

# The Klondike Nugget

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### NOTICE

When a newspaper offers its advertising space at a nominal figure, it is a practical admission of "no circulation." THE KLONDIKE NUGGET asks a good figure for its space and in justification thereof guarantees to its advertisers a paid circulation five times that of any other paper published between Juneau and the North Pole.

### INCORPORATION.

There are plenty of people outside the Miners' Association—and a few inside—who raise their hands in holy deprecation when the association takes up matters such as incorporation, etc. If those people will take up the back numbers of this paper they will find that "to aid in bringing about the incorporation of Dawson" was specified as one of the duties of proposed organization. The Miners' Association is the only duly organized body in the Yukon Territory today outside of a few mercantile and mining companies which have their birth in a desire for gain. What more natural than that there should be referred to it such matters as the drawing up of the ordinance of incorporation. It is true Mr. Ogilvie and his council are bound by no law to pass the ordinance, yet it is the part of wisdom to let those gentlemen know the terms on which the citizens of Dawson are willing to relieve the government of the expense of the care and custody of this important corner of the newly set apart territory. It goes without saying that there are terms of incorporation which would be so objectionable to the free spirit of our people that they rather remain as they are than accept them. For illustration it is within the powers of Mr. Ogilvie and his council to grant the franchise in the new city of Dawson only to a few men of vast wealth; but the sentiment of the people is undoubtedly in favor of a manhood suffrage because to a man working for wages the future of Dawson is of as vital importance as it is to the Eldorado king who has invested a few old thousands of his wealth in Dawson property. Again in the matter of candidates for office; is it not a fact that a man with large investments in mines and property would be much too busy over his own private business to find time for public business even if elected; therefore the people are largely in favor of making the qualifications for office as liberal as possible. To sum up, there is no good reason against and every reason for drawing up our own ordinance and submitting it to Mr. Ogilvie, thus placing ourselves on record as unanimously desiring incorporation, but on certain terms.

### BLOCKS OF TEN.

It is only once in a while that a government raises to itself such a monument of incapacity as has been done by the passage of the mining regulations under which we are working. In the first place it is of interest to note that no proviso was made as to when those regulations of January 18, 1898, were to come in force. They therefore were in force for four months before officially communicated to Dawson. What about the hundreds of claims staked in the interim? But it is Mr. Sifton's famous ten-claim reservation which tickles the risibles most. When he made his great grab for the reservation of alternate blocks of ten claims, to be disposed of by the crown, *alias* the government, *alias* Messrs. Sifton, Tarte, et al., Mr. Sifton forgot to specify which ten he wanted, above or below discovery. Or did he intend to leave open four above and five below? or did he know what he wanted? In the case of the bench claims there is the most ridiculous indefiniteness. Possessed of a burning desire to seize a half of the country he yet hadn't the wit to legislate the *best* half into his own keeping. Bona fide prospectors do not of necessity stake their claims in sequence either up or down stream, but here and

there wherever in the judgment of the individual would lead them to suppose was the most likely ground. But Mr. Sifton knew little of the ways of the pioneer and cared still less.

It is in the matter of bench claims, however, that the lack of knowledge of our legislators is most apparent. Where the bench claims occur in tiers which tier do they want reserved? Suppose the benches occur in blocks, as is the case on some of our most valuable ground. Three claims square would make ten claims. Where does Sifton want the ten for his disposal? Or, suppose the block is ten-claims square; does he wish the three adjoining blocks which would give him three for one? The fact of the matter is that under these un-miner-like regulations there must exist the gravest fears in the minds of nearly all the stakers of new ground that they are just as likely to be locating on government ground as on ground open to the public.

To the child-like minds of our wise men in the East a simple solution suggests itself, and that is to throw a handful of surveys into the breach. A few tangents; some business-like rows of stakes neatly numbered and labeled "open to the public" or "closed to the public" and "there you are" say our guileless and innocent makers of mining regulations. It does not occur to them that if discoveries are to continue to be made, the explorers must be deeply into the unknown wilderness ahead of any surveyors, and they are the men who should be secured in their ground if they find any worth having. So far the crown reservation regulation has not resulted in dragging into the official net any considerable property of value. The law has been found of so little use in the objects it was designed to accomplish that according to Major Walsh just before he left—the government has secured but little property in the country excepting a few blocks on "Swede" creek and other streams which raise a smile whenever you mention them. Still the time will come when valuable new ground will be discovered and it behooves us all to work for the abolishing of a regulation the only result of which so far has been to establish a state of indecision and uncertainty on any new ground opened up.

### A QUERY.

Is a government, which collects large revenues upon much needed improvements in that community, morally bound to expend any part of said large revenues upon much needed improvements in that community? The combined nations of Britishers and Americans answer yes in no uncertain tones. The policy of bleeding outlying colonies for the benefit of the already wealthy home government once cost England a glorious empire. From that day forward England took the well learned lesson to heart with a result that today she is at the head of the grandest and greatest empire this old earth has ever known. Only the most just and liberal policy towards her dependent colonies could have cemented together in one loyal whole the far apart members of that empire. On a small scale Canada is giving us an exhibition of that same intolerable taxation without representation which England has put away, of that same bleeding of a weak and distant member of its territories, of that same apathy to their sufferings, aspirations and honorable desires, of that same withdrawal of millions in taxes and the penurious begrudging of paltry thousands for much needed sanitary improvements, of that same sending into the field of hundreds of men with bayonets to enforce the collection of tribute and not a single man with a shovel for the improvement of trails, streets, etc. We find a string of men from the Chilcot summit to Forty-Mile whose duties are to collect—always collect. Customs, royalties on timber, on mines, on whiskey, to collect license money, recording fees, money for hay, for firewood. We find the government going into the real estate business and laying out townsites on every hand and collecting—always collecting money—for the privilege of a piece of ground to live on. Eight hundred thousand dollars a

