

MINERS WILL SEEK REDRESS

G. L. Steelsmith En Route to Sitka From Jack Wade.

No Lawlessness Among Miners—Miller Exaggerates Conditions—Prospects Are Rich.

Messrs. G. L. Steelsmith and J. C. Kemp arrived in Dawson the forepart of the week from the Jack Wade mining district and left Thursday for Sitka via Skagway. They are taking the long trip in quest of relief from the United States district court for many miners now located on Jack Wade and who, through an injunction issued by Judge C. S. Johnson at the instance of one J. C. Jameson, have been restrained from working on claims which the miners believe are their property by right of due location and official record.

The history of the trouble on Jack Wade, as detailed to The Nugget by Mr. Steelsmith, is as follows: Early in the season of 1898, about the month of May, two men named Jameson and Day, entered that part of the country and after a short time spent in prospecting, discovered first-class prospects on Jack Wade creek. Thinking they had struck a rich proposition they at once staked off the best part of the creek in their own and in names of their friends, and at the time it is asserted that they had no power of attorney from their friends, nor did they have, it is alleged, until many months later. In the month of August, 1898, the Jack Wade mining district was formed and so recognized by U. S. officials. A mining recorder was appointed and the district was officially opened to prospectors. In September of the same year Steelsmith and many others ventured into that section of the country. They and Jack Wade creek and, after due prospecting, realized it to be rich in deposit. They proceeded to locate and duly record their claims, and for a period of 15 months were allowed to work and develop their property, with nothing to molest or make them afraid, Jameson and Day having left the country previous to the arrival of the latter party in September of 1898.

Thus did the white winged angel of peace hover over Jack Wade until the 19th of the present month, when Jameson appeared upon the scene and the creek with a document from the U. S. court of the district of Alaska enjoining the miners on five of the best claims on the creek from further work, the restricted territory covering a space of a full mile and one-half. While on the outside Jameson had heard of the rich finds on Jack Wade, with the result as claimed by Steelsmith, that he immediately started for the interior and, coming by way of Sitka, where, by alleged misrepresentation, he succeeded in having the sweeping injunction issued.

Jameson arrived on Jack Wade early in the month of October, but for some unknown reason did not serve the injunction on the miners until the 19th of the present month, when, like law-abiding citizens, the latter at once discontinued work. Since that time the dark cloud of unrest and petulance has hung over Jack Wade, and Mr. Steelsmith says that discord there has been greatly augmented by the interference and meddling of the U. S. commissioner appointed by Judge Johnson for that district, such commissioner having no jurisdiction in other than criminal cases, but, according to Steelsmith, he has been exercising power in civil cases, and, in fact, is alleged to be standing in with Jameson, who is endeavoring to corral the best portion of Jack Wade.

Mr. Steelsmith says that the statements of a man named Miller, as published in a recent issue of the evening paper are greatly overdrawn, and, in the most part wholly untrue; that Miller had a selfish purpose in making the misleading and false statements which were published. Steelsmith asserts that there has been no serious trouble from the actions of the miners nor is there liable to be any; that the only cause for trouble there is the undue and unlawful interference of the U. S. commissioner.

Steelsmith expects, by making a statement as to facts and conditions as they exist on Jack Wade, and by presenting a full and carefully drawn petition from the miners, interested, to have the injunction dissolved very shortly after his arrival at Sitka. He will then return to Skagway from which point the glad tidings will be telegraphed to the Jack Wade miners' representative

in this city who will forward it to the new district as speedily as possible. The men expect to be back to work on their claims within 30 days.

Upper Eldorado and Its Conditions.

Eldorado Creek, Dec. 17, 1899.

Editor Nugget—Dear Sir: Owing to the inquiries which have been made to me as to whether or not there is any ground on Eldorado above Gay gulch that will actually pay to work (which inquiries seem to have been caused by the reports of good strikes made on Gay gulch, and Gay gulch possibly being the origin of the millions of dollars worth of Eldorado gold), I have decided to state to the public through the columns of your paper, if you will kindly oblige me by inserting this letter, that I own no property on the creek but I have worked on upper Eldorado for the past three years which affords me the opportunity to know something of its conditions. There are parts of the creek above Gay gulch which I consider well worth working. I have seen pans taken out that run from \$25 and as high as \$47.50. I don't mean to make the impression that these are average pans, but that there are spots along the upper part of the creek that compare very favorably with what is considered the good part of Eldorado below Gay gulch.

