

THE KLONDIKE NUGGET.

DAWSON, Y. T., SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 1899

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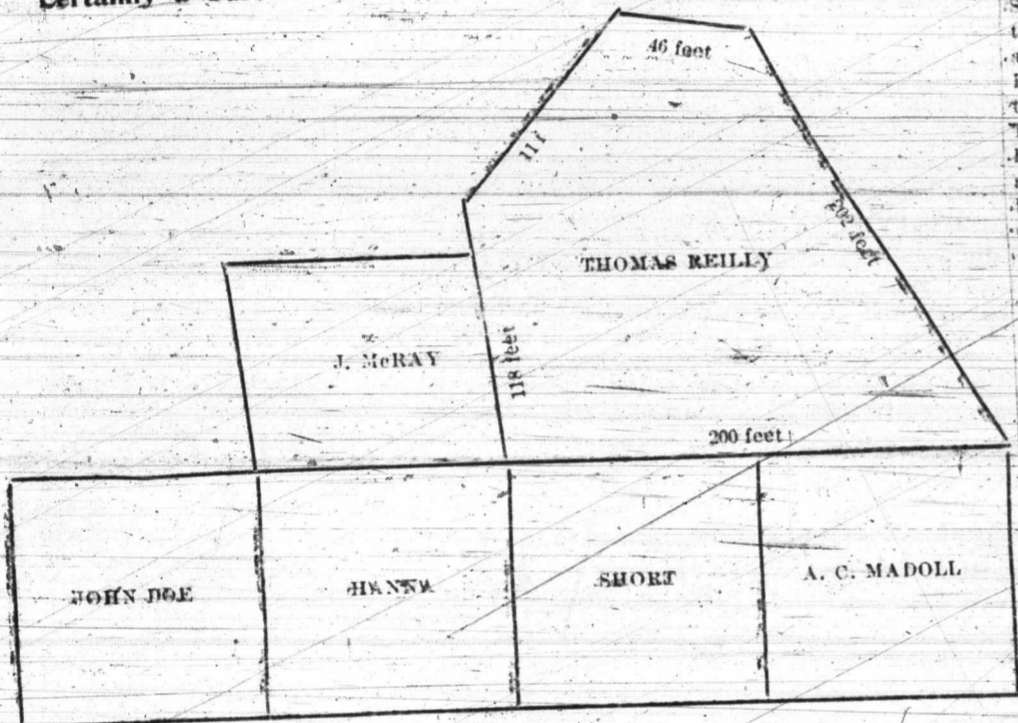
A CELEBRATED CASE

Mr. Reilly's "Fraction" Becomes More Interesting.

SHOWS HOW CAREFULLY THE NUGGET GATHERS INFORMATION

Who Stood in With the Matter in the Gold Commissioner's Office.

Mr. Reilly Needn't Feel Aggrieved at the Publication Even if he Loses his Claim—For Some One Must Have "Stood in" on the Proposition—Certainly a Case for Hon. Ogilvie's Inquisition.



The diagram above is an interesting story. The disclosures of the Nugget, in its regular issue of Wednesday and Extra Edition of Thursday last were simply startling in their effect upon the public. Mr. Reilly's case, became, as in the dramatized "Clemenceau Case," celebrated. The facts given shows how carefully the Nugget gathers its information, and, having once satisfied itself that what it has uncontrovertible facts, it has nothing to retract, consequently the word "allege" is blotted from its vocabulary.

The following letter upon the subject of Mr. Reilly, a government employe, recording a "fraction" is a mighty interesting reading, and although the writer states he "writes this not for publication," nevertheless it is a matter of most important public moment, and the Nugget feels it violates no professional courtesy in using it.

SPRINKLE HILL, JANUARY 11, 1899.

ALLEN BROS., PROPRIETORS KLONDIKE NUGGET:—
Gentlemen,—I see in your paper, just at hand, of this date, an account of one Thomas Reilly, recording a fraction on Gold Hill. This piece of ground, I had reason to believe, was vacant, and had an acquaintance of mine in October, and, who was on very friendly terms with Mr. Fawcett, and had access to the "side door" and the records, as well, call on Mr. Fawcett, and see if the ground was vacant. Mr. Fawcett looked the matter up personally and informed my agent that the ground had long since been recorded by one Bush and it was so reported to me. Nor believing one word so reported, I concluded to watch the ground and a well developed man, and my partner or myself, saw the ground from once to twice each day, expecting some one from the "inside" to stake the ground, and thereby prove that it was not recorded, and as soon as it was taken by "a ring" man we intended to stake and attempt to record, and we hoped, in face of the two applications that we had, to be acted on until the new commissioner would be installed and then we hoped for an even chance. My partner was on the ground when a surveyor and another man came and surveyed the ground, and as soon as the surveyor was gone he found that Thomas Reilly had located, writing his notices on some old stakes that were on the ground. I located the next morning and sent a friend to the recorder's office to see if Reilly had recorded, and if not to see if we could get a hearing before he was allowed to record. We were told that Reilly had not recorded, that no vacant ground was to be found at this or any other place on Gold Hill. We insisted that this was vacant, and were finally told that if the ground was there to find it and we could record it, that they could not tell anything about it from their books. We hired a man and put him at work and had him for several days, and I got a plat of the ground, and several adjoining claims with number of record and number of license. While we were working on the matter, the claim was recorded for Reilly. We suspect

