

THE KLONDIKE NUGGET.

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DAWSON, Y. T., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1898

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AN ENTHUSIASTIC MASS MEETING.

Hundreds Volunteer to Join the Miners' Association.

Three Thousand People Answer the Call for a Mass Meeting—The Administration Scored The Inside Ring Severely Handled.

The provisional committee of the Miners' Association called a mass meeting Thursday night to take action in the matter of the constant stream of inequities, if not emanating from the gold commissioner's office at least rendered possible by collusion.

Mr. Armstrong was voted into the chair and Mr. Dunleavy was called on for a speech.

Mr. Frank Dunleavy commenced by reviewing the moral atmosphere of Dawson for the past few months. Countless charges of corruption had been floating around yet there was such a feeling of insecurity of mining rights abroad that no one would come forward and make specific charges over their signatures or by affidavit. Now, however, things were different and as an illustration of this he read the expose of the ring methods made by the NUGGET in its issue of August 31. The article in question detailed the circumstances of an unrecogized representative of this paper, who upon application to the gang was awarded Claim No. 1 on Gold Bottom upon his signing a half-interest over to this semi-official crew. The vast audience of several thousand people listened attentively throughout the reading, punctuating the article with laughter and applause, though it was quite evident most of them had read every word of it.

The speaker pointed out that this firm in some way must have had access to records or had been given information which had been denied to the common people. The information concerning vacant ground had been kept from the people and apparently given to a bunch of men who would reap a half of hundreds of claims. The speaker continued: "Expect the withholding of information from the people is largely the cause so many of you are walking the streets of Dawson without a claim and without the hope of getting one. We are not here tonight so much to object to these wrong doings or to complain that the charges made against officials go unrefuted and unadvised as we are to try and devise a remedy. It is useless to go to Mr. Pawcett, for when I went to him he said he would take action on charges if they were specific (laughter) and did not think anything illegal was being done. (Sensation.) We have got to do something ourselves to stop this diverting of the people's heritage. Mr. Wade has gone to the outside and is probably already taking steps to float upon the markets his firm's half of these ill-gotten claims. To show you the ways of this firm I want to tell you of a woman who went to them regarding some difficulties with her claim. They demanded half of the claim and they would secure the claim at the gold commissioner's office. She said she would not give up the half and they insisted. She said she would go to the gold commissioner herself and state her grievance, and the firm's henchman, Kellum, said: 'If you dare to go there I'll have your rights taken away.' (Hoots and laughter.) 'I think it is because you miners are unorganized that you can be so easily robbed of your claims. If you were all in the Miners' Association and the membership was 2000 instead of 70 you would have power to demand righteous administration—and get it.'"

"We British subjects have always been very proud of our nation and of our flag, for we always maintained that wherever it waved was equality, honesty, law and justice for all alike. Wherever she floats she calls to one's mind the figure of Blind Justice weighing out with impartial scales. But here (the speaker's voice broke) the picture conjured in one's mind is more like a vile and obscene harp, wallowing in the gutter and selling her favors to the highest bidder." (Loud applause.)

Recovering himself the speaker went on to tell of Clerk Bolton's father being one of the claim surveyors. It is a matter of common report that whatever claim you engaged Bolton to survey you had no trouble recording with Bolton, Jr. A man went to Bolton to record but was told that the claim was unsurveyed. Recorder Bolton advised applicant to get it surveyed by Surveyor Bolton and he (Recorder Bolton) would guarantee it should be recorded all right. (Laughter.)

"Why are these people permitted to use information secured in an official way for their own immediate advantage and to the detriment of the non-official population. Take for instance the claim last spring which was to be sold. Tenders were advertised for and filed with the office. The bid of the two chief clerks, Craig & Bolton, was just \$28 higher than the highest bidder and they got the claim. Why were they allowed to use the knowledge they gained officially and thus bid a few dollars over the highest bid of \$10,000?" (Applause.)

Mr. Dunleavy then went on to move a resolution that the committee of the Miners' Association be directed to draw up an address of welcome to the incoming officials (Ogilvie and company) and beg them immediately upon their arrival to arrange for things right by removing incompetent and crooked officials, etc., etc.

