

## THE SEMPLE-GEORGE CASE.

### The Former Not Present--The Latter's Case Continued.

#### Startling Statement From the Bench—Lawyers Quibble and Bicker—Warrant Out for Semple.

As announced in the previous issue of The Nugget, David William Semple, who had been ordered to appear in the superior court Tuesday morning to answer to a charge of contempt, did not appear, having the previous day followed the example of the proverbial Arab by folding his tent and stealing away quietly. A. F. George, who had been associated with Semple on his paper known as the Sunday Gleaner, and who also was notified to appear before the court on Tuesday, obeyed the summons by appearing. The hearing was continued until Wednesday morning when George, who was represented by Attorney Woodworth, appeared in court and the case was opened, Crown Prosecutor Wade appearing in the interests of the law, which he claimed had been outraged.

Semple not being present the matter of reposing on George the responsibility for the entire contents of the papers of the dates of December 6th and 10th, the papers in which the alleged contempt was perpetrated, was taken up by the prosecution and strenuously objected to by the defense. The court said it was only desired to place the responsibility where it belonged. The defense offered to place the accused on the stand to tell what his connection with the Gleaner had been at that time, but was not permitted by the court, until later, to do so.

Captain Woodside, of the Sun, in which office the mechanical work on the Gleaner was done, testified that George had told him that he (George) was responsible for one of the articles in question, "An Open Letter to Mr. Justice Dugas," that he had remonstrated with George and told him not to publish the letter as it might be construed as contempt of court; that George replied that he had permission from one of the court officials to criticize and review a former decision of the court and was acting under the permission granted. When Prosecutor Wade asked for the name of the court official whom George had mentioned as having granted the permission, Woodside coughed slightly, looked confused and said: "It was his lordship, Justice Dugas," and the judge joined in the mirthful titter that swept over the court room. Woodside testified that George had told him he was "on the Gleaner," but could not remember that he had said he was editor of the paper. R. J. McChesney, foreman of the Sun office, was called for the purpose of proving that George was editor of the Gleaner, but his testimony was of little or no moment, as he knew nothing about it. Attorney Tabor, who is counsel for the Sun, was also called and testified that he had remonstrated with George as to the publication of the "open letter" and that George had said the article was not one of contempt. Then something was said about the whole paper being contempt, and Attorney Woodworth asked if the advertisements were contempt.

The crown prosecutor remarked at various divers and sundry times during the day that he was not responsible for the prosecution and the court said it would assume all the responsibility, that being wholly within its province, and further that all needed time would be given the defense in which to prepare for final hearing. The court further said, after the examination of several witnesses as to the extent of George's responsibility for the articles in question that the developments of the day fully demonstrated the need of newspaper registration. Later in the day Woodside was recalled to the stand to give further information regarding George's connection with the Gleaner. Woodside proved a willing witness and

volunteered information on several points on which he had not been questioned.

The court assumed that George's connection with the Gleaner and his responsibility for articles contained in the Gleaner had been fully and satisfactorily established. The court further made the startling announcement that any person in anyway connected with the getting out of a newspaper is responsible for its contents. The latter statement from the bench followed the assertion of George, who admitted having read proof of articles he had not written and further that a proofreader looked only for typographical errors and not at the sentiment or character of the article itself.

The long article headed "An Open Letter to Mr. Justice Dugas," and "A Damnable Conspiracy" were slowly read by Crown Prosecutor Wade, who freely injected comments as he progressed in the reading. One of the comments was a sneering allusion to the source from whence came an encomium on the court in the "open letter" article, and the flush of rage which for a moment mounted the cheek of Editor George was as apparent as the rising of a full moon on a clear night. In the

being directed by Semple, or words to that effect.

As the judge had not yet read the articles alleged to be in contempt, and as he desired to do so before acting further in the matter, the case was continued until January 10th in order that there may be sufficient time to read the articles and carefully consider their nature and import. The court ordered that a warrant be issued for Semple, which was done, but so far as The Nugget has been able to learn no officer has yet been dispatched down the river in quest of the fugitive, and it is doubtful if the beaming physiognomy of "Willie" is ever again seen in Dawson.

