

DOUGLAS ISLAND NEWS.

VOL. I.

DOUGLAS CITY AND TREADWELL, ALASKA, WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 1899.

NO. 27.

NEW ANNOUNCEMENT

B. M. Behrends

BANKER AND MERCHANT
JUNEAU, ALASKA

If You Need Carpets or House Furnishings

When in Juneau take a look through our line we are showing

NEW STOCK AND NEW DESIGNS IN

Body Brussels
Velvets
Moquettes
Tapestry
and
Ingrain

WALL PAPER
Window Shades
All Sizes Made to Order
Lace Curtains

Linoleums
Oil Cloths
Mattings
Rugs and Rug
Fringes
Portieres

We receive new goods by every steamer.
As for prices, we defy competition.

If you want to make an investment consult our Banking Dept. **B. M. BEHREND**
Juneau, Alaska

NEW MANAGEMENT

The New York Exchange
Has Changed Hands
and
MAYS & NAPOLEON
are now in charge

A Gentlemen's Resort

Finest grade of Liquors and Cigars
always on hand
Come and See Us. JUNEAU.

FAMILY RESTAURANT.....

It has recently been
opened by

Mrs. Frances Baker, of Seattle,

Heid's Hall, on Seward Street,
bet. 3d and 4th Sts.

BOARD BY THE DAY OR WEEK
RATES REASONABLE

Alaska Furniture Company

Seward Street,
Next to Opera House
Juneau

Before purchasing, drop in and see
our stock and get prices on

Bed Room Suits, Bureaus, Chiffoniers,
Chairs, Rockers, Tables, Bedsteads,
Springs, Mattresses, Cook Stoves,
Coal Heaters, Air Tight Heaters,
Graniteware, Crockery, Tinware, and
all Kinds of Household Goods.

We will give you good
goods and good value **G. A. KNIGHT**
MANAGER

Kaufman Bros.

JUNEAU

Are
Sel-
ling

Handsome Black Silk Skirts,
at the nominal price of..... **5.00**

Black All Wool Serge and Lustre Al-
pacca Skirts, \$6.00 and \$7.00
values, at..... **3.75**

Black Figured Alpacca Skirts,
as low as..... **1.40**

A line of Plain and Fancy Sailors which
milliners would charge you
\$2.50 for, at..... **1.50**

18-inch wide Pure Wool Serges and
Mixtures, generally selling
at 75c, for..... **45c**

Splendid Assortment of

Wash Waists

Kid Gloves

Belts

Silk Waists

Millinery, Etc.

Ferry
Ticket
Free
on all
Purchases
of
\$5.00

KAUFMAN BROS.

CHURCH DIRECTORY.

CATHOLIC CHURCH:
Mass with Sermon - 10:00 A. M.
Sunday School - 9:00 P. M.
Rosary, Lecture and Benediction - 7:00 P. M.
Priest, Rev. Father P. C. Bougis, S. J.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH—Rev. Loyal L. Wirt, pastor. Services will be held every Sunday at 7:45 p. m. Sunday School meets at 2:30 p. m. Society of Christian Endeavor Wednesday evenings at 7:30. Ladies League every alternate Thursday afternoon.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH—Services held at Odd Fellows Hall every Monday evening, excepting last in month, when the service will be held on Sunday evening. Rev. H. J. Gurr.

FRIENDS CHURCH—Regular services at the Mission School house.
Sabbath School - 10 a. m.
Native Services - 11 a. m.
Evening Services - 7:45
Prayer meeting, Wednesday evening at 7:45
Teachers' meeting every Friday evening at 8 o'clock at private houses.
Any and all are cordially invited and welcomed at all of these services.
Rev. C. N. REPOGLE, Pastor.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH—At Peueli Mission, Tuesday evenings at 7:45 o'clock. Scandinavian services at the Peueli Mission, Friday evenings at 7:45 o'clock. A cordial invitation extended to all. Rev. C. J. Larsen, Pastor.

DR. W. L. HARRISON,

DENTIST

Hunter Block, between Front
and 2nd Sts. Douglas City.

FRED PAGE-TUSTIN,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.

Will practice in the District Court of Alaska.
Fort Wrangel, Alaska.

A. G. McBRIDE,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
NOTARY PUBLIC.

Office with News Douglas City, Alaska.

T. J. DONOHUE,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.

Will practice in all the Courts of Alaska.
Post Office Building, JUNEAU, ALASKA.

JNO. R. WINN,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,

Juneau, Alaska.