F. A. Langley, seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously with a whoop.

Mr. W. Galpin made a strong plea for a membership for the Miners' Association. There would be no crookedness in the administration if there was a large, strongly united body of men ready to oppose it. Mr. Galpin's story of his own troubles with the semi-official gang of "jumpers" was quaintly told and provoked much laughter. In brief, he had that morning been notified that his claim was "jumped" though he knew it to be recorded properly. A party went out and ate breakfast with his peace-loving partner. Then they divided his claim in half and staked both halves. (Laughter.) "What would you do with a man who would do a thing like that?" (Cries of "Hang him!")

Dr. Percy McDugal had evidently lost all patience with the clerical insufficiency at the gold commissioner's office. That it took days and weeks to get into that office to let the commonest answer to the commonest question he considered outrageous.

Mr. Geo. Armstrong was called for and made a few apt remarks. He failed to see why the public records were kept secret to the great benefit of the inside crowd which alone had access. Why a certain firm should be "in" and the balance of us kept in the dark he failed to see. "It remains with us to correct this gigantic evil. We can do it, we have got to do it, and we will do it!" (Loud and prolonged cheers.)

Mr. Dunleavy made a plea for the Miners' Association. Someone at the back end of the vast audience suggested that the admission fee be lowered. Another suggestion was that the miners go and close up the gold commissioner's office until the arrival of Ogilvie and prevent the consummation of the many fraudulent schemes known to be focused there. Still another suggestion was that a hundred pounds of nails be taken down to the commissioner's office and the side door nailed up—or better yet, nail up all the doors. The audience was clearly unanimous in favor of taking some sort of decisive action and at once, but the gentlemen conducting the meeting would not entertain any suggestions excepting the one for a reduction of the admission fee to the Miners' Association. Mr. Dunleavy called for a show of hands to see who would come in if the admission fee was made \$5 for six months. Several hundred hands were shown. Dunleavy promised to lay the matter before the association and to invite everyone to attend the association meeting at the Pioneer hall on Monday night.

The meeting throughout was unanimous and enthusiastic and the membership of the association will undoubtedly take a big bound.

AN ENERGETIC PRESIDENT.

A Remarkable Man at the Head of a New Company—Opinions and Experiences.

Judge Wood, ex-mayor of Seattle and president of the Seattle-Yukon Trading Company, came to one of the company boats, the Seattle No. 3. Mr. Wood was the prime mover in organizing the company last year and though a young man, has overcome obstacles and absorbed a mint of experience which will be of invaluable aid in the future plans of the company. Starting late in the summer from Seattle their first boat was frozen in, at the mouth of the Koyukuk. Mr. Wood stayed with the boat 60 days and saw everyone safely into winter quarters and then, with one companion, H. W. Carr, started up the river over the ice. Three months of traveling and four months time took them to tide water over the passes. No remarks are necessary for it goes without saying that after a 2,000-mile trip over the ice Mr. Wood is an authority on winter traveling in this section.

Having had two of the company boats reach Dawson this year—one of them twice, Mr. Wood has had an invaluable opportunity to become conversant with the cost of transportation and the probable future of the business up and down the river. Mr. Wood is an affable gentleman and courteously found time for the Nugget man.

"Will there be any more stampeders to this country?" was asked.

"No, indeed, not. There will be considerable emigrations of people under instructions from friends, but the new population will have a definite object and a definite place to go."

Mr. Wood is favorably impressed with the future of the country and takes quite a rosy view of its mineral possibilities. He thinks the minerals widely spread and has familiarized himself with data from Hootaniqua to Koyukuk. Regarding the latter stream it may be said that when he passed there had been 15 small steamers already enter its waters this season. He thinks the prospecting from Forty mile to Circle City not nearly so thorough as the prospecting which revealed the wealth of Eldorado and Bonanza.

On matters of transportation the gentleman is most entertaining. He was asked if there was any reason for \$8 flour in Dawson, and he thinks there is. Ten cents a pound freight he thinks is the lowest figure practicable.

"There has been some freight taken this year in Seattle at five cents, but I haven't seen any of that five-cent freight reach Dawson yet."

On this matter the gentleman is full of facts and figures. He sums it up with the opinion that staples and heavy goods will always come up the river even when they ultimately extend to Hootaniqua, as he thinks will be done.

