

### HELD CAPTIVE BY HIS ENEMIES.

Eighteen Thousand Letters Handled at Dawson in One Month.

### Uncle Andy Turns the Laugh to Good Account and Takes Up a Collection for a Good Cause Turns the Tables on Laughing Bystanders.

The Dawson acquaintances of Michael C. Eschwege will be interested in the latest information received concerning that gentleman's whereabouts and welfare. As will be remembered by readers of the YUKON, one George McDougall, whom Eschwege defrauded out of \$250 left here for the lower country on March 19th with the avowed purpose of wreaking a summary vengeance upon him. Now comes Mr. George Bethell, lately arrived from Circle City, who says that while en route to Dawson he passed both Eschwege and McDougall, and that Eschwege and McDougall were then only a few days walk apart, near Charley river, with McDougall going at a rapid clip and grim determination showing from every feature of his strong countenance. Evidently the two men have met and probably had it out; but Bethell says Eschwege is desperate, as well as McDougall, and he is not sure that the latter will have an easy thing of it. Each of the men is accompanied by a traveling companion, but their identity is unknown.

As Bethell progressed on his journey toward Dawson, he came across plenty of evidence of Eschwege's presence there for, he says, the man was boating his way, wherever possible, he tried the game at the Montek roadhouse, located about 15 miles this side of Nation City, but was tripped up. After getting the best the house afforded, Eschwege and his companion left for down-river without paying their bills. This was discovered soon after by the proprietors and one of them, arming himself with a rifle, started in pursuit. A couple of miles down he caught up with the two and ordered them to halt. Eschwege started toward him threateningly, but the other pointed the gun at his head and told him he would blow his head off if he did not return to the roadhouse and settle up. Eschwege deliberated a moment, then surrendered and walked back to the cabin, where he paid up.

To Bethell, Eschwege said his name was Eschberg and claiming to own Nos. 8 and 9 Klondike. He described "Eschberg" as being below medium height, with Jewish features and an English style of speaking, so there is no doubt of his identity as Eschwege.

Later it is now learned that Eschwege was overhauled at some point down the river, and gracefully surrendered and returned to Eagle City with his captors. A series of miners' meetings have been called at Eagle to deal with this case, and report has it that the miners are divided between giving him so many lashes on the bare back or turning him over to the Canadian authorities.

**Postoffice Statistics.** Postmaster Hartman's books tell a story of unusual prosperity, as well as of hard work on the part of himself and staff. The stamp sales for the month of March foot up a total of \$1,500, as against \$1,100 in February and \$800 in January. The amount from boxes for the same time was about \$200, also an increase over the previous month. Postmaster Hartman now allows boxes to be rented for a period of six months for \$3, which tends to popularize their use.

There were four mails sent out and several received during the month of March, the staff handling over 15,000 letters, exclusive of the mail from below. There were 3,400 registered letters, of which 200 were sent out. The last mail out leaving on the evening of March 31, carried 140 pounds and it kept Postmaster Hartman so busy up to the time of its closing that he hadn't time to get in a letter to his wife, but was obliged to give it to the police who took out the mail. The next mail will leave on the 5th of the month and another on the 15th, if the trail will permit.

The great increase in the number of letters sent out of here has had the effect of exhausting the supply of two-cent stamps, and people will be obliged for a time to use one and three cent stamps, of which there is still a supply. Postmaster Hartman sent for a fresh supply of two-cent stamps quite a while ago and expects their arrival at any time.

### Uncle Andy in a New Role.

"Uncle Andy" Young appeared in a new role on Monday last week, and carried himself with his usual success. He had volunteered to beat the drum for the Tivoli band, during the temporary absence of the regular artist, and his rather grotesque efforts elicited the crowd of bystanders to pass a series of facetious remarks at his expense. This suggested a charitable idea to Uncle Andy, and when the music had ceased he proceeded to get even in his own way. "Tell you what we'll do, boys," he said, "we'll take up a nice collection for the Salvation Army, to help them in their work. They are deserving men, and will use the money to good advantage. To show you my heart's in the right place, I'll start it off with a quarter," and he threw a coin upon the head of the drum. "Now, everybody stop up and help the cause along," he said, and in a few minutes several dollars in quarters and halves lay on the drum, and was soon transferred to the army's contribution box within the Tivoli.