There is coarse gold and large nuggets found as far up as in the 50's, and there is also similar coarse gold in Chief gulch, but so far it has not been found in paying quantities. The pay depends altogether on the conditions of the bedrock. On upper Eldorado there is more or less of what is commonly called rotten bedrock and blue clay bedrock, which is a very fine, soft, shaly rock mixed with an exceedingly greasy clay substance which the gold will pass over and cannot work into. There is also some spots of this below Gay gulch which is well known to those who have worked on it, that there is no pay in the blue stuff as they call it. But where there is good slabby bedrock and the conditions are favorable for the gold to find a lodging place, there is rich pay, for there has been a very heavy run of gold in upper Eldorado.

The following is a list of the claims above Gay gulch where dumps were taken out last winter and sluiced in the spring: Nos. 37a, 38, 39, 40a, 41, 44, 45, 46, 46a, 47, 47a, 48, 52a, and No. 1 on a pup on the left limit of 53, and No. 1 on Chief gulch, and there were a few small dumps farther up Chief washed with rockers. No. 39 Eldorado worked a force of men day and night sluicing in an open cut all last summer. This winter shows much more activity on upper Eldorado than did last.

There are steam thawers being put in in different places. But as to Gay gulch being the source from which comes Eldorado's most fabulous wealth, I will say that it is possible, and more than probable that some of Eldorado's gold came from Gay gulch. But it is my opinion that the greater part of it came down upper Eldorado, for the reasons which I will endeavor to explain. In the first place the gold in Gay gulch is fine gold compared with the gold in Eldorado, there being but very few pieces found in the gulch that would be considered nuggets in this country. Then, again, the claim owners on Gay gulch report their gold to assay \$19 per ounce. If this be true it is a settled fact that the principal part of the gold came from some other source, for the average gold in Eldorado below Gay gulch assays much less than that, while the gold above Gay is identical in character to that below, and on the upper part of the creek the gold is principally nuggets, there being but very little fine gold compared with the same amount taken from the lower part of the creek, the fine gold seemingly has moved down the stream faster on the steep parts than the heavier pieces, which most all contain quartz. The quartz in the nuggets is of a different character from the quartz boulders in the creek. The boulders are what is generally known here as bull quartz, and are found scattered all over the mountains, only those on the mountains are not worn by the action of the water in traveling, where those in the creek are.

Break a boulder in the creek and you will find it identical to those on the hills, of which there are numerous beds all over the country and would not have one color of gold in a thousand yards.

The reason there is no boulders found in the creeks with them is because the quartz which is in connection with the gold is literally all cracked to pieces, there being very fine cracks running through it in every direction, making it an utter mass of small particles of quartz, and will not stick together in a boulder, as large a piece of it as you will ever find is just as large as there is gold enough in and around it to hold it together and keep it from crumbling to pieces. Some nuggets, in which the gold is not too massive, you can pick the quartz all out of, one grain

at a time with the point of a pen knife. As large a piece of this quartz as I have ever found without any gold in it visible to the eye, was about as large as a hazel nut. I have frequently found small pieces in panning. It is very heavy and remains in the pan to the last. But the gold in Gay gulch hardly ever has any quartz, the pieces being too small to inclose the grains and hold them together.

I understand that Eldorado gold contains a large percentage of silver, where gold of the other creeks does not. While in upper Eldorado the creek is full of small lumps of galena mineral, which has not been found in Gay gulch, it looks possible that there may be gold and silver close together somewhere. In regard to the origin of the gold, it is here now, but where it originally came from is yet to be found out.

J. J. GRAY.

Notice.

All persons indebted to the late Andy Young for newspaper subscriptions or on other accounts are requested to call at the office of W. H. P. Clement, public administrator and pay same.

Look out for the little ones at this time of the year. A cold may prove fatal. Cribbs & Rogers, druggists.

