

pose? His father and mother rest in the mausoleum near Oakland. The grave of his wife is in Laurel Hill Cemetery. In the selection of the last resting place it is said that Mrs. Easton, Colonel Crocker's mother-in-law, and sister of D. O. Mills, was consulted. No doubt the wishes of the deceased, will also be consulted. She is now a young lady, and will attain her sixteenth birthday next September. She was named Mary in honor of Colonel Fred Crocker's mother.

Charles Templeton Crocker, the only son of deceased, is 13 years old. Jennie, the youngest child, will be 11 years old next March. She was born when her mother died. It is natural that George Crocker and Mrs. C. M. Alexander (who was formerly Hattie Crocker) and two brothers should wish the remains placed in the vault in Oakland.

At 10 o'clock to-night the mansion in which Colonel Crocker died was closed to visitors. Russel J. Wilson, Henry T. Scott, Charles E. Greene, Henry J. Crocker and Dr. Chismore were there, while several messages were sent out requesting the presence of intimate friends of the family.

It transpires now that Colonel Crocker had intended to sail for Honolulu on July 7, but he changed the sailing day for July 27 in consequence of the absence of his brother, W. H. Crocker. A family conference will be held at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning. The immediate relatives and the personal friends of Colonel Crocker who have gathered at his bedside feel that every thing possible to human agency was done to save the life of the patient. Every attention was bestowed. The medical men, they assert, were the most eminent and skilled in the profession. Three trained nurses of skill and experience assisted the physicians. The patient himself waged a desperate battle for life and exhibited marvelous vitality considering the complications of the disease.

It is a solace in the sad ending of the deceased for the family to reflect that the death was painless. The last moments did not bring convulsions, and pain. As described by an eyewitness, the patient seemed to pass away in peaceful sleep. The relieving of the afternoon prepared the family for the shock, yet the end came more suddenly than was anticipated. While nothing definite is settled regarding the funeral arrangements, it is surmised that the City home of Colonel Crocker on Leavenworth street will be opened and the ceremonies be conducted from that place by his Masonic brethren. It is suggested that Colonel Crocker may have left some directions concerning his burial, but upon that point none of his immediate friends are advised. He was known to have an aversion to anything like public display or ostentation, and many, therefore, have expressed some desire concerning a private funeral. The sentiment expressed here is that California has lost one of her best friends; one of the best friends the State ever had; a citizen and a native son, who studied how to promote the interests of the Commonwealth.

Many messages expressing grief and tender sympathy to the family have been received to-night.

HIS ACTIVE LIFE.

Record of a Career Marked by Honorable Distinction. Colonel C. F. Crocker was the eldest son of Charles Crocker, one of the original

projectors and the chief worker in the actual construction of the Central Pacific Railroad. The colonel or Fred Crocker, as he was commonly called, was born in Sacramento December 26, 1834, and was consequently in his forty-third year, but he seemed to be several years older. He received his early education in the public schools of Sacramento, entering the high school there. Subsequently he worked his way forward, gradually mastering the details of the service. He was highly regarded in the office at Fourth and Townsend streets, and soon gained the confidence of A. N. Towne, one of the leading officers of the corporation.

When George C. Perkins was elected Governor in 1879 he appointed Mr. Crocker to his staff with the rank of colonel. In the year 1872 and 1873 he attended McCune's Academy in Oakland and earned credit for diligent study. In 1875 he entered the Brooklyn, N. Y., Polytechnic School, but did not graduate, as his eyesight failed by reason of study. Returning to California, he made a trip to Japan, and afterward entered the railroad service at the age of 22. From a clerkship, in which capacity he began, he worked his way forward, gradually mastering the details of the service. He was highly regarded in the office at Fourth and Townsend streets, and soon gained the confidence of A. N. Towne, one of the leading officers of the corporation.

