THE GOLD CRAZE.

EFFECTS OF THE DISCOVERY ON THE PACIFIC COAST.

now People Poured Into California - Perits and Hardships of the Klondike Region-But Rich Stores of Gold Are Held Fast in a Frozen Embrace.

Special San Francisco Letter. The gold craze has been with humanity from time immemorial. Periedically the report of some new discovery of the precious metal has caused the wildest excitement and the scramble to get rich quickly has been productive of many such sensations as that created by reports from Klondike

The hardships endured by gold seek-ing ploneers have also been an important factor in the opening up and civilization of hitherto comparatively unknown regions of the globe. To gold, the entire Pacific coast owes its present prosperity. The existence of gold had long been known in California, and washings had been carried on in the southern part near the Sa Fernanda Mission, as early as 1841. No diecovery had been made, however, which attracted much attention or



The Regulation Winter Costume of the Yukon Country.

caused excitement previous to the occupation of the country by the Americans. A piece of native gold was picked up in an excavation made for a millrace on the south fork of the American river, at a place now called Colona. By the end of December, 1848, washings for gold had been going on all along the foothills of the Sierra from the Tuolunne river to the Feather, a distance of 150 miles.

The first adventurers came from Mexico, the South American coast and even from the Sandwich Islands. The excitement eventually spread east and in the spring of 1849 the rush of emigration across the plains and by way of the Isthmus of Panama commenced. It was estimated that 100,000 men reached California during that year, including representatives of every State of the Union. The emigration to the land of gold continued with but little abatement for three years, but the excitement fell off in a marked degree in 1854.

Many people who have been in Alanka are now dazzled by the reports from there, and one man who has lived there and whose business interests have brought him in touch with the mining region recently opened, when asked by would-be prospector how to go to the gold fields, gave the laconic, if not original answer, "Don't." According to the man's story, the camp is owned by a syndicate, and has been staked out to such an extent that most of the property which might yield gold is in its possession, and the people who work there will be working primarily for this syndicate, and not for them-"The great mistake that is made by people contemplating a trip to Alaska," he said, "is that they are anacquainted with the distance of the mining camp from that part of Alaska which is in the beaten track. Thousands of tourists have gone to Alaska in recent years, and they are unacquainted with the condition of the country in which these gold fields have been found because the point at which they landed was hundreds of miles removed from the alleged gold fields. This will be demonstrated to the men who took passage last week. Those who go now cannot, by any possible way, reach the Klondike region before September 20. The steamer stops at the mouth of the Yukon river, at St. Michael's Island, and there the responsability of the carrier stops. From that point the man who is looking for gold has to travel hundreds of miles up the river, through fields, over carries and tralls, and all along the road he will find toll gates, which have been erected by the syndicate, where toll must be paid and where baggage is closely scrutinized to see that no provisions are being taken into the

No man would travel along these trails without a guide, and the Indians who aid in this capacity charge enormous fees for their services. But even after a man has overcome the difficulties of the trip, he will find himself beset with obstacles greater than encountered by miners in any of the gold delds that have yet been discovered. The winter season begins about Sep-tember first and lasts eight months, the average temperature being for most of that time 58 degrees below tero. After that long season is over there are two months of spring, during which time the prospective miner may make ready for work by staking out his claim. or getting things to "rights" and then comes the working beason, which is only two months. During the eight months of positive idleness he has been maintained by the syndicate, to which he paid \$400 on entering the camp for one year's teep and the average man, with only a little money in his pocket to begin Susiness with when the summer season comes, usually tries to make the sum larger by gambling. It is safe to believe that when the eight months of inforced idleness are over and the ten of those who go to the gold fields, with a little fund, will have enough money to buy a pick and shovel if they

mould not have one. Their only rem-

country, because selling provisions is

the perrogative of this syndicate.

edy then is to walk back, or else engage as workmen for the large cor-

In South America, in Africa or in various districts of the United States where gold has been discovered men have had the opportunity when they failed to find gold, of going to farming or making a living in many ways, but in the Alaskan country there is absolutely nothing to be doing two-thirds of the year, and to return would be an impossibility in the winter time, because the snows wipe out and obliterate every vestige of the trails that lead

along the Yukon river.

