

MOUNT ST. ELIAS OUTCLASSED

McKinley's Snowy Crest Tops it by Two Thousand Feet.

HIGHEST OF AMERICAN MOUNTAINS

Graphic Account of the Experience of the Government Exploring Party in Climbing Alaska's Mighty Peak.

Up to the present time the belief has almost universally obtained that Mount St. Elias, which rises to a height of 18,924 feet above the level of the sea, is the tallest peak on the continent; but the recent work done by the United States Geological survey shows conclusively that Mount St. Elias is over-topped more than 2,000 feet by another Alaskan peak, situated about 120 miles north of Cook inlet and on what is known at present as the McKinley range. This towering mountain is close to the intersection of the 63d parallel of north latitude with the 137th meridian of west longitude, and its design in recent maps of Alaska as Mount McKinley, although it was not inaptly named by the early Russian settlers around Cook inlet, Bulshain, which translated, means "big."

Alaska has an area of nearly 600,000 square miles exclusive of its many islands, and its coast line exceeds that of the United States. Accurate data with regard to the geography of this immense territory is as yet difficult to obtain. There are many large areas on the map of Alaska which have never been viewed by the eye of the omniscient white man and are totally unknown.

It was in response to a very general desire for more and better information about Alaska that several departments of the government received appropriations from congress to equip and send out exploring parties, whose duty it would be to break up several of these blank areas and to find and report on routes to the interior from American seaports. Twenty thousand dollars were placed at the disposal of the United States Geological survey, determined that body to organize and send into Alaska four parties. Each was to consist of a geologist, a topographer and as many assistants as advisable. Two parties were directed to cross the passes at the head of Lynn canal, and to proceed down the Yukon until American territory was reached. The other two were to proceed to the head of Cook inlet. One of them, under the direction of J. E. Spurr, was then to proceed westward in an endeavor to reach the Kuskokwim river; the other party, under George H. Eldridge, geologist and myself, were to proceed north up the Sushitna in an attempt to get through to the Yukon. The second of these parties I accompanied in the capacity of topographer.

How the Exploration Was Begun. The United States Geological survey detailed for the purpose of carrying the four governmental parties to Alaska, left Seattle on April 4. Each party was equipped with camping outfit, supplies for six months and necessary scientific instruments. The Westinghouse regular inside passage from Seattle to Skagway, where the two Yukon parties disembarked on April 16. It arrived at Tyoonok, near the head of Cook inlet, on April 27. We unloaded there and prepared for our work. Beside Mr. Eldridge and myself there were five experienced woodsmen from the vicinity of Lake Superior, chosen as especially adapted for the work proposed on account of their long experience in packing and boating. All were stalwart fellows, inured to hard work and travel, and they bore themselves well throughout the expedition. We consumed little time in preparing for our trip and on May 4 we made a start up the Sushitna river.

This stream, by far the largest which flows into Cook inlet, is of glacial origin and its current extremely swift. Throughout its lower course it traverses a heavily timbered glacial plain. The stream is divided into many channels by low sandbars and islands, most of which are covered during seasons of high water, and it carries in its waters an immense amount of silt. It is navigable only for canoes and light draft boats. We started up about the time of the spring flood and our passage was constantly impeded by trees which came floating down stream with roots and branches sweeping everything before them. The swift current was constantly undermining the banks, thereby precipitating the trees into the river. Great quantities of ice also drifted down stream until the latter part of May. The water at first was intensely cold, but we soon became accustomed to its temperature.

Hardships of the Trip. From May 20 to the 6th of July we were in the water every day, wading and pulling the boats after us. Each of these was laden with from 800 to 1,000 pounds of provisions and supplies. They were light and constantly

being snagged by the floating trees or by sunken timbers. Progress was consequently slow and difficult. On some days we were unable to advance more than half a mile, and we esteemed ourselves fortunate on the days when we made two or three miles. From the mouth of the Sushitna I ran an instrumental line of survey and made plane table sketches of the river and surrounding country. Some twenty-five miles up from its mouth the Sushitna is joined by the Yontna, a large tributary flowing in from the east. At the point of conjunction the Alaska Commercial company has established a store. Here we took leave of Mr. Spurr and his party.

