

The Klondike Nugget

TELEPHONE NUMBER 12
DAWSON'S PIONEER PAPER
PUBLISHED DAILY AND SEMI-WEEKLY
GEORGE M. ALLEN, Publisher.

From Thursday's Daily.
THE MYSTERY SOLVED.

The mystery surrounding the disappearance of Joseph Lancaster seems at length to have been pretty well cleared up. The story of his wanderings as published briefly in yesterday's Nugget appears well nigh incredible, but at the same time there seems to be no other explanation which can possibly explain the strange circumstances which attended his sudden disappearance.

For more than a year, the relatives and friends of the lost man sought for him in every place where it was thought a possibility existed that he might be found. Detectives were employed to trace his movements, and newspaper articles containing descriptions of the missing man were published broadcast throughout the cities of the United States and Canada.

All these efforts, however, were without avail, and the missing man was not discovered until his mind, the power of which had in the meantime almost entirely vanished, returned to him, and enabled him to realize his surroundings and communicate with his family.

The fact that he is now with his wife and children, and in all probability will recover the use of all his faculties, will be learned with the greatest degree of satisfaction by the people of this community.

Mr. Lancaster was recognized as one of Dawson's leading and progressive citizens, and his business ability is well attested by substantial enterprises which he and his associate, Mr. R. W. Calderhead, carried on for several years in this city.

It will be the hope of everyone who is acquainted with his sterling qualities as a man and his unusual capacity as a business man, that he will shortly be able to return to Dawson again and resume again his position in the commercial life of the town.

EASY TO CONSTRUCT.

It appears almost certain that construction work will be undertaken on the Valdes road within a very short time. As was stated in our telegraphic advices of yesterday, the route of the line has been covered by an exhaustive survey, and the various obstacles necessary to overcome are now well understood.

According to the engineers' report, the highest point of altitude to be reached is 1700 feet above sea level, and there is but one bridge of any size to be constructed on the entire route.

It would appear, therefore, that the enterprise in question should present features of a very attractive nature to holders of capital looking for investment. Beyond question, a railroad from Valdes to Eagle City would open up a country which in itself would furnish the road with sufficient business to make it a paying proposition.

But aside from the new business of stock raising and agricultural pursuits on a large scale.

All authorities are agreed that the country through which the line would be constructed possesses marvelous resources in copper and other mineral, and the rich valleys which the line would tap would become the centre which would be created by the construction of the line, there is enough patronage already at hand to warrant the success of the enterprise, provided it is pushed to completion within the near future.

Shippers in Dawson would hail with the greatest satisfaction the prospect of being able to give their business to a competing railroad and thus release themselves from the hold which the White Pass route now has upon them.

We confidently anticipate that before another spring arrives that actual work upon the proposed line will have been undertaken.

AIDING DEVELOPMENT.

In a review of the business outlook for the coming winter, to be found in another column of this issue, Mr. TeRoller, manager of the N. A. T. & T. Co., takes a hopeful view of it and brings some consolation to the hearts of the consumers in the expression of his opinion that there will be no corners in commodities, no shortage of general merchandise, and that no advance in prices is to be apprehended. This is good and cheering news in itself, and it is to be hoped that Mr. TeRoller proves to be a true prophet. But what is of far more importance is the suggestion of this experienced merchant that business methods are changing; that they are no longer to a great extent speculative, but are begun to be based on steady, permanent lines. This is but a natural outcome of the proven stability of the mineral resources of the Klondike, and it is well to know that the men who have the largest amount invested here have assured themselves of this fact.

But Mr. TeRoller goes a step further, and makes the excellent suggestion that the merchants might materially aid this development of the country, and in so doing enlarge and extend their own operations, by being satisfied with fair profits. Mr. TeRoller assumes that other merchants have come to this conclusion and are ready to act upon it. This must mean in the course of a short time a general reduction in the price of commodities in the Dawson market. And then there will be a howl from some that we do not want a cheap town. Certainly not, the Nugget is with them in this. But, to paraphrase Mr. Micawber, what shall it profit a man if he gain by the sweat of his brow \$10 per day and it costs him \$10.50 per day to maintain himself and family? Besides, his employer has to be considered. He cannot employ labor at such terms and also pay the highest price for all his supplies and material. But if the merchants accept fair profits the employer will be able to work many mining propositions that are now lying idle, and the demand for labor being increased good wages will be the rule.