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SMITH'S CASH STORE, 25-27 Market St., San Francisco, Cal. Originators of Mail-Order Business on This Coast.

master. He took his first degree in California Lodge, F. and A. M., March 23, 1858. He joined California Chapter, I. O. O. F., March 22 of the same year, and was Master of the lodge for a year. He received the degree of Knight Templar in California Commandery, but before this latter date—on September 14, 1858—he was received into the Scottish Rite, and was subsequently advanced to the thirty-second degree. He was given the highest office of the California Consistory on January 14 of this year.

The colonel's property, which runs in value well up into the millions, consists principally in his interests in the Southern Pacific Company and the Crocker Estate Company. The summer residence at Uplands, where the colonel has been since the first stroke of paralysis, is also a very valuable piece of property. It consists of almost 100 acres on the summit of a hill, commanding a magnificent view of all the surrounding country. Although the colonel has had it but a short time he has improved it considerably and the house is considered one of the best in the finest country seats in the country.

Colonel Crocker had two brothers and one sister. The sister, Mrs. Charles B. Alexander, lives in New York, where George Crocker, a brother, resides. Another brother, William Crocker, a banker, lives in San Francisco. Deceased had a large fortune apart from his one-fourth interest in the Crocker Estate Company. It is regarded as a conservative estimate that his net fortune approximated \$10,000,000 in value.

One of the strongest traits in C. F. Crocker's character was his devotion to duty. In the great corporation with which he was so closely connected he filled every position that he occupied. He mastered the details as well as the large affairs of his place. Possessed of ample wealth he could have employed assistants to perform many of his duties, but he steadily adhered to his work. Two years ago he made a tour of the world in company with D. O. Mills, and derived strength and pleasure from the outing. His friends constantly advised him to give up his work, but he refused to do so.

Colonel Crocker was a friend of California and his personal influence in the management of the corporation was cast in favor of measures to bring the people of the State and the corporation into harmonious relation. In this regard he shared the views of his father and of Leonard Stanford, still he preserved pleasant personal intercourse with G. P. Huntington and other managers of the company. It is difficult to approximate the wealth of Colonel Crocker's estate. The interest of Charles Crocker in the Southern Pacific and side enterprises must have been as large as that owned by Mark Hopkins, and the estate of the latter was appraised at \$20,000,000 on a low appraisalment. The Crocker estate has been managed with superior business judgment and has no doubt largely increased in value since the death of Charles Crocker. It is, perhaps, nearly correct to place the interest of the Crocker Estate Company in Southern Pacific holdings at \$30,000,000. Aside from railroad property the company has vast land holdings in this State and seven magnificent and valuable pieces of improved property in the City of San Francisco. The largest tracts of land are in San Joaquin County, the Merced County is immense and highly valuable. The company owns much land of a valuable character in Colusa County, and has smaller holdings in many other localities. As mentioned before, Colonel Crocker was possessed of a large fortune apart from his share of the Crocker Estate Company.

He was an active supporter of the San Francisco Art Association and School of Design. He was kind to artists and many of them remember his generous aid. He also made a display of his good deeds, preferring to extend his kindly services in a modest and quiet style. Colonel Crocker was a member of the Pacific Club of this City, the Burlingame Club, the Country Club, the Chicago Club, and four New York clubs, among them the Metropolitan and Union. He was vice-president of the Southern Pacific Company, president of the Market Street Railroad Company, president of the Occidental and Oriental Steamship Company and also president of many other corporations connected with the Southern Pacific. He gave much attention to the California Academy of Sciences, of which institution he was president. He was connected with the Stanford University as one of the trustees. Colonel Crocker was a thirty-third degree Mason and at the time of his death held the position of venerable grand

STREAM OF GOLD FROM KLONDIKE

There was another excursion under the tunk. "Did you bring out much?" "Only a little—just enough to go home the winter. I am going back next spring. "How much do you all carry a little?" "I brought out about \$6000. I invested in a lot up there. I am going home to Wisconsin for the winter." "Are you going to take a lot of Wisconsin men back with you?" "No. Every one who goes into that country should go on his own responsibility. He must go well outfitted and prepared for hard work. I don't want any man to go on my say-so." And the man who had brought out "only a little to go home for the winter" scooted down the gangplank with his blankets.

