

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

Nugget Envoys Again in Good Shape and Pass Selkirk.

Much Interesting Matter Obtainable Here—No Particularly Good Feeling Towards Government Regulations—The Soldier Question.

FORT SELKIRK, Y. T., Feb. 5, 1899. After a run from Holbrook's twenty-five miles to this point, over a siding trail most of the way, we find ourselves at the old trading post of Fort Selkirk, and both in excellent condition. The vigorous treatment of Mr. Allen's injury produced the desired result, so that the use of his foot has returned, and much better time is being made. It was a perfect day for travelling, rather warm than otherwise, so that our shirt sleeves were about right for comfort.

REVENUE AT ALL HAZARDS. The Nugget must be very much in evidence in this particular neck of the world, although as you are aware the facilities for reaching this and other up river points have not been of a character permitting the spreading of the gospel of truth in these localities, but scarcely had the sleigh bearing the sign on either side the "Klondike Nugget" made its appearance on the high river banks, before word was passed along the line that the Nugget was here, and now there would be a— to pay. Why is this now? What is the reason for this scurrying around and whispering? The time is not far away in the past when the people went about in whispers under the shadow of authority and awe of official power.

Shortly after arrival here a social call was made upon Mr. Dufferin Pattullo, formerly private secretary to Major Walsh, and now timber and land agent for the upper Yukon district, a gentleman who appears to be suffering personally because of miserable little penny grafts established by a big government's regulations. And there are terrible murmurings and grumbings here over the matters in question. It seems that with the advent of Mr. Pattullo into Selkirk came the enforcement of regulations of the timber office. Men who had been away up the Pelly, Mica, McMillan and other rivers prospecting, ran out of grub and returned to Selkirk for supplies. Winter with its ice came along, and those who were from one to four hundred miles away could not return. Cabins were built outside the "government reservation" and occupied by the miners. By notice issued January 7th, 1899, all were required to appear at the Crown Land and Timber office and "settle up" for the logs used in the cabins at the rate of one per cent per lineal foot, on or before February 1st or have their cabins confiscated. Of course there was nothing left for them to do but walk up to the captain's office and settle. On doing this the charge of 50 cents is added for "office fees." Now it is not to be implied that this "office fee" of 50 cents is any personal fee. It goes to the Crown, not to the official. But can any little pettifogging fishmonger conceive of the brain that could evolve such a gigantic revenue producing problem as that petty larceny graft of 50 cents for office fees? Think of what dire financial disaster would follow the Dominion government if they failed to collect that 50 cents! It's terrible to contemplate it!

Now, again, a little more. As nearly all will remember who came down the river, there is lots of drift wood piled upon the sand bars of the Yukon and Pelly rivers. The high waters and ice brought it from God knows where, and it is really the only dry wood hereabouts for the poor devil's to use in their cabins. They go out and lay in a supply of it, when along comes the vigilant timber agent and assesses them 50 cents a cord for firewood and 50 cents for "office fees." In heaven's name! and this is the great government of the Dominion of Canada! Is there a Shylock anywhere with nose so Roman as to form a basket handle that would be so mercenary? Fifty cents a cord for pulling drift wood from the river beds, and 50 cents for office fees! And these are government regulations! Is there a British subject anywhere on earth, with such knowledge, who would not hang his head in very shame over such a small, plebeian transaction? If there is not, then we blush for him. We interviewed Mr. Pattullo upon the subject, and are informed that it is the "regulations."

And think of it! The exchequer through this office has been enriched to the enormous extent, since its opening, of about \$70 or \$80! Not enough to buy Her Gracious Majesty the Queen an ordinary night cap, unless trimmed in imitation lace. The only way we can see to increase the above amount to \$70 and 25 cents, is to tax the miner for his breath in blowing the embers into flames as he starts his drift-wood fire in his Yukon stove at so much per blow. The people are naturally, but unthinkingly, incensed towards Mr. Pattullo, an unjust feeling 'tis true, because of the "regulations." Beats the world that word "regulations."