year to enforce the imposition of taxes and not one dollar to blast rocks out of the channel of the river; rocks which could be destroyed at a trifling cost, yet which have dealt out death and destruction with a lavish hand to the tax-payers all summer long. Nearly half a million for soldiers, not one cent for laborers. Expensive posts right to the crest of the storm-bound summit of Chilcot pass to collect—always collect—and not a single gang of laborers to drain this camp of its accumulated filth of two years and to thus save some of the lives of our people. Thousands for guards and sentries to overawe us by their presence, into the willing payment of our wicked taxes and nothing at all for a sanitary inspector to regulate the unsanitary nuisances which are making Dawson a reeking pest house and a malodorous offense unto heaven. Hundreds of clerks to keep track of things and see that none escape the universal taxation, and not one of them with powers or instructions to keep a public register of deaths that the waiting ones at home might refer to and learn what of the loved ones far away from whom nothing whatever was being heard. Thousands of dollars for guards for the treasure of the rich, and cold apathy to the dying hundreds.

On this point the Nugget would like an expression of opinion from our citizens: Is a government, which collects large revenues from a community, morally bound to expend any part of said large revenues upon such needed improvements in that community?

### NO ROOT FOR SCHEMERS.

There never has yet been an organization of strength and influence in a community but what enterprising and unscrupulous individuals have sought to make use of it as a means towards furthering their own private ends. The man with an axe to grind is always in evidence. He works through various and diverse channels, sometimes openly and sometimes sub rosa, but the trail of the serpent is there unmistakably and the observant eye can invariably trace it. The Miners' Association of the Yukon Territory is an organization born of the crying necessities of this community. It had its origin through the unselfish efforts of men who saw the need and were willing to sacrifice time, labor and money to the public welfare. It is now, although comparatively young, a power for good in this district. It has before it a future that from the present outlook bids fair to be most bright. The men who guide its destinies are thoroughly versed in the needs of the country, are men of breadth of mental grasp and thoroughly understand what legislation is necessary to open the Klondike country to the legitimate prospector and investor. They have no idea of resting upon their oars. Ottawa is a long distance away and communication with the government is consequently difficult and uncertain, but pending results from the Dominion government local matters of importance can well claim the attention of the association.

In taking up the matter of securing incorporation for Dawson, the association, in our judgment, has acted most wisely. The merits of this proposition have been so widely and exhaustively discussed that further argument on that point is unnecessary. The simple fact that 20,000 people are living in one community, without even the semblance of local government is all the argument required to make the man of ordinary intelligence and judgment a convert to the incorporation theory.

All that the association requires to deserve and win public merit and approval is to keep on in the even tenor of its way, pursue in the future as it has in the past, a broad minded policy, and devote its efforts to the public welfare.

We are convinced that this course will be pursued and that little attention will be shown the man who may become a member merely for the furtherance of private schemes.

Have your prescriptions filled by Kelly & Co. Druggists, Front street.

Fine line of Domestic and Imported Cigars Kelly & Co. Druggists, Front street.

**THE PIONEER**  
DINSMORE, SPENCER & MCPHER, Proprietors  
BEST GRADES OF  
**SCOTCH and CANADIAN WHISKIES**  
And the Old Favorite Brand of  
**JACK McQUEEN CIGARS**

**THE AURORA**  
TOM CHISHOLM, Prop'r  
COR. FRONT AND SECOND STREETS  
Headquarters for  
**BEST OF WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS**  
Mixed Drinks a Specialty

**ELDORADO SALOON**  
HALL, MCKINNEY & YOUNG, Proprietors  
**KLONDIKE CITY**  
Finest Brands of  
**Wines, Liquors and Cigars**

**THE NORTHERN**  
ASH & MANNING, Prop'r  
**Choicest Wines, Liquors and Cigars**  
Expert Mixologists  
**MINING HEADQUARTERS**  
FRONT STREET DAWSON

**Combination Saloon**  
Is the Place to go for fun and amusement. Finest kind of Liquors and Cigars.  
Lloyd, Harrison & Co., Proprietors.

**The "Monte Carlo"**  
**FINEST BAR IN DAWSON**  
QUALITY OF WINES AND LIQUORS THE HIGHEST  
Mixed Drinks a Specialty  
**HIGHEST GRADES OF CIGARS**

**THE OPERA HOUSE**  
BAKKE, WILSON & PETERSON  
Proprietors  
**DAWSON**  
Headquarters for Best of  
**Wines, Liquors and Cigars**  
Mixed Drinks a Specialty

BILLY CHENOWETH BILLY WILSON  
**THE BODEGA**  
223 First Avenue.  
**Most Elegant Gentlemen's Resort in Dawson.**

**Magnificent Stock of Liquors JUST ARRIVED.**  
**SOLD BY BOTTLE OR CASE.**  
**GIN, CHAMPAGNES, BRANDIES, BOURBON AND SCOTCH WHISKIES.**  
WHOLESALE STORE,  
Corner Fourth St. East of N. A. T. & T. Co.

**Job Printing**  
In all its Latest Styles executed from new type faces at this office . . . . .

Check Binding  
Perforating, Numbering and  
Stapling

STOCK VERY COMPLETE AND WELL ASSORTED  
Plenty of type and press facilities for the quick execution of  
**Pamphlets, Blanks and Programs**

**THE KLONDIKE NUGGET**

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