

THOMAS MIDDLETON

Cashier at Gold Commissioner's Office Goes to Lunch on Tuesday

AND HAS NOT THUS FAR RETURNED

Diligent Search by His Friends and Police Reveals Nothing

HIS ACCOUNTS ARE STRAIGHT

Various Reports as to When and Where He Was Last Seen—Theory of the Police.

The question that is uppermost to-day in the minds of the police and many others is:

Where is Thomas Middleton, late cashier in the gold commissioner's office?

Tuesday morning of this week Middleton went to work in the gold commissioner's office as usual. He worked throughout the forenoon and then went to his lunch, since which time he has not returned to his work nor have his friends been able to find any trace of him.

As soon as it became known that Middleton had disappeared Gold Commissioner Senkler caused his books to be carefully gone over with the result that not a single shortage or discrepancy was discovered. With two other young men, fellow-employees, Middleton occupied a cabin near the Chute & Willis' residence on First avenue, but inquiry revealed the fact that he had not returned there after leaving to go to his work Tuesday morning.

Various reports are circulated as to when Middleton was last seen, one being that he was on First avenue at three o'clock Tuesday afternoon, another that he was seen around town Tuesday night and still another that he was met 10 miles up the Klondike river. The two latter reports cannot be verified, but the first one is known to be true.

When seen Middleton was perfectly sober; in fact, he has not been known to drink to excess for a long time, although it is said that some years ago he frequently took to the bottle.

As he failed to show up for work Monday morning and as his cabin was by birth. He has been employed

at the Ladue Assay Office

is prepared to Assay all kinds of Rock. We have the finest equipped assaying plant in the Yukon Territory and guarantee all work. Our Quartz Mill will soon be in operation and we will make it possible to develop the values of any free milling ledge. Call and talk it over with

Shof's Cough Balsam cures at once. Pioneer Drug Store.

FOR RENT—Four-roomed house, completely furnished. Three blocks from postoffice; cheap. Inquire Nugget office.

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Business Lunch 11:30 a. m. to 3:30 p. m. Dinner 4:30 to 9:00 p. m. OPEN ALL NIGHT

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DINNER SETS

100 Pieces \$30.00. Half Set \$15.00.

EVERY PIECE NICELY DECORATED AND GILDED.

McLennan, McFeely & Co., Ltd.

mates could give no account of him, the police were notified and a still hunt for his whereabouts has since been in progress, but at noon today a report was made that he is not in Dawson, a thorough search of all places where he could possibly be having been made.

Thomas Middleton is an Englishman in the gold commissioner's office for two years and has proven himself a thoroughly competent man. He is from 33 to 35 years of age and unmarried.

The police do not believe that anything serious has befallen him, but rather incline to the belief that he may be off on a "lonesome" and will come to the surface in a day or two. In the meantime no efforts are being spared by the police to obtain some clue which will throw light on what is now shrouded in mystery.

The Siege at Itala.

London, Dec. 23.—In his mailed despatch reporting the Boer attack on Forts Itala and Prospect in the Boers' attempt to invade Natal, Col. Chapman, who commanded the forts, reports the Boer forces at 1,800 to 2,000 men. The report says that during the nineteen hours for which the attack lasted "the men were practically without food or water, and it became evident that it was a question of ammunition which would decide the day. Officers and men had been ordered to regulate their fire by the Boers, and not to waste. When the action ceased there only remained about 100 rounds per man; all reserve was expended. The night was very bright, there being nearly a full moon, and the guns came into action during the first phase, making excellent practice on the kopjes 1,100 yards north and a ridge 3,400 yards north. At dawn, when the attack recommenced, they continued to fire for half an hour, when they became the target for every rifle, so I ordered them to cease and the men to take cover."

The nature of the fighting can be gauged when it is known that the British, who were barely 400 strong, fired away 70,940 rounds of small-arm ammunition.

APPETITES FOR HOOTCH

Not Confined Alone to Moosehide Indians.

