

UNJUST LEGISLATION CONDEMNED.

A Vigorous Protest Entered Against Existing Laws.

Three Thousand Men Assembled in Mass Meeting Call Upon the Government for Redress - The Meeting an Orderly One.

About three thousand people gathered in front of the N. A. T. Co.'s store, as per handbills, on Saturday night, to hear the report of the committee appointed at the miners' meeting on Wednesday last. I. F. Sugrue called the meeting to order in a little speech in which he said he wanted it understood that this movement was not an attack on the government. No one denied the richness of the country, but we had been driven by taxes which we could not pay to take constitutional means for redress. He said the excuse was made that the district must be made to pay its own expenses at least, and then asked if ever before a new country had been required to pay its own way during that period of opening up and organizing which we were now going through. The country was only in its infancy yet, and within five or six years would, under proper legislation and encouragement, prove to be the richest portion of Canada. Instead of encouragement all enterprise had been throttled, mining rendered unprofitable and prospecting was being driven from the country. He then introduced Commissioner Warburton to read the resolutions, but after repeated calls of "louder! louder!" concluded to read them himself, as being possessed of a stronger voice.

RESOLUTIONS.

WHEREAS, It is evident that the memorial presented by the deputation sent out last winter by the Miners of the Yukon District failed to impress upon the government the necessity of amending the regulations governing the mining industry, and

WHEREAS, It cannot be disputed that the application of the present laws has had the effect of almost paralyzing the industry and that a continuance of the present regulations will result in the most disastrous effects next winter, proven by the fact that a large majority of the best claims in the district were either worked at very small profit, or many cases at a loss, and that after that experience most of the mine owners have decided to suspend all operations on their claims other than those necessary to hold them, and

WHEREAS, The sentiment of the public is unanimous that an immediate change in the regulations is necessary.

1. That no timber limit be issued to any individual or company on a creek where the timber may be necessary for the use and development of mines.

2. That should a free miner lose his certificate he should be able to substitute the same at any office that may hereafter be established in the Yukon.

3. That placer creek claims be enlarged in length to 500 feet as heretofore, and that the limitation of breadth be that of a line run along rim rock parallel to the general course of the stream and which at every point is four feet above high water mark of the stream.

4. That to clause 45 of the mining laws be added the words "and number of certificates."

utions, which certainly is a very promising list of old-time miners. The committee is as follows:

Skiff Mitchell, who has been in this corner of the world thirteen years; Floyd Wilson, who numbers eight winters on the Yukon; Alex. McDonald, at least four years; Messrs. Warburton, Matlock, Lloyd and McLaren have dug for from nine to eleven years in the frozen ground of the North. Other well-known names are Marshal Bond, Walter McDonald, John Erickson, Sam Stanley, Geo. Kenney, Jack McQuesten, E. Debnay, J. F. Sugrue, Dr. Richardson and Mr. Eschwege. Most of the committee belong to the Yukon Order of Pioneers.

Chairman Sugrue stated further that "this meeting was called by this committee to pass these resolutions, and they were going to be passed. Others could call their own meetings and pass what resolutions they liked. Without more ado, and with an amusing disregard of parliamentary precedents the gentleman in charge called for a show of hands on the resolutions and finding but two or three dissentients, declared them carried, thanked the people present, grabbed the box he had been standing on and started away almost before Frank Buntleavy could propose, and put a vote of thanks for his services as chairman.

The crowd refused for some time to disperse and calls on a number of speakers were made. An old Yorkshire man, named George Whitehead, who has mined in Australia for many years, was encouraged to take the stand and express his views. He thought the recorder's office ought to be abolished in toto; that it had proved itself but a source of mischief and injustice to the miners. In Australia a prospector walked onto a piece of ground and "pegged it" and then proceeded to work it. After working it out or finding it no good, he simply moved on and "pegged out" a little more ground; he held the ground simply by working it. Here you went out and found everything pegged, and must walk in to the recorder's office to see if it was recorded. Finding it recorded you must then enter into an agreement with the owner to pay him what was practically a royalty of fifty per cent. What was the use of raising all this fuss about a royalty of ten per cent when miners were being "worked" for half they dug by the "lay" system with the aid of the recorder's office. Much more was said on the same line, and the informal meeting was dispersed, after hand-clapping for the NUGGET for the bold stand it had taken for the protection of the miner.

NEWS FROM SULPHUR CREEK.

Sponsor Done Up By His Partner - Rich Strike Along the Creek.

J. Sponsor, a prospector and claim owner, is quite indignant at the action of a partner. They outfit together at Seattle last August, and arrived at Dawson last fall. A cabin was erected at the mouth of Bonanza in which was placed all their Yukon valuables in the shape of grub and hardware. The partners divided and Sponsor came back to the cabin yesterday to find that his partner had left for down river and had left him but two sacks of flour and twenty pounds of beans with which to commence the winter. He reports the loss of his medicine chest and all of his hardware and camp outfit.

Sponsor has been gone three months on Hunker and Sulphur creeks. He reports good strikes on the line of 51 and 56 below discovery on Sulphur. Five to eight dollars to the pan on bedrock is claimed with an abundance of pay gravel.

On 23 above, on the same stream, a glacier is making trouble. In winter sinking the glacier was struck a number of feet from bed rock. The shaft filled with water during the summer, and, curiously enough, froze solid, to the height of the glacier. A prospective buyer appears upon the scene and the pumps out of the water reveals the ice. Hot rocks are being used to thaw the ice, for a sale at \$30,000 depends upon the bedrock prospecting.

