

THE KLONDIKE NUGGET.

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HORRIBLE CASE OF DESITUTION.

For Thirty Days a Man Lives Alone and in a Sleeping Bag.

His Legs and Feet had Falled Him From Scurvy—Lives on Sugar and a Little Frost Picked Off the Walls.

The most horrible case of helpless misery which has come to light this winter occurred on Galena creek the past month. Galena is a little known creek which empties into the Yukon opposite Monte Cristo island. During the past summer a party of two young men decided to build a cabin about four miles from its mouth and prospect there this winter. A little over a month ago one partner decided to go out over the ice. James Gill, the younger of the two, and about 25 years old, had a peculiarly weak feeling about the lower limbs, and decided not to attempt the trip himself. Gill had plenty of good provisions and before leaving, his partner cut him a good supply of wood for use till he should become strong again. Shortly after the partner's departure the unfortunate youth found himself utterly unable to move about at all. For several days he lay in his sleeping bag without fire and without meals. He made up his mind that this meant death if he persisted in so he determined upon one more effort to help himself. Crawling from his bag he made an attempt to stand up but fell on the floor in an unconscious heap. He does not know how long he lay, though it was probably but a few moments or he would have frozen to death. When he roused up he found his hands and feet frosted—frozen he thought at the time. This occurred nearly a month ago. He crawled into his bag again and set himself the task of waiting for help to arrive from God knows where. Day after day he patiently reached up over his head to where a calendar hung upon the wall and checked off the days and weeks. His only food was sugar and flour mixed with a little water, the water being secured by picking some of the frost from the walls and melting it in a tin cup over a candle.

Last Saturday, December 17th, Gill marked off the thirtieth day of his helpless confinement in his bed. His case was more hopeless than usual for he found the coldness of death creeping up his limbs and over his body. He could keep warm no longer; his wasted frame refused to manufacture the necessary heat and that dreadful coldness and numbness pre-cursing death had already reached breast high. His scurvy-swelled gums had reached down and covered his teeth, while those teeth were so loosened in the jaws they could readily be extracted with thumb and forefinger.

In a cabin on the Yukon opposite the mouth of Galena creek dwells a party of five prospectors. Last Saturday three of them went on a hunting expedition up the creek. Noon found them too far away to return for dinner. Their names were George Huffman, Joseph Fox and Nels Berlin. By accident they stumbled across the blazed trail which led to the lonesome cabin of horrors occupied by Gill. Noticing at least a foot of snow on top of the stove pipe they decided the cabin was empty but forced an entrance and found the sick man. A fire was started instantly and a mouthful of warm tea given him. His stomach refused it and it was some time before the weakened intestines would retain even a trifle of warm soup. The boys then proceeded to "swamp" out a trail down the creek five miles to their own cabin and on Sunday sledged the sick man down. This was not hard to do as he had fallen away to 75 pounds. Everything has been done for him that could be done with the limited means at their disposal, and taking into consideration that the entire party hadn't an ounce of any kind of medicine. It was decided to notify the police and on Thursday this was done. The department dispatched a dog team at once and if Gill is not dead he will find himself very shortly in a Dawson hospital.

To Test the Boundary Question.

One of the most important points in connection with the mining regulations will be settled by the court at an early date. The question at issue is the much talked of dispute between creek and bench claim owners as to what constitutes the legal boundary line between the two. Several cases involving this point have been brought before the gold commissioner, but no decision has yet been secured which either the creek or bench owners are willing to consider as establishing a precedent. The matter has now sifted itself down to a legal question and will be tested in the superior court.

W. H. Newton owns hillside claim, opposite the lower half of No. 4 on the left limit of Hunker below discovery. It appears that laymen on the creek claim located the pay streak very near the line between the creek and hillside claims. Further prospecting developed the fact that the pay gravel is nearly all included within the limits of the hillside. It is to determine the rights of the various parties that the test suit will be brought before Judge Dugas.

Mr. Newton contends that Hunker creek having been staked while the old regulations were still in force that the boundary lines must be fixed in accordance with the laws laid down in those regulations. The particular clause which he claims applies in this case reads as follows:

"Creek and river claims shall be 100 feet (subsequently made 500 feet) long, measured in the direction of the general course of the stream and shall extend in width from base to base of hill or bench on each side, but when hills or benches are less than 100 feet apart, the claim may be 100 feet in depth. The sides of the claim shall be two parallel lines run as nearly as possible at right angles to the stream. The sides shall be marked with legal posts at or about the edge of the water and at the rear boundaries of the claim. One of the legal posts at the stream shall be legibly marked with the name of the miner and the date upon which the claim was staked."

It is Mr. Newton's intention to canvas the creek and endeavor to interest the bench and hillside claim owners in the case with a view to securing financial co-operation in putting the case through.

