

### AN IMPORTANT QUESTION.

#### What Are the Timber Rights of Placer vs. Quartz Miners.

#### Correspondence from the Creeks Calls for Answer After Much Inquiry—Can Quartz Claims Be Denied?

Adams Gulch, Sept. 28.—Editor Nugget.—There is a most important matter to the miners up here which we believe you can settle for us. There can be found here small placer claims with out timber and large quartz claims with plenty of this important growth. Now, the quartz claims were possibly taken up to corner what timber there is in the neighborhood. The question is, "Can we placer men use any of the timber which is on the quartz claims?" Some say we can and some say we cannot. Please let us know the relative status of the claimants.

#### BONANZA CLAIM OWNERS.

Ans.—We are glad you have raised the question. The rights of a quartz locator as regards the timber on the claim are exactly as are those of a placer claim man. You cannot go onto the quartz claim and cut timber of your own volition. It is discretionary with the gold commissioner to grant you that privilege. Quartz and placer claim holders are entitled to all the timber that grows thereon for the proper working of his claim. If it can be made clear to the gold commissioner that there is more timber on the ground than is needed for the working thereof, it is within his discretionary powers to permit you to take some of it.

Placer claim owners do not have the privilege of selling or in any other way disposing of their excess timber, and the claims never become the property of the holder, the title always vesting in the government. Quartz claims differ in many respects. If the assessment work is done for five years and the claim be properly surveyed, a grant of title occurs from the government. The amount of assessment work each year is \$100, making \$500 in all. The money can be paid in place of the work being done, or the whole \$500 can be paid down at once and the title secured. The nature of the quartz claim title is but illy understood at present. The ruling heretofore has been to regard the title as a fee simple—similar to the U. S. patent, which is given in America. Such a ruling on the Klondike would open up the door to much fraud, since in the early days the timber on Eldorado could have been those corralled in 50-acre lots upon the payment of \$500.

There has been but one perfected quartz claim title in the Yukon territory to date, and that was one just back of the Fortymile townsite, secured by Mrs. J. J. Healy. This has been construed as giving the owner absolute control of the surface and timber. In British Columbia much controversy has been occasioned by attempts at claiming townsite privileges on ground secured as quartz claims. Undoubtedly much of the ground taken up in the Klondike as quartz claims is taken up primarily to hold the timber for future disposal, when it shall have become valuable. To prove this to be so is a delicate matter, as it is altogether a matter of opinion as to whether or not the quartz on the ground will pay to work. If it should prove that the timber could not be sold or taken off the claim, even after the perfection of title, this character of fraud would quickly disappear.

A quartz claim may contain a placer claim within its boundaries. In this case priority rules. Whichever of the two was staked first has the exclusive use of the timber—providing, of course, that there is not an excess of timber and that the gold commissioner does not give a permit.

To sum up the situation, you should see the commissioner and obtain his permission, if the timber has gone off your placer claim and you need some of the wood growing on the quartz claim. It is within his discretionary powers to give such permission to cut.

#### Successful Warm Storage.

Manager Te Roller, of the Seattle-Yukon Transportation Company, has some original ideas upon the question of warm storage, and has recently made successful demonstration of their practicability. Mr. Te Roller's idea is that to obtain proper results from warm storage a uniform degree of heat must be maintained over the entire area affected. In the S. Y. T. warm storage warehouse an unoccupied space two feet in width is left along each side of the structure, forming a flue for conducting the warm air around the building. The warm air enters the storage room through an opening near the top of the furnace

room and passes into the channels provided for it as above described. As it cools, it naturally drops toward the floor, making room for the fresh supply which continuously comes from the furnace. Obviously there must be some final escape, and this is provided for in the following manner. The warehouse has two floors, the upper one being four inches above the lower, with a dead air space between. The separating joists are broken at intervals, leaving a free circulation of air between the two floors. This volume of air which is being constantly replenished from the warehouse above finds its outlet in turn at an opening into the furnace room, where it becomes heated and again is thrown into circulation in the warehouse. By this means a steady volume of warm air is maintained at a uniform temperature over the entire building.