Saloon keeper Labbe is not the only white man who supplies Indians with whisky, as the following from the Victoria Times of December 24th will testify:

The provincial police have warrants out for the arrest of two men, Charlie and Peter, charged with supplying intoxicating liquor to Indians at Ahousett on the west coast of Vancouver Island on December 1st.

The former is supposed to be "Ole" Olsson or "Carle" Olsen, a large man of stout build, with yellowish white hair and moustache, very light colored eyes, supposed to be a Swede. The other man, Peter, is of smaller stature and well built, and is also supposed to be a Swede.

They are travelling in a white painted sloop about 30 feet long with large sail and two jibs, and small house on deck well forward. The sloop is said to be furnished with either naphtha or electric motor power.

These men are but two of a number of smugglers who give the police a great deal of trouble, owing to the freedom of their movements, and the sparse settlement in, and defective communication with the parts they visit. They are supposed to hieil from Vancouver.

1. An honest administration, economy consistent with progression.

2. The general improvement of the city streets, lighting, sidewalks, etc., consistent with a reasonable expenditure.

3. No salaries for aldermen.

4. Civic control of saloon licenses.

5. Civic control of franchises of the Telephone Co., Electric Light Co., Water Co., and all similar franchises.

6. The proper carrying out of the health ordinance.

7. Proper regulations regarding taxation, thereby securing the equal distribution of taxes.

8. A complete and thorough system of fire inspection.

9. The appointment of all city officials and the awarding of all contracts in the best interests of Dawson, regardless of political or other influences; and that all contracts be let by tender to the lowest responsible bidder and a bond taken for the due performance of same.

10. Absolute control of all affairs which should properly come under city government.

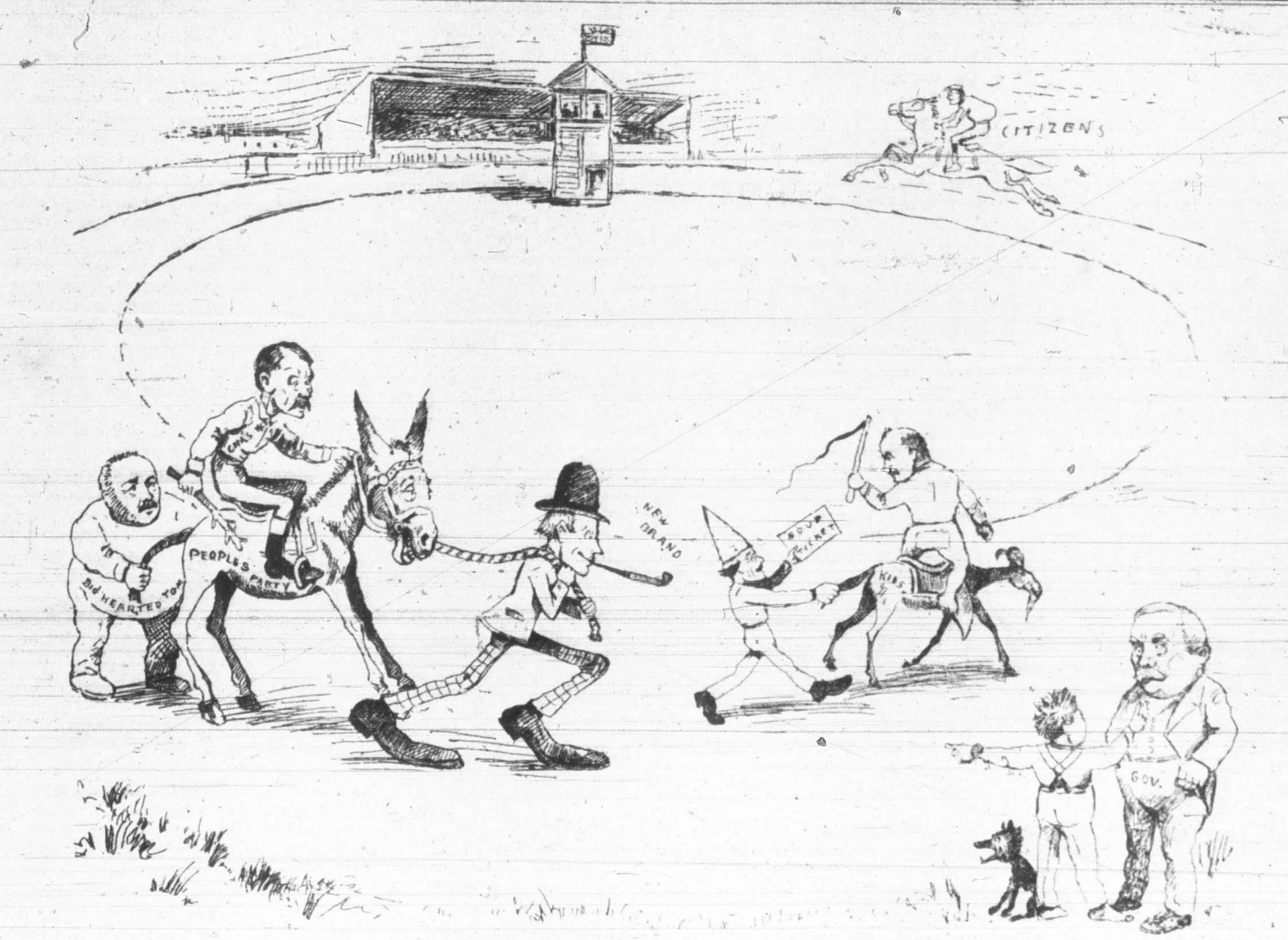
11. That we will request the Government at Ottawa that the saloonkeepers of Dawson have the same commercial privileges as are accorded other lines of business.