The Canadian mounted police appear to have fared extremely well in the Northwest Territory, which they were directed by the British North American Government to protect. The five of the twenty original guards returned on the Portland with a haul amounting to \$225,000. Mr. Gage evidently alighted at Inspector Strickland when the spoke of one passenger having in his possession \$36,000. The remaining fifteen Canadian police are engaged in mining. They went up for two years' service and were relieved a few months ago by a detachment that went in over the range from Sitka. The guardsmen were handicapped in not being able to do their own work and made their money in mining speculation. They staked out claims and with the spring rush sold them for large amounts. They also employed men to work claims they held. The five guards who came down on the Portland will go to their headquarters in the Northwest Territory and receive their discharge.

R. W. Barto of this city received via the Portland the following self-explanatory letter from a former resident of Seattle: SKOOKUM GULCH, Bonanza District, May 25, 1897. To R. W. Barto, Seattle: DEAR SIR—I have been expecting to hear from you for some time. I had the hardest trip of my life last winter, but I think you will get some money. We have a claim each on Skookum Gulch, tributary of Bonanza. I dare say these are the richest diggings in the world. You have heard something about it no doubt, but not how what it really is. I will not say much about it, but I will tell you to excite you. The richest thing I know of is No. 30, on the El Dorado Creek, a tributary of Bonanza. Three men shoveled in eighty-five pounds weight in gold dust in seven hours. That is considered good ground here. Living has been very plentiful and expensive here this winter. Flour is \$1.80 a pound, or \$54 a sack. Dried fruit is \$1.25 a pound, and bacon the same. I will close, hoping to hear from you soon. Yours, JOE GOLDSMITH.

Police Officer Payton Brown received a Klondike letter via the Portland to-day from W. R. Good, a well-known reputable citizen, residing in part as follows: You requested me to inform you all I could on the Klondike. I will tell you of some mines. There are miners who have taken out

\$150,000 last winter in 150 feet of their claims. It is hard to believe, but when you get coal-oil cans with more than you can lift. The baking-powder cans and pickle jars full of gold, you will begin to believe it. Work is not plentiful now, as it is all winter diggings. The wages are \$10 a day in Dawson City and \$15 out at the mines. They say work will be plenty this next winter. Three steam-janitors have been up this spring, so there are lots of provisions here now. Dawson City is growing fast, although it is all tents yet. Lard sold from \$100 to \$800. If too many hands come in it will cut wages, but it is all right now. There is a lot of prospecting going on all over the mountain. Men are striking out in every direction.

The four very rich creeks in the Klondike district are El Dorado, Bonanza, Bear and Gold Bottom. On this the miners are generally agreed, though some big fortunes have already been taken from Indian Creek, which is comparatively unprospected. Of the 100 creeks, big and little, El Dorado is the richest. It is a veritable gold stream.

The Canadian Government, THE CALL correspondent learns from a trustworthy source, has had experts in the Klondike for six months, and, according to their report, El Dorado Creek, and its tributaries \$25,000,000. The creek is located to the extent of forty-three claims, and so rich is the dirt that it is estimated that it will run \$1000 to the lineal foot.

These figures are practically verified by William Stanley and Wooten, his partner. They have four claims on El Dorado Creek and have only worked one, and that only to the extent of eighty feet, from which \$120,000 has been taken.

Charles E. Wilson, first officer of the Portland, says the miners regard one claim on El Dorado about as good as another. There is little or no difference, being simply a question of development. The combined wealth of the four creeks—El Dorado, Bonanza, Bear and Gold Bottom—according to semi-official estimates, is \$30,000,000. Three-fourths of the claims are reported to have been located or are controlled by about 250 men. Discussing the Klondike Officer Wilson says: "Out of the strike made last winter the records show that about 160 became wealthy. I should say that the Klondike has yielded \$5,000,000 easily since last October. Over \$2,000,000 has been brought out and the rest is stored in the district or is being used in the purchase and development of claims. I am confident that the Portland brought out this trip much more than \$1,000,000. By no means was all of the treasure stored in the ship's safes. Some of the men were willing to take chances and simply put their dust into bags and valises and wrapped them in their blankets. So you see it was hard to keep account of treasure handled in this way."

