

The Klondike Nugget

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THE NUGGET is delivered at cabins on Bonanza and Eldorado creeks for two dollars per month. Orders may be left at this office or given to the agent for the creeks.

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.

Now an Angel Looks.

Robin, holding his mother's hand,
Says "good night" to the big folks all.
Throws some kisses from rosy lips,
Laughs with glee through the lighted hall.
Then in his own crib, warm and deep,
Robin is tucked for a long night's sleep.

Gentle mother, with fond caress,
Slips her hand through his soft, brown hair,
Thinks of his fortune, all unknown,
Speaks aloud in an earnest prayer,
"Holy angels, keep watch and ward,
God's good angels my baby guard!"

"Mamma, what is an angel like?"
Asked the boy, in wondering tone;
"How will they look if they come here?"
Watching me while I'm alone?
Half with shrinking and fear spoke he,
Answered the mother tenderly:

"Prettiest faces ever were known,
Kindest voices and sweetest eyes."
Robin, waiting for nothing more,
Cried, and looked with a pleased surprise,
Love and trust in his eyes of blue—
"I know, mamma! They're just like you!"

QUESTIONS OF LAW.

There is an interesting question of law in the sale of Klondike City lots. The present law governing the sale of government townsite lots was passed the 7th day of last July and therefore appears to be applicable in the case of our neighboring burg even though the site was surveyed some days previous. If the law should be demonstrated to apply in this case there are decided objections which will be raised to the survey made by order of the last government of this territory. That law distinctly says "no land shall be sold within 100 feet of the water's edge of a navigable stream." In Klondike City the survey in one place is within 45 feet of the bank and the question naturally arises "can those lots now be sold?" Again the law says that lots shall be 120 feet deep and 50 feet wide "unless there be circumstances which prevent the surveying of the lots and streets to the size and width named, in which case the commissioner may alter the regulations to suit the necessities of the case." We know of no "circumstances to prevent" the surveying of Klondike City lots to the depth mentioned and we see no reason why the people should be compelled to accept lots but half that depth as at present.

Again there are "squatters' rights" to be considered. This paper has had occasion before to dwell upon this matter and refers to it again in timely elucidation of the situation across the Klondike river. In Canada squatters have no legal right to the land they occupy; that is to say there have been no acts of parliament confirming squatter's rights in general. But Canada has repeatedly conceded the moral right of a squatter who has settled upon wild and unsurveyed ground and rendered it of value either by improvements or by his presence. In special instances this inalienable right of the squatter has been brought to the notice of the government and has been conceded over and over again. The absence of laws bearing upon the subject leaves the unorganized squatter at the mercy of officials entirely; organization of the squatters has more than once resulted in bloodshed within the Dominion. It is an unfortunate condition of affairs and calls for a high order of executive talent in the administration in order to adjust affairs equitably and satisfactorily. A stranger can under the law outbid by one dollar the man who has lived on the lot for years and can take to himself the improvements made by the hard labor of months. If the government was to take a piece of vacant ground and after a survey was to

proceed to sell those lots by public auction, perfect justice would be done to all; but when that government waits until a population has settled upon a given piece of ground and rendered it valuable and then goes on to attach an arbitrary and unreasonable price upon the lots which that population occupies, then there is an injustice not only apparent but actual.

AMERICAN CHARACTERISTIC.

The great and striking difference in the character of Americans and the present nations from which they have sprung was aptly explained by Captain Jack at his Sunday night entertainment when he said: "Americans are the descendants of the restless and impulsive people of the earth." The popular story-teller and poet sounded a fundamental note in these words. For hundreds of years the restless souls of other nations have been reaching the exasperation point when they would impulsively rend the ties which bound them to home and kindred and reach for the land of the setting sun, where originality and expansion are not considered detrimental to one's character, nor in "bad form" as in the mother land. How firmly implanted this impulsive characteristic is in the descendants of American immigrants is well illustrated in the development of the great West. The same impulsive breaking away from the narrow restraints of surrounding circumstances which started the Britisher or the Teuton on the voyage across the Atlantic can be seen in the actions of his descendants in breaking away from the comforts and associations of his New England home and seeking the ever receding frontier. One generation moves from New Hampshire to Ohio, the next to Iowa, Idaho and Oregon are successive steps of successive generations and there the great Pacific is barring the way to further irresistible impulses to further progress.

Hereditary and acquired impulsiveness have become such firmly implanted factors of the American character that no scheme or prophesy of the future but must take it into consideration. A few golden tinted stories in the newspapers and we find Americans storming the passes and braving the rivers to Klondike like migrating ants. No statesman can plan intelligently for the future of America without taking this great characteristic of the race into consideration. The late Spanish war shows how true by instinct a race is to the traditions of its ancestry. Americans are mostly descendants of maritime races. A thoughtless world of people looked upon them and saw them without a navy, merchant or marine, and believed them to be losing the instincts which had made seakings of their ancestors. But an emergency arose and lo we find them taking to the water like a duckling from the nest. At once it is seen they are in their natural element and as irresistible as Vikings or Norsemen of old. Just so with the restless impulsiveness of their natures. An unwise and over conservative government may refuse to recognize the present cry of the American people for a policy of expansion; but the inner natures of the people can only be checked for a time—not killed. Alaska will be settled up; the islands of the Pacific, one by one, will be secured either by a merchandizing treaty or in some other way; China is rapidly coming under American mercantile supremacy. The London Times, in a recent issue, editorially admits the coming sea-greatness of America and believes this consummation of their destiny to be as irresistible as fate.

WHY ARE THEY HERE?