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GOVERNMENT SALE

Mining Properties

THERE will be sold by Public Auction at the premises of Messrs. Vernon & Story, 5 floors south of the Post Office, Dawson, on TUESDAY, January 2, 1900, at 10:30 a. m., the following Mining Properties, formerly owned by persons now deceased:

| Description of Property. | Deceased Owners. |
|---|------------------|
| ADAMS GULCH—34 int in hillside adjoining upper 1-2 r 1 No 15. | W J Smythe |
| BAKER CREEK—No 38 above. | G Lassen |
| BEAR CREEK—12 int No 6 on trib at 21 above. | M J Kloppenstein |
| Hillside opp 1 and 1A below 11. | David Evans |
| BONANZA CREEK—12 int hillside opp 1-2 r 1 No 11 above. | H W Still |
| 12 int hillside opp 1-2 r 1 No 27 above. | do |
| 14 int hillside opp 1-2 r 1 No 28 above. | do |
| 12 int hillside opp 1-2 r 1 No 19 above. | do |
| Hillside opp 1-2 r 1 No 53 below. | Hans Swalgrass |
| Hillside opp 1-2 r 1 No 69 below. | J C Nelson |
| Hillside opp 1-2 r 1 No 68 below. | D Monteith |
| 14 int 1-2 No 41 (old 45) below. | E Thomas |
| 16 int hillside opp 1-2 r 1 No 53 below. | do |
| 14 int No 39 (old 45) below. | do |
| 14 int bench opp No 15 below. | J F Quigley |
| 12 int bench 2nd tier 1-2 r 1-1 No 42 below. | James A Shotwell |
| 12 int bench 100 ft r 1 No 30 below. | ER Walker |
| 12 int hillside opp 1-2 r 1 No 38 above. | Seibert Schuh |
| BOULDER CREEK—1-3 int No 4. | James A Shotwell |