We continued up the Sushitna and arrived on July 24 at a point some eighty-two miles from its mouth, where it receives two large tributaries, the Talkeena and the Chulitna, which flow in from the east and the west respectively. Here a latitude station was established and we found it to be in 62 degrees 20 minutes north. The channel from here up is more confined and the river narrows to a half of a mile in width. The fall, however, is greater and the current is swifter, but the banks are better than in the lower course and we made more progress daily.

Approaching Mount McKinley. On the 5th of July we found ourselves at the mouth of the Sushitna. Here, accordingly, we determined to cache our boats and surplus provisions and to take the so-called overland trail for the Tanana. First, however, we determined to pitch camp long enough to make final observations on Mount McKinley and the great range which it dominates.



SCENES TAKEN BY EXPLORING PARTY UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

only a short time. We made a number of camera exposures, but these proved to be complete failures, presumably on account of the intense whiteness of the range. To guard against such a contingency I made a number of rough sketches, both of the general landscape and of the great peak. This done we took a last look at the great range and began preparations for the long portage across the divide to the Tanana.

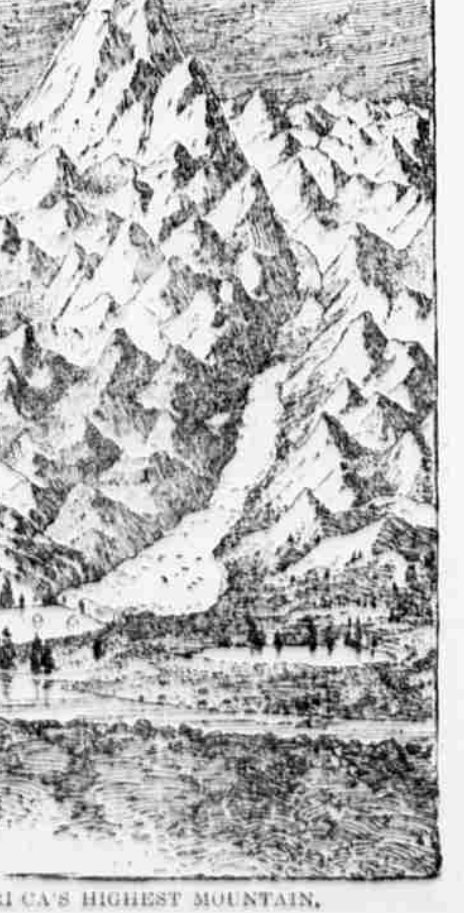
We made a start early on the morning of the 15th of July, carrying with us only absolutely necessary sustenance and equipment. The journey proved trying in the extreme. We traveled by slow and toilsome stages for six weeks, and on no day did we make progress far in excess of that possible to an unencumbered man walking on level ground in an hour's time.

Country Full of Game. The country was wild and beautiful. Our journey carried us mostly above timber line and among mountains in some places as rugged as those of the McKinley range. Wild flowers grew in abundance everywhere below the snow line. We saw plenty of game, mostly grouse and caribou. We also saw some bear and signs of moose, but did not stop to do any hunting.

We crossed two mountain ranges—the first at the head of Indian creek, some thirty miles up from the Sushitna. About thirty miles farther on we crossed the main divide at an elevation of 4,200 feet. In the center of the pass through the great divide there is a lake whose waters drain both into Bering Sea and into Cook inlet. The lake was a desolate Caribou Pass on account of the large number of caribou which we saw in the vicinity, and we gave the name of Summit Lake to the lake. The immediate discovery of the pass and of the lake came about through our meeting with an Indian who was located by the smoke which arose from his camp fire a little distance to the left. It was the first signs of human habitation that we had seen for months and a party of us went over to investigate. There we found the Indian, a man of perhaps 40, camped very comfortably with three or four of his squaws. They had been hunting all summer with only tolerable success. He could speak only a word or two of broken English and was prevailed upon to guide our party in the direction of the Tanana.

