

MORTIMER CONFESSES

He Robbed His Partners of Gold Dust.

But Says They Had First Robbed Him—Joke on Detective McGuire.

By a cleverly set trap laid by the police the mystery surrounding the disappearance of the gold belonging to Fields, Mortimer and Rogers, partners, working discovery claim on Thistle creek last year, has been cleared up and the largest part of the dust recovered.

The sensational story brought to Dawson last fall by Edwin Mortimer of his being kidnapped and kept in a shaft for the purpose of compelling him to confess to a crime which he claimed to know nothing about, and the subsequent arrest and trial of Rogers on the charge of kidnapping him which resulted in Rogers being held for trial, is still fresh in the minds of the people of Dawson.

The story has been recalled within the last few weeks by the arrest and trial of Mortimer on the charge of theft of the gold dust and through the vigilant efforts of the police has resulted in the recovery of a large part of the gold and a confession from the man Mortimer, whose preliminary hearing in the police court was enlarged a week ago last Tuesday for the purpose of giving an opportunity of investigating the claim where Mortimer stated he had obtained the gold in his possession at the time of his arrest.

After the robbery of dust which occurred in August last Mortimer staked 3 below discovery on Thistle creek a claim that had been abandoned and was then open to relocation.

While Mortimer was suspected at the time of the trial of Rogers of being implicated in the disappearance of the gold, there was no evidence against him and so he was allowed to go back to the creek, but he was kept under strict surveillance, although himself unaware of it, as it was known that he would sooner or later begin spending the money if he had it.

The suspicion proved correct and within a short time after Mortimer returned to Thistle the amount of gold in his poke gradually increased and he was seen more frequently with large sums in his possession. He took in with him as a partner in working his claim a man named Wilson who was with him from the time he started working. He advanced considerable money to Mortimer at various times before they went to work and all that he received in return was \$50, which was paid in one lump sum. Mortimer took charge of the claim and kept all of the gold panned out. Wilson had only known positively of something over four ounces that had been panned out altogether, although Mortimer had put considerably more than that into the poke where the pannings were kept. This is the story Wilson has told since his evidence was taken in the police court.

at the trial of Mortimer and it was on that evidence that Constable Mapley was sent up to the claim 3 below discovery on Thistle to investigate the amount of work done on the claim and to pan in the dirt to see whether or not the story told by Wilson of the amount of gold taken out could be verified.

Constable Mapley returned to Dawson on Wednesday after making a search of the premises and the shaft and brought with him the identical can containing the gold which was stolen from the cabin. Constable Mapley was assisted in the search by Constable Graham of Ogilvie and in his report to the commanding officer stated that they had prospected the right wall of the tunnel in three places, 40, 60 and 100 feet respectively from the mouth, and on the right wall had started digging 46 feet from the mouth of the tunnel and about 11 inches below the surface had come across five or six pieces of poles and shavings and in the midst of this covering had found the can containing the dust. The amount of the gold was 63 ounces, 3 dwt. and 7 grains, which amounts to about \$1,010. This gold was all coarse nuggets and included in it was one nugget weighing 1 1/2 ounces, 1 dwt. 16 grs., valued at about \$29, and which was positively identified by Rogers. The fine dust had all been taken from the can leaving only the coarse gold and nuggets, and the amount remaining added to the amount known

to have been spent by Mortimer, together with what was in the sack seized by the police at the time of his arrest, brings the total to about the amount that originally disappeared, which was something over \$1,460.

When Mortimer was confronted with the incriminating evidence of the can and its contents and told of how it had been recovered, he made no attempt at denying having taken it from the other claim and depositing it where it had been found by the officers. But in defense of his action he stated (and here he started in with an entirely new story and one which in all the various stories that have been told has never before been even breathed) that he had simply taken the gold in order to keep himself from being robbed of his portion of it. He said that in the cabin he had been occupying there was a large crack between the logs and that on the morning of the last day of the washup he had heard his partners talking outside of the cabin and that he had looked through the crack and seen them looking very intently at something. The two of them had gone away then, Rogers came to Dawson and Fields went fishing. After they had gone he examined the place where they had been and found the can containing the gold. He had then taken it and hid it in a stump and of course when the partners returned they could not find it and were very angry and in order to make him tell what he had done with it he says he was put into the shaft.

