

LEGISLATION FOR ALASKA.

Occupies the Attention of Congress for Eight Days.

Amendment Passed Authorizing the Issuance of Dredger Permits Below Low Water Mark.

Washington, May 24.—The house practically devoted eight hours today to the consideration of the Alaska civil government bill, but progress was slow. Two amendments of importance were adopted. One of them authorized the secretary of war to issue permits to excavate or dredge for gold below low water mark on the beach at Cape Nome. The secretary has heretofore issued permits, but the bill as it passed the senate cancelled them. The house also struck out the chapter relating to arrests and bail which permitted arrests in certain civil sections. The conference report on the Indian appropriation bill was adopted.

The house met at 11 o'clock today and proceeded forthwith to resume consideration of the Alaskan civil code. Amendments to the mining provisions were adopted to authorize the secretary of war to grant permits to dredge for gold below mean low water, and to provide that nothing in the act shall be construed as nullifying claims heretofore legally located. Williams Illinois offered an amendment to provide for a territorial delegate for Alaska. Both political parties, he said, were committed to the proposition that the territory should have a delegate in congress.

Warner Illinois, in charge of the bill, said the committee had deemed it unwise to provide for a delegate on account of the difficulty of securing an election and the shifting character of the population.

The amendment was adopted 71 to 21. An amendment offered by Wheeler of Kentucky was adopted to prevent the shipment of eggs of the crane, goose or wild duck.

Wheeler said that Alaska and Manitoba were breeding grounds and this was an attempt to protect these wild fowls.

Bartlett moved that all the provisions of the bill relating to arrest and bail were stricken out. Bartlett insisted that there should be no arrest for debt. "Suppose a man has \$10,000 and is about to leave for Halifax, how are his creditors to collect the debts?" asked Tongue.

"Let them go to Halifax for it," replied Bartlett, amid laughter, and the house a moment later struck out the provisions.

After completing ninety-three of the 617 pages of the bill it was agreed that a night session should be held tonight for its further consideration.

At Broken Glass in Court.

A dramatic climax to the proceedings against John T. Elliott for forgery took place in the police court, when the prisoner made an attempt on his life in the police dock.

Elliott is a Bohemian, and although said to be a brother of Sir Henry Elliott and a scion of the house to which the present governor-general of Canada belongs, he has had no correspondence with his friends and his chief concern is in concealing his disgrace from them. He confessed, when arrested at Nanaimo, that he had made up his mind to commit suicide, but concluded that such a step would only add publicity to the matter and bring it to the ears of his folks in England. It was the impression that his crime was about to be made public that finally led to the step which has placed his life in imminent danger.

Yesterday he stated to the chief, when told of the serious nature of his crime, that he was at the fog end of a mispent life anyhow. He also inquired of the magistrate what the penalty for forgery was, and was informed that the maximum penalty was life imprisonment.

When the case was called in the police court it was noticed that Elliott kept his attention riveted upon Mr. C. W. Powell, who was employed as counsel in a case which was to be called after that of Elliott. Mr. Powell was writing letters in the interim, and Elliott jumped to the conclusion, as he afterwards confessed, that Mr. Powell was a reporter, and that his alleged offense was about to be paraded before the public.

He had decided previously what he would do in certain given circumstances, and the spectators noticed that he began to take something from his pockets and transfer it to his mouth, crunching it meanwhile in a manner

which indicated that it was a hard substance. At this point the witness, then in the stand, concluded his evidence, and the court mentioned that he would call another witness.

Elliott replied: "What's the use? You don't want any more." Magistrate Hall replied that he was bound to accept all the witnesses whom the crown offered.

The prisoner, then observed slowly and deliberately: "I might as well tell you that there is a change of venue ordered in this case and that it will be before a higher assize in a few hours." Detective Palmer had noticed that Elliott appeared to be chewing something and accordingly asked him if it was tobacco?

