

BRITISH CITIZEN DISCUSSES

The Attitude of the Canadian Government Toward the Yukon.

A Powerful Arraignment of Abuses Which Prevail in This Territory Cannot Last Forever.

Dawson, May 28, 1900.
Editor Klondike Nugget:

Dear Sir: Certain creeks in the vast and sterile Yukon territory of Canada have of late years acquired much reputation throughout the world as valuable mining properties. The government of Canada can hardly take credit for the origin of these creeks. I understand they were among the works of the Creator. In times gone past, however, Canada acquired an option over these properties, but took no steps towards their development. After many years certain hardy prospectors, battling against natural conditions, the severity of which outsiders can form no conception, discovered and made known to Canada and the world the valuable nature of these properties. Canada promptly exercised her option and took business possession. So far, good. The British flag floated, which has always hitherto meant justice, fair play, progress, public works, good and honest government generally. What part did Canada play. After inviting the world to assist in the development of her new properties under fairly liberal laws, she began to put on the screws, and year after year has kept tightening 'em up till now she has piled on to the unfortunate workers of these properties, already severely handicapped by natural conditions, a complete system of taxation, severe, vicious and iniquitous to an extent absolutely unequalled in modern history to encourage industry and enterprise in the mine owner a direct levy of 10 per cent is made on the gross output, utterly regardless of cost of production. That this tax is a direct premium on perjury, and accepted universally as such, goes without saying. To encourage the working miner he is yearly fined \$10 for the privilege of earning his bread and butter, or rather his bacon and beans, in this delightful country. The certificate with this gracious permission also purports to allow him to locate a claim, but, false to their written promise, the government locks up the country against him. He becomes the prey of gamblers and prostitutes, encouraged to settle among us by this righteous government on a system of monthly permits called fines. Of other taxes, direct and indirect, there is no end. Great sums accrue to the revenue from these sources and the clever Mr. Sifton boasts to the admiring voters of Eastern Canada of the great surplus of which he has robbed the Yukon. In return for all this revenue and the immense indirect benefit that these creeks have been to the trade of Canada, what has she spent in ameliorating the hard conditions of the life of the residents on these creeks—those who discovered and are producing all this wealth—in the shape of roads, bridges, schools and improvements generally—the life blood of a new country. Little or nothing, and that little grossly misapplied. Can you wonder that there is hardly a resident on these creeks of whatever nationality who does not regard the government with a bitter personal hatred, loathing, mistrust and contempt. Can you wonder that no prospecting is going on, no new developments, beyond those creeks already discovered, which this season are at the zenith of their prosperity and will fall off in future. Can you wonder that when any fresh attraction offers itself as at the present time, men are leaving the country in thousands. Not the loafers and idlers, but the hardy prospectors who made the country, the best miners who, having made and saved a small stake, prefer investing it in a region other than this, where the dishonored British flag flies. Each steamer carries away a full list of passengers, every man with a curse for the ignorant, greedy and corrupt government who would not give him a fair chance. Men of Canada, is it good that it should be so. I appeal to you in real earnest. Among you are large numbers of your American cousins to whose pluck and enterprise you are largely indebted for the discovery and development of this land. Numbers of your relatives and sincere well-wishers from the old mother country; from far Australia, New Zealand, Africa, etc., with whom on a distant shore you are now fighting shoulder to shoulder in the same good old cause of liberty, fair play and good government; visitors from all parts of the world. Do you want us all to return eventually to our homes spreading everywhere the word that the cherished British traditions of truth, honor, justice, fair play and honest government are, in this remote corner of the British realm, forsown, forgotten and dead.

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CIVIS "BRITANNICUS" SUM.

Shooting Affray at Rossland.