That platform and the ticket which has been selected to stand upon it is a guarantee to the people of Dawson that they will be given an honest, straightforward, business administration. The ticket is composed entirely of men who are identified with the progress and material welfare of Dawson, and each and every one of them may be relied upon to stand squarely upon the platform which they are advocating. They are not looking for high salaries or soft snaps for their particular friends but on the contrary are pledged to observe every possible precaution to give the city the best and most efficient administration which will be consistent with a due regard for economy. This ticket is receiving the endorsement of intelligent voters of all classes who realize that the interests of the community generally will be best conserved if the administration is entrusted to men of wide business experience.

Roberts waited until Higginbottom had exhausted his ammunition, and then walking up to him placed his gun close to the prostrate man's body and fired, killing him almost instantly.

Mail-Due Tonight.

The mail mentioned in the Nugget of yesterday as due at Stewart last night passed Ogilvie at 11 o'clock this forenoon and should be here early tonight. The consignment is a small one, there being but 268 pounds.



The Boys: "You see how it is Gov'nor. Why don't you save Charley from his friends?"

THE CITIZENS' PARTY TICKET

Is Receiving Enthusiastic Endorsement From all Classes of Voters—Chas. Macdonald's Support is Dropping to Pieces—A Trick of the "Kid" Committee Exposed.

As the political situation develops from day to day it becomes more and more apparent that the fight lies between the Citizens' ticket, headed by Henry C. Macaulay, and the Kid's committee, led by Dr. Thompson. Mr. Macdonald's warmest supporters no longer admit the possibility of his election and his withdrawal from the field is a momentary possibility.

A scheme within a scheme has now appeared which will result in large accessions to Mr. Macaulay's strength. A large portion of Mr. Macdonald's support comes from bootleggers who have deserted the Kid Committee and who temporarily have championed the cause of Mr. Macdonald.

The scheme which the Kid's had in mind is to keep Mr. Macdonald in the field for the purpose of splitting Mr. Macaulay's strength and on election day they propose to desert Macdonald and vote for Thompson.

The only protection which the responsible voters who have been supporting Mr. Macdonald by reason of personal loyalty, have within reach, is to support Mr. Macaulay and it may be said now that many of them already view the matter in that light.