F. D. KELSEY,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,

Juneau, Alaska.

C. S. BLACKETT,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.

Juneau Alaska.

I. O. O. F.

Alaska Lodge, No. 1
meets at Odd Fellows'
Hall, Douglas, on Wednesday evenings at 8
o'clock.
Visiting brothers are cordially invited to
attend.
J. G. McDONALD, N. G.
C. A. WECK, Secretary.

First-Class Job Printing at
the Douglas Island News.

**Spoooner
Shack..... HAINES**

Terms \$2.00 per Day

This is where the N. W. M. Police stop.

THE NEW SUPERINTENDENT

**Mr. A. M. Robeson in Charge
of the Ready Bullion, Mex-
ican and Seven
Hundred.**

GOLD AND DIAMONDS

When Capt. Mein came to Douglas Island a few weeks ago he brought with him Mr. A. M. Robeson, of New Jersey, and installed him as superintendent of the Mexican, Ready Bullion, and the New Seven Hundred mines and mills.

A News man has been after Mr. Robeson for more than a week, but not until last Saturday was he able to get him in such a shape that he couldn't escape. When the writer suggested an interview he commenced "shieing" and for a time it looked as if we would get but little of the much we expected. Like Mr. Corbus, Mr. Robeson is given more to acting—to doing—than he is to talking, but by using our best persuasive powers and explaining that our readers must know something of the new men who superintend the greatest mines in the world, Mr. Robeson consented to give us some of the information we desired.

Mr. Robeson is almost thirty-six years of age and a native of New Jersey. His first experience in mining was at the Scranton, Pa., coal mines and steel works where he remained for three years. From Scranton he went to Venezuela and entered the employ of the Treadwell people. His was first employed in that country by Captain Mein and Mr. Perkins. The properties were called the El Callao with 120 stamps and the Venezuelan-Austin gold mines, having 40 stamps. The ore was free milling and no concentrates were saved. It was a very rich grade of ore. He remained in Venezuela for four years and during the greater portion of that time he was in the employ of the Treadwell people.

From there he went to Boston and attended a Technical school for the purpose of studying professional subjects, and while there he was offered a position with the De Beers Diamond mines in South Africa, which he accepted and remained in the employ of that company for five years. He entered the employ of the De Beers Co. as mechanical engineer and when he left was assistant general manager, and during the last six months he was acting general manager during the absence in America of the general manager Mr. Gardner Williams of California.

From South Africa Mr. Robeson returned to New Jersey, and he was tendered a position at Treadwell which he accepted.

The News man became interested in Diamond mining, a business so little understood and yet of such great interest to everyone.

"Please give the readers of the News a little information concerning these great diamond mines," said the scribe.

"The De Beers Co.," said Mr. Robeson, "own all the really good paying diamond mines except one—the Jagers Fontine—situate in the Orange Free State. The three mines of the company by which I was employed are called the De Beers, Kimberly, and Premier, situated in Cape Colony, right on the border of the Free State.

"The capital stock is about \$20,000,000, and annually pays a dividend of forty per cent. They control the price of diamonds by limiting the quantity produced. About 2,000 whites are employed at these mines, and 7,000 natives. "The output of diamonds is about 8,000 carats per day, necessitating the handling of about 8,000 tons of ore, which is taken out of three shafts.

"Mr. Cecil Rhodes is chairman of this company and to his great ability is due the success of these great mines. His great wealth comes from the mines and they have furnished the money with which he has accomplished so much good in that part of Africa."

"Now," said Mr. Robeson, "with this preface, I will give you a few facts concerning diamond mining."

"The ore or earth which contains the diamonds is called 'diamondiferous ground' and occurs in pipes or craters that may have been old volcanoes. It is of a bluish gray color and contains diamonds, pebbles, garnets, magnetite and several other minerals. This ground or ore is mined by what is called the caving system. After being taken out of the shaft it is deposited on 'floors' or large fields, as they are called, in layers of twelve inches deep. It remains on the ground for one year through the rainy season. The action of the weather on this ground breaks it up or disintegrates it, thereby releasing the diamonds. This disintegrating process is also assisted by ploughing and harrowing it two or three times during the year with steam ploughs.

"One of the mines operated by the De Beers Co. has floors 1200 yards wide and from three to four miles long.

