VOL. XXIX. NO. 15.

ELLICOTT CITY, MD., SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 1898.

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THE KLOWDIKE TRAILS.

A Comparison of the Various Passes.

THE SKAGUAY ROUTE PREFERRED.

)ur Correspondent Gives His Personal Ez perlence of the Various Trails and Contradicts Certain Stories About Lawless ness at Skaguay.

[From Our Special Correspondent.] SHEEP CAMP, March 19. Just a few words about conditions along the coast and the various trails before we get any farther into the in-

At the outset let me say that the spirit of Ananias is rampant everywhere. It broods over Dyea and Skag-Fort Wrangell. It lurks along the Chil- longer than the Dyea route, and the kat and will soon strike the Taku river. Seattle, Portland and Tacoma can boast | 2 to 20 feet upon it. of some famous Alaskan prevarieators, but their glory fades into insignificance when compared to those that exist in is the most favorable of all for reaching Fort Wrangell, Skagnay and Dyea. There must be something peculiar in frozen Stickeen and cavort through strike the ambitious wayfarer or sojourner, they ruthlessly drive all the instincts of truth from them, though poor fellows are compelled to make statements that would fill a Baron Munchausen with envy. Much of this weeks.

finds its way into print, I am sorry to ray. And thus the public marvels. For instance, at Fort Wrangell you will be solemnly told that it is absolutely impossible to get to Dawson City with any degree of comfort and safety by any other route than that of the Stickeen river. At Skaguay they will assure you that a man must be insane to go to Dyea or Fort Wrangell, while the good people of Dyea are justly indignant at the slanders that come from

At some outlay of muscle, money, would be as through a glass darkly.

GHOST IN A RUINED FACTORY

Her Face Is White as Milk Against Sur

rounding Blackness.

who, on the sharp peaks and corners of a

ruined factory at Le Moyne street and Po-

tomac avenue, dances a skirt dance at mid-

night to tunes set by the wind. That she

does this thing is the averment of the peo-

ple of the district, many of whom say they

This haunted house is now scarcely en-

titled to the latter part of the title, so

men of the vicinity who needed kindling

wood. It was once the location of a pres-

perous paint business, and in those days

there was no haunt. It is since the build-

ing, which was large and partly of brick,

was abandoned by the paint manufactur-

ers that the "white lady" has shown her-

self. She confined herself at first to short

turns in the clese vicinity of midnight.

When the building was whole, she was a

mildly inoffensive "spook." Showing

herself at intervals at windows or passing

through the closed doors, she did nothing

more than scare an occasional policeman.

Her face and clothing are described as

showing milky white against the night's

blackness. She was always distinctly visible, whether she stood in clouded shadow

or in moonlight, and yet those who have

seen her declare that there was no phos-

phorescent or glowing effect about her or

The factory structure was partly demol-

ished a few weeks ago, and now its out-

line, as viewed against the sky, is much

like that of a cluster of spires. It is on

the tips of these sharp projections that the

"white lady" is accustomed to give her

skirt dance. Since this new performance

began there has appeared among the boys

of the district a strong inclination to stay

in of nights. The story of the skirt dance

has spread far and wide, and on a recent

occasion, when it was supposed that some

her clothing.

Chleago Chroniele.

have seen the "white lady."

Of all Chicago's haunts the most distin-

thin to bear much weight. In summer it is 130 miles of about as difficult river navigation as can well be imagined. The 150 miles across country from Glenora to Lake Teslin I know nothing about, but allowing it to be as favorable as the Canadian officials assert the Yukoner has about 220 miles before reaching Lewis river. Operations are practically begun for a railroad contiguous to this route, but cars will not be running upon it this year, all reports to

the contrary notwithstanding. The little hamlet of Fort Wrangell i thriving. I counted 125 buildings that past year, and the town has a rather inoro healthful site than either Skaguay or Dyea. It has a full quota of saloons, hotels and restaurants, but it is never destined to be great.

Dalton, White Pass and Chilkoot. The Dalton trail is good only in summer. While its grades are not severe vay and lingers in the little hamlet of after the first 40 or 50 miles, it is far snow at this season lies anywhere from

Just at the present time and until the snow begins to melt the Skaguay trail the Yukon. Miners are going over the White pass with their outfits every day, the icy winds that whirl down the but before this reaches your readers the snow may be worn away and its diffi-White and Chilkoot passes. When they culties increased several fold. The pass is some 700 or 800 feet lower than the Chilkoot, but the route is several miles farther than the Dyea trail. Horses can they may resist never so hard, and the draw loads to the very summit, but it turn toward the Chilkoot pass in a few

Conditions on the Dyea trail vary a pound. from day to day. Just at present there is a well worn road, but the snow has British flag is flying.

also sinned against.

