

EDWARD M'CONNELL WRITES

Of What He Saw on a Trip to the Tanana.

Deplores the Manner in Which the Country is Staked Before Being Prospected—He Has Faith.

Editor Daily Nugget:

The outlook for Circle City is fair. Work on the creeks has been more extensive than any time since the stampede to Dawson demoralized the then most prosperous placer mining camp in America. Many claims on Mastodon creek have been worked this year at a fair profit; while Deadwood creek has turned out far above the expectations of many of the claim owners. One of the most successful men there was Alford Johnson, an old pioneer of the Yukon. He found a rich streak above the regular creek channel below discovery on Deadwood and has been working a large crew of men all summer.

There has been considerable work done on Harrison, Independence, Millar and Eagle creeks, with varied success.

The stampede to the Tanana is about over, as the professional staker and boomer is supplied with enough claims to go to the outside and organize a company on paper or blow about the richness of a claim that he never stuck a pick in or washed a single pan of gravel on. Or, if he can't go out, he will be conspicuous around the saloons all winter telling how rich it has been struck on the claim next to his. He does not even do the assessment work which the law requires of him, but lets it run out and expects to relocate it, if in the meantime anything is found near it to make it valuable. But there is also the miner in Circle City that stands the hardships of the country (and they are many), attends to his own business and works hard. It is from this class that good will come out of the Tanana district and not from the professional staker.

The steamer Leon, of the A. E. Co., has distributed men, mules, wire and pipes, the latter to be used as poles, to construct a telegraph line between Eagle City and St. Michael. Business in Circle is fair. Mr. C. Courtney is conducting a meat market, with great competition from the moose hunter. The A. C. Co. and the N. A. T. & T. Co. are all the stores in Circle. Mr. Hastings, an estimable gentleman, looks after the interests of the A. C. Co., while the very popular Al Hamilton manages the affairs of the N. A. T. & T. Co. Both positions cannot fail to be well filled. The old system of credit is done away with, and they do business on a cash basis, which is far better for the country.

Judge Wickersham held the first court that was ever held in the interior. It was called on the 3d inst., and is in session yet. Ex-Judge Post is district attorney, with Mr. Heilig as Clerk. They are all excellent men with records of honesty and fairness and have the full confidence of all good people who are delighted to know that their lives and property are once more out of danger; that the reign of terror is past when ex-United States Commissioner John Crane, like Soapy Smith, encouraged and stood by selling whisky to Indians, robbery and murder, arrested honest men on the street out of personal malice, and turned murderers, highway robbers and cut-throats out of jail on a helplessness community; such were the conditions from the fall of '97 until last year.

EDWARD M'CONNELL.

Business on the Creeks.

With the transition from primitive mining methods to modern ones in mining operations, many changes have occurred, of corresponding importance in the general ideas of mine owners and miners regarding not only the methods of working but in the best season to do the work. At first it was almost the universal practice to work all dumps out during the winter by the slow and expensive process of firing the ground with wood fires. Now, with the advent of the steam thawer, it is found that in most cases the work can be more economically pursued during the summer than in winter. The reason for this is that if the ground can be taken out fast enough in the summer to feed the sluice boxes, but one handling is necessary. On the other hand if dumps are got out during the winter they have to be thawed again, and again handled when sluicing time arrives.

For these reasons a comparatively small amount of winter work is contemplated during this winter. No. 16 Bonanza will be worked out or nearly so

this winter. Billy Chapelle will finish working out No. 7 this winter, and Charles Lamb will get out in dumps what there is left of No. 4 above.

Winter work will be generally pushed on many of the hillside claims of lower Bonanza, because the water will bother to some extent in the summer.

This is especially the case with Monte Cristo and American gulches.

Generally speaking Chechako Hill will close down when the water stops running.

The wood question is a very serious one as timber has been cut away until wood can only be procured in most places at a heavy cost, owing to the great distance that it has to be brought. The winter will probably witness the hauling of considerable coal from Rock creek, and the time is not far distant when coal will have to supplant wood.

Hunker creek has always been a difficult creek to work on account of its great flow of water.

Charles B. McDowell is progressing rapidly with the work of ditching from the head of French gulch to the top of the hill of the same name. He has about ten men at work, and will have the ditch complete and ready to carry from three to four sluice heads of water in the spring, which will be ample to clean up the hill next year.

On a great many claims very important changes are being made in machinery, the general tendency being to increase the size and power of plants.

Circle City.

Circle City, Alaska, Sept. 7.

To the Dawson Daily Nugget:

The September term of court is in session at this place, Judge Wickersham presiding. Indictments were found by the grand jury in the following cases: U. S. vs. Hubbard, murder in the second degree; U. S. vs. Callaban, rape; U. S. vs. Bentz, larceny.

The case of U. S. vs. Callaban is now under deliberation by the jury and their report is looked for at any time.

The steamers Campbell, Leon and Mary Graf arrived at this port yesterday and departed on the same date for up-river ports.

The steamer Bella arrived this morning and will convey the commissary supplies from this place to Eagle.

Orders are out for the abandonment of this camp, and it is expected that in a few days all military matters will be closed out here.

A suspected case of smallpox turned out on later investigation to be a case of chickenpox. No case of smallpox has yet made its appearance here. Parties are coming and going from the Tanana gold district, some very enthusiastic, others not so much interested.

The prospects at present point to a large amount of supplies being hauled to the Tanana this winter, and we expect that next summer's work will prove Tanana to be the Al gold mining district of Alaska.

The U. S. internal revenue agent, Dr. Garver, has been here in the interests of the government and will leave on the Bella.

