

THE DAILY KLONDIKE NUGGET.

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ACTION STOPS

And All Things Indicate Speedy Collapse of the War in the Transvaal.

WILL BE NO CHANGE FOR 3 WEEKS

Says Wire From War Correspondent at Bloemfontein.

ROBERTS IS BUSY MOBILIZING

Free State Telegraph Opened—British Authority Permanent and No Sympathy Offered Boers.

London, March 22, via Skagway, March 27.—Everything points to a speedy collapse of the war, but so far as military operations are concerned there have been practically no changes. Information from a war correspondent at Bloemfontein is to the effect that no further movements of any importance are anticipated within the next three weeks. Roberts is busy mobilizing all available forces and arranging for the transportation of supplies preparatory to the advance upon Pretoria.

The telegraph line running through the Orange Free State into Basutoland has been opened up. The officials have succeeded in convincing the Basutos that British authority is now paramount and no further expressions of sympathy in favor of the Boers are heard.

Roberts' proclamation commanding the Free Staters to desist from hostilities has had its effect. With the exception of a few guerilla bands the Free Staters have practically surrendered.

Removing Documents.

London, March 22, via Skagway, March 27.—Officials of the Boer government have removed all documents from the capital which would implicate President Steyn, of the Orange Free State. It is understood that the documents in question have been taken to Russia in charge of trusted government agents.

Frog Leg Feast.

Skagway, March 27.—Durand has reached Bennett and on his way to Dawson with 1000 quail and 400 pounds of frog legs. As the latter are spoiling very rapidly he sold a large part of his stock in Bennett yesterday when the whole town indulged in a frog leg feast, the first in its history.

McGillivray's Big Shipment.

Skagway, March 27.—Joseph McGillivray left here today for Bennett, the last of his 130 tons of freight having been shipped by rail to that place yesterday. It will be rushed on to Dawson with as little delay as possible for the Anglo-Klondike company, of which

Joseph McGillivray and his son John, now in Dawson, are the principal representatives.

Not Yet Relieved.

London, March 22, via Skagway, March 27.—Mafeking has not yet been relieved despite the fact that dispatches were sent out a week ago announcing that the relief column had entered the town.

Loyalty Goes Wild.

London, March 8.—Queen Victoria and the people of the greatest city in her empire today celebrated the victories which they believe have transformed the campaign in South Africa from one of reverse into one of success. That is the only explanation of the unbounded, the unparalleled enthusiasm with which hundreds of thousands hailed their sovereign. In many ways these demonstrations outdid those of the diamond jubilee, although there were no glittering pageants, no triumphal arches, no procession of princes, but only a dozen Life Guards followed by a little old lady in the plainest black costume, who had come for a few days' stay at Buckingham palace, as she has done many a time before.

Yet her hold upon the hearts of her people was probably never more strikingly manifested. Unlike that of the diamond jubilee, today's popular outburst was almost impromptu. The fierce pride in the strength of a mighty empire that pervaded London in exultation when the queen last drove through the streets in 1897 had vanished, and in its place there were genuine thankfulness and rejoicing for the victories which had succeeded months of gloom. The depth of feeling which this demonstration represented could only be gauged by those who mingled with the crowd. Mothers in deep mourning for sons killed on the far off veldt struggled bravely with the most hilarious to catch a glimpse of the queen, whose womanly sympathy and thoughtfulness for the soldiers had touched their hearts.

Four Clubs Drop Out.

New York, March 8.—The National Baseball League for the season of 1900 will have an eight club circuit. This announcement was made at the Fifth Avenue hotel at 11:30 o'clock tonight, when the league meeting adjourned. A verbal agreement will be formally executed. The retiring clubs are Washington, Baltimore, Louisville and Cleveland. Each club will receive a money consideration for its franchise. How much is not stated.

Earlier in the day it was reported that the Louisville franchise would be sold for \$10,000 and that the Wagner Bros. had consented to take about \$40,000 for their Washington franchise. No figures were given as to the demands of the Cleveland club or the Brooklyn-Baltimore combination.

All the clubs dropped have the right under the agreement to reserve their players except Washington, which has been purchased outright by the league. Washington's players will be distributed among the other clubs. The Brooklyn-Baltimore combination controls the Baltimore players.

Alaskan Mining Wealth.

In their formal report, prepared for the consideration of congress, the citizens committee of Juneau, Alaska, compile the following interesting facts respecting mining investments in South-eastern Alaska:

"Total number of stamps in operation in the vicinity of Juneau and within a radius of 60 miles thereof, operated by 18 companies, is 1117; crushing capacity, 4113 tons per day; number of stamps in course of erection, 55; number of stamps in operation within a radius of four miles of Juneau, 998; total amount paid for mines, machinery canals and development of properties up to June 1, 1899, \$12,597,367.54; total amount expended on properties, plants development of mines during the year ending June 31, 1899, \$1,810,646.17.