"Only nineteen claims were developed on El Dorado Creek during the winter. One or two claims on this creek have been sold as high as \$300,000 each. In short I think the Klondike will give the gold district that God ever opened up for the people." Wilson says a great deal of money is being spent recklessly around Dawson City; that it is a common thing for some miner to spend \$7000 or \$8000 in the saloons and among disolute women and gamblers in a single night. Michael Kelly, an old-time resident of Seattle, was a passenger down from the Klondike, where he left his son, Phil Kelly. Their earnings since last November, including the sale of one claim, amount to about \$25,000. Of the famed diggings, Kelly said: "So far as the reports as to Bonanza and El Dorado are concerned they have not been exaggerated, but people must take into consideration that all claims there are taken up. There are plenty of men there now to work the claims this winter. A great many claim-owners have leased ground to parties going up this spring in some cases fifty feet and in others 100 feet, according to whatever they could manage.

"Hunker Creek showed some good prospects, but had not been followed up enough to show when I left, and the same is true of Gold Bottom and Bear creeks. Just as I was leaving reports of finds being made on Dominion Creek, which is really the left fork of Indian Creek, were current. The finds ran from 10 cents to \$25 a pan. "On Henderson Creek, two and a half miles below the mouth of Stewart River, finds were reported. Some of the boys who went in with me stopped there. They had not gone down to bedrock, but go as high as 25 cents to a pan in the gravel. "My advice to people going in would be to go next spring by Dyea, take a nice little outfit, leave about the middle of March, get used to the hardships, and if they are able to prospect for themselves they can prospect from the foot of Marsh or Mud Lake even before they get to the canyon. Finds may be made as good as any yet reported being made in the country has never been prospecting much."

Ex-County Clerk H. T. Hanson, writing from Dawson City under date of June 2, says: Mines of the Klondike are all right. No such prizes have ever been discovered before. My men have cleaned up hundreds of thousands of dollars during the winter, and a great many more lesser amounts. Everybody is wild with excitement. Provisions are very scarce and dear. I sold to-day eighteen pounds of mutton for \$10. Many men have lived for the last two months on beans only. Moreover, the boat came in to-day from Circle City with provisions, and I suppose they will be much cheaper now. We have a good eight months' supply, so we have no fears.

M. J. Strickland, inspector of the Canadian police on the Klondike and Yukon, in expatiating to a crowd in the Butler Hotel to-night on the richness of the new district, said: "Nowhere on the face of the globe, in point of richness, has there been discovered anything like the Klondike. California, Australia, none of them compare with it. "But it should be borne in mind," the inspector continued, "that we are hearing just now only of those who have succeeded or are succeeding. Those who fail find no gold, but they do find, especially when one contemplates going in. Next spring from 10,000 to 15,000 people, and possibly 20,000, will in my opinion go into the Yukon and Klondike. If so many go it will be a matter of impossibility to feed them. The two transportation companies are having hard work now to supply the demand."

It would be difficult to portray the excitement the Portland and Excelsior returned from the Klondike has generated in Seattle, some of whose citizens had the good fortune to gather in a very respectable percentage of the gold yield. Men have been standing on the streets in knots of four and five eagerly discussing their news since early morning. Others are busily engaged in making preparations to depart on the steamship Al-Ki, which will sail to-morrow, or the Portland, returning to Seattle on Tuesday. Wednesday, the Klondike stores are doing a great business. Three-fourths of those going are being grub-staked.

