

ALASKA'S NEW FLYERS

Reindeer May Carry Uncle Sam's Mails in the Northwest.

They Travel Nineteen Miles an Hour and Can Draw Three Hundred Pounds—Best Kind of Draught Animal for the Frozen Zone—Their Meat is Delicious and Their Skins Furnish Fine Clothing—Man's Best Friend in the Gold Regions—New York Corporation, It is Said, Purposes Buying Half of the Government Herds.

SEATTLE, Wash., Sept. 12.—Every new country has its own method of transit and transportation, more or less rapid, according to the conditions. Japan and China and India have the jinrikisha, or rickshaw, as it is called by the Occidentals. Bullock teams are all the rage in South Africa. The Eskimo and Lapp traverse their Arctic snows in sledges drawn by strings of dogs. Moose are harnessed to sleighs in the Hudson Bay district, occasionally, but their gigantic strength and general cussedness make them undesirable as draught animals. Camels have to hump themselves wherever Arabs are prevalent, and elephants constitute the trunk line in the countries between Hindoostan and China. Ostriches are the record breakers in various portions of the Dark Continent, and even zebra have been driven in harness by daredevil natives. Teams of giraffes were exhibited from time to time by the late lamented P. T. Barnum. Llamas are the favorite beasts of burden among the Andes. The burro is peculiar to the southwest corner of the North American continent, and the mustang is inseparably associated with the Lone Star State.

Reindeer for Alaska.

Kriss Kringle and certain Northern races have done something to exploit the reindeer, but it has remained for Alaska to demonstrate all his numerous possibilities. For many years the Alaskans, both whites and Indians, have used the reindeer for a multitude of purposes, and during the past four years Uncle Sam has taken a hand at developing the usefulness of this little-understood animal.

Congress, in 1893, made a small appropriation for the purpose of "introducing" the reindeer into Alaska. As a matter of fact, the Alaskan Indians had been driving reindeer for several years, but it was necessary to use the magic word "introduction" to get the bill through the Senate and House. Long before that, too, the reindeer sledge was the most popular means of locomotion in Lapland. But Congress must always be unique.

Invaluable to the Lapps.

"To the Lapplander," writes a man who has traveled through most northern countries, "the reindeer is invaluable, being, in fact, his horse, his ox and his sheep in one animal. As a draught animal its speed, endurance and particular adaptation to traveling on snow render it most valuable to people dwelling in the frozen latitudes. It has been known to



THE REINDEER EXPRESS.

at the rate of nearly nineteen miles an hour, and it is not unusual for it to travel 150 miles in nineteen hours. The weight ordinarily drawn by it in Lapland is 240 pounds, but it can draw 300. Its meat forms delicious food for man; its skin is valuable, and the milk of the herd is often the principal support of the owner and his family.

In view of these facts, naturalists ago opined that the reindeer would flourish like a green-goods game on our own frozen zone. Properly cared for, they said, the herds would multiply rapidly. Uncle Sam, always with an eye to the main chance, realized that reindeer breeding was a promising industry, and determined to become its foster father. So the Senate House put their heads together and authorized the Alaskan experi-

Bought Deer from Russia.

A few hundred reindeer were purchased from the Russian Government and transported from Siberia to Alaska. They were placed in charge of keepers at Fort Clearanc, in the lower Yukon region. And then the fun began.

Report after report reached Congress that the animals were not thriving as well as might have been expected under the circumstances. Congress, through a number of committees, favored all sorts of schemes for the improvement of the industry. The matter was placed under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior, and the Secretary thereof was urged to do his utmost for the encouragement of his subordinates. The keepers themselves despair, and soon it began to look as if the experiment would prove a failure.

Stirred Up the Keepers.

Then the Secretary of the Interior adopted a drastic measure. He notified the head keeper of the reindeer ranch that unless the herds were increased, instead of diminished, the ranch would be abolished and, consequently, the head keeper and his assistants would lose their comfortable beds. That settled it. Head keeper and assistants turned over a new leaf from that time forth, and, whether the poor showing of the herds had been due to their carelessness, or the vigorous action of the Secretary suddenly increased their knowledge of the beast, certain it is that from that time on the reindeer at Fort Clearanc began to show a marked and steady improvement.

Now there are about 500 of them at that point, and the herds are increasing at the rate of 20 per cent. a year. It is likely that Congress, in view of the new gold excitement and the wholesale invasion of Alaska that is sure to be made in the spring by citizens of the United States and foreigners from every clime, will authorize the committee having charge of the matter to double or treble the number by large importations from Siberia.

They'll Fly with the Mails.

