

# ~ THE DAILY ~ KLONDIKE NUGGET.

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DAWSON, Y. T., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1900

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## LATEST NOME NEWS

### A Letter Written By an Ex-Seattleite.

### GIVES AUTHENTIC INFORMATION

### Conditions Which Now Prevail in Nome.

### Tells of Good Pay on the Beach and the Prospects for Next Summer—Thinks Cape York Will Even Exceed Richness of Nome.

(The following letter has been handed to the Nugget for publication, with a request that the names of the parties concerned be withheld.)

Cape Nome Dec. 6 1899.

Friend Henry:

According to promise made you in the letter I sent you just previous to my leaving Seattle in October I write you now as there is an opportunity for getting a letter out the first since I have had an opportunity for forming a conclusion regarding this country.

Well, I will tell you of what I have heard and seen during the seven weeks of my sojourn here and also my opinion of the future of this as a mining field. When I landed here at least seven in every eight of those who had been washing out on the beach had ceased from their labors and many of them had started below for the winter, the few last steamers leaving for the lower coast being crowded with passengers. Of the number of miners who remained a few are still at work but owing to the piercing winds little headway is being made, although the men claim they are making more than wages and they prefer that to laying around the resorts and spending what they made last fall. I presume they know what they are doing or they would not be working, for it is certainly not pleasant to be out on the exposed beach this kind of weather unless a person is stimulated by the thought that he is being well paid for it. But I scarcely see how they know what they are making as only an occasional pan is panned out, the object of their labor being to build up dumps which will be panned out when suitable weather arrives.

I do not deem it an exaggeration to say that the gold producing beach is from 80 to 100 miles in length, there being from 40 to 50 miles of it on either side of the town. The entire length of this stretch of beach, I learn from reliable parties who have prospected and worked on it, is very uniform in the amount of gold contained, also in the distances to bedrock. Back above highwater mark bedrock is found at depths varying from four to six feet; at half tide it is from two to three and one-half feet, and at low tide mark only from eight to fifteen inches to bedrock. Although this long stretch of beach was more or less "goughed" almost its entire length during September and until nearly the end of October, but a very small percentage of it was actually worked. By spring all trace of former work below extreme

high tide mark will have been effaced by the surf which, owing to the wind, is driven high above the line of average tide.

As to how much gold was taken from the beach here last fall there is much speculation. Some knowing ones who claim to be in position to speak authentically assert that the amount was from one and a half millions to two millions. Others, equally wise and knowing, say the amount did not exceed from eight hundred thousand to one million. I know, however, that lots of gold was taken out and for quite a few weeks, mostly before I arrived, but for several days afterwards nearly every man on the beach took out from \$15 to \$25 each day. Where less than \$15 was taken out it was called "slim picking." Of my own knowledge, men whom I know to have been landed here with less than \$50 in cash left after 40 and 50 days with from \$600 all the way up to \$2500. It looks to me as if a man who comes here and is not afraid to work he can get more money for his labor than at any other point in the civilized world.

The local deputy U. S. marshal named Edwards at whom the man killed had himself fired several shots. The officer was exonerated from all blame.

I notice there is a continued sameness in the matter of diet here, but suppose you notice the same thing in Dawson. Suppose it will be very much "safer" before a steamer arrives with fresh stuff, but as there is plenty of it, such as it is, I suppose no complaints should be uttered. Well, I will close and retire for the night and a good portion of tomorrow. This is a great country for sleep, besides, when a fellow is asleep he is not burning up very expensive fuel. Yours, etc.

CHAS. J. H.

### Kitchener Is Chief.

New York, Jan. 23.—It now leaks out that Lord Kitchener is really chief in South Africa, and Lord Roberts a figure-head, says a London cable to the Herald. It happened thus: "The National Defence committee met and decided that Lord Kitchener was the man for the place. He was Lord Salisbury's nomination, but endless difficulties

## THROUGH TELEGRAPH

### Dawson Will Connect Direct With the Outside.

### THE CHAIN WILL BE COMPLETED

### Line to Be Constructed From Atlin to Quesnelle.

### A Branch Will Then Be Built From Bennett to Atlin and Communication Established With All Outside Points—Work Will Begin Soon.