| Description of Property. | Deceased Owners. |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| CANON GULCH—1-2 int No 16 below. | Henry Husby |
| DOMINION CREEK—No 133 below lower. | A Corbell |
| Hillside adjoining 1-2 r 1 No 21 above upper. | James A Shotwell |
| 1-2 int hillside opp 1-2 r 1 No 80 below lower. | M J Kloppenstein |
| No 19 on pup at 119 below lower. | J D Mulligan |
| 14 int No 272 below lower. | W H Sutton |
| Hillside opp 1-2 r 1 No 1 above upper. | H W Still |
| Claim 25 ft sq Jensen tract at 132 below lower. | T S Jacobson |
| 16 int No 132 below lower. | O Cadieux |
| ELDORADO CREEK—Bench 2nd tier opp 1-2 r 1 No 38. | Geo W England |
| Hillside opp 1-2 r 1 No 8. | F G Gramman |
| Hillside opp 1-2 r 1 No 29. | C J Chapman |
| 1-8 int No 29 above upper. | Maud Roselle |
| 1-2 int bench 2nd tier opp 1-2 r 1 No 7 on trib at 26 and 27 r 1. | A C Courtis |
| 1-4 int hillside adjoining 1-2 r 1 No 8 on trib at 26 and 27 r 1. | do |
| 1-2 int bench 2nd tier opp 1-2 r 1 No 36 and 27 r 1. | do |
| 1-1 int bench 2nd tier opp 1-2 r 1 No 9 on trib at 26 and 27 r 1. | do |
| 1-2 int hillside opp 1-2 r 1 No 10 on trib at 26 and 27 r 1. | do |
| No 7 on trib at 26 and 27 r 1. | do |
| EUREKA CREEK—Hillside opp 1-2 r 1 No 10 below. | JA Dugins |
| EMPIRE CREEK—Creek claim No 52 above. | Charles Peterson |
| FRENCH GULCH—No 26. | Charles Maynard |
| GAUVIN GULCH—No 16. | David Evans |
| GOLD BOTTOM—1-4 int No 10 below old dis. | William York |
| GOLD RUN—No 2 on trib at 77 and 78 r 1. | L Ario |
| HUNTER CREEK—1-4 int hillside opp 1-2 r 1 No 8. | L Beer |
| 1-2 int No 4. | do |
| LOMESTAKE—No 10. | S S Neil |
| HENDERSON—No 94 left fork. | W H Sutton |
| No 63 above. | William Heine |
| No 49 above (1-2 bonded to W Farrell for 1-2 No 10 Gold Bottom). | William York |
| HUNKER CREEK—No 4 on trib 2 miles below. | Henry Johnson |
| Last Chance. | Charles Petersen |
| No 13 on trib 2 miles below Last Chance. | L Beer |
| 1-4 int bench 4th tier opp 1-2 r 1 No 2 above. | O Cadieux |
| 1-1 int No 25 above. | Robert Jessup |
| Bench 2nd tier r 1 No 20 Hydraulic Res. | James A Shotwell |
| 13 int hillside opp 1-2 r 1 No 42 below. | James Flaherty |
| Bench 2nd tier opp 1-2 r 1 No 73 below. | A Kennedy |
| LEIGH GULCH—Lower 1-2 No 13. | Dan Johnson |
| Upper 1-2 No 13. | C Erickson |
| 1-2 int No 7. | O Cadieux |
| LAST CHANCE—No 2A from mouth. | T Wilkie |
| Hillside opp 1-2 r 1 No 26 above. | W H Cooper |
| LITTLE BLANCHER—No 27 left fork. | W E Thompson |
| No 3 on trib at 30. | H W Davis |
| LINDOW—1-2 int No 2. | D C Young |
| 1-2 int No 15. | D H Elliott |
| LEOTA—No 5 below. | Henry Dundas |
| No 31 above. | James Ward |
| LOVETT GULCH—1-2 int bench 2nd tier opp 1-2 r 1 No 1 above. | William Hosford |
| 1-2 int hillside opp 1-2 r 1 No 1 below. | W H Sutton |
| MATHERSON—No 6. | Henry Dundas |
| MONTANA—No 33 above. | J A Cadenhead |
| MONTE CRISTO ISLAND—No 14 above. | H Horning |
| NINE MILE—3-4 int No 7 below. | Rewis Olson |
| OPHELIA—No 46 above. | John Price |
| PORTLAND—No 15. | William York |
| ROSEBUD—1-2 int No 72 above. | Charles Maynard |
| No 19 below. | O Cadieux |
| No 235 above. | Charles Maynard |
| REPERE—No 30 below. | W H Sutton |
| No 100 above. | William Heine |
| No 19 above on trib at 173. | F Williams |
| SULPHUR—Lower 1-2 No 122 below. | William Martin |
| 3-4 int No 31 below. | Eli Watkins |
| SWEDS—No 44 left fork, 1-2 int. | H W Still |
| No 149 above. | John Price |
| No 41 below. | W Reid |
| No 11 above. | John Clark |
| No 18 Hunting, trib of Swede. | A Nelson |
| No 32 above. | H Horning |
| SIXTY MILE—No 8 on trib at 11. | P W Snowden |
| SKOOKUM—3-16 int bench opp 1, 1-1, 3rd tier from Bonanza and 1st tier from Skookum. | J F Quigley |
| 1-4 int hillside opp 1-2 r 1 No 10. | do |
| 1-2 int hillside opp 1-2 r 1 No 12. | Mrs M Sweeney |
| BIG SKOOKUM—Hillside opp 1-2 r 1 No 15. | George Bassett |
| TRAIL GULCH—1-6 int hillside opp 1-2 r 1 No 2. | E Thomas |
| QUARTZ MINING CLAIMS. | ER Walker |
| Hawkeye. | Geo H Campbell |
| Louise. | Wm Denkler |
| Eagle. | do |
| Comet. | do |
| The above mining interests are as the same appear upon record in my office. | E. C. SENKLER, Gold Commissioner. |
| Dawson, Y. T., December 5, 1899. | |

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE.

The sale will be without reserve. All purchases of \$200.00 or less, cash; over \$200.00, one-half cash, and balance (without interest) within thirty days. Purchasers will receive bills of sale free of expense upon payment in full of the purchase money, but will record same at their own expense. On all bills of sale a full year's lease (in the form prescribed) will be issued by the Gold Commissioner. For full particulars inquire of W. H. P. CLEMENT, For the Minister of the Interior, Post Office Building, Dawson, Dec. 6, 1899.

STORAGE—Boyle's wharf, under the management of the Nugget Express.