No doubt, as Mr. TeRoller says, every reputable merchant is just as earnest in building up a business as in securing an immediate profit, and with this condition of affairs the prosperity of the district, and more rapid strides in its development are assured. Can the merchant reduce the price of his goods, however? Will existing condition permit him to do so? If, by the lessening of risk in doing business here there is an added margin of profit which the merchants are willing to concede to their customers, don't you think the White Pass will be after that margin? They are doing business "for all there is in it" on a public-be-damned-policy. Before our merchants are able to treat the public as well as they would wish to do, they must obtain some assurance on freight rates from the grab-it-all railroad company.

It is pleasing to learn that the merchants are well disposed to do the fair thing, and that they can see future profit in doing so, but when the freight rate is more than double the cost of the goods, the reduction has to come in the freight rate first before any general reduction in the price of commodities can take place. However, let us be thankful that we are to have more steady and reasonable prices for goods this winter.

THE CONFESSION OF SILENCE.
In the News of last evening not one syllable was published in defense of the article entitled "The Average Woman, and her Sister," which appeared in Saturday's issue of this paper.

The News is absolutely silent. It has nothing to say. Apparently conscience stricken it has remained dumb, finding no words with which to excuse or palliate the enormity of its conduct.

The Nugget has no desire to prolong discussion of the subject. We feel that we have done our full duty in the premises and the silence of the News; its failure to offer one word in its own defense is evidence to us that the lesson has gone home and that a repetition of the offense will never again occur.

The statement made by this paper that the editor of the News had not spoken his real convictions in giving editorial endorsement and sanction to the article in question, is undoubtedly correct. Otherwise the News of last evening would have reiterated the opinion so freely offered in its issue of Saturday. Had the News come out bravely and manfully and acknowledged its error, the judgment of the community toward our contemporary would be less severe.

But by its silence the News has confessed its fault, and as noted above, we have no fear that the grave error into which it appears our contemporary was unwittingly led, will be repeated.

FOLLOWING ITS POLICY.
The complaints which have been made so frequently of late in respect to the non-delivery of mail in Dawson, were well presented in the Nugget yesterday. As was stated in that issue several boats have arrived from Whitehorse and departed again

and still no mail has arrived. Instead of sending it by steamers which would have landed their cargoes in Dawson several days ago, the contractors have piled the mail on to a small worn out tub, which has already been six days en route from Whitehorse and how much longer it will take before arriving in Dawson is very questionable.

In failing to deliver a mail in Dawson for a period of more than one week the White Pass route has broken an important portion of its contract with the government, a fact of which immediate notice should be taken by the postal authorities. In the case of railroad companies having mail contracts on the outside failure to deliver mail on time, if only a few minutes are lost, often works a forfeiture of a large sum of money. We see no reason why the White Pass should be allowed to use its own sweet pleasure in landing mail in Dawson.

The fact that there is very little freight offered for transportation no reason for taking all their boats off the run. As long as the river remains open and navigation presents no greater difficulties than it has for the past ten days the company should be compelled to run enough boats at any rate, to comply with their mail contract.

In any event, the action of the monopoly in failing to send accumulated mail by the first boat leaving Whitehorse is open to severe and deserved censure. The attitude of the White Pass toward this community has been from the beginning one of absolute indifference to public rights.

The railroad company has regard this territory as being fair game in its making the most of its opportunity.

The company receives a princely sum each year for handling the mail—and sometimes it carries out the provisions of its contract and sometimes it does not.

Fifteen to twenty thousand people are waiting in Dawson and on its surrounding creeks for the arrival of the mail which has been journeying leisurely down the Yukon for the past week. The situation is altogether exasperating. The treatment which this community has suffered at the hands of the White Pass railroad is simply insufferable. For the company's assistance in connection with the non-arrival of the mail we fail to find the slightest excuse. Boats have left Whitehorse the owners of which would gladly have brought the mail, but by entrusting the mail to another line and thus hastening its arrival in Dawson, the community might be favored. Consequently the mail must come by the poorest and slowest route available.

