

THE KLONDIKE NUGGET.

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FIGHT AT MOOI RIVER

Boers Are Still Approaching Pietermaritzburg.

THE BRITISH FORCES HAVE ASSUMED THE DEFENSIVE.

John Hays Hammond, the American Engineer, Talks of the Transvaal.

Says That European Sympathy Is Nearly All for the Boers—Gives Reasons Why Americans Should Lend England Their Moral Support—Unjust Treatment of the Uitlanders.

Special to The Klondike Nugget.
 Durban, via Skagway, Dec. 14.—The Boers opened fire on the Mooi river camp on the north, but without casualties to the British.
 Owing to the proximity of the Boers to Pietermaritzburg, it has been necessary to alter the defenses of Durban. Estcourt is still silent. All accounts point conclusively to a determined rush of the Boers toward Pietermaritzburg with a very large force. Seven thousand men with guns are reported 25 miles from Howick. They are said to be under the personal command of Gen. Joubert.

BRITISH ON DEFENSIVE.

Today's engagement at Mooi river found the British almost entirely on the defensive. A correspondent of the Natal Advertiser says a Boer shell fell within a few yards of the detachment of their infantry, that the shell did little or no damage, and that firing continued for about half an hour at intervals of from three to five minutes. According to this account the British troops prepared with the utmost promptitude and advanced under cover wherever possible.

The British artillery was in position behind the hotel where Gen. Barton and his staff were being accommodated. Maj. Thornecroft's mounted infantry moved to cover on a ridge on the enemy's left flank. The Devonshire regiment and the Royal Welsh fusiliers occupied the trenches. There was but little firing, the correspondent says, but the enemy possessed at least one Howitzer, with a range of five miles, besides several six-pounders.

New York, via Skagway, Dec. 14.—John Hays Hammond, the American engineer who became prominent during the Jameson raid in the Transvaal, arrived here on the White Star line steamship Teutonic with his family today. Mr. Hammond was met at the steamship pier by many people, some of whom came as far as from Chicago.

In speaking of South Africa, Mr. Hammond said:
 "There can be no doubt that European sympathy is with the Boers. It is not so much for the reason that they love them as that they dislike the English. It is likewise true that the animosity toward England has been intensified by her friendship for us during the Spanish war. In America there are many who, under a misconception, also sympathize with the Boers in their struggle for the independence of their so-called little republic.

But is the cause of the Boers deserving of sympathy from the American

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point of view. A few plain facts will enable you to judge. The question is often asked, and quite pertinently, why the outlanders went to the Transvaal if the laws were unsatisfactory. They were invited to go by the Boer government, and notably by Mr. Kruger himself, and that when they immigrated the existing laws were very favorable to the outlanders. It was only after their capital and labor had rescued the Transvaal from imminent bankruptcy that the liberal laws were superseded by the present adverse laws.

"The outlanders pay nine-tenths of all the taxes and have absolutely no voice in the expenditure of the money and must submit to the most flagrant misappropriation of the bulk of the government revenue, which is exacted from them by a most ingenious system of class taxation.

"The laws to which the outlanders especially object are, first, that depriving the high court of the country of the right to test the validity of parliamentary legislation. Indeed, laws pronounced by the high court to be at variance with the constitution of the country have been enforced by the president and executive council. In some instances laws of a retroactive nature have been passed and enforced.

"Second—Empowering of the president to remove judges without trial. The chief justice of the Transvaal was removed by President Kruger on account of a decision against the dictates of the president.

"Third—The power given to the president and executive council to banish any outlander and to confiscate his property for political offense without trial.

"Fourth—The right of a Transvaal policeman to suppress a public meeting when, in his judgment, the language used is in criticism of the Transvaal government.

"Fifth—The law denying what is regarded in a true republic as the true bulwark of its liberties, the right of trial by one's peers. In the Transvaal the Boer alone can sit on the jury. The court records show that under these conditions very few Boers are convicted, while on the contrary very few outlanders are acquitted.

"The outlanders have many more grievances attributable to a corrupt administration. The cause of reform today is practically that for which Great Britain has entered upon the present war."

Mr. Hammond stated that the Americans in South Africa are all in sympathy with the English.

Mr. Hammond is on his way to Mexico. He hopes shortly to return to America.

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Forrest Case on Trial.