"The time will never come when a purely transportation company can do a profitable business. The season of stamping is so short and the expenses so great that a company must

of necessity get a share of the profits of the disposal of some of the merchandise they hauled. It will be seen that, as far as the freighting is concerned, Mr. Wood believes it has always been done at a loss. He thinks that the greater proportion of the passenger traffic will be down river; from the passes to Dawson and from Dawson to St. Michaels. When matters become systematized the rate out may be made reasonable, but for ascending boats the space taken up by passengers and the effects is more valuable than freight. He thinks the ocean rate to St. Michaels from Seattle will eventually not be much higher than to Skagway and that there are not at all too many river boats in the river to handle the business. Mr. Wood is assured that too much food has not been brought in for the number of people here to eat it and doubts if ever again the prices will reach the figures they reached this summer.

To show his faith in the future of the country Mr. Wood has leased a site for his company's warehouse though only 300 tons of the company's own freight has been brought in. Regarding the mail contract supposed to have been secured by his company from the United States Mr. Wood throws considerable light on the matter. "Our company," said Mr. Wood, "never had a contract of the kind and has no desire for one. Up to the time we left Seattle all letter mail was being forwarded over the passes. Contractor Richardson shipped a lot of newspaper mail with us at regular freight rates and we brought it through in the regular course of business."

Mr. Wood is a remarkably energetic man and has overcome one difficulty after another until the future of his company is fully assured. He forms a valuable addition to the business element wherever he happens to be and we welcome him to Dawson. The state of Washington has long known him and was picking him out for special favors when he decided to throw his lot with the frozen north. Many a new company will fail but never under the management of a man who in the interests of his company trots for 3,000 miles behind a dog team in the middle of winter.

A MERITORIOUS WORK.

A Substantial Increase of Capacity at St. Mary's Hospital—Women Patients.

A visit to St. Mary's reveals the most industrious activity at that hospital. The demand for more room became so urgent on account of so much sickness prevailing that Father Judge commenced the erection of a building 24x70 feet and three stories high, which practically doubles the capacity of the hospital. As illustrative of the necessity for this new building it may be mentioned that before the second story could be completed or even a temporary roof put over, the first story was occupied with patients. A large force of carpenters is at work and a few days will see the building completed. The other day the rain east the institution upwards of \$200. As every carpenter around the place had to be put to work mopping up the water from the floor, above to prevent it soaking through to the occupied floor below.

On Thursday afternoon there were 82 men and seven women patients at this generous institution. Before the arrival of the Sisters of Mercy the hospital was unable to care for sick women, but now the ladies are glad to avail themselves of the care and good nursing so essential to recovery.

Three more Sisters arrived this week from the Holy Cross mission, down the river. This makes a total of six Sisters already here.

Within a week 50 more patients can be accommodated.

The deaths, since August 24th, are John Cramer, South End, Wash., and E. Palmer, Eastern States, both of typhoid fever.

The institution is badly in need of funds owing to the enormous expense they are going to in extending the good work of caring for Dawson's sick.

LOCAL BREVITIES.

Mr. Meadows has sunk 47 feet on one of the sulphur creek claims, and is still in frozen black rock.

Word comes from St. Michaels that all but two of the Morab fleet of river boats, have arrived at that port.

A. J. Bannerman, the Mining Broker, has removed to permanent offices in the Hotel Worden Block, Room 8. We call attention to his card in this issue.

We understand that Dawson is shortly to have a subscription horse to house mail delivery—a contract to that effect having been given by Inspector Harper to Col. L. A. R. Weatherly.

St. Mary's hospital has added a telephone to her other conveniences. The hospital can now be rung up from Bonanza, Eldorado, Klondike City, and from all the most important offices in town.

A telephone message was received at police headquarters on Wednesday stating that a man named not given was lying dead on Dominion creek, having been smothered in a shaft. By telephone the officer stationed at the forks was detailed to proceed to Dominion at once, inquire into the death and take charge of personal effects.

The Seattle Yukon Trading company have rented the ground on the water front at the corner of Front and Third streets and are busily engaged in overhauling it for winter quarters. The ground has a frontage of six feet and runs back to the river, giving ample room for six good offices. The local agent of the company, Mr. H. Tekoller, is in charge of the work.

F. E. Simons, manager of the Combination theater, is making a new departure. On Saturday afternoon, the day of the lights, at 2 o'clock the theater will be opened to ladies and children. A private entrance will be put up and all queries are to be dispensed with for the occasion. The performance, which is a very good one, will be strictly moral and none need be backward about taking ladies.