Interesting Information within another week

Masonic Funeral.

The Masonic funeral of Brother John L. Bell, late of Ellsworth, Kansas, who died on Tuesday, Dec. 20th will take place on Saturday, Dec. 24th, at 11 a. m. from his residence on the upper ferry trail near Corduroy bridge.

Brother Bell was a Master Mason and a member of the Masonic bodies—Lodge, chapter and commandry—of Ellsworth, Kansas, and Isis Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S.

All Masons are respectfully invited to attend and the Masonic escort will leave the A. O. C. O.'s corner, at 10:30 a. m. sharp.

Fire on Tuesday.

At noon on Tuesday the fire boys had a splendid opportunity to show their ability to handle an incipient fire at Williams' cabin, first door north of the Pioneer hall. A blaze had started from the stove-pipe and had involved the entire space between ceiling and roof. The boys were on the scene in a hurry, and very calmly proceeded to put out the fire off-hand with the chemical engines. With the very best of order the roof was removed, together with the ceiling.

A Christmas Store.

Dawson has a Christmas store that makes one forget all about the terrors of an Arctic winter. Mrs. M. P. West's little establishment on the water front between First and Second streets, near the postoffice, is the most forcible reminder of the joyous Christmas season that Dawson has yet seen. Her show window is a veritable Christmas bower, filled with all the little trinkets and knick knacks that gladden the children's hearts on Santa Claus day. She also carries the choicest line of candies, bonbons, wafers, etc., to be found in the city. The shelves in the little store are stacked with boxes of sweets, upon which, however, tremendous invasions are being made. A single visit means that one becomes a steady patron.

Must Attend the Alarms.

On Wednesday evening the boys of the fire department held a special meeting to consider a new set of by-laws and regulations, and incidentally to present the popular chief, Mr. Fletcher, with a most handsome gold badge as a token of their esteem. By the new laws adopted an absence from roll call at three consecutive alarms, will act as a forfeiture of membership.

An invitation from the Dawson club to attend the Wednesday night social was presented and accepted.

Dawson Club.

The Dawson club gave another of its fortnightly socials on Wednesday with an extended and enjoyable program of song and athletics. A three-round sparring contest between Pat Rooney and Perkins, the big Australians, was much enjoyed by all. Perkins is not a master of the art of boxing, but makes a good fight, as has been seen in Dawson when he defeated a much more scientific boxer than himself in the person of Cooper, the heavy-weight.

The fire department, by invitation, attended the session about 20 strong.

Superior Court.

In the case of Allard vs. Mangold for wages, the case was continued.

In Plekerill vs. Crater, the complainant is a celebrated banjoist and mandolin player of Tacoma, Wash., and his services were engaged for the Fourth of July celebration at Crater hall. He secured a judgment for \$60.

In the case of Rosenthal vs. Fancher, the injunction was continued.

The case of John C. Ross vs. Lewis Reeder and Stephen Cain, is of great importance as it concerns the rights of a "grubstaker." The complainant wants himself declared a half owner of No. 7, above upper discovery on Dominion. The claim is a valuable one and when the trial is finished will set a precedent for such cases.

In Stark vs. McCormick, Stark recovered \$77 for wages from defendant.

Leonski vs. Klinskowstein shows a case of bad blood between neighbors on the water front. Leonski wants \$1000 for damages for breach of contract in that defendant had agreed to feed and clothe him for a year and give him a share

of any claims he might find. The contract was made in Skagway, which invalidated it in the first place, and in the second place Klinskowstein proved he had kept up his end of the bargain and was still willing to continue along that line. He had brought Leonski all the way from New York and had paid every expense. In Dawson Leonski left him and by advice of his friend Greenleaf brought this suit to recover \$1000 for breach of contract and labor performed along the trail. The case was dismissed.

PERSONALS.

Edwin Bennett, of No. 32 below lower on Dominion, has been in town for several days past. "Trilby" Collins, the veteran newsboy of Seattle, is again around town, looking a little thin after his last typhoid, but still in the ring. "Billy" McKay, the popular attorney, is rejoicing *ad lib* over the recovery of Mr. Burritt from a severe attack of typhoid. Burritt feels just as good over it as McKay.

J. A. Chute is trying his luck in quartz mining at a point between Pioneer hall and Taylor's creek. At a depth of 40 feet he finds himself not discouraged from proceeding.

LOCAL BREVITIES.

Pickett & Devlin have started a stage to the Forks.

Albert Dunn hit someone out on Dominion, and paid therefor the sum of \$10 and costs.

S. Bond and M. Boyer have returned from a trip to Thistle and report everything there in quite a satisfactory condition.

Dr. T. G. Abbin has located his office in the Nugget Express Co.'s cabin at Eldorado City, where he is prepared for the practice of dentistry.