WEARY OF LIFE

The Honorable M. W. St. John Watson Beresford Would Go to His Death

BY WAY OF THE 38-CALIBRE ROUTE.

Scion of an Ancient and Noble Family Goes Wrong.

ONCE A TRUSTED SOLDIER.

Disgrace, More Imaginary Than Real, Prompts the Probably Unsuccessful Attempt to Die.

Scarce was the sun an hour high this morning when a tragedy which may result in the untimely death of the scion of a proud and noble Irish family was enacted in the upper portion of the city, and on a street about two blocks east from the barracks hospital. The only actor in the sad affair was M. W. Watson, as he is pleased to sign himself, but who is by birth and title permitted to sign the Honorable M. W. St. John Watson Beresford, of Creaduff House, Athlone, Ireland, who attempted to take his own life by discharging a 38 calibre revolver into and through the left side of his abdomen, the ball penetrating to the skin of the back from whence it was afterwards removed at the barracks hospital by Dr. Foster, of the Y. F. F., assisted by Drs. Thompson and Hurdman, of the N. W. M. P. hospital service.

M. W. Watson, as his name appears on the army roll, is probably 33 years of age, and has been in the service for 10 or 11 years, during seven of which he held the noncommissioned office of sergeant, and during all his long service and until about a month ago he was accounted a true and noble servant of the queen. For some time previous to four weeks ago he had been orderly room clerk of the Y. F. F.

For the past several months his daily associates had noted a marked change in Watson's disposition. From a jovial, light hearted companion he became a sullen and morose recluse; but never for a moment did he forget the imbedded instincts of the gentleman, being at all times courteous and polite when addressed by any one. Something like a month ago Watson, to use a common expression, "went on a spree," which proved to be a prolonged one. He left his place at the barracks and devoted himself most assiduously to keeping up his drunk. The fact that his money became exhausted in no way caused him to deviate from the mad course he was pursuing, for he issued checks here and there for small amounts, usually \$10, and the period of intoxication was thus elongated until, in a semilucid moment, the young man realized that he had not reported for 21 days, thereby entitling the writing of the word "Deserter" after his name on the army roll. This realization served to cause him to drink deeper of the dregs of despair and despond, also of Scotch whisky. Knowing that he was being searched for by his fellow soldiers as well as by the police, he managed by the exercise and cunning of a desperate man to conceal his whereabouts and escape detection. It is said, however, that he learned last night that his place of concealment, a cabin on the hillside, had been discovered and that today he would be taken into custody. But the foolish fellow, for whom the officers and men entertained only feelings of pity and compassion, chose to die in preference to facing the ordeal to which he imagined he would be subjected, with the result that at 7:45 o'clock this morning, at the place above mentioned, he fired the shot from the effects of which his life now hangs by a thread, while, he, in a state of great mental

perturbation, tosses restlessly on a cot at the barracks hospital.

The young man, who has by his rashness probably terminated what might have been a useful and brilliant life, is a nephew of Viscount Castlemaine, of Creaduff House, Athlone, Ireland, and is himself in direct line of heirship to the title.

Scows in Demand.

Already the demand for scows is becoming quite active and those who own such property stranded in the ice up the river will do well to look after them if they expect to use or sell them on the opening of navigation.

It is for the long journey down the Yukon towards Nome that scows are so much in demand; and as suitable material for their construction is not abundant here, it stands to reason that a scow which sold at Bennett last fall for \$800 has not decreased in value and is worth fully that amount or more in Dawson at the present time.

Some intending Nomads entertain the erroneous impression that for the reason that the cargos of scows stranded in the ice or on sand bars up the river have been hauled away, leaving the craft unanchored except by the ice that it has been deserted by the original owner and is, therefore, subject to "relocation" by the first man who chances to find it.

In the presence of a representative of the Nugget, Police Magistrate Major Perry was asked a few days ago as to the right of persons to go up the river and "jump" scows stranded in the ice. The official informed him that not until the river opens and scows are floating down entirely unmaned can they be taken, salvaged and become the property of other than their former owners.

Present indications are that there will be demand for every scow in the river between Moosehide and Whitehorse before the middle of the summer, as there are hundreds in Dawson waiting for the opening of navigation to start for Nome who do not intend to travel by steamer, but who will load their household goods and gods on scows and start to float over the long voyage to St. Michael.

Trails Are Becoming Difficult.