AMERICA AND SPAIN AT PEACE.

Spain Accedes to Uncle Sam's Demands and Gives Up the Fight.

All the Spanish Possessions in the West Indies Ceded to the United States—Disposition of the Philippines Still Pending.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—Peace between the United States and Spain was declared under the following conditions, as follows:

1. Spain will relinquish all claim of sovereignty over and title to Cuba.
2. Porto Rico and other Spanish islands in the West Indies, and an island in the Ladronez, to be selected by the United States, shall be ceded by the latter.
3. The United States shall occupy and hold the city, bay and harbor of Manila, pending the conclusion of a treaty of peace, which shall determine the control, disposition and government of the Philippines.
4. Cuba, Porto Rico and other Spanish islands in the West Indies shall be immediately evacuated. Commissioners to be appointed within 10 days shall within 30 days from the signing of the protocol, meet at Havana and San Juan respectively to arrange and execute the details of evacuation.
5. The United States and Spain will each appoint no more than five commissioners to negotiate and conclude a treaty of peace, the commissioners to meet at Paris no later than October 1.
6. On the signing of the protocol, hostilities will be suspended and notice to that effect will be given as soon as possible by each government to the commander of its military and naval forces.

THE PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION.

McKinley Tells the Soldiers to Stop Shooting the Dons.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—The president issued the following proclamation:

"WHEREAS, By a protocol concluded and signed Aug. 12, 1898, by William R. Day, secretary of state of the United States, and His Excellency Jules Cambon, ambassador extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of France at Washington, respectively representing for this purpose, the government of the United States and the government of Spain, the United States and Spain have formally agreed upon terms on which negotiations for the establishment of peace between the two countries shall be undertaken; and

"WHEREAS, It is in said protocol agreed that upon its collection and signature, hostilities between the two countries shall be suspended, and notice to that effect shall be given as soon as possible by each government to the commanders of its military and naval forces;

"Now, Therefore, I, William McKinley, president of the United States, do, in accordance with the stipulations of the protocol, declare and proclaim on the part of the United States a suspension of hostilities, and do hereby command that orders be immediately given through proper channels to the commanders of the military and naval forces of the United States to abstain from all acts inconsistent with this proclamation.

"In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

"Done at the city of Washington, this, the 12th day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight, and of the independence of the United States the one hundred and twenty-third.

WILLIAM MCKINLEY, President.

Wm. R. Day, Secretary of State.

Mr. Kellum Offers a Reward.

"To show you the ways of this firm, I want to tell you of a woman who went to them regarding some difficulties with her claim. They demanded half of the claim and they would secure the claim at the gold commissioner's office. She said she would not give up the half and they insisted. She said she would go to the gold commissioner herself and state her grievance, and the firm's henchman, Kellum, said: 'If you dare to go there I'll have your rights taken away.'"

The above is quoted from our report of Thursday's mass meeting, and is part of Mr. Dunleavy's speech, delivered on that occasion. Mr. Kellum desires to offer, through the Nugget the sum of \$100 to be forfeited to St. Mary's hospital, provided that Mr. Dunleavy can prove the truth of his statement.

Front Street
UTTER
COME IN
HEATRE
NING
Edinburgh
MS 1 AND
SIONAL CARDS
S AND SURGEONS
Y, University of
MS 1 AND
PELLÉ, Montreal
HANT, Dentist, Crown
Specialty, Offices, Room
BOURKE, Doctor of
Surgery, Master of Art,
Surgeon-Major retired,
Physician to St. Regis
Hospital, Infirmaries, London
and Throat.
LAWYERS
TIN, M. A., L.L.B., Advocate,
Notary, Conveyancer, Office,
New England.
KAY, Advocates, Solicitors,
Commissioners, etc., Corner
of Quebec and British
Streets, Dawson.
WILSON, (Members of the
Bar), Advocates, Solicitors,
Conveyancers, Offices, British
Street, Dawson.
Hotel
ALASKA
Hotel
AND WHITE PASS
Accommodations
White Pass, B. C.
WORDEN
Lighted by Electricity
Liquors and Cigars
& CATES
FURNISHING GOODS
OF SKAGWAY
AY, ALA.
CLUB
LIQUORS AND CIGARS
ARRIVED.
FILE OR CASE.
BRANDIES,
SCOTCH WHISKIES
AND CO.