

KLONDIKE POLICE.

WHY VIGILANTES WILL BE SUPERFLUOUS IN THE NEW ELSDORADO.

The Northwest Mounted Police, Whose Scarlet Tunic Is the Frontier Symbol of Law and Order, Patrol the Entire Region—A Model Corps.

Here and there among the mass of matter that has been written concerning the wonderful Klondike mines brief allusions have been made to the fact that a little body of mounted police has been patrolling the district ever since the excitement began, keeping perfect order and preserving among the constantly swelling populations of the various camps as peaceable conditions as can be found in the heart of any civilized community. And in all the speculation concerning the future of the locality, its probable immense growth and the fear of starvation, sickness and death, no fear has ever been expressed that anything in the nature of lawlessness or crime may get the upper hand and run rampant or that property rights and safety of the person will be in the least danger.

Vigilantes are to be unknown in this northern and snow-bound El Dorado. Though the British mining laws, or rather laws founded by the Canadians on British precedent, are in the main responsible for this feeling of security, the men who undertake their enforcement, after all, entitled to a great share of the credit, for good laws ill enforced are worse than useless. The Northwest mounted police of Canada, a body whose wonderful discipline and bravery have given the Dominion food for most of her later literature are the officers in whose hands has been placed the carrying out of these laws, and at this time, therefore, something con-



A KLONDIKE POLICEMAN.

cerning that organization and its internal workings should be of interest. The Northwest mounted police, whose scarlet tunic is the symbol of law and order in the Northwest, were organized when Alexander Mackenzie was Premier, and were one of Sir John Macdonald's inspirations, and after his return to power in 1873 they always remained under his own eye. The nucleus of the force was got together at Manitoba in 1873. They originally numbered 300, but by their coolness and pluck at critical periods they accomplished much in reducing the Indians and lawless whiskey traders to a state of order. The police built posts and protected the white settlers and the surveyors, who had already begun parcelling out the country and exploring the route of the Canadian Pacific Railway. In 1877 nearly the whole of the little force was concentrated on the southwestern frontier to watch and check the 6000 Sioux who sought refuge in Canada after their defeat and massacre of Custer and his little command on the Little Big Horn. It was through the efforts of the mounted police that the Sioux were finally induced to surrender peacefully to the United States authorities in 1880-81. After the outbreak of the half-breeds under Louis Riel in 1885 the force was increased to 1000 men, their present number.

The Northwest police, like the Royal Irish Constabulary, on which it was modeled, is in the eye of the law a purely civil body. Its officers are magistrates, the men are constables. But so far as circumstances will allow, its organization, internal economy and drill are those of a cavalry regiment, and when on active service in a military capacity the officers have army rank. The rank and file are not excelled by any picked corps in any service. A recruit must be between 22 and 45 years old, of good character, able to read and write English or French active, well-built and of sound constitution. The physique is very fine, the average of the whole being five feet nine and a half in height, and thirty-eight and a half inches round the chest.

There has always been an unusual proportion of men of good family and education in the service. Lots of young Englishmen who came out to try their hand at farming in the far West have drifted into the police, as also many well connected Canadians. Walks and strays from everywhere and of every calling are to be found in the ranks. The roll call would show many gentlemen if his own answered to any name but his name. There is at least one lord in the force and many universal graduates.

The officers' pay is not large, ranging from \$2400 a year to the Commissioner's \$10000, the inspectors, with all expenses, quarters, rations, fuel, etc., all members are uniformed, the full-dress uniforms of the officers, being

A PRINCE'S EXPLOIT.

LUIGI OF SAVOY THE FIRST TO SCALE MOUNT ST. ELIAS.

All Previous Attempts to Reach the Ice Summit, the Loftiest on This Continent, Were Failures—Altitude Reported to Be 18,130 Feet.

"Viva L'Italia!" shouted Prince Luigi, of Savoy, from the apex of Mount St. Elias. At noon on July 31, this intrepid young mountain climber and scion of royalty, reached the summit of the monarch of the Alaskan range. His foot was the first that trod the snow and ice of that peak, and his voice was the first human tone that sounded from that elevation.