Mortimer stated that at the time Detective McGuire searched the place for the gold he sat for some time on the very stump under which the gold was hidden but that it was concealed so carefully that no one would have imagined it to be there.

By allowing Mortimer to return to his work, the authorities showed excellent judgment and events have transpired just as anticipated and another mystery has been cleared up.

The case will be called on Tuesday morning, when the complete evidence will be taken.

FORSAKES SINGLE LIFE

Popular Andy McKenzie Becomes a Benedict.

Stole a March on His Friends Who Are Now Showering Him With Congratulations.

Andy McKenzie, one of Nature's noblemen and a prince of good fellows, handed his friends a surprise last night that was positively startling. He has so long been prominent in the front ranks of bachelordom that it was presumed nothing could persuade him to forswear the state of single blessedness, and so when it became noised about that he of all men had fallen a victim to a pair of brown eyes, melting and soulful in their expressiveness, surprise gave way to consternation and the thought uppermost became "What next?"

The marriage took place last night at Mr. McKenzie's residence on Second avenue near Duke street, the lady whose smiles proved so captivating that resistance was impossible being Mrs. Jennie Cotney Prather, lovely, accomplished and possessing the many attributes necessary to dual happiness. The interesting ceremony was performed by the Rev. Dr. Grant, Mrs. Ida Butler appearing as bridesmaid and Mr. Sam Matthews officiating as best man. The cosy little residence was very prettily decorated for the occasion and none were happier than they who were made one by the sweetly solemn words of the minister. Following the ceremony the long life and prosperity of the bride and groom was repeatedly drunk in bumpers of sparkling wine and they with their guests sat down to an elaborate repast. Among the guests who were present and attended the reception were: Mrs. Ida Butler, Mrs. J. Gibson, Mrs. M. Wilson, Miss Wilson, Miss Smith, Alderman Jas. F. Macdonald, Mr. Thomas Chisholm, Mr. Sam Matthews, Mr. Peter Farrell, Mr. H. C. Hume, Mr. J. M. Jackson, Mr. Gilbert Soule, Mr. Thomas Keenan, Mr. Peter Smith, Mr. Colin McDonald, Mr. John M. Bolton, Mr. Charles Harris, Casey Moran and E. J. White.

At the Empire. John A. Scarrington, H. E. Downing, Gold Run; R. W. Hodgkins, Dominion; John McCormick, White Horse.

ARE AFTER THE PLUMS

Usual Results Follow the Late Election.

Aldermen Besieged With Applications For Political Preference by Friends.

The gentlemen recently elected as the city's first board of aldermen are beginning to experience the penalties they incur in accepting a public position to which is attached a measure of power in the appointment and distribution of political favors. In the States the mayor alone has the naming of those to whom the plums that go with a victorious election are given, but in Canada the power is vested in the entire civic body, the appointments being made by the mayor and council, and for that reason each of the new aldermen are being buttonholed perhaps fifty times a day by different aspirants for the several positions to be distributed and their friends and supporters, each claiming to be entitled to consideration by reason of valiant work done which resulted in the election of the successful candidate. No appointments can be made until the first meeting of the council, which will be held on Monday, March 3, and the first office to be filled will doubtless be that of city clerk. By the provisions of the act Assessor E. Ward Smith is made city clerk and acts as such until his successor is named.

Another point relative to the movement of the civic machinery which may not be generally understood is the position the mayor will take in voting on the passage of ordinances. There being six aldermen on the board the mayor will not vote upon any proposition except in the case of a tie, when his will be the deciding ballot. Where the council will meet has not been definitely fixed, but from Legal Adviser Newlands it is learned that it is proposed to hold the sessions in the gold commissioner's court room.

Another German Duel.

