

THE KLONDIKE NUGGET.

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WATER FRONT DEMONSTRATION.

Occupants of the Strip Present a Living Petition.

And Cheer the Governor's Declaration That He Will be Easy on Them—Time to Reach Ottawa—Not to be Disturbed for a While.

It was a facetious, jostling crowd of water-fronters which assembled in front of the Yukon commissioner's office on Friday morning at 11 o'clock for the purpose of presenting a written and an oral petition to the commissioner for relief from his recent order vacating the water front on May 1st. The crowd consisted of about 25 men who are interested more or less in the buildings which occupy the government strip of ground between First ave. and the river. For about 20 minutes the crowd stood on the street while Mr. Ogilvie was asked if he would come outside and receive the petition. As Mahomet would not come to the mountain, the mountain came to Mahomet, and as many of the water-fronters as could pile into the front of the building, and the balance thronged the hallway and on out to the street. After all was quiet Mr. Ogilvie appeared from the inner temple. Though somewhat flushed at the unexpected appearance of the throng, the governor was as promising as usual, with the result that after a talk of about 30 minutes the crowd left, with three hearty cheers for Mr. Ogilvie, and all thoroughly convinced that he had agreed to leave them in unmolested possession until they could communicate to Ottawa their wishes and their hopes and obtain a decision therefrom.

As a matter of fact no such thing was promised, or, at least, only in the way of inference, so that the occupants were not to be cruelly treated or harshly dealt with, nor to be put to any more inconvenience than possible in the removal, which must take place at some uncertain time in the future.

Mr. J. J. Rutledge was spokesman for the crowd and standing on a bench was able to speak over the heads of his fellow-fronters the first read the typewritten petition. It asked for time in which to communicate with Ottawa and suggested that at this time of the year it would be no injury to anyone to leave the buildings unmolested; that it was inimical to the general health to drive them back into the swamp; that foundations for buildings could not be laid in the swamp; that their presence on the water front was no inconvenience to steamers as the bar under the bank prevented their approach at any point from the A. C. store to the barpecks; that buildings had been erected at a cost in some cases of \$7,000.

Mr. Rutledge followed up the petition in a speech, setting forth that the people present did not believe in the reports of the uncertainty of Mr. Ogilvie's nature and that they had only to properly present their matter to obtain a thoughtful hearing and—

But Mr. Ogilvie interrupted to emphatically and passionately protest that he cared nothing for the peculiar vacillation which has been ascribed to him, and then went on to explain his position on the water-front question. He had already intimated that he would clear the water front, but he had no desire to work a hardship on anyone. He had told a former deputa-tion that they would be given a "reasonable" time in which to vacate. He had instructions—or rather authority—from Ottawa to exercise his own judgment, and he had no desire to work any hardships. But what was he going to do with the other side; they had threatened to bring an action to compel him to clear the strip and he didn't wish to work any hardships. As for the bank not being approachable to vessels, he had a proposition before him to dredge behind the bar, and he was to grant certain wharfrage privileges—and, of course, there must be no hardships. The wharf men wanted to go to work at once. One man says "My company wants a wharf to land at when the boats come down," and Mr. Ogilvie had said "Well, you can't do it. I intend to get them off as soon as is reasonable, but could not work a hardship."

The governor several times diverged to pour hot shot into some unknown persons who had accused him of advising the water fronters not to pay rent, and at those persons—also unknown—who had disparaged him. He concluded with the promise to forward the petition to Ottawa, and not to be in unreasonable haste in carrying out his plans for the water front.

