

FUN AT THE AUDITORIUM

"Too Much Johnson" the Play This Week.

Bitter Company Appearing to Excellent Advantage Fine Cast and First-Class Specialties.

The play this week at the Auditorium is a disappointment. Not that "Too Much Johnson" is not a cleverly constructed comedy, full of amusing situations and extraordinary misunderstandings, but like most of Gillette's successes it is a man's play and a one man play at that. In the original production, William Gillette, the author, took the part of Augustus Billings, and as such he was the entire show himself. Then, too, it is a characteristic of Gillette plays that the slower they go the better the effect produced, and in the picking up of cues there is sometimes such a painful wait that one is tempted to inquire if the prompter is in a trance. Gillette first sprang into prominence some 16 years ago when he produced "The Private Secretary" with his long drawn out "Do you know," and since then his rise to the top of the ladder of fame both as a playwright and a star has been rapid. "Too Much Johnson" when first presented to the public several years ago had a tremendous run in New York and other eastern cities. Mr. Cummings in this week's production is enacting the role taken originally by Gillette and

his imitation of the actor-author's drawl and other mannerisms is excellent. Mr. Bittner plays "Johnson," the proprietor of an extensive sugar and coffee plantation near Santiago, Cuba, with the voice of a bull, the makeup of a Simon Legree and a swaggering air that strikes terror to all who come in contact with him. Mr. Mullen plays "Francis Faddish," the gentleman from Tadousac whose daughter is betrothed to Johnson, and Mr. Layne makes much out of the country lover, "Harry MacIntosh," who is so desperately enamoured of "Leonora." One of the best characters in the play is that of the Frenchman "Mons. Leon Dathis" whose wife Billings has been having an affair with and for whom he is looking with blood in his eye. Mr. Southard is playing the part and is as clever in it as he is in all his work. There are but three lady characters in the cast and they are of but little consequence, yet necessary to the plot if such it can be called. Miss Lovell appears as "Mrs. Billings," a loving and lovable wife confident above all things in her husband; Miss Winchell does "Mrs. S. Upton Batterson," Billings' mother-in-law, a fussy, meddling old hen, the likes of whom often drives good husbands to strong drink, and Miss D'Avara plays "Leonora, Faddish" betrothed to Johnson but desperately smitten with the youth MacIntosh. Their love making, so real and so natural, is very funny. There are but three acts, the first being laid in the cabin of the steamer "Tropic Queen" en route to Cuba, and the other two at Johnson's place near Santiago. Between the acts Miss Jewell is heard in a singing specialty and Clarence Mason gives a marvellous exhibition of clever work

on the horizontal bars. The following is the cast: Mr. Augustus Billings—Mr. Cummings. Mrs. Augustus Billings, his wife—Miss Lovell. Mrs. S. Upton Batterson, his wife's mother—Miss Winchell. Mr. Francis Faddish, a Canadian from Tadousac, Province of Quebec—Mr. Mullen. Leonora—Faddish's daughter, betrothed to Johnson—Miss D'Avara. Harry MacIntosh, a Canadian youth, desperately in love with Leonora—Mr. Layne. Joseph Johnson, Esq., proprietor of an extensive sugar and coffee plantation near Santiago, Cuba—Mr. Bittner. Mons. Leon Dathis, a Franco-American gentleman, whose business is that of an importer of French wines from California—Mr. Southard. Frederick, Johnson's man—Harry Cummings. Steward, on steamer "Tropic Queen"—Mr. Lewis. Mr. Sellery Louten, notary and justice of Santiago—Mr. Lorne. Messenger from Santiago telegraph office—Mr. Breen.

