

The Klondike Nugget

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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.

THOSE SOUTHERN CRIMES.

The English papers are such exercised at the constant recurrence of negro lynchings in the Southern states of America. Some of the most northern American newspapers have joined hands with them. "The brutal lynching of black men still continues in America," says Jules Collins in the London News. "That atrocious absence of all law—the court of Judge Lynch—still prevails and appears to be growing throughout the South, and the helpless victims are numbered in hundreds yearly," says Miss Helen Hall in the Boston press. An anti-lynching association has been formed in London. Anti-lynching agitation is on in the Northern states. Lecturers and lectresses are ranting and some ministers of the gospel are raving—but still the lynching goes on and the Southern husbands and brothers of the outraged wives and sisters find little difficulty in securing enough popular support to defy governors and jailers, and to effect a quick vengeance.

It is so easy at long range to overlook the justification for the summary action of the non-talking but quickly acting Southerner, and to work up an unreasonable sympathy for the perpetrator of this, the most heinous crime on the calendar. The Boston and London anti-lyncher pats himself or herself on the back as showing a commendable Christian forbearance, and pharasaically thanks Heaven that they are not as others—even as the angry men of the South. With expressions of horror the Bostonese and Londoners condemn the lynchings and call upon the governors to prevent a repetition of the burnings, shootings and hangings at the hands of citizens, and in no instance can we recall where they have not entirely forgotten to urge upon the officials to exercise official vigilance in preventing or punishing the bestial crimes for which the negroes are getting lynched.

How edifying is the spectacle of some alleged ladies and gentlemen at long range overlooking the crime of a human black fiend upon some 8-year-old mother's darling, and calling upon the masculine relatives and neighbors to spare the poor defenseless perpetrator.

How forgiving those people can be for crime not committed against themselves.

As a matter of fact the negroes were imported into the United States against their own expressed wishes, and their importation as slaves was undoubtedly criminal. Yet to argue that therefore we must look with lenience upon their besetting sin is puerile. The husband or brother who will not go out gunning the instant he becomes apprised of the irreparable injury to his loved ones is undeserving of the standing of a man, an accusation which we are pleased to

observe cannot be made against the American of Southern birth.

The perfection of the American news service is bringing to Americans a realization of the enormous prevalence of this crime—a crime which makes it imperative that all white women of the south should be familiar with the use of a gun, and every country cabin should be as fully armed as a fort. During the past year such accounts have poured into the larger papers until there has actually been not a single issue without from one to twenty such items. In numberless other instances the matter is suppressed from consideration of the feelings of the afflicted families. Truly, "the sins of the fathers shall be visited upon the children, even unto the third and fourth generation," and the crime of slavery is being washed out in horrible penalties. Nevertheless the fear of lynching is found to be the best deterrent of this, the crime of the age.

Only those who have lived in the sparsely settled parts of the South know of the mortal fear implanted in every woman's breast by the conditions with which they are surrounded. For people in the safe and comfortable drawing rooms of the East to express sympathy for the negro rather than the victim, speaks for the emptiness of their heads and the indiscriminateness of their morals.

ODD, TO SAY THE LEAST.

There is a phase of the boundary question which has escaped general discussion. As our readers are well aware, there have been numbers of long term prisoners sentenced from our honorable court, who, from the length of the sentence, are entitled to be taken to the nearest penitentiary, which is at New Westminster. During the winter, when each man was sentenced a memorandum would be made by the interested ones until nearly a dozen deportations were set down for the early spring boats. Here is the river ready to close up again and still Eskwedge et al. are eating high priced Dawson food when they could be maintained for one-tenth the amount in British Columbia, besides being put to useful labor.

Deport them! Yes; but how? The situation actually borders upon the ridiculous. There are only two ways in or out of the country—for Americans and Canadians alike—and both lead through American territory. "Yes," remarks someone, "but there is an extradition treaty between the two countries."

True; enough; but an extradition treaty does not contemplate a situation of this kind. For an armed foreign body to attempt crossing American soil with a prisoner would be in the nature of an invasion. To retain the prisoner in custody without legal process would be kidnapping. As a matter of fact, it could only be done by the consent of the prisoners or by the collusion of the U. S. officials. Indeed word was actually brought up that the friends of a certain prisoner purposed his rescue immediately upon his crossing the boundary below Fortymile.