There is no occasion for surprise in the matter, for the White Pass is merely following out its general policy toward the territory.

THE NEW YORK MAYORALTY.
Greater New York will shortly again be in the throes of a municipal election. A union of all citizens favorable to good government has been elected and Seth Low has been selected as their candidate.

Opposed to Low, Tammany has brought forward Candidate Shepard, as yet an almost unknown quantity in New York politics, but who will receive the support which Tammany invariably gives to the men who tear its standard.

In the contest now pending there are greater issues at stake than the mere matter of selecting a mayor of New York, although that position itself is considered by many people as second in power and influence only to the office of President of the United States.

Already the lines for the presidential campaign are being laid. The state of New York on more occasions than one has been the deciding factor in presidential elections, and indications now point clearly to the prospect that history, in this particular respect, will again repeat itself in 1904.

But New York state itself revolves very closely around the metropolis and the powers that for the time being, are, in the great city are able under ordinary circumstances to swing the state into line.

Therefore, the struggle for the mayoralty in New York may be considered as the opening skirmish for the great national battle to be fought three years hence.

If Tammany wins the power of the greatest municipality on the continent will be thrown into the balance in favor of the Democratic candidate for president, no matter who he may be. And on the other hand, if Low succeeds in landing the office of mayor of

Greater New York, his influence will be exerted on behalf of the Republican candidate, although Low ostensibly represents a non-partisan movement in municipal politics.

For these reason politicians of the United States, irrespective of party affiliations, have their eyes on the New York mayoralty contest.

Winter does not approach more gently or more gradually in the central and eastern states than it is doing in Dawson this year. The first of November is almost at hand and as yet there is but little indication of the sort of cold weather we are accustomed to experience at this time of year. In 1898 the most severe weather of the winter occurred during the month of November and October was also what would be considered a cold month. The mild season which we are now enjoying is as surprising as it is agreeable.

If ever a change was required in any city, Dawson needs a revision of its street nomenclature. The system of giving numbers to all thoroughfares without respect to their direction, has caused more vexation in the past three years than the person or persons who are responsible for adopting the scheme can ever make atonement for.

We are pleased to know that the work of making the proposed change is actually under way. It has been a very long time coming, but we are accustomed to wait for reforms in the Klondike.

The garbage question continues to bob up every once in a while. Residents of the North End are making complaints and apparently with some good reason. At any rate they are entitled to have their grievances investigated.

The Liberal organization of Dawson proposes to give a series of social affairs through the coming winter. The move is a good one. Politics and religion will not always mix, but politics and sociability ought to go along all right together.

It is a remarkable thing how grim, gaunt poverty stalks abroad in the community when the tax collector comes around.

BIG RUSH OF
WINTER WORK

Being Prepared for on at Least Three Creeks.

Never in the history of the Klondike has so much winter work been done on two creeks, Hunker and Eldorado, as is now being arranged for the coming six months. On nearly every claim on Hunker wood is being dragged in from the adjoining mountain sides and as soon as severe weather comes and freezes up the surface water, work will be inaugurated on nearly every claim on Hunker and tributaries both above and below a covery. All the big claims on Hunker, including Johansson's and Kirkpatrick & Munroe's will be worked, cold weather all that is required to enable them to start up.

The same condition can be said to prevail on Eldorado on which creek there is not a vacant house its entire length. There the men are waiting, away time until the freezing up by dragging in wood, erecting buildings, and otherwise preparing for the busy season.

A great deal of work will be done on Dominion, all the claims in the vicinity of upper discovery being equipped for active winter work.

Those who had reached the conclusion that henceforth Dawson would be almost exclusively a summer camp will find their theories badly shaken by what will be witnessed on the above mentioned creeks this winter.

