

ous Points from the Pacific.

uck on a farm be- lts, near Tibbury,

Colborne, has won at Cornell Uni-

the Crow's Nest engaged at Regina

ran away in St. just forgot its busi-

& Collar Company their creditors at 35

H & B. employe, Stratford. His ac-

Woodstock jail of interest. There

ian woman was. She had been her hair about her

ment has a dia- in the neighbor-

in church Wood- to be one of the stario, is nearing

Hornerite, an sect, are in jail examination as to

are raiding dis- number of un- been requested

dney of British intosh, of the were ban-

T. Scott, editor press, was shot who were shoot-

old Suspension are being cut and shipped to

ated the Lon- late Saturday morning and

ing the Stand- buying up oil

A number of good results

tes have char- and intend

Kingstemsing staff of the way, among

nt-General. in London and

the thirtieth

successfully years past

mainly at the farmers

tion more

broken out Ford, Fron-

ing a number of Some

re or four

ecinity of

age done by

ve been

g no grass-

year how-

spatist, is

deposited at

his agent

ized pro-

left Win-

vel's out-

mped the

hip, Mr

for all the

old trick,

obtaining

est, was

the Salva-

den to a

eg. They

to assist

to his

Adjutant

ook on an

THE KLONDYKE DISTRICT.

REMARKABLE DISCOVERIES IN THE NORTH-WEST.

Canada's Treasure Trove - Difficulties That lie in the Way of Prospectors - Thousands Going to the Scene - Americans Discovering Alaskan Mining Camps on the New Eldorado.

Not for years has the popular imagination on the North American continent been excited to the extent that it now is by the reports that the Klondyke district in the North-West Territories is fabulously rich in gold. Everywhere people seem to have been carried away by the gold fever, and the magical world "Klondyke" is in everybody's mouth. Short as the period since the reports were first published, hundreds of adventurous spirits are already preparing for a trip to the new Eldorado in order to share in the gold which is said to strew its rivers and to bed for the miners picking up. And in so doing they are unmindful of the arduous journey and the difficulties of transportation, the forbidding climate, and the scarcity of food; nor do they reckon that perhaps starvation and death rather than a rich gold find may be their lot.

The excitement seems to be more intense in the United States than in Canada. The gold fever does not appear as yet to have attacked Canadians with the same virulence, although the scene of the discoveries is in Canadian territory. This is perhaps due to the fact that the latter have not yet had brought to their own personal gaze evidences of the wealth of gold that the Klondyke district contains. The people of the American towns on the Pacific slope have, however, had that experience, with the most exciting results. From Seattle to San Francisco the whole western coast is ablaze with excitement. For this state of affairs parties of miners who have just returned from the Yukon country are responsible. They have brought with them wonderful stories of the wealth to be found in the creeks of the Klondyke, and have produced as proof of their statements bags of gold which they say were gleaned from the sands and soil of that country. The sums which these miners are reported to possess vary in amount from \$50,000 or \$100,000 up to as high as half a million. No wonder is it therefore that people are nearly mad with the desire to reach this glittering country and share in its treasures, and that the mania for gold is spreading to the great centres of population. The effect of the stories, as thus evidenced, has been to bring the public mind to a state of great excitement.

"Are the reports concerning the Klondyke diggings well founded?" is a question that may be asked. Undoubtedly they are, to a very large extent. Mr. Wm. Ogilvie, of the Dominion Geological Survey, who has been engaged in exploratory and survey work in the Yukon region for several years past, was one of the first to draw attention to the fact that the Canadian territory is rich not only in gold, but in coal as well. Mr. Ogilvie is not given to exaggeration, and in various official reports he has borne testimony to many startling discoveries. It is probable that in their eagerness to reach the Klondyke country many persons will not pay sufficient attention to the difficulties of making the journey and of transporting supplies, which are enormous, and of subsisting when once the goal is reached. Very few, in fact, have any real conception of the trials and hardships which stand in the way. They are, however, not to be deterred by the heaviest heart, and the most robust constitution to a severe test.