Though the Yukon territory is joined bodily onto the balance of the Dominion of Canada, it is practically as isolated as if on an island in a lake, the mainland being held by foreigners.

The importance to Canada of obtaining a port on the coast with a strip of land from thence to Bennett can easily be grasped from a contemplation of the deportation problem.

AMERICANS CAN'T VOTE.

By a bill passed July 26, 1899, the government provides for local representation upon the Yukon council. Sub-section No. 2, of section 2, provides that "as soon as any members of the territorial council are elected, the commissioner in council shall have the power to impose taxes for any purpose within the jurisdiction of the commissioner in council."

Sub-section 3, of section 1, provides that "the natural born and naturalized male British subjects in the territory, who have attained the full age of 21 years and continually resided there for a period of not less than 12 months, shall elect two representatives," etc., etc.

Now, here is a pretty kettle of fish. The commissioner is empowered to impose any tax he chooses, and as many of them as he pleases, and as often as he sees fit, and as a check upon him is imposed only two members of his council and they elected not by the people of the Yukon, who are affected by the enlargement of the commissioners' powers, but by a small percentage of them, who have no more interests in the country than the unenfranchised Americans. The wisdom of disbarring from the national council any but citizens of that country is apparent to all, for a national policy is involved; but Canada herself has long conceded the point that even aliens, who have taken up a continuous residence upon Canadian soil should not only be entitled to vote in all local matters, but the principle of taxation only with representation demands that they should.

In any municipality in Canada an American Scandinavian or Lap can vote if he has the other necessary qualifications. Generally he must have taxable property, or he is not considered as sufficiently interested in the good of the place in which he lives, to entitle him to vote. Heretofore Canada has prided herself upon her liberality in never raising the question of nationality in local affairs. But in the Yukon it is to be different. A man may be a merchant in Dawson and pay taxes to the amount of \$10,000 per annum, but his Americanism must disbar him from any say through his representatives as to even the width of sidewalks.

The fact is, that the Yukon council is largely a city council for the government of Dawson. It has no more influence on national affairs or the national policy than a last year's bird's nest has on the next year's tides. In the name of the 20,000 people upon the Klondike and its tributaries, The Nugget protests against any further taxation without representation of the people who are to be taxed.

Dawson theaters are for the first time in their history reveling in dramatic representations. There are even those who are beginning to believe that Dawson has now reached a point in civilization where a theatre could be made to pay without a bar, and with a first-class stock company on the boards.

Judge Dugas' homilies from the bench are often entertaining, sometimes caustic and always instructive.

"Yes, yes; I know," he remarked the other day. "You will bring up a plat of the ground and the surveyor who made it. His fee is \$50, and he will swear his plat is correct. Then the other side will pay a surveyor \$75 and he

will make a survey the other way and will be just as sure his plat is right. Then you expect one to decide between them." Years of service on the bench has evidently made the judge very wise on expert testimony.

From the time of the discovery of gold in Australia all placers have been fondly designated as a "poor man's mine". This because little capital was required to work them, save brawny arms and a healthy physique. But what a misnomer when applied to the placers of the Klondike, where often \$50,000 is expended upon a single claim in development before a dollar is taken out to reimburse the owner. However, the latest reports from the Nome beach would tend to show that that was a poor man's mine par excellence. May all the poor men in the land become rich there, for most of them have been turned down pretty hard on the Klondike.

A prisoner sentenced to death in France does not know the date of his execution. He is informed of it just 15 minutes before the ax falls. In the United States a fair warning is supposed to be given to condemned criminals, but the effect of the present system of delays and the remanding of prisoners time after time—often for years—is to place them in exactly the position of the Frenchmen, and the condemned are never sure of their coming execution until after the reading of the death warrant in the cell a few minutes before they enter eternity.

The removal of Col. Steele at such short notice demonstrates that when it desires to take any action inimical to the best interests of the Yukon, the Canadian ministry can move with the rapidity of a cat after a mouse. When reform is asked for the invariable answer has been: "Yes, yes, gentlemen; but pray give us time. At such a distance it takes time, you know, to act."

You can get stationery in big variety at the Pioneer Drug Store. E. Shoff, chemist.

If you love your wife send her a Christmas present via Nugget Express.

\$1.50. Turkey dinner at Cafe Royal Sunday. \$1.50.

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