

The Klondike Nugget

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NEW DIGGINGS.

Montana creek is another candidate for laurels as a producer of gold. As will be noticed by reference to our local columns prospecting has been going on quietly on that creek with results which have warranted the creek being staked. It is a significant fact that numerous localities which three years ago were not considered worth staking are now yielding gold in paying quantities.

Until within a very recent date, little or no consideration has been given to the merits of the creeks flowing into Indian river from the farther side. Eureka creek which is now looked upon with very favorable consideration was for a long time regarded only as a creek upon which a prospector might waste his right. Montana creek which as our report indicates, will soon be counted among our producing mining districts was staked and recorded some three years ago, but so little was thought of it that almost the entire creek reverted to the crown through lack of compliance with the regulations governing representation. Other instances of a similar nature might readily be mentioned, all of them serving merely to point to the fact that the extent of the placer mining deposits of the Klondike district is not as yet understood by half.

The country is now wide open to the prospector as has never before been the case. Wherever there is gold, heretofore undiscovered, that fact is being made known. Innumerable claims will be prospected during the coming summer which have never before felt a stroke from a pick. From out this vast area of ground a certain proportion is sure to prove productive and to that extent will add to the general wealth of the territory.

Three years ago many people believed that at the present time the Klondike district would be pretty well worked out. The fact of the matter is that more ground is in process of development and more men are receiving steady employment than ever before. If any new country, depending entirely upon one industry for existence, has ever made a better showing in the same period, that fact has never been given general publication.

AN IMPORTANT MATTER.

The matter of bringing excursionists to Dawson during the coming summer is of sufficient importance to justify earnest consideration on the part of the Board of Trade and other local organizations. Excursion managers are always looking for new routes of travel and certainly nothing could prove more attractive to the average excursionist than a journey down the Yukon to Dawson during the time when the cleanup season is at its height. The inconveniences of travel on the river have been reduced to a minimum. With the proper connections arranged as would be done in such a case, no greater difficulties would attend the trip from Vancouver or Seattle to Dawson than occur on ordinary excursion journeys.

The steamboat accommodations on the river between Dawson and Whitehorse have reached a degree of efficiency which would admit of handling a series of excursion parties without any difficulty.

It will be readily seen that certain and valuable material advantage would accrue to Dawson and the territory generally should some such plan be carried into effect. The class of people who would take advantage of an opportunity to visit this city and the adjacent mining districts, would contain many on the lookout for investment, and all would of necessity contribute more or less toward increasing the amount of money in local circulation.

These direct benefits, however, would be only slight in comparison with the indirect results which would ensue.

No better method of spreading broadcast the truth respecting the extent and wealth of our resources could be suggested, than a plan for bringing people in direct contact with the same. Men will believe what they see, when they will look with more or less askance upon what they read. An excursion or two into Dawson this summer will bring into the country a class of people whose presence here and acquaintance with the country would result beneficially in a number of ways. Such a movement undertaken in the proper manner could, we believe, be pushed to a successful conclusion without serious difficulty.

ADULTERATED DUST.

Adulteration of gold dust is becoming a nuisance. For a time last fall after an effort had been made to reduce the rate of valuation of gold dust from \$16 per ounce to \$15 per ounce, there was a noticeable improvement in the quality of dust in general circulation. Black sand disappeared almost entirely for a while and in consequence anyone who accepted dust had reasonable assurance that he was receiving approximately, at least, the amount to which he was entitled.

Gradually, however, the old system of adulterating dust with sand and other foreign matter has been resumed until the article known as "commercial dust" has come again into general disrepute.

There is no obligation upon anyone to accept sand in payment for anything. Every grain of sand so accepted, means the transaction of so much business for a purely fictional consideration. It would be a wise idea if the plan of running a magnet through gold dust before accepting it should be generally adopted.

There is no necessity of submitting to such imposition as is involved in receiving dust which may run from five per cent to fifteen per cent black sand and if the merchants of the town would stand together in refusing to accept or pay out such dust the difficulty would soon be obviated.