On claim 27 below, same stream, a workman named Harris was raised to the surface one day last week apparently dead. He had been in the drift some time when he found himself being overcooled. Harris had just time to pass a rope around his body and signal the hoister when he was overcooled and became unconscious. He was hoisted to the surface immediately, yet it was a half a day before he could be recovered and declared saved.

Three moose were killed on Sulphur creek within ten days, and the miners are jubilant over such an unusual supply of fresh meat. The forty-mile trail to Sulphur is reported in very fair condition, as trails go, and is being much used.

On claim 23 below Jim Evans was driven out of the drift last week by foul gas, and the shaft cannot be cleared nor work resumed until a canvas air shaft has been constructed and passed in position. By the simple dividing of the shaft by canvas, lumber the foul gasses can usually be overcome and driven out.

THE HOSPITAL AT LAST BELIEVED.

Several Thousand Dollars Raised For a Worthy Cause.

A Budget of Local News - Papers of June 29th and 30th Arrive - Dawson to Have More Police Protection.

THE NUGGET has been hammering away in several issues at the necessity of something being done for that deserving institution being run by the good father Judge. We are very pleased to have occasion to chronicle the fact that the government has come forward with a donation of \$5,000.

The gaming rooms in town, as being a class neither taxed nor paying royalty, have also been assessed \$500 each for the same benevolent purpose. A fund of several thousand dollars has already been raised in this way, with many times that amount still to come. Subscriptions from private parties can be sent direct to Father Judge and no guarantee is required wherever that name is known of the good use to which it will be put. By reason of excessive charitable work the hospital has gone behind in its books not much short of \$30,000.

How We Got the News.

On Sunday a brother of the Bartlett Bros. arrived in Dawson direct from Bennett. In his pockets he had outside papers as late as June 20th, and would have had one of July 1st, but for a storm on the way in which it was destroyed. Mr. Bartlett immediately became the center of an eager, inquiring throng without time for anything but answering questions. One enterprising individual offered \$50 for the papers, intending to hire a hall and charge admission to hear them read. The owner, however, was more public spirited and turned them over to be read in mass meeting at the Mining Exchange. The readers chosen for the occasion were Messrs. Miller, Frazier and Courtney, who were listened to with bated breath by about twelve hundred men - mostly Americans. The good news was heartily cheered and the bad news taken in silence.

After the conclusion of the reading Mr. Geo. Cora was introduced by his partner, E. Leroy Heblinger, as a gentleman whose reminiscences of Cuba would be quite instructive. Mr. Cora was for years the right-hand man of the consul-general, General Baddeau, and his recollections of Spanish customs, habits and places was very entertaining.

More Police Coming.

An estimate has been given of the cost of the administration of justice for the Yukon district for the coming year. Three hundred and ninety-six thousand dollars is the cost of the present police protection, which is well worth double the sum. But this does not include all of the probable expenses to the Dominion of this new district. Anticipating a much larger rush of people than has materialized, the Dominion government made another estimate of an equal sum to cover the expenses of a body of two hundred and fifty Winnipeg special policemen who are now on their way here. This was all the police that could be spared, and even that number will be superfluous. The present force is ample, and is effectually and satisfactorily policing the district without any addition to their numbers.

Coporal Green and Constables Carter and Dundas left last Saturday on the steamer Willie trying to form a detachment on the Stewart river. They will distribute and receive mail, and, in fact, establish a post similar to those up and down the Yukon.

Incidents of the Recent Freshet.

The sudden flooding of the sand bar in front of Dawson on Thursday which was occupied at the time by at least twelve hundred campers was productive of much that was amusing as well as pathetic. In preparation for the Fourth of July celebration the committee of arrangements had secured permission to temporarily clear of campers a certain point of the bar which had been ordered not to be so in the first place.

"Now" replied the camper on a request being made that he move aside. "I don't move a inch until I go for good."

On the afternoon of the flood he was seen up to his waist in water as busy a man as could possibly be. The command man hollered out to him from the bank: "I thought you wouldn't move till you got ready. You seemed to get ready in a hurry and -"

A volley of oaths and mud put a stop to the conversation. A gentleman in black Prince Albert coat had seen his boat being dry at noon and sauntered leisurely down in the evening to see how it still fared. He found he must needs wade through a half-mile of water at least a foot deep. Bravely tucking up his unmentionables he picked out what he supposed to be the trail and boldly stepped into the flood. His first step took him into muddy water, waist deep and then some brush tangled up his feet and he fell flat. The crowd on the bank roared with delight and one heartless wretch hollered "Say, Mister, won't you do that again? I didn't see it that time."

Another man was seen lying on his stomach in the bow of his boat. All his worldly possessions were afloat in the boat, and he lay stretched over everything. He had lost or laid his oars and was leaning over the side trying to paddle the boat in the still water over the bar, with a piece of a cigar box. When hailed by the Stovepot man, he tried to get off that chestnut "I'm drinking water, water everywhere and not a drop to drink," but just at that moment he toppled over the side and disappeared beneath the surface. When he came up he had in his mouth two tent pegs, a boat stake and a bank of moss, being the screenings of about two gallons of water he had involuntarily swallowed.

Bitten By a Dog.

Elery Pulliam, a boy of about twelve years was badly mauled on Monday afternoon by a neighbor's big St. Bernard dog. The big brute took him by the right arm, between the elbow and shoulder, and shook him, as he would have shaken a rat. A large crowd was afterward gathered by the boy hounding the dog with a rifle. The dog was corralled between two buildings; but, owing to the proximity of a number of ladies, the boy, with a wisdom beyond his years, refrained from shooting. The police were appealed to, and probably on investigation of the dog's record - which is a bad one in biting people - will order him shot, so as to make him a good dog hereafter.

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