

THOS. A. BUCKLEY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR. OFFICE: MAIN STREET ABOVE CENTRE.

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FREELAND, PA., AUGUST 10, 1893.

The Pennsylvania Railroad, it is said will use telephone instead of the telegraph to move its trains. By the perfecting of the long-distance telephone, the last obstacle to this substitution has been removed, and the Pennsylvania is enterprising enough to realize the fact.

Congressman Hines, of the Luzerne district, claims that he has had more Democrats appointed to office than any other Pennsylvania representative. Those who know how completely that sort of thing embraces Mr. Hines' idea of real statesmanship will not seek to dispute him.

Louis Sawiski, a Russian medical student, recently committed suicide in Paris. He was a nihilist and was charged with having betrayed some of his colleagues. After his death his family claimed his papers and other personal property, but the Russian consul general insisted that he alone had a right to examine the papers, and on this point he was sustained by the French court.

Though a breakdown in the apparatus led to a most gruesome scene at the execution of a criminal in Auburn prison, N. Y., a short time ago, it was no worse than the breaking of the rope at a hanging, and not one half so bad as the failure of the drop to break the criminal's neck, thus slowly choking him to death.

Inventor Edison has partially shut down his phonograph works at Orange, N. J., for the reason, as he has quaintly said, that "the proprietor thereof, seeing the country has resolved itself into a national lunatic asylum, decided to wait till the wave subsided somewhat." These words aptly characterize the situation, so far as concerns the ravings of the silver fiddlers in the west or the equally irrational behavior of timid investors in the east.

A NEWSBOY'S PLEA. He denounces the Jealous Meanness of the Trainman.

The train newsboy works with every hardship for the accommodation of the public, but is greatly hated by the railroad trainmen, for they are envious of his brightness and sharpness. His shrewdness is too much for them. The trainman, after satisfying his appetite with the choicest of the newsboy's fruit and candies, and occasionally lifting a cigar beside, will try to prevent him from pushing his trade. This is a case of enviousness and jealousy. Almost anybody can announce the names of stations and help passengers off and on, but it takes a man with energy and ambition to sell books, and get good prices, to people who don't want to buy them.

He Was Absent-Minded. There was once an absent-minded preacher in Maine, of whom a gossiping lady tells the Lewiston Journal. One Sunday he said excitedly at the close of a solemn discourse: "The choir will now pronounce the benediction and I will sing the Doxology." The choir failed to respond beyond a faint soprano giggle, and the minister hastily exclaimed: "No, not I should have said: 'I will now sing the benediction and the choir will please pronounce the Doxology.'" Before he could hazard another attempt the quartette came to the rescue with "Old Hundred," and the parson sat down to recover his wits behind the friendly shelter of the old-fashioned pulpit.

GO TO ALASKA FOR SPORT.

Stanley's Companion Describes the Chilkat Hunting Grounds.

How to Get There—What to Carry—Interesting Belles of a Strange People Who Fought and Hunted in the Old Days.

Alaska, although so distant, commands a host of summer visitors from many lands. During each month, from May until October, three large steamers, crowded with passengers, leave Puget sound for the north.

In amidst a labyrinth of islands, fringing the coast line of Oregon, Washington, British Columbia and Alaska a sheltered passage threads its way for one thousand miles; and in the stormiest weather the vessel navigates these inland seas in safety.

During the summer time, in climate almost tropical, the visitor enjoys from the ship's deck in comfort and safety, a panorama of gorgeous landscape. Picture dissolves into picture, as the moving steamer changes the view at every turn.

Pyramid Harbor, at the mouth of the Chilkat river, on the southeast coast of Alaska is the farthest point reached by these steamers, and the whole distance, from Puget sound, is covered in six days and without the discomfort and risks of open sea cruising.

Indian settlements, mining camps and trading posts are visited en route, but the steamer makes but brief stoppages, affording only a hasty glance of the people and the land.

To anyone anxious for a few weeks sport in a wild country I should recommend a trip into the interior of Alaska up the Chilkat river.

Outfit, in proportion to the time of proposed stay in the land, should be obtained in one of the cities on Puget sound, and when arranging this equipment be generous in your supply of provisions for the appetite in that climate doubles its ordinary demand.