On Wednesday last a Nugget man visited the warehouse and was courteously shown over the building by Mr. Te Roller, who explained the working of his system in detail. Mr. Te Roller and his company as well are to be congratulated upon the success of its operations.

#### MINING NEWS.

#### The Creeks Are Frozen Up and Work Suspended.

The nights have been so cold during the past week, that the creeks have been sheeted with ice in the forenoons. Sluicing has been suspended on all claims. Harry Ash has closed the summer work on his hillsides opposite Nos. 30 and 31 below discovery on Bonanza. However, most all of the hillsides on Bonanza will work this winter. They will require twice as many men this season as they did last year. Many of the owners are anxious as to arrival of machinery, which was ordered during the summer, but which has been delayed at Whitehorse. In the past four months much prospecting has been done on the right limit of Bonanza, and the results, generally speaking, have been satisfactory. Particularly is this true of the benches and hillsides below the eighties. Many of the creek claims will not be worked this winter, the owners having concluded that it is more profitable to reserve them for summer diggings. However, there will be as many laborers employed this year, on the creek proper, as were last.

#### ON ELDORADO.

All the claim owners who intend to operate their properties this winter, are now busily engaged in making preparations for the season's work. No. 4 is probably the only claim on the creek which will do no winter work at all. Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 11, 12, and possibly three other claims, were worked extensively this summer; but nevertheless, the owners will be obliged to mine their deepest diggings during the cold weather. The creek claims will employ more men this winter than they did last.

#### GOLD HILL AND CHECHAKO HILL.

Preparations for a great deal of work are being made on Gold Hill and Chechako Hill. The properties in these localities are strictly winter propositions. On each hill three tramways have been constructed already for the purpose of carrying the ore to the edge of the creek, where it can be sluiced next spring. Many claims will be opened this winter. At least twice as many miners will be engaged this year in these portions of the district as were last season.

#### Col. Steele Has Departed.

On Tuesday Col. Steele took passage on the steambot Victorian for Whitehorse, from which place he will proceed immediately to Regina, N. W. T., and assume the duties of his new position. The colonel was accompanied to the boat by many friends; and a large number of people congregated on the wharf to witness his departure. On reaching the steambot, the colonel was escorted to the captain's cabin on the top deck. There Mr. Henry Macauley, on behalf of the many friends of the colonel, presented the latter with a good-sized sack, filled with gold dust. The colonel, in accepting the present, thanked his friends and acquaintances, and the people in general, for the uniform support which had been given to him in the performance of his official duties; he expressed regret at leaving Dawson, and hoped that he would be returned to duty here at some future time. Just before the head lines were cast off, the colonel stepped to the port side of the boat and addressed a few words to the crowd of people on the wharf. He concluded by thanking them for their manifestations of good wishes for his future welfare, and bade them good-by. The crowd gave him three hearty cheers and a tiger, the Victorian cast off her lines. All of the boats on the water front vociferously blew their whistles, and Col. Steele departed, carrying with him the good wishes of the people of Dawson.

Excellent service and moderate prices at the Cafe Royal.

