

# IMPOSING ON AMERICANS.

## Dr. Willis E. Everette Without Warrant, Authority or Apparent Compunction Misrepresents His Official Position—U. S. State Department Disowns His Actions.

From Monday's Daily.  
Department of State,  
Washington, Aug. 16, 1901.  
J. C. McCook, Esq., Consul of the United States, Dawson City, Yukon Territory.  
Sir—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch No. 322 of July 25 last, in regard to the claim of Mr. Willis E. Everette, that as commissioner of deeds for Texas he has authority to authenticate documents to be used in any state and in Alaska.

In reply I enclose copy of a letter from Mr. Everette on the subject. I enclose also copy of a letter to Mr. Everette informing him that as such officer he only has authority to legalize documents to be used in the state of Texas and that in such cases no attestation by you is necessary. There is no occasion for you to take any steps to prosecute Mr. Everette for his acts. You can, however, bring the matter to the attention of the local authorities and give proper warning to persons in your district. I am, sir, your obedient servant,  
ALVREY A. ADRE,  
Second Assistant Secretary.

The above document which has only recently been received by U. S. Consul McCook should be carefully read by every person who has or expects to have business in Alaska. For a period of about two years Willis E. Everette who holds the title of "Commissioner of Deeds for Texas," has been administering oaths which have purported to legalize documents to be used in Alaska. Some of these documents were refused acceptance by recording officers in Alaska and in consequence the matter was referred to the state department at Washington with the result as contained in the above letter. Mr. Everette himself wrote to the department with a request that his status in the premises be defined.

The correspondence between him and the state department, copies of which were enclosed to Consul McCook, is published herewith and explains itself:

Dawson, July 24, 1901.  
To the President, Washington, D. C.:  
Sir—On January 12th, 1901, I was appointed by the governor of Texas a commissioner of deeds for the state of Texas, to reside in the Yukon territory of Canada. Under the authority of title XIX, Article 620 (544) of the code of Texas, which gives me the authority to administer an oath to any person who shall come before me, I acknowledged two powers of attorney to locate mineral claims in Alaska. These papers were rejected by the recorder at Bagley City, Alaska, by reason of the U. S. consul resident in Dawson City, not having his signature thereon, attesting to my authority to administer an oath. The said U. S. consul here in Dawson City made a public personal statement, that no documents issued by me are valid, unless they are attested to before him. Now, sir, will you kindly have this matter placed either before the attorney general or the secretary of state, and a definite and official answer given me, that if I do not need the U. S. consul's attestation to documents issued under the said code of Texas, or use in Alaska or elsewhere, I can publish the said answer for the benefit of Americans resident in this Yukon territory. If the said specified section of the code of Texas means anything at all, it certainly gives me the necessary authority to administer an oath to any person for any country and without the need of the said U. S. consul's attestation. As we are thousands of miles apart and the matter is serious to some 300 people, all Americans, whose oaths have been already taken to various documents, all over the United States and Alaska, kindly have an official answer sent me as soon as possible, on account of the faulty mail facilities. Respectfully,  
DR. WILLIS E. EVERETTE.

Department of State,  
Washington, D. C., Aug. 16, 1901.  
Willis E. Everette, Esq., Dawson City, Yukon Territory.  
Sir—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of July 24 last, asking if as a commissioner of deeds for Texas you are authorized to administer oaths for the purpose of legalizing papers to be used in Alaska.  
In reply I have to say that as such officer you only have authority to legalize documents to be used in the state of Texas and that in such cases no attestation by the consul at Dawson City is necessary. I am, sir, your obedient servant,  
ALVREY A. ADRE,  
Second Assistant Secretary.

It will thus be seen that the documents which have been acknowledged

# LORD MILNER IN LONDON

## Deals With the Momentous Question Now Confronting Great Britain in South Africa—He Believes That Burgers Should be Treated Not Only With Fairness But Also With Generosity.

When Lord Milner was presented with the freedom of the City of London recently a luncheon was given at the Mansion house, and in reply to the toast of his health Lord Milner spoke as follows: It is difficult for me, with out seeming to use exaggerated language, to express how deep is my sense of the greatness of the honor just conferred upon me. The freedom of the City of London—the premier city of the British empire—is one of the greatest, as it is one of the most coveted distinctions that can be bestowed upon any public servant. (Cheers.) The fact that the court of common council should have selected this moment to accord me that honor and those privileges is a treat perhaps—the most striking I have yet received—of the general generosity with which the British people are disposed to treat those of their fellow-countrymen who are called upon, whether in a military or a civil capacity, to battle for the interests of the empire abroad, especially when they seem to be beset with great difficulties. (Cheers.) The impulse to back a man who is thought to be trying to do his best in a tight place, the tendency to appreciate his efforts, to sympathize with his difficulties and not to be too much down on his mistakes is a national characteristic. (Hear, hear.) I do not mean to say that this is an absolutely universal attitude. We have now among us, as we have had in all times of great external pressure a certain section of the community who are predisposed to think the worst of their fellow-countrymen—(Hear, hear)—to believe readily every accusation against them, to attribute preposterous motives to them and to give vent to their anti-national bias in language vying in intemperance with that of the subsidized traducers of Great Britain in foreign lands. (Cheers.) But these aberrations only serve to bring out in stronger relief the very different temper which animates the great bulk of the nation. (Cheers.) It would be gross ingratitude in any public servant, exposed though he might be to the sort of criticism which I have just described, if he were to make an outcry or to pose as a martyr when he had such splendid compensation on the other side as is afforded by the kindly, the forbearing, the sympathetic judgment of the great majority of his countrymen, whose approval is at once the highest reward and the strongest encouragement which can be accorded him. (Cheers.)

