F. H. WASKEY IN CONGRESS.

Alaska's First Delegate Says He Is a Thorough Miner.

Since shedding swaddling clothes persistent as the howl of his own malamutes has been Alaska's effort to obtain just if not dignified representation in the halls of Congress. Of right to representation in that august body her gold output of the last ten years — some $40,000,000— would seem to substantiate.

Alaska's dependency upon Washington is not unlike that of the American colonies upon England before the Declaration of Independence. Indeed, so fragrantly has Washington ignored it that one time Fairbanks is said to have forbidden the celebration of the Fourth of July.

While a territory it has no territorial government. It is governed like the District of Columbia. To possess territorial government—the home rule for which Ireland has fought and bled—is now the controlling ambition. The first step toward realization was the election of the Democratic candidates for delegate to Congress—Frank H. Waskey, of Nome, and Thomas C. Cale of Fairbanks. Waskey was elected to fill the short term, while Cole is the long term delegate.

The Republican party merged the

Frank H. Waskey.

long and short terms into one and nominated Thomas C. Murane, a lawyer of unblemished character.

In Fairbanks, Cale's district, Murane had a single vote against the Democratic candidate's 650!

Alaska's delegate has no seat or voice in Congress Like a hearer at college, he is admitted to the floor of the house. In the committee room, where the real business of the house is transacted, he is entitled to a respectful audience

"There are no more intelligent men in the world," said Waskey, "than the miners of Alaska. Few are the camps, the cabins or the roadhouses they frequent in which the best current literature is not met. Miners devour such publications as the World's Work, the Scientific American, the Review of Reviews and mining publications. They are the thinkers as well as the doers in these parts

"Every man, I suppose," said Waskey, recalling his life in the north, "has some one thing of which he is prouder than another. My pride is that I am of pioneer stock. My father was forty years a miner. He and my mother came from New England to Minnesota when it was a forest, thence to California in its earliest days. From that frontier I pushed to Alaska.

"Newspapers have said I am not a miner; that I never sunk a shaft or handled a pick. The fact is there is no work pertaining to mining I have not done and continue to do. I am first and last nothing else but a miner."

Britons Seldom Mutiny.

The British army and navy being the best disciplined and the most content in the world, mutinies among our forces have happily been very rare. Previous to the recent outbreak at Portsmouth the last British mutiny of note occurred on July 7, 1890, when the 2d Grenadier Guards, then at Wellington Barracks, refused to turn out on parade, only about six men of the whole battalion answering bugle call. Eventually they were induced to assemble, but many instead of appearing in full marching order, paraded in tunics and fatigue dress. For the insubordination the whole battalion was exiled to Bermuda for one year.

Leaving the mercantile marine out of the question, the last British naval mutiny of note occurred as far back as December 1801. This was the famous mutiny of the Bantry Bay squadron, the seriousness of which may be judged from the fact that seventeen of the mutineers were condemned to death and all the rest sentenced to receive two hundred lashes each. In those days very stern measures were adopted to quell insubordination in the navy.

Portsmouth has been the scene of a serious mutiny before. In 1797 the whole fleet stationed there "struck" for the advance of wages. The Admiralty appeased the men by a promise, which, however, was not quickly fulfilled, whereupon a second mutiny broke out. Admiral Colpoys and his captain ordered the marines to fire, and as some of the men were killed, these two officers were arrested for using unjustified harshness. Eventually the men's wages were raised and the mutineers were all pardoned.—Answers.

DEAD WATER AND SPEED.

Curious Phenomena Observed by Navigators.

One of the most curious marine phenomena known to seamen is that called by Norwegian sailors "dead water," which without any visible cause makes a vessel lose her speed and refuse to answer her helm. The sailor's only definite knowledge of its origin is that it exists solely where there is a surface layer of fresh water resting upon the salt waters of the sea. Several explanations have been advanced by the captains of ships of the effect of dead water, the commonest of which is that the two water layers move in different directions. The true explanation, however, recently offered by Swedish navigators and verified by mathematical calculation and direct experiment is that in addition to the "resistance waves" at the surface the vessel creates a second line of subaqueous waves between the two strata of water.

The experiment carried out to demonstrate the truth of this theory was an exceedingly pretty one. A large plate glass tank was first mounted on a wooden frame. The tank was then filled to a certain depth with salt water and a layer of fresh water was carefully poured on to the surface, so that two separate water layers were obtained.

The salt water was blackened with liquid Chinese ink before the water layers were prepared, and in this way the different layers were made clearly visible. A boat model was then towed along the tank and a silhouette of the waves produced was obtained by placing a white screen at a short distance behind the tank. The waves were also photographed by flashlight, and the results showed conclusively that waves actually were set up at the boundary line between the two liquids.

Further experiments were made to verify the sudden loss of speed due to dead water. The boat model was drawn across the tank and the towing string suddenly slackened when the boat was about half way across. In cases where the tank contained salt water only the boat stopped gradually, moving some boat lengths after the towing string had been slackened When the tank contained a layer of fresh water resting on salt water, on the other hand, the boat slackened speed quite suddenly and moved only a very short distance These experiments carried out on a small scale, prove conclusively that the difficulties encountered within a dead water zone are really due to the resistance experienced by the vessel in generating invisible waves at the fresh water salt water boundary, although in some particular cases the influence of undercurrents must also, doubtless, be taken into account.