Vessel in Distress. Nanaimo, Dec. 7.—The collier Maria arrived here this morning from Los Angeles. Early yesterday morning, about 80 miles south of Cape Flattery, she passed a large vessel in distress. The vessel passed, a four masted steel one, was badly listed at an angle of about 45 degrees, as though the ballast had shifted. The vessel was at anchor to prevent her running on a reef. Apparently all on board had deserted her. The Maria was light in ballast and unable to afford assistance, her propeller being nearly half out of the water. A coast schooner came in sight about that time which Capt. Ozerlich, of the Maria, thinks may have given help. The residence of John Waddell, Extension, was completely destroyed by fire early this morning. The inmates escaped in their night clothes. The long distance telephone from Victoria is within half a mile of here. Considering the weather, there is a good gathering of miners to discuss amalgamation at present in the city. There is probably 1,500 in attendance. We fit glasses. Pioneer drug store.

OVER THE DIVIDE..

By ED. HERING. The following names appear on the register of Chute & Wills' hotel the past week: James McDougall, Ralph King, Noe Webster, O. J. Beaufort, W. Webster, Frank Crawford and wife, T. H. Hamilton, Nelson Soggs, Harry Lawrence, D. McChesney, and Henry Tinnie, Dawson, Geo. Wall, Caribou. Several accidents occurred on Gold Run and Dominion this week. J. Dodds, a miner employed on No. 12, missed his footing and fell down the shaft. He was brought to the surface and beyond sustaining a severe shock and a few slight bruises he was found to be as sound as a dollar. A miner named File while working in the shaft on Bordeaux's claim, No. 244 lower Dominion, was hit on the hip by a falling bucket. His injuries, however, are not of a serious nature and he will be up and doing in a few days. The Rev. Geo. Pringle held divine service at the Central Hotel Sunday evening. He took for his text "Watch Me." The sermon was delivered in a very able and eloquent manner and was thoroughly appreciated by the large audience present. The Gold Run Literary and Debating Society held their weekly meeting at the Central Hotel Saturday evening in the form of an entertainment. Singing, recitations and music served to fill the programme, the music furnished by the string orchestra comprising Corporal Jealous, Messrs. Bergren and Lavelly being worthy of mention, also the banjo selections by Mrs. Brabury. Mr. Creasans and wife have opened their new road house on 244 lower Dominion. A large delegation of Gold Run people left the creek on Monday to attend the social hop at the Williams road house at Ridge City, at the invitation of George and William Murray, the proprietors, where they were joined by a merry throng from Caribou, Hurker, Bonanza and Dawson. The hotel and ballroom were tastefully decorated, in fact nothing was left undone toward furthering the comfort and happiness of their many friends by the brothers. The reception tendered the guests was most heartily appreciated by those present, and to the chef of the hotel, Mr. Charles Bernese, for the excellent and unsurpassed menu presented to the guests at midnight they were particularly grateful. Bergren's orchestra furnished the music for the occasion and to the sweet measures the merry gathering whirled away some of the most pleasant hours of their life, the reunion of old friends from other creeks greatly adding to the joyful occasion. Among those present were the Messdames Ames, Crawford, Knottel, Bradbury, Tyler, Cooley, Day, Morrison, Yeager, Sybel, Crane, Torkelson, Bell, Keeney, Graham, Springman, Herring, Murdoch, Holmes, and Barnell, the Messrs. Dr. Bell, Phil Holiday, Bapuste, Chute, Hart, Armstrong, Ames, Wall, Asom, Douglas, Fowle, Barrow, Hartney, Buchanan, McRea, Foster, Putrow, Crawford, Stone, Chaplin, Ross, Pope, Armstrong, Hadley, Webster, Bernese, Lawrence, Panthor, Clark, Kelly, Todd, Murdoch, Lavelly, Geo. and Wm. Murray, Calligan, Morrison, Day, Barnell, Knottel, Tyler, Muihern, Bergren, and Noel.