The mines may yield \$150,000,000,
like the Aulder Gulch, in Montana, but that money went to thousands of people, while this would go to the syndi-cate, or those who bought land from them. There are mistaken notions, also, as to staking out claims in that country. A man has a right to claim one hundred feet square, and he may stake out a piece of that size on any creek, but he is entitled to no more, and if he finds no gold on any of his claims of that size, and wishes to work further, he will be compelled to buy from the syndicate, which has land laid aside for that especial purpose, One of the leading mining men of this country, a man whose name is familiar all over the land, in speaking of the

gold fever, said:
"Men will go to hell for gold, no matter whether it is discovered at the north or south pole or at the equator. Torrid heat and frigid cold cause the searcher for gold has but little fear, and of the thousands who are hastening to Alaska it can only be predicted that a large percentage of them will meet with disaster. When new mines are discovered the prospector who makes the discovery seldom realizes on his find. Thousands rush in, claims are taken up by adventurers, who buy, sell and barter, and the claims are finally absorbed by companies of men who furnish the cpaital for the proper working of the mines, while the prospector or mining pioneer starts on new tours to unknown regions for the purpose of fiding richer claims than the one he has left behind. Now, in the Alaska region it makes no difference on which side of the boundary line the gold is discovered, the Yukon is the only channel through which the products of the mines in the Clondike region can find access to civilization. The benefits that will be derived from the Ciondike or Yukon gold discovery are almost certain to help this country. The pathway to the mines is open for three months in the year, and for the other nine months the mines are ,a closed book to the investors who have furnished the capital for expeditions to that region. A high mountain range that is practically impassable throughout the year prevents an overland route to the gold pockets at Clondike. You can readily perceive that for every ounce of gold taken from the Clondike region there will be far more suffering than in any effort made in the early days to develop the gold raines in this country."

Speculation is already the ruling idea of Dawson City. A purchaser inspects a claim that he thinks he would like to buy, and he offers just what he thinks it is worth. There is no skirmishing over figures, the man either accepts or refuses and that is the end of it. With this claim goes the season's work. By that I mean the great pile of earth that may contain thousands or may not be worth the expense necessary to run it through the sluice. That is a chance one must take, however, and very few have lost anything by it this season.

In the whole Klondike region there is not a single claim that has not paid handsomely, and there are still hundreds of claims that have not been worked. In testing a claim the pros-



Climbing One of the Passes on the Way.

pector sinks a hole, say fifteen feet, and then tries a pan of dirt. If the pay streaks have been reached he sete to work in earnest to gather in more of the precious metal. The process consists in making a fire around the entire circle, allowing it to burn through the night. The next morning there is enough lose dirt around it to keep a squad of men busy throughout the day. Men have been known to dust in a day as many as 250 buckets of soil each weighing 250 pounds. This dirt is not disturbed until spring, when it is washed out, and when a man buys a claim he buys the dump also, but he takes his own chances on the latter.

It may be said with absolute truth that Dawson City is one of the most moral towns of its kind in the world. There is little or no quarreling and no brawls of any kind though there is considerable drinking and gambling going on. Every man carries a pistol if he wishes to, yet it is a rare oucurrence when one is displayed. The principle sport with the mining men is found around the gambling table. There they gather after nightfall and play until late hours in the morning. They have some big games, too, sometimes costing as much as \$50 to draw a card. A game of \$2,000 as the stakes is an ordinary event. But with all of that there has not been any

decided trouble. Many people have an idea that Dawson City is completely isolated, and can communicate with the outside world only once in every twelve months, that is a big mistake, however, Circle City only a few miles away, has a mail once each month, and there we have our mail addressed. It is true the cost is pretty high-o doilar a letter and \$2 a paper, yet by the expenditures of money we are abito keep in direct communication with our friends on the outside.