The amount advanced varies from \$3000 to \$5000. Many clubs, composed principally of clerks and men of small means, are being formed for the purpose of "out-

fitting" some ambitious would-be Klondyker. The excitement was intense around the express offices, where the gold dust was weighed and prepared for shipment. Great crowds blocked the streets before the Northern Pacific, Great Northern and Wells-Fargo offices. A special detail of police had to be placed on guard at each. Clarence J. Berry showed THE CALL correspondent in the name of the Butler Hotel to-night at Northern Pacific Company receipt for \$84,000. A half hour later Mr. Berry deposited two bags of nuggets with the clerk of the hotel. The money sent by the Northern Pacific Express was consigned to Berry and Frank Phiscator at San Francisco. Phiscator is a Chicagoan and has considerable interest in the dust. Berry states that he took out \$130,000 during the winter. He and his brothers own five claims in the Klondike diggings. He considers each a fortune. Three are located on the famous El Dorado, one on Indian Creek and one on Bonanza. The brothers are still at the diggings looking out for the joint interests. Only two of the claims are being worked.

There is none of the boast and brag-gado about Berry. He is a conservative man both in statement and in business transaction, and he reluctantly consented to talk. "Three new creeks have been discovered in the Klondike district by the crowd that went in this spring," Berry began. "They have not been prospected much, and of course I cannot tell how rich they are. I make it a rule to buy a claim on every new creek. As a rule you can get one on a new creek for a small amount of money. "My opinion is that there are just as good creeks yet to be discovered as the El Dorado. In fact, some of those now discovered will, I believe, prove as rich. El Dorado is a wonderful stream. There is but very little difference in the claims. There are fully forty claims on the El Dorado that will average \$1000 to the lineal foot and upward. "There are some places where the ground will yield \$3000 a lineal foot. On El Dorado there are single claims that one could not buy for \$300,000—in fact for half a million."

Berry leaves for San Francisco to-morrow night. He is accompanied by Mrs. Berry, who has been with him at the diggings. GOLD RESERVE INCREASING. Klondyke Discoveries Pleasing to Treasury Officials. WASHINGTON, D. C., July 17.—The reports of great gold discoveries in Alaska have encouraged treasury officials to believe that the gold reserve will be in remarkably fine condition in a short time. Private advice to the department says that much of the gold will be sent to the New York assay office and the Philadelphia mint, and payment made for it by the Government in ordinary certificates, which will be liquidated through the clearing-house. The demand for small notes is very large, and the owners of gold bullion are expected to accept payment in these. This will result in an increase of the gold reserve. So great is the demand for small notes that it was predicted to-day that the treasury would be obliged to begin paying out gold in a few months. It was predicted that the gain in the reserve would be such by that time that the treasury could meet the demand with the greatest ease and without any fear of the reserve being depleted. Gold deposits have been far in excess of withdrawals lately and the reserve is gaining steadily. Shipments from the Klondyke to Eastern cities will augment this desirable state of affairs.

HOW TO REACH THE MINES. The Several Routes and Difficulties Confronting the Traveler. The valley of the Klondyke has within two days become the golden wonder of the age. No other tale of golden gravel has ever given a world the hysteric with so wondrous a showing of real gold to confound the scoffers. Two days ago a little steamboat arrived from a jumping-off place of this cold world with \$1,500,000 or thereabouts in grains of virgin gold, and yesterday the second steamer to come from the new El Dorado brought over a ton of gold worth about \$800,000. And millions more have been taken out and millions remain to the many who shall lose and the few who shall win. It is not only a wonderful field of gold, surpassing all that man has found, that has been uncovered, for the human interest of it all is the biggest thing to the vast majority of people, who will only read about the gold of the Yukon, and with the finding comes a new, romantic phase of human effort. The Yukon promises to rival the days of 49 in the picturesque and romance of human life, when it is connected with the thing that can most deeply stir the springs of the human heart. This new crusade for gold reaches to the Arctic circle. The adventurous argonauts, who have won the gold that comes to the mints on two early steamboats, and the thousands of others who have gone to the new fields, have faced risks, dangers and privations that rival those of the argonauts of California, though the scene of trouble is wholly different. The 49ers made a heroic age in American history. Their journeys overlaid through deserts and past warring Indians, and by the isthmus and the Horn have provided romantic tales enough to last for generations, as did their life on the Sierra slopes. The Fraser River excitement and the Australian rush that early followed the discovery at Coloma were but part of the California fever at the time, and but reflected its characteristics. Nowhere in the world—in Siberia, South Africa, South America or elsewhere—has a gold discovery given the world something wholly and genuinely new until the surpassing richness of a frigid slope of the American continent was revealed. From the early reports that are at hand the Klondyke miners appear to be the richest that nature has ever revealed. In the early '50's the California placers yielded as high as \$55,000,000 a year. Be it said these figures the Alaska production pale into insignificance, but the California placers were spread over an immensely greater territory. The comparative point is that while the early Californian placers displayed rich bars and pockets here and there, yielding fortunes to individual claims, there never was found in this State a narrow valley as long as fourteen miles in which the main watercourse and its little tributaries proved as uniformly rich as has the little valley of the Klondyke. For five or six years the auriferous valleys of our other tributaries of the Upper Yukon have been worked by hundreds of adventurous miners with just fair success. The fairly rich gravel veins are found in plenty yielding but little more than expenses and grub stakes in that expensive country. Most of this placer mining in the Yukon country has heretofore been done near the Yukon, just after it crosses

