

The Klondike Nugget

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THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 1900.

TOWNSITE TITLES.

The almost endless chain of red tape that intervenes in the transaction of business between Dawson and Ottawa is well illustrated by the present status of townsite property. The original Harper & LaDue townsite has been platted for a matter of about three years. The application for the townsite, together with the payment of the money required by the Ottawa authorities, was made prior to the laying out of the town. A delay of about a year ensued, and an announcement came from Ottawa that the government would recognize the Harper & LaDue claims, as well as several additions subsequently platted. Another six months rolled by, and it was stated that, instead of patents being issued to the respective townsite applicants, the government would give title direct to the individual who had purchased from the townsite owners. Another interval succeeded, and everyone who owned property was directed to hand in his deed at the commissioner's office, and government patents would be issued as soon as the necessary formalities should be performed. That was about 18 months ago, and at this time some few patents have been issued. The greater portion of property owners, however, hold nothing but their deeds from the townsite company. This does not indicate that there is any flaw in the title, nor does it prevent as many transfers of property as may be desired. It merely serves to show that Ottawa is in no hurry to give attention to Yukon matters, and proposes to devote as little time to the straightening out of affairs as possible.

Verily, the mills of the gods grind slow.

"SEWARD'S FOLLY."

The purchase of the territory of Alaska, which comprises an area greater than the combined areas of Great Britain, Ireland, France and Spain, was accomplished by the payment of the sum of \$7,200,000 to the Russian government. The negotiations for the acquirement of this immense territory were conducted by Secretary of State Seward, of Lincoln's cabinet, and were brought to a successful conclusion, in spite of the most bitter opposition from friends and foes alike.

"Seward's folly," as the proposed purchase was designated by the great secretary's opponents, was ridiculed and decried in every possible manner, but the secretary was not to be turned from his purpose, which he ultimately accomplished.

His wisdom and foresight are becoming more apparent every day. Alaska has advanced with such swift strides that it has become one of Uncle Sam's most valued possessions. In its production of gold and furs along it

has already many times repaid the inconsiderable amount for which it was purchased. Its population will soon crowd the 100,000 mark, a great part of whom will become permanent citizens. And yet its growth has only begun. In the encyclopedias of ten years ago, Alaska is described as practically uninhabitable in winter by reason of the cold, and, in summer, on account of mosquitoes. Both of these absurd theories were long ago exploded. People do live in Alaska in comfort, and even in luxury. The country is capable of sustaining a large population, and the number of inhabitants will increase from year to year until the entire valley of the Yukon is filled with sturdy pioneers, seeking to better their condition in life.

The United States congress has at last turned its attention to the conditions in Alaska, and from now on will devote much consideration thereto. "Seward's folly" should now be spoken of as Seward's inspiration.

The Seattle Daily Times is rapidly coming to the front as one of the most progressive and up-to-date newspapers on the coast. On the occasion of Bryan's visit to the coast, Col. Blethen, the owner of the Times, chartered a train at his own expense and took the Bryan party up the Great Northern shore line as far as Whatcom. The silver apostle spoke at all the principal towns on the line, and Editor Blethen received a large amount of well earned advertising.

First avenue is rapidly assuming the appearance of an up-to-date, metropolitan street. The offensive sign boards have all been taken down, and the sidewalk is rapidly being enlarged to a uniform width of twelve feet. If the authorities would now give attention to the improvement of the street proper, and devise some method of paving, we should soon have a public thoroughfare of which we all might well be proud.

Minister Sifton has threatened to visit the Klondike for the past two summers. A good many people have been hoping that his bluff would be made good this year. The fact, however, that the minister is now in Europe, and will probably return to find the country in the midst of a general election, precludes the possibility of his coming to the Klondike this year.

From Dawson to Vancouver in less than eight days, is the record credited to a party who left Dawson during the latter part of March. This would be excellent time if made in summer by steamer and rail, but to be made in the middle of winter is little less than phenomenal.

Squareheadson's Troubles.

Yookon, Klondike Territory, Dawson, Apreel da 14 taime.

Mr. Edytur for da Nugget Paper:
Ay see for da papers das ail da fallers got keek cumin for sum tang; wait latter on des Nugget paper.

Ay tank Ay got sum gude beeg keek cumin, too. Ay ban hare sax mondt naxt veenter, und Ay faind no gude main on des blace. Ay ban vant to go logging latzed somer und Ay goo mit des timber adjent ha gif me licentz for ten dolla; val des ban puty gude. Ha sai Ay skall goo on sum blace vere nobody been dere. Val des ban hard blace to find und ven Ay find des blace da tres ben rotten. Val, Ay queed da vood beensis und Ay goo hala galarip tor look for vob.