The platform upon which Mr. Macaulay stands is republished herewith in full:

1. An honest administration, economy consistent with progression.

2. The general improvement of the city streets, lighting, sidewalks, etc., consistent with a reasonable expenditure.

3. No salaries for aldermen.

4. Civic control of saloon licenses.

5. Civic control of franchises of the Telephone Co., Electric Light Co., Water Co., and all similar franchises.

6. The proper carrying out of the health ordinance.

7. Proper regulations regarding taxation, thereby securing the equal distribution of taxes.

8. A complete and thorough system of fire inspection.

9. The appointment of all city officials and the awarding of all contracts in the best interests of Dawson, regardless of political or other influences; and that all contracts be let by tender to the lowest responsible bidder and a bond taken for the due performance of same.

10. Absolute control of all affairs which should properly come under city government.

11. That we will request the Government at Ottawa that the saloonkeepers of Dawson have the same commercial privileges as are accorded other lines of business.

SANDERS HAS A GRIEVANCE

Says He Has Been Shamefully Treated by U. S. Officials of Circle Where He Is Engaged in Merchandising—After Being in Dawson Jail 14 Days No Charge Is Preferred.

C. B. Sanders, the man who was arrested at Selwyn several weeks ago on the receipt of a wire from Eagle City saying he was wanted in Circle, was released day before yesterday, and thereby hangs a tale which bids fair to prove most interesting before the finale is reached.

Sanders claims that he has been most maliciously persecuted by certain United States officials resident in Circle, and he has taken the preliminary steps toward making things exceedingly arduous for those responsible for his arrest and detention. If his story is true, there is no reason for doubting it, there is a state of affairs existing at Circle alongside of which the Noyes regime at Nome would stand as an angel of purity.

The facts as given by Sanders relating to the cause of his arrest and what led up to it are as follows:

He is a storekeeper and buyer of furs with headquarters in Circle. Some weeks ago he and a man named G. P. Marshall were made defendants in a lawsuit and were made plaintiffs in the action was James Todd Cowles, a brother-in-law of United States District Attorney Claypool. Before the case came to judgment it was settled out of court by Sanders agreeing to pay Cowles \$375. Sanders had in his possession over 300 marten skins, some beaver, and bear skins, which he wished to take to Seattle and sell, investing the proceeds in stock for his store, a portion of which he intended returning with over the ice. An arrangement was made and agreed to in writing by which the attachment on the furs was released and Sanders was allowed to leave with them for the States, accompanying him being Joseph Mosler, who Cowles appointed, to act as his agent, collect the \$375 due when the skins were sold and remit the money to Cowles at Circle by post-office order.

Upon these arrangements being completed Sanders and Mosler left Circle for the outside. When Coal Creek was reached Mosler was taken suddenly and seriously ill and could proceed no further. Sanders offered to go back with him to Circle, but Mosler told him that there was any way by which he could secure the Cowles debt, he was representing he would allow him to proceed instead of turning back. Sanders replied that he did not have enough money to pay the entire amount but would give him \$100 in cash and have with him 50 marten skins, which were worth \$7 each, more than enough to cover the bill. That was agreed to and Mosler signed a relinquishment of all his interest in the remaining skins as agent and acknowledged the receipt of the

bill due Cowles. Sanders came on alone. At Eagle he stopped a day or two, presenting letters he bore both from Cowles and Claypool to the United States marshal at that place. He arrived in Dawson and talked freely with the representatives of the local press during the short time he remained here.

Several days after Sanders' departure from Dawson Captain Starnes received a wire from George S. Perry, United States marshal at Eagle, containing the bare information that Sanders was wanted at Circle for grand larceny and asking that he be arrested and held till called for.