Moreover the men you employ are fed at your expense; a single hunter would certainly require two Indians and possibly a white man as cook and general camp manager. The latter could be hired at Juneau or Pyramid Harbor for forty-five dollars a month. The most serviceable stores are flour, corn meal, rice, dried fruits, beans, peas and bacon. These should be packed in cotton sacks waterproofed by soaking in boiled oil. The remainder of your outfit would consist of a small A tent, sleeping bag, rifle 45-90 Winchester Express with solid hardened balls, revolver, hunting knives, rods, tackle for trout, cooking utensils, axes, a few dozen feet of stout rope for hauling canoe and long rubber boots. The country itself will furnish but little aid to your living except that you can have an abundance of salmon when they start to run.

Though the days are warm in summer time, the nights are cold, so it is essential to be provided with stout clothing, and mosquito netting is absolutely necessary in this land where the pest exists in large quantities and is more fierce than in the swamps of Central Africa.

At present at Pyramid Harbor there is a small colony of white men, traders and those engaged in the salmon canneries.

I have always found these gentlemen exceedingly hospitable and anxious to aid a traveler by proffering such advice as their experience of the land suggested and upon disembarking at this point you can appeal to them without hesitation. Messrs Dalton, Ferin and Lindsay especially should be sought out and consulted and their ideas carefully heeded with regard to the employment of Indians and the best hunting grounds to visit.

Nearly all your inland traveling can be accomplished by canoe, which you can obtain on the coast. When hiring your Indians have every item of the transaction duly witnessed by white men, make a contract for the length of time you intend spending in the interior, with the condition thoroughly understood that should the Indian leave before the term of service agreed upon is expired he shall forfeit his pay. This will protect you against the constant annoyance of being deserted by the copper-colored individuals, who, after a few days' hard work, crave for the laziness of their own village life, return home and leave their white employer stranded in the interior. The two most reliable Indians known to me on the Chilkat river are "Charlie the Hunter" and old

"Indank." They are sturdy, capable fellows and both have journeyed with white men and are familiar with our ways.

From the trading post at the mouth of the Chilkat you can obtain what stores are needed to complete your outfit and, as your transportation is by water, you have not to consider the weight or bulk. Tinned fruits, vegetables and meats will always pleasantly relieve the insipid monotony of a daily bean and bacon "menu." If spirituous liquors are carried care must be taken to keep them out of reach of your Indians, who, if they know of your alcoholic possession, will conjure up some ailment demanding an instantaneous treatment of such stimulant; in fact, so strong is their craving for strong drink that they will imbibe Florida water, Jamaica ginger and Perry's pain killer till they reel in drunken frenzy.

From Pyramid harbor after sailing, paddling and hauling your canoe for twenty miles you reach one of the most interesting native settlements in Alaska, Klokwa, the village of the old-time Chilkat buccanniers.

A couple of days spent at this place will well repay the delay. There are about a score of dwellings in all, low structures built and roofed with heavy planking, with an immense aperture for the escape of smoke from the fires burning constantly inside. Racks and shelves sag with a grimy assortment of property; half cured bear meat, deer and sheep skins, dried salmon, fresh caught fish, snowshoes, baskets, firearms, moosehorns, etc., are piled together in heaps none too fresh of aroma. Amongst these dwellings are a few much larger than the others, which are now vacant. These were the habitations of the chiefs, long since dead, who ruled the land with despotic and cruel sway, condemned to death the disobedient slave and tortured their captives for public pantomime. In those early days war and hand to hand combats were daily happenings and festivals of eating, drinking and dancing were conducted with barbarous pomp. To-day the nation is not of sufficient size to people the houses, and no longer is any interest felt in the boisterous ceremonies of their ancestors. In these old huts, fast crumbling with decay, are piled together in heaps none too fresh of aroma. Amongst these dwellings are a few much larger than the others, which are now vacant. These were the habitations of the chiefs, long since dead, who ruled the land with despotic and cruel sway, condemned to death the disobedient slave and tortured their captives for public pantomime. In those early days war and hand to hand combats were daily happenings and festivals of eating, drinking and dancing were conducted with barbarous pomp. To-day the nation is not of sufficient size to people the houses, and no longer is any interest felt in the boisterous ceremonies of their ancestors.

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A friend of mine saw at one time eight bears within a mile of each other dotted about the hills on the banks of the Kleechee. It is said that they will sometimes weigh seventeen hundred pounds; this I can easily believe. I myself saw a skin twelve feet in length, and upon one occasion when riding through a willow-choked valley in the interior, where the bushes just reached to my shoulders as I sat on horseback, a big cinnamon bear standing about fifty yards from me showed head and shoulders above the willows. I should advise the hunter always to use the most powerful gun he could obtain; such as are used in killing elephants and hippopotami would be serviceable weapons.

