

NEWS FROM COLDFOOT

Camp Very Quiet and Many Leaving

Winter Has Been Very Severe. Details of the Death of John Metier.

A gentleman well known in the city has just received a letter from Coldfoot under date of March 20, which indicates that life in the distant Koyukuk has been anything but a bed of roses this winter. Not only has the winter been very severe, but there has been a scarcity of provisions in the larder of more than one poor unfortunate whose poke at the beginning of the winter was empty. The company store has had plenty of provisions, but as a matter of self protection it was impossible for them to extend promiscuous credit. While no one has actually suffered for want of food a great many have been on short rations and a very slim diet. The only thing that tended in the least to relieve the situation was the presence of an abundance of wild game.

As far as is known but one person has lost his life during the winter season, a Frenchman by the name of John Metier, who froze to death. A friend of his had been out hunting and had killed a moose within a reasonable distance of the camp. Having no means of bringing the animal into town the hunter upon his return told Metier he could have the moose if he would go after it. Metier was one of the number who had not been eating with the proper degree of regularity, in consequence of which he was rather weakened. Taking a sled he started out after the prize that had been given him. The day passed and he did not return, as did also the following day. The third day some friends becoming alarmed a search party went out to look him up lest an accident had befallen him. There was no difficulty in following his trail and after a few hours travel they came upon the unfortunate man sitting on his sled frozen to death. From his position it is surmised that in dragging the sled he became overheated, sat down to rest, became chilled and as the weather was very cold froze to death before he knew what was taking place. A peculiar and pathetic coincidence with reference to Metier's death is the fact that his wife passed away in Oakland almost the same day leaving several little children to be thrown upon the cold charity of the world. As soon as the discovery of Metier's death became known at Coldfoot the news was sent out in a letter by some one who knew the address of his family and it was not until later that it was ascertained that the wife had died at almost the same hour as the husband.

Times about Coldfoot have been frightfully dull all winter. There has been but little or no mining, the same amount of prospecting, there is hardly a dollar in sight and the great majority of the inhabitants have migrated or are preparing to as soon as they possibly can. The writer of the letter says that where there were about 150 people in Coldfoot and immediate vicinity last fall at the close of navigation there are now not over fifty. Those who have been able to have joined in the Tanana stampede. Coldfoot has received four mails this winter which is the only communication that has been had with the outside world, no person other than the mail carriers having arrived in the camp from the Yukon.

Nothing more has been ascertained concerning Lowery and Burns who were lost last fall, rescued and taken back to Fort Yukon where they were resuscitated and again started out only to become lost again. There is no doubt now but that they are dead. If they are far off the beaten path of travel their bodies may never be found or if located at all there may be nothing but a few bones left to tell the tale owing to the ravages of wild animals.

The communication recounts the story of a difficulty that occurred a few weeks ago between Tom Rockwell and a lawyer who had started in to build up a lucrative practice at Coldfoot. The latter's name is N. J. Salisbury and the difficulty appears to have been over a quantity of dust to which each laid claim. In the heat of an argument that occurred Rockwell smashed the lawyer over the head with a lamp cutting him quite severely. Rockwell was arrested but at the trial was discharged upon some ground or other which is not made very clear. He in turn had Salisbury arrested and upon being searched as directed by Rockwell about two ounces of dust was found concealed in his boot instead of the \$1000 that was supposed to have disappeared. Mr. and Mrs. Rockwell are both going to the Tanana and are probably on their way there now. In response to a letter received for Tex and Potts, two gamblers who left Dawson for Fairbanks early in the rush, Rockwell is bringing out a roulette wheel

which is said to be worth \$500 in the new diggings. Dogs are very scarce at Coldfoot nearly all having either gone mad or been shot early in the season to prevent them from starving to death. On the long trip to the Tanana diggings Mrs. Rockwell expects to mush the entire distance. George Noble left the camp late last fall and the writer expressed the belief that he is now in the Tanana.

The Koyukuk this winter has been visited by a tremendous fall of snow averaging about five feet on the level. Unoccupied cabins in many places are ridden over, the snow lying even with the roof. Others that are occupied the owners in order to maintain an entrance and exit have been compelled to keep open a deep cut leading from the door to the main trail.

