

The Klondike Nugget

(DAWSON'S PIONEER PAPER)
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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.

W. W. ASTOR.

The woes of William Waldorf Astor would be amusing if not so real. He had the misfortune to be born a rich man, and has by attention and tact added to his original fortune. Americans, more than any race on earth, realize that wealth is no criterion of a man's worth. Toadies are few, but they form an impenetrable wall around a rich man, with the result that the big man is often flattered and praised into a state of big-headedness. Then the great mass of Americans who are not toadies begin to make it interesting for him of the heavy bank account and enlarged cranium through the medium of their favorite papers. His days are rendered unbearable and nights a constant nightmare by a process of publication of his every private or family act. Does he have ambitions in a social way; then the character of each of his guests is expatiated upon in a spicy fashion. The sweetheating of his children is elevated to the importance of a national matter, and the affairs of the grand passion are printed in every paper from the New York Sun to the Screaming Flapdoodle of Kyumpkress. Then the rich man takes to yachting, but finds that the most trifling affairs which transpire on his boat are elicited from his cook or his chamberlain at every port he touches at and faithfully wired back to the unweaned readers across the ocean. Then, like William Waldorf Astor, he may decide to sever his allegiance to his own flag and take up an adopted nationality. But what a storm is let loose. His ears must tingle if he reads the caustic comment of his fellow countrymen. Every base motive is ascribed to him and his social ambitions are taken up as if they were positively heinous. Among other things we learn that this poor rich man has designs on the peerage. Concerning this master Henry Labouchere says in Truth: "The rumor that Mr. William Waldorf Astor will soon be raised to the peerage assumes what is impossible. A law passed during the reign of William III. deprives the crown of the power of conferring the rank of peer upon naturalized aliens. It was enacted because the king was converting too many Dutch republicans into British peers. A baronet or a knight Mr. Astor could be, and if he is ready to pay, there is no doubt that he will find no difficulty in negotiating the matter."

The fact is that with wealth alone an American cuts a poor figure in politics, while some of the richest families are even debarred from society. In Europe, wealth, like charity, covers a multitude of sins, though even there it of itself is no entree to society. Yet his wealth does not condemn him to everlasting espionage and ceaseless railery. He can

pursue his own ambitions in delicious obscurity and will quickly find himself more nearly forgotten or unremembered than at any time since he came into the world a squawling red-faced son of a rich American many years ago.

The whiskey situation in Dawson is odd, to say the least. Here is prohibitory legislation at Ottawa, and plenty of whiskey coming into Dawson to prevent anything like a famine, though the absence of small importers will, of course, do much to stiffen prices. There should be no prohibition in the Yukon territory. Why should this territory be discriminated against when whiskey is allowed elsewhere the length and breadth of Canada. If ever there was a land where liquor had merit, when properly used, it is in this land of the north. The only effect of the prohibition (?) legislation so far has been to legislate money into the pockets of the men who are at present bringing it in. Some 60,000 gallons were recently released for A. E. and N. A. T. companies, while the A. C. stock of liquors and beer is still in bond. The territorial tax on imports is \$2 per gallon. The interference by the Ottawa government was really not to stop the imports, but to get a finger in the pie in some way themselves. If \$2 is not sufficient, then let the tax be increased, but for goodness' sake let there be no ring methods in issuing the permits, but let all be treated alike upon payment of the required sum.

Nightly frosts are the rule; Saturday night two inches of snow fell on the dome; two inch ice floated down the river from early morning until 2 p. m. Sunday, and there is a general fall of temperature and a rapid rush for stoves by our citizens. It would appear that it was about time to discontinue the dog-days conditions that prevail and give our canine friends their liberty at least during the day time. [Nothing but necessity can excuse the sufferings of the dogs to which they have been subjected by the ordinance. A mutt tied up by the neck was approached the other day, as he appeared to be in distress. When water was offered the suffering beast drank a whole dishpanful, and his master proved to have been out of town several days. Such instances can be multiplied a hundred fold by any careful observer, and we again say that nothing but public necessity can excuse the tying up of dogs. At the present temperature there can be no mad dog scare and bad dogs can be picked out at any time and dispatched, for they are as bad in winter as in summer. Let the ordinance be suspended during the daytime to allow the dogs to rustle for themselves, and if it is considered necessary let them be tied up at night.

Mr. McCaul very forcibly pointed out some of the absurdities of the mining regulations at the Board of Trade banquet on Saturday night. He called attention to the fact that if the officials chose to enforce it, the lapse of a miner's license immediately worked a forfeiture of the most valuable claim. No penalty or fine was provided in place of the forfeiture, even if the license had lapsed but a single day. The officials so far had not chosen to enforce the provision, but there were cases in which there was no option with them. Supposing a nine-tenths interest to be held

by one individual. His license lapses through inadvertence upon his part. The entire claim then reverts to the holder of the one-tenth interest, and the officials have no choice in the matter, but must turn the entire claim over to him if he demands it. Truly the men who have the making and unmaking of this country in their hands would do well to confine their attention to the potato-raising industry to which they were born and leave the making of mining regulations for a purely mining country to a board of practical miners.

