

THE TOWNSITE OF EAGLE CITY.

Lots Offered for Sale at Public Auction; but Further Sale Postponed

The Eagle City Land & Improvement Co., Who are Interested in it—A Big Scheme, if Successful, that Will Make Quite a City.

Attention has been called during the past week to public announcements in the press of this city that townsite lots in the townsite of Eagle City, Alaska, in American territory, would be offered for sale at public auction to the highest bidder. These advertisements, as well as a banner carried upon the streets of Dawson referred to the "Eagle City Land and Improvement Company" as the proprietors of the property, and as this appeared to be a peculiar proposition, viz., the endeavor to sell in Dawson, and at public auction, lots in the territory of Alaska was a sufficient matter for the NUGGET to look the proposition up and report to the public the result of its investigations regarding the fact that the Eagle City Land and Improvement Company was patronizing the business columns of this paper—a fact, however, also, that never stands between the duty the NUGGET always feels it owes to the people.

It is not the intention here to state that any intention existed or exists to wrong any person, in the disposition of these lots or the properties of the above-named company in any manner, as the names of many of those, as far as the NUGGET has been able to trace, connected with the scheme, stand high in this community commercially and otherwise; but there are so many circumstances attached, that without any especial comment, further than may be necessary to explain or interrogate upon conditions as actually found, that the whole matter and result of the investigation is alluded to, and placed before the public for its information and act upon that information, as in its good business judgment, it may deem best. Let us, therefore, put the whole matter in order and under its several heads, and what started the NUGGET upon its tour of investigation.

THE EAGLE CITY MINING AND DEVELOPMENT CO.

About the time that the matter of selling Eagle City townsite lots was first broached in this city the NUGGET had in its possession the full and complete signed reports of two miners meetings held in Eagle City, and by a committee of miners in the peace, good order and affairs of that particular community run, and from all accounts the aforesaid peace and good order is especially well preserved, and with little or no expense in the way of salaries or titled officers. These reports recounted the action of the committee concerning an investigation held concerning the Eagle City Mining and Development Co., and the findings of the committee were that of the parties associated in this concern, Messrs. C. G. Caruthers, Geo. T. Hall and W. H. Smith were ordered to leave Eagle City forthwith, and the order was obeyed with alacrity, for justice is administered in that officerless community in unhealthy doses to those found guilty of acts incompatible with the path of rectitude. The above facts are stated as the NUGGET possesses them only for the purpose of stating that the similarity of titles of this company and "The Eagle City Land and Improvement Co." might mislead the public in considering them one and the same, and as will be shown further along in this article such is not the case.

THE EAGLE CITY LAND AND IMPROVEMENT CO.

For a long time the NUGGET has been aware that a large block of land fronting upon the Yukon river, had been taken up in the name of "placer claims," that these "placer claims" or an interest in them, was held in this city in escrow until the purchase price could be raised and the aforesaid claims had been laid out in lots for business, residential and other purposes. A short time ago the NUGGET was approached concerning this townsite proposition and terms of advertising as "The Eagle City Land and Improvement Co." were about ready to place their property upon the market. These rates being made satisfactory a contract was agreed upon. This was done through the real estate and mining brokerage firm of Crawford, Edwards & Whittren, of which Mr. Whittren was and is the manager of the Eagle City Land and Improvement Co. The next step was the publication of the announcement of the auction sale to take place at the Yukon Mining Exchange, while the NUGGET had out its lines, endeavoring to obtain the status of the company. It seemed to be a difficult matter to do so. A company with so formidable a name it would occur to the ordinary lay mind would have its officers, a general place of business, some officials connected therewith set forth as a guarantee to the public, as is generally done to invite the investment of those seeking homes or otherwise. There was an absence of this in this case. At last the avenue of information led to the office of Mr. Philip Sheridan, who lately acted as crown prosecuting attorney, who arrived here in September, and who has since then been prominent in the promoting of several large deals in this territory, and appears to be a most successful organizer of schemes of large proportions, and organization of capital.

Following this avenue, a NUGGET representative called upon Mr. Sheridan and seeking an interview the reporter proceeded to inquire of Mr. Sheridan as follows:

"Mr. Sheridan, will you tell me what you know of the Eagle City Land and Improvement Co.?" to which Mr. Sheridan replied "Is this for publication?" and he was informed in the affirmative. "Well," said Mr. Sheridan, "the Eagle

City Land and Improvement Co. is a company owning the townsite of Eagle City, and now placing its lots upon the market."