A strike of no little importance has just been made on Gold Run and what has been puzzling miners and claim owners alike is now without doubt solved. As previously mentioned in these columns the Gold Run pay stopped on No. 48. Attention was then centred on the right limit hillside on No. 77. However, two miles distant the lead was again uncovered. Some time ago nothing being discovered on the right limit naturally led others to prospect the left, with the result that 51 pup, a tributary of Gold Run on the latter limit, was staked from top to its intersection with the creek, as was also 33 pup. Now come reports from 108 to the effect that the property of Mr. Te Roller is now ranked among the producers. The laymen, however, working on 33 pup have been sinking shafts, and on Thursday they reached bedrock and at about the depth of 45

feet they struck an old channel which seems to wind its way along the hillside, getting excellent pay. This last strike clearly shows that the pay streak has followed the hillside on the left across the mouth of 51 pup and again reappearing at the upper end of the creek. The Gold Run fire department responded to its second alarm on Friday afternoon to Jack Lynch's on 20. The department made an exceptionally quick run. The alarm, however, proved false, much to the chagrin of Chief Percy Ried. The trained moose, just none of its old-time agility considering the fact that it has lately been shod with copper shoes and asbestos lining by the sourest of doughs, Ruddy Connors, and at the present writing is considered the most popular animal on the creek. After the return home the chief called a meeting for the purpose of transacting all business of importance and so to consider the application of two files from Dawson which applied for membership. The meeting was called to order by the "Spider," Wm. Babuste, Alex. Haden, Chas. Jamieson and Al. Chute constituted a quorum. A reward of fifty dollars was then agreed upon for the arrest and conviction of any person of sound mind turning in a false alarm of fire without first notifying the department of his intentions. Charlie Barwell surveyed the meeting, his request for membership being heartily accepted on the ground of non-residence. Roy Madocks answered all necessary questions in regard to driving hose carts, but when it came to frogging up a hose cart he was "non-compos mentis" and declared non-eligible. Ruddy Connors' claim of forty dollars for shoeing the forest greyhound was disallowed on the grounds that Ruddy completed but one-quarter of the job, it being proven that the other three feet were thickly shod with heavy coats and application of white lead and bronze. The moose was then brought in for inspection. He has developed a rattling sensation sounding like a load of broken bottles being precipitated through a coal shoot by a colored porter, and considering the amount of empty coal oil cans and 1102 butter tins which have disappeared since his introduction, it goes to show that the moose is valuable in more ways than one. So is the Gold Run fire department, and any man looking for a reputation can get same providing his application is accepted and his credentials signed by the Governor-General of Canada. After fixing every one present for being there the meeting adjourned.

Rumors of Peace. New York, Dec. 7.—Not for a long time has there been such optimistic feeling with regard to the war, says a London dispatch to the Tribune. For days past rumors of peace negotiations have been current in various quarters, and these have not been dispersed by Lord Kitchener's official confirmation of the report that a large number of Boers had been captured in the Transvaal. This most important haul seems to have been the work of Major Wools Sampson. This officer's admirable handling of the troops at Brakenlaage after Col. Beison was mortally wounded redounded very much to his credit, and his capture of the Boer laager southwest of Ermelo ought to make his promotion certain.

Hot and cold lunch at the Bank Saloon.

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JOY ON THE CREEKS

Merrymaking Reported on Both Eldorado and Bonanza.

The most enjoyable affair of the New Year was the progressive whist party given by Miss During and Miss Langseth at the home of the former one evening last week. Five tables were filled and the merry game for points continued until 12 o'clock, after which a hounteous lunch was served. After luncheon the time was pleasantly passed in singing and various games. Miss During and Mr. Anderson made the highest score, while Miss Bostrom and Mr. Vincent captured the booby prize. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Falk, Mr. and Mrs. Kline, Mrs. Hieseth, the Messrs. Anderson, Bostrom, Langseth and During, and Messrs. Langlow, Santstrom, Wood, Moffatt, Link, Vincent, Johnson, Orne, Fitzmaurice, Youngstrom, Johansen, Erickson and Anderson.

Mr. Coslett of No. 35 above Bonanza gave a social dance Friday night, January 10, to a few friends from that vicinity.

There is a famine on the creeks—a calendar famine.

Messrs. T. F. Williams, of King Solomon's Hill, and N. G. Williams of Gold Hill are transacting business in town today.

