

## HAS DAWSON A BLACK BART

Reported Holdup at Barracks in Open Day.

R. B. Switzer, Police Court Clerk, Slugged and Robbed of \$1,300 While Dawson Burned.

The most daring hold-up in the history of Dawson took place at about 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon when the business portion of the city was all ablaze and when the remainder was threatened with total destruction. At that hour a lone man entered the room on Barracks square in which Major Perry conducts the police court and with one blow knocked senseless Court Clerk R. B. Switzer. Before Switzer recovered the robber rifled his pockets, securing \$1300 in cash, the greater part of which money had been paid into the court only two hours before by members of the gambling fraternity, yesterday being fine day to a large number of them. Having secured the booty, the robber departed from the room and made good his escape.

The above is an unofficial account of the affair as gleaned from various sources by a representative of the Daily Nugget. When Switzer was seen this morning he presented a somewhat bedraggled appearance, but no marks of physical violence. He declined to talk about his experience of yesterday evening, referring the reporter to Constable Booth, who was present. That officer also declined to answer questions, further than to give the information that Switzer's initials are R. B. Booth in turn referred the reporter to Major Perry who, when seen at the adjournment of the morning session of his court, declined to make any statement regarding the affair pending a full investigation.

Ancient history informs us that Nero fiddled while Rome burned, but Dawson's Black Bart is more industrious than was Nero. Switzer, who is a light, spare youth of perhaps 22 or 23 years of age, was alone at the time and the man who overpowered and robbed him should not take credit to himself for any great physical prowess. The police court room is the second door on the south side of the barracks square, from the front and is but a few steps across from the guard house where a number of police are constantly on duty. The police court room is not over 40 feet from the east end of the sentinel's beat, which sentinel is always on duty day and night. Taking the circumstances and conditions surrounding the mysterious affair it is not a matter of wonder that many express themselves a being of the opinion that the whole affair is a fake of the cock and bull variety. But people will talk, and until the matter is fully investigated by the proper authorities the young man's statement should be taken as authentic, for there is no denying the fact that in Dawson today are many men who, if knowing a lone boy to have \$1300 on his person, would not hesitate to go after it, knock out the boy and get it.

### Are Certainly Flurdered.

Mr. Thomas Tritton, the Nugget Express messenger who left Dawson on November 16th, returned this morning at 5 o'clock. He arrived at Bennett on December 8th, after a hard trip, beating the government mail by half a day. Staying at Skagway for 14 days he started for Dawson on December 23d. He says that there is a very great number of people going to Nome by the Dawson route and indeed passed 50 people on the way now, among whom are Charlie Brown and his wife, late of the Novelty. Asked about the case of Clayton, Olsen and Relfe he said: "They must have been murdered for I examined the trail most carefully not only from the place they were reported missing, but before it; they could not have fallen in and it is impossible for

them to have missed their way. The trail is excellent and a blind man with care could not lose himself. Traveling," says Mr. Tritton, "is no hardship for any person of average strength and there is a roadhouse, on an average of 15 miles apart."

Mr. Tritton passed Mr. Semple en route; he was wearing a mask to protect his face from the cold(?) Willie was traveling with two Jews with the C. D. Co.'s mail team. Tritton brings in 400 pounds of express matter for the Nugget Express, including the long looked for three dozen hockey sticks. He brings back the same dogs and sled, which are in excellent condition.

Yesterday and last night it was reported that Joe Boyle who started out over three weeks ago, had not been heard from, but today it was learned that he had reached Skagway, but is badly crippled from a sprain of one of his feet, sustained while on the trip.

W. F. Matlock, who, with two others, left for Skagway five weeks ago, has not yet been heard from. He was seen at McKay's landing near Rink rapids, where he had several scows frozen in the ice. As Mr. Matlock had not promised to telegraph back, no great degree of alarm is being felt for his safety, but if not heard from within a day or two, his brother here, J. D. Matlock, a Front street merchant, will send a wire to Skagway inquiring if he has yet arrived.

