

A FEW REASONS ADVANCED.

Why Captain William Thorburn Should Attempt His Own Life.

Disappointment in Love and Failure of Col. James Donville's Company Both Assigned.

When the Daily Nugget appeared on the street yesterday afternoon with a detailed and complete account of the probably successful attempt of Capt. William Thorburn to take his own life it was a great shock and surprise to hundreds of Dawsonites who for two years or more have seen the unfortunate gentleman almost daily, and many and varied were the causes assigned for the perpetration of the seemingly rash act.

One gentleman, a business man who for a long time has been on very intimate terms with Thorburn, says that the captain on coming here late in '97 or early in '98, left behind him in Scotland a bonnie lassie whom he had promised to make his wife on his return from the gold fields of, to the people of the faraway land, the greatly overestimated Klondike; that his blissful anticipations of golden treasure had not been realized and fulfilled and that despair at disappointing the lady of his love—the goal, the attainment of which had kept his ardent abate and his Scotch blood alive for two long years—proved more than he could stand, and in a fit of mental aberration superinduced by mental desperation, he committed the rash act that will assuredly result in his death.

Others equally intimate with the unfortunate man assert that his act was not prompted by visions of or longings for a sweetheart left behind; that he has no lady love in Scotland or elsewhere; that he is a man who has reached and passed the age when the heart is susceptible to Cupid's darts, and that he is a straightforward, straightforward business man who has invested his money in a losing venture and seen it slowly but surely fade away without his having the power to stem the current which was carrying away his all.

These people assert that Thorburn was interested to the extent of his capital in what is generally known as the Donville Syndicate, but which was probably the Klondike Stewart Pioneers, Ltd., news of the failure of which was received by and published in the Nugget a week ago, and the fact that he was occupying a cabin with Donville, jr., lends an air of credence to this last theory. Those who claim to know assert that when the company above referred to was organized that Thorburn came here partly in his own and partly in behalf of other members of the syndicate, and that, being on the scene of supposed operations by the company, he felt that from him would be expected news of its expansion and success; that the wrecking and loss of the steamer James Donville, which was the property of the company of which he was a part, was to him the cause of great worry and mental perturbation.

Another equally plausible cause for Thorburn's rash act is that since his advent in Dawson he has secured in his individual right several bench and hillside claims on both Bonanza and Dominion creeks, and that last fall he issued to a friend named Jones who was leaving for Scotland power of attorney to either dispose of those claims or organize a company for the purpose of developing and operating them. During all the long winter Thorburn patiently waited and hoped for news from his friend Jones, but it came not. Jones never wrote to the man whose power of attorney he carried, and a few days ago Thorburn learned in an indirect way that on reaching Scotland Jones had, instead of acting in behalf of his friend in Dawson, enlisted in the army and hurried off to the Transvaal to fight Boers.

This news, it is said, was a hard blow to the Scotchman who had by every mail expected to learn that his claims or a portion of them had been sold for a sum sufficient to make him a rich man or to enable him to become a rich man by developing the remainder of his holdings, and that he felt the disappointment most keenly, in that not only were his hopes blighted, but that the implicit and almost brotherly confidence he had reposed in his friend had, he felt, been betrayed.

These are only a few of the many reasons advanced by those who knew him best and intimately for the rash act of Thorburn which can not otherwise than terminate his life.

Capt. Thorburn passed a very comfortable night at St. Mary's hospital and at 2 o'clock this afternoon there

was practically no change in his condition. He lies in a semiconscious condition and has not yet been coherent in the few utterances he has feebly attempted. Owing to the nature of the wound, it is scarcely possible that he will live but a few hours longer.

Young Mrs. Stanley Sues.

Seattle Feb. 27.—Ella M. Stanley, the divorced wife of young John L. Stanley, commenced suit yesterday in the superior court against William and Sarah E. Stanley, for \$25,000 damages. She accuses them of alienating her husband's affections and inducing him to secure a divorce, with the intention of cutting her off from an interest in a Klondike fortune of \$2,000,000.

In her complaint Mrs. Stanley alleges that she was married to John L. Stanley in Seattle, January 28, 1897, and lived happily with him until July 5 of the same year. About this time, it is alleged, Sarah E. Stanley wrongfully and fraudulently induced young Stanley to abandon his wife and accompany her, his mother, on a long journey through the Eastern and Middle states. It is also claimed that Mrs. Stanley fraudulently kept her son away from his wife and induced him to obtain a divorce, with the intention of depriving the wife of an interest in the Klondike fortune.

Shortly after the marriage of John L. Stanley, his father, mother and himself, according to the complaint, became possessed of a large fortune through the discovery of a mine in the Klondike. This fortune is estimated at \$2,000,000. June 28, 1897, after the discovery of gold, a son was born to Mrs. John L. Stanley. She says that on account of the wrongs done her she has been compelled to support herself and this child by her own labor, and to live apart from her husband, much to her distress of mind and body. She asks the court to grant her \$25,000 damages.

