gentlemen, suppose all the property you were worth was in gold, and you had put it into the hands of Blondin to carry across Niagara Falls on a rope; would you shake the cable, or keep shouting out to him, 'Blondin, stand up a little straighter! Blondin, stoop a little more; go a little faster; lean more to the south?' No, you would hold your breath, as well as your tongue, and keep your hands off until he was safe over.

Yeast Deemed Injurious.

In France, when the use of yeast was first introduced, it was deemed by the medical faculty to be so injurious to health that its use was prohibited under the severest penalties.

'Is this eighteen-karat gold?' she inquired ingeniously, as the seaside young man gave her the engagement ring. 'No,' he replied frankly. 'It's only fourteen karat.' 'That isn't as fine as eighteen karat, is it?' 'Not quite. But it stands the wear and tear better.'—Washington Star.

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