

HOT SPRINGS NEWS.

NUMBER 51.

AINSWORTH, BRITISH COLUMBIA, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1892

TEN CENTS

WRONG WAY ROUND.

In the latter part of the year 1887 I was commissioned by the Belgian government to find a certain rare wandering plant that was believed to grow on the higher slopes of Mauna Kea, a large extinct volcano situated in the northern part of Hawaii. I had a station built on one of the wooded slopes of the mountain, far away from any other habitation. My only companion was a native who had lived all his life on this part of the island. About twice a month he would visit the seacoast to obtain needful supplies for our camp. This native, who said that his ancestors were "big chiefs," whose bones lay secretly buried in caves on the mountain sides, was very old, although he could climb canons and scale lava cliffs with wonderful agility.

During one of my botanizing excursions I passed by the mouth of a narrow canon, or gorge, and I asked Pili, the old native, if he had ever explored the same. Pili suddenly became interested in his pipe, and didn't know anything about the gulch, and didn't understand what I said. This was rather strange in Pili, for natives generally know every rock and tree in the section where they live, and I knew Pili was lying when he said he did not understand me.

So, naturally, I determined to examine into the mysterious ravine. Some time after this I was walking with Pili down a gentle slope, when I saw a number of bones. Pili stopped. He walked back a few rods and sat down on a stump. Not a word would he say. I began examining the bones, and for 2 hours or more puzzled my brain over a problem as I had never done before. What I found was this: A circular area of about 100 yards in diameter, thickly covered with bleached remains of birds, animals and human beings. These ghastly relics were scattered among the shrubs and grass. The larger bones were near the centre; in fact, I found that the bones became gradually smaller as I approached the periphery of this circular boneyard. In the centre of the circle was a well-like opening in the ground, from which emanated a sickening odor. No vegetation grew within 50 feet of this cavity. How came this hole with its horrible stench? How came these bones here? How came they to be arranged about the central opening? These questions continually presented themselves, but they remained unanswered. A deep mystery seemed to hang over the spot. It was growing dark. I heard Pili calling, and hurried to him. He pointed in terror to the centre of the bone-covered area. A shadow was thrown on the scene by a rising bank of clouds. But I declare I saw rising from the pit a visible vapor, a column of visible smoke or fog or gas that was luminous. Spellbound, I gazed at the spectral column. Near the ground it had the color of phosphorescent flame, and gradually became fainter as it ascended. Your imagination will have to picture the unearthly phenomenon. Pili pulled at my arm and in silence we left the spot and we did not loiter by the wayside.

As I was looking for a simple plant and not blood-curdling manifestations, I was inclined to break camp and leave. But by morning my

nerves were in better order, and I went back to the scene of the evening adventure. I could find no clue to the mystery, and the matter gradually went out of mind as I prosecuted my labors.

But I had occasion, after a time, to visit a spot near where I had seen the canon about which Pili was so apparently ignorant. One evening I made known my intention to Pili to return to the place and to explore the gorge.

"When?" said Pili.

"In the morning," I replied.

Without a word the old native arose from his mat on the floor and departed. He was gone all night. He returned by sunrise, bearing on his shoulders a bundle. When we reached the canon he stopped and unpacked his load. I saw a stone idol, curious in shape; he placed it on the ground and then took a small pig from his bundle. Making a fire, he sprinkled something in the flames, muttered strange sounds, and made symbols in the air with his fingers. The animal offering was placed before the idol. After he completed his strange rites he said that I might never come back, but he had done what he could to preserve my life. He would wait until the going down of the sun, and then if I did not come back, he would wait for me as did his father's long, long ago when a son fell in battle. Then he sat down, covered up his head and was silent.