Ay meet von faller, Ay tank ha nam ban Black Yack. Ha vant to geef me lay on Moose und Karaboo rance. Ha sai da ban blenty tracks latzed veenter. Vel, ha make da paper for da lay; ha reed laid des:

To all unconcerned on des beenses: Ay geef des faller sax nundra akers for hooning porpes. Des faller skall geef me halt da meat und bring on my kaben all da horus for da cows und buls. Yours truly,

BLACK YACK.

Vel, Ay goo on des kreek; Ay tank ban namd Squaw kreek oder Round kreek; sumtaing laik dat.

Ay hoonit dai mondt und Ay skoot sum beeg hole in da vind und en da snow und den Ay queed des beensis too. Den Ay go look for yoh sum more.

Black Yack, ha sai ha got saw meel on Solfer kreek; ha gif me gude yob. Ay skall be top boss on da saw meel, fin dolla on day und bord; des ban pudy gude.

Next day Ay goo down on des saw meel; ha sai Ay skall go on top und pull des saw up und ha pull it down. Ay sai Yack, Ay tank Ay ban boss; vel, Jack sai you ban boss on top des log und ha ban boss down har. Ay vork sax day more den ay queed und goo look for yob for chop vood. Val, Ay got yob for city kord; Ay buy von doble beet acks. Ay vork two veeks, den da policeman ha kum und tak da vood, for ha sai Ay got two acks on von hendle und got sum von miners' hientz; for des ha conforestakite des vood.

Vel, baj da yumpen hal! Ay tank Ay skall evaporate maself on Cap Noom yust so queek des Yookon rever make lose da land. Ay tank Ay got sum gude beeg keek cumin, too.

Ay got gude love for your paper und Ay tank you ban partner mit me on da paper beensis mit Cap Noom. Ve mak blenty money. Ay ban your frand

OLFF SQUAREHEADSON.

A Life for a Life.

It seems to be beyond Indian comprehension to understand why a number of their tribe should be held in custody for the killing of one or two persons. They instinctively adhere to the aboriginal principle, "an eye for an eye and life for a life." This unwritten law has been handed down as tribal doctrine for perhaps thousands of years and, being so deeply rooted in the heart of the red man, it is almost impossible to introduce a new feeling and belief as to what should be done in case a dozen Indians are implicated in the murder of one or two whites.

This tradition threatens to make trouble at Skagway where eight Indians are held in jail for the murder of Bert Horton and his wife at Haines, on Lynn canal last fall.

A late issue of the Alaskan says:

"There is to be a big pow-wow and banquet at Haines, in regard to the Horton murders. It is a meeting of the big chiefs of the Chilkats and the Sitkas, and the life of the brave man who confessed the murder in the first place is not worth much from the talk of the Indians. There has been a good deal of loud talk among them; it has even gone so far as to suggest an uprising against the whites. This was suggested on Sunday evening, coolly and calmly; but an old chief got up and said that when one white man was killed one hundred came to revenge him and perhaps a thousand, and this threw a damper on the enthusiasm.

"The meeting, however, hung tenaciously to the life for a life theory, and upon this there was a quarrel between the Chilkats and the Sitkas. The whole of the prisoners held here, with the exception of one, are of the Sitka-tribe, hence the hot words. But it was determined to hold a feast at which it is to be definitely decided what is to be done should more than two Indian lives be offered up by the whites for the killing of Mr. Bert Horton and his wife.

Young-Macgregor.

On Wednesday evening, Feb. 21, the residence of Mr. and Mrs. John McKechnie, Carelton street, Winnipeg, was the scene of a very pleasant event when their cousin, Miss Elizabeth Macgregor, was married to Mr. Thomas Young, of Regina, formerly of Glanton Pyke, Northumberland, Scotland. The bride is the daughter of the late James A. Macgregor, Willamston, Ontario, a niece of Mr. John McDougall, of Winnipeg, and a sister to Col. Macgregor, of Dawson City. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Dr. Duval of Knox church, Winnipeg. Miss McKechnie, of Winnipeg, was bridesmaid and Mr. John McDougall, jr., cousin to the bride, supported the groom. After congratulations the large company sat down to a sumptuous supper. The bride was the recipient of many useful presents. Mr. and Mrs. Young left Winnipeg on the 24th to visit friends en route to Regina. They arrived home on Sunday morning last, and have this week been receiving the congratulations of their many friends in Regina.—Regina Leader.

Chewing tobacco \$1 per pound. Royal Grocery, Second ave.

For Sale.

Steam launch, with boiler and engine complete. Apply Nugget office.
Table de hoté dinners. The Holborn.

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And to Follow for 6 Months Each Saturday & Monday

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Will leave Dawson at the opening of navigation, with freight and passengers for St. Michael, connecting with the first class ocean steamers "Santa Ana" and "Lakme" for Nome.
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BRASS GOODS ALL SIZES **..A. E. Co.**
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