

The Klondike Nugget

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1902.

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AMUSEMENTS. Auditorium—"Men and Women." Standard—Vaudeville.

CLARKE AND THE POLICE.

It would seem to be the extreme of courtesy for Major Wood to have accorded to Joe Clarke the privilege of addressing the men at the barracks tomorrow afternoon. But what is more striking is the extraordinary gall of the man who was a deserter from the ranks of the Mounted Police to appear before the manly men of the service and ask their votes.

In the Mounted Police there is a precedent for the action of Major Wood in permitting this. At Regina, at the same courtesy has been extended to candidates. But nothing approaching a debate is permitted. Not more than one candidate and the representative of his party are allowed at any one meeting; the other party or parties are allowed to address another meeting. It is only the men who attend these meetings. All the members of the Mounted Police are absolutely uncommitted in their voting, but it has been held to be bad taste for any officer of the force to take an open active interest in party politics.

Mr. Clarke is to appear tomorrow and deliver a carefully prepared written speech. This will undoubtedly be strictly confined to "principles," in the belief that high sounding words are the best to juggle an audience with. It is their last extremity, at any rate, they are driven to it for the reason that they dare not touch upon facts or refer to past history. Can Clarke get up and address those intelligent men as "Courages," and praise them upon their loyalty to the order they took on enlistment? No, he will have to fall back upon principles—revolutionary principles.

It is a deserter, to ask these loyal and manly men for their support. Upon what grounds? Revolutionary principles, of course. "Look at me," he can say with pride. "I broke loose from every school they put me at. I deserted from the Mounted Police because they wanted to teach me something, wanted to tie me down to respectability. And here you are drugging along at your duty while I am a candidate for member of parliament." How will such a specious argument as that appeal to the Mounted Police?

Good government depends in a large measure upon such a body of men as the Mounted Police. As the guardian of good government, the Mounted Police has won a reputation all over the civilized world. There is no other police force referred to in such highly complimentary terms as this which is the pride of the Dominion. Will Mr. Clarke venture to address these men on the principles of good government? There is only one episode of the past upon which he can appeal to the feelings of these men, and hope to inflame their passions. It is this: Those now in the service who were among the first contingents sent here, claim that they accepted the service under an implied condition that they were to be allowed to stake claim for themselves. In the spring of '99 an order-in-council was

passed which prohibited all government employees from locating or holding mining claims. If Mr. Clarke should happen to touch upon that subject may he not be confronted with a question as to the origin of the petitions which were sent to Ottawa praying that just such a measure be passed? And if so, how can he get around the fact that it was the opposition to the government who advocated and demanded that measure?

Indeed it is difficult to imagine what such a harumscrum agitator as the opposition candidate can possibly say to a band of men whose lives are one consistent course of discipline.

CONDEMNED BY HIS RECORD.

The Clarke speaks studiously avoid any and all affirmative declarations in behalf of their candidate. Joe's record has been kept in the background and references thereto have been few and far between. As a matter of fact the opposition to Mr. Ross is dependent wholly and entirely upon the ability of the leaders to keep alive the animosity engendered in 1898, when Joseph Andrew Clarke was in charge of the famous ten dollar door.

The opposition has utterly failed to show any sound, substantial reasons for asking the electorate to support Clarke. They dare not assert that Clarke will be in a position to accomplish the numerous reforms which are necessary to the well-being of the community, for the simple reason that any such assertions would be met with a storm of ridicule and derision.

Joe Clarke would be merely a figure head on the floor of the house of commons, and knowing his record as thoroughly as they do, the members of the government would simply make a plaything of him.

In urging Clarke's candidature the opposition are endeavoring to the utmost to work an injury to the country.

Men who are now asking the voters to support Clarke freely admit that he will disgrace the territory and reflect discredit upon it, but at the same time they say that the wrongs of '98 must be avenged and it is through Clarke's agency that they expect to secure vengeance.

Fortunately, such views are held by very few men. The great majority are looking forward to the future of the district with supreme hope and confidence and they propose to exercise the right of franchise for the purpose of furthering its interests. They will give their votes to the Hon. James Hamilton Ross, the man who stands before them squarely upon his record and who asks them to judge of his future conduct by what he has done in the past.

The Clarke men dare not submit their candidate to a similar test. Clarke's record condemns him and the voters will seal the judgment on the second day of December.

A News editorial of yesterday was headed "Defeat Apparent." Right you are neighbor. Defeat for Clarke has been so manifestly apparent for the last two weeks that any one but a blind man could have seen it long ago.

It is now said that the colonel's ambition is looking beyond the mayoralty and in the direction of the Yukon council. Candidates, look well to your laurels.