The achievement of this young Italian Prince is the most remarkable in the records of modern mountain climbing. He has accomplished what others have tried and failed to do. Mount St. Elias, which he ascended, is not only one of the most interesting peaks in existence to the scientist, but it also presents to the mountaineer the greatest difficulties of ascent. It is not surprising, therefore, that the Prince and his party were thirty-nine days in making the ascent. The wonder is that they made the ascent at all.

The expedition commanded by this Prince of the House of Savoy, the royal family of Italy, is the fifth that has started for the almost inaccessible summit. The other four have failed and the fifth is the first successful one. The party in this fifth expedition consisted of Prince Luigi, nephew of King Humbert and possible heir to the throne of Italy, with three companions, Vittorio Sella, Francisco Gonella and Dr. Fellipi, with four of the Alpine guides of greatest experience and courage.

The expedition has determined two facts of prime importance to the scientific world. It has fixed the altitude of Mount St. Elias at 18,130 feet, and has proved that Mount St. Elias never was a volcano.

A new glacier was discovered by the explorers from the top of Mount St. Elias, between the August Mountains and Great Logan. It goes apparently to the sea, and was named by the Prince. The route upward was absolutely unknown. Advancing up these glaciers and moraines took thirty-nine days, or until July 4, on which day the Prince declared for the entire party a general holiday. At Pinnacle Pass was found the first evidence of Russell's expedition, in 1881, in the shape of a tent bottom and a single rusty fork. Finally the foot of the divide connecting Mount St. Elias and Mount Newton was reached with a supply of provisions to last twelve days. The elevation was 8,000 feet. The Americans in the party raised the Stars and Stripes over the camp in the Great Hills, and Prince Luigi and his party cheered again and again for the flag. At 1 o'clock, on the morning of July 31, they commenced the ascent of the great mountains, the summit being reached at noon. There was neither wind nor fog, and the thermometer was only 20 degrees below freezing. The Prince planted the Italian flag on the topmost peak and photographed it. He then cached the Italian and American flags.

The adventurous young man who has succeeded in conquering the hitherto invincible mountain is third son of the Duke of Aosta, former King of Spain, and nephew of King Humbert of Italy. He was born in 1873 and is a lieutenant in the Italian and German navies.

Every one prophesied failure for the plucky lad when, late in May, he started with his party. How could he hope to succeed, they asked where such experts as Schwatka, Topham and Prof. Russell had failed? The news that he has succeeded will demonstrate to these sceptics that nothing is impossible to unwavering pluck, determination and grit.

The mountain which has hitherto proved invincible lies at the head of the Mount St. Elias range, occupying a narrow strip of Alaskan coast territory, separating British Columbia from the sea. The peak is at the head of the range, about 250 miles east of Sitka, and lies in the border of British and American territory. So closely, indeed, does the peak trench in the dividing line that it needed a specially appointed commission to officially determine that the mountain actually belonged to this continent.

Malls for the Klondike. The United States and Canada have entered into a co-operative arrangement by means of which mails will be delivered twice a month to the Klondike region. The service will be under the supervision of the Canadian mounted police, and the expense will be borne jointly by the two Governments.

The Effect. Edwin—Don't you think short skirts make a woman look shorter? Ethel—Yes; but they make the men longer.—Typographical Journal.

George Didn't Like Taxes. In the old civic docket recently brought to light in the courthouse at Greensburg, Penn., there are several cases recorded against George Washington. In the course of the year 1787 three claims were entered against him to compel him to pay taxes. The humorous clerk of that time has written the following under the claims: "George Washington, Esq., appeareth not to like taxes."

Court of the Pope. The court of Pope Leo XIII. comprises 1,000 persons. There are twenty valets, 120 chamberlains, 300 extraordinary chamberlains, 130 super-superior chamberlains, thirty officers of the noble guard and sixty guardsmen, fourteen officers of the Swiss guard and palace guard, seven honorary chaplains, twenty private secretaries, ten stewards and masters of the horse and sixty doorkeepers.

