

# THE KLONDIKE NUGGET.

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## CHIEF ALLEN HELD FOR TRIAL

### Story of His Experiences With Nellie James.

#### Makes no Defense Against Her Accusations of Assault and Robbery—Called Her His Wife.

The mutual affairs of Fire Chief W. J. Allen and Nellie James were paraded before the public in police court Friday, and a large crowd present seemed to enjoy it highly. It came about through the examination of the chief on complaint of Miss Nellie, who charged him (1) with the theft of a coat and (2) with assault, both alleged offenses occurring on July 2, 1898.

Attorney Miller represented the prose-



cution and Attorney de Journal appeared for the defendant, who pleaded not guilty to both offenses.

The charge of stealing the coat was first taken up, and Hiram Abrahamovitch, a merchant, was called to the stand. He testified that on the date named he purchased from Allen a canvas covered boat and outfit, consisting of provisions, clothing, etc., paying \$125 therefor. A few days later a policeman called on him and enquired for the goods. He showed them and the officer found a lady's coat in a sack of clothing which he said belonged to Nellie James. He turned the coat over



to the policeman, who took it away. Witness partially identified the coat. On cross-examination he said there was a woman on the boat with Allen and himself at the time of his purchase, but he could not say whether it was Nellie or not. Allen did not sell the coat specifically, and he told witness if the lady asked for any of the things to let her have them. The coat lay under a cot in a sack.

Constable Newman testified to the fact that Nellie James reported the loss of her coat and asked him to recover it, that he finally traced it into the possession of Abrahamovitch, who gave it to him without question.

Nellie James was then put on the stand. She identified the coat and said it was on a boat on which she had come to Dawson. She had only taken her trunk off, leaving the other things

aboard. She had not given Allen authority to sell it.

On cross-examination, Attorney de Journal attempted to show that the relationship between the two principals was such that there could have been no intent or thought of theft on the part of the defendant. Witness said she had known Allen a year before coming to the Klondike with him, but declined to say whether she lived with him. At Dawson Allen sometimes introduced her as his wife, but never with her consent. On the morning of July 2, Allen went to her room at the "Combination" and took her money from her, amounting to \$1000. She brought \$300 into the country with her and earned \$700 here.

The attorney figured out that the witness had only been in the country a little over three weeks and asked her how she was able to get \$700 together in that length of time. She explained that she drew a salary of \$50 per week in addition to a percentage on all dances. The attorney asked if witness had quarreled with Allen on the outside and she said she had. Asked if it was because of her relations with other men, she refused to speak. The defense did not put in any evidence, contending that the evidence offered by the prosecution was sufficient to show that there was no intention on the part of the de-



HIS HONOR'S EXCURSION UP THE CREEK—Illustrated.

pendant to steal; that, indeed, he had even reserved from the sale of the outfit the things belonging to the complainant, as shown by the instruction, given to Abrahamovitch.

The charge of assault and robbery of money was then taken up, with Nellie on the stand. She said: "At about 8 o'clock in the morning of July 2, Allen entered my room at the Combination and asked me how much money I had and told me to give it to him. I said I would not. Then he said, 'Will you give it to me, or shall I take it from you?' I went over to my bed and took the sacks containing \$300 in currency and \$700 in gold dust from under my pillow. As I turned around he jerked them from me and struck me here (indicating the forehead). There is a scar there yet. The blow knocked me over and Allen left with the money."

Asked why she had not at once made a complaint, witness said she thought Allen was just going up the creeks for a few days.

The evidence went on to show that after the scene in the bedroom, Allen left for the outside, but a number of letters were received by Miss James from him en route; they were all addressed Mrs. W. J. Allen, "My Dear Wife." Counsel for defense objected to their reading on the ground that they were

privileged, the same as a wife could not testify for or against her husband.

"But I was not his wife," said the witness. "I have been married, but not to him. He had a wife when I came in with him."

The attorney insinuated that, at least the defendant thought the relations between them were those of husband and wife. "He was practically crazy," he said, "the same as most men are who run after women."

An extract from one of the letters was then read as follows: "I took your money and I sold one outfit of our provisions." Another ran: "Now, Nellie, I want you to forgive me for my badness. What I have taken from you won't be a marker to what I will do for you."

The defendant's counsel then took up the personal affairs of the principals. Nellie admitted knowing Allen on the outside, but denied that she was his mistress either there or here, though she did come in with him. She had never got a dollar from him, and was not sure that he had paid her expenses in as he used to take her money from her at Juneau, where she was working. He asked her for money to buy the outfit, and she gave him \$75 or \$80.

Witness admitted that the alleged robbery occurred over a year ago, and that

## MADE HIS LIFE A BURDEN.

### Jack Glover Rebels at the Conduct of His Best Girl.

#### Throws Her Clothes Out of Doors and Turns His Back Upon Her—Tell of His Infatuation for Babe Pyne.

A rather sensational episode transpired a few nights ago, when Jack Glover, a well known citizen, unceremoniously emptied his cabin of the clothes and chattels of the two Pyne sisters, who had been his guests. Though the hour was late, several persons witnessed the episode, which was naturally followed by a flow of tears and a show of spirit on the part of the girls. Jack was master of the field, however, and held possession of the place, though he subsequently re-



linquished the cabin and sold the furniture to one of the sisters.

In a talk with a Nugget man, Mr. Glover described his experience with his guests as follows: "I first met Babe Pyne about ten weeks ago and became infatuated with her at first sight. I knew her sister Dot as the wife of a chum of mine. I proposed to Babe that we try to reform Dot and she agreed. Accordingly, I rented a cabin from Charlie Meadows and fitted it up sumptuously for the two girls. But instead of bringing Dot to live there, Babe brought Jennie Riggs, and she stayed until her departure for the outside a few days ago. Dot only spent



one night at the house. In the meanwhile I discovered Babe to be a dissolute character, constantly drinking absinthe and whiskey, and learned that she was merely living with me to arouse the jealousy of another man with whom she had lived. Finally, she became so obnoxious to me that I could not stand it longer and put her out of doors."

In addition Mr. Glover says the woman has caused him much misery and made life a burden to him. He will trouble her with his presence no more and hopes to be left alone by her.

Messrs. Charles K. Nourse and Herbert Wilson returned on Wednesday form a pleasure jaunt on the river. They were guests of Mr. Charlson aboard the W. S. Stratton, from Fort Selkirk.

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