This made me feel uncomfortable. The natives of the Hawaiian islands are supposed to be christianized, but in time of danger or trouble many often turn to the discarded gods of their fathers. I knew Pili believed that great danger awaited anyone who ascended the ravine. But I went. I had gone about a mile, when over the tops of tree ferns I saw a waving mass of sea-green foliage undulating in the wind. The object looked like a huge bunch of thick-leaved seaweed, and the peculiar motion of the same arrested my attention. I was over 300 feet away from the curious object, and hurried to obtain a closer view. A wall of fern-covered lava about 10 feet high stopped my course. Climbing up so that I just could see over the edge, I saw an object such as the eyes of civilized man never beheld. Imagine a bunch of seaweed about 12 feet high; the edge of each peace lined with fine streamers which radiated in all directions and trembling like fine wire spirals; the whole object moving like the fringes of a sea anemone.

I was wearing a heavy felt hat with a wide brim, and I pushed it back from my forehead to get a better view. As I moved my arm the strange object ceased quivering, and every vibrating antenna or streamer pointed at me. Just then my foot slipped from a jutting rock on which I was standing and I fell, but not before something cleaved the air with a horrible hissing noise and struck on my hat crown. I felt the force of a blow as I fell, and knew no more for a time. I regained consciousness after a short time, and lay in a partial stupor. The wall above me was stripped of its verdure, and I saw a long, sinewy, snake-like object writhing, twisting, and curling on the rocks. It had missed its prey, and a low, angry hum filled the air.

A BORN CALCULATOR.

Reuben Field, a native of La Fayette county, Mo., about 45 years old, is described as "a very strong, heavy-set man." He never went to school, even a day, for the sole reason that he was always regarded as an idiot. He can neither read nor write, and his reasoning powers have never developed beyond those of a child of the most ordinary intellect. In the face of these facts, however, he has the keenest perception of the relation of numbers and quantities, and is able, as if by instinct, to solve the most intricate mathematical problems. He does not know figures on the blackboard, but he understands them perfectly in his mind. No one has been able to "catch him" in multiplication or division. He has been given such problems as: "The circumference of the earth is, in round numbers, 25,000 miles. How many flax seeds, allowing 12 to the inch, will it require to reach around it?" Within a minute he returns the answer: "19,008,000,000."

If the distance to the sun or to any of the planets is taken, he answers with as great ease. If given the day of the month and the year on which an event occurred, he instantly gives the day of the week. But what is yet more remarkable is that he can tell the time at any hour, day or night, without ever missing it, even a minute. If awakened out of a deep sleep in the darkness of night, and asked the time he gives it at once. Once in my office I asked him the time. He replied at once: "Sixteen minutes after 3." In order to test him I drew him off upon some other question, not letting him know my object, and when 17 minutes had passed, I looked at my watch and asked him the time. He said: "Twenty-seven minutes to 4."

LIVE WHALE FOR THE FAIR.

Captain Amos Chapman of Boston, but formerly of Provincetown, is shipping a crew of old-experienced whalers for a new and novel voyage to capture a live sperm whale to be taken to the World's fair at Chicago.

In an interview with the captain he states: "I do not intend to make known my mode of procedure but I know I shall succeed if I find the whale. My crew are all picked men and every one of them have been engaged in the business and can be depended on. Whales are reported plenty in latitude 38.30, longitude 71, by captain Dunham, who has just returned with a full cargo of oil, and for that place I shall shape my course. I do not propose to take one of the largest. A 50 or 60-foot whale will answer my purpose. I have the plans all drawn for a large tank in which the whale will be placed, and towed by steamer up the St. Lawrence and through the lakes to Chicago. I have everything prepared to take the whale and bring him into port all right. All I want is to get a suitable vessel. When that is obtained a few days will see me off for the grounds, and if I find the whales I expect to be back about the end of September. I can keep my whale in the harbor at New Bedford while my tank is building, and in the spring start for Chicago. Yes, I know it is quite an undertaking, but I also know that I have a dead sure thing."

THE HOT SPRINGS NEWS IS PUBLISHED ON WEDNESDAYS, and will be mailed to subscribers at the following rates, payable in advance: One year \$4, six months \$2.50, three months \$1.50. Advertising rates given on application. No communication or letter over an anonymous signature will be printed. BOGLE & WHALLEY, Proprietors.

Hot Springs News.

KASLO'S PROSPECTS.