### MACAULEY'S TRAMWAY.

#### Employees at Whitehorse Strike for Higher Wages.

#### Company Refuses to Accede—Will Have the Effect of Blocking Large Quantities of Freight.

On last Saturday the employes of Macauley's tramway at Whitehorse struck for higher wages. During the past few weeks enormous quantities of freight have been rushed into Whitehorse from the head of the lakes. The lateness of the season and the rapidly falling water of the Yukon have occasioned much anxiety to shippers and consignees. The employes on the tramway have been worked at all hours of the day and night, and to aggravate matters, the weather at Whitehorse for some time past has been extremely disagreeable. About a month ago the workmen asked for higher pay upon the ground of extra labor and the company complied with their request. The work steadily became more onerous, and last week they demanded another raise. The company refused to accede to these latter demands, and on Saturday night the men quit. As fast as they presented themselves at the company's office they were paid off, and by midnight most of them had started for Bennett. The company was compelled to close the tramway. The manager states that the suspension will be only temporary; that plenty of men will be obtained from Skagway before the end of the week. The trouble has happened at the most critical time of the season. There are hundreds of tons of freight lying at the upper end of Whitehorse waiting to be transported below the rapids. Hundreds of tons are arriving almost daily from Bennett. The tramway has succeeded in driving out of business all of its competitors, and at the present time it is the only practical and available method of transportation in this particular locality. Even a few days of delay will occasion much loss to many consignees. It is to be hoped that the tramway has not suspended operations for the remainder of the year.

#### LATEST STEAMBOAT NEWS.

#### The River is Very Low and Navigation is Difficult.

On Tuesday afternoon, the steambot Victorian, owned by the C. D. Co. departed for Whitehorse. She registered a list of 95 passengers. This will be the last trip which the Victorian will make up the river this season.

#### ARRIVAL OF THE CANADIAN.

On last Thursday, the steambot Canadian arrived from Whitehorse. She was loaded with 110 tons of freight, 75 tons of which were consigned to the company's local shipyard. She brought down about 20 sacks of mail. There were 48 persons on her passenger list, among whom were Miss Brazil, Miss Anderson, Josie Myers, Beatrice Lonine, Miss Davidson, Mrs. De Succa, Mrs. Crowley, Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Kelley, Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Watson, Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Stanton, Mrs. Rollings, Mrs. J. McNamee, Mrs. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Overton, Mr. and Mrs. L. Wanier, Mr. and Mrs. R. Sinclair, Mr. and Mrs. Colton. The river is so low that the Canadian will not attempt to make a return trip to Whitehorse. On Thursday she left Dawson for Selkirk, at which place she will transfer her passengers to the Joseph Clossett, which will take them to Whitehorse. The Canadian Development Company will send the remainder of their freight at Whitehorse to Dawson on the next trip of the Sybil. The steamboats Lightning and Tyrrel have gone into winter quarters at Stewart river.

#### PHILLIP B. LOW ARRIVES.

The steambot Philip B. Lowe arrived from Whitehorse at 10 o'clock Friday morning. She was loaded with 100 tons of freight and carried 77 passengers, among whom were: Emma Cavanaugh, Rena Jacobs, May Jacobs, Lillian Reeve, Kittie Ashburn, Ida Hull, Miss Ryan, Miss Bond, Mrs. Tyler, Mrs. Simmons, Mrs. Price, Mrs. Rockwell, Mrs. E. C. Curtis, Mrs. Maco, Mrs. Hozypan, Mrs. Luts, Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Goldberg and two children, Mrs. H. H. Burt, Mr. and Mrs. Caldwell, Mr. and Mrs. Morrison, Mr. and Mrs. Uly Gaisford, Mr. and Mrs. Fife, Mr. and Mrs. French, Mrs. C. E. Miller and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Davis. The Lowe will start on her last trip for the season to Whitehorse on Monday. She will go into winter quarters at Lake Lebarge. Before the opening of navigation next spring, it is intended to extensively repair the boat. She will have new and larger boilers. She will be materially lightened. Her speed will be greater and her draft decreased.

#### Episcopal Turnips.

About ten bushels of turnips and rutabagas have been gathered in harvesting the little plot of ground round the Episcopal church used as a garden. Some of the rutabagas weighed from three to four pounds, and the turnips ran up to two. The proverb has it that "A parson's hogs are always fat," but nevertheless it would appear as if turnips would grow around a house with the same profusion as around a church if our people could only be persuaded to plant them.

#### Arctic Brotherhood.

All members of the A. B. are requested to send the names and addresses of their friends who desire to join the Dawson camp, which is about to be organized in this city.

A. F. GEORGE,  
Chief Deputy Camp Dawson, No. 4,  
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