WHAT ABOUT THE SOLDIERS? The Nugget some time ago editorially, under the caption of "Why are they here?" referred to the soldiery sent in and taxed upon the opulent people and territory of the Yukon. Two hundred of them, and by a master stroke of wisdom sent in over the "all Canadian route," that dear little route called the Stikine. Four months were used in having them reach here and they do say, although of course we believe this statement is somewhat exaggerated, that they are still checking them up, to see if they're all in yet. Probably that did not cost less for transportation alone than one million dollars, a pretty sum of itself for a useless appendage. Then the erection of the spacious barracks at this point cost probably not less than \$125,000.

Next, they have moved 75 of them down to Dawson, and if your correspondents are correctly informed, it is the impression at headquarters with the minister of militia, that they are all in Dawson, and that orders are extant ordering the whole battalion to Dawson. Why this has not been already done we are not positively aware. That it will be done we have no reason to doubt. The personnel of the military force are all well liked, and the "boys" have made friends everywhere. Particularly is this so among officers and men, who, living in a state of quiet solitude, with nothing more severe than an occasional game of "hockey," they have expressed a willingness generally to be employed in carrying the mails, or in building government trails or in relieving the efficient N. W. M. police in their patrol duty on the trails. Either of these three things would relieve the everlasting monotony of their pent up condition in Selkirk. But then these things can hardly be expected, because a government trail might benefit the miners, employ the soldiers, assist the country, but injure the "Tramways without Traction."

We are advised that a representative of the Nugget Express was abused personally at this point by an official occupying a prominent position. But until we see him and ascertain the facts in the case, comment upon this government representative is restrained until such time, when he will find the Nugget, which, if true he billingsgated attacked, is amply prepared to attend to his special case, as he will discover.

LITTLE SALMON, Y. T., Feb. 9, 1899. Seventy-five miles reeled off the past two days is fairly good traveling, although Nigger Jim made Hootalingua from Five Fingers in two days, the last day making 60 miles, so that his party is making remarkably good time. The trail to this point is in very good condition except at one place at Five Fingers where the ice is very soft, our sled breaking through into two feet of water. The farther we go towards the coast, the more we are convinced that the proper way to travel at this season of the year is to go without a single thing, pack, dogs or anything else. The roadhouse accommodations are, as a general rule, with the exceptions noted previously, most excellent in their fare in only some three or four have fresh meats not been furnished. It was our pleasure last evening to have punished the choicest moose steaks imaginable, and this morning fresh fish for breakfast with butter sauce. We mention these matters quite fully because we are aware that many will be desirous of knowing the exact conditions existing upon the trail.

We are meeting quite a large number of parties on their way in from Skagway, and the advance guards report a number behind them. No conditions of weather could possibly improve those we are enjoying at present, the sunrise of this morning being one of the most beautiful within our recollection, and the days pleasant beyond any anticipation. The air, and exhilaration experienced as dog train conductors is conducive to the most hearty appetites, and the most glowing health, and while 600 miles of a jaunt is no small walking, none can ever know the real pleasure, however, of a trip to the coast unless they experience a winter excursion over the ice. Of this we hope to speak at greater length at the earliest opportunity. There is no good reason why under favorable weather conditions the trip to Bennett should not be made easily in 12 days, and not to exceed 14.

A Scotch Verdict. Joseph Schwartz had the closest call of his romantic career on Monday, when Judge Dugas came to pass judgment upon the case in which he was charged with attempting to exchange gold dust largely impregnated with brass filings. The story of the affair leading up to Schwartz's arrest on complaint of Adair has been twice told in these columns and the trial of the action failed to develop anything sensational. Attorneys Robertson and de Journal, who defended Schwartz, had as good a case as the material available would permit, but at best they were unable to convince the court of their client's innocence.

Judge Dugas referred to the fact that on a previous occasion Schwartz had attempted to exchange gold dust in which appeared pyrites of iron in such a large quantity as to incite witnesses to serious criticisms of it, and that when Adair, on the last occasion, lodged complaint against him for attempting to pass gold dust with brass filings in it, the police found a large sack of similarly treated gold at the prisoner's house. Still, the court held that no evidence had been introduced to show that Schwartz had introduced the brass filings into the gold dust or that he had a guilty knowledge of its presence, though it is true that a man who handles gold dust as much as he does should know what he is taking and giving out. He would therefore discharge the prisoner, not because he was innocent, but because the prosecution had failed to prove him guilty.