Leroy Tozier spoke next, and advised the governor of some of the particulars of the renting of the water front, he happening to have been present and a bidder. He spoke upon the sanitary and fire aspects of the situation, and would have made a succinct and able argument, but for the governor, who interrupted to remark that he had never said there were millions in every claim in the district, and at the outside had estimated the output of the two districts at one hundred millions. He had no disposition to be harsh in the matter—in fact, from lack of executive experience he was often accused of being too soft with people. (Laughter.) He was going to clear the water front if it laid in his power—but of course legal complications might arise and he would not be unreasonable nor harsh. "How long do you want?" the governor asked. "Mind I'm not committing myself to anything, but what do you consider

how would be reasonable time?" Mr. Tozier replied that they simply wanted time to communicate with Ottawa.

The crowd was evidently impressed with the idea that they were to be given an indefinite period in which to communicate with Ottawa, and gave three lusty cheers for the governor, and then departed in elation.

Yukon Council.

The Yukon Council met on April 10 and transacted important business with all members present.

A communication from Attorneys Woodworth and McKay precipitated a discussion on the advisability of appointing a clerk whose special duties should be the recording of bills-of-sale. The matter was left to Judge Dugas and Adviser Clement to consider the legality of the appointment.

W. Knox applied for a permit to supply citizens with water from the spring above St. Mary's hospital. Mr. Knox was advised that this water had already been applied for.

A communication was received asking for permission to operate a ferry from the mouth of Bonanza creek to Dawson, on the Klondike river. The writers' attention was called to the ferry ordinance, which gave him this privilege if it was feasible.

An ordinance was passed and signed giving the Yukon Overland Express and Transportation company the privilege of building and maintaining a toll wagon and sleigh road running from a point at or near Bennett to Dawson, with branches where the company may

Dawson wife caused these facts to be conveyed to Colonel Steele, who took steps to have Gannon apprehended if possible. The letter came from Victoria, and it is believed that the man will go there at once upon his arrival outside.

At about the same time of the letter episode, too, one M. M. Taylor arrived from the outside with a power of attorney from several persons interested in Gannon's business, and took possession with a view of winding up its affairs, and this may afford an additional reason why Mr. Gannon may indefinitely prolong his visit to the outside.

Fire Department "Smoker."

The clubs have this winter made their mark by a series of "smokers," which would on the outside be considered princely. The fire department took the fever last Wednesday, and of course had to be not only princely but original. The result was such a conglomeration of bareboards, flags, princely hospitality, clever management and unusual talent as would make the people in the states stare if they realized what Dawson folks do when they start out. In the first place, notwithstanding high prices, our people are liberal, and in the second, they are the picked men of the continent. Thus it happened that on the evening of Wednesday the doors opened to the gathering throngs of friends of the department and showed bare unpainted wooden walls, fairly well covered with a profusion of flags of America and Canada, restaurant, stove, fire engine and heater at one end; a bar on the side with electric cigar lighter, punch bowl and a promising

McCook Lodges Another Complaint

And This Time Essays a Brand New Course.

The Crowd is Disappointed by a Postponement—Criminal Libel to be Tried This Time—A Unique Document.

J. C. McCook thinks he belongs to the "fighting McCooks" and believes himself to be engaged in that enjoyable occupation at present. The following was served upon Messrs. Allen and George on Thursday:

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT.

TO E. C. ALLEN AND A. F. GEORGE, OF DAWSON IN THE YUKON TERRITORY.

WHEREAS you have this day been charged before the undersigned, a justice of the peace in and for the said Yukon Territory, for that you on the 12th day of April, 1899, at Dawson, being the said E. C. Allen, owner and manager and the said A. F. George, being city editor of a certain newspaper called the KLONDIKE NUGGET, unlawfully did publish therein a defamatory libel on and of one James Church McCook, to-wit: that the said E. C. Allen and A. F. George, well knowing the same to be false, which libel was contained in the said newspaper in an article therein headed "The Eagle's Drooped Wings" and in a report headed "And He Had a Glorious Time," and in a cartoon containing the words "Here Lies S. Dignity" and which libel was written in the sense of imputing that the said James Church McCook, whilst drunk, committed and was guilty of disgraceful conduct and brought suit against certain persons, which suit was dismissed, and generally brought disgrace upon the dignity of his position as United States consul.