Berlin, Jan. 27.—Fresh material for the duelling controversy has been afforded by the Von Bennigsen-Falkenhagen meeting in the Emperor's hunting park at Springe, near Hannover, yesterday, in which Von Bennigsen, the local governor of Springe, was probably fatally wounded by Falkenhagen, who is a large lessee of Crown lands. The affair had reference to the wife of governor Von Bennigsen. Several gentlemen of high positions in the town of Springe having decided at the club that the governor ought to be informed of the gossip concerning his wife, in which they considered there was ample ground for a duel, presented the matter to Von Bennigsen, who challenged Falkenhagen. A meeting was arranged, and Falkenhagen fired at the count. Von Bennigsen fell without firing once at his adversary. The governor's aged father, Rudolph Von Bennigsen, one of the founders of the National Liberal party, and long noted as a leader in the Reichstag, arrived on the field soon after, accompanied by his second son, who is the governor of German New Guinea, and brought the wounded man away.

Insulted Roosevelt.

Richmond, Va., Jan. 21.—John W. Starke, one of the most widely known young men in Richmond, was arrested this afternoon for sending through the mail an insulting letter to President Roosevelt soon after the president entertained Booker T. Washington at the White House. The charge is that of sending obscene matter through the mail. The letter was directed to "The President, Washington, D. C." The offensive document consisted of a sheet of blank letter paper, on which was written in pencil, under date of "10-24-1104"—To Teddy. White without and black within. A nigger in a white man's skin. J.W.S.

Enclosed was the picture of a negro with an outrageous legend.

Prince Henry's Programme.

Berlin, Jan. 27.—The following programme of Prince Henry's plans while visiting the United States is announced: "We arrive on the Kron Prinz Wilhelm, February 22, at New York. Prince Henry will go on board the Hohenzollern, and will stay there till the launching of the Emperor's new yacht on February 25th. We go to Washington, and perhaps stay there several days. Then we make the most of the next few days in seeing

other cities, returning to New York for two more days before we sail for home on the Deutschland, March 8." Regret was expressed at the fact that the Emperor could not visit the United States. "He would like to," said Admiral Von Seekendorff, "but we cannot spare him for so long a journey now." Washington, Jan. 27.—The committee here will arrange a program which will take Prince Henry as far west as St. Louis. Niagara Falls also may be taken in on the outward trip.

Prize for Road Riders.

New York, Jan. 30.—Members of the Century Road Association will give sixteen club prizes of various descriptions to compete for this year. Novel and up-to-date conditions will obtain. The century and mileage contests will not be separated. The first century and mileage medal will be awarded to the member making the best record in both these classes of riding. Thus the awards will be for best general performances of the year instead of for each kind of riding separately.

The new plan adopted by the Century Road Club Association is to allow 120 points for every century run made within the standard limit of fourteen hours, and one point for every mile ridden in addition. This places a premium of twenty points on a century. Each member's record at the end of the year will be as many points as he has ridden miles plus twenty points for each century ridden inside of fourteen hours.

The women members will contest for the Cornish trophy, a solid gold medal to be awarded to the woman making the greatest number of single centuries in the year. Only one century may be commenced within any period of twenty-four hours, so that under the fourteen-hour rule at least ten hours rest must be taken between centuries.

Cannot Agree.

Vancouver, Jan. 28.—At the fisheries commission today it was announced no agreement regarding a joint memorial could be come to between the cannery and fisherman. The cannery stated that they had acceded to all the points pressed by the fishermen, but the latter would not agree to recommend traps even under careful government supervision, so that a joint memorial of the evidence fell through.

The most importance evidence given today was that of John McDonald, for years a fisherman around Beechy Bay and Sooke, who advocated the use of purse seines to break up the shoals of salmon and divert them from going in such large numbers to the American traps.

Modus Vivendi Renewed.

St. Johns, Nfld., Jan. 29.—The colonial government has undertaken to renew for the present year the French shore modus vivendi, which expired the 31st of last December.