From persons who arrived from up the river last night it is learned that the trail in some places is becoming quite difficult of travel. On the river there are places where the water is running from four inches to a foot in depth; and on the cutoffs the snow has all gone from the sidehills facing southward, making it laborious to drag even empty sleds up the inclines. If the weather continues mild freighting on the river and over the cutoffs will not be possible after a very few days. Recent arrivals report hundreds behind them all coming with heavy loads of assorted merchandise.

Water Rights.

Allan R. Joy has applied for a ten years' grant of 150 inches of water, to be diverted from Bonanza creek at No. 30 below discovery, and to be used on the adjoining hillside and benches on the left limit.

Humboldt Gates and J. W. Cassidy have made application for the right to use, for ten years, 200 inches of water on creek claims Nos. 58 and 59 below on Sulphur. Said water is to be diverted from 59 pup, which enters Sulphur on the left limit at No. 59 below.

Demausse Beaudoin and Jeffrey Letebvre have applied for a three years' grant of 50 inches of water to be diverted from Last Chance creek at a point near the upper part of No. 5 from the mouth. Said water is to be used for mining purposes on said No. 5.

Doctor Madore Arrives.

Dr. Madore, of the N. W. M. P., who is physician and surgeon in charge of the barracks hospital at Fort Selkirk, and probably the most elderly man in the entire Yukon service, reached the city last evening, having come down as a witness in the case of the Queen vs. Chas. Hill, charged with the murder of his partner, Wm. Blair, at a point 50 miles up the Pelly river in January, which case will come on for hearing before the territorial court in a few days. The doctor reports Selkirk as being very quiet at present. He is a most genial gentleman and will doubtless derive much pleasure from his visit to the metropolis.

Theosophists.

The Yukon Theosophists will entertain their friends and the public again tomorrow evening at their hall over the Juneau Hardware store, Second avenue, when one of the philosophers will dilate on "Theosophy's Thoughtful Themes." The meetings are open and free to all.

ANOTHER ATTEMPT

To Commit Suicide Was Made This Morning By Captain William Thorburn.

HE SHOT HIMSELF IN THE HEAD

And Inflicted a Wound Which Will Prove Fatal.

HE BECAME DESPONDENT

Yesterday He Drank Immoderately and Lost Considerable Money Playing Roulette.

At noon today, the town station of the N. W. M. P. was notified that a man was lying fatally wounded in a small roughly furnished cabin, which is situated on the hillside in the north-western section of the city. Upon investigation the unfortunate individual proved to be Captain William Thorburn, who has resided in this territory since the summer of 1897. When the officers arrived the injured man was stretched upon his bed, his head was resting on a pillow, which had been profusely stained with blood; he was dressed in his ordinary wearing apparel, even his coat had not been removed; on the floor, near the side of the bedstead, there was a 38-calibre revolver, one chamber of which contained an empty shell. The face of the wounded man was covered with blood, which emanated from a hole in his forehead directly over the left eye. From the aperture of the wound, a part of the brain protruded. The fingers of the left hand were powder marked. The horrible aspect of affairs clearly indicated that an attempt had been made to commit suicide; and the gravity of the injury will render the rash effort successful. Drs. Hepworth and Duncan bandaged the wound and the man was carried to St. Mary's hospital. At the time of the medical examination the unfortunate individual was in a semi-conscious condition; but he disclosed nothing relative to the matter.

Captain Thorburn is a native of Edinburgh, Scotland; he is unmarried; of average height, and aged about 38 years. During the winter he has been living in the cabin where the fatality occurred, in company with Harry Domville, the son of Col. James H. Domville. Mr. Domville in speaking of the affair said: "I left the captain last evening in the Bank saloon, since which time I had not seen him until this noon, and then he was unconscious. I did not sleep at the cabin last night. I know that the captain had been drinking rather heavily yesterday afternoon, and I understood that during the day he lost quite a sum of money while gambling at the roulette wheel. My opinion is that he became despondent, and attempted to end his troubles by committing suicide."

It is not known when the shot which inflicted the injury was fired. The blood stains on the pillow were perfectly dry at noon; and this circumstance leads the police to believe that the deed was perpetrated at an early hour this morning. Captain Thorburn was well and favorably known in the territory. He has done considerable mining; but has been unsuccessful. He was upright and conscientious in all his dealings; and his present condition is a matter of excessive regret to his friends and acquaintances.

ARCTIC SAWMILL

Removed to Mouth of Hunker Creek, on Klondike River.
Sluice, Flume & Mining Lumber
Offices: At Mill, at Upper Ferry on Klondike River and at Boyle's Wharf

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