Young Stanley's marriage followed his arrest on the charge of being the father of the unborn child of the woman whom he married. He was taken from the county jail to a justice court, where the ceremony was performed. In his suit for a divorce he expressed doubts concerning the legitimacy of the child. He gave an extended account of his home life and the character of his wife, with whom he said he was intimate before he married her.

Mrs. Stanley denied all his charges, said she was a good wife, and that her family helped the Stanleys when they were poor.

POLICE COURT NEWS.

Major Perry is still unable to leave his room although it was stated this morning that he is feeling better than for two or three days. Superintendent Primrose continues to fill the judicial chair in police court during the major's indisposition.

For decorating one of Louie Merrymont's eyes and otherwise changing the contour of his physiognomy during a melee on Front street yesterday morning, S. Y. Nightingale paid a fine of \$15 and trimmings at the desk of the court clerk yesterday afternoon.

Count Emele d'Rouiri, who was given until 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon to pay fine and costs amounting to \$69.50 or begin the operation of a saw on the royal woodpile, for selling liquor without a license, appeared at that hour with a portion of the money. When the time limit was extended until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning, at which time he will be required to remit the remainder.

C. J. Dumbolton appeared as complaining witness against A. H. Preston, who is charged with having sold one case of pork loins which were unfit for human food. After hearing the evidence the case was continued until this afternoon in order that further inspection may be made of the meat in question.

Trial of a case in which Andrew Aichison sues Gus Davidson for \$68.75, alleged to be due plaintiff for freighting over the river for defendant was set for hearing tomorrow morning.

Theosophists' Meeting.

The usual weekly public meeting of the Yukon Theosophical Club will be held tonight at their hall on Second avenue, when Mr. T. S. Solomans will give a lecture on the subject of "Nonsense," which no doubt will elicit a very interesting discussion.

Inquiries.

Inquiries are made for the following missing persons by the N. W. M. P.: P. H. Trudell, P. J. Gessner, W. C. Dickey, San Francisco; Kuhnert, New York City; H. P. Gailard, San Francisco; Alex. H. Somerville, Princeton, Ontario; Thos. Graham Patterson, Seattle.

Any person knowing anything of these persons should notify the town station of the N. W. M. P.

Decrease in Fire Force.

On the 1st of April the force of men now employed will be decreased. At the present time there are 20 firemen who are engaged at both halls. This number will be lessened to 15 men. The reason for the discharge of five firemen is to curtail expenses. As constituted now the annual cost of maintenance

for this department is estimated at \$40,000; when the force will have been decreased the yearly expenditure will be reduced to \$30,000. The Yukon council also considers the fact that during the summer season it is not necessary to retain the services of as many men as were required during the winter months.

GRAND FORKS ITEMS.

Joseph Magill, one of the owners of 35 Eldorado, has been on the creeks the past few days looking over his mining interests.

Squatters on No. 5 above discovery on Bonanza are generally observing the orders of the N. A. T. & T. Co., the owners, and are moving their tents and buildings to other portions of the town.

Upper Bonanza, from the Forks to 43 above, has been worked extensively the past winter, and mining operations are still being carried on with great activity, the water, however, since the warm weather commenced, impeding progress to a considerable degree.

No. 19, owned by John Wick prior to this season was little better than a wage property, but early in the past winter fine pay was found on the right limit, and ten men have been employed steadily and eight large dumps are the result of their efforts. This property which last year was ranked as of nominal value, has proven to be one of the heavy producers.

No. 17a, owned by Peter Oksvig, Louis Langlow and Capt. Healy, has been worked steadily since early in the winter with a crew of from six to twelve men. They have several large dumps, and the pay has been showing up well. Mr. Langlow has just returned from the outside with several teams of work horses, which will be used on the claim during the summer season, as the owners intend to employ about 25 men and to push the work with all possible dispatch, consistent with careful mining operations, by ground sluicing. Mr. Oksvig, who is foreman and has charge of the operations on this ground, on being asked the probable output of upper Bonanza this season replied, it would exceed that of one year ago. He says more machinery and men have been employed this year than last, and the pay on several of the claims has proven better. Many of the claims will be worked during the summer season.

New Partnership.

Mr. W. A. Ryan, for a long time advertising man and general salesman with the Alaska Exploration Co., has tendered his resignation and will go into business for himself, having formed a copartnership with Mr. Clark and purchase a half interest in the latter's grocery store and meat market on the corner of Second avenue and Sixth street, where the new firm will extend and enlarge the business commensurate with the patronage they are bound to receive. Mr. Clark is already well known and popular, while Mr. Ryan is regarded as one of the best and most popular of all Dawson's business men. The Nugget bespeaks for the firm of Clark & Ryan a large and lucrative business. In the withdrawal of Mr. Ryan from its services, the A. E. Co. loses a valuable and trusted man as well as the best "ad" writer in the city; but his place will be filled by Mr. E. W. Brown, general store manager, who is himself able and experienced in the work of "ad" writing and who will hereafter have charge of that branch of the big company's business.

