

## DAMAGE TO NOME CRAFT

Done By Heavy Wind on the Third Instant.

### Steamer W. K. Merwin's Troubles Ended by Her Sinking—Many Other Wrecks Reported.

From Tuesday's Daily.  
The Nome News of August 4 contains the following account of a storm which visited that place the day previous:  
The long looked for rain has come at last, bringing with a wind that has caused consternation among the shipping and those merchants whose freight is still piled on the beach within reach of the big combers that the gale has sent tumbling in on the shore.

The steamer Roanoke, which arrived here Wednesday, and most of the other large ocean vessels that have been lying off the front, have put out to sea to avoid the fate which has overtaken many of the smaller craft that were not fortunate enough to get away.

A number of wrecks of more or less importance have already resulted from the storm, and it is not improbable that more may follow before the winds and waves calm down.

The first disaster to be reported was that of the stern wheel steamer W. K. Merwin, which filled and sank during the early hours of Thursday morning. She now rests on the bottom a short distance off the beach, her masts sticking out of the water to mark the place where she lies. The Merwin was owned by Alexander McDonald of Dawson, Dr. La Blanch and Capt. Ames. She was represented here by J. B. Connelly, by whom she was to be turned over to Capt. Talbot today. She had long been in litigation and this final disaster winds up what has been a rather troubled career.

The second wreck was that of the schooner Teazer which drifted ashore and was pounded to pieces on the beach. The Teazer was 69 feet long, 14 feet beam and had an 8-foot depth. She was built in 1874, and was formerly owned by Capt. Curry, who succeeded in selling her for \$1000 last night just before the storm arose. When she went ashore she had in her about 1400 feet of lumber and a ton or two of coal.

The third wreck was that of the tug Effort, belonging to the Nome Lighterage and Warehouse Company, which drifted ashore and was wrecked in the breakers on the beach in the vicinity of the N. W. Co.'s building. The Nome Lighterage and Warehouse Company also lost a large and valuable lighter.

Besides these happenings there were a large number of minor accidents among lighters, rafts and small boats. Any number of these little vessels were pounded to pieces on the beach by the same breakers that, sweeping inland, caught up hay, lumber and all sorts of light freight, which has now either disappeared out to sea or lies shattered and dispersed all along the shore.

During the whole day the entire beach was crowded by spectators who, paying no heed to the rain, stood or strolled about for hours watching the long backed rollers come rushing in to card themselves into fleecy wool upon the more.

### Film-Flammed His Girl.

The following story in the Nome News refers to a couple who left Dawson by the ice route last February. McCarthy was well known with the sporting fraternity of this place:

Kate McCarthy, a young lady of easy virtue living among the shacks at the rear of the Front street buildings, claims that she has become a very sick woman owing to a loss she has recently sustained. According to Katie the community property of herself and the man who for a short time she called husband consisted of \$7000 in the long green paper of the United States. This fortune was done up in a paper parcel and deposited in one of the boxes of a local safe deposit vault. There it lay, so secured that it necessitated the combined efforts of both Katie and her "spouse" to operate the open sesame that would expose the package to their view.

Some few days ago Jack McCarthy, the head of the family, departed for the outside, declaring that he had enough of Nome and all pertaining thereto. Before departing he made Katie the custodian of both keys so that she could go to the vault and tear off a few yards of precious stuff whenever she so desired.

Katie let the packages rest for a few days and then, as things were not booming along the line and money was scarce, she desired to tax the roll for a few. She went to the vault—opened the

box and cut the string that bound the package. But, alas, femininity had once more become the dupe of villainy and Katie found that the man she trusted implicitly had proved unworthy of the sacred obligation. He had done her dirt.

The package containing the long green had been replaced by another filled with neatly filled papers cut the size of bank notes. Jack is now somewhere on the high seas heavy with his ill-gotten wealth while poor Katie is left here alone on the beach with nothing to remind her of her past happiness but a bundle of papers and a photograph of her recalcitrant lover. Anyone identifying the photograph will be made a present of it by Katie who will also stand the expense of carting it away.