We believe that the owners, or some of them, of the Kaslo townsite are expected to arrive in West Kootenay on Monday night. It is to be hoped they will show a deep sense of all that the energy of Kaslo's citizens has done for the town. This lesson they require, and a visit to Kaslo will impress it upon them, that a town, like a mine, takes capital to develop it; and that, if they are to reap a golden harvest from the sale of Kaslo lots, they must be prepared to spend money to give the town connection with the resources on which it relies.

THE WORLD'S FAIR.

We believe that a Mr. Law of Golden has been appointed to make a collection of mineral from this section for the World's fair. We have seen nothing of his labors yet. Doubtless Mr. Law is making an exhaustive collection of ores from East Kootenay and Illecillewaet. But we would remind Mr. Law that there is a section of country here which, however unimportant, it would hardly be wise to overlook. To make a representative collection of ore from Trail creek, Toad mountain, Ainsworth, Slocan, Lardeaux, Goat river, Duck creek, Sheep creek and Priest lake would absorb the energies of one man from now till the snow flies. And we hope that Mr. Law will not delay in taking the matter in hand.

MINING LAW REFORM.

In last week's issue we published an interview with Mr. J. M. Kellie, M. P. P., in which he gave his opinion of the Slocan and Illecillewaet camps, and remarked incidentally that the new mineral act was not looked upon favorably by miners. This remark would have been natural coming from an outsider, but from Mr. Kellie we should have expected to hear something a little stronger and more to the point. Mr. Kellie speaks of the mining law in the same calm and disinterested fashion as he might speak of some ordinance of the dead Roman empire, or the legislation of Central Africa, whatever that may be. If he had said that the mineral law was the most foolish, ignorant, ineffective, and self-stultifying law ever put on the statute book of any civilized community; if he had explained that it was passed in the teeth of his protests and opposition by men ignorant of the first principles of the industry they desired to regulate, we should have had some sympathy with Mr. Kellie. But, as a matter of fact, the mineral law was passed by men who were anxious to do the best they could for the country; by men who could not help their ignorance and inexperience and who looked in vain for intelligent criticism and practical common sense from the member for West Kootenay, and who as a consequence accepted the first apparently coherent scheme placed before them. Enough for them that it was apparently coherent; they could not see that it would result in a chaos of conflicting rights, that it would lead to litigation as endless and paralyzing as the labours of Sisyphus, and that it left the discoveries of honest men at the mercy of any dishonest scoundrel who cared to take advantage of them. Let miners consider

what is declared to have been actually done in the Slocan country, and let them ask themselves whether it might not occur to many of the best properties in the country. A, let us say, stakes a "wild cat" on the 1st of June, which he records on the 5th and vaguely describes as on a certain hillside at a certain distance from a certain creek. B comes along and a mile or so away, finds a rich ledge, which he stakes, we will say on the 10th of June, and records. A hears of this and goes to work to cut down his stakes, and choosing a well hidden place on B's ground, puts up others with the same inscription on them as on his first stakes. He then goes away and leaves them to dry out a little. In a week or two he comes back and clears B off the ground. What remedy has B? The stakes are there, the record is there, 10 days older than his own. What chance has he of ever being able to prove the fraud? A claim is defined by 2 isolated stakes, connected by an imaginary line. The stakes are the claim; remove them and place them elsewhere and the claim goes with them.

A line blazed between the stakes, the necessity of a discovery post on the lead, any one of the simple precautions which long experience has taught the United States to adopt in their mining law would have sufficed to close this particular door to fraud. But the door is open now and any miner is liable to have his discovery taken from him by fraud. And such is the legislation of which Mr. Kellie speaks so dispassionately and in the framing of which he had a hand.

We have in stock a car of rattan and willow goods, just received.
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BACK EAST.

Elige Dionne, legislative councillor, and formerly minister of agriculture, died in Quebec on 23rd August.

The English privy council has decided that Manitoba need not maintain separate schools for Roman Catholics.

Charles McClelland, a contractor and an old resident, was waylaid in Toronto by a young highwayman on August 25, who demanded his money. He resisted and was shot, the bullet entering his side and lodging in the back. His condition is critical. The robber escaped.