Rossland, May 2.—As a result of a shooting affray at the Columbia hotel, on First avenue, Henry McArthur lies in the Sisters' hospital with a wound in his back, his legs paralyzed and his head terribly beaten in, and will probably die; Rafael, alias William Albi, is in jail, charged with shooting him, with intent to murder him, and M. A. Albo is also in jail, charged with doing McArthur great bodily harm. Shortly after midnight Officer Rymer saw McArthur enter the Columbia lodging house slightly intoxicated, and a few minutes afterward heard a shot, followed in close succession by two others, from the upper floors. He rushed upstairs and found Albi in his underclothes flourishing a revolver over McArthur's head, who lay prostrate on the floor of the landing. At the risk of his own life he seized Albi and disarmed him, finding that three bullets had been fired from the revolver. But for his interference McArthur would probably have been killed, for Albi had been pounding his head and face with the muzzle of the revolver. Of the three shots, the first appears to have been fired through the door of Albi's room, and missed its mark, lodging in the opposite wall. Another was fired down the hall, and struck the wall in a glancing direction. The third hit McArthur in the back, and must have caused him to fall at his assailant's mercy. The latter then, it appears, proceeded to beat the man on the head. Albo is alleged to have aided in the assault, and to have made off when Officer Rymer appeared on the scene. He was arrested this morning.

Dr. Redonck, who attended McArthur, has been unable to locate the bullet, nor to exactly define its course. Both of McArthur's legs are paralyzed, and the doctor thinks that this is due to some injury to the spine. The wounds on the face and head are so severe that they will leave scars, even if McArthur should recover.

Albi has left a trail of blood in his track for the last year. He killed a man in a quarrel at the Coeur d'Alene theater in Spokane, Washington, a year ago.

McArthur and Albi had a quarrel in a saloon early on Tuesday evening.

They Will Trek.

New York, May 2.—Writing from Pretoria, under date of March 23d, the World's special correspondent, Howard C. Hillegis, says that hundreds of Boers are casting about for a suitable country to which they can go if they find it desirable. State Secretary Reitz said: "If the English take these republics and raise the Union Jack over them I will take my family to America." Many of the older Boers will trek to German West Africa and thousands will emigrate to other countries. The friends of President Kruger say that if the Transvaal loses her independence he will spend the last years of his life in Holland or Germany.

Mr. Hillegis writes further: "To the Boer army it is customary to grant a furlough or fortnight's leave of absence after he has been in lager two or three months. A low estimate places the number of men 'of commando' as it is called at about 4000 at one time."

"Then there are the Bible reading Boers, those who remain behind in camp and will not go into a fight unless they feel in the mood for doing so. Before the reverses at Kimberley, Ladysmith and Paardeburg it was usual to find at least one-third of the men belonging to this class, but since then the percentage has been much less."

Referring to the size of the Boer army he assumes that 36,000 men are under arms today and says: "But it must be taken into account that every Boer is an army unto himself, and that every one is mounted on a fleet horse which can sustain itself on the grass it finds everywhere, and that there is no extensive commissariat to prevent the Boer from dashing up delivering a blow and escaping in time to prevent the enemy from doing much damage to him."

Private dining rooms at the Holborn.

We fit glasses. Pioneer drug store.

Parties having mining ground partially worked, or full claims favorably situated, can find a purchaser through Norton D. Walling, Grand Forks.

Just received, the finest line of millinery goods, ready made suits, silk petticoats, silk waists, sashes; everything of the latest spring styles, at Mrs. Morrison's London Dry Goods and Millinery, Third st. and Third avenue, next to Mohr & Wilkins.

TO NOME BY WAY OF DAWSON

The Pacific Coast Steamship Co. Selling Tickets

For Round Trip From San Francisco for \$262—Will Require 30 Days' Travel.

Excursion rates for the season of 1900 from San Francisco and from Seattle to Nome by way of Skagway, Whitehorse, Dawson and St. Michael are announced by the Pacific Coast Steamship Company, in connection with the White Pass & Yukon railroad, the Canadian Development Co. and other lines. The return trip is to be made from Nome by ocean.