When the letter containing the foregoing news was received a day or two ago by the gentleman to whom it was addressed, he read it aloud in one of the resorts on First avenue. Among his listeners was one who had spent a couple of years in the Koyukuk region and as the conclusion of the reading he gave it as his opinion that "a fellow was getting pretty far north when the fish would not come that far to spawn. Last summer," he continued, "there was only one poor lone dog salmon that made its appearance at Coldfoot and we were that crazy for fresh fish that a dozen of us turned out with sticks and clubs, waded water to our hips, finally chased that fish to the shallow water covering the rifles and there clubbed him to death. The fish was a mass of bruises from contact with the stones on his way up the river and ordinarily would not have been killed by a dog, but we ate it and were mighty glad to get it, the only thing not devoured being the flop to his tail."

In the past five years the Koyukuk has had a series of ups and downs, being cursed this year and the scene of a big stampede the next. Many still have the most abounding confidence in the region pointing out the huge chunks of virgin gold that have been found from time to time in various parts of the country and arguing that they must have a source somewhere.

**The Fount of All Knowledge.** It was little Harold's ambition to go to Columbia college. His father was educated there and so were his three uncles. He had never heard of any other place of learning, and to his youthful mind it was the embodiment of all useful knowledge. Now, Harold always went to Sunday school, and on this particular Sunday the lesson was about King Solomon. Just before closing, the superintendent called the school to order, and as was his usual custom, asked the children a few questions about the lesson. Most of these were answered very readily by one or another. But the last question, "How did Solomon get so much wisdom?" received no response, it seemed to be a puzzle.

As the superintendent's glance swept over the room he caught sight of little Harold away over in the further corner. Harold's eyes were bright and his hand was bravely raised to answer the question.

Knowing that Harold was always well prepared, and thinking to shame the older ones a little, he said: "Yes, Harold, come right up here on the platform and tell us so we can all hear."

Harold, nothing daunted, and sure of his answer, walked boldly up and stood beside the superintendent. "Now, Harold, how did Solomon get his wisdom?"

Harold, with head erect and no doubts in his own mind as to the correctness of his conclusions, piped up in his shrill little voice: "I think he must have been to Columbia college as much as a year."—New York Times.

**Found Him Out.** "Mind, I was in a strange town dealing with a strange man, and I tried not to act strange, and still the fellow found me out," said the newly-married man. "My intended wife and I had a sentiment about spending our wedding night in our own home. The honeymoon trip was not to begin till the following morning. That required laying in a stock of provisions for breakfast. "On the morning of the wedding day I called at the nearest grocery store and ordered a supply. There was butter and salt and eggs and sugar and well, everybody knows the string! Understand, I did everything a bridegroom is not expected to do to throw the fellow off the track. I ordered things off-hand, not from a fool slip of paper, but from memory. I talked to the pretty cashier and ate an apple out of a barrel as if I had been born in the place, like the store cat. Everything conceivable I did, and thought I had the grocer completely fooled when, on handing me the packages, he said: "Well, sir, I hope you'll give us you trade when you get settled."

**Brest, France, March 20.**—One hundred Sisters of the Order of the Daughters of Jesus have left here owing to the closure of their establishment. Thirty of them are going to Belgium, thirty to Canada, and forty to Southampton, where they will embark for the United States.

**Eastman Kodaks, \$10 each.** Just over the ice at Gootzman's, 128 Second avenue.

SPORTS OF THE SUMMER

Many Attractions Being Contemplated

Athletic Rink Will be More Than Active During the Warm Weather

The largest and most enthusiastic meeting of the board of directors of the athletic club that has been held all winter was that which assembled in the directors' room last night. One of the principal matters coming before the meeting in addition to the regular routine work was that of considering to what use the rink could be put during the coming summer, how it could be made remunerative and how the present large indebtedness of the corporation could be materially reduced. Since the first organization of the club and the erection of their magnificent building it has been felt that the accommodations were largely in excess of the demands of a city the size of Dawson, not that such could not be put to excellent use, but that the town was not large enough to keep up an institution that required between \$2000 and \$3000 a month for its actual support. The gentlemen who first promoted the scheme and who eventually succeeded in floating the stock have been given every credit for their clever work against obstacles seemingly insurmountable, but it has been feared that they had overreached themselves and that the death sooner or later of the institution was inevitable.

How completely mistaken such prognosticators have been was shown at the meeting last night. Never has the enthusiasm been greater and propositions were made and schemes proposed for the coming season that if carried out will not only prove immense success, but will also go far toward reducing the indebtedness that hangs like a pall over the building.

RELOCATED ONCE MORE

Gold Run Claim With a History

Was Once the Scene of a Wild Scramble, Mad Race and a Costly Litigation.

