

FREIGHTING OVER THE ICE.

But Little Being Done and for Excellent Reasons.

Shippers Were Drained of Their Last Dollars When They Left Bennett—Will Await Navigation.

But a very small per cent of the freight which was en route down the river when navigation closed will see Dawson before next spring. Considerable hauling is being done from Scow island and intermediate points, but from there on southward the cargoes are not being molested.

There are two reasons for this inaction on the part of owners of stranded freight, the first being that the trail for heavy teams above Scow island is in very bad condition, and the second is that in many instances, the owners already have as much money invested in their stock as it would sell for in Dawson if here, and cannot therefore afford to expend upon it the additional amount which would be required to freight it down.

Hundreds of tons of freight now lying strewn along the Yukon were purchased and shipped from below in ample time to have been delivered in Dawson in the early fall, when the sere was on the pumpkin and the yellow on the corn, had the various transportation companies been able to fulfill their contracts. The consignments were dumped on wharves at Skagway where for weeks they awaited the pleasure of a badly managed railroad, and when the stuff did move it was at an enormous expense, and before it moved its owner was, in the majority of cases hanging around Skagway endeavoring to drown his worry at a big outlay of cash. On reaching Bennett the situation was not in any degree illumined. There the steamboat companies by whom the consignments were billed found themselves overwhelmed with business, but in many instances the shipper was led to believe that their part of the contract would yet be fulfilled, and the poor shipper hung around Bennett as he had done at Skagway and again attempted to drown his worry at two bits per stampen. Finally, on realizing that the shipping companies were acting in bad faith with him he had them release his freight, when he set about having a scow built in order that he might bring his goods down himself. There is where another great vacuum was made in his purse. Lumber was higher at Bennett last fall than it is in Dawson today, and the result was in nine cases out of every ten when the owner of the cargo left Bennett after being again robbed by a tow boat he had his every dollar invested in his goods, the season was far spent and all that was left him to do was trust in Providence, stand by his sweep and keep his eye peeled for rocks and sand bars, with the result that when the ice closed upon them they were found forced to accept the inevitable and leave their possessions where winter overtook them until nature permits of their concluding the voyage next spring and early summer. And this condition of affairs accounts for the fact that such a small percentage of stranded freight is being freighted down the river. Every transportation company that the shipper dealt with since the purchase of his goods bilked him and he prefers to take no more chances.

An Encouraging Report.

Dr. L. O. Wilcoxon and Humboldt Gates have just returned from an inspection tour of their Sulphur property and also to have properly repaired the hoisting machinery on No. 18 below.

It is a pleasure to note the bright outlook on this creek which has received so many uncalled for and unjust criticisms. Wilcoxon, in speaking of the creek says: "I find that there is more work being done on Sulphur than on

any other creek. It is being systematically worked from 3 to 96 below, and from 2 to 68 above. Fully 100 thawing plants are piling up on all claims being worked. On our claim, No. 18 below, we are taking out gravel at the rate of a bucket a minute, each bucket containing three cubic feet. I have panned on No. 18 to get an average. In 28 pans I got \$28.95, and the claims above and below us are equal to if not better ground.

"We have panned \$18 on 8 below without picking the pan, so you see that speaks for the ground intervening. We are interested on No. 5 Green gulch, which comes in at 38 above and have excellent pay, in fact Green gulch is good from its head to Sulphur, especially upon the left limit.

"On 46 above it is claimed they have blocked out 75,000 cubic feet of pay dirt. The other tributaries of Sulphur are not showing up well, for the same reason that Sulphur has been held back, they have not been thoroughly prospected or worked. I am indeed well satisfied with Sulphur and everyone who is working his claim, I find the same way."

LOCAL BREVITIES.

Roy Stetson, Orip and Otis Rank and seven others left yesterday morning with a horse and sled for the outside.

The new Pavilion grill room has sprung high into popular favor already. The bill of fare contains everything to please the most fastidious, while popular prices are the rule.

F. W. Kreppe, an old Dawsonite, who went to Nome last summer, arrived in from Seattle yesterday. Mr. Kreppe claims that for 12 miles above Nome, where the best beach diggings existed, the beach is pretty well worked.

John Mulligan received a letter from a friend in Nome concerning the richness of that country. In describing the beach he says: "But if you do not get gold out of the ruby sand you will surely get clams."

Jimmy Hales and Jack Galvin are opening a meat market near the Electric light plant and as both have been in the business in Dawson for some time they will soon make the new market a popular one.

Men who are engaged at carpentering on Front street these days devote a large amount of their time to slapping their bodies with their arms, endeavoring to keep warm. No matter what pay they get, they earn all of it and possibly more.