### Speaker Henderson.

In connection with the visit of Col. David Bremner Henderson, the successor to Thomas B. Reed, as speaker of the house of representatives of the United States, who visited the west recently, the following sketch of his personality by Charles A. Bontelle, member of congress from Maine, at the time of his appointment, will be of interest:

"Upon Mr. Reed's announcement last spring that he intended to withdraw from congressional life, the choice of his successor became a most important matter of political interest, with a strong inclination to seek the next speaker in the west, which had so steadily and generously supported Mr. Reed. There being two prominent aspirants from New York and two from Illinois, the choice, as voiced by public sentiment, rapidly and strongly centered on the candidate, unanimously and enthusiastically presented by Iowa in the person of its gallant soldier statesman, Col. David Bremner Henderson, of Dubuque.

"This was no accidental result, as it brought to the front one who has won his spurs in battle and forum, and who has been for years closely identified with the leadership in the house, which we entered together in the forty-eighth congress. Col. Henderson has served on important committees on banking and currency, the militia, and the census, for many years on the appropriation committee, and throughout the fifty-fourth and the fifty-fifth congresses as chairman of the judiciary committee, and Speaker Reed's principal lieutenant on the committee on rules, which has had to deal directly with the disposition of the most important public business. "In point of experience and judgment, he enjoys to a remarkable degree the confidence and esteem of those who have served with him during his long career at Washington; and in all that goes to make up the best element of popularity he is held in especial warm personal regard alike by young and old members on both sides of the house.

"The next speaker's public record on the great question of legislation furnishes ample hostage for confidence in his wisdom and firmness. His stand on the currency question has been unequivocally for sound money, and no able champion for the development of American industries can be found on the stump or in congress. No more striking illustration of his independence and vigor could be desired than his ringing plea for peace, delivered at a time when excitement was threatening to run away with congress.

"Speaker Henderson has an individuality that will stand on its own merit and a conception of the responsibilities and dignities of his great office that will permit the loss of a jot or tittle of its prestige in his hands. The gavel, perhaps, may seem at times to be wielded somewhat more gently, but it will be held by the hand of a master, and the great office of the presiding officer of the United States house of representatives will lose none of its vitality of influence, and none of its power in promoting the business of a great people while it shall be administered by David Bremner Henderson of Iowa.—Victoria Times.

### Case at Nome.

Since going to Nome Dick Case has vanquished all the men of his own class he has gone against and on the 8th of this month stayed 26 rounds, and until the contest was called off by the management, with a heavy weight, a man 40 pounds larger than himself. The man of Case's class who can put him out has not yet come north.

### Married at Nome.

Word comes from Nome that Miss Mimosa Gates, formerly of this place, has been united in marriage to Mr. Key Pittman, an attorney of the beach city.

### Seeing the World.

Bishop Bompas and wife arrived in Whitehorse on the Columbian en route for Caribou where the Bishop will prosecute his work among the Indians along missionary and educational lines. The Bishop is the guest of Mr. Arthur Copeland.—Star.

## PERSONALITIES.

Wu Ting Fang, the Chinese minister to this country, has become an accomplished golf player.

The Earl of Airlie, who was killed in action near Pretoria recently, boasted of a title 250 years old.

Stephen Crane used to do nearly all his writing very late at night, frequently working until 8 or 9 o'clock and then sleeping for six or eight hours.

General Chaffee, who has been ordered to China, was to have delivered a course of lectures on the lessons of the Spanish-American war at the Newport Naval War college this summer.

Edwin G. Cooley, who succeeds Dr. E. Benjamin Andrews as head of the Chicago public schools, is not a college graduate and, though a learned man, began his education late in life.

Rear Admiral Louis Kempff, who landed the United States marines at Peking, graduated from Annapolis in 1861 and went immediately to the steam frigate Wabash, assisting in the blockade of the southern coast.

William G. Nash, of Weymouth, Mass. is thought to be the oldest grocer in the United States, he having entered business as an employee in 1831 and having conducted a store of his own for the last 67 years.

Simon Newcomb, America's great astronomer, has had an honorary degree conferred on him by the University of Cracow, Austria, something extraordinary for an American to receive. He lives in Washington and is 65 years old.

General Marcus P. Miller drove into a barn near Great Barrington, Mass., during a thunderstorm a few days ago. While he was there lightning struck the barn, killing two cows and stunning a farm hand with whom he was talking, but passing over the veteran soldier.