The U. S. peace commissioners, negotiating the details of the Spanish treaty of peace, are demanding the unconditional surrender of the whole of the Philippines.

An arrival on Tuesday from Selkirk reports that another consignment of outside mail was on its way to Dawson when he left the fort. The trail is in excellent condition.

Dr. Krohn is to be congratulated on the way his patient, Gunder Smith, is recovering from the serious injuries received in falling down the shaft on his claim some 10 days ago.

The United States has already profited by the late war to the extent of at least seven vessels formerly belonging to Spain, but which are now attached to the various squadrons of the U. S. Navy.

A horse dragging five sleds loaded with five camp outfits passed along the main street the other day. The men who accompanied their sleds were some of the men who have thrown up lays on Sulphur.

Wm. R. Malone, of Seattle, died on Gold Hill on Thursday last week. On the outside he has a wife and four children to mourn his loss. Funeral services were held on the following day at the Presbyterian church at the Forks.

Miller and Co., working a claim on No. 13 Eldorado, had just succeeded in reaching good rich pay at a drift of 20 feet deep when water drove them out. The gentlemen were not at all discouraged and proceeded at once with another shaft.

The boys of the N. W. M. P. are making elaborate preparations for a Christmas dinner on Monday next, having decided to celebrate Christmas on that day. Invitation to friends are out and a jolly session is predicted for the "roop mess."

The Yukon council adjourned on the last meeting night for want of quorum. The main business now before the council is the reconsideration of the incorporation ordinance. This is very voluminous and is proving slow work, and is at the present time but half gone through.

The ladies of the Episcopal church are preparing a Christmas pleasure for the Dawson youngsters. On Tuesday a large Christmas tree, appropriately decorated, and bearing presents, will be displayed to their delighted gaze. It is expected that some 20 children will be present.

Thomas Jones had been suspected for some time of the illegal consignment of certain lumber, etc., from the water front, and was last caught "dead to rights" with a plank in his possession. The judge said for days, so he will have time to think it over and decide how it all happened.

A fatal case of suicide was caused about 8 o'clock on Thursday evening by a couple of unlocated pistol shots on Second street. There is a suspicion abroad that the shooting was done by some enterprising saloon keeper on the back street with the object of drawing a crowd of investigators, with a view to an increase of trade.

A number of hotel signs have been ordered taken down. Inquiry developed the fact that in such cases the proprietors have not complied with the liquor license law and their signs continued to advise the public that within could be obtained wines, liquors and cigars. Temperance hotels have been unmoored.

Captain Elliot, located on Dominion creek, had his entire outfit stolen one day last week. Robes, blankets, guns and provisions were all taken and an attempt was made by the thieves to conceal the robbery by burning the cabin behind them. At last accounts no clue to the whereabouts of the thieves had been discovered.

Notice has been served upon the saloon keepers that the practice of shaking dice over the bar to see who pays for the drinks must be discontinued at once. The leaving it to the customer to decide which of the party pays for the treat is about the most innocent and harmless part of the entire liquor business and the recent order reminds one of the Irishman's reasons for chastising his wife: "It's not that I reason you that I bate you, only to show the authority I have over you."

The Salvation Army.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Tuesday, Dec. 27th, at 8 p. m., "Railroad Reminiscences."

Thursday, Dec. 29th, at 8 p. m., Special music and singing.

Saturday, Dec. 31st, at 11 p. m., "Watch-night" services, continuing until about 12:30.

No charge made for admission to special meetings.

"Nugget" Case Postponed.

The case of the Nugget against Henning & O'Brien, which is to test the powers of those gentlemen to collect toll over the Bonanza trail, came up in its turn on Thursday, but was postponed until January 13th.

A FIERCE COMBAT AT THE TIVOLI.

"Kid" Williams Laid Out in Ten Rounds by Billy Moss.

The Fiercest Set-to Ever in Dawson—Floss Proves Himself a Wildcat—Williams' Stomach Pounded to Pieces.

The biggest fight event in Dawson's history was easily the 20-round go between Billy Moss and "Kid" Williams at the Tivoli theatre on Friday night. Williams has been seen in the ring so often and his work has always been so clean, gentlemanly, yet withal so genuinely sporty that he is or was easily the most popular "pug" in the business. In Billy Moss he met his match—more than his match. Williams is a fighter and a fair one, but Moss proved himself a "slugger."

The Tivoli theatre was more crowded probably than ever in its history. The ring was pitched on the stage. Three rows of seats were on the stage for spectators while in the body of the house men were sandwiched in like sardines in a box. Not another man could have been squeezed in. All had scented a good contest and were in for sport. Betting was heavy yet even.