On Friday afternoon an appearance was put in by this paper and the attorneys on both sides with McCook out of sight. By agreement of the attorneys and Magistrate Harper the matter was continued until Wednesday next at 2 p. m.

As will be seen this is a charge of criminal libel, former suits being for a money consideration for alleged injury to McCook's standing. Interesting developments are expected at the trial and a full attendance is guaranteed.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Tom Chisholm is brightening up the interior of the Aurora saloon and getting in line for the big spring business.

Marion Voss, formerly the A. G. Co.'s manager at Fairbanks and now one of Bonanza's substantial claim owners, arrived in from a trip to the outside Wednesday.

A late paper from the outside describes a banner being made in San Francisco for the Yukon Order of Pioneers of Dawson. It is very beautiful and will cost \$700.

Brother Lancaster, of Lancaster & Calderhead, was in from Victoria gulch this week and returned Friday morning with what may prove the last load before the clean-up.

Bill Cummings, a Yukoner of 15 years' experience, returned to town Sunday from a trip to the outside. Cummings was foreman for the Berrys in 1897, and is widely known among the sour doughs.

Len. C. Stocking arrived from the Forty-mile district on Wednesday and will make a short stay here. He reports Jack Wade creek as continuing to justify the early reports in the Nugget of the big strike.

Charles Carver, one of Montana's old time quartz miners, who was some good interests in the Klondike, arrived Friday from a trip to the outside. Charles is a wise one in mining matters, and when he says the Klondike will some day prove to be a good quartz field it carries more weight than from the ordinary observer.

J. H. McLeod, Ned Williams, Morris Nelson and F. C. Bellone, the first three named being Klondikers, arrived Friday from a trip to the outside Monday, only 22 days on the trail. One of the gentlemen said the trail was good except in the vicinity of Dawson, that he met Copeland, the Nugget Express Courier, and that he was going like a streak of greased lightning.

Bishop Bumpus, the pioneer Church of England missionary, has left again for his down river home after a visit to the Moosehide mission and to Dawson. Under the care of the Rev. Tolley the Indians are progressing in Christian knowledge and in the arts of civilization, while under the Rev. Bowen the church at Dawson has just emerged from the chrysalis state of a mission into full fledged churchhood.

Jim Casey and J. W. Milner have just reached Dawson from Rampart City, having left that place Monday. Mr. Casey is an old timer in mining camps and does not speak of the lower country in very glowing terms. He is quite conservative and talks interestingly. His memory of dates, names and places is quite remarkable and has a fund of information regarding nearly every mining camp on the American side.

Peter M. Williams, of San Francisco, arrived in Dawson Wednesday. He was accompanied by a Mrs. Bourk, also of San Francisco, whose husband died in the Klondike some months ago, leaving mining interests which the widow intends to manage. The courageous little woman made the trip in 19 days and is none the worse for it except a bit of fatigue. They were accompanied from San Francisco by a Mrs. Lueder, who joined her husband at Sixty-mile.

Mr. Dufferin Pattullo arrived in Dawson Friday from Fort Selkirk. Mr. Pattullo is a brother of the gentleman of the same name of the eminent legal firm of Clement, Pattullo & Ridley. The new arrival comes in to take the government position of registrar of claims, and will shortly assume those duties. In the last administration it will be remembered that he occupied the position of private secretary to Major Walsh whom he thinks will return to the Klondike in the spring for a stay of a few months.

A crew of thirty men were started to work Tuesday on the new drainage system, and next day it was increased to fifty men. Great expedition was effected with the work and by the end of the second day nearly two blocks had been completed. At that rate there appears no reason why the ditches should not be ready for acceptance at the appointed time, May 15. It is understood that the men on the work receive a compensation of 50 cents an hour and are obliged to furnish tools themselves, which must also be kept sharpened.