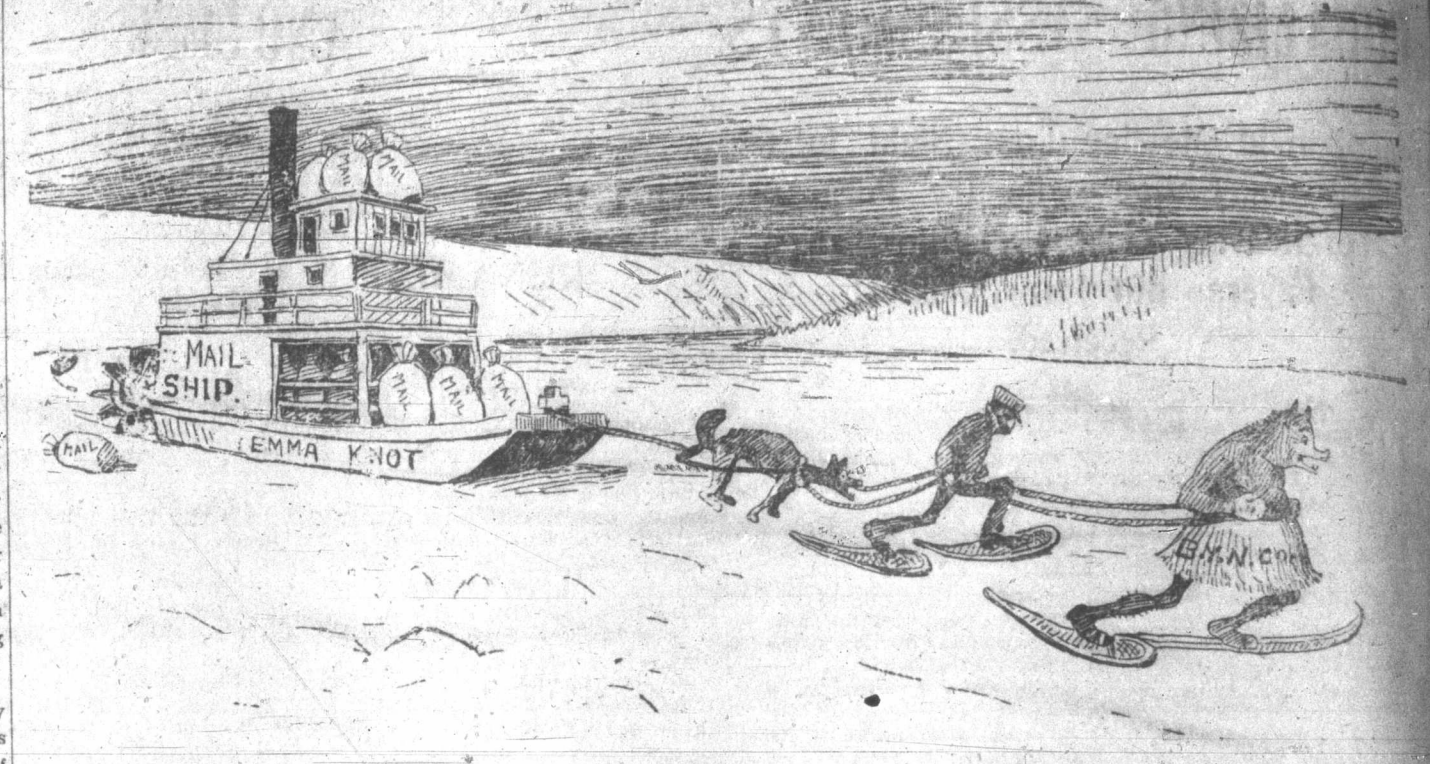
LOADS OF
FINE BEEF

Aurora Dock Has a Fine Display Worthy of Smithfield.

The whole of the Aurora dock is hung with sides of beef, and a finer display of good quality has rarely been made. There were at noon today nearly 700 sides hung up, and drays were continually arriving with loads of more. All this has been killed in the Dawson slaughter house by Gustafson.

In addition to this two large scows are daily expected laden with beef and mutton that has been slaughtered at some point up the river.

Washington—The war department has received the following casualty report from Gen. Chaffee, dated Manila, September 3:



THE MAIL MAY BE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE OVER THE ICE.

FOR MAYOR OF NEW YORK

Seth Low Will Be the Fusion Candidate.

Tammany Will Put Up a New Man—Will Be a Close Contest, Bitterly Fought.