Few acts of any government have called for more severe and just condemnation from a free people than the quartering upon them of armed soldiery in time of peace. In former days it was the custom to farm the soldiers out upon the people and to compel each householder to contribute so much toward their maintenance. In that way the tax became a direct one and was felt far more forcibly than would have been the case had an equivalent of revenue been collected

in the ordinary manner. Nevertheless the effects in the end are identical which ever system be pursued.

This territory among its other burdens is suffering from a similar evil. We can conceive of no more unwarranted action on the part of the Canadian government than when it decided in its wisdom to send a large body of troops to this country. Thus far the only reason that we have heard advanced in excuse for this action is the fact that "the soldiers required an outing." Very likely they required the outing but when it is considered that there is no country on the face of the earth where the cost of living is so high as in this country, the good judgment of the government in making the Yukon a picnic ground for its soldiers is open to question. But there is another standpoint from which this proposition can be viewed. The "outing" explanation does not cover the ground entirely. It must be supposed that the government in sending so large a body of soldiers in addition to the mounted police who are perfectly able to preserve order in the district, had in view possible if not probable uprisings among our population. The government certainly could not have been in ignorance of the character of our people. The men who today are located in this district are peaceful and law abiding from instinct. They are used to participating in the making of laws and render obedience to them naturally. Hence if the government saw the likelihood of an uprising in this district it must have been convinced that the laws and the method of executing them were such as scarcely to be tolerated.

We believe it to be a fair conclusion that the government, knowing the injustice of the regulations under which this country is governed, knowing the grounds for complaint which existed against the officials in charge, sent the soldiers to this country to forestall a probable insurrection. The Klondike of course will foot the bill.

OUTSIDE AFFAIRS.

From gentlemen just returned from the outside we learn that our gallant champion, Col. Domville, has fallen through his hat in an effort to qualify and discredit the interview given by him to the newspapers of the West, damning the Dawson officials from one end of the string to the other. In Winnipeg the daring exponent of right principles gave another interview, still strong but disclaiming the interview published in the West. Further east he disowned his Winnipeg interview and "there you are."

It is perfectly honorable to aspire to be the first representative of the Yukon territory in the House of Commons, and the colonel is to be commended for the ambition, but if a representative depends upon the votes of his constituents for his election then the colonel's candidacy is hopeless.

From the same reliable source we learn that the "no royalty" agitation is not bearing the rapid fruit we have been wishing for it. In fact Minister Sifton appears to desire to stand or fall by the royalty proposition. He gives out this obnoxious measure as a sop to Canada, and at the same time supersedes Fawcett as another sop to the "malcontents" of the Klondike who have been making such a "howl" against the minister of the interior. The situation seems to be that to remove the royalty we must also remove its parent, Mr. Sifton himself. That gentleman's growing unpopularity is duly reflected in the Canadian newspapers at our disposal, and his seat is evidently not as secure as he might wish it to be. His champions are few and scattered, and we feel we can overlook a whole lot of other things in Col. Domville if he will continue his crusade against that minister so largely responsible for the many evils from which we suffer.

Our public theatres compare quite favorably with the same class of entertainments in other mining camps, while the buildings themselves are also excellent. The throngs of people who patronize these places are sometimes limited

in size only by the capacity of the building to hold another man. In view of this condition, and also of the fact that our wooden buildings are very dry upon the inside and take fire like a flash pan, would it not be wise to provide by legislation that exits be placed at numerous points and that all doors swing to the outside? At a gathering some few nights ago a number of people refused to enter a crowded building, even though in possession of tickets, upon observing that the doors swung inward. "A word to the wise is sufficient," and extended remarks are unnecessary.

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THE KLONDIKE NUGGET
NOV 16 1898

CHEE CHARKO
A Discussion of Claim Rec...
Sour spoke his friend's order Shows Ground was Al...
"Well, I'm glad of it," said Mr. Sour Dough, Mr. Chee Charko, after an hour's talk. "I'm glad you was over there." "No, I didn't hear of it." "Why, you must have heard of it," said Fawcett's successor. "No, I hadn't heard of it. It's better now in the..."
Sour, looking a trifle surprised, said: "Well, I mean I guess you now you guess as I that if there is a for you better?" "No," said Sour sharply. "Keep cool, old fellow, so strongly about of course things didn't know either one which have a fine and overworked." "The devil take you that I did? Duh! What's the matter in your mind? The trouble with me is that I never said. You're chee charko." "I don't know what he cap further down or proceeded over the of the Phoenix. O friend's irritability years of solitude at hospitable presence a word. Several were balked by the a few generous applicants. Pete's best is always relaxed and the his forehead. Fined by a smile, and "That was a fun Dominion, wasn't it? I didn't hear of closer to his friends tones."
"Well, I suppose is operating through from the recorder." "Why—er—I've had time to look whether the office with these cases." Sour smiled now. "I'll connect you with Jordan—Jack Rior pretty square fellow could get a Dominion away a three-quarter signed the document of office to Dominion of 186 as it was, sure way there he met and when he got had staked that town and what menaced to rub his situation."
"Why, he found of him?" Sour chuckled with an effort part of it. You near the office." "Well?" "And yet what Craig what do you him?" "Way, that the relocation?" Sour grin at his own. "You're a little better. He told me for by Jack near him to a chuckle until he to be called on." "I don't quite Sour straight contracted with not 'next, eh?' Rior was that claim unless men who had said. "Do you think was simply belt and Chee gazed who was standing across? he mustn't talk so Rior didn't for you say he fore he started three quarters." Sour laughed. "I really believe. I'm awfully weaned. I'm appointed, for too."
"O, come off, pose I'll sign whose name Sour went Sour went friend's mind