IS SLEEPING IN A KLONDIKE VALE TONIGHT.

choose to build. The tolls are to be fixed by the company, subject to the approval of the Yukon commissioner. The work must be commenced by January 1, 1900, and the main road must be completed by 1902. The names given in the ordinance as the promoters are: Wm. Hutehinson, Ottawa; Joseph Rose, Toronto; Joseph P. Cornforth, Denver; Ira J. Mahon, Pittsburg; Taylor McVeitz, Ottawa; Isaac R. Hedges, Victoria. The company is capitalized at \$500,000 and must pay \$50 into the Yukon treasury within two months.

The Canadian Development company asked by letter about the amount which was to be charged for liquor licenses on passenger steamers. This opportunity for taxation had apparently escaped observation before, but it did not take long to decide that \$1,000 would be about right.

A charter was presented by Attorney's Tabor and Hulme for ratification, giving the privilege of manufacturing and selling distilled water to the people of Dawson. Referred to Messrs. Ogilvie and Clement.

It was decided to make Thursday afternoons at 4 o'clock the regular meeting time of the council.

An ordinance was passed making the legal adviser, the Yukon commissioner, the crown prosecutor and all officers of the Yukon government lawyers and advocates and not subject to the operation of the law requiring proof of the possession of certain legal knowledge before securing admission to the bar.

Bigamy is Suspected.

When J. H. Gannon left for the outside a couple of weeks ago, a trusting wife believed that he had gone for a fresh stock of goods for the Juncau Hardware Co.'s store, of which he was manager, and that their reunion would be an early and happy one. Since then, however, she has had occasion to entertain grave misgivings of this dream ever being realized, and is prepared to believe that the absent one will prolong his stay for an indefinite period. The medium of this intelligence was a letter received through the mails since Mr. Gannon's departure; it was addressed to the lord of the household, but in his absence the wife broke the seal and proceeded to digest its contents. The letter was signed "your loving wife," and contained a piteous appeal for money. "The little ones are out of shoes," was one of the expressions, and no doubt was left that Gannon is a too much married man. The

array of bottles, cigar boxes, cigarette boxes and tobacco cases, and tables, seats and piano at the other end. The illumination by Rochester lamps was ample, and the chairman took his seat on the driving box of the fire engine, away above the heads of the good people who had gathered at the first smoker of the Dawson Volunteer Fire department.

At first the visitors approached the banging-ly and with ladylike reticence. There they were met by three jolly department boys only too anxious to satisfy all comers, so that each in turn was tempted to return and win a smile from the boys who cannot only fight fire but are equally delighted to extend a hospitable as well as a helping hand in extremity.

The program was long and contained the following numbers: Overture by Professor Boyd's orchestra; speech of welcome by the chief; C. W. Tennant, recitation; James and Arthur Moore, in mandolin and guitar solos; Dawson City Quartette in selections; Captain Jack in original poetry, both extemporaneous and committed; Constable Oakden, song; Pier and Allen, in clever three rounds of sparring; A. F. George, in banjo solo and songs; L. Craden, in recitations; Mr. Stewart, in harmonica imitations and solos; John Mulligan, in songs; Pat Rooney and Dick Agnew, in a most interesting three rounds of sparring; D. Clayton, in imitations; Burkhardt and Casley, in guitar and mandolin; D. Thompson, characteristic songs; Ben Davis, stories and songs; George Noble, songs; J. Stratus, D. Mautretus; Fred, Green in songs and Herbert E. A. Robertson, baritone solo.

The luncheon served was plentiful and substantial, as was also everything in the house, from clay pipes, tobacco and cigarettes to cigars and punch. Everyone was in good humor and nothing overdone, and the fire department "smoker" is something long to be remembered. For variety the chairman of the evening was changed twice, the seat being occupied by Messrs. George, Crawford and Tozier.

ARCTIC SAW MILL

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\$140.10
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