New York, Oct. 10.—The nomination by the so-called Fusionists of Seth Low seems to foreshadow a very heated contest, and the possibility of a close race between Mr. Low and Mr. Shepard, who is the Tammany candidate for this office. Col. Croker seems to have undertaken a very arduous task in nominating Mr. Shepard as Tammany's candidate for mayor. The supposition among politicians on Manhattan Island is that if he selected Bird S. Coler for this position, a man popular with the people, considered honest in every way by the people of New York, and a young man and, for this reason, there could have been a splendid race for the mayoralty. The mistake on the part of the boss of New York city is made plain. With Mr. Coler as the nominee for the highest office within the gift of the people of this city, the chances for Tammany continuing control of New York politics was certain.

While Mr. Coler was not a straight out Tammany man, he would have accepted the nomination and made an excellent canvass to win at the polls. Mr. Shepard is not well known in New York politics. His candidacy for the mayoralty will not make the Tammany brass enthusiastic for his success. In view of the fact that Mr. Low represents the best citizenship in Greater New York, the prediction is made that he will be the next mayor. The powerful influence heretofore wielded by Richard Croker may not advance the interests of Tammany Hall on account of the fact that he has chosen a man practically unknown politically for the highest office in the city. The election of Mr. Low or his defeat means much to the two dominant parties. If Mr. Shepard is lucky enough to win at the polls, New York would certainly be able to carry the state for the Democratic presidential ticket in 1904.

It is the belief of New York Republicans that if Seth Low is elected mayor that Mr. Roosevelt will be the next Republican nominee for the presidency; that New York will be Republican for that year and that further, Col. Roosevelt will succeed himself as President of the United States.

The Democrats, especially representative men from the southern states, are of the opinion that Mr. Shepard will be the next mayor of New York city. They base their opinion on the fact that the Tammany organization is one of the most powerful political bodies either in this country or elsewhere. The success of Mr. Shepard, if he is elected mayor, gives the south, especially Virginia, an excellent opportunity to continue its hold on the people in that state.

This brought great applause, which was followed by another outburst when Mr. Low said it elected he would see that the official heads of Commissioner Murphy and Deputy Devery would roll on the floor as soon after January as possible. Mr. Low said, with reference to the rank and file of the police department, that he would give them a head who would treat them fairly.

Tariff Concessions.
London, Oct. 8.—A dispatch from Paris to the Times says that M. Delcasse, the foreign minister, replying to the spokesman appointed by the Charente wine growers, stated that he had repeatedly asked Russia to reduce the duties on French wine and brandy, but Russia asked corresponding reductions in the duties on wheat and other original products as well as the revocation of the sanitary regulations affecting Russian cattle.

M. Delcasse promised to continue his efforts, but, says the dispatch, it is obvious that the demands of Russia will encounter opposition.

In engagement at Panbongham, department of Visayas, July 7: Grosvenor L. Townsend, second lieutenant, U. S. A., arm, slight.

ATTENTION!
POSTMASTER GENERAL WM. MULOCK.

The following provisions are contained in an excerpt from the mail contract held by the White Pass Route—

" * * * During the season of navigation mails to leave the Postoffice at Bennett AT LEAST TWICE A WEEK, and arrive at Dawson WITHIN FIVE DAYS.

" * * * To leave the Postoffice at Dawson at least TWICE A WEEK and arrive at Bennett within six days.

" * * * The above services are to be performed and the stipulations observed by the said contractors in consideration of \$64,000 per annum in payment for the said winter months, and \$11,000 per annum for the season of open navigation."

This is the manner in which the British Yukon Navigation Co. conforms to the contract from which they derive an income of \$75,000 per annum. The last mail from Whitehorse for Dawson left on October 18. The previous mail left Whitehorse for Dawson October 9th.

Steamer Nora left Whitehorse October 13th, and mail which could have been dispatched on her was held until the 18th at that point and placed upon the Steamer (?) Emma Knot, which up to date has not arrived in Dawson. The Emma Knot is said to be owned by Captain Sanborn, port captain of the B. Y. N. Co., which may account for pressing her into service.

At the present writing the river is entirely free from ice and no provision is made for dispatching the mail up stream until after the river closes, which may not and probably will not occur for two more weeks. The British Yukon Navigation Co. has not a single boat in commission at this point today, and know they cannot fulfill the provisions of their contract.