Alderman Orr, of Calgary, makes an offer of a 50-foot lot, on either Bow or Elbow rivers, to anyone, except a Chinaman, who will erect and operate a steam laundry. This, he thinks, would be the easiest way in regard to settling the Chinese question, by not giving them work.

It is accepted as a fact by leading Conservatives here that premier Abbott will shortly retire and be succeeded by sir John Thompson. It is also understood that no remedial legislation will be proposed by the government in the Manitoba school matter, as the question is regarded as finally settled.

Everything in Estevan, the terminus of the C. P. R. Souris branch and the junction with the Soo line to St. Paul, is booming, houses and stores are being rapidly erected, the coal mines are in operation, and lumber is being hauled on to lots. Bustle and activity reign on every side and a rapid growth may be expected.

Van Horne is about to take another trip to Europe in the interests of his company. All sorts of rumors are afloat about the matter, but the main object of the president's visit to Great Britain is the question of a fast Atlantic service. "My present trip," said Van Horne, "is connected with the general business of the Canadian Pacific, and no special objects can be mentioned." This is his second trip to Britain and it will be a business trip in every sense.

The Niagara tunnel, which will cost \$5,000,000 and by means of which the power of Niagara will be utilized for manufacturing purposes, will be completed next July by the contractors. It is said that wheels will be turned by October 1. The Contract Construction company in New York, projectors of the scheme, will probably develop the power on the Canadian side of the river, where they have obtained exclusive power privileges, with a capital of \$3,000,000.

The Ostrich.

The ostrich has many strange ways, and affords an interesting subject for study to the naturalist. They go in flocks of 3 or 4 females and one male about their time of nesting, and for several weeks before locating their nests the hens drop their eggs all over the pampas. These are called haicho (pronounced 'watcho') eggs and are much more delicate in flavor than the eggs taken from the nests. They have a thinner shell and when fresh laid are of a beautiful golden color. They are cooked by roasting before a fire; a hole is first broken in the small end large enough to insert a teaspoon. The egg is set up among some hot ashes, a pinch of salt and pepper put into it, and the contents kept stirred with a stick, so that all will be done alike. The flavor is excellent, and one egg will satisfy a very hungry man. As soon as the ostrich decides upon a suitable place for a nest the male bird scratches away the grass and slightly hollows the ground for a space of about two feet in diameter. All the hens of the flock lay in the same nest until there are from 25 to 30 eggs laid. The male bird then takes possession and sits on the eggs until they are hatched. As soon as the brood can leave the nest the old fellow leads them away to feed on flies and small insects, and everything is lovely until he spies another male bird with a brood.

As soon as the old birds see each other they make a peculiar booming sound and every little ostrich disappears in the grass. The old ones then approach each other and engage in a most deadly conflict. They fight until one or the other is killed or runs away. The remaining one will then utter another peculiar sound and both broods will spring up from their hiding places and follow the victor, who struts off as proud as a peacock. Old male ostriches have been

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J. W. CAMPION,
Secretary-Treasurer.

J. E. W. MACFARLANE,
Manager.

seen with three broods, each of a different size two of which they had captured.

They become very tame in captivity, but are a perfect nuisance about a place, as they cannot be kept out of the buildings, and will gobble up anything they can swallow. One of them has been known to clean out a workbasket, swallowing spoons of cotton, emery bag and thimble, ending his repast by eating up a bowl of marrow. They will stalk around in the most sedate manner, then commence dancing in the most comical way, tumbling all over themselves and running around like mad. They will stop this foolishness as suddenly as they commenced it and walk off as demurely as if they were going to a funeral.

CROWN GRANT APPLICATIONS.

Notice is hereby given that Wilber H. Hendryx has filed the necessary papers and made application for a crown grant in favor of the mineral claim known as the Hendryx No. 1, situate in Ainsworth mining division, West Kootenay district. Adverse claimants, if any, will forward their objections within 60 days from date of publication.

N. FITZSTUBBS,
Gold commissioner.
Nelson, B.C., 17th August, 1892.

Notice is hereby given that Wilber H. Hendryx has filed the necessary papers and made application for a crown grant in favor of the mineral claim known as the Hendryx No. 2, situate in Ainsworth mining division, West Kootenay district. Adverse claimants, if any, will forward their objections within 60 days from date of publication.