NEW TO-DAY-DRY GOODS. Livingstone Bros. LACE CURTAINS AND RUGS. SPECIAL SALE FOR ONE WEEK, COMMENCING TO-MORROW. The latest designs in Battenberg, Renaissance, Irish Point and Nottingham Curtains, Rugs in the newest patterns, Orientals, Wiltons, Daghestan and Smyrnas at EXCEPTIONALLY LOW PRICES. NOTE A FEW OF THE MANY SPECIALS. CURTAINS. At \$1.50 PAIR—200 pairs Nottingham Curtains, scalloped and taped, 3 1/2 yards long, all new effects, good value at \$2.25 pair. On sale at \$1.50 pair. At \$3.00 PAIR—150 pairs Nottingham Curtains, 3 1/2 yards long, in all the new high novelty effects, good value for \$4.50 pair. On sale at \$3.00 pair. At \$4.50 PAIR—100 pairs Irish Point Lace Curtains, full width and 3 1/2 yards long, all the very newest patterns, regular value \$6.50 pair. On sale at \$4.50 pair. At \$6.50 PAIR—100 pairs Irish Point Lace Curtains, full width and 3 1/2 yards long, all elegant designs, regular value \$8.50 pair. On sale at \$6.50 pair. RUGS. At \$1.50 EACH—100 size 27x54 Velour Rugs with heavy knotted fringed ends, all elegant designs. On sale at \$1.50 each. At \$2.75 EACH—50 size 26x52 Best Quality Smyrna Rugs, in all the newest designs and colors. On sale at \$2.75 each. At \$2.75 EACH—100 size 36x72 Velour Rugs, with heavy knotted fringed ends, in all the newest designs and colors. On sale at \$2.75 each. At \$3.75 EACH—50 size 30x60 Best Quality Smyrna Rugs, in all of the very latest colorings and patterns. On sale at \$3.75 each. EXTRA SPECIAL. 500 pieces ALL-SILK TAFFETA MOIRE AND FANCY TAFFETA RIBBON, 4 1/2 inches wide, in all the newest shades, at 25c yard, former prices 50c and 65c. SEE OUR SHOW WINDOWS. Livingstone Bros. 123 TO 129 POST STREET.