Among those honored by mention in the dispatches of General Metherell and Buller is an American lad of 17, Midshipman W. W. Sillers, of San Francisco, whose mother is now wife of the English vice admiral, R. G. Kinahan, and who is a nephew of Mrs. Ben Ali Haggin. He is mentioned for conspicuous bravery.

The Gaunt family of Australia is versatile. The father is a Melbourne judge; a daughter, Mary, is a colonial novelist who has made a considerable reputation in England; a son in the navy, Lieutenant Gaunt, distinguished himself during the fighting in Samoa, and Capt. Cecil Gaunt, another son, was among the defenders of Ladysmith.

### Bruin on a Bender.

The town of Listie, Pa., was struck by a terrorizing combination recently in the shape of a dancing bear with a "jag" and a keeper in worse shape than the bear.

Bruin and his master after gathering in a generous contribution of nickels "loaded up" in the town saloon together. The bear proved to be a toper of the sort that becomes vicious in his cups, and when some boys teased him a bit he started out to pounce the town. Jacob Dertz, the town constable, was the first to encounter the drunken beast.

Disdaining the majesty of the law, bruin gave him a cuff on the jaw and chewed his arms to the bone, after which he chased all the people off the main street and besieged Barber John Shrocks in his shop. Postmaster Boyer telephoned to Somerset for the sheriff, requesting that he bring a posse to take charge of the bear. When the sheriff arrived four hours later, he found all the towns people inside barricaded doors and the tipsy bear in possession of the town. The animal was quickly lassoed and confined in the calaboose till morning, when his master came to and paid the damages.—Ex.

### The Lower Yukon.

In discussing the lower Yukon country with a Nugget representative last night a gentleman who has just returned from a trip to the Tanana and who, like ninety out of every hundred who have this year gone to that country, hastily looked over one or two creeks and returned, admitted that but little, if anything tangible will be known of that country until it is fairly prospected. Men have rushed in there, stepped off claims and located them without even putting a spade in the ground. They have come out, recorded their claims and left the country. Their claims are safe until a year from next January. "Of course," said the man who had done this same thing himself, "I know this habit is a bad one and one which should not hold in law; but for all that the whole Tanana country has been staked in just that way—staked by men who have no idea whether or not there is a flake of gold within miles of their claims.

"The same thing obtains to a great extent in the Koyukuk, but that country being more difficult of access than the Tanana, those who have gone there have gone prepared to stay for some time with the result that probably more prospecting has been done than if the country was of more easy access; but even as it is, the Koyukuk has been but superficially prospected, with the very natural consequence that no very important discoveries have been or will be made until there is less stake driving and more work done with pick and shovel."

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### INCORPORATION NEXT.

Several objections have been made by property owners to the idea of incorporating Dawson as a self-governing municipality, chiefly by reason of the fact that the exercise of municipal powers by the town means a certainty of taxation.

It is argued that Dawson has been well governed in the past with no direct local taxes assessed either upon real or personal property. On this account, and with a natural inclination to leave "well enough alone," many men who hold interests in the town are content to leave the affairs of the town, as well as those of the territory, in the hands of the Yukon Council.

Moreover, it is pointed out that there yet remains a considerable amount of doubt as to the portion of police, court and liquor revenues, etc., which will be allotted to the town, and until incorporation is offered along with an equitable share of local revenues there is a natural disinclination among citizens to assume municipal responsibilities.

The point must not be overlooked, however, that with or without incorporation taxation in one form or another is upon us. The Yukon Council has framed a taxation ordinance which, should it prove illegal, will certainly be followed by another at no great length of time which will be made in conformity with the law. In other words, the town is absolutely certain to be taxed whether by the Yukon Council or by a representative municipal body.

As long as the tax levy could be avoided there was certainly good ground upon which to base objections to the incorporation idea. Those objections as noted above no longer hold good. It only remains now to be considered whether we prefer to be taxed by the Yukon Council or by a municipal council.

In the opinion of this paper the latter of the two propositions is the preferable. We can see no legitimate reason why Dawson should longer postpone assuming those responsibilities which towns of similar size possess the world over. It certainly is a most remarkable fact if in the countless number of thickly populated English speaking communities scattered about in various portions of the globe Dawson alone should be incapable of self-government.