There being an arrangement between the officials of the Yukon and Alaska by which assistance is given each other in the arrest of criminals who endeavor to escape across the line, Captain Starnes did not hesitate to do as he was requested. Sanders was located at Selwyn on January 7, taken into custody, brought back to Dawson and confined in jail. The marshal at Eagle was immediately notified of the arrest and asked to begin extradition proceedings at once through the United States consulate. Since that time there has been no word whatever received from the authorities at Eagle either by the police or the consul here, Sanders being confined in jail for fourteen days with no charge against him and no steps taken to substantiate that contained in the wire sent by Marshal Perry. On Tuesday, the 21st, acting under the advice of Acting Consul, T. Koller and Crown Prosecutor Congdon, Sanders was released and will leave again tomorrow morning for the outside.

Since his confinement Sanders has been at an expense of over \$500, has suffered the loss of so much time that he will be unable to get outside; transact his business, and return to Circle over the ice as he originally intended, and has been compelled to undergo the ignominy of imprisonment for no cause whatever. The only reason he can give for such extraordinary treatment is that early in the winter he had some trouble with a brother of Judge Wickersham, who lives at Circle, and who vowed that he would get even—and took this method of doing so. The police are not censured for the part they have taken, as it is considered they have simply been imposed upon. Sanders has placed his case in the hands of his lawyers, who at the next session of the United States court at Eagle will institute a suit for \$10,000 damages for false arrest and imprisonment against those who were responsible for his detention. He promises also while outside to prefer charges against several of the officials at Circle which may result in a big shaking up of some dry bones.

A STORY OF QUARTZ

Or How Captain Banks Kept Drunk Three Years on a Piece of Ore

FROM A LEADVILLE, COL., MINE

Meteor. Career of a Man With Cheek and a Grift.

MARRIED A DAWSON LADY.

Convicted at Nome of Falsely Obtaining Money and Sent to San Quentin for Two Years.

Nome papers printed late in September managed by means of the excellent mail service of this far north-land to reach Dawson in a late mail, fully four months after their dates of publication. But old as the papers are, they contain one item that, while it may interest, will not surprise people who know the party concerned here or at Skagway.

Among the names of a list of four prisoners deported from Nome to San Quentin, Cal., penitentiary for various offences, appeared that of Captain Banks, who was sentenced to two years for obtaining money under false pretences.

Captain Banks was at one time master of a sailing vessel, but for many years has existed by grifting consecutive months in Skagway in 1918 by means of a small piece of Leadville, Colorado, quartz, from which he pretended probably 50 cents' worth of gold. The crafty old fraud would fix himself up like a prospector just returned from an extended trip into the mountains. Then he would drop into a saloon and manage to drop a few remarks that would naturally arouse curiosity. After a while he would become confidential and when no one else was present he would carefully draw a small package from his pants pocket, remove several layers of paper and at last exhibit the Leadville quartz, saying:

"I have found a mountain of that stuff back a few miles from town and I am going to take a few of my friends in with me on it."

Of course, the saloon man became the captain's friend at once and until some one who knew him tipped him off he would lay around that saloon and revel in free whisky and cigars in addition to occasionally touching his new friend for a few dollars.

After a number of saloon men had contributed whisky, money and cigars to various amounts, the quartz grift wore out and when Captain Banks in returned prospector's garb would blow into a saloon and start a story of a long hard trip into the hills he was usually told to move on. Another of his grifts was to attempt to sell "scopes" concerning wonderful discoveries to newspapers, stating that at various times he received large sums from the San Francisco Examiner, which paper had long been striving to bargain with him for the exclusive use of his stores. After wearing out all his grifts in Skagway the old Captain managed to make a living by selling papers on the street, and the result was that a self-appointed committee waited on him and gave him three days in which to get out of town, and he stayed not upon the order of his grift.

The next time the writer saw Captain Banks was in Dawson in the fall of 1890 and sure enough he was very confidentially engaged in showing a saloon man something from which he swrapped several papers and which turned out to be a piece of very rich quartz, found, the captain said, within a few miles of Dawson. He had evidently shown the quartz and made a friend at some other saloon, as he was very drunk at the time. That evening a short squib in a local paper silenced the captain's quartz grift in Dawson.

