

## WILL BE \$20,000,000.

## Estimate of the Year's Clean-up at Dawson.

Early in July the first gold boat, the New England, arrived at Seattle from St. Michael's with a number of miners, laden with nuggets and drafts, on board. The passengers had come down the Yukon in small boats to St. Michael's, and chartered the New England for the sum of \$1,200 to carry them to Seattle. It was stated by the passengers that the amount of gold brought down by them was comparatively very small, not more than \$15,000, as those in St. Michael's having large sums in their possession were waiting for a treasure ship, in which their earnings could be safely guarded.

One of the passengers on the New England was Judge R. A. Hall of Los Angeles, the owner of several valuable claims in Dawson City, and who is supposed to be in a position to speak authoritatively and intelligently upon the situation in Klondike. In an interview, after he landed, Judge Hall said, in speaking of the seasons output of gold, that the estimates had run all the way from ten millions to forty millions. Up to June 5 there had been three clean-ups on claims Nos. 4, 5 and 6, on Eldorado, owned by Berry Bros., and the amount obtained was about 65,000.

"An named Antone," said Judge Hall, "I believe, is from Juneau, is also interested in these three claims, and his interest is equal to that of Berry Bros. The amount, however, may fall short. According to the best information obtainable there are between 10,000 and 15,000 claims staked in each of the four districts, namely, the Klondike, Dominion, Indian River and Yukon, of which not to exceed 200 are on a paying basis, or from which it is expected a 10 per cent. royalty will be collected by the government. From these facts, it can be readily seen that the chances for a new-comer to succeed are not very encouraging. There are probably from 1,000 to 1,500 people walking the streets of Dawson waiting and anxious to dispose of wildcat property to new arrivals. I can also say that property must pay over eight cents to the pan or the owner cannot afford to pay \$1.50 per hour, the wages paid to miners, for working the same. I learned this from parties who are in possession of information which cannot be disputed, and I, therefore, know whereof I speak. Gold Commissioner Thomas Fawcett is engaged in recording hundreds of claims, and the applicants literally camp out in front of the commissioner's office all night in order to be on hand the first in the morning. Many of the men who record such claims are promoters of wildcat schemes, and they are of course, compelled to resort to dishonest methods. The government requires that gold shall be discovered in the property before a claim can be recorded, and in order to hoodwink the government one man will purposely drop several nuggets on the ground, while his partner, who will appear later, will find the gold and hasten to the commissioner's office to record the claim. It is this kind of property that is offered to new-comers, and I would advise all men who go to Dawson this season to give these sharks a wide berth.

"The fact that the miner on Canadian soil has very little opportunity to become rich is becoming more evident at Dawson every day. The British government, or the crown, for instance, lays ownership to every alternate claim or ever alternate group of ten claims, 10 per cent. royalty, \$15 for recording and \$10 for a miner's license. Any effort to avoid the payment of the royalty will result in the confiscation of the dumps. I would therefore advise any man who intends to go to Alaska to go on the American side, as 1,320 feet is allowed, and the only expense necessary is the payment of \$2 for recording a claim. My advice to anyone who contemplates going to Alaska would be to go to Eagle City, Circle City, Seventy Mile, Munook or Tanana, all on the American side and under American laws. The probabilities are that any of the places I have named will prove to be just as rich, if not richer, than any of the claims in the four districts named, save those on Bonanza and El Dorado.

"Alaska is undoubtedly rich, and without underestimating or overestimating I believe that the output of the entire country for the season will be \$10,000,000. Of course many old Alaska miners who are enthusiastic and also well posted place the amount as high as \$40,000,000.

Judge Hall said that he had seen the battleship Wheeling at Dutch Harbor. It was on its way to St. Michael's to act as convoy for the treasure ships which will come down as soon as safety \$40,000,000.