No. 8-Gay Gulch have also put in a new boiler.

Hutchinson & Ellison, of No. 13 Victoria Gulch, have put in a steam

plant and will work their claim very extensively this winter.

Oscar Anderson, the whist fiend from the FORKS, is in town today.

Lovers of whist had a meeting in the parlors of the Raymond Hotel at Grand Forks last Wednesday night. Mr. Oscar Anderson acted as chairman pro tem. Officers elected were: President, Oscar Anderson; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. McKay. Voted that the club should be known as the Grand Forks Progressive Whist Club. The club has a most promising future, as it starts out with a membership of about 20, and of the right kind of people to make it a grand success. They will play from 9 o'clock till 11.30 every Wednesday night at the above-named place and at the end of each month prizes will be given to the lady and gent making the most scores and also to the two making the best number.

The big time comes off at Grand Forks next Friday night, when the doors of the hall will be thrown open to the masked people of the FORKS and the creeks. Great preparations have been made for this ball and costumes of all kinds and descriptions have been sent to the FORKS, where they can be had at Mrs. Tondros, at that place.

One of the most successful and enjoyable dances given on Bonanza this winter was at the Stocade Hotel on No. 19 below Bonanza last Friday by Mr. Thos. McMullen, a genial and whole-souled gentleman. A very large and select number from the adjoining claims and from town were present to do honor to the host, as all knew Tom had spared neither time nor money to make it one of the best

times in the history of the Yukon. Music was furnished by Mr. Murray Cameron, the Scotch violinist, and his partner, who plays all rag-time on the guitar. A magnificent supper was served at midnight and every one had a smiling countenance, portraying that a happy and friendly feeling existed among all present. There were a few whose names could not be learned. Following are the names procured: Messdames Collins, Ogden, Frisbell, Shaal, Frame, Crusner, Valkart, Arndt, Chitook, and Hall, the Messes Francis Parker, Davis, Pezzy, and Messrs. Collins, Ogden, Frisbell, Shaal, Valkart, Arndt, Chitook, Nichols, Coffee, Hall, Archibald, Cunningham, Lignon, Hannon, Moore, Fred McKay, Hodnet, McDermott, Treabolt, Ryan, Kennedy, Frederick, Carr, Breinen, Doyie, Edwards, McMann, Meek, Cahill, Phillips, McSweeney, Callahan, McDoughall, Wm. McKay, Hickey, Brown, Hartman, Birch, Geo. Gray, Jno. Gray, Ed McMullen, McDade, Al. McDonald, Geo. McDonald, Ford, Overfelt, Lynch, and Thos. McMullen.

With the Bank. Messrs. W. L. Gibson and M. V. H. Howard are two recent arrivals in Dawson. Both gentlemen will be attached to the staff of the Canadian Bank of Commerce.

Teacher—"What is a kiss?" Johnny—"I can't exactly tell you, teacher, but I can show yer if you really wants ter know."

Send a copy of Goetzman's Souvenir to outside friends. A complete pictorial history of Klondike. For sale at all news stands. Price \$2.50.

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The Nugget Vol. 3 No. 1 FALLING A "Kid" Committee Agonized CAN'T STAND THEM Reputable Me Their MACFARLANE "Kids" Lose The Devil in Gear Prominent. The disintegrated mittie, which was given a free by the Nugget's full details in the of the one-man sought to coerce prospective candi even received the day the little had fuddled that the way to turn themselves from decay in which Many of the kids' followers, with their former and a large number fore affiliated with ones that are ob part in the ad nounced their loose entirely fro porting the plat the Taxpayer's Magazine, the son of their mot ers, handed in eight and has the solid citizen principal being his unwilling to Charles Macd ago, it will be get gave the made by the K donald in excha going the pressi their mistad won the unan enlie Kid Com was a political sat's part, at of the Nugget's time could not Cut and - Dried held in Pioneered ago, the proceed less affair were columns. Mr. M merely as a