The preliminary "just to keep the audience occupied" was between Wm. Paul of New Zealand and "Cockney" Fox of London, and was a business even. In bloody boxing contest, Paul easily outclassed Fox and both bled profusely.

In the main event "Kid" Williams was seconded by Gleason, Raphael, Forrest and Bert Dovey, a famous lightweight. Moss was seconded by Jimmy Carroll, Charley Carroll, McKee, Morris and Murray.

When the men stripped there was applause and intense interest. It is possible to conceive of miniature editions of Corbett and Fitzsimmons you have a good picture of the men. Williams was stocky, well favored and handsomely proportioned. Moss had spindling legs, medium arms and an immense chest. Williams' head was nicely posed on a well turned neck; Moss had a small bullet head and a trick of getting it down between his shoulders. Ed. O'Donnell was referee and probably never refereed a better fight. At every call and time the men leaped lightly to center and a more genuine "go" was never witnessed. Williams had lost none of his cleverness nor his courage, but as some one remarked after the fight, "Moss fights like a log of wildcats."

FIGHT BY ROUNDS.

1. Both men to the center. Moss stands up tall as though going to try for the top of Williams' head. As the two rush together and Williams leads his left for the cut, Moss stoops low and sweeps at the same time showing his left shoulder well forward and catching Williams' chest. Williams again led with his left and Moss met him with his head down and a fierce jab on the wind which made the fight turn pink and called a cry of "Oh! Oh!" from the intensely interested spectators. Williams landed his strong left but without discomfiting Moss. The rest of the round found Williams' chest and stomach turning red rapidly.

2. Another hot round. The "Kid" attempts to block the "ducks" and forward rushes by uppercuts but for the most part Moss cleverly catches the glove and returns a jab at the wind. The pace is so fast that though Williams lands his left it seems to be lacking somewhat in its customary force.

3. Williams is decidedly clever. A terrific uppercut almost hits Moss from his feet and a right smash on the forehead makes it red as if bleeding. Moss landed on the wind and both men miss frequently. Moss ducks and rushes and in the break away several times invited jabs on the wind. Williams found Moss' jaw with his right but without injury. After each break Moss continues to rush without a moment's breathing spell.

4. A terrific round. Moss will not spar instantly but down goes his head and a forward rush generally lands his left shoulder in the "Kid's" wind. A rush Moss is first to cover and chased Williams round the ring. Williams is breathing hard, but is gritty and still clever.

5. A real hot round and fast as men can work. Moss rushes but refuses to clinch and takes advantage of the break to jab the wind. No rest for Williams. Moss' style is peculiar. He stands up as if fighting high, yet quick as a flash he is down low, stooped forward and lunging for the wind. Williams' stomach is evidently becoming very tender and he tries to draw it out of reach and avoid a collision with that left shoulder. The Kid lands that left but without injury and even when he caught Moss a full right hander in the face it does not phase Williams courageous but breathing hard. The referee several times warns Moss not to butt with his head nor to punch in a break away. Williams breaks away clean and is evidently still very popular.

6. Williams' succession of blows on Moss' head looked like scalp and starts a flow of crimson. Williams cannot reach Moss' body in that stooped over position at all. Moss continues to rush faster than ever and his shoulder marks Williams' collar bone badly. Williams' face was clean of any injury but his "wind" leg is evidently in distress. His blows land on the back of the head without effect.

7. Another fierce round. Moss still continues his attention to the wind apparatus and Williams means each rapid rush bravely but without strength. Just as time was called Moss was following up Williams right and left.

8. Moss would not give Williams a moment to recover. His own body was free from marks though his head was bleeding.

9. Moss still on the "slug." His shoulder shows the marks of frequent contact with Williams' breast and stomach. Williams is clearly in distress and receives a right in the jaw which does not help him understand his opponent any better.

10. This was the last round. Those straight punches and that shoulder in the stomach were too much. Williams is knocked to the floor and spits blood. At the count of nine he weakly recovers his feet and Moss mercifully marks for him again. Once again he is out and goes down. Corporal Wilson stepped into the ring and ordered the contest stopped. Williams was clearly defeated and the referee awarded the fight to Moss.

The interference of the police was opportunely as any more rounds could not have more thoroughly decided the contest. It had been 20 rounds as long as Williams was able to defend himself, any more would have been slaughter. The audience demanded the fight for Moss.

Williams is by far the cleanest fighter but Moss is a wildcat. Only for Moss' spine, the crowd and forward spring the results might have been different. He appeared to get under the "Kid" and the "Kid's" blows were lullies. Everybody left the hall satisfied that they had seen the biggest contest in town.

DECEMBER 22

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And Avoid the hillside.

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