### Will Ask for More Money.

In response for a request from Colonel Steele for information relative to the Dawson fire department, he sent by him to Ottawa for the enlightenment of the government on the needs of this community. Chief Fletcher last week

served the official with a description of the apparatus in the hands of the department, its one station-house, the hoses with which it has been equipped since organization, and such other information along the same lines. He also took occasion to recommend the purchase, leasing or building of a new central station, as the department will be obliged to vacate the present premises with the reopening of navigation in the spring, the hiring of more paid men and the partial compensation of the volunteers. He also denominated the present condition of the water front as a constant menace to the safety of the town, and endorsed the order for the rebuilding of the buildings thereon. It is understood that Colonel Steele will use the information to reinforce, with other arguments, a request for a larger appropriation of public moneys for the Yukon district.

### Lucille's Partner Back.

Andrew Nelson, a well-known "sour dough," arrived in Dawson Sunday from a pleasure trip to the States and Europe. He was accompanied by seven Klondike countrymen, named Anton Michaelson, Samuel Jensen, John Stevers, Michael Hansen, Matt Stevenson, Soren Mogensson and Chris Jorgenson, all from Wrangling. They took quarters at the Yukon hotel, where the host Shoborn is treating them to the "fat of the land." Nelson, it will be remembered, was interested with Lucille Elliot in No. 34 below upper on Dominion, and which was lately awarded them by the authorities at Ottawa, after a hard fight in the courts here, with Andrew Donnelly, Alex McDonald, R. Morrison and others. It is said that Lucille, who also went out last summer with something like \$25,000 "to the good," will return to the scene of her former triumphs in the spring.

### Diamond Ring Stolen.

Mrs. Fields had the misfortune last week to have a valuable diamond ring stolen. She had laid it down in a wash room at the Klondike hotel, and upon returning to get it she found it gone. It was undoubtedly stolen, but there are no clues to the identity of the thief.

### Funeral of Pioneer.

The funeral of the late William Denker transpired Sunday from Pioneer hall, where Rev. Bowen conducted religious services in the presence of a company of friends. William E. Lingard, chaplain of the Y. O. P., conducted a further service at the grave. The pallbearers were John Black, Al. Stitz, Ed. McGrath, John Horn, James O'Brien and Bert Scott.

Louis Olson died at the Anglo-American hospital Sunday from the effects of intestinal tuberculosis. He was 39 years of age and had no relatives hereabouts.

### The Lower Country.

Messrs. George Bethell and C. Syllivig arrived in from Circle City Friday, and are stopping at the Yukon hotel. Their report, like most others from below, that Circle is exceedingly quiet, and that comparatively little is being done thereabouts. It is a little livelier about Eagle, but not much. The A. C. and N. A. T. & T. companies have been getting out coal for their steamers and the first named has 1,800 tons piled up on the bank at Ivy City.

### Things Pugilistic.

The 20-round glove contest between Billy Cooper and Jack Nedmonds occurs at the Monte Carlo theatre to-night (Wednesday). The match has aroused great interest among the sportively inclined, and much money has been wagered on the outcome. Cooper had an attack of the mumps last week, but the attending physician has expressed the opinion that it will not interfere with his fighting abilities. James Donaldson has been selected for referee. Bob Gooney and Billy Devine last week signed articles for a go on the 25th, for \$500 a side. Knowing ones say that Devine is a good one and that Gooney will find him the hardest man he has gone against in Dawson.