N. FITZSTUBBS,
Gold commissioner.
Nelson, B.C., 17th August, 1892.

Notice is hereby given that Wilber H. Hendryx has filed the necessary papers and made application for a crown grant in favor of the mineral claim known as the Galconda, situate in Ainsworth mining division, West Kootenay district. Adverse claimants, if any, will forward their objections within 60 days from date of publication.

N. FITZSTUBBS,
Gold commissioner.
Nelson, B.C., 17th August, 1892.

Notice is hereby given that Wilber H. Hendryx has filed the necessary papers and made application for a crown grant in favor of the mineral claim known as The Fraction, situate in Ainsworth mining division, West Kootenay district. Adverse claimants, if any, will forward their objections within 60 days from date of publication.

N. FITZSTUBBS,
Gold commissioner.
Nelson, B.C., 17th August, 1892.

Notice is hereby given that M. S. Davys, as manager for the Cottonwood Gold Mining Company, limited, has filed the necessary papers and made application for a crown grant in favor of the mineral claim known as the "Golden King," situate in the Nelson mining division of West Kootenay district. Adverse claimants, if any, will forward their objections within 60 days from date of publication.

N. FITZSTUBBS,
Gold commissioner.
Nelson, B.C., August 22nd, 1892.

Notice is hereby given that M. S. Davys, as manager for the Cottonwood Gold Mining Company, limited, has filed the necessary papers and made application for a crown grant in favor of the mineral claim known as the "Golden Wreath," situate in the Nelson mining division of West Kootenay district. Adverse claimants, if any, will forward their objections within 60 days from date of publication.

N. FITZSTUBBS,
Gold commissioner.
Nelson, B.C., August 22nd, 1892.

Notice is hereby given that H. Anderson, as agent for Irwin, Hopper & Co., has filed the necessary papers and made application for a crown grant in favor of the mineral claim known as the "Tam O'Shanter," situate on the east side of Kootenay lake in the Hendryx camp, West Kootenay district. Adverse claimants will forward their objections within 60 days of this publication.

N. FITZSTUBBS,
Gold commissioner.
Nelson, B.C., August 24th, 1892.

NOTICE.

I will not be responsible for any goods delivered to steamer Ainsworth unless per my personal order.
DAVID BREMNER.

B. H. LEE & Co.

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KASLO NOTES.

The Lucky Jim, all adverse reports notwithstanding, never looked so well as now, and its owners are confident that the bond will be taken up.

No new strikes of much importance have been made this week, but the reports from each and every claim and mine are in the highest degree favorable.

The new sidewalk on Front street is being rapidly completed. It will be 700 feet long and 8 feet broad; this making it by far the finest in the Kootenay country.

T. E. Jefferson of Spokane has paid the balance of the money on his bond on a share in the Washington mine. He is now the owner of five-twelfths of that fine property.

Two representatives of the Kaslo-Kootenay Land Company (probably messrs. Hendry and Ewen) will leave Victoria for Kaslo on the 3rd instant, arriving here about the 7th.

The Kaslo bear has had to be destroyed. For some little time its play has been rather rough, and last Monday it killed a dog. To prevent another accident it was promptly shot.

The prospectus is now out for the Kaslo Nugget, a newspaper to be started here under the management of G. M. Walters of Spokane. It will be a weekly paper, the first number to be issued if possible within a fortnight.

Ore is being packed steadily down from the Whitewater mine; about 7 tons are now on the beach at Kaslo. Many other claims are prepared to ship ore, but most of them will wait for the wagon road and freight down on the snow.

Work is being vigorously pushed on the Bonanza King, one of the Noble 5 group. About 100 tons of ore are on the dump ready for shipment, but the owners are endeavoring more to develop systematically their property than to take out much ore at present.

Several shares in claims lying near big properties, though with no discovered leads on them, have recently been sold at pretty big prices. People are beginning to realize that mere loca-

tion in such a wonderful mineral belt as we have here offers rich chances for speculation.

