The Klondike Nugget

TELEPHONE NO. 12.
[Dawson's Pioneer Paper]
Issued Daily and Semi-Weekly.
GEORGE M. ALLEN, ... Publisher

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When a newspaper offers its advertising space at a nominal figure, it is a practical admission of "no circulation." THE KLONDIKE NUGGET asks a good figure for its space and in justification thereof guarantees to its advertisers a paid circulation five times that of any other paper published between Juneau and the North Pole.

LETTERS

And Small Packages can be sent to the Creeks by our carriers on the following days: Every Tuesday and Friday to Eldorado, Bonanza, Hunker, Dominion, Gold Run.

TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 1902.

$50 Reward.

We will pay a reward of $50 for information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of any one stealing copies of the Daily or Semi-Weekly Nugget from business houses or private residences, where same have been left by our carriers.

KLONDIKE NUGGET.

UNION LABEL TYPOGRAPHICAL DAWSON

AMUSEMENTS THIS WEEK.

Auditorium—"The Henrietta."
New Savoy—Burlesque and Vaudeville.

DAWSON'S "CLEAN-UP."

At the earliest possible moment every garbage pile that has accumulated during the winter should be removed to the river. There is menace to health in the heaps of decayed matter now lying around the town, and as warm weather approaches, the prospects of evil results therefrom will become greater.

The season for the "clean-up" is at hand, and Dawson never was in greater need of a general renovating than at the present time. During the winter it is practically an impossibility to observe all the rules of sanitation and, moreover, the cold weather prevents any serious results ensuing. In the spring, however, when the unsightly masses of garbage begin thawing, it is essential that prompt action be taken, in order that disease may be prevented.

Dawson has enjoyed in the past a most enviable record in respect to healthfulness. Since the summer of 1898, when the community was practically without civil administration, the condition of the town from a sanitary standpoint has steadily improved. Typhoid fever and kindred diseases, which in the year mentioned were a veritable scourge, have appeared in later years only in isolated cases. The recent report of the medical health officer indicates a most favorable state of affairs and it is altogether desirable that this condition should be maintained. If every householder, therefore, will make it his duty to see that his premises are placed in proper sanitary condition within the next week, the danger which lurks in the unsightly masses of garbage now scattered about the town will be removed.

Most people will not require a reminder of this nature, but there are always those who shirk such duties until the last moment, and it is upon their attention, particularly, that the matter is now urged.

BOTH AT FAULT.

Canada is not alone in failing to recognize the value of her northern possessions. The same thing may be said with equal truth and with like force of the government of the United States. Long before there was any hint of gold existing in the Klondike, Circle City on the American side was a thriving mining camp and indeed was famed as the largest city of log cabins in the world.

Notwithstanding that fact, however, the American government did practically nothing to assist the hardy adventurers who had located there. There was practically no system of civil government and the mining laws were notoriously lax and ineffective. Titles, in consequence, were decidedly questionable and capital gave the country a wide berth.

The mail service was infrequent and unsatisfactory and might almost as well have been given up entirely. Such was the state of affairs when the stampede to Dawson occurred. The overflow from that stampede rushed into Alaska and from that resulted the fact that Uncle Sam has at last turned his attention toward that vast and even yet practically unexplored territory.

The same criticism that has been directed toward the Canadian government applies equally to the United States in its treatment of Alaska.

FAVORABLE OUTLOOK.

From all reports which have been received there have been more dumps taken out on the various creeks of the district during the past winter than in any other previous year. Added to this is the fact that a large portion of the claim operators of the district work their ground exclusively in summer, which makes it appear quite evident that the output for the entire season will average well with former records.

It must be borne in mind also by those who are estimating the prospects of the district for the future, that a considerable area of virgin ground has been opened up during the winter, which will add considerably to the ultimate output. Within less than 30 days the annual flow of gold toward the town will have begun and settlements for the winter's credits will be made. Thence on until the freeze up next fall, Dawson and the district generally will be as lively as ever before in their history.

Death of Wm. Shea.

Wm. Shea, the young man who died at St. Mary's hospital Sunday was a resident of South Seattle, Wash., and was not a South Sea Islander as was reported in an evening contemporary. Mr. Shea was taken ill with typhoid fever shortly before Christmas and although he grew better it was only to have a relapse. This was repeated several times until he became so ill that an operation became imperative. The operation was performed but the patient was unable to rally and died shortly after. Mr. Shea has a host of friends not only in town but on the creeks, and his death is a shock to them all. The date for the funeral has not yet been set.

King and Co Reopened.

H. C. King & Co. have reopened their wholesale commission house in the S.-Y. T. building on Second avenue and will conduct a general commission business during the spring and summer. This firm was in business on First avenue last season and did a large business. This year their capacity will be largely increased and they will be in a position to handle the largest consignments that come to Dawson. They will be pleased to see all their friends at their new quarters in the S.-Y. T. building on Second avenue.