The Yukon Theosophical Club will hold its regular weekly meeting on Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock in room No. 11, Green Tree building. The planes of existence will be discussed and exemplified by diagram, and the interesting law of Karma clearly elucidated.

C. W. Thebo, manager of the Cattle Syndicate Ltd., left for Seattle and London this morning with a horse and small sleigh. He makes the trip on business connected with his company. During his protracted visit to "Merry England," he intends visiting several of the European capitals on a pleasure tour.

A good story is told on Ed Holden, late of the Monte Carlo. Ed was engaged in a little private game of poker in one of the rooms upstairs. When the fire was discovered, an employee rushed to the room to warn the players. "Fire, fire!" he yelled. And Holden yelled back. "Fire be d— I'm in the hole, and I'll not quit till I finish this deal."

An alarm of fire was turned in from the courthouse at 4:05 yesterday afternoon, the truck and chemical from station 2 responding, but their services were not needed. The fire was merely the wall paper in Judge Dugas' rooms overhead, which had got ablaze from a lamp being placed too close to the wall. The chemical tank in the courthouse was instantly used and again proved its worth.

"Jim" McCauley received a telegram from his brother Henry dated Bennett, Jan. 14th. Henry said he had arrived the day before, had a hard trip on the lake, that the trains were snowed in and advised his brother to use round collars instead of breast straps in coming out. Henry went out with a horse and Yukon sleigh, making the trip in ten and a half days.

Equals a Dawson Nugget.

An immense sensation has been created all over Australia by the discovery in Western Australia of a huge nugget valued at \$32,000. On account of its having been found on a Sunday it has been christened "Sacred Nugget." The

prospectors are three fishermen. Its weight is authentically certified at 115 pounds avoirdupois. The lump is 15 inches long and over five inches wide, and was found on the surface of an alluvial patch near Lake Wynee, or Wind, three miles from Kanowna. This is not the biggest nugget on record, for the "Welcome nugget," found at Bakery Hill, Ballarat weighed 2217 ounces and was worth \$41,000. A huge stampede has followed to the diggings.

POLICE COURT.

It was a full house that greeted Magistrate Perry on his arrival at his court room this morning, and in which court room a new constable, who is acting instead of the regular man, who is in jail, is so ultra officious that when a man steps into the room half an hour before court opens he is peremptorily ordered "Take off your hat" before he has time to remove his mitts. The new court constable is probably stuck on his "job."

The first case was that of L. T. Collins, charged with being drunk and disorderly in the Pavilion last night. Collins admitted being "a little full" and volunteered the information that in coming down street to the guard house with the officer he, Collins, had to almost carry the man who had arrested him, Constable Barren. When asked by Magistrate Perry if he had any witnesses, Collins said "not here, but I could get de whole push down from Nigger Jim's." The presence of "de push" not being deemed necessary a fine of \$20 and costs or 30 days at hard labor was imposed.

John W. Pratt, who ate a \$3 meal at the Northern Cafe last night and wished to settle for \$2, and who was forcibly ejected from that place, paid a fine of \$10 and costs.

Edward Wamire, the man who was recently arrested at Selwyn while on a flying trip to Bennett, and brought back to Dawson on the charge of stealing a robe from Burton W. Johnson, had no trouble in proving his innocence to the full satisfaction of the court. Wamire had informed Johnson that he would take the robe and he had kindly provided for Johnson's comfort until his return as he was to be gone only a few weeks. After his departure, however, Johnson wired for his arrest, fearing that he might never again see his beloved robe. Wamire's good and honest intentions were fully established. The silly look Johnson wore in court should have cleared the other man even if the evidence had been much stronger against him.

The case of the Crown vs. Murphy charged by Beckwith with threatening to "let a cat out" if the latter did not do so and so on the 11th of last November, was continued until such time as Crown prosecutor Wade can appear for the prosecution.

Warrants for the arrest of the following named persons charged with gambling were issued. Peter Baslet, Samuel McCowan, Henry McCon, Frye Coleman, Mike O'Donnel, F. P. Gross, Geo. Burnett, Fred Bermuda, Chas. Delone and Chas. Ceaser.

Are you planning any improvements in the building line? Place orders for lumber with the Nugget Express. Office, Boyle's wharf.

NOTICE.

Parties having Laundry at the Palace Barber Shop can get same by calling at Ruth Howard's cabin in rear of Hobbs' sawmill.—12

Sour Dough Letter Heads for sale at the Nugget office.

Bargains—Watches and diamonds at reduced prices. Uncle Hoffman.

Shoff, the Dawson Dog Doctor, Pioneer Drug Store.

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