Will Reduce Army

Washington, Oct. 18.—The war department is considering the reduction of the army. It is expected that the first reduction will be made in the hospital corps. The immediate plan will be to reduce the regiments to a peace basis. There will probably be therefore not so many acceptances for enlistment. The full strength of the army in the Philippines will probably be retained until congress meets. The probability of a reduction is based on the conditions of peace which prevail the only war being that which the Sultan of Bacool has invited.

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STAMPEDE DOWN RIVER

Staking First Island Below the City

Locators Will Have to Give Security to Present Owner of the Land.

There was a stampede this morning to the first island below Dawson, called since last summer Smallpox Island, which is opposite Mendenhall and nearly opposite Mendenhall on the other side of the river. Up to noon none of the stamperers had arrived at the administration building to record, and when they do so they will be met with section No. 9 of the Yukon placer mining regulations. This reads as follows:

"Previous to any entry being made upon lands lawfully occupied, such free miners shall give adequate security, to the satisfaction of the mining recorder, for any loss or damage that may be caused by such entry, and after such entry he shall make full compensation to the occupant or owner of such lands for any loss or damage which may be caused by reason of such entry; such compensation, in case of dispute, to be determined by the court having jurisdiction in mining disputes."

The island in question was taken up some time ago for agricultural purposes, and therefore, as in the case of West Dawson creek, the claims on which intruded upon property already taken up for residence purposes, the stakers on the island will have to give security to the owners of the real estate.

With this security being given claims may be granted, but as they cannot be classed as river claims the dimensions allowed will be only 250 feet square.

It is suggested by an experienced mining man that no grants at all be issued. There are other islands in the Yukon that undoubtedly have gold bearing gravel, but they can only be worked in the winter. He thinks that as they must be simply a rocky proposition it would be well to treat them as the Nome beach was treated, allowing each man to rock and to hold temporarily the piece of ground he was actually working.

ELDORADO AND BONANZA.

Mrs. Ivey of No. 21 above Bonanza has been confined to her bed for several days.

Mr. Geo. Snell, formerly from 22 above Bonanza, is taking out a new hoist today on Bear creek.

Last Wednesday an elderly gentleman living on No. 1 Homestead, off No. 26 above Bonanza, was trying to pen his younger days sliding down hill, and unfortunately fell off and broke a rib.

Mrs. Primus has recently sold a hillside fraction left unit opposite Nos. 33 and 34 above Bonanza, to Austin M. Gibbs of Magnet. Mrs. Primus realized a good sum from this sale.

Messrs. Ivey, Lester and Drummond all of No. 21 above Bonanza returned from a two weeks hunting trip last Thursday well laden with all kinds of game. They were in the Indian river country. In one hour they killed over one hundred birds. They saw several moose but only brought one home, which was killed by Ivey and Lester. They report a very fine trip.

Some time ago it was reported that the Grand Forks Social Club were going to give a grand ball on Thanksgiving night and that O'Reilly were going to give one the same night. When O'Reilly found out about the social club giving one the same night they immediately changed their date to Thanksgiving eve. Later some unforeseen obstacle showed up which necessitated the social club changing their night to Thanksgiving eve. Again both dances would come on the same night, but O'Reilly announced today that they will postpone their dance until the next week and therefore not so many acceptances for enlistment.

The full strength of the army in the Philippines will probably be retained until congress meets. The probability of a reduction is based on the conditions of peace which prevail the only war being that which the Sultan of Bacool has invited.

Mr. Schalkburger, who was acting president of the Transvaal republic, was born at Lydenburg fifty years ago, and is the grandson of a Vortrekker. He contested the presidency four years ago, but had no chance against Kruger, in whose favor he gave the casting vote when the committee of which he was chairman said to consider the rival claims of Jonbert and Kruger after the election of 1893. It has always been held that but for the fact that Kruger's parties tampered with the ballot boxes, General Jonbert would have been elected president of the then republic.

The French colonies on the west coast of Africa are increasing in importance every year and are receiving serious attention from the French government. The United States exported to these colonies in 1900 \$657,366 worth and received therefrom products to the value of \$601,145.

AGAINST CONCESSIONS.

I shall advocate the thorough investigation of the charges of fraud made in respect to the concessions in which certain concessions are alleged to have been obtained, and if such fraud is established, the immediate commencement of such proceedings as may be required to vacate the grants, and the enforcement of strict compliance with the conditions embodied in all crown grants in the Yukon.—James Hamilton Ross.