A few days later he called on one of the papers and represented that he owned a group of claims on one of the creeks, was employing 80 men and would clean up fully half a million dollars the following spring. He gave a graphic description of his various mining plants and exacted a promise from a reporter who had never before met him to give him a big write-up. However, the reporter at the next table did know him and the account of his big mining industry was never seen in print. He probably wished to use the article as a means by which to establish credit at banks and stores.

Sometime last year, in April or May, Captain Banks, who was then upwards of 60 years old, met an old lady here who was of fully the same age or older. She had a few hundred dollars and two days after meeting her the gallant old skipper led her to the altar and the poor, childish old woman probably thought she was marrying a millionaire.

Captain Banks and his bride took passage en route to Nome on one of the first steamers leaving Dawson for St. Michael last summer. Since that time nothing was heard in Dawson of the Banks family until the Nome News of September 23rd was received yesterday containing the name of Captain Banks in a list of deported prisoners.

The supposition is that, having a wife to support, the crafty old captain worked his various grifts stronger in Nome than he had done either in Dawson or Skagway.

And thus ends the meteoric career of the old sea dog in Alaska and the Yukon. However, as he got only two years, the piece of Leadville quartz will not deteriorate in richness and will be good for enough booze to celebrate the captain's release from San Quentin in the fall of 1903.

GUILTY ON TWO CHARGES

Labbe Must Pay \$200 and Costs of the Court.

John L. Labbe, who, as stated in the Nugget of yesterday, was found guilty of having sold whisky to Indian Angus on January 10th, was at the afternoon session of the same court convicted of having sold whisky to Indian Billie on January 1st. Another charge of a similar nature alleged to have been committed on December 17th was not sustained.

In court this morning Judge Macaulay imposed on Labbe a fine of \$100 and the costs of the court in each case. Ten days were given Labbe in which to pay the fines. He asked for thirty days but only ten were given.

HOCKEY PLAYERS

Polars Defeat Bank of Commerce, Score 8 to 1.

An enthusiastic crowd witnessed the hockey match last night between the Polars and the Bank of Commerce on the N. C. rink. The game was exceedingly lively and there were an abundance of clever plays on both sides, though in team work the bank boys did not show up so good as usual, largely to the lack of practice. The score was 8 to 1 in favor of the Polars. The line-up was as follows:

Polars—Goal, Boyer; point, Merritt; cover point, Waite; forwards, Kennedy, Nash, Smith and Miller.

Bank—Goal, Timmins; point, Gibson; cover point, Holme, forwards, Tolls, Brazier, Hanwell and Stevenson.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

Regina Hotel—S. T. Kinsaid and wife, Bonanza; Mrs. Johnson, Gold Bottom; Walter Wright, French Hill.

The Weather.

The weather, turned suddenly cold yesterday and during the night the temperature went as low as 35 degrees below zero. During the forenoon of yesterday it was but 5 below.

Choices—Yukon, beef, mutton and pork, at Bonanza Market, next Post Office.

Chipped diamonds, yellow diamonds or faved diamonds can not be bought at J. I. Sale & Co.'s. They carry only the best.

AMES MERCANTILE CO.

500 Pairs Rubber Shoe Packs

Special For This Week \$2.00 Pair

Advertisement for 'Everybody' clothing and 'Law Furs'.

Advertisement for 'The Ladue Assay Office' and 'The Ladue Co.'.

Advertisement for 'REOPENED HOLBORN CAFE'.

Advertisement for 'DINNER SETS' by McLennan, McFeely & Co., Ltd.

Advertisement for 'TRAGEDY IN OKLAHOMA'.

Advertisement for 'AMES MERCANTILE CO.'.

Advertisement for 'Special For This Week \$2.00 Pair'.

Advertisement for '500 Pairs Rubber Shoe Packs'.

Advertisement for 'Chipped diamonds, yellow diamonds or faved diamonds'.

Advertisement for 'Hotel Arrivals' and 'The Weather'.