For our part we refuse to believe that such is the case. We are of the opinion that the matter of incorporation should be taken up immediately after the approaching election. So far as the disposition of local revenues is concerned, it is admitted on all sides that it is merely a matter for adjustment between the citizens and the Yukon Council. An incorporation commission composed of representatives of both could very easily frame a charter for the government of Dawson which would be equitable to all parties. The incorporation question approached upon this basis should not be difficult of satisfactory solution.

The question now arises, if it requires 1 minute and 45 seconds for a man to be knocked out in a glove contest, how long would it take to perform the same operation in a prize fight?

British subjects should turn out en masse at the meeting tonight. The only way to secure results in movements of a public

nature is through general participation by the people at large. Full and free discussion should be brought out tonight to the end that the best results possible may be attained.

### Refuges From China.

San Francisco, Aug. 17.—A number of refugees have arrived here from China on the steamer Hongkong Maru. Among them are Dr. P. C. Leslie, of Montreal; Dr. C. H. Denman, from Siam; Mrs. L. Durstler, from Japan, and Dr. and Mrs. W. Malcolm and two children, Mrs. W. C. McClure and three children, Mrs. F. W. Patch and child, Dr. and Mrs. J. E. Skinner and two children and Dr. H. G. Weipon, from China.

Dr. Leslie, who has no less than 15 wounds on his body as the result of his encounter with the Chinese, tells the following story:

"When the news was received from the North, by a special messenger, that the various consuls had ordered all their people out of China immediately, the following party started for the missions in Honan: Mr. and Mrs. McKenzie and child, Mr. and Mrs. J. Goff and four children, Mr. J. Griffith, T. C. Hood, Miss M. J. McIntosh, Miss Dr. J. J. Dow, Miss M. A. Pyke, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Simmon and child, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Mitchell, Dr. and Mrs. P. C. Leslie and three American engineers, Messrs. Jameson, Reid and Fisher and myself.

"About the tenth day of our journeying we were suddenly attacked by 200 or 300 yelling Chinese robbers. The day before a part of our little force had gone from us, originally with the intention of securing a military escort from some of the local Chinese officials. Those who had left us were Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Simmon, with their little child; Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Mitchell and the three American engineers. Out of the 11 left there were only five men, among us five there were only three revolvers.

"The 200 or 300 Chinese at first made a furious attack upon us, bringing our carts to a standstill, and completely surrounding us. They pelted us with bricks and stones, and anything they could lay their hands on, at the same time slashing away with swords at those who were armed, and yelling all the time as so many maniacs. We brought our three revolvers into play and fought like demons to protect the women and children.

"I had one revolver in my right hand. It was a six-shooter. I wanted every shot to tell. Those who had the other two revolvers laid several Chinese low in death, and wounded several others before their weapons were knocked out of their hands by stones and sword cuts. I killed two Chinese myself; that is, I believe they must have afterwards died from the wounds I inflicted. But my active fighting was soon brought to a close by a vicious sword slash by an infuriated Chinese, whom I had wounded. He cut the across the right wrist, knocking the pistol from my grasp and rendering the arm powerless.

"Most fortunately for our hard-pressed party, just as things were beginning to look hopeless for us, some of the Chinese pounced upon our valuables. It was now evident that they valued our belongings more than our heads. They fell to fighting among themselves, and robbed us of everything we had—money, personal belongings and all, even going so far as to tear the skirts off the women and cut the buttons off our clothes with their swords.

"I have 16 wounds as a result of my encounter with the Chinese. My whole body bears souvenirs of the fight. I don't know if I will ever be able to use my right hand again. I am going home to Montreal now with my wife. Fortunately, my wife received no serious injuries in the fight—a few slight bruises, that is all; and the other ladies also happily escaped without injury."

### Poor Newspaper Country.

A story comes from Nome of a young man who was given the misadventure of one of Nome's numerous newspapers, but he only held the job for a short time. Loading himself up with papers he set out over the tundra to a creek 30 miles away where he expected to reap a rich reward by the sale of his paper. After a hard day's travel he reached his destination and put his stock on sale. Two or three miners "chipped in" and made up a "pot" of \$25.00 and bought a paper, and that was all he sold in the camp. Being disgusted, the young man who had enjoyed to make a fortune selling papers on the creek, ignited a match, cremated his load, went back to town with a heavy heart and gladly accepted a position at washing dishes in a restaurant for his board, having first obligated himself to eat but two meals a day and not use either sugar or milk in his coffee.