It is not probable that there will be any considerable difficulties from thefts of gold dust during the coming cleanup season. Several examples have been made in cases of this nature and in each instance where a conviction has been obtained, severe penalties have been imposed. Gold dust stealing requires speedy and severe punishment for it is under ordinary circumstances a crime easy to commit in this country.

At the cleanup season particularly when in many instances, a number of people will have access to the sluice boxes the temptation is apt to prove too strong, and more especially where men may consider that they are underpaid for their labor. Such a plea is of course no justification for theft, although it may serve to quiet the scruples of the thief himself. There are two points in this connection which may be observed with profit: Employers who place their men where they may be tempted to steal, should compensate them properly for their services; and men who may be thus tempted should not forget that the strong arm of the law is almost certain to descend upon them if they allow themselves to overstep the mark.

Sentence of death in the case of a prisoner now confined in the local jail has recently been commuted to imprisonment for life. While it may be true that there is always hope while life lasts, it is nevertheless an open question, which of the two sentences—death or life imprisonment—would be the preferable. To decide between a scaffold and close confinement for life seems almost like endeavoring to find a difference between six and a half dozen. However, in a matter of such a nature really intelligent evidence can be given only by one who has been given a choice of the two evils.

A leading editorial in the News last evening was entitled "By Way of Explanation and Apology to the Reader." It is an exceptional issue when the

News does not make an explanation or apology to someone.

The automobile as a means of transportation over the Yukon country has not proven the success which was hoped for it. Someone should bring in an airship.

Dawson will boast of a great many vegetable and flower gardens during the summer. More evidences of civilization.

It actually begins to look like war in the Orient.

OVER THE TEA LEAVES.

The tea is gone from my cup,
But my fancy a romance weaves
As I sit here idly dreaming
Of the fortune in the leaves.

Tell me, and tell me truly,
Ye little curled-up things,
That from the land of mysteries
Such wondrous knowledge brings.

Tell me if I may or may not,
Or guardian angel sweet,
Or witch or uncanny nature,
Will pilot my wayward feet.

Through the hazy mists of future,
Past which my soul must stray,
Over the valleys and snow-capped mountains
To the horizon of the far-away.

Tell me if love's bright plunions
Will hover o'er my head,
Or sorrow's gloomy phantoms
Will darken the air instead.

Tell me if the holiest mission
Of my life shall be fulfilled,
Or the work undone remains
When my beating heart is still.

And lastly I pray you tell me
If the jeweled gates of gold
Will receive my worn-out spirit
When the scrolls of time unfold.
(Philadelphia Inquirer.)

MCDONALD SELECTED

To Represent Catholics on School Board.

At the council meeting last evening Mr. Justice Dugas and Mr. Prudhomme, the Catholic members of the council to whom had been left the nomination of the Catholic member of the board of education, proposed the name of Mr. Alex McDonald.

In making the nomination, Mr. Justice Dugas stated that he and Mr. Prudhomme had talked the nomination over and presented the name of Mr. McDonald as a compliment to him for the active interest he has taken in the development of the country, that he is a good Catholic and a capable man. On motion of Mr. Wilson, Mr. McDonald was unanimously elected a member of the board.

The ordinance as passed provides that the membership of the board shall consist of one member of the Yukon council and two additional members to be appointed by the council, one to be a Protestant and one to be a Catholic.

Mr. R. P. McLennan was appointed Protestant member of the board at the meeting a week ago and the appointment of Mr. McDonald last evening completes the membership of the board.

WHEN WILL ICE MOVE?

Much Speculation as to the Day and Hour.

The fact that there has been but little thawing weather during the past week has caused many who have money bet that the ice will move out of the river in front of Dawson during the first week in May to make efforts to "hedge" their bets. Others assert that they want no better assurance of an early opening of the river than the fact that the weather at present is as chilly as it is. They say that the cold weather will all be spent in a few more days and that when it gets warm it will be very warm, the heavy snow now on the ground will melt rapidly and the great volume of water produced thereby will cause the river ice to be torn from its moorings and carried away much earlier than last year when there was but little snow to melt, consequently but little surface water. It will be remembered that there was considerable warm weather during the month of March of last year and that by April first the snow had all departed except from the northern hillsides, and that shortly after the first of April the weather turned cooler and was quite chilly for two weeks or more; and yet, without the aid of surface water the ice moved from the river in front of Dawson at 4 o'clock on the morning of May 8th.