One use to which the Government reindeer are apt to be put at an early date is the transportation of mails all over Alaska, particularly through the rich Copper River country, which, it is predicted, will be the centre of mining interests after this winter. It would be easy to establish a reindeer mail service between the mouth of the Copper River and Dawson City, for the animals could easily cross the divide at Scorial Pass and go by way of the confluence of the Yukon and White rivers to the Klondike region. Trading stations might be built along the route, and these could be made very useful as bases of supplies for the argonauts. Indeed, it is reported that a bid for the purchase of half the reindeer on the Government ranch has been made by a leading trading and transportation company of New York, and that the proposal is now under consideration by the Interior Department. That this has not been done before seems incredible, for those same reindeer are worth in Alaska ten times as much as the best of horses, which are practically useless in that part of the continent.

Our "Special" in His Sleigh.

An Alaskan driving a pair of reindeer before a light sleigh would make a picturesque spectacle, especially with the

Provisions of all sorts are abundant at St. Michael's, and the problem, now that the close of Yukon navigation is near at hand, is to get the goods over the 1,500 miles of rocks and moss hummocks to the hungry crowds at Klondike. This will be done if the plans now arranged can be carried out, and apparently the obstacles are not insurmountable. In June last Mr. Jackson announced that he was satisfied a regular-reindeer passenger and freight route was perfectly feasible.

Relays at Many Stations.

When this Santa Claus sort of courier system gets into working order it is planned to keep relays of deer at various points along the Yukon. They will be ready for action just as relays of horses used to help along the stage coach. The reindeer are very fleet and will pull enormous loads. As they feed on the moss and bunch grass found everywhere in the Yukon country, they will be able to keep alive without any other fodder. In Siberia the reindeer is all needful. It is the native's railroad and his storehouse. The Rockefeller of the Tchukchees is the man with the most reindeer and the men who establish and maintain a reindeer route to Dawson this winter, assisting the efforts of the Government, are likely to find a fortune.

Sling Him Up.

First Tramp—Yer say der woman dat gave yer der grub didn't b'lieve yer war a gentleman in reduced circumstances?
Second Tramp—Dat's what I said.
First Tramp—Did she tell ye so?
Second Tramp—No; she brought me a knife ter eat der pie wid.—N. Y.

A Mourning Color.

Winebiddle—Why are you dyeing your hair such a youthful black, Gilder-sleeve?
Gildersleeve—Out of respect for the memory of my dear dead wife, Winebiddle.—Up-to-Date.

Much More.

Smith—No, I do not like jokes which make fun in any way of religion. It seems to me we are liable to be called up for them in the next world.
Smythe—We're more likely to be called down.—Philadelphia Press.

True to the Last.

Seldum Feild—So poor old Slobby is dead?
Ragged Haggard—Yes, but he died true to de tenets of de profession.
"How was dat?"
"Widout a struggle."—N. Y. Journal.

Economy in Kissing.

Mrs. Crimsonbeak—I can't imagine why a man should prefer kissing his dog to kissing his wife.
Mr. Crimsonbeak—A dog doesn't want a new hat every time he's kissed.—Yonkers Statesman.

A Contentious Visitor.

Judge—If you were only going to pay the man a visit, why were you creeping in so stealthily?
Prisoner—Your honor, I was afraid of waking the baby.—N. Y. Journal.

Not Surprising.

He—I love you better than my life.
She—Considering the life you lead, I cannot say that I am surprised.—Indianapolis Journal.

A Dangerous Man.

Bunting—Why are you fellows always dodging Bloobumper?
Larkins—His first baby has just commenced to talk.—Harlem Life.

His Abode.

Blinks—Where are you living now?
Jinks (gloomily)—I don't live.
Blinks—That so? Where are you boarding?—N. Y. Weekly.

The Exact Location.

Dollie—Was it a quiet spot where you kissed Mollie?
Chollie—No; it was on the mouth.—Yonkers Statesman.

The One Exception.

She's most sincere, and when she speaks, to question none would dare.
Excepting when she rides and says: "Now, dear, I'll pay the fare."
—Washington Star.

A NEW TRIUMPH.

The Dreaded Consumption Can be Cured.

T. A. Stewart, the Great Chemist and Scientist, Will send to Sufferers Three Free Bottles of His Newly Discovered Remedy to Cure Consumption and all Lung Troubles.

Nothing could be faster, more philanthropic or carry more joy to the afflicted, than the generous offer of the honored and distinguished chemist, T. A. Stewart, M. C., of New York City.

He has discovered a reliable and absolute cure for consumption, and all bronchial, throat, lung and chest diseases, catarrhal affections, general debility and weakness, loss of flesh and all conditions of wasting away, and to make the great benefits known, will send three free bottles of his newly discovered remedies to any afflicted reader of this.

Already his "new scientific system of medicine" has permanently cured thousands of apparently hopeless cases.

The doctor considers it not only his professional, but his religious duty—a duty which he owes to suffering humanity—to donate his invaluable cure.