The recording of two mining claims in the office of the gold commissioner this morning recalls the story of a red hot scramble for the same ground that took place two years ago that well might result in the killing of a couple of horses. The tiring out of a half dozen men, a law suit, the subsequent division of the claims and their eventual abandonment as not being worth representing notwithstanding the trouble that had been experienced in getting them.

The claim involved is 57 Gold Run, at one time being considered as worth a great deal of money, but now generally believed to be not in the line of the paystreak. Two years ago last February the ground became open for relocation. A number knew it having evidently been watching the records. It fell open on Monday and those who intended to stake it left the city Saturday morning. After their departure for some reason the department closed the ground, intending to reserve it as a compensation.

In the same crowd that went out to stake it was F. X. Gowans who secured the hillside claim over which so much litigation has resulted and which was sold to J. A. Chute Monday came and with it a band of stagers who had broken their necks to be the first to reach the recorder's office, sacrificing horse flesh as though it had been worth \$5 a head instead of a hundred times that amount. Joe Barrett and Wm. Butler were the first to arrive and though the ground was supposed to have been closed the Saturday before grants were issued to them, Barrett taking the lower half and Butler the upper.

Shortly afterward George Noble and Frank King arrived and were turned down. They protested at once and though the trial was heard within a reasonable length of time it was not until the following February that a decision was rendered, which was to take the effect that the lower half should be divided between Barrett and King and the upper half between Butler and Noble. The ground was represented one year but as nothing resulted from the work expended and there seemed no indication of pay being found within a reasonable distance that which had cost such an effort to secure was allowed to die a natural death, expiring February 21 of this year since which time up to a few days ago it has been open to relocation. This morning a record was obtained to both halves by new relocators and grants will be issued to them in due time.

**The Telegram Purchases.** Winnipeg, Man., April 2.—The Telegram has just purchased the four-story and basement block on the southwest corner of McDermott avenue and Albert streets, Winnipeg. This is right in the heart of the city only a short block from the post office and Main street. When in its new home the Telegram will have more than double the floor space of any other newspaper publishing house in Western Canada.

With a will there is no doubt of its success, as witness the Catholic bazar during the winter of '99. They are the bloodstones against whose attraction no man is proof and what is more to the point they can make a man loosen up and be a good fellow when all other measures fail.

Still other attractions that are in view is a horse and dog show later in the fall. If the latter idea is fully consummated it is the intention to offer various medals to be competed for. For instance a medal will be offered for the best pair of skates; one for the oldest pair of inhabitants; one for the pair which can best stand a steady diet of beans and excelsior and one for the pair with a Whitehorse record. There is unquestionably some good stock in the Yukon among which might be mentioned H. A. Stewart's filly, Joe Barrett's road-scorer, Henry Macaulay's 2014 pair, George Apple's importation, the fire horses, to say nothing of those with a Tanana record. The dog stock is not so plentiful as it was in '98. Then might have been secured anything that looked like a dog from a genuine Porcupine husky to an imported dachshund. But there are a few left notwithstanding Tanana stampede and the butchers and enough could be found to make an entry in every class for which a prize was offered. The horse and dog show will be a howling success, that is, if many malamutes are entered, and there is no question as to its drawing powers. As to the latter there might be some dispute as to the Tanana representatives, but with a proper handicap they would be able to compete under the wire within the time limit.

H. N. HENNING BACKS DOWN

Threatens to Lay Information of Perjury

Against James Dozier — Trouble Arises Out of a Wage Case.

Mr. H. N. Henning caused a ripple of excitement in the police court this morning by threatening to lay an information for false testimony against James Dozier. It only lasted for a moment, however, it being shown that Henning was not altogether sure of the facts as he saw them, while Dozier had figures to prove his statement. Henning had to back down and no such information was laid.

It happened in the case of Jas. Dozier vs. A. Teller, being a suit for \$70.40 for wages claimed to be due plaintiff for work performed cutting wood. The evidence of the plaintiff Dozier was to the effect that last September he had been sent by Henning to Swede creek to cut wood. Teller was working at the same place and they worked together. He worked until December when not receiving any money he had come to Dawson to collect it.

Henning had given a bill of sale of his wood to Mr. Couch of the Lague Co. and he had received from Mr. Couch about \$175 for work done prior to the issuing of the bill of sale. He had worked 63 days at \$4.50 and board, making a total amount due of \$283.50. He had received in cash and goods \$204.55, leaving a balance due of \$78.95.

Besides this amount he had received \$25 which he had applied on a personal account between himself and Henning.