By next week the wagon road will be in full swing. E. E. Coy is contracting to put it through, and all those who know his dash and energy have full faith in its being completed to Cody creek, at its junction with the South Fork of Carpenter creek, before the end of the year. The townspeople and mineowners have worked and are working nobly to get it started at once and subscriptions are pouring in. The total length of the road will be about 31 miles. It will pass below all the great claims on the Slocan slope of the divide, except, of course, those on 4-Mile creek, and consequently all the ore can be brought into Kaslo on a steady down grade with only one handling.

The Other Side of the Story.

A. T. Porter, United States marshal of Alaska and mayor of Sitka, has been recently staying in San Francisco. In conversation Mr. Porter said:

"Not much going on up our way, but Alaska news often gets slightly mixed when published here, so I may set some things right. Few details of the seizure of the British steamer Coquitlam have been given out. She's now in Sitka harbor. I keep 2 deputies aboard her all the time. Captain Hooper of the Corwin seized her in a very smooth way. It was at Port Etchez, about 700 miles west of Sitka. Hooper pulled off and went aboard and after a few other questions he asked the steamer's skipper, captain McLellan, if he had been transferring cargo. 'Yes,' responded McLellan, 'but not outside the 3-mile limit.' 'If you've done so within the 4-marine league limit,' said Hooper, 'you are in my charge.' McLellan had put his foot in it. He had been taking on sealskins from various schooners, and captain Hooper found 6190 skins stowed away snugly. It was the steamer's first voyage. She was fitted out by the Victoria sealing men to be used as a sort of storeship for skins. She is a new iron vessel. Her captain and 2 sealing men—owners of schooners—are at Sitka, awaiting the hearing of their case, which comes up before judge Truett at Sitka on Oc-

tober 4th. They were not arrested, but civil suits were begun against each of them to recover about 3 times the sum for which the vessel and cargo was appraised. That was \$85,700; the vessel is worth about \$20,000 and the sealskins and provisions the balance. A lawyer has now gone from Seattle to Sitka in behalf of the Sealers' Association of Victoria to try and get the skins away on bond.

"It perhaps is not generally known that 3 of the Alaska Commercial Company's vessels—the Kodiak, Lillie, and Jennie—were lately seized there by the Mohican, captain Johnson, for sea otter fishing. The Kodiak had 28 otter skins in her hold. They are very rare and valuable. The 3 vessels were released on \$16,000 bonds."

A Parliamentary Combine.

The Northwest executive was defeated by a vote of 13 to 12 after a bitter fight, lasting since 3 o'clock p. m. on August 24th. The Saskatchewan members combined against premier Haultain on account of his alleged ignoring of that district. Mr. Cayley made an elaborate arraignment of Mr. Haultain on various questions. Nearly every member spoke, and there were frequent exciting scenes. It is probable that messrs. Betts, Clinksill or Cayley will be the new leader of the Northwest government. Premier Haultain informed the house this afternoon that the executive had tendered his honor their resignation, which had been accepted. It is said speaker Ross will resign. If he does, it will cause a deadlock, as he would vote with the Haultain party, who were, as will be seen, defeated by only one vote.

DISSOLUTION OF COPARTNERSHIP.

Notice is hereby given that the partnership heretofore subsisting between us, the undersigned, as owners of the steamerboat Ainsworth, on Kootenay lake, has this day been dissolved by mutual consent. All debts owing to the said partnership are to be paid to David Bremner of Ainsworth, and all claims against the said partnership are to be presented to the said David Bremner, who assumes all the liabilities.

Dated at Ainsworth this 20th day of August, A. D. 1892.

Witnesses:

O. H. BROWN,
J. HESCH.

D. BREMNER,
SAMUEL LOVATT,
W. JEVONS.

CARNEY & BARRETT

NELSON MEAT MARKET.

FLOUR, FEED, and HAY. GROCERIES OF ALL KINDS. HAMS and BACON.

DRY GOODS, READY-MADE CLOTHING, BOOTS, SHOES, HATS, and CAPS.

FISHING TACKLE AND FANCY GOODS.

WEST BAKER STREET