

The Klondike Nugget

(DAWSON'S PIONEER PAPER)
ISSUED SEMI-WEEKLY
On Wednesday and Saturday

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A. F. GEORGE, Associate Editor

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1899.

NOTICE.

When a newspaper offers its advertising space at a nominal figure, it is a practical admission of "no circulation." THE KLONDIKE NUGGET asks a good figure for its space and in justification thereof guarantees to its advertisers a paid circulation five times that of any other paper published between Juneau and the North Pole.

AT IT AGAIN.

The ex-telegraph operator who by one of those mysterious rattles of fortune's dice box has temporarily been allowed, through the grace of Mr. Thos. O'Brien, to smear the pages of the Yukon Sun with the reflections of his diseased and debauched intellect is at it again. For this mental weakling whose intellectual calibre is about on a par with his capacity for telling the truth, we have simply contempt. His crude efforts at journalism betray the bungler and provincial amateur, while the trend of the rot with which he fills the columns of the Sun indicates an absolute and profound ignorance of all the qualities that appertain to the reputable journalist. His groveling at the feet of everyone who happens to carry the stamp of government employe exhibit the moral degenerate in his worst light.

With the egotism always born of ignorance, he rushes in like the fool where angels fear to tread. Repudiated by his own countrymen and the laughing stock of an alien population his paper is as void of circulation as his empty cranium of grey matter. His insignificance, however, precludes devoting but little space to him or to his sheet, neither of which are accepted seriously by anyone outside the immediate circle of his government patrons, through toadying to whom he is enabled to prolong the Sun's miserable existence.

THE COMING STAMPEDE.

The stampede from Dawson to Nome, which so many people have placed on the boards for next summer will not, we apprehend, have the depressing effect upon the town which has generally been supposed will be the case. While it is undoubtedly a fact that a very large number will leave, it is no less the truth that their departure cannot in any degree lessen the value or amount of gold known to be deposited in the gravel beds of the creeks adjacent to Dawson. The presence of that gold has been so well and clearly established that no influx nor exodus of population can in any way affect it.

There can be no doubt left that Nome is also a wealthy camp, and it must be conceded from the information at hand that there are opportunities for the poor man at Nome which do not occur in Dawson.

We are of the opinion, however, that Nome will be overdone next summer to a much greater extent than was the case with Dawson in the spring of last year.

There are not almost impassable mountain defiles to be overcome in the trip to Nome. Neither is there a stretch of 600 miles of dangerous river to be navigated by the man who is seeking the beach digging. All he has to do is

to board the steamer at Seattle and step onto the dock at Anvil City.

As a natural consequence there will be thousands of men attracted to Nome, where hundreds only come into Dawson. They will come from all over the United States, attracted by the marvelous reports from the so-called poor man's paradise.

The result can easily be foreseen by anyone familiar with similar stampedes, and more especially by those who were in Dawson and witnessed the results of the tremendous influx of people into this country in the summer of 98. Thousands of disappointed men, after ascertaining the fact that there is nothing for them in Nome will naturally turn their heads up the Yukon, rather than return home disappointed. And Dawson in all probability will be their main objective point. We believe that there is no reason to fear any considerable diminution in the labor market a year hence. There will be employment for labor and there will be labor looking for employment. Nome, however rich, will not be able to kill the Klondike.

THE GOLD DUST SITUATION.

Just so long as the present system of transacting business with gold dust remains in vogue, just so long will the miner be mulcted of a portion of the product of his claim and the speculator and money changer get the benefit thereof. The root of the evil lies in the fact that there is any necessity whatever for the use of gold dust as a circulating medium. Gold dust is not money, and has no business whatsoever circulating as such. What the miner wants is not particularly that he can go to the store and get goods for his dust, but that he may exchange that dust for its actual value in currency. We have confidence in the honesty of the average miner to believe that if his dust has not a value to exceed \$15 per ounce, he does not want to get \$16 for it, and on the other hand if it is worth \$17, we say that he has a legitimate right to object when asked to part with it at the value of \$16. As matters now stand in Dawson the wide range of difference in the value of the dust now passing current has the effect of forcing currency out of circulation and into the banks and safe deposits, for the man who has currency knows exactly the value of his money, while the holder of gold dust is subject to an element of uncertainty which induces him to liquidate his accounts with dust rather than with currency.

The solution of the whole question must finally come home to the Dominion government. Dawson must have a public assay office to which a man may go with his dust and receive in return its full value, less such charges for assay, etc., as are just and equitable. Any other remedy will be in the nature of a temporary make-shift.

ITS ATTRACTIVENESS.

Life on the Yukon has its compensations as well as its drawbacks. Like every other phase of human experience it has both its light and dark side. To most men, it is a life of uncertainty, a life of great expectations but not of necessarily consequent realization. Its great attraction lies in its possibilities rather than in its actualities. We fancy when the poet gave utterance to the famous sentiment "Hope springs eternal in the human breast," that he must have had some mining camp in

mind. The humblest miner in Dawson who possesses a grub stake today may be the man who will be able to count his wealth by thousands tomorrow, and with that weakness which is so human, every man is firmly convinced that he is the one chosen of the gods to be the recipient of their especial favors.

Aside from the attractiveness of prospective wealth, the universally democratic spirit which prevails is added excitement to draw men to the Klondike.