SCENE OF THE DISCOVERIES.

Klondyke or Klondak, as it is termed by the miners, is the name of a river in the North-West Territories which empties into the Yukon river. The Indian name is "Tron-dak," or "dash," meaning "plenty of fish," from the fact that the river is a famous salmon stream. The Klondyke river joins the Yukon from the east about 50 miles from Fort Cudahy. Rich placer mines of gold have been discovered on all the tributaries of this stream. The mines on Bonanza creek have made the greatest yield. The first to locate on this stream was G. W. Carmach who was attracted to the locality by the reports of Indians, and commenced work about the middle of August, 1896. Carmach is married to an Indian wife, and was assisted in his work by his brother-in-law and another Indian. As he was very short of appliances, he could only put together a rather defective apparatus to wash the gravel with. The gravel itself he had to carry on a bag on his back, from 30 to 100 feet. Notwithstanding this, the three men, working very irregularly, washed out \$1,200 in eight days. Had the men possessed proper facilities, this work could have been done in two days, besides saving several hundred dollars of gold, which was lost in the tailings through defective apparatus. On the same creek two men rooked out \$75 in about four hours, and it is asserted that \$4,000 were taken out by two others in two days with only two lengths of sluice boxes. The reports of the rich finds soon became noised about. They were not credited at first, because the Klondyke had been prospected several times with no encouraging result. The doubt did not last long, however, and soon there was a rush of prospectors from all the country adjacent to Forty Mile and Circle City. These towns were soon almost deserted. The gold discoveries showed no sign of diminution, but grew as

more claims were taken up. Four or five other branches of the Bonanza, including the Eldorado and Tilly, were prospected with magnificent results. Valuable discoveries were also made on other branches of the Klondyke, named Bear, Gold Bottom, and Hunter creeks. Besides these, the Indians made reports of another creek, called by them "Too Much Gold Creek," on which the gold was so plentiful that, as the miners say, in joke, you would require to "mix gravel with it to sluice it."

SOME RICH YIELDS.

On some of these claims prospected, according to Mr. Ogilvie's report, the yield was from \$1 up to \$12 to the pan of dust. This would mean from \$1,000 to \$12,000 per day per sluicing. On one of the Bonanza claims \$14.25 was found in a single pan of dirt. This was, of course, exceptional, but the average on that claim was from \$5 to \$7, with five feet of pay dirt, and the width undetermined. At 9 to 10 pans to the cubic foot, and at a length of 500 feet, this would mean nearly \$4,000,000 at \$5 per pan. Enough prospecting has been done to show that there are at least 15 miles of this extraordinary richness, and it is estimated that there is from three to four times that extent which, if not equal to the foregoing, is at least very rich. Placer prospects on the Eldorado showed some very extraordinary results. Among the very earliest yields were three pans on three different claims which turned out \$204, \$212, and \$216. In addition to placer gold quartz showing free gold in paying quantities has been located.

Inspector Strickland, who commanded the detachment of Mounted Police which has been stationed at Fort Cudahy for the last three or four years, and who is now on his way to Ottawa, reports that last winter no less a sum than \$1,500,000 was mined in the Klondyke district. Between 2,000 and 3,000 persons are now located there, and claims have been staked which will afford employment for 6,000 persons. He anticipates that there will be that number in the district before the close of next month.

THE ROUTES TO KLONDYKE.

There are two ways of reaching Klondyke. One is by steamer from San Francisco to the Alaskan coast, and up the Yukon river; and the other is overland by way of Juneau and the Chilkoot pass. The latter is by far the more difficult and dangerous. The steamers leaving San Francisco run only to St. Michael's, at the mouth of the Yukon river. There passengers are transferred to river steamers, and carried a distance of 2,000 miles to Dawson City. From there the journey is comparatively easy. Ice begins to block the mouth of the Yukon in October, and the river route is not clear again until June. The steamer Excelsior leaves on her last trip to Alaska on the 28th July. She has already taken the passengers she can accommodate, and they will not reach Dawson City until September 1st. The fare from San Francisco to Dawson City is \$150, but each man has to take his own supplies, which cost him at least \$500 to transport. The steamer Portland sails on August 15. No further sailings have been announced. Old hands who have been over the route advise taking the Yukon route if it is desired to acquire claims and get to work before winter sets in. Nearly all the work of thawing the frozen gravel beds, and piling up dirt for the spring, is done before the winter sets in.