Claims Recorded.

Yesterday a grant was issued to Lillian Pattulo for the placer claim particularly described as being a hillside, No. 19, on the left limit of the Klondike river, and being located in what is known as the Dawson town site group. Said claim was asked on March 2th.

SANITARY PROBLEMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

be suggested. One is, that the sewer pipes be large enough to enable workmen to enter. The other plan is to use sewer pipes of ordinary size, and have them contain a small pipe—say about an inch in diameter—through which steam could be sent, whenever necessary. At intervals of 100 feet, connections with the steam pipe could be had with the surface of the ground. Thus when any portion of the system should become clogged by reason of the refuse freezing a portable boiler could be taken to that particular place and steam could be injected into the smaller pipe, which operation would immediately thaw the refuse matter contained in the sewer pipe.

"Either of these systems would entail the expenditure of a large sum of money in construction; and afterwards, the proper maintenance of the service would require regular appropriations. Perhaps, the government may commence operations on a sewerage system next fall; but it is possible that matter will be deferred until next year.

"However," concluded the governor, "we will do the best we can with our present system of drainage, and I am of the opinion that no one will have cause to complain of the sanitary condition of Dawson during the coming spring and summer season."

First Boat for Nome.

Capt. Talbot has had a large force of men employed on the steamer Merwin for the past two weeks and the force of engineers, boiler makers, carpenters and painters is rapidly putting the steamer into apple pie order for her trip to Nome. A glance down the water front fails to reveal the weather beaten exterior of the boat, which has been familiar to Dawsonites during the winter

ter, but in its place an outline of snowy whiteness which shows that the Merwin is being fully prepared to offer attractive and comfortable accommodations for her long trip. The Merwin will be the first boat to leave Dawson, and no change will be made in the price of tickets before April 1st. Two-thirds of the stateroom accommodation has already been taken. All those who have spoken for passage, without buying their tickets are hereby notified to close the arrangements during the present month.

FRANK KINGHORN, Agent, Yukon Dock.

Private dining rooms at the Holborn.

The Holborn Cafe for delicacies.

The Star Clothing House, A. S. Levine, manager, announces that until further notice he will sell spring suits for \$15, hats, all styles, \$3.

When in town, stop at the Regina.

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Heavy wagon for sale. Apply opposite Nugget office.

Choice Cudahy hams 45 cents per pound. Royal Grocery, Second ave.

Ladies' belt purses. Pioneer drug store.

Best Canadian rye at the Regina.

Silver shield apricots 50 cents a can. Royal Grocery, Second ave.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—Two new tents, 25x50 feet, at the Ames Mercantile Co.

FOR SALE—Two 65 horse power boilers; two 65-horse power engines; two prospecting boilers; one 8-horse power boiler; fuse, caps, powder; best steam hose in Dawson; all kinds of fittings, pipe, etc. R. V. Jones, Klondike Thawing Machine Co., opp. S. Y. T. Storage, C28

WANTED.

WANTED—Tailor or tailoress, at Brewin & Thomas', Second avenue.

FOR RENT.

FOR RENT—Two nice rooms, also good cabin. R. V. Jones, Klondike Thawing Machine Co., Third ave, opp. S. Y. T. Storage, C28

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

LAWYERS

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BERRITT & McKAY—Advocates, Solicitors, Notaries, etc. Offices, A. C. Office Building, Safety deposit box in A. C. vaults.

TABOR & HULME—Barristers and Solicitors; Advocates; Notaries Public; Conveyancers; Offices, Rooms 1, 2, 3, Orpheum Building.

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PATTULLO & RIDLEY—Advocates, Notaries Conveyancers, etc. Offices, A. C. Office Building.

MINING ENGINEERS.

RUFUS BUCK—Plans and surveys of underground workings. Third avenue, opposite Dr. Bourke's Hospital.

L. NETLAND, C. E. Underground surveys, Reports furnished on mining properties and hydraulic concessions. Office, Room 1, Dawson City Hotel.

DOMINION LAND SURVEYORS.

TYRRELL & GREEN, Mining Engineers and Dominion Land Surveyors. Office, Harper st., Dawson.

ASSAYERS.

JOHN B. WARREN, F. I. C.—Assayer for Bank of British North America. Gold dust melted and assayed—Assays made of quartz and black sand. Analyses of ores and coal.

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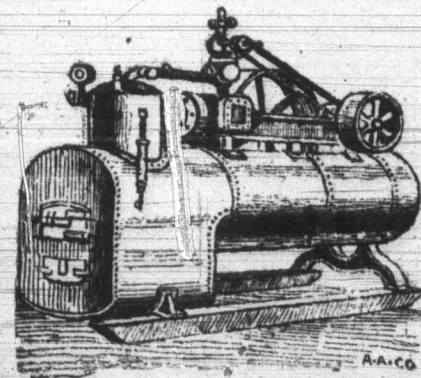
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