

NO MORE HARDSHIPS IN ALASKA TRAVEL

C. W. Fulton Talks in an Interesting Way
About His Trip to That Far-Away Part
of Uncle Sam's Domain---The
Great Cities of the West.

C. W. Fulton, who has just returned from a trip to Alaska, is one of the most interesting men to be met with just now. He was not content to merely "have a look" at things encountered on his journey, but took the time and trouble to stop, look and listen, whenever he came across anything worth while. This, coupled with the fact that he can tell a story interestingly, makes a couple of hours of his company just now a pleasurable and profitable period.

He went out by way of the Lackawanna and the Lake Shore to Chicago and on the Burlington from Chicago to Denver, thence to Seattle on the Union Pacific and Northern Pacific, from Seattle to Skagway by the Pacific Coast Steamship company's line, and from Skagway to White Horse, on the Yukon river, by way of the new one hundred and eleven mile railroad over White Pass. Returning from Seattle, he swung down to Salt Lake and enjoyed the ride over the Denver and Rio Grande, one of the most picturesque railroad routes in the world. Returning from Denver to Scranton via the Burlington and the Pennsylvania. Making a total trip of 10,000 miles over the best managed roads in the country without the slightest accident. On the way out, he stopped for six days at Yellowstone park, and also spent several days along the Columbia river in Oregon. The entire journey of about 10,000 miles was made with as much comfort as one can possibly enjoy going from Scranton to New York. His journey was practically a "round trip" straightaway trip through the United States territory. It made Mr. Fulton realize, he says, that these United States are somewhat of a broad sort of place.

Things That Impressed Him.

The stage trip through Yellowstone Park, the glaciers of Alaska and the Royal Gorge on the Rio Grande were the three things that impressed him most, but there was scarcely a thing covered but what revealed something tending to prove the oft-repeated assertion that American travelers need not go abroad to find interesting sights.

Mr. Fulton was very much pleased with the six-day stage trip through the Yellowstone Park, with its geysers, canyons and beautifully-colored rock formations. The grand canyon, three miles long, a mile wide and 2,000 feet deep, with its walls of solid rock of every color of the rainbow, was a truly inspiring sight.

All the animals and birds of the park, bear, deer, buffalo, elk, wild geese and the like have become so tame, by reason of the prohibition against molesting them, that they are perfectly tame. Bear came to the bank yards of the hotels for their meals quite as regularly as do the guests to the dining room. Deer and geese feeding at the wayside were not disturbed by the passage of the tourists' wagons.

The story told by the railroad guide books and repeated by travelers to the effect that trout can be caught in the Yellowstone lake and cooked in a hot water geyser within the length of a fishing rod from the lake shore, is vouched for by Mr. Fulton. A trout, after being reared in the geyser, was taken from the hot water pool, and in three minutes was ready for the table. It himself held the watch.

Progressive Cities.

The extreme northwestern states have many interesting and progressive cities. Mr. Fulton says, Butte, Mont., for instance, is novel for a total want of trees or shrubbery of any kind, the poisonous gases from the smelters being fatal to nearly every form of vegetation. Spokane is noted for its fine residences, being the home of many retired mine owners. Seattle seems to be the most progressive city on the Pacific coast and has a great future. It gets most of the shipping business to Alaska.

Tacoma, Portland and other cities on the sound are doing an immense business in grain and lumber. Steel ships, bound for all parts of the Orient, are among the most interesting sights of the water front.

The kind of timber produced in this country is best illustrated by an incident coming under Mr. Fulton's personal observation. While at Vancouver, B. C., a reception to the Duke and Duchess of York was given at the Vancouver National park. The park commissioner drove out to meet the royal party and near the gate backed his wagon a team into the hollow trunk of a tree to wait their coming. The duke had his photographer take a picture of the sight.

The trip from Seattle to Skagway is made almost wholly on a land-locked sea. For six hours of the voyage only, is the ship affected by the roll of the ocean. This is due to the fact that two-thirds of the distance is covered by sea-sickness than there is on a trip to Coney Island from New York.

Like a Great Long Bay.

It is like sailing in a great, long bay filled with islands. An interesting feature of the navigation on this route is that the pilots make use of the echo and the shadow of the coast range of mountains, on very dark nights to keep them on the proper course. To make use of the echo the gong is blown and the time that elapses before the echo returns can be used in an accurate calculation of the distance from shore.

The Treadwell gold mines at Juneau, Mr. Fulton says, is one of the wealthiest properties in the world. The quartz is quarried after the manner of quarrying stone on the West Mountain. Douglas Island, where the mine is located, is a mountain of gold, and the Treadwell company owns it all. It is ten miles long, from two to three miles wide and half a mile high. The lead vein, now being worked, is 900 feet across and the mines are not a low as so great that the mill employees can communicate with one another only by signs. A gold brick containing \$25,000 worth of precious yellow was exhibited to Mr. Fulton as a part of one day's run.