Thomas Forrest, on the charge of having dealt marked cards in a black Jack game on the 10th day of November, is now on trial in Judge Dugas' court, the complaining witnesses being Chas. Cunningham, Chas. Arnold and Albert Booth of the N. W. M. P. force. With the origin of the case the readers of The Nugget are familiar. The trial opened Thursday morning and that day and a portion of Friday forenoon was consumed in hearing testimony of the prosecution. For the defense, F. M. Smith, in whose employ Forrest was at the time the alleged marked cards were dealt, was the first witness. He testified to having loaned Cunningham \$36, the amount lost by him (Cunningham) at the game, but denied having returned the money lost. It was purely a loan, Smith said, as Cunningham had told him he was in distress, having been fined by his superior in rank for gambling.

It is not probable that the case which by the way, is eliciting great interest, will be concluded before sometime Saturday.

Yukon Council.

The members of the Yukon council met in regular weekly session Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock. The official time ordinance passed its second and third readings, becoming a law, and beginning next.

After Monday a gun will be fired at barracks every day at high noon.

Ordinance relating to master and servant act passed the second reading and was referred to committee on civil justice. An ordinance providing for newspaper registration was introduced as was also an amendment to the liquor ordinance, providing for the granting of special license.

A communication from Mr. Woodworth, secretary of the Law Society, asking that an ordinance be passed protecting wage earning miners was referred to the legal adviser.

Big Deal Consummated.

One of the biggest commercial transactions which has ever taken place in Dawson was consummated Wednesday evening, when George Pearse, for himself and Quamm Bros., of Vancouver, B. C., sold to the A. C. Company a consignment of liquors for a cash consideration of between \$17,000 and \$18,000. Quamm Bros. & Pearse brought to Dawson early in October a cargo of 1576 cases of liquor, the largest shipment of the kind of goods ever made in the Northwest, and it was the unsold part of this consignment which Pearse disposed of to the A. C. Company.

The Bazaar.

Preparations for the bazaar are nearly all made. The ladies who are interested have a great store of all kinds of dainty novelties, fancy work, etc., which will be placed on sale when the bazaar opens on the 23d inst. They have announced that no one who comes will be asked to buy anything and everyone can spend just as he sees fit.

A beautiful oil painting has been received which will be given to the most popular lady. On Christmas day an elegant Christmas dinner will be served. During the course of the dinner a splendid concert, for which all arrangements have been perfected will be given. Programs have been prepared for every night during the continuance of the bazaar. The best professional talent in the city will assist.

Fine line of Christmas cards, Nugget office.

The Nugget Express has established an office at 23 below upper, Dominion. Orders for expressage on the creeks or to the outside may be left at any branch office or given to messengers.

DEATH OF ANDREW YOUNG.

Injuries He Received By Fire Prove Fatal.

From Early Boyhood His Life Was One of Adventure—His Thrifty and Generous Nature.

Andrew Young, familiarly known to everybody in Dawson as "Uncle" Andy, of whose serious injuries sustained by a fire in his cabin near the corner of Second avenue and Eighth street at an early hour Tuesday morning, of which mention was made in the last issue of The Nugget, died at the Good Samaritan hospital Wednesday night at 8 o'clock, after 40 hours of semi-consciousness and intense suffering.

Andrew Young was born on a little farm near Hethering, Scotland, on Christmas day of the year 1842. The spirit which characterized his after life, a fearless and adventurous spirit, was born in him, as at the early age of ten years he ran away from home crossed the broad Atlantic and reached New York, from which place until the period of early manhood was reached he shipped in vessels in the coastwise trade, first as cabin boy and later as a



"UNCLE" ANDY YOUNG.

sailor before the mast. When he had reached early manhood he tired of sailor life and came west, engaging for several years in mining in the states of Nevada and California. His efforts were crowned with success, and after a few years' hard labor he found himself the proud possessor of a snug little fortune. Then it was that there came over him a longing to visit home and mother in the Scottish highlands, so from the Pacific coast he traveled eastward to New York and took passage for the scenes of his early boyhood. He remained in Scotland some time, during which he met and wooed his future wife, a Scotch lassie, Miss Anna Buchanan by name. However, the couple were not married at that time, the young man who was afterwards known as "Uncle" Andy, returning alone to America and again engaging in mining in the far west.

Two years later, true to their plighted troth, the young couple met in Patterson, New Jersey, Andrew having journeyed eastward to meet Miss Buchanan, who had left her home and crossed the Atlantic to meet her betrothed, and there among strangers and on a foreign soil the Scotch lad and lassie were made man and wife, coming at once to the

(Continued on Page 8.)

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