In his address accompanying the decision Judge Dugas complimented the action of Mr. Adair in giving the police information of the spurious dust, and declared it to be the duty of every good citizen to do likewise whenever they detected an effort to perpetrate a fraud, of which there is entirely too much here. When the judge had finally concluded his remarks a wrangle ensued over the possession of the bag of gold dust which the police had seized at Schwartz's house, and which contained about \$2000, less the brass filings in it. Attorney Robertson asked the court for an order turning it over to his client, and was being told that he could have it when Attorney Gwilliam interrupted to say that he was just going to ask that the dust be continued in the possession of the court, as he was interested in a civil action against Schwartz and felt that

his client's interests would be jeopardized if the gold dust was returned to Schwartz.

The judge replied that he had no right to retain the money while sitting as a criminal court, but that he would accommodate the attorney by withholding the order turning it over to Schwartz for a half hour, during which a writ of attachment against it could be sworn out. This appeared to satisfy Mr. Gwilliam and he started off to carry out that plan, but returned in a few minutes to say that he could not get out the writ in so short a space of time. So, the court told Schwartz's attorney to take the stuff away, adding, but you must take the brass filings out of it.

The gold dust, however, was not destined to all be taken away, for while it was in the custody of the court, or rather of the bank awaiting a decision of the court, it was garnished at the instance of Attorney Pattullo on a debt of \$807. Schwartz's attorneys argued for the release of the dust, but his lordship thought otherwise and directed that \$1000 of it be retained in its present custody pending a decision of the garnishee's suit.

The Case Appealed. The celebrated tramroad suit has taken another turn through attorney Tabor moving to appeal to Ottawa. Attorney Pattullo argued that Mr. Tabor did not require the permission of the judge to appeal to Ottawa, but simply were required to file the necessary security for the costs. However, his lordship was disposed to give the appellants every opportunity of testing the validity of his recent most important decision, so that he gave his permission readily.

It is the prevailing opinion that it is not a genuine appeal—that the appellants have little or no hope of reversing the decision and are simply taking advantage of a legal trick to avoid litigation. While the appeal is pending, it appears there can be no judgments enforced against the tramroad. The public will not be very likely to sue for the moneys illegally extorted from them if they know that it may be six months or a year before collections can be made. Fortunately, the appeal does not give the appellants the privilege of continuing to collect illegal toll, and if any effort is made to do so, there will probably be one of the biggest storms ever witnessed on the Klondike. The public need not fear this, however, for though an illegal concern like the tramroad company will go to any extreme to perpetuate its existence, the laws of the land, outside of the mining regulations, are both equitable and calculated to jealously conserve the rights of the people.

LOCAL BREVITIES.

Charles Fiehl left Monday for the Atlin country. James Weed left Monday for his home in Seattle. Dr. Bourke had the misfortune on Monday to lose a valuable diamond solitaire from his finger ring.

The largest crowd of the series saw the ski run on Sunday. Jumps of 75 feet were made by Adolph Moshelm and Leif Holte.

Jack Cavanaugh reopened the Oakley Sisters' dance hall under the name of the Horseshoe on Monday night with a crowded house.

J. L. Edgren raffled off a valuable dog team at the Aurora on Saturday night, the lucky winner being A. H. Kelly, who held No. 598. The team is valued at over \$300.

Mrs. Johnson gave a dancing party Saturday night at her home near the mouth of Bohanza. The company was entertained with a number of vocal recitations by Mrs. Simons.

Mrs. Butler, proprietress of "The Butler" at Grand Forks, cut her left thumb very severely with an ax a few days ago, the wound requiring the attentions of a surgeon.

The hospitals are making very cheap rates to the government's indigent sick nowadays, the charge of \$3.50 per day including nursing, medicine and medical attendance.

Wolves put in frequent appearance on the river these days, according to reports by travelers. Last week a pack of them attacked and killed a dog at the Sixty-Mile road house.

Considerable speculation is being indulged in over the action of the police who went among the merchants one day last week and secured from each a statement of all the ammunition they had in stock. What purpose the information is to serve is what is now agitating the public mind.

Edward Jones and J. A. Segber, proprietors of the Sixty-Mile road house, arrived in the city Saturday and were guests at the Yukon hotel for a few days. They report that a Dawson man, on route out, fell through an air-hole into the river near their place one day last week and narrowly escaped drowning.