To economize in space and avoiding the queries and answers, Mr. Sheridan's information to the newspaper man was, that connected with the scheme were Nels Peterson, W. H. Bard, McConnell & Parker, D. H. Pingree, and Crawford, Edwards & Whittren, and the company owned 470 lots in Eagle City. Noticing that Mr. Sheridan had omitted his own name he was asked "Are you not connected with it too?" Mr. Sheridan replied that he was. "Is your company incorporated, and if so who are its officers?" "No, it is not incorporated, simply an association of partnership." "What kind of a title does a purchaser get for his lot?" was next asked. "We can give no title directly but we have a placer claim title to five placer claims, the assessment work on which would be \$500 for five years, and a patent has been asked for, which when we secure it, will enable us to give titles to each purchaser from us." "What then does he get now in case he invests?" and Mr. Sheridan continued "We simply give him a receipt for his money, and at the end of 30 days if we have received our title, a deed to the property." "Who furnishes these receipts?" was the next question put. "Well, Mr. Whittren will do that," replied Mr. Sheridan. "Have you sold any lots yet?" was asked by the scribe. "Not many, four or five," was the reply. "What did they bring?" followed the pencil pusher. "Oh, one \$95, another \$100 and up to \$115, I think," said Mr. Sheridan. Efforting no further information the scribe departed.

Monday and Tuesday auction sales were held at the Yukon Mining Exchange, and thither the NUGGET man wended his way later, and inquired how many lots of the Eagle City L. & I. Co. had been sold, and was informed that two had been sold. "What price was obtained for them?" One for \$95, the other \$100, was the information furnished. "What payment was made on them and what kind of title did you give the purchaser?" "Oh, we only collected 50 per cent of the purchase price, and gave them receipts for their payments. We deducted \$19.50 or 20 per cent of the purchase price and turned the balance over to Mr. Whittren" was the answer to this question. "Didn't the purchasers wish to know anything about their titles in buying property?" was inquired. "We only gave them receipts for their money, and although the receipt given did not so state, the terms of sale did, that in 30 days if no title passed, their money would be refunded." "Who are the officers of the Eagle City L. & I. Co., or to whom would the purchasers look for a return of their cash in case of failure to receive title?" was the next question, and it was replied "that they did not know; they were only auctioneers in the matter but presumed Mr. Whittren to be the manager of the company."

The sale of lots at auction was discontinued on Wednesday last for reasons best known to the company probably, and when they will be resumed is not announced but of course will be undoubtedly.

Eagle City it is likely to prove true will have a future before it, as an important point on American territory, and it is only justice to Mr. Sheridan to say that he has been connected with some large enterprises since coming here, and his services obtained in a number of large deals, such as the Pioneer Railway company operating on the Bonanza trail. The Eagle City is no diminutive proposition when one stops to consider that with 470 lots at a low average of only \$200 each would amount to nearly \$100,000, while should the place prove of much consequence, many would bring ten to twenty times that sum. As far as stated, the NUGGET places the above information before the public for its guidance.

How a Stampede Originated.

There is a good story, although expensive to one party, connected with a late stampede. A short time ago, mention was made of a great find on Carlisle creek and a stampede was at once organized on most extensive lines and this is the way it originated. It is stated that the captain of the steamer J. F. Tyrrell, now lying in winter quarters about 20 miles up the Yukon river came down to Dawson and in a quiet, unostentatious manner, judiciously elicited the report that he had prospected on Carlisle creek and the finds per pan simply ran into the fabulous. Among the most enthusiastic of the report followers were Dr. Wills and Frank Swanson who at once began a stampede of some two hundred men and started for the new Eldorado. Ascertaining that this was being done, the Tyrrell's captain immediately sent a note to his engineer, who remained aboard the steamer suggesting that when he should be called on for information relative to the strike he should substantiate it. Being a most conscientious man, however, when the stampeding party had found its way to him, the engineer denied the whole matter most emphatically, that he had ever been on the creek at all, knew nothing whatever of it, and further, there was nothing in the matter, and gave away the whole "snap" of the jestful skipper. After being gone some ten days the party returned, and the round doctor and his side partner are wondering "where they are at." And of such are some of the follies of stampeding, as a rule.

St. Mary's.

The report for the week ending December 28th, shows there has been 9 new patients entered and 16 discharged, leaving a total of 68 at present in the hospital. There were no deaths to report—the continued cold weather appearing to have an ill effect upon the fever germs.

THE PULLMAN BAR AND CAFE

J. R. ARMSTRONG, PROP. D. K. HOWARD, Manager. 262 1st Ave., opp. Outley Sisters.

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Week of Dec. 26th SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT OF CAD WILSON AND GALAXY OF NEW STARS.

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THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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Svendsgaard's Drug Store

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ROCHESTER SALOON

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Yields 20 per cent More Bread than Best American Brands.

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ADMISSION 50 CENTS

Including Check Good for Drink at Theatre Bar

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