Population of the United States. According to the official estimation made in the treasury department, the present population of the United States slightly exceeds 77,000,000. This indicates an annual increase of more than 2,000 since the last federal census was taken in 1890, when the total population of the country was found to be more than 62,000,000. We are now within three years of another federal census, at which, it is reasonable to anticipate, the total population of the United States will exceed 80,000,000.—Buffalo Courier.

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A TRICYCLE PATROL.

Unique "Hurry-Up" Vehicle Used by the Dayton Police.

The tricycle patrol, designed and owned by Superintendent of Police Farrell of Dayton, O., is the first and only vehicle of its kind in the world.

This is the first attempt to utilize the cycling principle in the arrest of prisoners. It will be of great convenience in emergency calls when a fast run is required, and will be useful in patrolling the streets at night. It was exhibited in Philadelphia at the national meet of the L. A. W. Although its introduction into police patrol service was largely experimental, its actual use by the Dayton department has proved its introduction into police service.

The framework, from the front wheel to the rear axle, is precisely that of the ordinary truss-bull tandem machine, the only exception being the addition of a flat wooden seat, with steel arms, enameled, which is fixed midway between the front and rear saddle posts. This seat is intended for the prisoner, who are to be carried one at a time, of course. Attached to each arm is a handcuff, to be used if necessary to manacle the prisoner. The seat faces the rear, so that he will be under the close surveillance of the officer riding on the rear saddle. The chains leading from the two large gear wheels are attached to the smaller wheels which are fixed to the large axle. There are two sets of cranks and pedals—one set for each officer. Although the machine weighs about eighty pounds, it is very light running when propelled by two persons, and has a total carrying capacity of 1,600 pounds. It is geared to 76 1/2.

Story of a Famous Painting. We have heard of the adventures of a guinea. The story of a painting brought to Rome by Queen Christina of Sweden is not less interesting. The subject is Leda and her attendant nymphs stacked in a bath by swans. It was painted 367 years ago for the Duke of Mantua, and given by him to the Emperor Charles V. Philippa II. took it from Italy to Spain. It was bought there by the sculptor, Leone Leoni, who sold it to a picture dealer for the collection of the Emperor Rudolph II. The Swedes took it, with other spoils of the seven years' war, to Stockholm, where Christina took a fancy to it and, with other treasures, transported it to Rome. She left it to Cardinal Azzolino, who died a few months after it was handed over to him. It passed on to his nephew, and was sold by him to Prince Livio Odescalchi, who left it to the Duc d'Orleans, regent of France. His son Louis, Duc d'Orleans, a pious prince, thought the head of Leda too pagan, and had it cut out. Coppel bought the painting and painted in a head from memory. He sold it to Paspurin, a collector of the great, Marshal Davoust took it from a Russian palace and brought it back to Paris. It was there restored and given back to the King of Prussia in 1815. The head fell off the canvas on the way, and a new head was inserted by Schiesinger. The picture is now in the possession of the German emperor, who is fascinated by the swans. The curious thing is that the artist's name has not gone down to posterity, though the picture has been famous for so many centuries.—London Truth.

Not Much of a Bird. "See, here, Mr. Sundries! You have charged me with an item in this bill that's ridiculous. Just look here. Here it is 'One do do.' Now, what in the name of common sense would I want with a do do? Never knew what it was until I asked my wife, and she told me it was an extinct bird. Why should I have a dead bird emptied among my chittels, and be charged \$2 for it? Answer me that."

Excuse me, Mr. Hasty, but if you will be kind enough to read the item above the one that you complain of you will see it is 'one pair of suspenders.' Then follows, 'one do do—double ditto, don't you see?'"

Receipt that oil, Sundries. If you mention this to my wife I'll murder you."