"I'm chewing, but it's not tobacco," responded the prisoner, and the detective's suspicions were aroused. Consequently, when the prisoner made the aforementioned observation the court was startled, and after a conference with some of the members of the bar present, the man was removed from the dock when it was found that he had been deliberately chewing hidden glass in order to destroy his life. He had obtained a bottle in jail, and this was broken into pieces, which he had secreted in his pocket, and with which he hoped to circumvent the ways of justice.

Dr. Fraser was summoned to attempt to save the life of the prisoner, but the latter assured him that there was no use in doing anything as he had read a book on suicide and knew exactly how to proceed about it. The man, however, is doing well.

The offence with which he is charged is forging the name of H. B. Marvin & Co. on checks for \$17 each, passed by him at the Empire and Occidental hotels. Victoria Times.

Authors and Writers Galore.

With the great throng now passing through Skagway to the more attractive parts of the vast interior are many members of the newspaper profession, people who make observations and chronicles for the benefit of thousands of others not given the privilege of visiting this wonderful region. The City of Seattle, arriving Sunday brought several members of the profession.

Miss Mollie Glenn, lately editor of the woman's page on the Vancouver Province, is in the city en route to the interior. Three years ago she went to Dawson by the St. Michael route.

Mrs. Mary E. Hitchcock, who hails from the Atlantic coast, arrived on the City of Seattle en route to Atlin. She is the author of "Two Women in Klondike" and is now writing a book on Atlin. She has mining interests in Atlin, which she will work this season. Mrs. Hitchcock leaves today for a side trip to Haines to study Indian folklore and gather data for future stories.

P. J. Burde, managing editor of the Vancouver Daily Province, arrived Sunday on the steamer City of Seattle. He is on his way to Atlin on a visit. He says:

"The papers of Lower British Columbia have not paid so much attention to Atlin heretofore, that they perhaps should have done, but now we wish to give the camp all the consideration it merits. The alien exclusion act hampered the situation then, but now it is different, and we hope to find the field more deserving of attention."

J. Campbell McLaughan, of the Vancouver Province, arrived in the city several days ago en route to Dawson.

J. T. Wilkinson, of the Vancouver Province, was in Skagway a short time ago en route to Atlin for the purpose of writing up the country for his paper. Mr. McGill, of the same paper, also visited Skagway not long ago.

D. L. Fry, late editor of the Atlin Globe, is also in Skagway on a short visit. He will soon leave Bennett for Nome in the sloop Gold Seeker, in which he has an interest.

R. Roediger, one of the owners of the Dawson News, is in the city en route from his home in Tacoma to Dawson, where he will have charge of the paper. He is accompanied by Mrs. Roediger. They will leave for the interior as soon as through connections can be obtained. Mr. Roediger was formerly managing editor of the Tacoma News, and later in the customs service at Tacoma, Alaskan.

Will Go Mining.

Mr. C. W. Joynt, for many years with the Seattle, Lake Shore & Eastern railroad as assistant superintendent, later went for the W. P. & Y. at Bennett, and but recently assistant traffic manager with the same company at Skagway, is in the city en route to Nome. Having thrown all the airs and cares of a railroad man to the winds, he will now seek the fortune which comes through toying with the rhy sand that skirts the Arctic sea.

The warmest and most comfortable hotel in Dawson is at the Regina.

SHOWS ARE IN FULL SWING.

Big Houses Greet Good Entertainments at Both Theaters.

Drama and Vaudeville of Excellent Quality Attracts the Playgoers of Dawson.

Although a large proportion of the theater going people have left Dawson for the lower country there are still enough people left to pack the local play houses, as was evidenced last night. Both houses are doing a good business as far as attendance is concerned but the merry pop of the champagne cork is far from being heard in as frequent intervals as the managers would desire. Whether this is due to lack of funds or a distaste to "shoot em up" on the part of the one time high rollers is a matter of conjecture. The boxes still have a number of votaries, however, and the alluring smile of the dizzy blondes still is evidence.

At the Palace Grand this week the four-act drama "Forgiveness" is produced. The entire company is cast in the play and the work of the different people was done very creditably.