The fare from San Francisco and return over the above outlined route is placed at \$262; from Puget Sound and return, at \$250. The rates include berths and meals on ocean and river steamers.

The Pacific Coast Company will carry the passengers to Skagway, the railroad to Whitehorse, the Canadian Development Company's steamers from Whitehorse to Dawson. The North American Trading & Transportation Company's steamers or those of the Alaska Exploration Company will furnish the lower Yukon connections to St. Michael, and the remainder of the trip by ocean may be made on steamers of the Pacific Coast Company, the Pacific Steam Whaling Company, the N. A. T. Co., the A. E. Co., or the Empire line.

Excursionists may start from San Francisco on the trip not later than October 1, and will be permitted to stop over at Seattle, Skagway, Whitehorse, Dawson, St. Michael and Nome.

The time estimated for the round trip from San Francisco, says the Alaskan, is one month, but it is figured that with close connections the trip may be made in something less than a month. This deduction, made by careful transportation schedule makers, is considered a valuable point in the argument for the Skagway-Yukon river route to Nome. The Pacific Coast Company has estimated the time of the through journey from place to place as follows:

San Francisco to Seattle, four days; Seattle to Skagway, four days; Skagway to Whitehorse, one day; Whitehorse to Dawson, two days; Dawson to St. Michael, five days; St. Michael to Nome, one day; Nome to Seattle, ten days.

The Pacific Coast Company has announced the excursion rate of \$60 from the Sound to Skagway, Glacier Bay and Sitka and return for the season.

Agent F. W. White has received the general circular announcing the schedule on which the steamers of the company will run in Southeastern Alaskan waters and between Puget Sound and San Francisco until next October.

The Alaska schedule shows that the elegant excursion steamer Queen will be in Skagway on the first excursion trip of the season June 15, and make her last excursion trip of the year arriving here August 28th.

It is also shown on the schedule that the steamer Cottage City will start with her first excursionists only five days after the Queen, and five days after that the City of Topeka will start with her first sightseers of the season. The ships will then come in rotation at intervals of five days, making an aggregate of sixteen excursions of the one company during the season.

Best Canadian rye at the Regina.

Please Call.

Mr. Charles Djefendorff, of San Francisco, will be given some valuable information if he will call at the Nugget office.

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The sizes are badly broken now and we will give you a very low price on the balance.

Chiffon Capes...

I have only a few left and will make a price that will sell them.

J. P. McLennan.

Front St. Next Holborn Cafe.

SEVEN WERE LEFT

All C. D. Co. steamers leave promptly at the hour advertised. Yesterday the SIBIL was advertised to sail at 2 P. M., and she did. There were seven passengers holding tickets who came from two minutes to two hours late, and they were left.

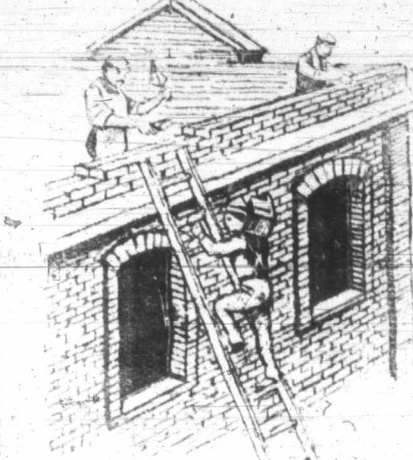
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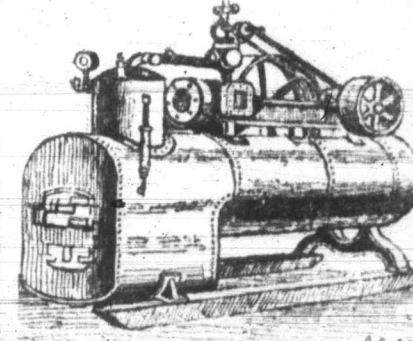
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