Salmon fishing is becoming a live industry of the Alaskan coast. So plentiful are the fish that white salmon



MAKING CHIEFS OF THE HAWKIN, ALASKA.

for an hour and a half. The whale was vanquished.

On a Glacier.

Mr. Fulton spent three hours on a glacier half a mile wide, 500 feet deep, and no one knows how long. The ice is of a very dark blue and has many beautiful formations. It moves 65 inches a day and empties into Glacier bay, that is large pieces break off with the noise of heavy cannoning and go sailing to the south to be eventually melted by the sun and the Japan current.

The railroad from Skagway to White Horse, is one of the most wonderful pieces of engineering in the world, Mr. Fulton says. From sea level at Skagway to the summit of White Pass is only twenty miles, but the railway in that distance reaches an altitude of 2,000 feet. On the other side of the mountain the sea is 2,000 miles away.

The fare on this road for one way is \$20 for the one hundred and eleven miles. Mr. Fulton's cousin, Alfred Williams, is chief engineer of the road. Mr. Fulton got a pass. It's a good road to have free transportation over.

On the return trip, Mr. Fulton counted the passengers. There were two hundred of them. Each, supposedly, paid \$20 fare, making \$4,000 for the run of 111 miles. The superintendent of the road stated that the company figures on a freight car loaded with mixed merchandise to earn \$1,800 a trip. Nine cars are run in each train.

The completion of this road tilted the town of Dyea, which was the original gateway to the Klondike. The people not only left their houses, but also their household furniture. The cost of transportation was so great that it was still necessary to take along everything bulky. There are dishes still lying on tables in the deserted houses of Dyea. The town has not a single inhabitant and is visited only occasionally by some wandering Indian.

Potatoes Expensive.

The captain of the steamer told Mr. Fulton that in the spring of 1898 he was imported to sell some of his provisions to a party of Klondikers, who had been living on canned goods all winter. He agreed to dispose of a bushel of potatoes and a crate of oranges. He was offered and accepted fifty cents apiece for them, and the potatoes were gone first.

In the same spring, an enterprising man took seven tons of potatoes to the Klondike and sold them for a dollar a bushel. On the ship with Mr. Fulton was a woman who was taking 20 live chickens to Dawson. She bought them for 25 cents apiece in Seattle, paid \$1.50 freight to Skagway, and \$25 for freight over the White Pass and \$20 for having them carried down the Yukon to Dawson. The average price of eggs is \$2 a dozen in Dawson. This woman paid \$30 for two windows, sashes and glass at Skagway. The freight on them was \$2.50.

A slight sight in Skagway is the cemetery, with its hundreds of graves of victims of the White Pass, before the railroad was built. Hundreds of other victims still lie in the snow, where they fell exhausted from starvation and cold.

Contrary to the general impression, the region about Dawson grows some very fine vegetables. The summer is only three months long, but the sun shines continually during these three months, and the growth of vegetation is very rapid. Base ball is played at midnight and photographs can be taken any hour of the day or night.

Refrigerators Unnecessary.

No refrigerators are needed in Dawson. The town is built on a glacial formation and in the summer, thus, when it is desired to preserve provisions by refrigeration, it is only necessary to place them in a hole cut in the ground. In the placer diggings, frost is still encountered, although some of the excavations have reached a depth of 150 feet. The ground has to be thawed before any digging can be done. Perforated bare pipes, three or four feet in length are sunk into the ground at short intervals and to the top of them is attached hose, carrying steam. One day the ground is thawed and the next day powerful streams from force pipes washes it into the sluiceways.

The Indians of Alaska, Mr. Fulton was surprised to learn, are not a low, indolent people, as many supposed. Most of them are fairly well-to-do, and many of them have made big fortunes. Dawson Charley, the Indian who discovered gold at Dawson, has a winter home in California, and his children are sent to the states to school. He has a white governess for his five-year-old daughter, and pays her \$100 a week.

His eldest daughter is married to a white man. Her father gave her a \$40,000 dowry.

The common currency of the whole Alaskan country is gold dust or nuggets, according to the character of the mining of the locality. Every store has scales for weighing the metal. It brings from \$15 to \$16 an ounce, according to its fineness. An ounce of gold worth \$15 will buy a dollar's worth less of goods than can be bought for cash. Mr. Fulton saw a thirty-nine ounce nugget of gold at one of the stores in White Horse.

Salmon Industry.