There are still hopes that money which says the ice will move during the first week in May is not lost, and only the timid will as yet copper their bets.

Special Power of Attorney forms for sale at the Nugget office.

WOES OF THE DUTCH COBBLER

Who Followed the Plumber's Advice Regarding Signs

And Gets His Entire Ward Down on Him for Slighting Its Residents—Versatile M. Quad.

It vhas dot plumber form around der corner who comes into my shop und says:

"Hans, if you vhas some mans mit a head on you peensness vhas so good dot you can't stop to eat."

"How vhas dot?" I says.

"Don't you know dot dago cobbler down by State street? Vhell, he half some heads on his shoulder. One week before Thanksgiving he put oop a sign reading, 'Thanksgiving Half Soles In Here,' und more ash 15 peoples go by him for repairs. Don't you see der trick?"

"But Thanksgiving vhas gone away."

"Dot makes no deference. It vhas der enterprise we look at. Shall some dago haf more enterprise ash you? Eaferypody laughs about 'Thanksgiving Half Soles,' but eaferypody also says, 'Behold dot enterprise!' Hans, I give you some pointers. You shall put oop signs in your window, und if you don't make some big hit I vhas a goat. You shall cooper der market und make dot dago climb a tree."

I don't know about it, und my wife don't know about it, but dot plumber he makes der signs, und I put him oop in der window. By golly, but I vhas pleased when I read him! It says, 'New Year's Cement Patches,' 'Washington's Birthday Shoestrings,' 'Labor Day Toe Tips,' 'Decoration Day Heel Lifts,' 'Fourth of July Blacking,' 'Thanksgiving Uppers,' und 'Christmas Cobbling.' We get in all der holidays, you see, und I vhas one year ahead of dot dago.

"Hans, now you hat some heads on you," says dot plumber, "und in one week you haf to hire two men. Get oop early in der morning und prepare for some rush of peensness."

I vhas oop py daylight und half der shop swept out, und by 7 o'clock dot dago comes along und looks at my signs und almost falls dead. He knows he vhas knocked out, und he goes off mad. Pooty soon der first man comes in und looks at me und says:

"Cobbler, maybe you can insult me und get away, but I don't belief him!"

"How vhas it?" I asks.

"Haf you got some signs oop der of 'St. Patrick Invisible Patches?'"

"I don't belief so."

"Vhell, why not? Vhas St. Patrick to be left out in dis deal? Vhasn't he a bigger man dan Labor Day? Now, you put oop dot St. Patrick sign before noon or I come back und gif you some tired feelings!"

I like to go und see dot plumber about St. Patrick, but before I vhas ready a second man comes in. He vhas red in der face und breathes hard ash he says:

"Cobbler, maybe you vhas an innocent man or I knock your headt right off! Don't you know dot my brother vhas aldermans of dis ward?"

"No."

"Vhell, he vhas, und I like you to know he vhas ten times ash big as Thanksgiving. Go right at it und put oop some sign of 'Alderman O'Toole Rubber Heels to Order.' If you don't do it, den look out for me!"

My wife pegins to cry about dot und says some hurricane vhas coming, und I vhas making ready to go py der plumber when der third man kicks open der door und vhas in und yells:

"Py John, but how vhas dis? Don't Christopher Columbus come into dis deal? Here vhas a man who discovers America und makes all dese holidays for us, und yet you throw him down in der eye when I say I vhas Christopher's friend, und whoever insults him, insults me. I vhas py der city hall to pay my taxes, und when I come back you shall haf dot sign oop for Columbus or your heart vhill ache!"

