

Beating the Telegraph...

Lindsay watched the blue figure tolling slowly up the hill from the station. Who, he wondered, had sent a town messenger to Woodcrest? He was half-tempted to rise and meet the lad but the day had an enervating quality, and besides, the note might be for Clifford.

"All right, Parker, bring that thing in." "Not here!" cried Pickering, aghast. "Yes, here."

The servant hurried out and returned with a quart of champagne on ice. Pickering was by this time under the influence of so many conflicting emotions that he was only conscious of a trouble in which pistols were prominent when he was startled by a terrific pop, like a pistol, and a gurgling, effervescent sound which he likened to flowing blood.

"Forgive me, Pick," said Frogmore, raising his glass. "Nancy is not my wife. She's my sister. I put up a job on you, and Nan played her part admirably. Here's to you both."

"Then I'll run away with her after all," said Pickering. At any rate, he married her.

BUILT BY INDIANS

Monuments De Blondeau Found on Dalton Trail.

Jack Dalton, the famous Alaskan explorer and pioneer, who accompanied Lieut. Emmons last summer, during his search for Russian landmarks on the Alaskan boundary line, has no faith in the alleged monuments claimed by J. H. de Blondeau to exist on the summit of the hills above the Clammy river.

While Lieut. Emmons and Mr. Dalton were making investigations in behalf of the United States government, De Blondeau was carrying on an independent search with the aid of the Indians, among whom he has lived for several years. It has been the claim of De Blondeau that Lieut. Emmons and Dalton did not follow the ridge of the mountains where he says there are square granite posts set in piles of stone, and other indications of monuments deliberately placed by white men, but went from one end of the line to the other by the circuitous route of the police trail, and so missed the important part of the evidence.

"De Blondeau is mistaken in thinking that we are not familiar with what he takes to be boundary monuments. These monuments are all along the old trail that follows the summit of the hill above the clearing. I have been over that trail fifty times and went over the greater part of it with Lieut. Emmons this summer. What De Blondeau takes for boundary monuments are, I am convinced, nothing but monuments erected by the Indians to mark places of burial. The granite posts are simply splinters of granite broken from the ledges and carried to some of the graves to mark them. There are monuments of this sort along all the trails in that part of Alaska and there is nothing whatever to indicate that those along this trail are any different from the others.

"There are two trails in that country. The old one along the summit of the hills and the new police trail below it. This summer we went over the old trail and came back by the new one. The old trail has been used by the Indians for years as a portage across country when the Clammy river cannot be traveled in canoes.

THE ROSS PLATFORM

Whereas, in the opinion of this convention, the continued prosperity of the Yukon territory depends chiefly on the efforts of individual miners and prospectors, whose work is conducted under most difficult conditions, and the stability of the business of the country will be insured by furnishing regular employment to workmen; therefore, be it

Resolved, That every effort should be made by the government to secure, and such changes adopted as would secure, the ends desired. That this convention most strongly recommends:

- 1. Reduction of fees for miners' licenses and for recording and renewals.
2. The abolition of payment of commutation for assessment work, and compelling the performance of assessment work upon the claim itself, or upon the claims as grouped.
3. The adoption of such regulations as will encourage the working of low grade ground and the development of quartz mining.
4. The amendment of the mining regulations in such way as to provide a mode by which, upon satisfying reasonable conditions holders of mining claims may obtain crown grants of the same.

GOVERNMENT AID FOR SMELTER

Whereas, Large copper deposits are proven to exist in the vicinity of Whitehorse, and the work already done on the same has demonstrated their immense value; and

Whereas, In order to secure the working of such property, the establishment of a smelter is necessary, and the establishment of such smelter would create large employment for workmen, and create a market for the coal known to exist in the territory, and lead to the large development of the southern portion of the district; therefore,

Resolved, That this convention recommend the encouragement by the Dominion government of the establishment of such smelter, by such aid in the way of bonus, or otherwise, as may be deemed best.

TEST MILL AND ASSAY OFFICE

Resolved, That the interests of this territory demand the establishment of a quartz test mill by the government for the free testing of ore in order to encourage and develop quartz mining and the establishment of an assay office, to be conducted by the government in connection with the government mint.

CANCEL TREADGOLD CONCESSION

Whereas, The supply of water and power to the mines on the creeks is one of the most serious questions of the day in the Yukon territory; and Whereas, In the opinion of the convention, the matter of such supply on fair and reasonable terms should

best be dealt with by the government itself, and should not be left to private individuals; therefore, be it Resolved, That the government be requested immediately to make careful examination and obtain reports upon the subject with a view of cancelling forthwith the Treadgold concession, and undertaking such supply as a national enterprise.

OTHERS HELD BY FRAUD

Resolved, That in the opinion of this convention many of the concessions now held were obtained by fraud and imposition; that it is in the interest of this territory that such concessions should be annulled, and to that end that inquiry should be set on foot to ascertain the circumstances of such fraud and imposition, and action taken by the attorney general of Canada in the premises.

MINING MACHINERY DUTY FREE

Resolved, That in the opinion of this convention it would greatly tend to assist in the working and development of mines in the territory, to permit the importation of mining machinery of a class not manufactured in Canada, free from all customs duty.

WHOLLY ELECTIVE COUNCIL

That the convention views with satisfaction the increase of the number of elective members of the Yukon council, and urgently recommends that the membership of the council be made wholly elective, without delay; and further, that all matters of a purely local character be committed to the council for deliberation and determination.

AGAINST UNNECESSARY CONCESSIONS

Resolved, That a policy should be adopted which would prevent the obtaining of concessions for hydraulic mining, except in places where the dirt is of such low grade that it could not profitably be worked by other methods; and that before any hydraulic lease should issue, notice should be given by the applicant by publication in the newspapers of his intention of applying for such lease, so as to enable protests to be entered against the granting of the same; and that the owners of hydraulic concessions already granted should be compelled to carry out the strict terms of their leases, and that in default of their so doing, their leases should be cancelled.

Temple of Labor

New York, Nov. 19.—It has transpired at a meeting of the Central Federated Labor Union that certain wealthy men in this city are considering the plan of erecting a large building, fitted primarily for meeting rooms for labor organizations.

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MUST BE WORKED. I shall advocate the adoption of regulations compelling the actual working of claims. — James Hamilton Ross.

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That Sacred Trust

"A man who will not respect a woman officer in his domestic relations," said Lieutenant Pickering of the United States artillery, "deserves to be cut."

Too Many Widows

Los Angeles, Oct. 18.—With a sigh of relief, Public Administrator Ohas. G. Kellogg will resign possession of the chest protector padded with \$12,000 in greenbacks belonging to the estate of the late Dr. Ellerton W. Aldrich for which five of his alleged widows have been fighting in the courts for some time.

Why Russia Failed

Berlin, Oct. 18.—The attempt of Russia to secure a renewal of the offensive and defensive alliance of 1833 between the two powers, which was agreed to by the Sultan Mahmud the Second at the time because his empire was in danger of being overthrown by Ibrahim Pasha, has been known for several days to the Berlin foreign office. It appears that the Grand Duke Nicholas was sent to Constantinople to negotiate the matter with the Sultan in person and the Sultan deferred an answer until he had conferred with the German and British ambassadors and was assured of their support in resisting the demand of Russia.

Auditorism—"Sowing the Wind."

LOCAL ASSAY OFFICE. I shall advocate the establishment of an assay office in Dawson, where miners may obtain full value for their gold. — James Hamilton Ross.

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