

ESTIMATE PROBABLY TRUE.

From 800 to 1,000 Persons Between Dawson and Kaltag.

Dawson Will Suffer Less From Their Absence Than Will They From Hardships and Disappointments.

The statement of McRae and Nagel, who recently arrived from Nome to the effect that they met 800 on the river traveling toward the new gold fields is probably the most accurate of all statements relative to the number en route. Those men had good opportunity to see and keep their account of pilgrims, and their account harmonizes with estimates made by conservative people in Dawson. Even 800 is a much larger number than was last fall believed would undertake the journey over the ice; in fact bets for which there were no takers were freely offered as late as Christmas that not to exceed 400 people from Dawson would attempt the journey. But the number has already exceeded the predictions even of the most visionary. McRae and Nagel met 800. The two men lay over a number of days on which they were not on the trail, and it is conservative to estimate that 200 passed unseen by them. But as the number reported gone from Circle, Eagle Jack Wade and other points along the route, it is likely that fully 200 of the 1000 started from points below Dawson, leaving 800 having started from this city. It is no exaggeration to say that for each person who has started and will start from Dawson over the ice, three will go with the opening of navigation. The majority of these will go on the regular steamers, but hundreds of them will go on scows. Already many scows, frozen in the ice up the river have been sold by their original owners to persons who will utilize them for the trip down the river as soon as it is safe to start on the long trip.

By the above process of figuring, which can not be successfully contradicted, it is apparent that by the time navigation shall have been open a very short time between 3000 and 4000 people will have left Dawson for Nome within the preceding six months. Just what effect this exodus will have on Dawson is a matter for speculation; but it must not be forgotten that there is an ingress to this place as well as an egress, and the places of many who leave by the down river route will be filled by arrivals from the up river.

Another thing, and one which those who remain in Dawson will not be called upon to seriously consider is: What effect will this exodus from Dawson have in store for the people who are a part and parcel of that exodus? Will Nome be able to employ and support one-fifth or one-tenth of the people who will have landed there by the first of July? This latter is a question to which careful consideration should be given by the many hundreds who contemplate going there not only from Dawson but from all outside points—people who will be practically penniless when they step from the gang-plank to Nome's much mooted beach.

The Nugget does not take to itself credit for the possession of any of the accomplishments of a prophet, but it ventures the prediction that the United States government will be called upon to send relief boats to Nome next fall on which to carry back to civilization thousands of people who will be found in a condition similar to certain persons of whom we read in biblical lore—without purse or scrip.

Filing Information.

The cold weather during the present winter has been favorable to the industry of mining. A year ago the season was so mild that many properties could not be developed on account of the surplus of water. In a few instances, water has occasioned the closing of

mines this year; but such cases have been exceptional.

All of the principal creeks are undergoing thorough development. Mining machinery is in general use on the rich claims. By reason of the favorable weather and the extensive use of machinery, claim owners have been enabled to pile out enormous quantities of dirt; and the output next spring will greatly exceed that of last season.

The returns of the cleanup from Gold Run, Sulphur, Dominion, Huaker, Eldorado and Bonanza, will be surprising. Property holders on these creeks are now considering the possibility of a shortage of water for sluicing purposes; and many of them are providing against such an emergency by obtaining from the mining recorder grants for unappropriated water. On Gold Hill, many plans are being projected to secure enough water for the spring sluicing. E. B. Newman, who owns a claim in the second tier, left limit, opposite No. 7 below discovery on Bonanza, will dig a ditch a half of a mile long, to the rear of his property. Thus he proposes to drain the surface of the ground, through which the ditch will pass, of seepage water; and estimates that in this manner, he will be enabled to obtain 60 inches of water for sluicing purposes. If claim owners on Gold Hill have sufficient water, the cleanup of this vicinity will compare favorably with that of any portion of the Yukon district.

Eureka creek, which, until this winter, had not given much promise, now shows some paying properties. On No. 11, in which the Shriber Brothers are interested, thirty cent dirt is reported to have been found. The gravel on this particular claim is about 17 feet below the surface. Messrs. Walkingshaw, Luhman, Schroeder, Parsons and A. J. Smith are operating on No. 14 above the right fork. They report good pay; and their property is so shallow that they expect to ground sluice next summer. On several of the pups, tributary to this creek, good prospects have been secured. Some little work has been done during the winter on a few of the Eureka hillsides and benches; but nothing of any consequence has been found on this class of claims. The distance which separates Eureka from Dawson, the depot for supplies, has materially retarded the development of the former.

Considerable work is being done on Quartz creek, particularly on the hillside and bench properties on the right limit. From the mouth of Canon creek to opposite No. 37 below Readford's discovery, good pay has been found on the hillsides and benches. One disadvantage is the great depth to which the miners are required to sink in order to reach gravel; some of the shafts are over 100 feet deep. Below No. 37, the creek claims down as far as No. 47 are producing fair pay dirt.

A Popular Resort.

The new Dominion club rooms are doing an excellent business these days both at the front of the house and in the room dedicated to the fickle goddess Fortune. Sam Bonnisseid, the popular manager, makes every possible effort to conduct the establishment in a manner to commend the patronage of the best class of people.

Letter of Thanks.

Dawson, March 1st, 1900.

Editor Daily Nugget.

Dear Sir: I beg to state in behalf of Mr. Probst, the injured fireman, that he wishes to thank the citizens of Dawson, and his many friends, including the boys of the fire department, who so willingly assisted in getting up the benefit given for him, and I consider that Mr. Tennant is entitled to the credit of arranging for the entertainment.

H. H. STEWART,
Chief D. F. D.

Hotel McDonald Sunday Dinner \$1.50.

Olympia oyster cocktail, crab salad, olives; soup, mulligatawny, consommé; fish, fresh greyling, au gratin; entree, saute of chicken liver with mushrooms, tripe, lyonnaise, spaghetti a la Italienne, pineapple fritters; roast, prime ribs of beef, loin of pork, apple sauce, sweet potatoes, young turkey with dressing; vegetables, stewed corn, tomatoes, Ger-

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McRae and Nagel will sell their team of nine malamute dogs, sled and outfit complete at a reasonable figure. The dogs are in fine condition and well able to make return trip to Nome in quick order. Inquire at Labbe's opposite McDonald hotel.

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LOST—Pocket Book containing Citizenship papers, license and other papers valuable to owner only. Finder please leave at this office. Reward. NIS BRINK.—P-3

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