He has provided the "dreaded consumption" to be a curable disease beyond a doubt, in any climate, and has on file in his Free BOTTLES and European Laboratories thousands of certified testimonials of gratitude from those benefited and cured, in all parts of the world.

Catarrhal and pulmonary troubles lead to consumption, and consumption, unintercepted, means speedy and certain death. Don't delay until it is too late. Write to T. A. Stewart, M. C., 98 Pine Street, New York, giving name and postal address, and the free medicine will be promptly sent. Please tell the Doctor you saw his offer in the Press.

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HARRISBURG LETTER.

The State Campaign Progressing Satisfactorily to All Concerned.

SENATOR QUAY IS COMING HOME

Scarcity of Money at Headquarters. The Capitol Building Mess Still in Court—The Business Men's League at Work on Plans for Next Year.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Harrisburg, Oct. 12.—Senator Quay is on his way home from Florida to confer with the state leaders on the situation. There is not a straw in the way of the success of the state ticket as far as can be seen from this city. Everything in the way of political news that reaches here from all parts of the state is good news so far as the state ticket is concerned.

It is an open secret, however, that the state committee is in need of funds, and that the usual requests for assistance made by the state chairman for help are more urgent this year than they have been for some time. Much of this condition is due to the depressed financial position of many men who have heretofore been very liberal with campaign contributions. All of the state officials and employes have responded with alacrity to the request, but there is still necessity for more money, according to reports from headquarters.

COMING TO RAISE MONEY.

The home coming of Senator Quay is partly due to this state of affairs. Senator Quay is one of the most successful of men in raising campaign funds, and he has been appealed to, it is understood, to answer the Macedonian cry for help which the state committee has been putting up.

If the Republican state committee is feeling the pinch of the late depression, the Democratic committee is in a far worse position. Nobody apparently wants to contribute to a Democratic campaign fund this year. It is given out quietly that funds are so low with the Democratized Democracy that the bulk of the money for the payment of bills is coming out of the pockets of the candidates, and that those gentlemen, Messrs. Ritter and Brown, are making the most vigorous kind of a kick against paying for their own slaughter.

As for the Prohibition campaign, it is the most active one in sight. This is owing to the vitality of Dr. Swallow, who has entered into the campaign with as much vigor as though he had a sure call on the office. The campaign of William R. Thompson, the Pittsburg banker, who is running as a strictly Independent Republican, has reached Philadelphia. But it does not appear to be making any headway there. The fact is that the Thompson boom is confined exclusively to Allegheny county, and the reason for this is that it is an Allegheny county movement.

THOMPSON'S PHILADELPHIA HEADQUARTERS.

Those who have visited the Thompson headquarters in Philadelphia tell some strange stories about it. Mr. Thompson has engaged four rooms on South Broad street, which he has furnished in the most luxurious manner. His office force consists of a man and a boy. His callers are very few, and the hopelessness of his making any inroads in Philadelphia is indicated by the fact that even the ward heeler and "strickers," who usually make life miserable for the politician with money, have carefully avoided the Thompson headquarters.

The action of Judge Simonon in dissolving the injunction obtained by the architects to prevent the four members of the capital commission from violating the agreement which they entered into, to give every architect and builder a fair show, has placed the capital building scheme just in the position which these four men, Messrs. Haywood, Mylin, McCarroll and Boyer, apparently desire. Unless the supreme court reverses the lower court these men can go ahead and select the Philadelphia architect whom they had originally in mind.

CAPITOL BUILDING MESS.

But there will be still delays and law suits, for the architects interested are going to carry the matter to the supreme court. No one who has watched this subject has any idea of the amount of condemnation which has been visited upon the commission for its unfairness and its faithlessness. The Architectural Review in an editorial on this subject denounces the four members of the capital commission in unmeasured terms. This journal is the leading architectural newspaper in the United States, and it is painful to respectable Pennsylvanians to read this denunciation, knowing that it will be read in every state and territory of the Union. The Review says:

"The competition established by the state capital commission of Pennsylvania under conditions in which the rights of competitors were protected with unusual care and guaranteed with more than usual earnestness by the promoters has, after passing through all the prescribed stages to the point of final acceptance of the results by that body.

"The outcome does not appear to differ from that of countless competitions which have been subject solely to arbitrary political control. Yet the Harrisburg affair seemed to give such unquestionable assurance of fair decision upon the basis of professional merit, and upon this alone, and its pledges, met with such frank and implicit acceptance by architects of the highest standing, that a review of its history seems called for in the interest of the profession, a review which might properly be supplemented by an inquiry into the possibility of just treatment of reputable architects by the promoters of public competitions. For it would appear from the present status of this affair that no competitive regulations, however fair in promise or explicit in terms, can protect the honest architect from disaster when final action under those regulations rests with the professional politician.

DENOUNCED EVERYWHERE.

"A review of the case is rendered comparatively simple by the publicity already given it, for never, perhaps, has the action of members of a building

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