"Mob organizations" is rather a strong term to apply to the protesting mass meetings of miners of last summer, which aided so signally in bringing vividly before Canada and the world the misgovernment which prevailed here. That the term should be applied by a member of the newly formed Board of Trade shows that gentleman, at least, to be out of touch with the miners of the district. As far as that member is concerned the body cannot be truly representative of the country.

The people of this region are "natural born stampedes." Stampeding is a form of gambling, as a modest certainty is risked for a chance at a larger stake. Were we not imbued with this spirit we should not be here. That stampedes should prove a drain upon our population is to be expected, and that Klondikers should prove the pioneers of Nome is in the ordinary course of events. There is likely to be a stampede back to Dawson, in the spring, as many Cape Nomers have left valuable interests here unprovided for.

Governments are presumably organized for the good of the governed. When a government suppresses a free and efficient ferry in favor of a toll ferry about which there are complaints, the question naturally arises in one's mind "Where are we at?" We wonder if someone started a free paper in Dawson if our peculiar thinking government would suppress it in favor of The Nugget, which is not free.

Dawsonites who have returned after an absence during the summer are never tired of expatiating upon the marvelous changes which a few months have made. A city which was in ashes in April is now twice as big and twice as substantial as ever before.

Leroy Tozier says he is firmly convinced that Minister Sifton has the good of this community at heart. We wonder if Brother Tozier has any concessions on the string.

Arrival of the Sybil.

The steamboat Sybil, belonging to the C. D. Co., arrived Saturday. She brought down 47 passengers, 20 sacks of mail, and 150 tons of freight. Among her passengers were Mrs. B. Christian, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. H. Fay, Mrs. Lyons, Mrs. J. O'Gara, Mrs. Gibbs, Mrs. McCann, Mrs. Wagner, Mrs. D. L. Hill, Mrs. G. Sucholtz, Mrs. W. L. Moore, Mrs. E. Stewart, Mrs. M. Dun, Mrs. J. A. Arthur, Mr. and Mrs. D. Rose and wife and J. Stanley, ex-mayor of Skagway. The Sybil reports that the telegraph line is constructed as far as five miles above Sixtymile station. During the trip down the passengers, in appreciation of the kindness and courtesy of the Sybil's officers and crew, passed a set of resolutions, and presented them to Captain Cox. The Sybil started on a return trip to Whitehorse on Monday.

You can get your eyes tested and glasses fitted at Pioneer Drug Store. E. Shoff, chemist. Offices and rooms fitted to order. The Hall Block, next Post office.

POLICE COURT ITEMS.

J. G. Purdue, charged with stealing some tar paper, has been acquitted.

Robert Anderson committed a nuisance, and was let off with a dollar fine.

Fred McGillivray was docketed as a plain drunk, and paid \$10 to the police court coffers.

Abraham Isaacs and Roger Tichbourne were convicted of being drunk and disorderly and were assessed \$10 each.

Henry Erikson, Edward L. Tetreau, and George Dudeck observed the Sabbath by becoming drunk, and acting disorderly. Each was fined \$10 dollars and costs on Monday morning.

O. P. Johnson and ten others secured judgments against John C. Kellum for various amounts, due on accounts of wages. The aggregate sum amounts to \$927. Kellum was given ten days in which to settle.

Curley Carr, J. Stackhouse, Geo. Williams and J. P. Johnson were wanted for vagrancy. The two former secured passage for Nome on the Hannah to the cognizance of the police, who "winked the other eye" at their escape. Williams and Johnson took no such chances, and departed in a small boat the night before.

S. T. Kelsey and William Duffy are accused of stealing some cooking utensils, a pair of rubber boots, and an axe from a cabin situated on No. 66 below, Hunker creek. When arraigned, both pleaded not guilty, and the bail in each case was fixed at \$100. Kelsey deposited the required amount, and has left for parts unknown. Duffy lies in durance vile, and his case will be tried Wednesday.

Special Peace Officer Laperriere attempted to board a raft of logs, which was being floated down the Klondike river. His purpose was to inspect the timber permits of those who had it in charge. Peter Christenson, Peter Johnson and Ernest G. Johnson, the owners, successfully resisted the officer's efforts. On Monday, they were accused and convicted of resisting an officer while in the discharge of his duty. Col. Steele fined each of them \$10 dollars and costs, and warned them never to do the like again.

A Lodge Room.

The undersigned wants tenders from the owners or managers of halls suitable for a lodge room.

A. F. GEORGE, Nugget Office. Special Deputy of the Arctic Brotherhood.

If you love your wife send her a Christmas present via Nugget-Express.

You can get stationery in big variety at the Pioneer Drug Store. E. Shoff, chemist.

\$1.50, Turkey dinner at Cafe Royal Sunday. \$1.50.

The Nugget Express will cash money orders issued by any of the outside express companies. Office in the Aurora block.

Nellie Cushman, who, by the way, is the best known woman among the mining centers of the country, has moved to her new store around the corner on Third avenue, near Second street.

Special Arrangements Have Been Made by

The Nugget Express

For Sending a Through Messenger to the Seattle Assay Office

Next Week

Gold Dust Shipments Taken at Reasonable Rates.

Office in the Aurora Block, DAWSON.