"After the ground has been laying out in these fields for about one year and become thoroughly broken up, it is sent to the rotary washing machines, each of which handle about 250 tons of ground per day. These machines concentrate from 100 tons to one ton and of course that one ton contains all the diamonds. These concentrates are then taken to jigs where they are further concentrated and washed and brought into condition for treatment by the automatic sorters, which by the way are wonderful machines, the invention of an American, and they are more accurate in discovering and retaining diamonds than human beings,

and then they also possess the additional advantage of being free from the desire to take and retain the diamonds.

"The diamonds are then assorted into various grades and sizes and sold to representatives of large London diamond houses.

Mr. Robeson is a pleasant gentleman and will no doubt be well liked by the men under him. He is a married man and brought a charming wife with him. They are housekeeping near the Mexican mill.

The Literary Society.

The subject for the evening at the last Thursday night meeting of the Douglas Literary Society was James Russell Lowell, and all present found many things of interest in the papers that were read. The society is rapidly taking higher ground and each meeting is more interesting and instructive than those have gone before. For the next meeting "Greek Art and Literature" is to be discussed and the session cannot help but be interesting.

Glad to See You.

D. W. McMillan, of Seward City, but formerly of Douglas Island, was in evidence at Douglas and Juneau last week, shaking hands with his friends, and there are many of them. Mr. McMillan became a subscriber to the News when it first started and he has said many kind things of it. He was a caller last Thursday and renewed his subscription for a year. We much regret his departure from the Island and hope he may again find it profitable to return.

Captain Crockett.

The genial captain of the Wolcott returned to Juneau last week. He made one trip to Sitka and Unalaska and return, which took him 29 days. When he returned to Sitka he was happily surprised to meet his wife and two daughters, Lou and Clara, waiting for him. The Captain was ordered over to Juneau with his boat for inspection and we understand she is again to go onto the Skagway run. We hope this is true. Our people like Capt. Crockett and his boat and will extend to them a hearty welcome.

He is All Right.

Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Daly, who is one of the hold-overs from the Cleveland administration, is not a hold-over under a political idea but is a hold-over for the honest and efficient manner in which he has officiated. There have been several efforts made to remove Mr. Daly, and had they been made for political purposes—as to the victor belongs the spoils—there would have been no protest but by a few narrow-minded people, who, from a selfish standpoint, would like to see Mr. Daly removed. The citizens of this district have the utmost confidence in Mr. Daly's ability as a prosecutor, gentleman, and lawyer.

Last Thursday we received the Record of May 3rd, 10th and 17th all in a heap.

COOK'S INLET.

Prospectors Returning to That Country.

The U. S. Mail steamer Dora left Juneau for Cook's Inlet and way ports on the 15th inst. and she carried a number of passengers who are going to that country to develop their claims and further prospect that part of Alaska. Among those who left on the last trip of the Dora was Mr. S. W. Wible, of Bakersfield, California, who is making his second trip to the inlet. He first went to the country in June of last year and came out in August. He has some claims there and will look for some more. The News man met Mr. Wible on the Orizaba and he stated that in his opinion the placer claims in that part of Alaska were valuable, but that no work had been done on any of them except in the creeks. He seemed to be satisfied with his prospects there. He will return to California next fall.

A Worthy Promotion.

Mr. J. P. Corbus has been made superintendent of the Alaska Treadwell Gold Mining Co., which include the old Treadwell mill with 240 stamps and the new Three Hundred with 300 stamps. Mr. Corbus has been assistant Supt. for a long time in name only, for he has had complete control of the whole Douglas Island plant. This promotion is deserved. Go where you will and you will not find a more thoroughly competent mining expert than Mr. Corbus. As a gentleman and business man he is pleasant and affable. He don't do a great deal of talking, but when he does talk, you can bank your last dollar on what he says. His men like him because he is just and never breaks faith with them. The Indians make him the most trouble and the boys tell several good jokes about his way of getting them to do as he orders. We will report some of these stories in a future issue. Our readers can form an idea of the kind of man Mr. Corbus is when we say that he is less than forty, is the Supt. of the two largest mills in the world, handles millions of dollars every year and yet is as plain and unassuming, as free from conceit as the most common every day business man. This can truthfully be said of Mr. Corbus.

When the Wolcott went to Sitka to take a northern run, there was a tall, thin young man on board of her. His name was, and still is Baker, and he was purser of the ship. As soon as it became known that the Wolcott was really to go north, Baker commenced getting thinner, and by the time he left, he was even thinner than the "thin man from Dayton." Purser Baker is back again and now that the Wolcott is to remain in this part of Alaska he is getting to be himself again. He has helped to make the Wolcott one of the most popular boats in Alaska and we are glad to note his return and that he is again happy among his friends.