Henry Henricks left Thursday for Circle city to bring up a steam boiler for use in thawing the amount of frozen "below on Bonanza. That Mr. Henricks is a long-headed representative of the land of vikings is demonstrated by the fact that he compelled O'Brien to give him a receipt for \$6.40 paid in toll to his tramway without a charter.

The initial song service given by the Salvation Army Sunday night at Levy's ball, formerly the Gaitley Sisters, was a great success in point of attendance, the audience comprising nearly 400 persons. The exercises were apparently appreciated by all, as evidenced by the close attention paid, and this will serve to encourage the army in their future efforts. The Monte Carlo was the scene of a little fire scare on Saturday morning. An overheated lamp in Manager Cavanaugh's room was found to be in flames and Lloyd Wynkoop courageously picking it up, attempted to throw it from a window. The window proved to be barred and the lamp fell back, setting fire to the casing. Nellie LaMore and others then went to the rescue with blankets and succeeded in smothering the blaze.

Yukon Council. At the meeting of the Council last Wednesday a public health ordinance was introduced and partly adopted, the balance being held in abeyance pending a report from the public health officer.

The Council discussed a letter from an intending importer of malt and decided not to impose any special tax upon it. An appropriation was set apart for digging a deep ditch from the river to the hill back of town, it being the intention to drain the town

with transverse ditches emptying into the larger one. It is the intention to advertise for bids for the construction of the main ditch.

Col. Word's letter, applying for a water service permit, was referred to the commissioner as were all the applications a week ago. The dentists of town applied for an association charter similar to the medical association but no action was taken in the matter.

The Hockey Match. On Saturday afternoon the two hockey clubs of Dawson competed at the rink for the second game of the season. The clubs are The Canadian Permanent Force Hockey Club, and the Dawson Hockey Club.

The match was hotly contested and after an hour's play resulted in a victory for the Dawson club by a score of six to five. The following were the players: Dawson club, Forwards, Norway, Stevenson and Hardiste; cover point, Captain Nourse; point, R. Fortage; goal, D. McMurray.

The military was represented as follows: Forwards, Captain Bennett and Privates Cooper and Bealer; cover point, Private Wakefield; point, Private Prestor; goal, Private Baker. Captain Ogilvie refereed the game; official time-keeper, Dr. Richardson; goal-judges, Stevenson and Private Ivor.

The Contest Not Stopped. A report gained currency on the streets on Tuesday that the glove contest between Frank Raphael and Dick Agnew scheduled for Wednesday night had been forbidden by the police and declared off. Some grounds for belief in the report was found in the fact that Mr. Joe Hoyle, who had been sanctioned during the afternoon to the office of Colonel Steele in order to learn what truth, if any, existed in the story, a "Nugget" man presented himself to the colonel and solicited enlightenment.

"I have not forbidden the contest being held," the affable officer replied, "but we have taken some steps to regulate these things in the future. Mr. Hoyle was here this afternoon, and I told him we would require that the affair be conducted in a decorous way—that is, without disturbances and unseemly conduct, and that upon requiring the attendance of more than one of my men."

"I also told him that in the future these contests could only be held after a permit had been secured; and before that stage has been reached we will require that the proposed contestants present themselves to us, so that we may look them over and see that they are fit. We must have some steps to regulate these things in the future. There seems to be a quite general fondness for bloody sports in the Anglo-Saxon race," he concluded, with a twinkle in his eyes, "from cock fighting up to glove contests."

Another report prevailed some weeks ago that the police epidemic booker with "disfavor upon the frequent" after which the contests were being pulled off, and when this was mentioned to the colonel he allowed the booker to push to quiet the "disfavor" that had been done. However, the police booker is in any disposition on his part to prevent contests being held under proper conditions.

Large contracts for freighting and other specialties—Albert W. Williams, 17 above Bonanza or the White House.

A nice line of stationery, time, pass and memo books, tablets, paper and envelopes at Pioneer drug store.

The best meals served in the city are at the Regina Club Hotel.

The Dining Room Service of the Regina Club Hotel is such as to lay you back again.