"A short time before I left," he said, "I attended the funeral of Matthew Stacey, an ex-policeman of Tacoma, and A. N. Anderson, both of whom were employed at Berry's camp. They died at the Dawson City Hospital. The bodies of both men were strapped to Yukon sleds and hauled to Pioneer Hall, where a party of hardy Yukoners attended the obsequies. A choir, consisting of seven miners and Gold Commissioner Fawcett, rendered music, while at the conclusion of the service we all united in repeating the Lord's Prayer. The burial was as respectable as possible. The bodies were drawn to the hall

by six Malamute dogs which cost \$2,000. The nails in the coffin cost \$8.50 per pound, the wood in the coffin 40 cents per foot, and the work of digging the grave, which occupied six days, cost \$200. The number of deaths which have taken place at Dawson and vicinity will never be known. The skeletons of men who smothered to death in the snow and the bodies of others who perished by falling through the ice are being found every day, and their identity will, of course, never be known. All reports published in The Post-Intelligencer about sickness at Dawson are true in every particular, and the death rate is rapidly increasing. Men who are worth from \$25,000 to \$100,000, and in many cases much more, are lying at the point of death and unable to receive beneficial medical attention. Brain fever is troubling many of the people. Men who have been at Dawson for months and are unable to receive word from home worry themselves sick and in many cases they die. Misfortunes also have much to do in bringing on brain trouble."

H. Anderson of San Francisco, who was on board the New England, states that there is in the neighborhood of \$20,000,000 in safes at Dawson awaiting transportation out, and that this represents the clean-up of last winter, together with what was left over from last fall.

He further states that there are many fine claims on Bonanza and El Dorado Creeks, but there has been some disappointment over the results obtained on Dominion and several other extensively advertised districts. This disappointment probably arises over the fact that the expectations of many inexperienced prospectors had been raised too high, and while they obtained gold and yet it was not in such fabulous quantities that they could walk on nuggets as they would on stones in a gravel bed. The gold was there, but energy and work were required to secure it. While many Yukoners have made handsome stakes, others have not done so well, and in consequence there is a young army of men who went in with insufficient means and supplies and who have reached the end of their rope and will come out poorer than they went in. But this is always the case under such conditions as have prevailed in Alaska, and their tales of woe should not operate against the country.

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Do not be deceived by bulky package dyes adulterated with grease and other foreign substances; insist upon your dealer giving you the Diamond Dyes, one packet of which will dye as much as three packets of any other make.

## Steel Sleepers in Switzerland.

The St. Gothard Railway Company, in Switzerland and Italy, report very satisfactory results from the use of steel sleepers on their lines. In 1882, when the road was opened, it was laid with wood sleepers, but as these have had to be replaced, it has been done with steel instead, and at the present time 70 per cent of the road is laid on steel ties. The sleepers weighing 163 pounds each are 8.85 feet long. The cost, when new, with attachments, is \$1.95, which, allowing for the value of the old material, is reduced to \$1.62 per sleeper. In tunnels, wooden ties are preferred, as they are not liable to rust, but in other places the deterioration due to rust is not at all serious.—Ex.

## BLENHEIM, ONT.

"I have been suffering with heart trouble and excessive nervousness since last spring and became completely debilitated and weakened, so that I thought I was going to die. Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills have completely cured me, and I cannot be too thankful for my recovery." MRS. JAS. GRIST, Blenheim, Ont.

## Where He Failed.

He's a man of vast achievements  
In a dozen various fields;  
There is grandeur, there is pathos  
In the facile pen he wields;

He has written noble poems  
And produced successful plays.  
And his fin de siècle novel  
Has commanded public praise.

He has won respect in science,  
Having made a chart of Mars;  
He invented a contrivance  
Once for ventilating cars.

By his own unaided efforts  
He has earned a pile of pelf,  
But he scored a dismal failure  
When he tried to shave himself.

—Cleveland Leader.

## No Cocaine in Dr. A. W. Chase's Catarrh Cure.

Prof. Heyes, Ont. School of Chemistry and Pharmacy, says:—"I have made an examination of Dr. Chase's Catarrh Cure for Cocaine and in all its compounds from samples purchased in the open market, and find none present. We offer a reward of \$1,000 to be divided to any charitable institution if any druggist or doctor can find the least trace of that deadly drug Cocaine contained in Dr. Chase's Catarrh Cure." Dr. Chase's Catarrh Cure, recommended by all dealers at 25 cents a box, blower included free.

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Dr. M. Barkman, Binghamton, N. Y., writes: Send me 12 dozen more of Agnew's Ointment. I prescribe large quantities of it. It is a wonder worker in skin diseases and a great cure for piles.—23.