Nowhere are caste lines less rigorously drawn. The iron clad rules with which society girds itself in the great social and commercial circles of the outside are largely disregarded, and a resultant feeling of good fellowship and congeniality prevails. In the Klondiker's snug cabin, stiffness and formality are forgotten and genuine enjoyment is the order of the day.

It is the almost universal experience of men who leave Dawson for the outside that a feeling of dissatisfaction comes over them after a short time. An unaccountable desire to return comes over them and in the ordinary course of events return they do. The peculiar conditions which prevail in the Klondike metropolis, as outlined above, are without doubt largely accountable for this peculiar fact.

SHOULD BE REFUNDED.

Elsewhere in this issue will be found a statement from Collector of Customs Davis relative to duties collected upon goods ultimately lost during the course of transit to Dawson. It appears, according to the interpretation placed upon the law by Collector Davis, that the owners of such goods are entitled to no rebate for the amounts involved, no matter how clearly they may be able to establish the loss of the goods. On the other hand where goods are lost during transit in bond, the collector states that no duty charges are made, the theory being that the government cannot collect duty upon bonded goods unless it is able to deliver the goods at the point where the collection is to be made.

It appears that there is a decided absence of equity in the law involved. Import duties are levied, upon the presumption that for every dollar's worth of goods brought in from a foreign country, a proportionate decrease in home production results. Now, if such foreign goods, through shipwreck or similar misfortune become totally lost or destroyed, it would only seem just

and reasonable that the owners receive a rebate from the government for the amount of duty money paid, excepting sufficient to compensate the government for the expense involved in clearing the goods. The point involved has especial significance at the present time, owing to the fact that so large a quantity of freight was lost during the last few weeks of navigation. Upon nearly all of the goods lost duty had been paid before leaving Bennett. Some concerted effort should be made to secure recognition of these losses from the government, and some measure at least of compensation to the unfortunate men who have suffered not only the loss of their property, but of the money paid for duty as well.

Will J. R. Hill please call at office of Nugget Express.

Anyone who knows the whereabouts of D. R. Lamore will please call at the town station.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Miss Vivian is a recent arrival in the city. William Ask is registered at the Hotel McDonald.

J. S. Betzes, of Grand Forks, is a visitor in Dawson.

Ed Ensel, a claim owner on Magnet gulch, is visiting the city.

R. S. Eskridge and E. I. Watkins are spending a few days in town.

Theo. Becker and Mike McDermont have taken a lay on Lindo creek.

Louis E. Miller of No. 2 Eldorado, came in from the creek on Wednesday.

Joe Irwin came down from the Forks for a few days during the early part of the week.

Tom Bailey, who has been prospecting on Hunker, returned to Dawson on Tuesday.

M. K. Sabin and B. A. Lipscomb, wrecked on the Stratton, are stopping at the Flannery.

Con Short, a miner on Gold Run, is in town, preparing to transport some machinery to his claim.

A. D. Smith, of the Humboldt Gates party, arrived Wednesday. He is registered at the Yukon hotel.

Tom Victor has bought the McCrimmons claim on the seventh tier of Big Skookum. The price paid was \$2000.

Mrs. Foley joined her husband in Dawson on Wednesday. She was one of the unfortunate passengers of the Stratton.

Barney Smith and his brother were among those who made the trip from Selwyn during the early part of the week.

Lieutenant Adair recently of the United States cavalry, came to town from Selwyn during the middle of the week.

Jack Cavanaugh, well-known as manager of vaudeville, is reported to be at Stewart river with a boat load of variety talent.

Mrs. Comert and her daughter were among the passengers on the wrecked Stratton. They reached Dawson Wednesday afternoon.

Mrs. Karkeek and her two children arrived from Selwyn on Wednesday. The party was brought down from Indian river by Mr. Pelletier.

George Noble, Frank Floyd, Henry Macauley, Billy Thomas and Billy Chenoweth enjoyed a sleigh ride to Grand Forks during the week.

Jim Hall, who left about a month ago, changed his mind about visiting the outside when he reached Bennett. He returned to Dawson Wednesday.

Tom Rooney, Jessie Forrester and Cecil Marion are variety people who were aboard the ill-fated Stratton. They reached Dawson on Wednesday.

Hotel Le Roi.

Notice is hereby given that the co-partnership existing between W. J. Sweeney and W. E. Fairchild has been dissolved. Mr. Fairchild is now sole owner, and notice is hereby given that all accounts due the firm are payable to Mr. Fairchild.

The Runkel patent steam thawing point promises to do wonders in the rapid development and working of the mines in this country. Mr. Runkel says he has placed them in many of the prominent mines and that they have proven remarkably successful. One of the points has been left in the office of The Nugget, where it can be seen by any one interested.

See us and get prices on mattresses, upholstered goods, etc. Jenkins & Johnson, Second ave., next Melbourne.

A light fingered and hungry gent was attracted by the epicurean display in the windows of the Holborn restaurant last Sunday and successfully purloined a roasted chicken, abstracting at the same time the platter upon which it lay in state. Mr. Burk, the proprietor, is surprised that he did not take a knife, fork and napkin.

The only qualified horse and dog doctor practicing in Dawson. Dr. Strong, D. V. S. Pioneer barber shop.

Fine lamps at Mohr & Wilkens.

Jingle Bells.

Take the Girl for a Sleigh Ride.

GIVE YOUR WIFE AN OUTING.

GET A CUTTER AND ENJOY LIFE

White Horse Stables

New Rigs, Modern Cutters, Speedy Horses.

Third Avenue, nr. First Street. Call on us for freighting.

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