DANGER SIGN IN VAIN.

New Yorkers Will Walk Under Two Ton Safes if They Get a Chance.

That New Yorkers pay little attention to overhead dangers was illustrated one afternoon recently, when four safe movers were hoisting a two ton safe into a window of a high building on Broadway, says the New York Sun.

Before the men started to hoist the safe they placed at each end of the building a sign on which the word danger was printed in large red letters When the safe had been raised about twenty-five feet the men stopped to rest. The big safe hung suspended in the air.

A steady stream of men and women, unheeding the danger signs, walked under the suspended safe, some of them not even glancing up to what was being raised. Some women walked in the gutter, but the majority walked right under the safe, laughing and chatting as if they were in the security of their homes.

Then the safe movers got busy again. A crowd had gathered on the opposite side of Broadway to see the safe hoisted and when it disappeared through the window here were sighs of relief. If the ropes had parted while the safe was suspended in the air with so many people passing below some of them would have surely been killed.

"We always test every rope and pulley before we use it," said one of the safe movers. "If we didn't we would kill or injure two or three people every day, because none of them pay any attention to the danger signs, except a few nervous women.

"I've seen men stand right under a suspended safe and look up at it as if there was absolutely no chance of its falling. Some of these men become indignant when I tell them to move on.

"That safe which we have just raised weighs a little over two tons and if it ever came down on anybody's head there would only be a grease spot left to show where a person had once been. There is only one way to keep the people from walking under the safes and that is by stretching a rope around the danger zone."

Her Copyrighted Name.

Mme. Melba has had her name copyrighted in the United States, to prevent it being made dreadfully common by application to all sorts of theatrical, pharmaceutical and other goods and preparations without her consent.

Sterilizing Water.

Tests made in France indicate that water can be sterilized with ozone at the cost of about a cent and a half for every 1,000 gallons, when the process is carried on on a large scale

FLOWERS USED AS FOOD.

Important Articles of Diet for People of Many Parts of the World.

The lotus eaters of old, they tell us, were not flower eaters at all. What they did eat was the fruit of a prickly shrub, the jujube tree. This fruit is still eaten by the natives in parts of Egypt, and apparently without any remarkable effect. But a native wine is made from the juice. But if we must give up the Lotophagi as flower eaters, there are, says the London Globe, yet a number of blossoms which are really eaten at the present day.

There is, for example, the globe artichoke, the thistle which, according to Alfred de Musset, has "left the ass's jaws to be flooded with sauce in the Bishop's silver dish." For it is the unopened flowers of this plant which appear on our tables as a vegetable. If they are left on the plant they open out into handsome purple blossoms. And then there is the cauliflower, which Dr. Johnson is said to have called the "finest flower in the garden." This is truly a flower that is eaten, for the snowy vegetables served at our table are the unexpanded flowers of a variety of cabbage.

Cloves and capers, too, are familiar flowers that are eaten. The former are the immature blossoms of a plant of the myrtle order, growing in the Moluccas. It is a beautiful evergreen tree thirty of forty feet high, with crimson flowers. The buds are first light colored, then green and afterward red. At this stage they are gathered and dried. The little round knob in the center of the clove is the unexpanded crimson blossom. The familiar trimmings for the boiled leg of mutton are the unopened flowers of a spring bramblelike shrub of the Mediterranean region.

A favorite sweetmeat in former days was made of the candied petals of the violet, and the floral dainty is perhaps coming into favor again. But the flower of the Mahwa tree of India is so full of sugar that there is no need to candy it, and it is eaten either fresh or dried in the sun. These flowers are largely eaten by the natives along with their rice, etc. They are said to have a luscious but peculiar taste when fresh, and to resemble in flavor inferior figs when dry. It has been reckoned that a man and his wife and three children might be supported for three or four months on the flowers of one Mahwa tree. In other cases it is the pollen of the flower that is eaten. The pollen of certain species of reed is made into bread, and thus eaten both in Scinde and New Zealand. The pollen of the sage palm is also eaten.

LONG RIDE TO COLLECT TAX.

Corporal of Northwestern Mounted Police Crosses Arctic Wastes.

In order that the Government might not lose the few dollars it would receive from customs dues Corporal Seller of the Northwestern mounted police made a 995 mile trip through Arctic wastes and successfully accomplished a journey which many an explorer would be proud of, says the Pioneer Press.

Seller was stationed at Fullerton, on the west coast of Hudson Bay. He heard from natives that the Scotch ship Ernest William had put in further north and intended to trade with the natives. He decided at once that it was his duty to see that the ship and captain paid the dues required by the Government regulations.

Accompanied by Interpreter Ford and an Eskimo guide Seller set out on his long trip, which occupied two months. Intensely cold weather was encountered and many blizzards, but the only casualty was the death of one dog of their team of ten.