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## The Anglo-American League.

The formation of the so-called Anglo-American League in England is a characteristic symptom of the times. It appears to be an effort to give organization to a sentiment which has taken upon itself vast proportions within the last three or four months. Probably we shall not know for some years, until what is now diplomacy becomes history, the extent of the debt we are under to England in the resistance she has offered to a European coalition against us. Russia has been speaking of us and about us with velvet tones of late, but so far as her newspapers are concerned—and newspapers in Russia, as every one knows, are not permitted to make statements that are any way displeasing to the government—they have not hesitated, until our triumph seemed a foregone conclusion, to speak in emphatic terms against us. The French newspapers are not under censorship, and, with a few notable exceptions, they have treated of the matter in the same way as their Russian allies. The German newspapers have not only been offensive, but the German government in its eastern policy has verged dangerously near the point of interference with us in our efforts to subdue the Spanish in the Philippine islands.

If England had remained passive, or had expressed a willingness to join in this continental coalition, there is not much doubt that we should have had arrayed against us armies and navies that would have put our very existence, if we had attempted to oppose them, to a severe test. From this ordeal we have been spared, for the reason that enlightened self-interest made it apparent to our English cousins that they could not afford to stand even as silent witnesses in the downfall of one great branch of the Anglo-Saxon family. England's control of the seas made it possible for her to put a veto upon any continental scheme of interference, although in doing this there is not much doubt that she has, to quite a degree, intensified the hostility entertained for her on the other side of the English channel.

We say it was enlightened self-interest that dictated British policy, but it is equally evident that enlightened self-interest, rather than narrow prejudice and blind ignorance, should influence us in our future relations with the United Kingdom. By endeavoring as far as possible in foreign relations, where our interests concur, to establish a common foreign policy, we shall add enormously both to our own strength and to the strength of England. Where our interests or England's interests are local or national, or where the two nations are not common sharers then each government would rightly be expected to work out its own policy as best it could. But with our expanding foreign trade there must inevitably be found many points at which England and the United States will have a common interest, and in view of the good she has done, not only herself, but us, in the last few months, and the good which we may do ourselves and her in the years that are to come, by acting fully and frankly with her where our interests converge, it is the part of statesmanship, which we trust public men in this country will recognize and follow, to endeavor, as far as possible, to build up this friendly alliance.—Boston Herald.

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## Keep it Going.

Don't let up on the cultivator. It means dollars later on to keep the soil stirred and the weeds down now. Some farmers seem to have an idea that so long as the weeds are not growing there is no matter about keeping the crop cultivated. This is a mistake. Cultivation not only breaks up the soil and makes plant food available, and lets air in but it also keeps the land from drying out by breaking up the capillary tubes, and so preventing rapid evaporation. In dry weather this is very important, and if we can keep the moisture which arises from the subsoil at a point of three or four inches, it is just where our growing crops need it. Good cultivation is even more important than fertilizing and is always in order. Don't however, cultivate the land when it is wet as more harm than good will be done.

"Was the Sanitary Inspector in your house this afternoon?" "He was." "What was the matter?" "I was smoking that cigar you gave me."

Teacher—Tommy Teddies, what is a centipede? Tommy—It is a creature with a hundred feet, ma'am. Name any other many footed animal. A gas meter.

## When Things Began to Happen.

[From the Chicago Record.]  
"What is ancient history, Uncle Jim?"  
"Anything that happened before the explosion of the Maine."

## An Unkind Comment.

A country editor wrote at considerable length upon "The Future of Hog Raising," and a rival editor advised him not to be so anxious regarding his descendants.—Tid Bits.

## The Fodder Land.

"Come, my child, let us away to the fodderland," said the German cow to her offspring, as they made in the direction of the waving field of corn.

## Please cut my hair, said Lyndon.

To the man in the barber shop;  
And I want it cut just like papa's  
With a little round hole on top!

He—They can photograph the voice now. She—Goodness, I hope I'll never live to see a picture of the things you say when your collar button drops down your back.

"Some of the women are becoming quite masculine in their attire." "Yes, if it keeps up, the Prince of Wales will soon be setting the fashions for both sexes."

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