When we arrived at Summit Lake he pointed toward the Chulitna, which he called by name, and then pointed northward, indicating by signs and language that if we followed the direction of the stream we would "go Tanana." This we accordingly did, and followed the course of the stream for ten days. The country on the north side of the great divide differs from that on the south in that it is much drier and vegetation grows much less luxuriantly. Our course led us northwesterly, and we followed the stream until we felt assured that it was a tributary of the Tanana. We would have penetrated the country until we arrived at the Yukon, had it not been for the fact that our provisions had run alarmingly short. Accordingly on August 25 we determined to retrace our steps.

The return trip was accomplished without incident. The party arrived safely at the mouth of Indian creek on September 2 and the boats and provisions were found to be just as we had left them. After a short delay for repairs we launched the boats and ran 100 miles down the Sushitna in fourteen hours. We arrived at Tyoonok on September 9 and there learned from the first time that our country was at war with Spain. After waiting fifteen days for the steamer Dora we arrived at Juneau October 1. We waited there five days for the boat and arrived at Seattle on October 9.



MOUNT MCKINLEY, AMERICA'S HIGHEST MOUNTAIN.

level of the sea. At a glance we saw the whole of the eastern slope of the great mountain. This side of the mountain is seamed with hundreds and thousands of sharp gullies and is cut by ravines and canyons of a depth of thousands of feet. It serves also as a base for innumerable peaks, some of which rise to a height of from 7,000 to 10,000 feet. Running off to the right of the great peak, and perhaps twenty-five miles in length, is a glacier fed by the ice and snow accumulations of centuries. The entire party agreed that as far as human beings are concerned the mountain is absolutely inaccessible from the eastern side.

The whole McKinley range gives an impression of the greatest ruggedness and its outlines would be harsh in the extreme were they not tempered by the soft white of the snow which caps all high peaks. Moreover, below the snow line the slaty rock is covered by the soft Alaskan mosses, which lend to all the mountains of Alaska a beautiful pale green color effect peculiarly their own.

Photographing the Mountain. Observations of the McKinley range, and in particular on the great peak, consumed



MAP SHOWING LOCATION OF AMERICA'S HIGHEST MOUNTAIN MCKINLEY

Spain's Amazing Apathy. Catastrophes of the Nation Fail to Arouse the People. PRESENT CONDITION, FUTURE PROSPECTS. Damage to the Country by the French System of Centralization—Inability of the Country to Reform Itself.

The Present State of Spain and Her Future is the title of a paper by Nicolas Esteyra, Spanish ex-minister of war, in the New York Independent. He reviews the condition of the country brought about by the Spanish revolution, and draws a very gloomy picture of the nation's prospects, as follows: "Spain's story in her recent struggle with the United States has surprised no one; what has astounded the whole world, and the Spaniards themselves, is the indolent passiveness of this people, generally content to rebel against the public authorities for trifling causes, and even without cause or pretext. The loss of a whole colonial empire, the death of 100,000 men, the naval disasters and the ruin of its scanty credit, have left it in a state of impotency this unhappy nation, which neither exacts an account from those who are to blame for so many misfortunes, nor exhibits any perseverance in the proposed measures of reform."

There are not lacking those who attribute the indifference of the people to Christian resignation, Mussulman apathy, or a consciousness that all are to blame, each in his own degree; but one thing is not to be denied, and that is that there has been seen such ignorance of the situation, or such scorn for horrible catastrophes. Today Spain appears to be a cold corpse, a dead soul; and, in my opinion, the European nations make a mistake in not studying them greatly. What these nations have done is to discuss the partition of the Peninsula, the new Poland, between England, France and Germany, without taking into consideration the Spanish people, and the people in the death agony because the extremes are the first to grow cold in a dying body. What is dying is not Spain, but old Europe.

It is clear that the death agony of a whole century may be prolonged for years and centuries, but the day is not distant when Europe must play in the world the part now played by Egypt and Greece; that of a museum of antiquities, a school for archaeologists and learned men, without the influence of any class or influence upon progress, or any positive function in the process of civilization. But the object of this article is not to talk about arrogant Europe, but about the present and the future of Spain.

