

The Klondike Nugget

(DAWSON'S PIONEER PAPER)
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A. F. GEORGE. Associate Editor

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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.

OPPRESSION V. DEBTOR'S RIGHTS

There is such a thing as honest debt and there are possibly such people as honest debtors. The laws of all civilized communities take such things and such people under cognizance and provide a way in which the debtor can show the honesty of his debts, after which he goes scot free with the chance that he will go and sin no more. The bankruptcy laws of England and America have abolished debtor's prisons. Finding himself involved beyond his depth in financial distress, the bankrupt appeals to his country, and by one act of investigation and distribution the court equitably disposes of what property remains, and the honest debtor is at once placed in the unassailable position where the most peristent and spiteful creditor can neither harass nor dismay.

This system is the result of years of experience and has been found to work comparative justice. The foregoing and much more is brought to mind by the case of Mrs. La Belle Vincent as told by herself and related in these columns.

The following facts of her case are unassailable. She brought money and property here and lost both in speculation. She has been detained in the country contrary to her wishes, and she having passed once through the courts and shown absence of intentional, fraud does not rid her of further prosecution. As the law stands she has not again dared to attempt to return to her American home, for one attempt resulted in the police bringing her back and the second attempt resulted in four days in jail.

The Nugget believes the law, with certain modifications, would be good for all. There should be a point at which its operation ceases. Like a bankrupt the honest debtor should have

some way once and for all to show his or her honesty after which they should be allowed to return to their friends and families without let or hindrance. That feature of the law which permits a debtor to be indefinitely detained in a land which, so far from being profitable to them, has cost them their last dollar should be at once amended out of all likeness to the Siberian system. Failure is sufficient penalty for non-success without eternal banishment in a land which has no attractions save a possible chance at a fortune. Let Mrs. Vincent voluntarily go before the judge and prove herself a victim of circumstances and after proving her case let the order be "Depart in peace," and let none molest. Only in some such law or order of procedure can the Yukon territory rid herself of her horrible likeness to the penal colonies across the Behring

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A PLEA FOR SELF-PROTECTION.

With the exception of six paid men, the city of Dawson is practically without a fire department. It is very unwise for our fair city to depend upon its untrained and unorganized citizens to recruit the department at the moment of a great fire such as devastated the metropolis of the Yukon last April.

The Yukon council took from our citizens all voice in the management of the department and have handed its control absolutely to Ogilvie, Steele and Clement. Clement has been out of the country some time. Mr. Steele has been gone some weeks, while Mr. Ogilvie is in camp somewhere in the mountains 20 miles from Dawson. Even he, when here, he showed himself utterly incapable of the management and gave as his excuse that he was already over-burdened with affairs.

It would be the part of wisdom to call a meeting of property holders and select a deputation of citizens to wait upon Mr. Ogilvie and demand one of two things—either that he at once increase the department to 30 members to turn it over to a committee who will organize and drill a volunteer brigade. As at present constituted there are not enough men in the entire department to handle the hook and ladder truck. Chief Stewart has protested without avail and now feels that his great hope is in preventing a conflagration since a cure is out of the question. Even if each man under him had the strength of a Sandow and the speed of a Hampson, they would be utterly unable to handle the station apparatus to do any good.

Gentlemen of Dawson, this condition of affairs must be remedied and at once.

You cannot depend upon Mr. Ogilvie, who could not find time to attend to it even were he thrice as competent a man as he really is. In a spirit of vaingloriousness, the control of a fire department he does not attempt to handle pleases him as a grown child with a new toy. Like 5-year-olds playing at keeping house, Mr. Ogilvie played at investigation in Dawson, played at law-making in the council, played at financing in London and is now playing at being the head of a fire department. Our citizens must not take him seriously nor leave their fate in his hands. We have a perfect right to self government in city affairs, and a much greater right if possible, to protect ourselves from fire with the apparatus bought and paid for by our own contributions. At least let us insure the fire engines.

A man who last summer and winter had a 2x4 store on Front street, Dawson, and who sold out and departed last spring, was heard outside relating to an admiring throng how he enhanced the enormous profits of his business by "taking the best of it" in paying out or receiving gold dust. He related with great relish how his partner fastened a weight underneath one side of the scales, and how he violently objected to such open stealing of a few grains, and, removing it, "took the best of it" to the tune of two pennyweights on the very next sale he himself made. It is needless to remark that the writer strongly called him to account, for his convict methods. He justified himself or attempted to do so by the plea that to his certain knowledge it was the custom from one end of Dawson to the other. While we take issue with him upon the prevalence of this species of dishonesty, we are forced to admit from

individual instances which have come under our knowledge that there is altogether too much of it going on and that there is no organized effort on the part of the government to suppress it.

Once upon a time, Captain Stearnes was appointed inspector of scales and weights and in a short crusade made things warm for the more notorious of false weighers, and then the agitation ceased and such men as the one spoken of outside thrived and flourished as a green bay tree.

The government of the Yukon territory, which at present consists of Mr. William Ogilvie solely, is wont to pride itself upon the vast improvements it has made in Dawson the past year. An analysis of the situation reveals the fact that while Dawson has undoubtedly flourished and expanded beyond all precedent, the government share in the improvement has consisted mostly in notifying our citizens to do this or to do that, and then calmly appropriating the results to their own "power and their glory, for ever and ever, Amen." The owners upon a given street will find themselves notified to construct sidewalks, and it is soon done. This is quite proper, but it is mighty amusing afterwards to watch the governor taking the middle of the streets so he can get a good perspective of the extent of the vast improvements he is making in his Pooch Bah character of Lord High Executioner for the territory.

PERSONAL MENTION.