Folks Who Are Never Seen

One day in the early fifties a Cambridgehire lady passed from human ken. For over thirty years she had been seen by none, her meals having been left outside her room to be taken in when no one was by; and it was only through her neglecting to do this for three consecutive days that apprehension as to her safety was aroused. The door of her room was forced, and she was found dead on her bed. The reason for her eccentric conduct never transpired.

An equally mysterious recluse dwelt in a Kentish town. A trusted civilian employe, he one morning quitted his post for no ostensible cause and retired to his house, where he lived on a scant annuity he possessed. Such food as he needed was purchased by a blind sister with whom he lived, and he gave no sign of existence save when at night his steps could be plainly heard pacing his backyard, which, that he might escape prying eyes, he had roofed in with canvas. The mystery at his death remained unsolved.

A physician named Blore, who lived at the end of the eighteenth century, was suddenly seized with a hatred of his kind, and resolved until his death never to see, or be seen by, man. So he had made a large, bell-shaped structure of wickerwork, open at the top to admit air and food. Into this having caused it to be placed in the hall of his house, he having bidden a solemn farewell to his wife and daughters, descended through the aperture.

In this case insanity was at the bottom of the matter, and Blore perished by his own hand in less than a week after he had taken possession of his strange dwelling.

Another curious instance of mania was that of a gentleman whose family was well known to the writer. He was stricken with the strange fancy that he possessed a Gorgon's head, so that everyone who beheld him would be turned to stone. He therefore retired to a couple of attics, to which he would admit no one; and, though doubtless he might with propriety have been relegated to an asylum, his family respected his bizarre whim, and he remained religiously secluded for over three years, when he recovered his normal senses.

The victim through an accident of a ghastly disfigurement, a wealthy Parisian made a vow never to be seen again by man. He kept to a special suite of rooms in his house, where he was waited upon by two well-trained blind servants, who were the intermediaries between himself and the other members of his household. No exception was made even in the case of his wife and children, who, from the day of his accident to that of his death, never again set eyes upon him.

The late E. P. Whipple, the American lecturer and critic, used to tell of an eccentric New Yorker who, having read a pamphlet on infidelity, was so impressed by the medieval religious orders, was possessed by an irresistible desire to copy their procedure—though not in his own person. This he gratified with the assistance of an elderly pauper, who, in consideration of a handsome annuity allowed to his wife, agreed to be confined in a small dungeon built in the walls. In this cell he spent four years of his life, being fed through a small aperture so contrived as not to permit a sight of the voluntary prisoner.

A strange fancy seized a Viennese watchmaker some years back. He shut himself up in his house, and till his death, seven years later, was never again seen by mortal eyes. All the windows were closely shuttered, and such communication as he had with the outside world was carried on after dark through an aperture made in the door. He continued, in some extent, to work at his trade, as he was an expert; watches, clocks, etc., to be repaired being taken in and returned through the same small opening.

Bats on the Elbe

A curious means of moving boats is employed on the river Elbe. A chain 200 miles long is at the bottom of the stream, which is too swift to navigate in the usual way. The boats are 180 feet long and provided with 200-horse power steam engines, which turn a drum fastened on the deck. The chain comes in over the bow, passing along in rollers to the drum, around which it is wound three times. The chain is then carried to the stern, where it drops back into the water. The steamers tow five barges, containing 1,500 tons.

"Is it possible, miss, that you do not know the names of your best friends?" "Possible? Why, of course it is. I do not even know what my own name may be a year or so hence."

Stroller's Column.

He is probably the only sea captain who has piloted steamboats ever since navigation opened who is left in town so he has a right to the role of the Man-Who-Knows-It-All in Yukon navigation. He tackled the Stroller. "I don't think Governor Ross did the best he might have done, and I have good reasons for saying it," he began.

"Now I have no vote," he went on by way of apology for his rash statement, "but I want to tell you something—something that he ought to have done and that you and I will possibly see done by his successor." "Yes, I know what you want to say. But look yer here for a minute. It has cost so many thousands of dollars to build that government road to Whitehorse, ain't it?" "Oh, more than that," was the encouraging reply of the Stroller.

"Well, then, I am ready to prove how he could have got better returns for the money. I am not sayin' that government roads are not good things anyway. They open up a country. That's what this road from here to Whitehorse will help to do. But it was built for the express purpose of bringing in the mails during the winter so there would be no long waits between the close of navigation and travelling ice and between the break-up and actual navigation. I'm not sayin' it ain't good, mind you. I merely want to point out where the same amount of money would have effected a more permanent improvement."

"And it goes this way. Less than the amount of money the wagon road cost would have kept the Yukon open all winter. What do you think of that?"