The Future. To speak of the future is a little risky, because those of us who do not believe in the biblical prophecies ought not to claim for ourselves the title of prophets, but at any rate we will draw logical deductions from the present, from the visible, from that which cannot be questioned, and we shall discover whether there is logic in the world, of which, in sooth, we are not thoroughly convinced. For the moment the laws of logic do not reign in Spain. If logic were performing its functions in Spain there would not exist at the present time either illiberal governments, or decadent parliamentarism, or intolerable centralization, or that system of mystification personified in a foreign woman and a child.

One of the persons most to blame for the colonial disaster, through his rule in the Philippines and in Cuba, General Weyer, is, nevertheless, considered by some persons as a hope of the country. General Weyer, by regenerating the country with the best word of his dictatorship, would save neither the national fortune, nor the national honor, but perhaps he would "re-concentrate" us, as he did the brave non-combatants of Cuba, or eradicate us, as he did the poor Indians of Luzon. One can never perceive logic nor discover good intentions in offering such a man as a savior, as some liberals are doing.

Among the men in civil life one of the most baleful in the colonial question, one of the most baleful in the question of the very misfortune, except as well as internal, is Senor Romero Robledo. And he, also, figures among the hypothetical regenerators. Other elements of politics and society, persuaded that our evils proceed principally from our corrupt political corruption, place their hope of regeneration on the men who are most confessedly corrupt, and most justly discredited. Political corruption is upheld by the system of leaders; Judge, then, that it will become if great leaders like Flat Tamano and Silveira attain to power.

Clericalism and Centralization. The injury done to the nation by clericalism is self-evident, and the clerical system is not only firmly maintained by the ardent reformers, but many hope for salvation from the very friars who have lost us the Philippine islands. Today, as I write, a clerical ministry is being created, and an extremely important part of the government is entrusted to the clerical Polavieja, whom Pi y Margall says, with accuracy, that he is not a general but a prelate. The injury caused to this country by the clerical system of centralization is recognized, and with that object the chambers of commerce and of agriculture, and regional autonomy, but they hope for it from the monarchial agents of authority and the centralizers, from those who have never been autonomous from Silveira, Polavieja and the dynasty, which is "to demand from an elm tree." The whole nation seems to have lost its wits. Logic did it exist, would lead us to establish a federative republic, since with it would disappear centralization, which grinds down the people, and one-man leadership and the monarchy, for whose security a senseless war was first instituted and afterwards a humiliating and shameful peace was signed. How few people consider the federation and the republic, except the federals of Senor Pi y Margall. This man and his party would be the best guaranty of honesty, as his policy is the only rational and reforming policy. Unfortunately the federal party has been considerably diminished by the war with out quarter waged upon it for a quarter of a century, not only by the monarchists but also by the one-man republicans. The latter, themselves with republicanism under a dictator, like that of Ecuador, and have not yet rid themselves of medieval

prejudices, have conspired more against Pi y Margall and his party than against the monarchists. Precisely at the present moment they hope more from Weyer or from Romero Robledo than from the self-styled statesman and political writer who so boldly faced unpopularity in Spain by defending the independence of Cuba, who foresaw disaster, who opposed war with the United States, and who offers to the country a redeeming asset.

Politicians Without Policies. The other politicians, monarchial or republican, lack a definite program; they intend to govern according to circumstances and at haphazard, since for them there exists no other policy, and no other ideal than the possession of power and calculation. A cowardly calculation, unless it is to be adjusted to the true resources of the country. Through it will come the death of the one-leader party, with a monarchy or without it; then adjusting itself to the effective resources, they will seek to make the parasites who form the nucleus of the centralizing parties, and expressing to the people, who are the producers, more than impossible wealth conceals, eventually the revolution of the masses will break out.

A military insurrection led by Weyer or by any other man will, perhaps, convert the monarchy into a republic, but will solve none of the pending problems, rather will it aggravate them. Against the republic (either with a dictator or free, or against the monarchy, there will infallibly come a revolution, determined by the general wretchedness, unless the budget of expenses be reduced by half. And this can only be done by the federal party, whose program and whose policy will be to reduce the monarchy into a republic, but will solve none of the pending problems, rather will it aggravate them. Against the republic (either with a dictator or free, or against the monarchy, there will infallibly come a revolution, determined by the general wretchedness, unless the budget of expenses be reduced by half. And this can only be done by the federal party, whose program and whose policy will be to reduce the monarchy into a republic, but will solve none of the pending problems, rather will it aggravate them.