A DANGEROUS RISK.

A Scorcher is Safer These Days Than the

Man Who Walks. It seemed as if everything was settied. The insurance company's physi-sun had reported that the man was not likely to topple over at prayer meeting or to die of laughter in a theatre, and the man himself had certifled that he was not engaged in any occupation that took him in the vicinity of dynamite or other high explo-

"So far as business is concerned," he said, "my life is a very quiet and sedentary one. It is office work and there is no danger or excitement connected with it."

"Very good," returned the insurance company official, who was putting the finishing touches to the examination before issuing a policy; "but how about sports? Men who lead the quietest business lives frequently engage in the most dangerous sports, and of course anything like that counts,"

the line of sports," returned the applicant for a policy. "Never play football, I suppose," sug-

"I care very little for anything in

gested the official.
"Never," answered the applicant promptly. "I would as soon think of

joining a circus." "I should say not." "Box a little now and then, don't

"If you ever hear of me putting on the gloves with anyone you can can-cel my policy," returned the applicant with emphasis.

"Don't belong to any athletic club?" "Not one." "Ever ride in bicycle races?"

Ever do any scorching?" "No, I don't ride the bicycle at all." "Don't ride the bicycle at all!" ex-claimed the insurance official. "What do you do for exercise?"
"Walk."

"Risk refused," said the official with decision. "A scorcher or a bicycle racer is a dangerous risk, but he isn't a circumstance to the man who dares to venture abroad on foot these days. I am surprised you have lived so long." -Chicago Post.

The other day a tall, gaunt stranger

about in his pockets. "Got a letter of introduction to you

hyarabout, some'ere," he said.
"Had the darndest time findin' you," he continued. "Got into town yester-day afternoon and last night I started out to look you up, I thought, probably the folks at the telegraph office would know you. But they didn't. And the hotel folks didn't know you, nuther. Then I went to a newspaper shop and they sent me over here."

By this time the visitor had found

the missing letter of introduction. It was written with a lead pencil in a schoolboy's hand and the spelling was decidedly phonetic. Opic scrutinized

the signature closely.

"John Scruggins," he said, musuingly.

"John Scruggins, I don't recall Mr. Struggins."

"That's my boy," said the visitor, roudly. "He's been to school in Little proudly. Rock all winter, and so when I got ready a while ago to come to Chicago I told him to write me a letter of intriduction to you, and he did it. What's the matter with the letter? Ain't it writ all right?"

"Oh, yes, it's all right," said the novelist. And it was; for the mon from Arkansas spent a pleasant afternoon at the club.-Chicago Times-Herald.

Let Well Alone.

We have all met people whose pride in their own possession is so great that they can see no harm in those of

A young botanist was showing a party of ladies and gentlemen through a conservatory and explaining to them the properties of some of the choicest

Among the visitors was a would-be young looking middle aged lady who at every description volunteered the statement that the plants and flowers she had at home were quite equal to any-thing exhibited here, or, indeed, anywhere. Just as they were passing a giant catcus, she was heard to exclaim: Well, this is nothing extraordinary. I have a catcus at home that is still larger. I planted and reared it my-

gently observed. "How remarkable. This specimen is sixty-three years old, and if yours is still larger-

'Reared it yourself!" the botanist

The lady did not stay to hear any more, but executed a stategic movement to the rear.

From His Point of View. "Of course," he said, "ef Sairy's mind s sot, we'll have to git her a bicycle, but durn me-

He paused and scowled angrily. ef I see the use of payin' nundred dollars jest fer an excuse fer wearin' pants."-Chicago Post,

A Serious Oue. Citizen (offering bonds)-I own a sixstory flat house in Harlem. Magistrate-That's all right. Any

Citizen-Well, there's the janitor .-Buck.

Not the same Thing. "Oh, don't get blue, Hicks. Life is full of ups and downs. I've heard you say so many a time yourself." "That's true enough, but mine are all hard ups and cast downs," sighed Hicks.-Harper's Bazar.