Odd Methods of Venezuelan Cowboys. When the cowboy of Venezuela wishes to catch a bull or sow for branding he rides alongside it and with horse and bovine on the dead run stoops from his saddle, grasps the creature's tail and with a sharp and peculiar twist sends the animal rolling on its back. From the force with which it falls the animal's horns almost invariably pin it to the ground, giving the cowboy time to dismount and sit on its head while a companion ties its legs.

Seal Rabbit Skins. Rabbit skins are now made to look like seal skins. The process of preparation is the following: The rabbits are caught alive, their fur shaved evenly all over and the animals set free again. This operation is repeated at intervals for a considerable time. Then the rabbit is killed and its skin dried and treated exactly as seal skin. The result is a shining fur.

A Good Business Custom. In Germany and Switzerland it is becoming more and more customary for business firms always to enclose in a letter an envelope with their printed address, thus facilitating correspondence and diminishing the chance of miscarriage through illegible writing.—Sacred Heart Review.

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TROLLEY CARRIAGE.

NOVEL PNEUMATIC-TIRED STAGE COACH FOR COUNTRY ROADS.

The oddest experiment in the line of a trolley just brought to a successful conclusion—Almost Noiseless Coaches Run at High Speed.

The oddest experiment in the line of a trolley has just been brought to a successful conclusion at Greenwich, Ct. The result is a trolley stage coach that needs no rails for its operation, and that while retaining the conventional trolley, has the wires at one side instead of overhead, and that can be turned around or moved in any desired direction without interfering in the least with the ordinary traffic of the highway.

It is called the trolley stage coach, or trolley carriage, and its intent is to supply that want which so often exists of some means of transportation for the public over a road on which property owners will not permit a regulation trolley to be operated. To be sure, there are the trolley wires of necessity, but instead of, as stated, being overhead, these wires are run along at one side upon poles thirty feet high and

the new trolley carriage. Two of the wires are hung, as it were, by means of metal arms from the top and third wire. This number of wires is required because of the method of operation of the trolley carriage. It seems very queer at first to think of a trolley line being operated with the wires in this position, when the fact is considered that there is to be more than one trolley carriage, and that, therefore, the wires must be utilized by vehicles going in different directions. It is simple enough, however, for the trolley of the car going north is attached to one wire, and that of the car going south to the other.

One great difficulty to be faced in the operation of these trolley carriages was how two vehicles could pass each other, even though other trolleys might be attached to different wires, without becoming entangled by making this double cable from which the wires run from the carriage to the circuit wire flexible, it became possible for the motorist to so manipulate the trolley as to pass over that of the vehicle coming toward it.

From the facts given, the method of operation can be understood. It always being borne in mind that one of the two wires brings the current while the other acts as a return wire for the current's escape. Oddly enough, when it comes to the propelling of the carriage the principle of the operation of the bicycle is exactly reversed. The power first reaches the forward wheels under which is located the motor. The vehicle is steered by means of a lever located near the motor, and which, it is declared by the inventor, is the safest steering apparatus ever designed for any motor vehicle whatsoever.

A single motion of the foot will start or stop the carriage, and the brake is of the same sort used on the huge road wagons that one sees. The present carriage in use is rather clumsy, for the reason that it was originally built to accommodate a storage battery, but the interior will be entirely remodeled and the whole made lighter and more easy running.

In fact, it is the intention to make the trolley carriage run as smoothly as the ordinary private affair. It is very speedy, making a mile now in three minutes. It responds very quickly to the movement of the steering apparatus, and has none of the jerky motion that characterizes the automobiles when a quick movement or turn is attempted.

If the experiment succeeds eventually, as there is every indication that it will, the gentlemen who intend manufacturing the trolley carriage have as surances that the supply will have to be rather extensive in order to meet the demand. In Greenwich, for instance, it has never been possible to secure consent to build a trolley line, much as some rapid method of transportation was needed. There is no objection whatever to this, and there is no doubt that there are many other places where the same situation exists.

Big Hat for a Big Brain Box. Daniel O'Connell's hat was shown to the County Kildare (Ireland) Archaeological Society the other day. The great orator's name, in his own handwriting, was written on the inside of the hat, which was of very wide dimensions—the width inside being 8 1/2 inches, and its long diameter ten inches. The Chairman of the meeting put on the hat, which entirely covered his head and went down to his chin.

