

## HER LOVE TURNED GOLD.

Could Not Stand the Rigors of Klondike Temperature.

Nettie Thoerner Asks to Be Protected From a Friend—Said to Have Attempted to Chloroform Her.

A tale of romance, love and persecution, a parallel for which is not often found outside the yellow covers of a dime novel, was unfolded before Colonel Steele in police court on Saturday. Mrs. Nettie Thoerner, sometimes called Hoven, is the heroine in the story, likewise the persecuted one, while John P. Mellen occupies the role and rank of deep villain, though to any eyes but Nettie's luscious black ones he appears to be the meekest and most decent sort of fellow. Nettie, by the way, is a buxom, dark haired, stylish looking young woman, with a Spanish type of beauty, and as she was critically examined by the court loungers Saturday the general verdict was that Mellen was not to be blamed if he was indiscreet enough to allow himself to fall in love with her.

Nettie was the first witness called for the prosecution, and she told a story that was full of melo-dramatic incidents. She and Mellen have known one another for several years, and once made a trip around Cape Horn on the same boat. He, had always shown a strange infatuation for her and followed her about wherever she went. On several occasions he made threats against her life and on one occasion he attempted to chloroform her. He followed her to Minook, and while there he always carried a bottle of strychnine for her. After her arrival at Dawson he again followed her and succeeded in locating her cabin, which he haunted day and night. One night he fell asleep outside the cabin in a state of intoxication and she was obliged to call a policeman. Constable Quinn verified the last statement and said Miss Nettie was evidently in a state of terror. The complaining witness closed her recital of wrongs by saying she did not wish Mellen to be punished other than being put under bonds.

Mr. Mellen next took the stand and defended his conduct substantially as follows: "Mrs. Hoven lived a long time as my mistress, but now I only wish her to pass me as a stranger. I would not harm her and never had any intention of doing so, though I admit I threatened her once in South America. The reason she fears me, if at all, is because I know too much about her and not because I have made personal threats against her. I never attempted to chloroform her. She has come to the restaurant in Dawson where I cook to see me, and not long ago she made an engagement with me to take her to the theater."

When the evidence was all in, the gallant colonel granted the plea of the fair complainant and put Mellen under \$100 bonds to keep the peace for the period of six months, and particularly to keep away from the young woman.

### New Route to the Yukon.

Captain Edward T. Glenn, commanding the Cook inlet exploring expedition from Cook's inlet, has reported having proven the Sushitna river, which flows into Cook's inlet, to be navigable for light steamboats for a distance of 135 miles. He is now proceeding up the river overland toward the Tanana with a view of locating and establishing a new and serviceable route to the Yukon river. He will also go as far north as Peavy on the Koyukuk river. The captain says of his plans: "This trail will not only be available during the season of navigation, but will be available for winter use as well, because the Tanana Indians as well as the Skittig Indians (located at the head of the Sushitna river) make use of it bringing their furs down to market during the winter

or closed season. It will be of value to this section of Alaska because, first, the valley of the Sushitna river is very wide and contains large amount of arable land, which the season in this part of Alaska permits the cultivation of with profit to the producer whenever there is a market for his products. Secondly, because it is now known that the section of the country near the head of navigation, together with the range of foothills lying between the head of navigation and tide water, with the small amount of prospecting already undertaken there, contains gold in paying quantities. This gold, insofar as present information goes, has been found in placer ground only, yet I have personally seen gold that I knew came from the section of country mentioned of sufficient coarseness and quantity to indicate to my mind clearly that it will be when developed, one of the best mineral producing sections of this portion of Alaska."

### 'Twas Always So.

Gold was never won with ease—  
The price is blood; the pioneers  
Who lay the trails and saved the seas,  
Through heat and cold, through pain and tears,  
Must leave its gains for happier days,  
And happier souls will come along  
The path we tread, and sound our praise  
When we have passed, in simple song.

Our children passing o'er the trails  
In pleasure boats will free from toil,  
Or in a Pullman on the rails  
Will pass where White Horse rapids boil;  
And little know and little care  
What hills beset us on the way,  
But they will find the land more fair  
Than that we found the other day.

The height we gaze upon while here  
Will be their path and this their cry:  
"Excelsior!" and without fear  
Will scale and work these mountains high  
Justice will bloom by their feet,  
Of Briton is so just and good,  
And honesty will reign supreme,  
And miners' rights be as they should.

For though injustice blighting sweeps  
Across the path of freedom's dome,  
There's many a Briton's heart that leaps  
To help him through the blighting gloom,  
And so, before our pioneers  
Have joined their martyred pads above,  
The change must come from wrongs and tears  
To justice, freedom, right and love.

—CAPT. JACK—

### New Style of Washer.

The miners of the Klondike are under obligations to Judge Dugas, collaborating with a gentleman named Esai Pilon, for a new idea in the way of a gold washer that promises to save both time and labor. A rough model of the device was lately operated successfully on the judge's property at 7 below upper on Dominion, and Mr. Pilon is just putting the finishing touches on a handsome machine made at the judge's home. In most respects the washer resembles the ordinary rocker, except that it is longer; but it differs from any other in the fact that the machine is rocked by means of a lever and that the same motion of the arms which puts it in motion also operates a plunger in a pump attached to the rocker and keeps a stream of water pouring over the dirt in the hopper. Mr. Pilon will apply for a patent on his device.