I ventured when leaving Cape Town some months ago to try to reassure some doubting hearts by pointing to the remarkable, the almost phenomenal, steadfastness of British public feeling with regard to this question of South Africa; and now that I have been a little at home I feel more confident than ever on that point. (Cheers.) Having regard to the tendency of our system of party government to accentuate differences of opinion and even to create them, it seems to me that this virtual agreement of the great body of the nation is a most impressive fact. (Cheers.) With any amount of differences and discussion as to details, one cannot but be conscious of the great underlying unanimity of opinion with regard to all the main issues. The old illusion, so sedulously fostered and at one time so dangerous, that the war was due to the intrigues of capitalists or to any personal or petty cause, is now virtually extinct. (Hear, hear.) The great national issue of the bottom of it is, I believe, now recognized by the vast majority of thinking men. (Cheers.) It may not even now be as clear as it will be in the pages of history, but for all practical purposes it is evident already—(Cheers)—and that issue having once been clearly raised, there is virtually no difference as to the answer which, at whatever cost, must be given. Deep and universal as is the longing for peace, anxious as we all are to make submission easy to every honorable enemy—(hear, hear)—there are, I think, few indeed who would be willing to purchase peace by any concessions that might compromise the future—(loud cheers)—or to run the risk of popularizing rebellion by treating repeated, deliberate and crimes tainted treason as a venial offence. (Cheers.) There is surely an immense difference, morally speaking, between those stout old burghers who still adhere to their original leaders in the ex-republics and the roving ruffians—British subjects, if you please—who are harrying their fellow-British subjects in our colonies. (Cheers.) But side by side with the general determi-

nation to bring this struggle to an honorable and a conclusive close there is, if I do not greatly misread the minds of my fellow-countrymen, a no less general resolve to treat the burghers of the two late republics, when the war is over, with such fairness, and even with such generosity—(cheers) as will help them to accept the position, and, in the long run, to acquire the sentiment of British citizenship. (Cheers.) We must show them—we shall show them—in the noble words of Sir Alfred Laurier, that "if they have lost their independence they have not lost their freedom." (Cheers.) Now these are great points of view, the British people today, irrespective of the general recognition which at one time was certainly far from being strong enough of the true character and of the splendid devotion to the empire of the South African loyalists, of their importance to us, and of our duty to them. (Cheers.) Let us be aware in trying to win—as I believe we shall win—the hearts of our former enemies, lest we alienate the confidence of those who have all along been our friends. (Cheers.) The problem is not an insoluble one, but its great complexity ought always to be borne in mind, and it ought to make us cautious with regard to the constitutional problem in the two new States and in the ultimate South African federation. (Cheers.) For my own part, I have great confidence in the efficacy of impartial and incorruptible government—(cheers)—of a bold development of the vast natural resources of the country, and of the gradual and prudent introduction of self-government institutions to heal old sores, to create new interests, and gradually to bring divers sections of the people to co-operate for the good of their common country. (Cheers.)

In what I have just said, I have not been speaking purely theoretically, nor am I speaking entirely of the future. The work of reconstruction has even now begun. (Cheers.) Owing to the fact that it goes on concurrently with military operations it is doubtless more slow, it is more hindered—inevitably so than we should wish to see it; but I am all in favor of pushing it on vigorously in spite of all drawbacks. (Cheers.) It is not only by chasing the enemy in the still disturbed districts of the country; it is by giving the world an object-lesson of good government and reviving industry in the more or less settled districts that this war, this struggle, is to be brought to a close and Great Britain relieved from what has been well described as "the obsession of South Africa." (Cheers.) I do not know whether I ought not to apologize—(No, No!)—for the length of these general remarks. I should like to conclude as I began, by expressing to you, to the members of the common council, and to the citizens of London, my deep obligations for the great and exceptional honor just bestowed upon me. You are helping to send me back greatly strengthened and encouraged—(cheers) by the honor bestowed upon me by your—kind words, my lord mayor, and by this most cordial reception—to send the best greatly strengthened and encouraged to take my share, whatever it may be, in the task which lies before British statesmanship in South Africa. (Cheers.) That task may prove too heavy for me—(No, no)—as it might for any individual, so many and so exceptional are the difficulties. But, if so, some other man will take it up and bring it to a successful termination. What I feel is, that despite all the difficulties, there are not lacking locally the essential conditions of success. It only requires a continuance of that steadfastness and resolution which has so remarkably characterized the public temper of Great Britain throughout this long struggle, that sane, that liberal, that persistent, and yet wholly unindictive spirit in which all your sacrifices for South Africa have been faced, in order to bring about the ultimate achievement of those great national objects for which the sacrifices have been made. (Loud cheers.)

