

China and the Philippines

(Continued from Seventh Page.)

so large a river that the biggest ocean steamships can go inland to Hankow. At Hankow there are three cities close together which have an aggregate population of about 3,000,000, and the country all about is thickly settled. The distance from Hankow to Peking is in the neighborhood of 500 miles. The country swarms with people, and the road connecting the two must be very profitable. At Hankow there are extensive railroad shops. There are rolling mills, foundries and machine shops which have altogether cost millions of dollars. The shops cover, I should say, at least twenty-five acres, and in them much of the material for the railroad is being made. The work is somewhat under the direction of Chang Chi Tung, although more directly under Sheng. It is a great undertaking and will be pushed forward to completion.

"How about the concession which was granted to the late Calvin S. Brice to build a railroad in China?"

"The work is going on," replied the minister. "I got the concession with the emperor's sanction, and the company expects to carry out the building of the road just as

wonderful ability and he will always be one of much influence."

"What are China's relations with Japan at present?"

"They are very friendly," replied the minister.

"But is there any possibility of a union between the Japanese and Chinese? Japan to Peking, is there not, your excellency?" I asked.

"Yes," replied the Chinese minister. I devoted several years to furthering that enterprise, and that without material success. has 40,000,000 people and China has about 500,000,000. If you could combine, organize and arm these 540,000,000 you might be a serious menace to the rest of the world."

"I have heard that possibility mentioned before," replied the minister. "It is hardly a possibility when you know the Chinese. Our people are not naturally a conquering nation. We are not greedy for territory and we have no ambition to enter into wars of conquest. We are naturally peaceful and I believe that our progress is to be along the lines of peace. I believe the day will come when we will be a power among the nations, but it will be as an industrial, social and financial power, not as a military one. I don't mean that we will not be able to defend ourselves, for I think that we can hold our own against the world. What I do mean is that such wars as we have will be defensive rather than offensive."

In closing I asked the minister for photo-



THE CHINESE LEGATION AT WASHINGTON.

soon as it can. The surveyors are at work, I think, and arrangements are being made for pushing the enterprise. It has been retarded considerably by the death of Senator Brice."

"Just where will this road go, your excellency?"

"It will extend from Hankow to Canton, connecting these two centers and passing through one of the most thickly populated parts of China. Canton has 2,000,000 or more people, and there are cities all along the line of the road."

Chinese Cheap Labor Not Dangerous.

I here referred to the enormous population of China and the skill of the Chinese in manufacturing and their use of modern machinery, and asked his excellency whether he did not think the day would come when the factories of China would flood the markets with all kinds of goods and materially injure the laboring classes of the rest of the world. He replied:

"I think not. We Chinese are hard workers and money makers, but we are also money spenders. The reason why we live so cheaply—I refer to the lower classes—is because we have to do so. If we ever become the great manufacturing nation that you predict, and I think we will, it will be to manufacture goods for ourselves. As we make more money our wants will increase. We will spend more, wages will go up and you will find that your big market is on the other side of the world and not here.

"You must remember, also," the minister continued, "that we have an enormous population. We are numbered by the hundreds of millions, and big bodies move slowly. The Chinese are especially conservative. They do not change quickly, and it will be a long time before such a condition as you anticipate comes."

"But has not China changed since its war with Japan?"

"Yes, somewhat so," was the reply. "You can see it when you go back to it. The people are beginning to realize the enormous market and their possibilities outside their own country. They are changing more at the seaports. The government appreciates the situation better than it has ever done and I look for more rapid changes in the future."

"How about the emperor? Does he realize the extent of the world outside of China?"

"Yes," replied the Chinese minister. "He is well posted upon foreign affairs and knows a great deal about this country and Europe. I have met him a number of times and he always asks many questions as to foreign affairs. He is very intelligent, but has never been strong and is rather delicate than otherwise."

"What is Li Hung Chang doing?"

"Li Hung Chang is living in Peking," said the minister. "He has the office of grand secretariat and as such he holds a very high place in the government. He is very close to the empress dowager and is often consulted as to foreign affairs by the emperor and his cabinet. Li Hung Chang is a man of

Miss Edith Howe. She is a Black Hills girl and all of the Black Hills people pride themselves in the young woman's achievements. Miss Howe was just returned from the Klondike. It is doubtful if another woman in the world has seen as much of that cold and practically unknown country as she.

Rapid City, S. D. has a heroine whose name is Miss Edith Howe. She is a Black Hills girl and all of the Black Hills people pride themselves in the young woman's achievements. Miss Howe was just returned from the Klondike. It is doubtful if another woman in the world has seen as much of that cold and practically unknown country as she.