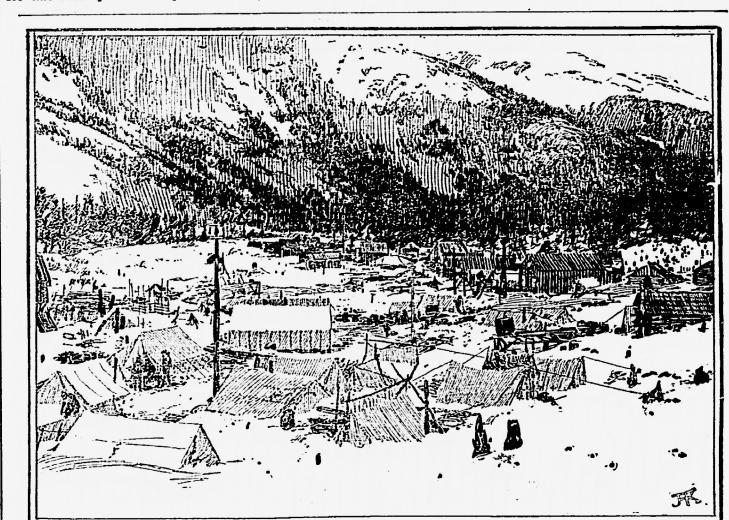
gation. Where the water is rapid the nett, and, moreover, as I am "bound to but the beach is far preferable. ice has already worn away or is too die anyway" if we go to Dawson City.

I took two days and "my life in my hand" and went back to investigate. Skuguay is All Right.

I found less sickness there than would be expected considering that the streets were anywhere from ankle to knee deep in mud and slush and the sanitary conditions about as wretched as it would be possible to imagine. But so far as I could learn there have only been about 17 deaths in town since last September, which is not bad for a mining town of 5,000 people. Nor is there an unusually lawless element in the place. Gambling must have been constructed within the goes on night and day, and an occasional fracas occurs, but the place is as orderly as the general run of towns in so called civilized localities. I saw a notice stuck up warning gamblers and thimbleriggers to leave the place in 24 hours or suffer some dire calamity which was not specified. It bore the signature of "Committee of 101," but I am inclined to think that some irresponsible individual added about 100 to the commit-

To any one who has an idea of coming up to these mining towns for the purpose of engaging in any mercantile business let me give Punch's advice, "Don't!" Everything is overdone. So far as I can learn there is a scarcity of nothing under the sun to eat, drink or wear. Skaguay has three newspapers, one of them a daily, from 50 to 75 saloons, three or four theaters, restaurants at every hand, professional men galore and hotels ad lib. I got as good a dinner there for 50 cents as would be served is inevitable that the tide of travel will in New York, Boston or Chicago for the same money, and a man offered to sell me a forequarter of lamb for 9 cents

Dyea is about half the size of Skaworn off in places, exposing the rocks. | guay. In many respects it is more at-Prices for moving freight along the Dyea tractive than its neighbor down the trail vary from day to day. The charges canal. It has fewer saloons and gamat present are 2 cents a pound from bling houses to the square foot and Dyea to Sheep Camp, 3 cents from seems more sedate and respectable. Per-Sheep Camp to the Scales and 3 cents haps this may be due in part to the from the Scales to the summit, where the presence of a detachment of United States treops on the borders of the But, if the gateways to the Klondike town. At all events, everything is quiet the wicked towns farther down the sin by bearing false witness against and orderly there. Miners and others their neighbors, in divers ways they are who contemplate a trip into the interior by the way of Dyea should not have For instance, a man arrived at Sheep | their baggage or outfits marked "Dyea shoe leather, patience and time I have | Camp from the States the other day | Wharf," as they will be advised to do made rather an exhaustive investigation | who said that the reports in the press | by interested parties before they take of the various routes into the interior. | concerning Skaguay were so startling | the steamer. Let it be marked simply I have taken no man's word, for that | that he did not venture into the town. | "Dyea, Alaska." The wharf is about He showed me a newspaper clipping three miles below Dyea town. Commu-While at Fort Wrangell about ten wherein it was stated that people were nication between the two places is by days ago I went up the Stickeen river dying there like sheep. They were taken the way of a private road which was in a boat about two miles, or as far as with a disease somewhat resembling constructed at considerable expense. it was open. The ice above, which in cerebro spinal meningitis, "turn black The cost of taking passengers and places was piled 50 feet high, was cov- and die in a few hours. There are 16 freight from the wharf to the townered by about two feet of snow, and bodies now awaiting burial," continued and all must pass through the town some who had attempted to make the this alleged reliable authority, and then who are going over the trail—is heavy. trip were giving it up disheartened. | followed startling reports of murders | Goods billed simply to Dyea are left on The ice in the river usually breaks up and outlawry. As it costs little or noth- the beach about a half mile from the about the 1st of May, and for a time, or ing to get from Sheep Camp back to town, over a fairly passable stretch of until swollen by spring rains or melt- Skaguay, and as we are not quite ready sand. The conditions are inconvenient ing snows, the water is too low for navi- to pack over the summit to Lake Ben- enough no matter which course is taken,



SHEEP CAMP. ALASKA.