A Telegraphic Feast. The telegraphic operators at Sydney claim to have established an Australian record on the night of the Federal Convention elections. No fewer than 1,065,570 words were received and transmitted in the Sydney office between twenty minutes past six P. M. and half-past two A. M., or at the rate of 133,196 words per hour. The staff of operators employed consisted of 120 men, engaged at fifty-six instruments.

A Musical Charity. A wealthy citizen of Barmen, Germany, has provided a fund for the formation of a people's chorus, of which every male—female inhabitant of the city who possesses a singing voice can be a member without any expense.

Some of the Curious Customs That Attend It in the Channel Islands. To the American citizen the success of the seaweed harvest carries with it little of import, but how much does it mean to the poor peasant coast dweller of the British Isles! To these hardy but poverty-stricken people, the annual opening of the seaweed harvest means income and even food. For during "hard seasons" the coast peasants of Western Ireland live almost entirely on seaweed and cliff moss. And even when they do not have to feed upon the seaweed, it may serve to bring them in a miserably small, but assured income, when sold for fertilizing purposes.

In the channel islands the gathering of seaweed and its sale as a fertilizer, becomes during the summer a paramount business. So highly indeed is seaweed prized that the legislative chamber of the Isle of Jersey (for little Jersey has no rule, though big Ireland has not), devotes special attention to the subject. About 100,000 tons of weed are gathered in Jersey alone during a single season. Some of this goes to the island farmers, but the major portion finds its way to England and France.

The opening of the seaweed harvest is attended with great formality. At a special sitting of the island courts in or about eastertide, the judges in all the solemnity of arm chairs and scarlet robes, decide, after hearing representatives of the various parishes, on what day the harvest may open. This year the harvest opened in July. Meanwhile preparations are being made at the farms all over Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney and Sark. The winter plowing is over, all the potatoes are in the ground, and the wagons are brought down to the shore, so as to be in readiness for the great day.

Every available hand is pressed into service. The harvesters are armed with short, strong sickles and provided with good sticks of provender, of which the piece de resistance is a substantial and toothsome "wreck cake," made for the occasion and solely at this time of year.

The boats go while the tide is still ebbing and secure the more distant and richly clothed rocks, so that when the carts can reach them at low water heaps of seaweed are ready for removal.

A large proportion of the crop is at once, while fresh and wet, spread over the fields for fertilizer. The remainder is cured for food.

An Unfortunate Illustration. An unusually good joke has leaked out at the expense of one of St. Joseph's able orators who accepted an invitation to speak at a celebration in a neighboring town. He was in the midst of his oration when a point was reached where the growth of these great United States was described. To make the effect more forcible the speaker pointed to a woman in the crowd who held a babe in her arms. In a flight of impassioned oratory, he exclaimed:

"Look at the innocent babe as it nestles in its mother's arms; just as it draws nourishment from its mother's breast to sustain life, so has the country drawn aid and support from the people who are upholding its integrity and honor."

The orator observed that the woman with the infant in her arms turned red, white and blue in the face, but he took it to be a genuine outburst of patriotism. A second glance, however, indicated that something was wrong. At the conclusion of the address the orator was advised by well-meaning friends to keep out of the way of the woman to whom he had directed his remarks. Inquiry brought out the fact that she was a confirmed old maid who had not spoken to a man for at least seven years. She was merely holding the baby for one of her neighbors.—St. Joseph, (Mo.), Herald.

In the Language of the Day. "Our minister is not very long winded, but he can make the boast that of all the marriages he has performed, not one has proven a failure."

"In other words, he is not pneumatic, but a solid tyer."

Luacy in Switzerland. The effect of mountainous scenery upon the human mind must be bad, for Switzerland has a greater proportion of lunatics than any other country.

Divided Up Fine. A pound of phosphorus heads 1,000,000 matches.

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