The subject of conferring the freedom of London on Lord Milner was brought up in the house of commons by Mr. Swift MacNeill, who asked whether the home secretary was aware that for several hours traffic was obstructed, and at times suspended, by the crowds who collected "owing to this corrupt jingo harlequinade." The home secretary explained that this was a matter entirely for the police of London.—Toronto Globe.

# A DISASTROUS FLOOD

## Works Vast Amount of Damage in the Porcupine District—Work for Balance of the Season Completely Stopped—Much Expensive Machinery Is Totally Ruined.

From Monday's Daily.  
[Skagway, Sept. 2.—Reports from the Porcupine district state that the most disastrous flood in the history of the camp has occurred. The origin of the flood lay in a series of heavy rains at the headwaters of the river causing the snow in the mountains to melt. Much valuable machinery was washed away and expensive dams and flumes were washed out. Only meagre reports have thus far been received but all agree that work for the season has stopped. A miner named Thompson who has just arrived in Skagway states more rain fell than ever happened before. The water rose very suddenly and it was impossible to work against it. The Mix claim was the only one upon which the miners were able to save anything.

The property of Drs. Moore and Kel-

Arctic Ready.  
Skagway, Sept. 2.—The Arctic Brotherhood is preparing for the approaching season of the grand camp which opens Sept. 6.

Labor Day.  
Skagway, Sept. 2.—Labor day is being generally observed in Skagway. The postoffice, banks and newspapers closed for the day.

Seattle Due.  
Skagway, Sept. 2.—Steamer City of Seattle is due to arrive today.

Another Hard Luck Tale  
Nome and Whole Lower Country Are at a Standstill  
No Work to be Had and no Money in Circulation—People Are Leaving as Fast as Possible.

The T. C. Powers which arrived yesterday morning from St. Michael brought 17 passengers from Nome. Among them was Jack Wilson who brings another hard luck tale from the Silent City. He says that Nome, Teller, the Kougak and all the surrounding country is absolutely at a standstill this season, with work for no-one to be had and scarcely a dollar in sight.

"I left Nome August 13," said Wilson, "and the frost was still in the ground and fresh snow was in plain sight on the foothills. There is little or no work on any of the creeks and take it all together it is the toughest proposition I ever went up against. On the creeks where they have water the claims are all tied up in litigation so they can't be worked, and on those where the law suits have been settled they have no water, and there you are. Dexter and Anvil creeks, two of the oldest in the Nome district, are almost free from litigation now, but they have no water only when it rains and then the men have to get out and work in pit skins. In the Bluestone district, Gold Run is the only creek where really good pay has been located and almost every claim on the creek is at present tied up in a law suit. On one of the creeks near Council City the few men at work are on a strike for better wages. They went to work last Saturday at \$5 per day and board, but later learned they were to receive but \$4 per day and accordingly all quit work."

In Nome the conditions in many respects are a fright. There are hundreds of people there who don't know where their next meal is coming from, have no provisions, no money, no work and unless they are taken away this fall by some of the government transportation there will be some suffering and destitution. The saloons are filled every night with people asleep on chairs and the gambling tables, many of them poorly clad to withstand the rigors of a hard winter. Property all over town has greatly depreciated in value and where a business block a year or so ago would have sold for \$5000 it will not bring as many hundred now. The only theater running in town is the Standard and it is doing but little business. Frank Simons and Hugh Madden are the proprietors of the theater and also the Madden house, the two being run in conjunction, with Alex. Pantages as manager of the theatrical end. The Standard is a much larger theater than any in Dawson, and at their opening night the house was packed and jammed at 25 cents admission. The second night there were not too people in the house, Pantages, I understand, is preparing to return to Dawson with a company new to this city. He has already booked the Clark Sisters, Hastings & Hall and a number of others. Eddie Dolan is anxious to come back, too. The Maccot, which was formerly a theater, has been turned into dance hall. Nome is full of Dawson gamblers and there are not a quarter of them who can dig up the price of a ticket to St. Michael.

Returning to Dawson.  
From now until the close of navigation it is expected that fully as many people will come to Dawson as departed Dawson, the majority of those arriving being old timers who went out early in the season or who have been at Nome and other down river points. The experience of the majority of those who left Dawson and the Klondike for pastures new has not been such as was anticipated, with the result that many who are able are returning sadder and wiser than when they left. It is thought that during the remainder of the season the up-river steamers will bring in large numbers of passengers. Koyukuk appears to be the only new camp in the lower country that is able to hold its population.

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Big Fellows to Punch.  
Perkins and Bates, the big athletes are now training constantly for their meet at the Savoy on the 6th. Perkins is even heavier at present than he was when he met Slavia and is in far better condition all around. Bates has learned a lot lately but that is offset by his indoor occupation which has told heavily upon his physique. At present he is the favorite in the betting odds being in to 5. Slavia when asked what the outcome of the match would be said the go would probably be a draw. Both men are about equal in strength and skill.

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