Names of English Magazines. Not a few magazines bear the name of the publisher. This is a neat way out of the difficulty, but it is quite unenlighten-

ing. An acquaintance with the personal guished by far is the woman in white idiosyncrasies of Messrs. Cassell, Chambers, Longman, Macmillan and Pearson would be of little service to an investigator of the periodicals of which these publishers are the patron saints. Of late years the fashion has grown of laying claim to some street or district of London. So we have publications, daily, weekly or monthly, named after Belgravia, Cornhill, Ludgate Hill, Pall Mall, St. James, the thoroughly has it been pulled to pieces by Strand, the Temple, Temple Bar, Westminster and Whitehall. The only predictions that one would have ventured to make would have been that the Cornhill would deal with finance and that there would be a legal flavor about the Temple. These forecasts, however, would have been as unfortunate as the expectation that there would be an especially courtly tone

about the Windsor .- Academy. Was Sure of Office. "I reckon," said the veteran colored vot er, "dat in all de 'leckshuns ter come in dis country I'll play a mighty prominent

"Why so?" age, en takin do boys one by one dey's 16 er 'em, all ready ter vote, en wid constitutions dat kin stan all de votin you kin put on 'em! Yes, suh, I'm gwine ter bo somepin mo' dan a figgerhead in do nex' votin time!"-Atlanta Constitution.

"Money Talks" Explained. "I wonder," said the student boarder, "whence came the expression 'Money "I think it originated in Athens," said

Asbury Peppers. "Athens? When?" "When it became known that Demosone had been hurt by the full of some of (thenes learned oratory by filling his mouth

the greatest difficulty that policemen could be induced to go about the structure. The A Remedy. dancer is attired in a knee long skirt of the accordion kind, and the way in which deal on my hands just now." don't you try a little soap and water?"- | she had been a dancer, and a good dan-

THE ACTRESS IN LOVE. An Ophelia Who Really Fell In Love

With Her Young Hamlet. It is interesting to read the amusing and the entertaining anecdotes of famous plays given in that new volume of Shakespearean history and gossip, "Shakespeare's Hero-ines on the Stage." One of the stories of romance is as follows: "There was a pretty picture at the little theater in Lincoln's Inn Fields on the cold

December night of 1661, when charming Mistress Saunderson, as Ophelia, expresse her love in earnest to the ambitious young Hamlet of the night, the elequent Better ton. She was beautiful and she was pure; he was handsome and he was upright. We may be sure their mutual adoration was not forgotten in the talk of the pit between the acts as the orange girls ran hither and thither to receive with a smile the tappings under the chin while their wares were bought and as the fine ladies in the boxes welcomed the amorous glances of ardent swains around them. "Miss Saunderson, through Davenant,

had received the traditions of Ophelia's impersonation by the boy actresses before the revolution, but never before her day had a woman essayed the role. The absurdity of masculine actresses, even if a common and accepted sight, must some-"Well, you see, hit's dis way: De very las' member er my fambly done come er times have caused a gay laugh when odd situations were created. Imagine, if possible, merry Charles II keeping a sober face when, after he had become impatient over the delay in beginning 'Hamlet' and had sent the Earl of Rochester behind the scenes to ascertain the reason, he was soleninly informed that the 'queen was no auito shaved."

"'Oddsfish!' cried the king, appreciat ing the point. 'I beg her majesty's par-don. We'll wait till her barber has done with her.' "As this first Hamlet after the restore

tion really loved his Ophelia, so the second great Hamlet, Barton Booth, appeared with an Ophelia whose winning behavior made him a slave to love and whose wise conduct broke him from the slavery of Bacchus. A beautiful woman was Mrs. Booth, according to the discriminating "Yes," said Quiggles, "I have a good | verdict of the younger Cibber; levely in countenance, delicate in form, and, more-"So I perceive," replied Fogg. "Why over, pleasing as an actress. In early life

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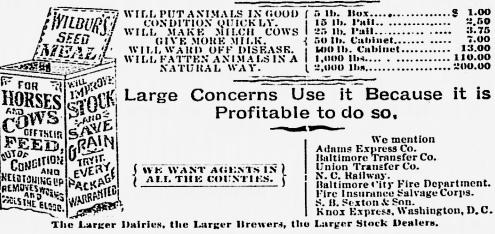
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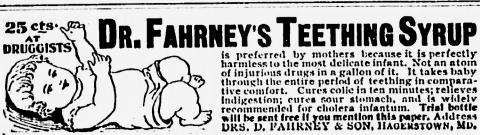
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