Miss Howe left Rapid City in August, 1898, and reached Dawson City in February. She knows a great deal about the Klondike. She has been up and down the Yukon river several times, both by steamer and by dog team. The experience of her life was the trip which she made all alone down the river from Dawson City, in midwinter, with her own dog team. The thermometer was often 50 degrees below zero, and yet she never experienced a moment's inconvenience from the cold. She was clad warmly in a suit of buckskin and in her sleeve she carried a silk handkerchief. She usually walked in front of her dogs, and when she felt her face tingling with the cold she would rub the spot vigorously with the handkerchief, which always brought back the circulation of the blood. She made the 400 miles in fourteen drives, which was considered unusually good. The nights she spent at the road houses along the way. Miss Howe always met with the most cordial treatment wherever she went alone and her energy and pluck were the admiration of everyone.

At one time she hired out to a dredging company at White Horse as a correspondent. She was to receive \$3,000 a year and her work was to write up descriptive articles of the company's operations for a boom in the papers of the states.

Worked for a Fake.

After being with the company for some time she discovered that it was a fake and she quit, being out her time. Purchasing a dog team she went to Dawson City, where she became acquainted with a woman, with whom she formed a partnership in the laundry business. They secured the laundry contract of the Canadian mounted police, which paid them \$300 a month. They were permitted to take in work from the civilians, which also brought in a good income.

After getting the laundry business nicely started Miss Howe was taken sick with typhoid fever and her recovery being slow she decided to return home to the Black Hills and so she started from Dawson on September 21.

Miss Howe is in love with the frigid northern country and she expects to return to her laundry business as soon as her health will permit, which will be some time next January. While Dawson City is full of sin and vice of all descriptions and everything is run on the wide-open plan, Miss Howe says that the people, men and all, are the most sociable lot that she ever saw. Money there is plenty and it is freely spent.

When Miss Howe left Dawson last month the 100 milk cows had formed a trust and it took a whole silver dollar to buy a quart. There was considerable sickness in the city and every bit of the milk was fed to the patients.

Miss Howe speaks at length of the beauty of the country around Dawson, the fertility of the soil, the luxuriant grass in the

graphs of himself and his legation and he very kindly gave me those which are used in the illustration of this letter. The two pictures of the legation were made by the minister himself with a small snap-shot camera and the photograph of the minister was taken with the same camera by one of his secretaries.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

The True Significance

Puck: Daughter—Yes, Henry calls her three nights every week, but I don't think he means anything by it. He says he don't take any stock in matrimony, thinks a man is better off single and is exceedingly cold, apathetic and inattentive to me!

Father—Great Scott! That shows he wants you the worst way! He's a horse dealer, you know.



MISS EDITH HOWE—SOUTH DAKOTA'S HEROINE OF THE KLONDIKE.

South Dakota's Heroine of the Klondike

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Miss Howe speaks at length of the beauty of the country around Dawson, the fertility of the soil, the luxuriant grass in the

summer, the lack of flies and mosquitoes and the "numerosity" of a little insect called in Dawson the "crumb bug." Miss Howe says she found the little bugs in the laundry of the Canadian mounted police, where they seemed to thrive amazingly.

The New Dawson.

The new Dawson, built upon the ruins of the fire, is a modern city, Miss Howe says. Electricity lights up the long winter nights and there is actually one brick store building, which was erected last summer. "But Dawson is dead for Dawson," Miss Howe says. The population last summer was about 12,000, and now it is only about 5,000. Stampedes to other mining districts, especially to the new camp of Cape Nome, have depopulated the city.

Miss Howe states that the report sent out several months ago about the discovery of a big vertical of quartz ore near Atlin by the Florman family was true. Robert Florman, wife and two daughters, Frankie and Florence, formerly lived in Rapid City, too, and Mr. Florman was very prominent in mining affairs in the Black Hills for several years.

While prospecting for gold near Atlin one of the Florman girls discovered a 400-foot vein of quartz ore which was rich in free-milling rock. It just so happened that William Partridge, the well known mining expert, better known to the London Mining exchange as "Sailor Bill," a name given him while experting the famous Kimberley diamond mines in South Africa, was a friend of the Flormans and he came to Atlin soon after the discovery of the quartz vein was made. Partridge bonded the ground immediately for \$200,000 and left for London, where he interested Lord Hamilton, who took up the bond as soon as he had completed an examination of the property. The recent development of the quartz vein has shown it to be very rich in gold. The Flormans have the money, which fact is very gratifying to their many friends in the Black Hills.

The big mining deal brought about the acquaintance of Miss Florence Florman with Frank Baker, a rich mine owner of Dawson, and their marriage was consummated just before Miss Howe left Dawson for the Black Hills. They are residing at Dawson.

The Klondike has a number of other Black Hills people, both men and women. Mrs. J. S. Gantz of Rapid City went to Dawson City with Miss Howe and she is now doing well in the millinery business and at the same time she is holding down some fine mining ground. Some of the Black Hills people are having great luck, like Harry Ash of Sturgis, who cleaned up \$100,000 last summer, but others are wishing themselves back to the Black Hills.

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