Teller had kept his time and while he had never been given a written guarantee for his wages he had been told that he had cut enough wood to more than cover the amount that was coming to him. He had sold some wood in Dawson, which Teller delivered, and had collected the money and applied same on account. Teller had never denied his liability to pay.

Mr. Couch was then called and he stated that he had been given a bill of sale by Henning of 150 cords of wood and that one of the conditions was that he was to pay Mr. Dozier \$175. He had never met Teller until after he had received the bill of sale. Teller said Dozier had met at his house and tried to settle their accounts. They had virtually agreed on 62 days as the time worked but had failed to make a settlement on account of a difference with regard to a certain number of days' board which had been charged against Dozier. The next morning Teller had put a note under his door saying that a mistake had occurred and Dozier could not have worked more than 55 days. The note was produced and was passed around and an attempt to decipher it was made by four people before it was finally given to the author who was compelled to stand for some moments before he was able to interpret its meaning. Under cross examination the witness stated that the bill of sale was not signed by Teller and that there was nothing to show that Teller was in any way connected with Henning and that he could not say whether or not there was any understanding or agreement between Dozier and Teller.

Henning was then called for the defense and stated that he had hired Dozier to work for himself and that Teller's name had never been mentioned between them. Teller was working under a permit at the same place where he sent Dozier to work but the two permits were entirely separate. For convenience the two had worked together but the work was entirely separate. Teller's name had never been mentioned between himself and Dozier. Upon request Teller had kept Dozier's time for him but was in no wise responsible for his wages. Upon cross examination Henning said that he was entirely responsible for the wages up to the time of the bill of sale but after that he did not know what the arrangement was. He had made arrangement for payment to Dozier of \$175 by Mr. Couch which he thought paid all he owed him.

It was at this point where Henning stated that he was under the impression that he should lay an information against Dozier for false testimony upon the statement of the latter that he had applied the \$25 on the old account when that had been settled. He had given him a time check at the time for the entire amount as he supposed and for four months he thought he had paid it all.

Henning was subjected to a severe cross examination and he was compelled to admit that he did not know the exact time Dozier had worked and whether the amount paid covered the amount due.

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together and he had hauled the wood to Dawson and disposed of part of it. Dozier was recalled and refuted the statement of Henning and produced his book in which he kept his time to show the number of days worked corresponded to the amount he claimed.

Attorney McDougall for the defense and Attorney MacFarlane for the plaintiff made strong talks for their respective clients and the magistrate held that inasmuch as no agreement was shown and the connection between Dozier and Teller was lacking, he would give judgment in favor of the defendant and therefore dismissed the case.

Closing Event.

What is announced as positively the last event of the skating season is that which has been arranged for next Tuesday evening, the 25th, when a mixed program will be presented containing a number of laughable novelties never before seen in Dawson. On that evening the entertainment will be strictly under the auspices of the City Eagles and D. A. A. A. hockey teams which is sufficient guarantee that the fun will be fast and furious. Eight events are promised, four of which will be district novelties.

The first will be a mile skating race which is open to all and which it is presumed will attract all the swiftness in the city. The second event is one of the novelties referred to, a snowshoe race of five laps. The third attraction is to be a twenty-minute hockey match between the City Eagles and the D. A. A. A. teams. As there is to be but one half and that a straight away play of twenty minutes it will doubtless be a warm number. The fourth is to be a turkey race, four turkeys being offered as prizes. If there should be eight entries four will be started from each end of the rink facing the center where the prizes are suspended and given a swinging motion. The contestants are blindfolded, the object being to skate to the center of the rink and secure one of the prizes. As four are approaching from each end the chance for a collision is admirable.

The fifth affair is a half mile race skating backward open to all. Then will follow a barrel race of five laps. This is a sort of an obstacle race, the obstacles being confined to barrels, four of which must be crawled through on each lap. The next event will be half mile hurdle race open to all and the last event a team race between the City Eagles and D. A. A. A. of three miles in relays.

The program as arranged is the first of its kind ever presented in the city and as a distinct novelty and also the closing event of the season should command a very liberal patronage.

Respect or Fear

Berlin, March 20.—Foreign Secretary Von Richthofen in the Reichstag today said the German government stood by the Disconto bank's Venezuelan claims because they represented German capital and labor. Herr Oertel (Agrarian), recurring to the interviews with Minister Von Sternberg, said he did not see that Germany was loved abroad, but he wanted respect and, if need be, fear. The speaker added that he believed it was often necessary for diplomacy "to draw off its dancing pumps and put on cuirassier's boots."

Eastman Kodaks, \$10 each. Just over the ice at Gootzman's, 128 Second avenue.