Just received over the ice, fresh turkeys, geese, ducks and oysters. Bonanza Market, next to post office.

Job Printing at Nugget office.

THE WATTS-KIRKE TRAGEDY

Nome, Alaska, Feb. 20.

The trial of Lulu Watts, who, in a jealous rage, murdered and decapitated Jack Kirk, the young miner whom she had expected to marry, elevates what at first appeared a sordid and wretched affair into a tragedy worthy of the pen of a Balzac or a Sardou.

The fate of the young woman is not yet determined. Whatever it may be she will meet it with the face of a stoic; her haughty glance and implacable manner in the court room makes it certain she will not flinch from any punishment.

All through the remarkable crime savors of high tragedy on the stage. When Lulu Watts became convinced that her own life was a tragedy, with a villain in it like the villain of the piece she played nightly, she meted out to him the same vengeance which her hand wreaked at each performance upon his mimic prototype.

She had a little money, some jewelry and was well provided with wearing apparel. The latter included several stage costumes. She let it be understood on her arrival that she was an actress; but when, attracted by her beauty, one of the local theater managers offered to employ her in the dual capacity of music hall singer and dispenser of drinks among the masculine audience, she gave him a haughty stare and said:

"Your offer is an insult, sir. I am an actress."

All Nome knew of this retort the next day, and there was a scramble among the more civilized miners and men of business to make the young woman's acquaintance. This desire was rendered the more ardent by the success of her first public appearance.

WOULD ELEVATE THE NOME STAGE.

Here the quality of her stage ambition was proved by the character of the costumes which her wardrobe supplied. Properly draped, she appeared as Medea, as Cleopatra, as Mary Queen of Scots and as Portia in "The Merchant of Venice."

Her beauty was undenied. Probably her characterizations had the crudeness to be expected of a student of elocution in a small country town; but the rough miners of Nome hailed her as a genius. When the absent manager returned, his ears were filled with praises of Lulu Watts. There was nothing for him to do but to engage her, and to set about rehearsing such a tragic vehicle for her talent as might be expected to win the community from the rival attractions of ladies who handed around glasses of beer to their own accompaniment of risque songs and dances.

From the first Jack Kirk was foremost among the young woman's champions. His antecedents were but little better known than those of Lulu Watts. He was young, fairly good looking, of gay spirits, dressed in the best Nome fashion, and bore vestiges of former sedate and respectable associations. He was a good deal of a gambler, but it was generally believed that one of his several claims worked by half a dozen ruined miners yielded him more than sufficient gold to warrant his extravagant style of living.

STAR IN AN ORIGINAL TRAGEDY.

Lulu Watts had the satisfaction of knowing that she had easily won him from the side of the most fascinating of the two Carlisle sisters; but the knowledge did not cause her to exhibit any exultation. She accepted the attentions of Jack Kirk at first as no more than the due of one of her superior endowment and training.

Discussion of the play in which Miss Watts was to make her debut is well remembered by those who were in her confidence and her manager's. At the outset the young woman said, as though disposing of the matter finally:

"I don't dance nor sing, and I won't peddle beer in the audience."

"That's all right, my dear," answered the manager soothingly; "we're not going to ask you to. You shall give 'em tragedy. But it must be the real thing—no half-hearted imitation. Now, I've an idea that if you should play the part of a jealous woman betrayed and deserted by her lover, and you lured him to a lonely spot, stabbed him to death cut off his head and held it up before the audience—I've got a stage manager who can arrange it all—the boys would be tickled to death."

"Who ever heard of a woman exhibiting the bloody head of her victim on the stage?" demanded Miss Watts, with scorn.

"How about Salome and the head of John the Baptist?" demanded the manager in triumph.

So the manager and his stage director set to work and produced the manuscript, properties, scenery and costumes of a local tragedy, such as they believed would lure the entire population away from the Carliste sisters.

It was called "A Woman's Vengeance." It was produced with tremendous success and had an uninterrupted run up to the day of Lulu Watt's arrest for the murder of Jack Kirk.

INSPIRATION FOR HER CRIME.

An outline of the final situation of "A Woman's Vengeance" shows plainly where Lulu Watts got her inspiration for the crime for which she is now on trial. She played it with extraordinary effect upon her crude and ingenuous audiences.

Its scene is a desolate stretch of Nome coast upon which canvas billows are breaking. There is no light save of the stars. Judith, the heroine, has lured her betrayer, Brierly, to this lonely spot for a last interview. Under her cloak she carries the long, sharp-pointed knife with which she slices loaves of bread in the restaurant where she is employed.

Brierly arrives and they have a long argument, in the course of which Judith gives vent to all the emotions of a wronged woman's heart. The denouement is in this fashion—every one in Nome knows it by heart:

Judith—You promised me marriage.

Brierly (flippantly)—So I did, little girl; so I did.