Commencing February 13th, Bartlett Bros. four-horse, covered stages will run on the following schedule: Stage No. 1 will leave Grand Forks at 9 a. m. Returning, leave Dawson at 4 p. m. Stage No. 2 will leave Dawson at 9 a. m. Returning, leave Grand Forks at 4 p. m. Making the trip each way in 1 hour and 50 minutes—giving round-trip passengers 5 hours for the transaction of business at each end of the line. Sixteen horses used in this service.

Special Rates for room and board by the month at the Regina Club Hotel.

Give your contracts for freight and packing to Albert W. Williams, 17 above Bonanza, or leave orders at the White House.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

LAWYERS. C. M. WOODWORTH, M. A., LL. B., Advocate, Solicitor, Commissioner, Notary, etc. Five years' practice in Northwest Territory. Room 3, A. C. Office Building.

TABOR & HULME—Barristers and Solicitors, Advocates; Notaries Public; Conveyancers, Offices, opposite Monte Carlo, Front Street.

BURKITT & McRAY—Advocates, Solicitors, Notaries, Commissioners, etc. Office, the A. C. Office Building, 3rd St., Dawson.

CLEMENTE, PATTULLO & RIDLEY—Advocates, Barristers, Notaries, Conveyancers, &c. Money to loan. Offices, Adeback building, opp. Opera House saloon.

PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS. DR. J. WILFRED GOOD, M. B., B. S., R. C. P., Edinburgh. Late Surgeon to Winnipeg General Hospital. Office, Klondike Hotel, 1st Avenue, Dawson. Telephone No. 16.

DR. J. H. KOONS, Physician and Surgeon, Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Pa., proprietor Miners Hospital, Eldorado City.

DR. J. O. LACHAPPELLE—Montreal University Physician & Surgeon. Victoria House.

DENTISTS. DRS. BROWN & LEE—Crown and Bridge work. Gold, Aluminum or Rubber Plates. Fine gold and alloy fillings. All work absolutely guaranteed. Room 15, A. C. office building. H. AMUNDSON, souvenir jewelry and diamond setting.

T. G. ALBIN, D. D. S.—All work guaranteed. Office with Nugget Express Co., Eldorado City.

WANTED. To purchase a good horse, harness and set bob sleighs. Must be in good condition. Inquire, manager Fairview.

PERSONAL. \$5.00 reward will be paid for positive information as to the present location of S. Runkling. Apply NUGGET office.

LOST AND FOUND. FOUND—Gold badge, owner can have same by calling at this office and paying for ad.

FOR SALE. First-class Thawing and Hoisting Plant. Thirty horse power boiler and engine, with traction hoist. Fairview, 111 2nd Street.

TH... VOL. 2 No 16 TRUM... An Invest... 10 THE LETTERS Cannot Pre... The "Nugget's" are Ruled Out Some Intention and a Success—No Out... At last the thunder... the "Nugget" in the... head. At last the... royal investigation... When first the... cal shakes of the... reputable citizens... to take it up and... Ogilvie's invitations... ing it made their... rals from the Yako... which, with every... promised witnesses... making charges were... those they wanted... administered. At... shall they know... in an interview... after wards pur... commissioner assured... this matter to the... assurances, charges... sub-joined. Just... being properly started... straight from the... heard upon a mutua... lawyers discover... inquiry is limited... chicken stealing... three arisen—which... mentioned in their... latter last summer... stantly ruled the... out of court, and... me yet unfiled thou... holed in our office... an investigation of... people. It's simply... trial of ward politi... a sops the simple;... plausible picture fo... childish-minded; a... honest people of the... encouragement of m... accused officials; a... of the world. Fair... "Letters Patent,"... to a newspaperless... present population... had been made fan... Dawson officials;... leaving in thousan... their secrets with... in" with the ring... official secrets and... possession at the... of which cannot be... the investigation... relegate. The govern... decision which pu... could not well deci... Clement and Judge... talent of the city... of investigation w... of August 25. Bee... out and how the... 24 hours before ou... to be heard. On Wednesday m... commissioner rec... house in Dawson... of the public payin... gold commissioner... gall, who with Mr... sent the miners'... memorial to Sir W... this investigation... for the committee... some ruling where... off the cracks cou... during the investi... have neither cabin... The commissione... thority to do that... held personally, res...