"Well, Mr. Stroller, when I met you in the lobby of the house of commons in Ottawa in '78, you remember we were talking of an ice boat—a steamer that would cut its way through the ice and maintain communication with Prince Edward Island through the winter. They passed that bill, and the next winter when they tried it you and I had a laugh in the St. Nicholas hotel, New York, over our dinner, at the newspaper account of how this ice boat had stuck midway and relief parties had to be sent out with dog teams to take grub to the crew."

"But the thing worked all right eventually, and for the last ten years they have been faking a load of cats all winter over the straits of Mackinac. So ice boats are all right." "But we don't need any ice boats of great power to keep the Yukon open. Ordinary steamers will do, and I'll tell you how. You remember when the Tyrrell came back from Eagle they wanted her to run full tilt against the ice and smash a road in to the wharf. Instead of that she steamed at full speed right past the wharves, all the way from St. Mary's church to the barracks. And what was the result? The big swell she made lifted off the shore ice, broke it off, and it floated down with the current."

"The steamboat which in the winter crosses the straits of Mackinac is a heavily-built vessel. It has a long steel prow which glides on top of the ice and the weight of the vessel crushes it. But the ice so crushed immediately closes and freezes together in her wake and she has the same performance to go through on her return journey." "Now on the Yukon it would be different. When the ice on the Yukon is broken up it clears itself; it goes down with the current. Do you see the point?"

"I see that; but I don't see how it would keep the Yukon open." "Why, just give a subsidy, a moderate subsidy, for carrying the mails on the Yukon during the winter. Give it to some outside company, or give it to all the companies—Get a government appropriation for building booms at the mouth of the rivers to keep the ice in. This done, one steamer leaving Dawson every day would keep the river open all winter. The swirl and swirl of its paddle-wheel would keep breaking off the shore ice and the current would do the rest. Don't you think it would work?"

The Stroller would not print it unless he believed there was either the germ of fun or common sense in it.

There was a joke on Wilson Foster, the quartz king, yesterday. He was out to see the new government quartz mill, with a view to filing applications for the assay of enough rock to use up the two months duty which mill tests are made free. The men repairing the wagon road, set off a big blast while he was there and a big chunk of rock was carried close to the mill.

"Rush and get it, Foster," cried one of his friends. "It will save hauling."

Ray Combes writes a friend that he is doing well in Seattle. In '98 he used to hang around the Regina and was an artist who believed in Art with a capital "A." Some of his best work is seen in St. Mary's church. He painted some angels there that are still a joy to behold. But having taken too much one morning's best whiskers on a prominent member of the heavenly host. After that he had a fit of remorse, with a capital "R," and never even presented himself for pay for the

Slayer of Her Husband

The Marquise de Mores, who was the beautiful Miss Medore von Hoffman of New York, has made an extraordinary request of President Loubet. It is that he pardon El Kheir, who was condemned to death last July as one of her husband's assassins. It is not because of any sentiment of clemency that the Marquise makes this request; on the contrary, it is because she feels that full reparation has not yet been made. She wishes Kheir saved in order that he may be used as a witness against others accused of, but not yet arrested, for the murder of her husband.

The Marquise de Mores says that the Tonares tribesmen were only tools and she asserts that the real assassin is protected by the powerful personages who organized the expedition.

Despite the denials of the French government that the massacre of de Mores, and his companions in June, 1896, was due to anything other than the treachery of certain Tunisian tribesmen, his widow has always held that his taking off was part of a deep-laid plan.

De Mores, who was a Frenchman, though bearing an Italian title, was an old-fashioned hater of the English. In 1896 the power of the English in the Soudan was a prominent factor, and the story goes that de Mores was employed by the French government on the "wilds" of rounding up the Arab Sheiks and inciting them to wage a holy war against the Anglo-Egyptian forces. Then came the massacre and the persistent efforts of the Marquise to bring her husband's murderers, actual and official, to justice.

Last July El Kheir was condemned to death, Hanna Cheikh was sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment, six other tribesmen were sentenced "in default," and the public prosecutor declared the allegation failed to substantiate the allegation that there was any official collusion with the death of the Marquise. Evidently the Marquise either does not believe the public prosecutor or is determined to present him with evidence which he must believe.

"Ah, Mees Hobartone, you climb re Matterhorn? Zat vas a foot-to be proud of."

"Pardon me, Count, but you mean feat."

"O-o-h! you climb it more san once?"

FIXED MINING LAWS.

With respect to the mining laws I propose to have them codified and then submitted to representative miners for criticism, alteration and approval in order that they may as far as possible meet with the approval of the mining community.—James Hamilton Ross.

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