the unofficially accepted boundary line between the Northwest Territory and Alaska. The little metropolis of the growing placer-mining population has been Circle City, located very close to the junction of the boundary line, the Yukon River and the arctic circle. Late last summer gold was discovered in the valley of the Klondyke, a stream flowing into the Yukon from the east, a little over 100 miles up the river into British territory, from the provisionally accepted boundary line. So rich were the discoveries on the Klondyke and its little tributaries that before last winter had fairly set in the 3000 or 4000 people about the stations were down the river—Borch Mile and Circle City and along Birch Creek and the Porcupine in Alaskan territory had stamped to the new diggings, and the town of Dawson, at the mouth of the Klondyke, became the metropolis instead of Circle City. Stray mail carriers who got a letter and some others straggled successfully over the long and hard route to the coast at Juneau during last winter and spring, and brought to the world the news of the new find, of which details have been thus known for months. The party on the Excelsior, which arrived the other day, was the first regular exodus from that far-away region. This fact and the fact that this first outcoming party brought \$1,000,000 or so in gold dust provides a cause for the great new whoop: the Yukon gold diggings which was born with the steamer's arrival. The Portland, which arrived at Seattle from St. Michaels yesterday, brought the second considerable party and the second considerable shipment of gold, thus adding fuel to the fire that flames under the new gold craze. The stories that come in these steamers confirm the stories that have gone before and give glory and impetus to them by massing results. These two parties have come over 2000 miles down the Yukon River from from Dawson to St. Michaels and thence by steamer south, while the arrivals overlaid across the mountain ranges to Juneau are all stragglers and attract less attention. The telegraphic dispatches indicate that the population about the sound has gone crazy. Streetcar conductors, clerks, sales retailers and policemen are resigning their jobs to go to the wonderful new gold fields on the next steamer, and more are sorry they can't risk resigning. In San Francisco hundreds have leaped to the purpose of rushing to the Yukon. During the past two days there has been an enormous rush of inquiry about transportation at the offices of the transportation companies concerned. About 300 men have called at the office of the Alaska Commercial Company to ask about rates and so on, and the stream to the office of the Northwest Trading and Transportation Company has been nearly as large. These are the two companies which run steamers to St. Michaels, near the mouth of the Yukon, on the coast of Bering Sea, and run connecting river steamers to the great Yukon to the 2000 miles or so to Dawson, at the mouth of the Klondyke and the heart of the new diggings. This is the easiest 5000-mile way to the Yukon gold fields, but not always the cheapest. The Alaska Commercial Company runs a steamer between San Francisco and St. Michaels. On the Yukon, it runs five freight and passenger steamers—the Alice, Bella, Margaret, Yukon and Seward. The last steamer by this company's route which will connect with river steamers going to Dawson, sails on the 28th inst. The fare is \$150 first-class, and \$125 second-class, to the Klondyke from San Francisco, and the journey will consume about six weeks. Each passenger is allowed 150 pounds of baggage. The rival North American Transportation and Trading Company's steamer Portland will leave Seattle for St. Michaels about the 21st inst., connecting with the Yukon River steamers P. B. Wears and J. J. Healey. These two trips are the limit of the season's possibilities by the Yukon River route. It is an absolute impossibility to ship freight to the upper Yukon by the river route. Both of these companies have trading stores in the Yukon country, and their steamers are and will be loaded to the guards with the immense shipments which these companies are making to their own stores. They are crowding their steamers with every ton of their own freight that can be carried, and refuse all freight shipments. If they had lots of room they might carry freight from here to Dawson at 10 cents a pound. The Alaska Commercial Company is shipping

5000 tons of provisions to its stores up there, and Leon Sios' doesn't anticipate any famine on the Yukon this winter. The bulk of these 5000 tons consists of flour, bacon, beans and "such like" staples, and then there is also going forward to the hardy miners in an Arctic twilight butter, condensed milk, canned fruit and vegetables, picks, shovels, dry goods, watches, tooth brushes, canned sauerkraut, and in fact, everything that hungry and prosperous miners might possibly "blow themselves in" for at a company's arctic emporium. The other company is shipping in a similar manner 3000 tons of merchandise to be sold this winter and next year. A fifty-pound sack of flour will bring about \$5, and the bacon will sell for about 40 cents a pound. The majority go up by the other way—to Juneau, over the pass to the lakes, and by boat down the lakes and down the rivers to Dawson. It is a fine trip of 1000 miles or so. For an individual it is more costly, but for a party it is cheaper. A steamer takes the miner and his supplies to Dyea, at the head of an estuary of the ocean, and then there is a weary climb and haul up, and over the steep of the pass. Some enterprising fellow has rigged a cable-hoist at the pass. On a way further a lake is reached, at which a boat must be built by the traveler. Then he floats on and on for hundreds of miles and finally reaches the gold and the miners and the arctic circle. The Alaskans are hoarse from shouting

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