Power of Attorney Blanks for the Tanana-Nugget Office.

Job Printing at Nugget office.

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THE CLEANUP

Every man in Dawson is talking about the cleanup. The men and merchants have their eyes on the gold dumps while the police and scavengers have their eyes on the garbage dumps.

RICHARD GILDS

Has a good force of men and will remove these garbage dumps cheap, quick and satisfactory.

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NOTICE! Co Tanana Stampeders

Why haul your outfit one hundred and ten miles farther when you can buy them from us at Eagle City, Alaska, directly on your route via Circle City to the Tanana. We have a large stock of Fresh New Goods in everything you need excepting Tools, Guns, Picks and Rubber Boots, at prices much lower than are quoted from any other point. We are the nearest to the new Tanana diggings where supplies can be had. No Customs duty to pay or inspection to be bothered with.

PEOPLES & WOODRUFF, EAGLE CITY, ALASKA.

BUSINESS WAS BRISK

In Police Court This Morning

Several Different Kinds of Cases Disposed of in Short Order.

Today was the busiest day the police court has seen in several months. The time of Inspector Rutledge was fully occupied from ten o'clock until twelve.

George Bellam was the first case called. He was charged with driving a dog team with a sleigh attached on the sidewalk on King street. He pleaded guilty to the charge but in extenuation of his act stated that he has only recently returned from the outside after an absence of a couple of years and had only just come from the creek. He was ignorant of the law on the subject. The magistrate dismissed him with a warning.

W. G. Lilly who was interested in an officer while riding a bicycle along First avenue did not escape so easily. He pleaded guilty but there were no extenuating circumstances in his case and he was sentenced to a fine of \$2 and costs or 10 days in jail labor.

John Ross pleaded guilty to a charge of drunk and disorderly and was fined \$5 and costs or 10 days in jail labor. He had partaken long and deep of the fighting brand when apprehended was fighting in front of the Canadian Bank of Commerce at 3 o'clock this morning with Wilfrid De Lage. He did not remember much about the incident but expressed his regret that he had been in the case.

Wilfrid De Lage was called upon the same charge but his case was request was enlarged until Saturday morning.

Joseph H. Ross secured judgment against James E. Wilson in M. S. an account for wages for work done on Last Chance creek. The money was immediately paid into court.

At times we all need the counsel of a good friend, but to consult ask for it is like constantly having a good friend.

Better make a mistake now a while from too hasty decision than to form the habit of decision. It is the first milestone on the road to failure.

The Philadelphia Record has discovered a joke in a dictionary, other than the learned and old "Century." It is one of those unconscious bits of humor. Under the word "question" is the following: "To pop the question—see pop."

Sadie was eleven and Alvin was seven. At lunch said Alvin: "I wonder what part of a man a chop is. Is it a leg?" "Of course not," answered Sadie. "It's the jaw-bone. Haven't you ever heard of animals being chopped?"—Little Chronicle.

Choice cooking butter—16 lb. case, \$16—Alert & Forth's. Job Printing at Nugget office.

The finest of office stationery will be secured at the Nugget press at reasonable prices.

On the Warpath. We craves of Arctic DISCOUNT at a price the most failure to the owner. Must be sold. Documents in large lots. Reference, Third avenue. Tel. Phone No. 1.

Painless De DR. A. VARI 15 Years Practice DENTAL OFFICE: 600 N. Empire Hotel.

M. Robinet Applique Curtilin and Madras by the yard. Fancy HATS, etc. SUMMERS & CO. 400 SECOND AVENUE

The Nugget Circle From Skagway to

Vol. 4—No. 98. FELL FROM PARACHUTE

Aeronaut Has Narrow Escape

Dropped From Height Feet—Life Saved in Slough.

Special to the Daily Nugget. Houston, Texas, April 23.—A pioneer aeronaut, while with a parachute lost his life from the ground. He was struck in a soft slough by a tree trunk in a soft slough. He had been trying to stop and this alone prevented death. One arm was broken, also two ribs. Internal injury. The man is still alive.

HAS AWA For Transporting and St. Mich Company

Special to the Daily Nugget. Washington, April 24.—The government will award the transportation supplies to Nome and St. Clair J. Humphrey and the Yukon river points will be the Northern Commercial or the lowest bidder.

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LUMBER ARCTIC SAW All kinds of transportation equipment. Specialties: Tools, Guns, Picks and Rubber Boots. Office at Mill: Klondike City, Alaska. City Office: Dawson, Yukon Territory.

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