such cases as the above, and "give us something specific" has been the cry, which issue after issue has been a succession of specific matters. What is the matter with the Reilly case in regard to "specific"? And how about the Hardy case? And by the way who is Hardy? There is more to come let the people not forget. And now the Nugget respectfully addresses itself to Hon. William Ogilvie, Yukon commissioner:

AN OPEN LETTER TO MR. OGILVIE.
HONORABLE WILLIAM OGILVIE,
Yukon Commissioner.

Honorable Sir: We understand that you have been empowered to thoroughly investigate any charges of crookedness and corruption in any of the offices, or upon the part of any employe of the government, and that, to more thoroughly ascertain the true condition of affairs in any particular case brought to your attention for a hearing, you have been vested with extraordinary powers, in that, no witness appearing before you and giving testimony, is to be held liable, even should the testimony given by such witness incriminate himself. The Nugget has furnished you with the case of Thomas Reilly, a clerk in the office of the Inspector of Mines William Madden and located at Grand Forks, and the Gold Commissioner's office for recording on December 10, 1898, in violation of instructions from the Minister of the Interior received by you on July 22, 1898, a fractional claim on Gold Hill in the Klondike Division of the Yukon Territory. We submit to you also a list of witnesses who should be called before you, honorable sir, and be examined as to what they know concerning it. Hon. Thomas Fawcett, William Madden, E. D. Bolton, W. H. Heiskell, Mr. Hanna, A. C. Madoll, Thomas Reilly, A. F. Hurdman, D. W. Semple, Geo. L. Barwell, Mr. Short, J. McRay, the neighbors to this property on Gold Hill, and particularly the parties alluded to in Mr. Heiskell's letter, his partner and especially the "friend" spoken of as Mr. Fawcett's friend. Those having unclean skirts in this affair need have nothing to fear any more than those who are clean and above reproach and we believe, honorable sir, that you will go to the bottom of it for the true facts. Then there is the case of T. W. Hardy, published in the last issue of this paper—the extra of Thursday—and the investigation of these two changes along these lines will reveal to you much more of knowledge already in possession of this journal, as will be noted in the next issue. You, honorable sir, in such investigation and every honorable endeavor to clean up the dark atmosphere of such ways shall have the heartiest support of this journal, that the rightful owners of ground shall no longer be defrauded of their rights, and rich territory held in abeyance until friends may be advised of it from the "inside."

LOCAL BREVITIES.

There are seven Americans employed in the government offices in Dawson and five of them are ladies.

The Red Men, a purely American order, will meet at Fraternity hall, for the purpose of organizing. The meeting will take place Sunday evening at 7:30.

The Salvation Army is doing some very good and unostentatious work with their sister. Some seventy meals were served last week and the work is growing by leaps and bounds. The relief committee.

The gross receipts given by the minstrels for the benefit of St. Mary's hospital were about \$1000. The expenses were \$500, leaving a net balance in favor of the hospital of close to \$500. These figures are approximate but show as a few remaining small accounts and receipts remain unsettled.

The Fleming brothers, came in last summer with cattle and have just arrived in Dawson. They came over the Teslin route with their stock and had boated down as far as Hootallina when the freeze-up occurred and blocked the river. The beaves were slaughtered and frozen and there the beef is yet, perfectly safe until the thaw.

There will be a general mail leave here for the outside on Sunday morning and the relay system is expected the good time will be made to the south by the continued cold of the last few weeks is likely to have frozen up the lakes and upper rivers to the point of easy passage, while the absence of severe cold will make continuous travelling an easy possibility.

A large number of applications are being made at the office of the Yukon commissioner for concessions of various kinds which applications are accompanied in numerous instances by expensive maps. By a curious delicacy all have refrained from making the maps with their names or a description of the places and there easily arises a mix-up with other hundred and one applications. Put your names on your bed-rock flume maps, gentlemen.

The population of Dawson today would make a hard guess to those who know that by actual count last summer we had 16,000 people here. The police estimate the present population at between 5,000 and 6,000 people, a falling off of nearly two-thirds. However, while the city has suffered by the exodus, the creeks are teeming with people, counted and estimated also by the police to the extent of about 15,000 souls. The conclusion of the spring washup will again depopulate the creeks and populate the city and once more our narrow sidewalks will prove inadequate to our numbers.