### December Fires.

The following is a list of fires which occurred during last month. The list is taken from the records as kept by the Northwest mounted police:

- 4th—Cabin on the hill out of fire limits; partly destroyed.
- 6th—Cabin at rear of A. E. Co.; considerable damage done.
- 8th—George Apple's tin shop; only slight damage.
- 12th—St. Mary's hospital nothing destroyed.
- 13th—Four cabins on Fourth street; burned down. Stanley Morden's cabin, between Third and Ninth; partially destroyed. Cabin at rear of A. E. mess house; completely ruined.
- 17th—Saunders & King's paint shop, second avenue; some loss.
- 18th—Orr & Tukey's second avenue; very large damage done. Monte Carlo theater; no loss or damage.
- 20th—Cabin on Third street, near Eighth; totally destroyed; \$500 worth of damage.
- 22d—Salvation Army barracks; only slight loss.
- 23d—Bodega saloon; extinguished before arrival of fire department.
- 25th—Cigar store next Yukon Hotel; damage assessed at \$200. Yukon saw-mill office; extinguished by hand apparatus.
- 26th—McLennan, McFeeley & Co., shop on fire; only slight loss.
- 27th—Thos. Adair's building, Front street; totally destroyed; damage \$6000.
- 30th—Cabin near Klondike bridge; engines unnecessary.
- 31st—Martony Cafe, caused by candles; slight damage.

### From Scow Island.

M. A. Kilgore returned yesterday from Scow island with a load of freight. Mr. Kilgore states that it requires a week to make the round trip between Dawson and Scow island. He ascertained that the trail above Thistle is in bad shape until the point is reached at which the cutoff trail meets the river.

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Bargains—Watches and diamonds at reduced prices. Uncle Hoffman.

1900 calendars, very swell. Nugget office.

Get your eyesight fixed at the Pioneer drug store.

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### PROFESSIONAL CARDS

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JOHN B. WARDEN, F. I. C. Assayer for Bank of British North America. Gold dust melted and assayed. Assays made of quartz and black sand. Analyses of ores and coal.

**LAWYERS**  
WADE & AIKMAN—Advocates, Notaries, etc. Office, Bonfield Building, opposite A. C. Store, Dawson.

BURRITT & MCKAY—Advocates, Solicitors, Notaries, etc. Offices, A. C. Office Building. Safety deposit box in A. C. vaults.

TABOR & HULME—Barristers and Solicitors, Advocates; Notaries Public; Conveyancers, Offices, Green Tree Bldg.

ALEX HOWDEN—Barrister, Solicitor, Advocate, etc. Criminal & Mining Law. Room 21 A. C. Co's office Block.

PATTULLO & RIDLEY—Advocates, Notaries, Conveyancers &c. Offices, First Avenue.

### FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—Webster's complete unabridged dictionary. Apply Nugget office.

FOR SALE—Cabin and lot; five minutes' walk from business center. Apply Nugget office.

### LOST AND FOUND

FOUND—On Front street, between Madden House and Aurora saloon, one bunch of keys. Owner can have same by inquiring at Nugget office and paying charges.

LOST—A package containing two pairs of rubber shoes; owner's name, G. S. West, on package. Leave at Nugget office; reward.

### WANTED.

WANTED—Woman to do washing. Apply at Nugget office.

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EL PADRE NEEDLES  
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Construction, equipment and staff equal to any hospital outside. Scientifically heated especially to maintain an equable temperature. Trained nurses in attendance. Inspection invited.  
Terms from \$10 per day, including medical attendance. Cows' milk and other delicacies required by patients administered. Separate room for each patient. Medical and Surgical advice at hospital, \$5.00. Medicines and Stimulants extra. Yearly tickets, \$50.00.

## Less than 24 Hours, Skaguay to Whitehorse

The White Pass AND YUKON RAILWAY will be completed to White Horse by June 1st, 1900, after which date only one handling of all freight will be necessary between Skaguay and Dawson. For rates and all information apply to  
S. E. ADAIR,  
A. C. Co. Office Building. Commercial Agent, Dawson.

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From a Needle to a Steamboat.

ARTHUR LEWIN

Finest Liquors, Our Cigars are famous for their excellency. Front St., nr. the Dominion.

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We wish to inform our many patrons that we are doing business at the old stand, where we will be pleased to receive their orders for Staple and Fancy Groceries, Miners' Supplies, etc.



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Donald B. Olson, Manager