Dot settles me. I vhas shust going out doors to tell der plumber dot I don't haf no head on me und don't vhasnt one when der tat policemen on der beat comes oop und wates his club at me und shouts:

"So dot vhas your leetle game, eh? Get back in dot shop while I talk mit you! Now, den, explain to me about some signs. I look all oafar dot window und I don't see some signs of 'Patrolman Pinnegan's Half Soles.' Why don't you put him oop dere?"

"I don't think of it," I says.

"Don't lie to me, cobbler! You put

oop dot sign because you vhas down on me und don't like to see me become a sergeant. Very well. If you vhas down on me, I vhas down on you, und, py golly, I shall make some complaints dot you vhas running an opium joint und a poker den, und you shall see how queek you vhas in der cooler!"

"But I vhas innocent."

"Ha! How can you pe innocent if Officer Pinnegan swears you vhas guilty? Cobbler, I gif you one hour to put oop my sign. If you don't do it, you vhas some gone oop Dootchmans."

"Vhen dot policemen goes away, I sees how it vhas. It vhas der plumber who don't haf some headt on him, und I take all der signs down und put oop a new one which reads: 'Nottings Vhas Here For Nopody. Please Call py der Coalyard.' I had shust got der door locked und der curtains down when a man rattles away und says:

"Hey, cobbler! Say, now, you open dis door und let me see about dese signs. How vhas it you don't haf some 'Shakespeare Patches,' und 'Napoleon Shoestrings?' If you belief you can put my old friends in a hole dot vhas, you vhas mistaken. In two mints after I spit on my hands you vhas a licked man!"

I don't let him in, und py und py he goes away und dot dago cobbler comes back. He vhas shealous of my signs und can't keep still. Vhen he sees dot I vhas knocked out he shumps oop und down und clasp his hands und calls:

"Ha! Ha! Data Dutchman go up da spouta!"

I open der door und throw a pail of water oafar him und drif him off, but I vhas a busted peensness man shust der same, und vhen der plumber comes und I explain to him he says:

"Vhell, you see how it vhas. I made some mistakes. If you vhas in der coal peensness und gifing away a house und lot mit eafery ton, you haf so much peensness dot it takes three banks to holt your money."

M. QUAD.

How She Lost a Thousand.

"I've just lost a thousand dollars," said the girl with the pensive face casually.

"Well, it's hard to keep track of such a small sum in ones purse, was the rejoinder the sarcastic young woman in the Morris chair made.

The pensive girl's nose wrinkled in disdain. "It was this way," she explained: "I was coming home with one of the latest novels my friend on the North Side had lent me. The book I carried was brand new, and I was going through a department store and happened to stop and look at some books in the book department. It was then I thought of it. They are always on the lookout for shoplifters, you know, and it suddenly occurred to me that it was quite likely I would feel the heavy hand of a house detective on my shoulder as I walked out of the store. In fact, I didn't quite see how a detective who was doing his duty could avoid nabbing me. There I was loitering around the books and intending to walk away with a brand new, unwrapped novel under my arm. What grounds would the detective have for believing I hadn't stolen it? I decided to remonstrate gently but firmly with him. He would scoff. Thereupon I would consent to be led away. I would demand being taken to the manager. I would state my case to him in a quiet, ladylike, haughty manner which would cow him, so different would it be from the usual hysterical threats of the real shoplifters. He would be convinced and apologize and hope it was all right. Then I would smile frostily and make no move toward going. 'Oh, no,' I would say, 'it is not all right. You know perfectly well what a box you and your bright detective have got yourselves into. I have a good damage case against this store and I intend to put it in the hands of my lawyer. Either that and the annoying publicity for you or you sit down and sign a check for \$1000 and hand it to me.' Of course he would be glad to get out of it for a paltry thousand, and then I would depart, planning a summer trip to Europe."

The fascinated audience listened breathlessly.

The pensive girl drew a long, long sigh. "But the horrid house detective let me walk out right under his nose, and I flashed the book in his very face. I could have hit him, I was so mad."

"It was a shame!" sympathized the listening chorus.—Chicago News.

Not Up to Date.

"Your dissipated cousin from Paris is keeping very straight, isn't he?"

"Yes. He says he'd be eternally ashamed to be seen in a patrol wagon drawn by horses."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

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