The last social session of the Dawson club was well attended and a most interesting program furnished by the amateurs: A very popular number was the performance on the ordinary "mouth organ" or harmonica by Mr. H. S. Stewart. His imitation of the bag pipes called out loud and well deserved applause. Pat Rooney and J. K. Smith boxed three interesting rounds and then Dr. McBoogal and J. K. Smith took the floor for three friendly rounds. By one of those unfortunate yet unavoidable mishaps in athletics, a chance blow at an inopportune moment landed on the doctor's jaw and caused a fracture which necessitates the use of soft foods for a few days.

TO GO BEFORE PARLIAMENT.

With a Personal Presentation of the Demands of the Miners.

Necessity of a Personal Appeal Most Apparent—The Extra Edition of the "Nugget" Indicates the Way Things Are Being Run.

It does not require a man with the strongest eyes to see the manner in which things are being done in this territory, of how favorites and employes of the government are enabled to procure claims and advantages not accorded to others. The Nugget has shown, in its last two issues just a few of the instances and knowledge of such affairs it has in its possession sufficient to carry consternation into the ranks of efficiency, and wonder where the lightning will strike next. But the serious points in public affairs, the moment of importance to every miner in the Yukon Territory is at hand, and earnest, hard and energetic work must now be done, and carried out undiminishedly. All the petitions in the world at so great a distance from governmental headquarters accomplish but little. The disclosures of the Nugget have attracted the eyes of the whole world toward the Klondike and its misrule, misfit laws and misfit administration. Therefore, to Ottawa direct is the only method of reaching a solution properly of the question. The Nugget will send a representative equipped with all the power it has been quietly but most effectively gathering on the outside, through Canadian officials and lawmakers and the potent influences of the most influential journals, from the Pacific to the Atlantic. With most formidable evidence obtained here supplementing the above, it is not doubted that the desires of the people of this community will not only receive a respectful hearing but that the end will wholly if not in its entirety be granted.

It is almost unnecessary to explain to the men of business and upon the creeks that such an expedition requires the expenditure of a large sum of money at the legislative doors. Every business man and miner is interested in it personally. The demands to be presented have been fully set forth in these columns. Will the miners now help the Nugget to help them? It will not require much from each, but a little from all will create a great deal, and the work will be more effectively done. Already strong encouragement is being given and ready support coming into this office, showing that the men upon the creeks and business men fully appreciate the work of the Nugget in its efforts on their behalf. It has had a single-handed fight to carry on, meeting with opposition every where, but without a faltering step, despite influences and threats of punishment, the exposures of rottenness and mismanagement have come fearlessly, relentlessly and mercilessly. Now is the time to do the work.

The New Officials.

Mr. F. K. Gosselin, the newly arrived crown's timber and land's agent, was for fourteen years a notary in Quebec. The legal position of a notary, as existing in France and the French portions of Canada need an extended definition to the American mind. A notary, as understood in Quebec, is very like our solicitors, as he takes all cases for the surrogate court and before being admitted to practice undergoes an examination as to his knowledge of law. Mr. Gosselin is of French extraction and is well acquainted with many of the French Canadians now in Dawson.

Mr. W. H. P. Clement, who came in with Mr. Gosselin, is a member of the Yukon Council and legal adviser to that body and to the governor. He is a lawyer of 19 years practice in Toronto and is peculiarly fitted for his position of adviser to the Council and governor from having made a particular study of constitutional law, as is evidenced by a work on that subject which bears his name on the title page and which is being largely used in Canadian law schools as a text-book.

Mr. Clement is an interesting and a fluent speaker. He assumes his new duties at once and will open up a law office in the very near future. The two gentlemen travelled with the gold commissioner's party to the foot of Lebarge when the freeze-up commenced to make further progress more dangerous than was expected of them to chance. After 14 days the journey was continued in perfect safety and by easy stages to Dawson. The two gentlemen are temporarily putting up at the Fairview hotel.

POLICE COURT ITEMS.

H. Williamson contributed \$50 and costs which it is believed will create an inordinate desire for manual labor.

W. J. Burnett took a little for his stomach's sake; took more to keep it company; took more on his own account and dug up \$20 and costs.

J. McCrac was partial to "Scotch." Wrestled with the enemy and was vanquished. \$20 and costs is expected to even up the match in future conflicts.

M. G. Harris is like the lily: he toiled not, neither did he spin, yet Solomon in all his glory didn't wear tailor-made clothes, \$50 and costs was believed to be the correct thing.

William Roy was possessed of a burning desire to enjoy the fruits of labor in the possession of more industrious citizens. After 10 days on that cold, cold wood pile his desire will probably be much lessened.

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