For two days both men and dogs were short of rations, and had they not opportunely fallen in with a party of natives would have been in desperate straits. For a part of the journey the food had to be eaten frozen and raw, as alcohol and wood gave out.

The courageous policeman kept a diary from which these extracts are taken:

"Very cold day. Had both feet frozen."

"Terrible snowstorm. Must find natives to get food, but cannot stir while storm lasts. Our dogs have had nothing for three days and cannot possibly spare them anything from our scanty store."

"Another bad storm. Sent Ford and Eskimo out to look for natives. They found some who told them that the place where the ship was is called Melachuseetuck, "the place where ghosts chase women.""

At the end of two months the little party reached "the place" where ghosts chase women, and received a hearty Scotch welcome from the captain of the ship, who paid his Government dues and outfitted the corporal for his return journey.

Seller receives $1.50 a day.

To Limit Ship's Motion.

A German engineer claims to have discovered an efficient method of preventing the violent motion of a ship at sea. The invention consists of a kind of turbine fitted vertically to the ship's keel. When set in motion the turbine counteracts the ship's tendency to roll from side to side. An old torpedo boat was fitted with the apparatus for a trial trip in rough weather off the mouth of the Elbe. The ship rolled to the extent of nine degrees, but after the turbine was set in motion she only rolled one degree. The result was attained without any reduction of seaworthiness and the ship's buoyancy was unaffected.

MANIFOLD VARIETIES OF CORN.

Cultivation Results in Existence of Five Hundred Kinds.

A surprising history is presented in a recent report to the Department of Agriculture with reference to one of America's greatest contributions to the food supply of the world, Indian corn.

Under the effects of cultivation the recognized varieties have increased from the few known by the early explorers to more than 500. The variations in size are interesting, especially as regards the height of the stalk. This runs from a foot and a half for some kinds of pop-corn to twenty-two feet for a Tennessee variety, and thirty or more for varieties grown in the West Indies.

The expert who has reported to the Department of Agriculture on the subject describes one group in which each kernel is surrounded by a husk, and the ear thus formed is itself enveloped in husks.

Some classes of pop-corn have ears only one inch long, while the ears of common corn sometimes attain a length of sixteen inches.

Earth's Shaky Foundation.

There is never a day on which some part of the earth is not shaken; and it is probable that not even an hour ever passes without some kind of an earthquake in some part of the earth. The truth of this statement may be inferred from the fact that in Japan alone 8,331 earthquakes were recorded between the years 1885 and 1891. The great majority of these shocks are tremors detected only by instruments, or, if noticed by man, of such slight intensity as to cause no alarm.

Earning Starvation Wages.

A woman who has applied to the Lambeth Guardians for relief says she is a buttonhole maker, is paid twopence a dozen and that it takes an hour and a half to make them. Evidently there are still people who sing the song of the shirt.

Population of "San Juan Hill."

On "San Juan Hill," bounded by West Sixty-first and Sixty-second streets, Amsterdam and West End avenues, in New York city, is a block that has 6,173 inhabitants. It is the most populous block in the world.

England's Monster Trumpet.

A monster trumpet which was used to summon the people to church in the early part of the last century is still to be seen at Braybrooke church, England. It is sixty-six inches long.

Nova Scotia's Fish Record.

The reduction works at Canso, Nova Scotia, handled 1,300 tons of dogfish in 1905 and produced therefrom 9,000 gallons of fish oil, besides 200 tons of fish scrap, which makes a good fertilizer.

Where Rents are High.

People who think rents are high will be interested in knowing that a single room in Cornhill, London, recently rented for $18,000 a year. The rents there are the highest on earth.

What Concrete Has Done.

The use of concrete already has thrown thousands of stone masons and cutters out of work throughout the country. In some large cities whole buildings have been constructed of the material.

Introducing Electricity.

The Sultan has given up opposing the introduction of electric light in Constantinople, and ere long that city will be lighted at night for the first time.

Where Snow is Sold.

Snow is sold for a cent a pound in the north of Sicily. It is a Government monopoly and after being gathered on the mountains is retailed for refrigerating purposes in the cities.

A Cat's Estate.

A cat named Pinkeye has died at Wilkesbarre, Pa., leaving an estate of $20,000 to a sister cat. Each of the cats inherited $20,000 from B. F. Dilley, an eccentric millionaire.

Remarkable Substitution.

In order to replace a lost thumb, a young man in Berlin has had a great toe amputated and grafted on the stump. The operation has proved successful.

Queen Elizabeth's Stocking.

In 1570 Queen Elizabeth was presented with a pair of silk stockings by her tire-woman and afterward never wore any other kind.

Composition of Radium.

Some of the greatest authorities on radium now incline to the belief that it is a compound rather than a chemical element.

Antique Fire Alarm System.

New York City's fire alarm equipment is the most antiquated of any in the large cities of the world.

Artistic Brickwork.

There is a modern chateau in Normandy, France, which is constructed in such a way that the brickwork resembles intricate embroidery.

Vegetarian Restaurants.

Berlin's thirty vegetarian restaurants receive the bulk of their patronage from students whose monthly allowances are nearly exhausted.