THE JUNEAU ROUTE.

As the greater part of the accommodation on the steamers is already engaged, most of those who intend to go into the Klondyke country this year will have to follow the Juneau and Chilkoot pass route. Juneau is some 600 miles from the diggings, and the journey occupies 25 days. A great part of the route lies over snowy mountains, and the traveller needs the services of Indian guides and dogs and sleds to transport his outfit and provisions, if he goes at winter time. Dogs are reported to cost from \$300 to \$500 each, but this is probably exaggerated. Mr. Ogilvie estimated that he would require a team of eight dogs to take his outfit and man with provisions for all two, as far as Taiya. There the dogs would have to be dispensed with, as they are worthless on the coast except to persons coming in early in the season. Dogs were scarce when Mr. Ogilvie was there, and he considered them dear at from \$30 or \$40 to \$125 apiece.

BY LAND AND WATER.

During the open season the route to be taken would be as follows:—Leaving Juneau, the miners will go to Dyer by way of Lime canal, and from there to Lake Lindermann, a distance of thirty miles, on foot. The lake gives a ride of five or six miles, and then follows another journey overland to the head waters of Lake Bennett, which is twenty-eight miles long. Then comes a land journey to the Caribou river, which furnishes transportation for four miles to Lagnish lake, where another twenty-five miles boat ride may be had. The route is followed by a stretch of mountainous country, and then Marsh lake is reached. There is another boat ride of twenty-four miles, and then down the creek for twenty-seven miles to White Horse rapids. This is one of the most dangerous places in the entire route. The stream is full of sunken rocks and runs with the speed of a mill race. Passing White Horse rapids the journey is down the river thirty miles to Lake Labarge, where thirty-one miles of navigable water is found. To Louis river. Then comes a 200-mile land journey to Fort Selkirk. At this point the Belly and Louisa rivers come together, forming the Yukon. From that point on it is practically smooth sailing. The miner who cannot start until September would be wise if he deferred his trip until the following spring, as the Juneau route in winter is very difficult and hazardous.

PROVISIONS AND MONEY.

Whichever route is taken the traveller needs to have ample cash and all the provisions he can take. The man who expects to go into that country armed only with a pick and shovel, and dig for gold, labors under a great delusion, which will cost him dear if he makes the experiment. Provisions are very scarce, and sufficient provisions should be taken to last eight or twelve months. The traveller should start out with 400 pounds of flour, 100 pounds of beans, 100 pounds of bacon, 100 pounds of sugar, 10 pounds of tea, 30 pounds of coffee, 150 pounds of mixed fruit, salt, pepper, and cooking utensils. This whole outfit can be purchased for about \$90. The cost of conveying this stock to the headwaters

of Lake Lindermann will average about \$15 per hundred pounds, but even that makes it considerably cheaper than some goods could be purchased for in the mining camp.

CURIOSITIES OF LIGHTNING.

If You See the Flash Never Be Alarmed Because All Danger Has Passed.

There have been numerous deaths from lightning. In some instances the electric current played peculiar pranks, and thus demonstrated that a bolt of lightning is something beyond the knowledge of the scientist. It is impossible to foresee the conditions that may prevail during an electric disturbance, and when a bolt of lightning is of great intensity there is no telling what it might do.

When Benjamin Franklin determined the character of lightning rod he made a great discovery, but since then other investigators have added much to the store of knowledge on the subject.