"They say crude oll is becoming exnausted. "Good! Now we shall be spared the infliction of so many crude oil paint-

ings."-Chicago Record. Bankruptey and Fallure. "Well, old man, I hope you won't and marriage a failure." "I sincerely hope not. For the courtship came near bankrupting me."

-Truth. The Outlook Bad. He—I fear the worst. She—What's happened, George? "Your father has paid back that \$10 as borrowed."—Life.

NOTICE IN PARTITION. Estate of Lavina Stout, deceased.

To Fanny, intermarried with Jacob Rider, Shickshiney, ra.; mahala, intermarried with James Shuitz, Briarcreek township, Columbia county, Pa.; guardian c Ralph Fenstamaker, minor child of Dora Fensta

county, Pa.;

Raiph Fenstamaker, minor child of Dora Fenstamaker, deceased; A. E. Fenstamaker, Briarcreek township aforesaid: Sarah stout, sometimes exiled Lula Evans, New York City; Effic Stout, New York City, and Ellis Stout, Briarcreek township, Columbia county, Pa.

You are hereby notified that in pursuance of an order of the Orphans' Court of Columbia county, a writ of partition has issued from said Court to the Sheriff of said county, returnable on the fourth Monday of September, A. D. 1897, and that the inquest will meet for the purpose of making partition of the real estate of said decedent on the premises in Briarcreek township, Columbia county, Pa., on Saturday, September 4th, 1897, at 10 o'clock a. m., at which time and place you can attend if you see proper.

J. B. McHENKY,

Sheriff.

SALE OF REAL ESTATE.

SALE OF REAL ESTATE.

O. D. McHenry vs. George W. Koons.
In the Court of Common Pleas of Columbia County. In Equity. No 1 of Feby Term 1897.
By virtue of an order of the Court of Common Pleas of Columbia County, the undersigned will expose to sale at public auction on Saturday the 4th, day of September 1897, at ten o'clock a. m. at the Court House in Bloomsburg Penn.
—All that certain tract, plece or parcel of land situate it the township of Briarcreek din Shickshinny valley). Columbia County, Pennsylvania.—bounded and described as follows, to wit: Beginning at a stone in line of land of Alex. Cochran, thence north 6 and 14 degrees west 195 perches to a stone, thence south 84 degrees West 21 perches to a chestnut tree, thence South 84 degrees West 21 perches to a stone, thence South 5 degrees East 51 perches to a chestnut tree, thence South 84 degrees East 51 perches to a stone, thence north 84 degrees East 51 perches to a stone, thence north 84 degrees East 51 perches to a stone, thence north 84 degrees East 51 perches to a stone, thence north 84 degrees East 51 perches to a stone, thence north 84 degrees East 51 perches to a stone, thence north 84 degrees East 51 perches to a stone, thence north 84 degrees East 51 perches to a stone, thence north 84 degrees East 51 perches to a stone, thence north 84 degrees East 51 perches to a stone, thence north 84 degrees East 51 perches to a stone, thence north 84 degrees East 51 perches to a stone, thence north 84 degrees East 51 perches to a stone, thence north 84 degrees East 51 perches to a stone, thence north 84 degrees East 51 perches to a stone, thence north 84 degrees East 51 perches to a stone thence north 84 degrees East 51 perches to a stone thence north 84 degrees East 51 perches to a stone thence north 84 degrees East 51 perches to a stone thence north 84 degrees East 51 perches to a stone thence north 84 degrees East 51 perches to a stone thence north 84 degrees East 51 perches 50 perches 50

SHERIFF'S SALE.

By virtue of a writ of Fi. Fa., issued out of the Court of Common Pleas of Columbia county, Pennsylvania, and to me directed, there will be exposed to public sale of the Court House in Bloomsburg, Pa., on

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 1897, at two o'clock p. m., all the following described real estate, situate in Briarcreek township, Columbia county and State of Pennsylvania, bounded and described as follows, to-wit: the north by William Schuyler's land, on the east by land of C. A. Lamon, on the south by from Arkansas cornered Opic Read at land of Geo. M. Bower and on the west by Jand the Press Club. He began fishing of H. J. Edwards and William Hippensteel, con-

25 ACRES OF LAND, more or less, whereon is erected a

FRAME DWELLING HOUSE, stable and outbuildings.