Spain is on the eve of a transformation which will be effected after passing through successive phases. Perhaps Carlism is raising its head against a constitutional monarchy; and although it may not do so, because its relatives are now governing, and are preparing the marriage of Don Carlos to the sister of the boy-king, in any case the conflict of the fanatical papists will arise and a new and disastrous civil war will stain the fields with blood. These are bad means for avoiding bankruptcy or for preventing the intervention of the powers. The result of the revolution can be nothing but the establishment of a federal and truly democratic republic, which, if it does not arrive too late, will prevent foreign intervention, and will put an end to the separatism which is spreading in various regions, notably in Galicia, Vizcaya and Catalonia.

None of these regions is really opposed to national unity, but if the experience of Cuba be repeated, which could not obtain recognition or the promise of its autonomy until it had recourse to arms, we shall have a separatist republic in Catalonia, a separatist independent or French, and the other regions will find foreign allies who will help them to break the links of nationality.

Party Frictions. In the regions mentioned the separatists are scarce, but the autonomists are so numerous that they are really in the majority. Under the name of Catalanists in Catalonia, of Vascons in the Basque provinces, of Galicians, they are nothing but good federalists, but as they have no confidence in the federalists of the other regions, they are working in isolation, with an exclusiveness which is none the less censurable because it is capable of exploding.

Neither are they right in distrusting the federalism of the other regions, since in all of them there are federal councils and publications, particularly in Valencia; in Valencia, also, they form the majority; Castile, Extremadura, Andalusia, the Canary and Balearic islands, Aragon and the Asturias are where they are in the minority. The Navarrese themselves, who are so Carlism and Catholic, are in a certain way, federalists. If all the regionalists have not yet been fused with the federalists, it is precisely because among the former there are many monarchists, some Catholics and not a few embittered, and it is well known that the Spanish federal party, which accepts the program of Senor Pi y Margall, is, above all, republican, is firmly democratic, is unambiguously liberal, and proclaims, above all things, absolute liberty of conscience. There are regionalists who desire the autonomy of their region in order to return to the past, while federalism ardently longs for national growth, in order to enter fully upon the path of democratic reforms, establishing nationality upon the common and voluntary consent of all the regions, which today are assembled together by force, by the hateful right of conquest, rather than united.

The establishment of a federal republic is Spain's only hope of salvation, and, in spite of the resistance offered by interests less profound than national interest, in spite of the prejudices of classes and of parties which have learned nothing from the loss of the colonies, in spite, also, of the habits of those who incline to return to the fixed type, Spain will, at last, enter upon a life of progress with the inevitable triumph of the revolution. When? It is not easy to predict. It is being slowly brought to perfection in the very heart of this decrepit society. Soon, very soon, we shall see its first steps, and I believe that in less than a year the republic will have been founded on a federal basis, or Spain will have ceased to exist.

Some of the results of neglected dyspeptic conditions of the stomach are cancer, consumption, heart disease and epilepsy. Kodol Dyspeptic Cure prevents all this by effecting a quick cure in all cases of dyspepsia.

MARK TWAIN'S NEW WORD. Ninety-Eight-Letter Jewel Has Added to His German Vocabulary. Mark Twain, who seems hale and hearty and thoroughly to enjoy American life and society, has recently acquired the hearts of his multitudinous Vienna admirers by a lecture in the aid of local charity. Lecture is scarcely the appropriate term, says a Vienna letter, to apply to the famous American humorist's deliveries, seeing that in addressing his audience he rarely reads, but extemporizes and gesticulates in a way peculiarly his own. On the present occasion he contented himself with throwing a furtive glance into a volume of Tauchnitz lying on the table covered at his side and began to speak German with his native nasal accent, his fingers ever and anon through his dense lissén crop of white hair. He owned, as he said, to his shame, his inability to proceed with his address in German, but must needs continue in English, seeing that he had not as yet sufficiently mastered the foreign language so as to allow of his using it with impunity. His collection of fourteen syllable German words was still incomplete. He had added, however, to that collection by the discovery and appropriation of a veritable jewel, which he had found in a telegram from Linz of a word numbering ninety-eight letters, namely: Personaleinkommenssteuerungskommissionenmitgliederskostenrechnungsergebnisdivisionsbefund, adding: "If I could get a similar word engraved upon my tombstone I should sleep beneath it in peace." He then gave his sketch, "The Lucerne Girl," an experience he had had with his friend, Harris, when in Switzerland, closing with an account of how he had been interviewed, and ridiculed, in a way that delighted his audience, interviewers, the interviewed and the