#### Water Cut off

On account of breaks the Dawson Water Company, Col. Samuel Word, manager, has temporarily suspended operations, having withdrawn the water from its mains on Tuesday afternoon. The cold weather is in no way responsible for the suspension of operations, as no difficulty was caused by the elements. The difficulty, however, is due to the fact that the mains are constructed of lumber and are not of sufficient strength to withstand the pressure upon

#### Dancing Party on Sulphur.

Thursday evening the trails from Dominion, Forks and Dawson to Sulphur creek were made resonant with merry jingle of sleigh bells of the many friends of Mr. Geo. Sproul, who gathered at the McDonald hotel to partake of his hospitality. The music was first class, the crowd a merry one and the supper splendid and all pronounced the affair one of the most enjoyable of the season. Among those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Ed Hering, Mrs. Willard Scott, and Messrs. W. M. Goss, George Harris, George Dave, W. Patrick, and H. A. Stewart of Dominion Mr. and Mrs. Irwin and Miss Jones of the Halfway house; Mr. and Mrs. McLaren, Mr. and Mrs. Radneck Marsdon, Mr. and Mrs. Cribb, Mr. and Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. P. J. Maloney, Mrs. A. T. Nida and a number of the boys from Sulphur.

Mr. M. J. McNeil is confined to his bed with a severe cold.

#### A Lost Man.

The following clipping from a Portland, Oregon, paper, has been sent to the Nugget with a request to publish it: To the Editor of the Tribune: For a



THE FIRE FIEND THREATENS DAWSON.

course of his reading the prosecutor, who had before frequently asserted that he was not responsible for the prosecution, interposed many allusions to the departed Semple. More than once during the reading of the articles, both Attorney Woodworth and his client, each of whom had copies of the articles being read, requested the reader to "follow copy" and read nothing but what was before him. The prosecutor intimated that George should be seen and not heard and asked the court to silence him.

After the reading of the articles Mr. George was put on the stand. Admitted having written the "open letter" article and numerous other shorter ones and "squibs." He had tried to prevent the publication of "A Damnable Conspiracy," but was told by Semple that he (George) had nothing to say about what was published in the Gleaner. George denied that he was or had been editor of the Gleaner, and that the appearing of his name as editor was contrary to his wishes. He was only employed as a writer, the tone of the paper

them. It is not probable that water will again circulate through the mains until some time next spring, possibly the latter part of April. Iron piping for the strengthening of the system is scattered along the Yukon at various points between here and St. Michaels, and Col. Word promises that as soon as possible after the opening of navigation the material will be delivered here and that work will be commenced at once. The wooden mains, however, will be utilized until the new system is completed.

#### Surprise Party on Dominion.

The friends of Mr. Fred Card gave him a surprise party last Monday evening, the occasion being the anniversary of his birthday. Dancing and games made a very enjoyable evening. Among those present were: Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. A. Banks, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Simpson; Misses Julian, Zervis, Mina Holmes, Hollingsworth, and a number of gentlemen from the adjoining claims.

long time I have been seeking information as to the fate of my son, Mark Neumayer; whether living or dead. To all persons who have ever known my son—to the companions of his boyhood or friends of later years—I appeal for information as to when and where last seen or heard from, no matter how long ago. To newspaper proprietors everywhere willing to assist a distressed mother to clear the mystery of her son's disappearance I appeal, with a request to publish this article. Mrs. L. Neumayer, Portland, Oregon.

#### Notice.

The partnership heretofore existing between Frank J. Golden and Joseph Selix in the Juneau Hardware Co., and Yukon Bakery has been dissolved, Joseph Selix retiring, from the said co-partnership and Frank J. Golden continuing with the business thereof, he to collect all accounts due to said co-partnership and assume and pay all debts owing thereby. Signed, FRANK J. GOLDEN, JOSEPH SELIX.