The matter of lightning rods has received a great deal of attention from scientists in recent years and a number of popular fallacies have been exploded. Various mystifying characteristics of lightning have been explained and other freaks of the electric current are more or less understood. Some years ago there was an international conference on the question of lightning rods in England, and the report of that gathering, based on the observation and experience of the members, is the most valuable contribution to the literature of the subject ever made.

While it is generally conceded that lightning rods offer protection to buildings, it is admitted that under certain conditions the most carefully erected rods will prove unavailing. There are many instances in which buildings have been struck by lightning through rods provided with lightning rods. In most of these cases the rods were not properly constructed and connected, though in other cases the rods were as nearly perfect as human ingenuity can make them. The lightning that missed them and struck the building can be likened to the avalanche that is so powerful as to sweep away all obstacles and go on its way regardless of man and his constructions.

Lightning has a preference for some soils. Thus, where the soil is of a chalky formation, lightning will strike but one-seventh as often as where the soil is sand. Clay soil will be struck twenty-two times to once in the chalky formation.

The bolts also have a preference for certain trees. Oaks are struck more frequently than any other tree, and the birch is rarely a victim. It does not seem possible that oak trees are struck more than fifty times to one beech tree, but such is the case. Pines are struck about one-third as often as oaks.

The danger from lightning is much less in the city than in the country, the ratio being about one to five. In a record of 18 deaths due from lightning, one was killed inside a building, eleven were outdoors and six were under trees.

As a rule, lightning that strikes a tree does no further damage. In only three cases out of one hundred did the bolt jump from one tree to another.

BICYCLE HEALTH METER.

Doctors Can Now Tell the Ailments of Their Patients with Accuracy.

The very latest invention, one which is just now, at the height of summer, interesting medico scientists, is called the bicycle health meter. Another meter is not particularly for bicycle people, but is intended to record the respiration, and thus give doctors the information which enables them to tell about the physical condition and prospects of the patient. The first meter is made of two strips of steel, so thin as to be flexible. These are fastened together with pivots, about one-fifth of an inch long. Between the steel plates or strips is the mechanism, and fastened to the portion of the steel that comes against the wrist is a thin strip of what looks and feels for all the world like oiled silk. In a mortise at the top of the meter one sees certain figures, which change from time to time with the physical condition, just as the mercury in the thermometer indicates the changes in the weather.

This is the way that the doctor proceeds. Before he begins the experiment he carefully ascertains by means of the health meter the exact physical condition of his patient. First comes the temperature. Then a note is taken of the color of the face, meaning as to whether or no it has the hue of health. Then he feels the pulse, listens to the beating of the heart, notes the rate of breathing, how long it takes to take in breath and how long to expel it. This done, he puts the patient through a course which will bring about fatigue. When that is over he takes the same note of the patient's condition as in the first place. Then he reads the health meter figures and knows exactly what changes occurred in the interim between the beginning of the exercise and the conclusion.

THREE GREAT IRISHMEN.

The most prominent and popular figures in the jubilee procession, always excepting the Queen herself, were all Irishmen—Lord Wolseley, Lord Charles Beresford, and Lord Roberts. The last named, as he rode by himself in the colonial procession on his famous grey Arab—wearing the medals bestowed on it for its services in the field—met with a reception all along the route second only in enthusiasm to that be-

NOVEL USE OF BEES.

Medicine in the form of honey is the latest novelty. It is produced by keeping bees under glass, so that they can only sip the sweets of flowers which possess medicinal properties.

REMARKABLE SWINDLER.

CHARLES BERTRAND, JUST SENTENCED IN LONDON.

He Operated on Both Sides of the Atlantic but Came to Grief During the Jubilee - His Remarkable Career.

Charles Bertrand, alias Col. Hay, who was sentenced in London the other day to ten years' penal servitude was a remarkable swindler, who "operated" throughout America on a magnificent scale, and afterwards alternated on both sides of the ocean not only as an individual, but as the leader of one of the most successful bands of bank thieves ever known here or abroad. He came to grief through the careless use of the splendid opportunities for fraud afforded by the Jubilee confusion. The complete record of his criminal career, which has been told here only in bits, is a remarkable one, even in the annals of crime.