P. S.—The jury in the case of Callaban, charged with rape, returned a verdict of acquittal.

Mr Heron on Gold Dust.

Appropos to the gold dust agitation W. M. Heron, of the A. C. Co., said today that his company will continue to do business on the old basis as applied to gold dust which will be received at the rate of \$16 per ounce. This policy will be maintained till such time as the government sees fit to either fix an official rate or establish an assay office and the statement is made in view of the fact that the Yukon council did not take any action, as requested in a recent communication from the Board of Trade, looking to a change in the current price of dust.

Wanted, a Cabin.

Between now and October 1st, the above head will convey more meaning than at any time since Dawson became other than a tented hamlet.

Commander Wood, of the N. W. M. P., has issued an order that after the first of October no women will be allowed to occupy rooms on licensed premises. This does not only apply to theater buildings, but all buildings in which are saloons. Notices are now being served by the police on all landlords, and any and all infractions of the order will be punishable by fine, imprisonment or both.

It is said that another order is soon to be issued which will forbid all women entering places where intoxicants are sold; also that the days of box-rustling are numbered.

Information Wanted.

Will any person who knew James F. Brace or was present at his funeral October, 1898, communicate with Undertaker Green, or Wm. Northrop, lock box 410.

The liquors are the best to be had, at the Regina.

POLICE COURT NEWS.

Only one case of a criminal nature was up for adjustment before Magistrate McDonell this morning. A man named Knight, a fireman on the steamer Lightning, who, judging from his appearance, endorses the first plank in the populist platform which reads: "We believe in soap for axie grease only," swore out a warrant for Capt. Harris of the Lightning for having kicked him on the last trip down of that steamer. The skipper pleaded guilty and said Knight had been insubordinate and "sassed" him. A fine of \$10 and costs was imposed and paid.

Attorney and Client Quarrel.

A story is being told around town of a fracas which took place yesterday afternoon between a Dawson attorney and a pioneer miner, the latter being god-father of one of the well-known creeks. The miner has for some time been seeking through the territorial court redress for alleged grievances. Some weeks ago the miner took his case out of the hands of one lawyer, giving it to another. It was the last disciple of Blackstone that disagreed with his client yesterday. The miner, it is said, concluded that his leg was being pulled with unbecoming frequency considering the slow progress being made in bringing about the redress he sought. Yesterday afternoon the leg owner refused to have it pulled any longer with the result that there were high words, talk of hearts, lights, livers, lungs and other internal works that go toward making the gear of the human system.

An ax (spelled 200 years ago "axe") figured in the racket. There was a hasty chase up an alley and much bright, red blood was spilled to the extent of "nary drop." And a few hours later the sun set as usual.

They Will Come Back.

On the 10th of the month Wm. H. Fairbanks learned that Mrs. Artaud, who was indebted to him to the extent of \$1050.95 had, like the Arab, folded her tent and silently stolen away. The lady had gone up the river, and when this fact became known to Fairbanks he paid a hasty visit to the courthouse and swore out a warrant, a summons was issued, and the aid of the telegraph line was invoked. The result is that Mrs. Artaud is now on her way back to Dawson to settle matters with the creditor.

Robert Smith, a scion of that good and numerous family, is also sojourning Dawsonwards from Whitehorse, because it has been intimated to him that James Merry has some unfinished business to transact with him. The business in question consists of a little bill of \$1961.25 which in the hurry and confusion of a sudden departure this was overlooked, and the sheriff telegraphed to Whitehorse calling his attention to the matter, and so Mr. Smith is returning on the Sybil.

BRIEF MENTION.

Hundreds of tons of baled hay are now daily arriving in Dawson from up the river.

There was no meeting of the trustees of the Board of Trade last evening as there was no quorum.

The town of Grand Forks has also been doing considerable building this summer, and is very greatly improved in appearance.

Ben R. Everett is down from his claim on Dominion looking as happy as though he had lately either got religion or had a big cleanup.

Among other late arrivals from Nome is the irrepressible James J. Conners, remembered by the pilgrims of '98 as "Ham Grease Jimmy."

William D. Davidson, one of the old time Puget Sound marine engineers, is in the city, having presided at the bottle of the Monarch on her trip from St. Michael.

Special Power of Attorney forms for sale at the Nugget office.

Heavy underwear at Oak Hall.

Private dining rooms at The Holborn.

Special Power of Attorney forms for sale at the Nugget office.

Grand Hotel Opens.

C. G. Finger and C. W. Strite have leased the Dawson Club building on the corner of Third Avenue and Second Street. The building has been renamed The Grand and is now open as a first-class rooming house. The place is clean and inviting-looking, being newly papered and cozily furnished.

Table de hote dinners. The Holborn.

LOST AND FOUND

LOST—A red bird dog, named Sport. Suitable reward for return of same to Tom Chisholm.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

PHYSICIANS.
DR. J. W. GOOD, Physician and Surgeon; special attention given to diseases of the eye and ear. Rooms 14 and 15, Chisholm's Aurora, 2nd st. and 1st ave.; hours 10 to 12 a. m., 3 to 6 and 7 to 8 p. m. Telephone 32.

LAWYERS.
BURRITT & McKAY—Advocates, Solicitors, Notaries, etc.; Commissioners for Ontario and British Columbia. Aurora No. 2 building, Front St., Dawson.
ALEX HOWDEN—Barrister, Solicitor, Advocate, etc. Criminal & Mining Law, Room 21 A. C. Co's office Block.

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N. F. HAGEL, Q. C., Barrister, Notary, etc., over McLennan, McFeely & Co. hardware store, First avenue.

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