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The months of June and July are most desirable for hunting. All the animals are in good condition both as regards pelt and flesh.

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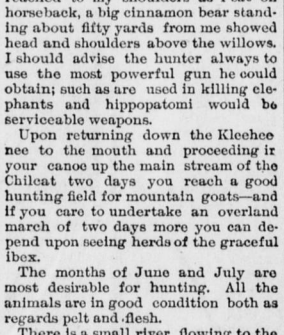


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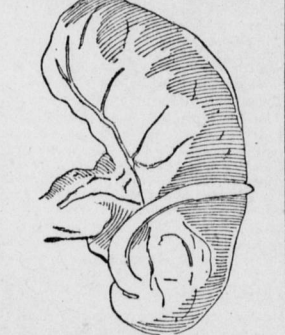


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A friend of mine saw at one time eight bears within a mile of each other dotted about the hills on the banks of the Kleechee. It is said that they will sometimes weigh seventeen hundred pounds; this I can easily believe. I myself saw a skin twelve feet in length, and upon one occasion when riding through a willow-choked valley in the interior, where the bushes just reached to my shoulders as I sat on horseback, a big cinnamon bear standing about fifty yards from me showed head and shoulders above the willows. I should advise the hunter always to use the most powerful gun he could obtain; such as are used in killing elephants and hippopotami would be serviceable weapons.

Upon returning down the Kleechee to the mouth and proceeding in your canoe up the main stream of the Chilkat two days you reach a good hunting field for mountain goats—and if you care to undertake an overland march of two days more you can depend upon seeing herds of the graceful ibex.

The months of June and July are most desirable for hunting. All the animals are in good condition both as regards pelt and flesh.

There is a small river flowing to the Chilkat on the western bank. About Pyramid Harbor both goats and bears can be obtained by persistent hunting. Further in the interior they are more plentiful. Good specimens of skins and heads of bears, mountain sheep and goats would well repay the hunters' few weeks trip. Bears are fierce combatants and the man who successfully tackles a monster cinnamon needs no wretched evidence of his pluck.

And the mountain sheep and goats browse watchfully on the most inaccessible heights close to the snow line, demand of the hunter many a mile of perilous climbing before he carries away their horns as trophies of the chase. In early summer many of the small mountain streams are plentifully stocked with trout and toward the lat-

ter part of June the Chilkat is teeming with delicious salmon. In the early spring and late fall ducks and geese flock to the lowly flats, through which the Chilkat flows and partridge and grouse, although not abundant, can always be found on the mountain slopes.

The air is so dry and pure in this land that the Indians cure their meat and fish by simply hanging it in the sun to dry.

Picturesque camping places with cool spring water and plenty of firewood can always be found. The summer climate is almost tropical and the mountain scenery equal to any in the world. E. J. GLAVE.

IT PAID TO HAVE SMALL FEET. In Olden Days Holland Taxed Boots and Shoes—Other Curious Imposts.

In the history of taxation there is nothing more curious than the imposts to be found in the laws of the early days of Holland. The most curious tax of all was one imposed in 1074 on boots and shoes. In order to prevent the impost from being evaded each of those articles so essential to human comfort had to be conspicuously marked on the upper leather with the stamp of the maker and also with that of the taxing officer. The sum to be paid was regulated by the size of the boot or shoe. So, apart from the question of beauty, in those days it was a real advantage to have a small foot. In 1066 a tax was imposed on all passengers traveling in Holland by land or water. In 1701 this tax was still in force. In 1074 a duty of five cents was levied upon each person who entered a tavern before noon. The tax was increased for afternoon visits. Persons who assembled in a private house after three o'clock in the afternoon for the purpose of amusing themselves had each to pay a certain sum, and those who entered a place of public entertainment were likewise taxed. There was a duty on marriages and deaths. The amount of the tax varied according to the social position of the parties; while in the case of a person buried outside of the district in which he had lived the amount payable by his executor was doubled.—Shoe and Leather Review.

Little Sallie had very much enjoyed the celebration of her birthday anniversary. "I'm awful sorry for you," she said to her elder—very much elder—sister. "Why?" "Because you never have birthdays any more."—Boston Globe.

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JOHN D. HAYES,

Attorney-at-Law and Notary Public.

Legal business of all kinds promptly attended. Room 3, 2d Floor, Birkbeck Brick.

M. HALPIN, Manufacturer of Carriages, Bugg