

**GADY INDIANS OF ALASKA.**

**They Wore Metal Jewelry of all kinds, and Grottesque Ornaments When White Men Came Among Them.**

The great Siwash tribe of Indians of the great Northwest coast of America, who paint and carve every object of their belongings, who paint and literally carve their own bodies, were wearing bracelets of twisted cedar bark, bracelets of wood, bone, horn, bears' claws, birds' beaks, seals' teeth, shells and copper when the white man found them. They had ponderous wristlets hammered from nuggets of pure copper and inlaid with abalone shell, and others of twisted copper wires. They made iron bracelets as soon as the traders brought them that metal, and they learned to oxidize copper by heat until it resembled iron. When the miner invaded the fur traders' realm the Indians began to receive actual money, to sell instead of barter their furs. They have never seemed to value or covet gold in its relation to silver, and they heard the white metal like Hindoos. One Tlinkit woman amazed an official by bringing out 9,000 and odd silver dollars to be counted. They find the metal dollar a more convenient article to handle and store than the blanket or beaver skin, which were the former units of value and the current coins. Half the silver coins that go into Alaska are converted into bracelets, and the native artisans used to carry out some of their clearest ideas in this soft easily worked metal.

The first silver bracelets were broad bands, etched with the totems of their owners, their rude heraldry ordered by as severe and arbitrary rules as in any European college of such arts. One finds the strangely conventionalized raven, eagle, bear, wolf and whale of the great clans most admirably drawn and arranged on such broad, barbaric old wristlets. One of these two animals approach in profile from either end, the bears combining in one exaggerated full face, with the storied skills, or ceremonial hats, piled up in a crown or column of glory. On another the one animal seems to be split in half below the head and stretched around the curved surface. It took a whole dollar to make such bracelets as these, and by custom the silversmith was paid twice the value of the coins used in this work.

**STICKEN MINERS KICK.**

Representatives of a miner's mass meeting have gone to Seattle to urge the immediate construction of a wagon road from Glenora to Teslin lake, and say that unless it is done the Sticken route will be abandoned. The river fleet has already been tied up, the men going in via Skagway. The Sticken trail is in fairly good condition, but impracticable for the transportation of good.

In other words the summer trail is good to talk about but unfit to use—and it matters little if one talks good or ill about it. It would admit any impeachment.

**What's the Matter With Skagway.**

The government will commit a great blunder if it decides to spend \$95,000 out of the \$100,000 appropriation for public buildings in Alaska, at Sitka. It will be that much money thrown away. In many instances public buildings become too small for purposes for which they were originally intended, and they have to be enlarged or sold to make way for better ones. When this happens it is often possible to sell the building to advantage. If these new buildings were situated in that part of Alaska which is growing they would have an ascertained value, but the growing capacity of Sitka is limited. There are undoubtedly good mines in that district, but they are as yet undeveloped. Around Juneau the country is rich, and enormous enterprises are being conducted. Where the volume of business is, there litigation will originate, and the convenience of the people and exigency of the public service demands that the court house should be built here also other public buildings for the proper and convenient transaction of the business of the territory.—Alaska Miner.

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**FOR RENT**—Nicely furnished cabin on 7th avenue. Owner would like board with tenant. Apply at Marshal's office, Occidental hotel.

**His Little Son.**—What is a white lie, Papa?

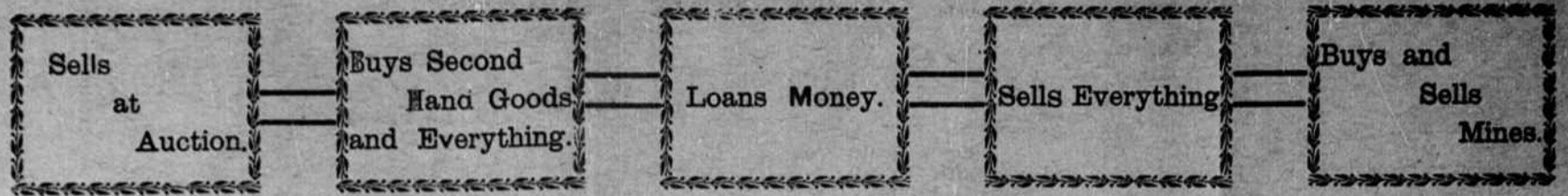
**The Editor.**—Oh! it is a lie that does no harm to anybody.

**His Little Son.**—Like a circulation statement, Papa?

**LOT FOR SALE.**—Lot 4, Blk. 106, 50 by 100, on 18th St., between Broadway and State. Inquire of Dr. Lepper, corner Kaiser and Maine. Parties going inside, and must see.

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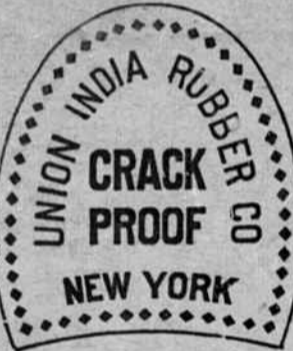
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