Seized, taken into execution at the suit of Emma G. Jackson, now to use of Henry J. Bd-wards, vs. Anna M. Sitler Lynn, and to be sold as the property of Anna M. Stiler Lynn. J. B. MCHENRY.

Evans, Atty.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

By virtue of a writ of Leva-1 Factas, Issued out of the Court of Common Pleas of Columbia county, Pa., and to me dire ited, there will be exposed to public sale at the Court House in Hoomsburg, on

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 1897, at two o'clock p. m., all that certain lot or parcel of land situate in the township of Jackson Columbia county and state of Pennsylvania bounded and described as follows, to-wit : Be ginning at a chestnut thence by lands of Elias Mendenhail north twenty-three degrees east one hundred and five perches and four-tenths to a post, thence south seventy-three and one half degrees east seventeen and two-tenths perches to a post, thence north twenty-three degrees east thirty-six and one-tenth perches

to a post, thence by land of south seventy-three and one-half degrees east ninety-four and seven-tenths perches to a postthence by land of William Brink south seventeen degrees west one hundred and forty and one-half perches to a post, thence by land of Iram Derr north seventy-three and one-half degrees west one hundred and twenty-seven and two-tenths perches to the place of beginning

ONE HUNDRED ACRES, strict measure be the same more or less, where on are erected a

FRAME DWELLING HOUSE, barn and outbuildings, it being a part of a larger tract in the warrantee name of Harman Gear hart and formerly owned by the Assylum Com-

pany and conveyed to divers other persons until the 12th day of March, 1873, when the same was conveyed to Albert Williams, recorded in the office for the recording of deeds of columbia county in Deed Book No. 28, pages No. 344 &c. and Albert Williams and Alice, his wife, conveyed to Joshua Bidler, and Joshua Bidler conveyed to Franklin Bidler, and Franklin Bidler onveyed to John M. Hartman. Seized, taken into execution at the suit of Franklin Bidler vs. John M. Hartman and Lizzie

Hartman and to be sold as the property of John M. Hartman and Lizzie Hartman J. B. McHENRY. Quick, Atty. Sheriff.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE.

Estate of Clinton W. Lewis, late of Jackson Township Dec'd.

The undersigned auditor appointed by the Orpnans' Court to pass upon exceptions and to make distribution of the balance remaining in the hands of M. K. Stackhouse, accountant of the said estate, hereby gives notice that he will meet all parties interested for the purpose of his appointment, at his office in Bloomsburg, Pa., on Thursday Seprember 9th A. D. 1897 at 9 o'clock A. M., when and where said parties are required to prove their claims or be forever debarred from participating in the distribution of said fund.

W. A. EVERT, W. A. EVERT, 8-12-ta.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE Estate of Sallie Johnson and Eliza Fruit

The undersigned auditor appointed by the Orphinis' Court of Columbia county to make distribution of the money arising from the sale of real estate of salite Johnson and Ritas Frujt under proceedings in partition, by J. R. McHenry, trustee, to and among the parties entitled thereto, will sit at his office in the town of Bloomsburg on Wednesday, September 1st, 1887, at 10 o'clock a. m., o perform the duties of his appointment, when and where all persons interested must appear and present their claims.

L. E. WALLER,

ADMINISTRATRIX NOTICE. Estale of Lloyd Keichner, tate of Montour town-ship, deceased.

Ship, deceased.

Notice is hereby given that letters of administration on the estate of Lloyd Keichner, late of Montour township, deveased, have been granted to the underrigned administratriz to schom all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payments, and all those having claims or demands will make known the same without delay to

CATHARINK E. KELCHNER,

Snyder,

Alty.

7-29-34*

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