S. D. Price, who runs a sawmill at Selkirk, is registered at the Regina.

J. D. Hutchison and S. P. Short, miners from Gold Hill, are visitors in Dawson.

Daniel G. Stewart, who owns a saw mill here, departed for the outside on Monday.

Henry Shoemaker, one of the lucky claim owners on Gold Hill, is spending a few days in Dawson.

D. A. Boehmy is back from the outside, bringing his wife, and will again be seen on his claim on No. 2 Magnet gulch.

Manager Cox, of the Fairview hotel, has succeeded to the sole proprietorship. He has purchased the half interest of Miss Gates.

Dan McLeod, of Dublin, and Murdoch McKinnon, of Nova Scotia, are among those who are registered at the Hotel McDonald.

Tom Ellis, of the road house on 48 below on Bonanza, has returned from the outside after spending two months visiting his relations.

On last Saturday, Ross Eckard arrived in Dawson with a scow loaded with ten sleighs, ten blooded trotting horses and 35 tons of machinery.

R. M. Hilleary was married Saturday, Sept. 30, to Miss Gussie H. Klein. They were married at Geo. G. Allen's home. The couple make Dawson their home.

W. H. Quamm and George Pears, both from Vancouver, are guests of the Regina hotel. Mr. Quamm succeeded in bringing with him ninety tons of liquor.

M. Connelly has severed his relations with the Hotel McDonald. He disposed of his interest to Alex McDonald, who, with Capt. Donovan, will conduct the establishment in the future.

George Marlin returned to Dawson on the last trip of the Florence S. During the past two months Mr. Marlin has had a pleasant time in visiting the principal cities of the United States.

Mrs. J. M. Pickel has returned from Fortymile, where she has been visiting friends. Mrs. Pickel brings with her a beautiful sample of Jack Wade gold, upon which creek she owns a valuable interest.

Mrs. C. L. Hibbard and her son Henry arrived in Dawson on the last trip of the Flora. They will spend the winter with Mr. Hibbard, who is located on one of Quartz creek's best paying claims.

Mr. Ed Seesholtz, who is interested in Jack Wade property, is in town again after several weeks spent investigating the conditions which prevail upon that creek. He is very enthusiastic over the country and fully anticipates that Jack

Wade will equal, if not exceed, Eldorado creek as a producer of gold. Sufficient prospecting has been done to warrant the belief that several hundred men will winter on the creek.

Mr. Harry Stevenson, brother of mine host Stevenson of the Hoffman house, is a recent arrival in Dawson. Mr. Stevenson made an exceptionally quick trip from San Francisco to Dawson. He will be associated with his brother in the Hoffman house during the winter.

News of the World.

Cape Town, Monday.—A great number of Johannesburg refugees are arriving here daily. The relief committee is paying every attention to those who are in need of assistance.

London, Sept. 25.—A disastrous attempt was made tonight on Trafalgar square to hold a pro-Boer mass meeting.

A handful of speakers attempted to harangue the unsympathetic masses and were mobbed, while the crowd sang "Rule Britannia."

London, Sept. 25.—Chamberlain's last to the Transvaal concludes as follows:

"No conditions less comprehensive than those contained in the telegram of September 8 can be relied on to effect that object. The refusal of the South African government to entertain the offer thus made, coming as it does after four months of protracted negotiations, closes five years of extended agitation and makes it useless to further pursue the discussion on the lines hitherto followed, and the imperial government is now compelled to consider the situation afresh, and formulate its own proposals for a final settlement of the issues which have been created in South Africa by a policy constantly followed for many years by the government of South Africa. The government will communicate the result of its deliberations in a later dispatch."

Going Out of Business.

It will be easy on those who are about to purchase anything in the upholstering line, such as lounges, mattresses, etc., or easy chairs and draperies, as our old friend H. E. Stumer is closing up his business. He will sell at greatly reduced prices for the next 30 days. His present address is on Third street, near the corner of Second avenue.

Messenger service to any claim on the creeks. Nugget Express.

Excellent service and moderate prices at the Cafe Royal.

Remember the location—the new Hotel McDonald block, corner Second avenue and Second street. W. H. Parsons & Co.

Notice of Removal.

Pickett & Devlin have removed their office to the A. C. Co.'s office building. General freighting and regular stage all winter.

If it is a stylish, perfect fitting suit of clothes, you want, go to Parson's.

For Sale.

Howe scale, 1,400 pounds; also small stock hardware and cooking utensils. 62 Third street south.

Dr. Duncan, who has charge of Dr. Simpson's practice, has removed to Room 3, of the Hotel McDonald.

Double-breasted reefer coats and vests. Silk lined coat, cut the same length as a top coat, very nobby and warm, at Parson's.

Nugget Lost.

Friday evening, Oct. 5, a \$12 nugget, valued as a gift. Finder leave at Fairview Hotel or Oregon store.

Steam thawers, pipe and pipe fittings and valves, stoves, tin and sheet iron work at J. H. Holme & Co.'s, opposite Fairview.

Reduced rates at the Cafe Royal.

We supplant the word cheap for good at our store. Prices are right, where quality is considered, at Parson's.

Dr. Lee has removed from the Bodega block to the V. Y. T. block, upstairs, where he will be pleased to receive his patrons.

Don't forget opening of Cafe Royal Wine Rooms, Monday night, Aug. 14.

A conspicuous sign on the water front is the light of the Green Tree saloon. This light is without exception the noblest in town, and its cheerful blaze is a suggestion of the good cheer within.

For space in warehouse apply to Nugget Express office, in the Aurora.

Beer, ale, porter and wines served to table guests upon Sunday at Cafe Royal.

Pocket memo books, counter blotters, time books, pens, pencils, ink, muck-lage, paper fasteners, letter paper and writing tablets for sale at Nugget office.

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