The salmon industry on the Alaskan coast is quite extensive, Mr. Fulton says, but it is small as compared with that of the Columbia river. The catches this year on the Columbia are so heavy that canners are refusing them at any price. Oregon is a heavily wooded state and has copious rains. This year it has excessively heavy precipitation. As a consequence, the river has a flood and its fresh water has been forced far out into the ocean. The salmon set a taste of the fresh water and follow it into the mouth of the river and then up the stream. The schools are so thick that it is possible to catch the fish by

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DUNMORE DOINGS

WAS THE FIRE OF INCENDIARY ORIGIN.

Fire Officials Believe That It Was and Have Caused the Arrest of the Wife and Mother of Moniza and Also of Joseph Calford a Boarder in the Place—This Is the Place in Which Officer Golden Was Shot Two Years Ago.

As a result of the investigations made into the origin of the fire on Thursday morning at the Moniza hotel on Chestnut street, the wife and mother of the proprietor and a boarder, Joseph Calford, were last night committed to jail by Burgess Burschell, charged with arson.

This is the same place in which Officer Thomas Golden was shot about two years ago by Tony Longo, who was never apprehended.

The fire occurred about 5 o'clock on Thursday morning, but was extinguished without much damage being done. When acting chief, L. P. Wert, looked the premises over, he found every evidence of incendiaryism. The carpet in one room had been set on fire in a dozen places and had been plentifully saturated with kerosene. In other rooms the bedding was found in the same condition. The proprietor was not in the house at the time, having spent the day previous in Pittston.

Evidence was given as to the condition of the premises by L. P. Wert, William Beckman, John Schultz and J. O'Neill.

The defendants denied the charge and attempted to explain the presence of the oil by saying it on the dog as it was, saying that the dog must have tipped over the lamp, but unfortunately the firemen found no lamp when they looked over the place in their search for the cause.

Burgess Burschell allowed the two women to go under \$2,000 bail, furnished by Vito Gerardo until 10 o'clock today when they will be committed to the county jail.

A sad feature of the case is that Mrs. Moniza has an infant child that will be motherless during her confinement in jail.

Christmas Exercises.

The Christmas exercises of the Presbyterian Sunday school were held last night and were highly attended. The church had been attractively decorated for the occasion and presented a very pretty appearance. An attractive musical programme was rendered which had been carefully prepared under the leadership of choristmaster Perry, who unfortunately was unable to be present last night on account of illness.

A specially enjoyable feature of the exercises was the work of the boys' orchestra which has many times been a pleasing feature of musical affairs hereabouts.

First Methodist Episcopal church, Rev. Charles Henry Newing, pastor. Services at 10:30 and 7:30 p. m. Sunday will be our third quarterly meeting, love feast, 9:30 and communion at the morning service. Sunday school at 10:30 a. m. evening prayer service, at 8:30 o'clock. The pastor will preach in the evening, subject: "Responsibility of Knowledge." Tuesday evening will be our watch-night service, commencing at 8:30 o'clock. This service will be very interesting and helpful to all that attend.

Tripp Avenue Presbyterian church—Preaching both morning and evening by the pastor, J. D. Dabney. Morning service at 10:30 a. m. Evening service at 8:30 p. m. Subject: "You must be Born Again." Sunday school at 12 o'clock. All are welcome.

Dunmore Presbyterian church, Rev. W. E. Gibbons, pastor—Services at 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Evening subject: "Abiding in Christ." Sunday school at 12 o'clock.

Christmas exercises of the Sunday school of St. Mark's Episcopal church will be held in the parish house this evening.



AT HAZARD, near Seattle. Mr. Fulton visited Mrs. A. E. Hadfield, a former resident of Scranton. Her son is engaged in the milling business there and is very prosperous.

Mr. Fulton says the whole western country is in a very prosperous condition. The last two months of Mr. Fulton's trip was spent in Colorado, looking after interests in that state.

LADIES SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Will Be Heard at the High School Next Thursday.

The Boston Ladies' Symphony orchestra will appear at the High school auditorium next Thursday evening, January 2, as the fourth number of the High school course. The orchestra is composed of twenty young ladies, with Frank W. McKee as conductor and Carl Crance as bass. The orchestra ranks as one of the best in the country. They have been greeted by very large audiences wherever they have appeared, and are very highly endorsed. Mr. McKee, the conductor, had charge of the Clara Schumann orchestra the last year of its history, and then the best part of that orchestra came with Mr. McKee and united with the best half of the Boston Symphony orchestra, taking the name of the latter, and for three years he has led this orchestra through unprecedented tours.

The ladies' gowns are said to be exquisite, and taken altogether the orchestra gives one of the best musical entertainments before the public today.

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GREEN RIDGE.

Mrs. Charles Chamberlain, of Kingsport, is visiting at the home of her father, Rev. J. W. Howell, of