### Personals—Louis Pond is HI.

Messrs. J. C. Biggs and Ben. C. Wing arrived in from the outside on Sunday, twenty-three days from Skagway. The first named is interested in 61 Eldorado, besides other promising properties. Mr. Wing is making his first visit to the country; he is a brother of T. E. Wing, and his coming was a complete surprise to the other. Mr. Biggs reports that Louis Pond, the Dawson jeweler, is confined to St. Luke's hospital at San Francisco, with typhoid fever; he had been hovering at death's door for some time, but at last reports was showing some improvement. He also reports that Baron de Goldsmith, who was in the Klondike last summer and has valuable interests here, is on his way in again.

Messrs. J. H. Brown, manager for the Alaska Gold Mining & Prospecting Co., of Chicago; D. M. Aaron and Charles Glans arrived in by dog team on Sunday. The gentlemen ignored roadhouse accommodations, good, bad and indifferent, and got along nicely with a tent and robes, even with the thermometer at 42 below, as it was at one time. They say the trail is beginning to soften up, but that it will be safe to leave for the outside for a week yet, unless there is an unexpectedly early break up. Mr. Brown and Mr. Glans both have mining interests here.

### Regina Club Smoker.

The members of the Regina club, together with over 100 invited guests, enjoyed a jolly and well managed "smoker" on Saturday at the Regina Club hotel. The spacious dining hall was devoted to the occasion in addition to the club room on the third floor, and mine host Healy was tireless in his painstaking preparations for the successful event. The following program was rendered in addition to a number of impromptu numbers and encores: Overture, Messrs. Relefo and Eversole; song, O. F. Finney; violin solo, O. Lampe; song, Captain Ogilviey sketch; Sidney Haugard; song, Roy

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M. Pike, song, George Noble, mandolin and guitar, Messrs. Relefo and Eversole; song, Ben Davis; three-round sparring exhibition, Messrs. Cameron and Pufford; song, Thomas H. Pike; whistling solo, Sidney Haugard; vocal trio, Messrs. Watrous, Roy M. and T. H. Pike; song, M. S. Eyles; violin solo, Lynn Relefo; song, M. W. Watrous; song, Ben Davis; skirt dance, R. L. Webb; three round glove contest, J. F. Carroll and T. C. Healy; accompanists, Messrs. Barwell, Quigley, Fring and Boyle.

The management of the successful affair was in the following excellent hands: Executive committee—H. D. Hulhae, L. Tozier, E. D. Bolton, J. B. Pattullo, M. A. Hammer, R. M. Detraff, A. E. Willis, H. E. Bidley. Entertainment committee—Leroy Tozier, Roy M. Pike, Dr. Richardson, Joseph Boyle. Reception committee—J. L. Pattullo, R. M. Detraff, Dr. Montague, S. G. Detraff, W. H. Snell, H. Stone. Souvenir program cards, artistically arranged and printed, were distributed among the guests and members. Cigars and seductive liquid refreshments were served throughout the evening.

### Soldiers at Skagway.

A copy of the Skagway Bulletin of March 16th, brought in by J. A. McNeill contains a description of a hot railroad strike at that place. As is too often the case, the placards of the strikers were filled by others, and the strikers, becoming desperate and unmanageable, made a hostile demonstration which resulted in the summoning of a company of soldiers from Dyea, the arrest and sentencing to 30 days of at least one of the rioters, the temporary closing of the saloons, and no end of excitement on the part of the people. A movement was finally inaugurated to send the strikers back to the states, by which it is believed serious trouble will be averted.

Wallace J. Guiton is reported by the Bulletin to have reached Skagway from Atlin bearing from the British residents of the now diggings a protest against the anti-alien exclusion act. The petition asks for the repeal of the law as speedily as possible, on the ground that it had paralyzed the trade and the industries of the district; that it is inimical to the interests and development of the country; that it has caused a sudden and complete cessation of all prospecting and claim improvement; that it has caused capitalists to withhold from investing in the country, and has checked effectually the influx of population necessary for the building up of a rich section of the province.

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