public reading the dished-up interviews in the papers. In the crowd of distinguished persons present I observed Minister and Mrs. Charlemagne Tower.

It Was a Good One When You Come to Think of It. The street fakir who sold a perfect panacea for every pain on the street was resting last afternoon and evening services and was doing a little talking in retrospect, relates the Washington Star.

"I wasn't always in this business," he said, "for my real taste was in the dramatic line, and I made my first appearance as Weezooki, the Wonderful Wizard, doing my act under a roof and on a real stage, or as often that way as the towns I struck were fixed for it. I don't know that I made any more money than in the present line, but I was in love with my art, and I could afford to make less. What is money to a man wedded to his art?" and the late wizard laid his hand on his bosom and looked up at the ceiling.

"But I was not to be permitted to follow the inclinations of my nature," he went on, "it is nearly always so, you know, in the higher walks of life: in the purely ideal, as it were. One of my acts, which was, indeed, the star turn of the whole lay-out, was the famous gun act in which I let any person in the audience shoot at me from the rear end of the hall and I caught the bullet in my teeth and spat it out in a plate entirely unharmed. It had always been so successfully performed that I had fallen in love with it, and made it the grand finale of the show.

"One night, in a Kentucky town, where there were a lot of men who were crack shots, I made such a success that I was asked to give another performance the next night, and, flattered by the attention, I did so. When the great gun act came around, a tall slab-sided man said he would like to shoot the gun. I was perfectly willing that he should do so, and after carefully looking the weapon in the sight of the audience, letting one and all see that I put the bullet into the gun and rammed it hard home—it was the ramming, you know, that smashed the bullet, made for the purpose, and rendered it into harmless dust—I handed it to

him and took my place to receive his shot. At the command he fired, and as he did so I thought somebody had struck a red-hot poker through my ear, and I clapped my hand to my head and took it away covered with blood. The curtain went down with a rush and I took a faint for the next fifteen minutes. When I came to, the tall man was standing in the crowd around me.

"Here, stranger," he said, sticking a \$20-bill into my hand, "I guess you've got a right to that much, anyhow. You see I bet Judge Jones \$50 I could plug you through the ear, and I done it easy. You ought to be glad we didn't bet on your windpipe, or your spinal column."

"Of course, he had slipped a bullet in on me, and being a crack shot, it didn't turn out so bad, but the more I thought of it, the more I felt like not giving some awkward chap a chance to gamble in that same way, and I cut the act out. But the people wouldn't have me without it, so I gave up the whole thing and took up my present line."

Stops toothache instantly. Dent's Toothache Gum. All leading druggists, 15 cents.

Urges Grant for Peace. NEW YORK, April 19.—A special from Washington says: The successor to General Guy V. Henry as governor general of Porto Rico has not yet been selected, but the assignment of Brigadier General Fred D. Grant to the Philippines has been held up and some of his friends are urging that he be promoted to the vacancy.

Ekatra Kills and Flees. CHICAGO, April 19.—After killing his 5-year-old son today by cutting his throat with a butcher knife, Emil Ekatra jumped on a horse and fled from his home in South Holland.

GIVE THE CHILDREN A DRINK called Grain-O. It is a delicious appetizing, nourishing food drink to take the place of coffee. Sold by all grocers and liked by all. It is a healthful and strengthening beverage. Grain-O aids digestion and strengthens the nerves. It is not a stimulant but a health builder and child-rearing agent. Costs about one-fourth as much as coffee. 15c and 25c.

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