Judith—I gave you all me heart—I gave you everything a woman has to give.

Brierly—You were very generous, little one—I don't deny it.

Judith—I give, you your last chance. Will you keep your promise?

(Her hand is under her cloak. She moves toward him slowly. He appears to believe that her fierce anger has worn itself out. In the dim star light he cannot see the lust for vengeance that is written on her white face.)

Brierly (savagely)—No! Never!

Judith (springing upon him with knife upraised)—Then die!

(She buries the knife in his heart. He falls upon his back without a struggle. She withdraws the knife, and leans above him.)

Then die, wretch! Die!

(Suddenly, with a gesture of fury, she severs the head from Brierly's body, and, holding it up by the hair, shrieks):

Thus do I avenge the wrong you did me — thus should all women avenge the wrongs men do them!

(She falls face downward upon the sand, weeping convulsively.)

Curtain.

But not until Jack Kirk had grown weary of his tragedy queen, and left her as he had left the Carlisle girl—this time for a new divinity at the rival theater—did Lulu Watts play this scene with her full power. In the last performance she fairly electrified her uncultured audience with the furious passion with which she uttered the final speech, holding the supposed severed head aloft:

"Thus do I avenge the wrong you did me! Thus should all women avenge the wrongs men do them!"

SHE BROODED AND WAS SILENT.

In her boarding house it was known that she brooded. Jack Kirk made no effort to conceal his new passion. He even took his charmer to see "A Woman's Vengeance," and laughed when she shuddered at the brutality of the denouement. He gave her jewels, more costly ones than he had ever bestowed on Lulu Watts. Finally it was gossiped that he would give her what he never had really intended giving the tragedy queen—his hand and fortune.

The young miner's hotel was only a short walk from the theater where Lulu Watts played. His rooms were on the first floor and easy of access to anybody — he kept no valuables there, beyond the comparatively valueless watch he wore and a small supply of ready money or gold dust.

On the night of the murder he was in his rooms early. He was not feeling well. A friend saw him in bed before midnight.

On this same night there was a commotion behind the scenes after the curtain had gone down on "A Woman's Vengeance." Miss Watts lay in convulsions where she had fallen after speaking the last lines of the play—evidently overcome by the extraordinary passion with which she had enacted the scene. She soon recovered, however, and left the theater hastily, refusing attendance.

In clearing the stage, as usual after the performance, the property man was unable to find the knife used by the heroine. But at that time no particular importance was attached to the circumstance.

WITH THE SAME KNIFE.

This was a gala night at the opposition theater. That is perhaps the reason why no one saw Lulu Watts emerge upon the street or notice whither she went. In the same way the fact may be accounted for that no one saw the girl enter Kirk's hotel.

The murder was discovered by one of Kirk's fellow-lodgers. Hearing strange sounds in the next room and remembering that the young miner had not been feeling well that day he started to his assistance. While in the hallway he heard a woman's voice. The tones seemed familiar. He pushed open Kirk's door and stood amazed before what seemed a repetition of the last scene of "A Woman's Vengeance."

Lulu Watts stood beside Kirk's bed hacking with a knife at the nearly half-severed head. Knowing the history of their love affair, he realized in an instant the whole situation. As nearly as possible in her overwrought state the girl had duplicated with horrible reality the last scene in "A Woman's Vengeance." The voice he had heard was that of Lulu Watts as she hacked at Kirk's throat, after stabbing him through the heart, saying:

"Thus do I avenge the wrong you did me — thus should all women avenge the wrongs men do them!"

The girl submitted quietly to arrest. The accomplishment of the deed seemed to have brought her the calm of one whose grievances have been satisfactorily adjusted.

A few days later the Carlisle sisters committed suicide by shooting themselves as they lay in each other's arms in bed. They were said at first to have been despondent over the theft of all their savings by a gambler with whom they were intimately. No one now doubts that the tragic end of Jack Kirk motived their minds and was the real cause of their act.—Examiner, March 1.

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AMUSEMENTS

The Auditorium

Week Commencing Monday March 31

...The... Henrietta

NO SMOKING Monday, Thursday or Friday

NEW SAVOY

Week Commencing Monday, March 31

John Mulligan's spectacular Burlesque

"THE DEVIL'S GROTTO"

And a big Vaudeville troupe including the Helen Jewell, the queen of singers; Gwen Mason, in a new trapeze act, and many others.

Dick Maurettus' laughable afterpiece, "My Photo for a Stamp."

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Class B—2 parties on same line, per month	15.00
Class C—3 or more parties on same line, month	10.00

CREEK TELEPHONES

Bonanza Creek and Grand Forks per month	$15
Eldorado Creek, per month	15
Quartz Creek "	15
Sulphur Creek "	15
Hunker Creek "	15
Dominion Creek "	15
Gold Run Creek "	15

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Spring Announcement.

I have just received and will have open for inspection on

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We invite your inspection.

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