Authentic information has been received in Dawson within the past few days to the effect that parliament has appropriated \$225,000 for the purpose of covering the expenses of construction. It is expected that the line to the outside will be completed by the middle of next June. Mr. Charleston, the gentleman under whose management and supervision the present system was constructed, is now on his way to Dawson. He has been delegated to represent the central government in matters respecting the erection of public buildings, and the construction of public roads. Likewise to him has been entrusted the supervision of the telegraph line extension. The people of Dawson realize from experience that Mr. Charleston is an efficient and able official, and that he will expedite the performance of his duties as much as possible.

The plans of the government are to build the telegraph line from Atlin to Quesnelle, which is a station on the Canadian Pacific railroad. No surveys have yet been made; but surveys will start from each terminal point, and work towards each other. In this way the preliminary work of surveying will be completed before the first of May. Undoubtedly a party of surveyers have already left Quesnelle. It is thought that Mr. Charleston will be accompanied by another party, which will commence operations from the Atlin end of the line.

In the last mail, Justice Dugas received a letter from Ottawa which had been written on January 2d.

When asked respecting the action taken by the government in reference to the construction of an extension to the present telegraph system, the justice answered:

"In my letter, dated at Ottawa on January 2d, I am informed that the department of public works will commence the construction of an extension to the present telegraph line. This extension will connect the Yukon with the outside world. The new line will be built in all probability, between Atlin and Quesnelle, B. C. Without

(Continued on Page 2.)

## To The Public.

This is to certify that the undersigned met by appointment, on Sunday Evening, February 4, two men, Carl Knobelsdorf and C.D. Campbell by name; that the said meeting occurred in Room 6 of the Regina Hotel; that the said Knobelsdorf and Campbell, during an interview lasting one and one-half hours, furnished the undersigned with the statements upon which the article entitled "From Nome in 57 Days" was based, which article appeared in an "extra" edition of the Daily Klondike Nugget published at noon on Monday, the 5th day of February. We further certify that the said Knobelsdorf and Campbell voluntarily answered all questions put to them by the undersigned, and that said article is a true and correct report of said interview.

Signed:

E. C. ALLEN,  
GEO. M. ALLEN,  
E. J. WHITE,  
DAVID B. TEWKESBURY.

I have not yet been over to Cape York, but from parties who have spent some time there and returned to Nome for the winter I learn that the beach there is fully one-half richer than at Nome; 40 cents to the pan being rather above the average at the latter place, while at York very few pans fall below 75 cents and this amount is known to be found for miles at York although the beach there is not nearly so long as at Nome. It is said here, and I have no cause to dispute it, that fully four-fifths of the gold mined here last fall was taken from between the mouths of the Nome and Pelly rivers, the length of beach between them being a little over 14 miles. However, there is no scientific reason why the entire 80 to 100 miles should not be just as rich as this particular stretch, for unquestionably the gold comes from the sea, and not from the little rivers.

The town here at present is necessarily very dull and quiet. I estimate the number of people at from 2200 to 2500, and I can truthfully say that all things, circumstances, conditions and classes considered, they are as well behaved set of people as I ever saw any place. Of course, whisky gets in its work the same as in every other place where it is sold, and there is occasionally a few drunken fights, and about a month ago, probably not quite so long, a drunken cook named John Mallon run amuck and was shot and killed by

were in the way. The trouble was that Lord Kitchener was the junior of Generals Buller, Warren and others, but Lord Salisbury is never beaten upon a technicality and his solution of the problem was to send Lord Roberts, who will restore confidence of the men as field marshal, while Lord Kitchener, being his aide, will be enabled, under cover of his superior, to conduct the campaign. The general opinion is that the idea is good.

### Where is W. A. Brown?

Ben F. Brown of Pendleton, Oregon, writes the Daily Nugget for information concerning his brother, William A. Brown, who was last heard from by his relatives by a letter from this place.

If the recalcitrant William is here he will do well to allay the anxiety of his relatives by writing them news of himself.



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