### Klondiker Bunkoed.

Richard Slater, a Klondiker, ran afoul of three card sharps upon his arrival at Seattle on August 8, and was cheated out of \$150. He made a squeal to the police, but later he was given back \$30 of his money and then left the city, presumably for his home in England.

### New Policemen Arrive.

Eleven policemen, mostly recruits, arrived from Tagish Saturday under command of Corporal Shaw. The men are: Constables Fleming, Leason, Harrington, Livingston, Aird, Ward, Tuttle, Holloway and Carrie. The men will soon be followed by others.

### Notice.

Any person having a copy of the speech by Aulay Morrison, M. P., from New Westminster, delivered during the Yukon debate will confer a favor by bringing same to Nugget office.

A number of men employed as dog drivers and in other capacities by the N. W. M. P., have been engaged this week to carry the mail for the C. D. Co., during the coming winter. They will be located 30 miles apart from Dawson to Bennett, and each will be supplied with a dog team.

### Reduced rates at the Cafe Royal.

Dr. Brown is now located in his old office in the A. C. block. New and complete equipment, moderate charges and work warranted.

## READS LIKE A DIME NOVEL.

Japanese Circles Contribute a Rare Tale of Intrigue.

Gentlemen Fight for the Possession of Women—They Find They Have Run Against a Buzz Saw.

The prosecution of R. Taniguchi, a Jap, on a charge of being privy to the prostitution of his step daughter, Kuni, or Jossie, met with failure on the accusation preferred against the man, though he was not allowed to escape the justice which he richly earned by a long career of wickedness. In addition to that, it went a long way toward developing the belief that the prosecution on the part of George Kershew—far from being the philanthropic act supposed—was in reality part of a deep laid scheme on the part of Kershew to get the fellow out of the way in order that he might gain possession of both his property and his females and henceforth lead a life of idle, sinful luxuriousness. These somewhat sensational facts were brought out on the witness stand by Kuni, the little Japanese girl whom Kershew was pretending to befriend. The people in the case were all Japanese and it was a difficult matter to always get at the meaning of their odd language; but it was finally brought out by the employment of persistence and patience.

Kershew was the first witness on the stand. He said that Taniguchi came to Dawson a year ago and started the Yokohama house, a place of prostitution then located in the alley back of the Bonfield block and which has since been removed to the tenderloin district. He had three women—Ida, Gracie and Kuni—in the place and used to take the money they earned. He had told him so and showed him his books. Kuni was the step-daughter and ward of Taniguchi, he said, and Kuni used to complain to him of the sorrow she felt in being obliged to live the kind of a life she was. One night she ran to him in tears and he secured shelter for her at a lodging house known as the Gold City hotel, where he comforted her.

Then came the reaction against Kershew. All the witnesses—Y. Kawakami, Kuni, Ida, Gracie, Martin Mikado, Kumaichi and the rest—united in the statement that Taniguchi was not the little girl's step-father, nor her guardian, while several of them did what they could to show up Kershew's scheme. Ida testified that Kershew proposed to her that they bring suit against Taniguchi on the lines he eventually followed and that after he was in jail they would get the police to make him give up all the money the girls had earned, with which they could

go outside and have all sorts of fun and fine dresses.

Kuni testified substantially as follows: "Taniguchi is not my step-father; he is my brother. Kershew met me at the A. C. corner one night about two weeks ago. He had a pistol and he pointed it at me, saying, 'I will shoot you if you do not marry me.' I was much frightened. I went to a lodging house with him and remained until morning. He told me I should say that Taniguchi is my step father; then he will be arrested and we will take his money and go away. I told Kershew I did not like him and he said he would shoot me if I did not; that he would kill me even if he had to kill himself."

Constable Snell testified that when he went after Taniguchi to put him under arrest, he found him in bed at the Yokohama house.

As a result of the disclosures by the witnesses, the charge against the accused was withdrawn and he was re-arrested on a charge of vagrancy, in that he was an idle person, living upon the avails of prostitution. The case was adjourned to Tuesday.

Kuni also caused a warrant to be issued for the arrest of Kershew on a charge of threatening to kill her.

### POLICE COURT NEWS.

John Dawson, mildly inebriated, \$5 and costs.

H. L. Nelson, unduly exhilarated, \$10 and costs.

G. H. Hognet, tank full of hooch and an inclination to be noisy, \$10 and costs.

Jeannette Bonlau and J. Ashelby each disgorged \$5 and costs for maintaining a nuisance on their premises.

Fred N. Tracy, intoxicated, \$10 and costs; assaulting an officer while under arrest, \$25 and costs, and lucky at that.

A. W. Hall concluded not to contest the ordinance providing against the obstruction of sidewalks, and paid the fine of \$5 and costs assessed against him.

F. K. Elliott sold decayed hen fruit. His method, as exposed on the stand, was to put two courses of good eggs on the top and fill the balance of the case with bad ones. It cost him several hard-earned plunks.

### STILL SETS THE PACE.

Henry Cox Opens Private Dining Rooms at the Fairview.

Proprietor Henry Cox of the popular Fairview hotel is never happy unless he is improving the already first-class service of his excellent establishment. His latest accomplishment is the dedication to the public of three private dining rooms, which will enable him to cater with especial satisfaction to his guests for private dinner parties and banquets. He insists on giving as good service as can be had anywhere in the world and better than anywhere else in Dawson.

Smith & Hobbs dissolved partnership last week, Mr. Hobbs buying his partner's interest in the business here and the mill and brick yard at Sixtymile for \$40,000.

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