

Diamond Drill

Out of the Past

December 4, 1897

Recently a covered wagon, commonly known as a "prairie schooner" containing three men drove up to the residence of Charles Ponchaud at the Briar Hill location. The occupants were Frank Ponchaud and his two sons, father and brothers respectively of Charles Ponchaud. The trio had driven overland from Parnell, Iowa, living all the time in their wagon which was hauled by two teams of horses. It took 28 days to make the 600 mile trip. The elder Ponchaud expects to buy a farm in the area and make Crystal Falls his home.

Congressman Sheldon of Houghton has in his possession a specimen of gold bearing quartz secured by a homesteader from the Huron Mountains. Sheldon claims that the rock contains more free gold than any extracted in the Klondike area of Alaska. For a number of years it has been maintained by those in a position to know that a valuable gold deposit will yet be opened at the Huron Mountain area in the future.