In the old Bessie Pierce old her usual contention act. She was followed by Dick Maurettus in specialties. Babette Lyne, as usual, attracted a great deal of attention and a plause by her clever work. Miss Alice Farrbanks danced with her accustomed grace, followed by Garnett the singer and slack wire performer. The duo wound up with a screaming act of the O'Brien family who as usual received an ovation.

At the Orpheum the French drama, "Prior and Passion," is being produced this week under the direction of Lucy Lovell, the clever emotional actress. This is quite an innovation in the theatrical circles and is possibly accounted for by the intense agitation going on outside in favor of woman's rights, a wave of which may have dashed as far north as Dawson, engulfing the fair Lucy and imbuing within her a vast ambition, with a capital A. The cast included Messrs. Layne, O'Brien, Lawrence, Breen and Traube; Miss Wolcott played Cecile and Lucy Lovell, Marie.

Cal Wilson appeared at the head of the olio and was received with delight by the audience, who encored her repeatedly. She has "not lost any of her magnetism and held the audience as attentively as in the old days. Wm. Malan and Nellie Howard are also new people at the Orpheum and are exceptionally clever. They presented the curtain raiser, "A Home Party."

The show closed with the original act of Will Malan, "Who is Who," a screaming farce which the audience heartily enjoyed.

An Unserved Capias Warrant.

Wm. A. Boyce is a Nome-bound pilgrim who did not herald his departure from the housetops nor cry it in the streets of the city. On the contrary, William departed as quietly and surely as departs the glistening dewdrops from a pansy blossom before the forenoon sun.

Boyce was indebted to Mrs. Helen Ross in the sum of \$200, and her attorneys, Burritt & McKay, were endeavoring to collect that amount. Boyce sent an ambassador to deal with the attorneys and if possible, effect a compromise. The agent's overtures were not favorably received, and the attorneys for Mrs. Ross, fearing that Boyce would leave on the Seattle No. 4, which was to sail shortly, had a capias warrant issued at 8 o'clock last night. Sheriff Eilbeck took the warrant and sallied forth to serve, but the wily William was not to be found. While his ambassador was had been entertaining Mrs. Ross and her attorneys with a proposition to compromise the debt, William was quietly embarking in a small boat and heading for the Arctic circle.

And this is why Sheriff Eilbeck still has in his possession an unserved capias warrant.

We are selling Lempas, Mohr & Wilkens. For meats and vegetables for Sunday's dinner go to the Denver Market. Shoff, the Dawson Dog Doctor, Pioneer Drug Store. Best Canadian rye at the Regina.

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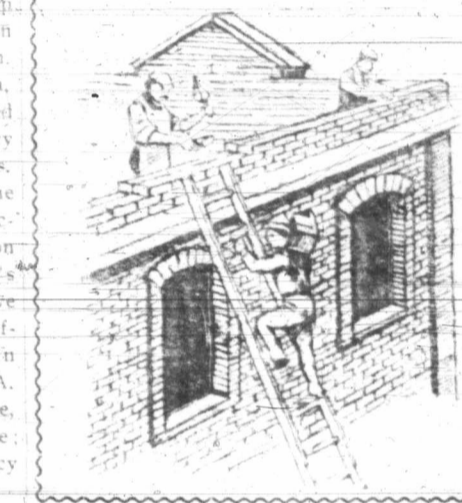
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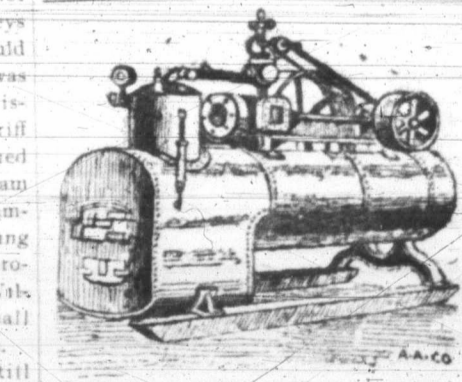
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