TEN DAYS HAVE NOW ELAPSED SINCE THE ARRIVAL OF THE LAST MAIL.

To My Friend Miss Lulu M.
(The following "pome" is published exactly as received at this office.)

Your Father was a Banker.
At the head of a banking firm.
Money, why he had plenty.
Yes he had Money to burn.

You are that bankers Daughter.
That bankers only child.
You need never bother.
For money to keep you in style.

Your Father he has passed away.
His fortune fell to you,
And many a poor child's
Coin estrayed, through bank statements Made untrue.

Before your Father passed away,
The doors of his bank were closed.
He said that he had Money enough,
And not a deposit should loose.

But up to date you've never tried,
And I suppose you never will,
To bring that balance sheet to trial,
And your Fathers promise fill.

My Father was a Butcher,
And I am that Butchers son,
That made a plunge in Real-estate
In Eighteen-Ninety-one.

He owned the northern portion
Of a country growing Great,
But alas he fell to ruin
Through Banker Morgans bate.

Although he was quite healthy
Ere the crash came to our taste
He lost his mind he lost his life
Alas that's Fathers Fate.

And again you ask me why
I don't pay a debt that's so unjust,
That you have fallen to by heir
Through Your Fathers stealing bust.

You ask me why I don't pay up
The mortgage on my home
The reason why I hope you'll
Sip from the essence of my pome.

I know that you have money
Enough, to always you equip
To now Dear Friend,
We'll settle up, we'll call it square and quits.

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ANNUAL REPORT ON CUBA

Gen. Wood Submits His Regular Statement.

Finds That the Troops Are in Good Condition—Favors Beer for the Men—Troops Well Behaved.

Washington, Thursday, Oct. 10.—The war department has made public the annual report of Major General Leonard Wood, commanding the department of Cuba, for the last fiscal year. Gen. Wood says the general conduct of the American troops in Cuba continues to be excellent, and as heretofore, complaints against them from civil authorities and individuals are extremely rare. The total number of deaths of officers and enlisted men during the year was seventeen, a percentage of less than 1.5. Yellow fever has now been almost driven from the island owing to the energetic war upon the mosquito and the sanitary precautions adopted.

However, during the past summer five officers of General Wood's staff were taken ill with yellow fever, and three of them died. Among the headquarters employees there were forty-eight victims of yellow fever with eleven deaths.

General Wood devotes a good part of his report to a statement of the results attending the tests of the artillery in fortifications left by the Spanish and summarizing these he says: "The behavior of the guns and carriages was rather better than was expected by the artillery officers."

The old canten issue is revived in this report through a sub-report issued by Inspector General B. He says that the canten exchangers, a great comfort to the soldier in Cuba who is deprived of a great many comforts known to him at home. The officers generally complain that the elimination of beer from the exchange has worked a hardship on the soldier and has been detrimental to good order and military discipline.

General Burton has some interesting recommendations to submit on his experience of the American soldier in Cuba. For instance he says that the cavalry pistol is too small in caliber, has no stopping power, though it carries unnecessarily far. The general's recommendation of the service is that the caliber be increased above rather than decreased and given a range of 75 or 100 yards for effective work. Except for its shock action the pistol is of little service.

The sabre should be enameled with bright enamel, as should all metal parts of the equipment, to resist the rust which rapidly destroys steel and iron in Cuba. The cavalry boot, shod by all soldiers and it is recommended that it be abandoned. The khaki leggings are unsatisfactory; they bunch at the ankle, are not durable and must be laced too tight. A leggings is to be worn at all. It should be an English leather leggings. The campaign hat has no proper place in the army in tropical climate. At any rate it should be made of much better material and lighter. Finally, Col. Burton recommends a complete revision of the cavalry regulations which are severely criticised.

THE FIRST
SLUSH ICE

Began Running in the Klondike Last Night.

The rather severe freezing of the past two nights has started slush ice in the Klondike, the first seen of the kind this morning. Ten miles up the river there was considerable ice running at 9 o'clock this morning, but by noon there was very little passing under the Ogilvie bridge and by 1:30 the slushy stuff, got to the Yukon. It was scarcely discernible. If any of the upper rivers are putting out ice it melts before reaching Dawson.