Mr. Chamberlain, the British colonial secretary, wired the colonial government a request for this action last Saturday, urging his desire to dispose of the Boer war before reviving negotiations with France respecting the Newfoundland shore.

The colonial cabinet, in acquiescing to Mr. Chamberlain's request, recorded the fact that it was done as the colony's contribution towards the solution of Imperial problems in South Africa. Newfoundland being unable to send men there, takes this means of testifying her co-operation in the Imperial policy, and is confident that the redress of her grievances will be next undertaken.

It is generally understood that this is the last time this measure will be renewed, and that it is only done now for the foregoing reason.

Prizefighter to Be Tried.

Columbus, O., Jan. 30.—Governor Nash has caused an extradition requisition to be issued on the governor of Michigan for Jimmy Hoy, one of the principals in the prize fight at Painesville, December 7, now under arrest in Detroit. Hoy will be taken back to Painesville for trial.

Cornell Wants Him.

Ithaca, N. Y., Jan. 30.—President Schurman has cabled Ambassador Andrew D. White to extend to Prince Henry an invitation to visit Cornell University when the prince arrives in the United States.

Job Printing at Nugget office.

NEW STORE! New Goods! New Prices! Shredded Wheat, 2 pkgs. Quaker Rolled Oats, 4 pkgs. Sugar, 8 lbs. Best Japan Rice, 8 lbs. Desiccated Potatoes, 5 lbs. English Breakfast Tea. Eagle Milk, 4 cans. Reindeer Milk, 5 cans. St. Charles Milk, 6 cans. Eggs, dozen. Coffee, fancy J. & M. Coffee, best J. & M. C.I. K. GROCERY 106 Third Avenue, Near Post Office. L. R. RADCLIFF, Wholesale Commission. CASH IS KING

PROMISING OUTLOOK Much Summer Work Will Be Prosecuted. Residents of Bonanza Creek and Grand Forks Are Hopeful For the Future. It is the general belief among residents of the Forks that the coming summer will witness a greater volume of active work performed on Bonanza and Eldorado creeks than has occurred in any previous year. Business at that lively little centre is quiet at the present time but there is a prevalent very general belief that within a few more weeks everything will be in a very satisfactory manner. It appears from some investigations made by a representative of this paper that work will be conducted hereafter upon a far more systematic basis than has been the case in former seasons. There will be better returns for the money invested, and more care exercised in handling dirt and saving the gold than ever before. Mining in the Klondike has now developed into a business proposition and the effort of every claim owner is to take his money from the ground and bed rock at the least possible expense—and more than that there is a noticeable disposition among mining men to take care of their money when they get hold of any. The reckless days of "high rolling" have apparently gone from the Klondike to return no more. Along lower Bonanza and at Grand Forks the prospect of the speedy construction of the new railroad is looked forward to with the utmost eagerness. It is believed by the Forks people that as soon as the railroad is completed their town will become the distributing centre for a large portion of the mining district and in consequence they are looking forward with the utmost eagerness to the time when cars come rolling into the Grand Forks depot. At present there are about 250 permanent residents of the Forks, but it is expected that the number will be doubled within the next two months. Send a copy of Goetzman's Souvenir to outside friends. A complete pictorial history of Klondike. For sale at all news stands. Price \$2.50

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6 PA... Vol. 3—No... Mr. Bud H... number, arrive... from Ogilvie... engaged in... Mr. Harkin sa... out through... light, although... to Hende... or creeks in... have made bu... looking forward... from now... navigation... are coming fr... the creeks, wh... being done... on Henderson... Madison recent... and are grow... work. Good pr... on other parts... Thistle cre... he says, deter... creeks... The fire depa... last night for... Washington... The small... without the u... Hockey... A match ga... played on the... race between... Commerce tea... The... As... Is prepar... kinds of... the finest... plant in th... and guar... Our Quart... be in oper... make it pe... the value... ing lodge... over with... The... ORDER... SPR... SU... ORDER... ETIPI... JAS... ORDER... FAIRY... THE... MCL...