Bertrand, whose aliases can be counted by the hundred, but whose real name is said to be De Griffs, was born in 1843 at Totnes, in Devonshire, where his father carried on the business of a timber merchant. After being at a small school, he was sent in 1861 to Eton, where he remained a few years. He showed a remarkable aptitude for figures and penmanship, and on leaving college received some lessons in engraving.

He obtained in 1865 an appointment in the Bank of England, and the following year went with an official of the bank to China. After visiting Shanghai, Bertrand left the service of the bank and sailed for New York.

It was here that this extraordinary career of crime began. In New York he made friends of some gamblers, and his knowledge of engraving and banking was soon put to use, many million dollars' worth of forged notes being passed all over America. The police were defied, save with one or two exceptions, until 1874, when Bertrand quarrelled with his confederates and returned to England. He had succeeded in accumulating \$90,000. For years Bertrand had a fine time of it in his native country. He lived in lavish style although there was hardly a town in which he was not "wanted."

HOW HE ELUDED THE POLICE.

is illustrated in the following incident: In March, 1876, he was in Liverpool, intending to go back to America. Funds were low, and he made a desperate attempt to obtain a bill of exchange drawn on Lloyds' Banking Company. He fell into the hands of the police, but at the station told such a plausible tale, which he substantiated by certain bonds and documents about him, that the police believed they had made a mistake. Bertrand was released, and within a few hours was on a steamer bound for America.

In New York Bertrand was soon at work again. He was concerned in the robbery of an actress' jewellery, but it is said his discharge was arranged by his former friends for a few thousand dollars. His next venture was a scheme to flood America and Canada with forged letters of credit and circular notes on the Union Bank of London. Money was supplied him for the purpose. The paper on which the notes and letters were printed was obtained in London. Bertrand did the engraving and litho work, in July, 1878, everything was ready. The gang had six letters of credit. One was for \$54,000, with circular notes of £10 to £500; another for \$43,000; two others for £20,000 and £6,000, and two for £1,000 each—in all, some \$197,000. Bertrand was allowed to have the letter for \$54,000 in return for his work.

BERTRAND WENT WEST.

He travelled as "Lord Ashburton," and did the thing in lordly style. "Bankers, jewellers and hotel proprietors," according to a London newspaper, "were his victims while mayors, chief constables, sheriffs and millionaires bowed down to him." All were ready to entertain him. In San Francisco a public reception, attended by all the officials, was given in his honour. The town was also illuminated. He was voted a most charming gentleman, and the speech he made after the toast of his health was described in the local newspapers as being "that of a true-born lord, full of literary reference, and a matchless example of pure English eloquence."

San Francisco paid dearly for its admiration as spurious circular notes, bonds and other valueless documents, amounting to nearly \$125,000 were collectable after "Lord Ashburton" saw fit to make tracks.

For some time Bertrand succeeded in pursuing his career unchecked. As "Lord Ashburton" he managed to induce a Boston woman to transfer her affection from a wealthy stockbroker to himself, and after going through a marriage ceremony, the two stayed at various hotels as "Lord and Lady Ashburton." Subsequently Bertrand found it more convenient to drop the title and travel as plain Mr. Smith.

BY THE IRONY OF FATE.

It was in San Francisco where he had been feted, that Bertrand at last fell into the hands of the police. For twenty months he lay in prison awaiting trial. In 1880 he was sentenced to eight years' imprisonment. Three years later he was released. The medical officers of the prison being of opinion that the convict was dying of consumption.

For some years Bertrand lay low. In 1893 he was back in London staying at the Hotel Metropole. "He was lounging in the vestibule one afternoon" says the paper above quoted, "when Mr. Studebaker, the Chicago

millionaire entered. Rising quickly, he seized the gentleman by the hand, and shaking it heartily, exclaimed: "Mr. Studebaker, this is an unexpected pleasure. I haven't seen you since your brother Olem took me down to South Bond and showed me all through your works. You remember, of course, Griffiths of the Standard Oil Company?" The millionaire did not plead ignorance, and after this would be seen in his company. His fame in London spread accordingly. He was introduced to the millionaire's friends, and at the country seat of one of these he swindled his host of £100 and cleared off New York.

TELEPHONES FOR FARMERS.

They Help to Remove the Isolation of Farm Life.

Among the greatest evils and burdens of farm life have never been reckoned the solitude which it entails on the women of the household. Many a wife has faded away because of the lonesomeness of her toil far from the associations of those in whom she has an interest. A new western experiment has opened a way to avoid this and substitute for the isolation of the farm a close connection with neighbors that means better enjoyment for all.

Situated in central Kansas are a number of farms and ranches owned by relatives and close friends. Growing weary of the long drives between residences—for the distances on the prairies are magnificent—the farmers began experimenting with telephones and have this spring put in working order a neighborhood system that is attracting wide attention. It starts from a little railroad station, and the wires are attached to the barbed wire of the ranch fences, no insulating process being used, it only being carefully arranged so that there shall be no broken wires. Where the wire crosses the road it is lifted on high poles until it will clear even the big loads of prairie hay, then comes down and is stapled to a post and connected with the barbed wire again. The residences along the route have plain \$6 instruments which are the principal portion of the expense. The line is about six miles long and connects a half dozen homes. The women can talk with one another as well as if they were in the same room, and on pleasant mornings when all the instruments are in use it is quite a social affair. The men who have large stock interests receive semi-daily market quotations from the depot, dictate their orders for buying and selling, and one of them manages, largely by wire, a cheese factory in a neighboring town. Contrary to all expectations there is no leakage in posts, and the conversation between the most widely separated points is carried on easily. The success of the line has encouraged the building of others, and it is probable that the barbed wire fences of the plains will soon be generally employed for telephone lines.

The farmer has been the recipient of many labor-saving devices, but his family has had far less benefit from the advancement of the times. The coming of these new achievements promise to make more happiness in the farmer's home and to remove the feeling of isolation which has been so great a barrier to the bringing up of a family far from the centers of population and business. With the telephone at hand, a buggy in the barn, mail delivered at the door and a bicycle, perhaps, for an occasional spin, there ought to be a way to solve the ever-present problem of how to keep the boys and girls on the farm.

EAT AND HEAT.

The Kind of Food to Avoid in the Summer Time.

All foods are productive of energy; all energy evolves heat; therefore, all foods are heat-producing agents. But some are so greatly superior to others in this respect as to merit the name of the heat-producing foods. These are the starches, sugars and fats—animal fats mainly—for those of vegetable origin are most effective, it is asserted, in the work of cleansing the intestinal canal, supplying heat only to a very limited degree. These food products burn or oxidize very readily within as without the body, giving out heat as the result, and being first changed by the wonderful process of digestion as they pass through the alimentary canal before entering the blood. As a matter of course, it follows that starches, sugars and fats should be avoided when the maintenance of high degree of animal heat is undesirable; or, to particularize, that such starchy vegetables as rice, potatoes, etc., are better winter than summer foods; that sweets should not be extensively indulged in during the heated term; that fats should be used even more sparingly and that all these foods should be restored to favour again when colder weather makes a great amount of animal heat a desideratum. If this were always done, if appetite rather than reason were not so often the ruling force in our lives, then undoubtedly our winters would be more comfortable, our summers more endurable. But we too frequently find ourselves unable to break the force of habit, and, therefore, eat crullers and chocolate on a hot summer's day, or a breakfast including fried bacon and corn bread when the mercury is climb-

THE BABY'S PREFENT.

At Ribesville, in France, the Captain of the local fire brigade recently became a happy father. With one accord the brave firemen sacrificed the hirsute adornments which were their glory, to fill a velvet cushion, and this unique gift was duly placed in the baby's cradle, with a diploma of honorary membership of the corps.