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# WEIRD TRAGEDY

## Has Lately Been Brought to Light in Norton Sound Country

### BY DEPUTY U. S. MARSHAL CROWDY

#### Two Dead Bodies Found and One Man Missing.

#### HAS BAD LOOK FOR HAINES.

#### Untimely Fate of Promoters of the Virginia-Alaska Mining Company.

[From Monday's Daily.] Skagway, April 30.—A weird story of hardships and crime has been brought down from the far north. Shortly after navigation opened in June, '98, a party composed of D. A. A. Keyser, Wm. W. Wright of Covington, Virginia, representing the Virginia-Alaska Mining Co., O. W. Scott, of San Francisco and a man named Haines arrived at St. Michael, where they remained for some time, sailing in August for Norton sound.

All trace of the party was lost until late last December when reports of hardships, scurvy and dark hints of atrocious murder reached Nome.

Notwithstanding that a year had elapsed since the men had been heard from, Deputy U. S. Marshal Crowdy left Nome for the Norton-sound country to see if he could get any trace of the missing party. From a Kiyuk Indian he learned that the schooner had sailed to the mouth of Iglotulik river, where it was left, the four men going up the river, taking the Indian with them.

The latter says that when two days up the river two men were shot, one of them in the mouth and another in the breast, and that a third whom the Indian says was called "Scotty," ran away. Crowdy took the Indian and went up the river, finding the bodies of Keyser and Wright in a shack where the native said they would be found. On Keyser's body was found a diary which showed that he had lived sometime after being unable to move around. Evidently Scott had returned to the shack, for the last entry in Keyser's diary read: "Scott pulls out and leaves me on my back. How I long for 'Oie Virginny.'"

Some time last year the man Haines arrived at Nome where he told a story about being off on a prospecting trip in the Norton sound country with a man named Keyser, and stated that he had left the latter's dead body in a shack for the reason that he had no tools with which to bury him. Haines worked on the Name beach last all and later went below, saying he was going to Portland; but it is believe he went on east. Nothing has ever been heard of Scott and it is supposed that he died of scurvy or starvation.

The strangest feature of the entire affair, all of which is wrapped in mystery, is that Keyser's diary did not state who it was that shot himself and Wright.

#### Britain Loses Persia.

New York, April 2.—A dispatch to the Herald from Teheran, Persia, says: "British influence and prestige in Persia have completely vanished. Russia is victorious in the diplomatic contest so long continued, and the shah, whose health is now better than some time, is making hasty warlike preparations in his anxiety to demonstrate his sympathy toward Russia.

"The grand sirdar has ordered the speedy completion of the recruiting of soldiers throughout Persia, according to plans, the carrying out of which has been delayed for years. Reservists will also be enrolled and all officers and privates now on leave of absence will be recalled."

#### Flore River Talk.

Several "ready money" fellows who two weeks ago laid wagers on the early going out of the ice, are now endeavoring to hedge their bets. An old Yukon skipper remarked this morning that if this alternating weather continues, the ice will not break before the 20th of May; but that five days of warm sunshine with no freezing at night will cause the bosom of the Yukon to heave very materially.

#### The Minstrels.

The profit from the minstrels, \$542, was given to the board of trustees of the hospital. The manager wishes to thank the press for keeping it before the public free of charge; for the use of McDonald and Pioneer halls for rehearsals, and all who gave their services to help make the entertainment the success it was; to help swell the fund already started, and accommodate those who were turned away, and by the request of many who wish to see it again, the concert will be repeated Thursday evening. Prices reduced. All boxes, \$10; balcony \$2; floor \$1.50 and \$1.

#### BRIEF MENTION.

D. McAsah is visiting the city. Thomas Nestor is in town on business. V. E. Ferry is spending a few days in town. William H. Beath is visiting friends in the city. Alex. Polsen came to town from the creeks yesterday. H. A. Somerpet is making a brief visit to the city. D. Rankin is enjoying a short vacation in Dawson. F. McGreal, of Grand Forks, is a guest at the Regina. W. S. Levens, of Grand Forks, is registered at the Regina. C. McDougall is a recent arrival in Dawson from the creeks. William Inkster and Nicholas Nelson were admitted as patients to the Good Samaritan hospital yesterday. Rose Blurypkin made a trip from Dominion to Dawson for the purpose of securing some more gold sacks. In some parts of Dawson frost is not noticeable these nights until after 12 o'clock, while in other portions of the city it is very apparent about curfew-raising time. Albert Fortier, one of the important witnesses in the Hill murder case, returned to Dawson yesterday. The criminal action is now ready for trial, and very likely it will be determined during the week. Tom Chisholm says business was much better one year ago than at present. A year ago last Friday Chisholm was burned out, and by 9 o'clock the following morning he had opened a saloon in a tent where he took in \$1000 in cash during the day. W. H. Mendham, Angelo Renzoni, Edward Cochran and Frank G. Brock, arrived in Dawson yesterday. They left Bennett 39 days ago. The gentlemen report that the ice on the river is quite treacherous. Yesterday Mr. Mendham broke through in the vicinity of Indian river, but was easily rescued by his traveling companions.

#### Notes of Royalty.

The king is feeling somewhat ill at ease these days, and each day prays for rain or sunshine. His faithful subjects are also disposed to yearn for the same display of the elements. It is not often his majesty is thus affected with the "dumps."

The First Prince of Hunker has been given the "Double Cross of the Saw" in the royal wood reduction works. His new commission is only for six months, after which he will be given the Order Toget.

The exiled Duke of Skookum is living quietly in his new Duchy Eagle Siesta. The "Big Duke" was a great entertainer while presiding officer of the First Bonfield Bank. He would get up in the afternoon, take the "big wash," and have the "big cocktail," then take the "big walk," then the "big feed," the long smoke; have "the big talk." When the dance would start he'd take the "long waltz" and have the "big drink." Then he'd say "I guess the 'Big Duke' don't know his business; I guess these clothes are bad; I guess the 'Big Duke' is got a bad claim on Skookum; guess this poe's got lead in it; guess that cabin o' mine's a regular hut." Then he'd take a big puff of smoke and set esteem, and the "Big Duke" would wander away for more excitement.

After his separation from the duchess, the duke acted queerly and the sports thought he had joined the artillery. He hovered around his former associates for awhile and then withdrew from his short rein. He was missed for awhile; people inquired for the "Big Duke," and when it was found he'd gone to Eagle all joined in the cry, "Hail to the Big Stuff."

# DECISION GIVEN

## In the Case of Wm. E. Thompson, Plaintiff, Vs. Nellie Cashman, Defendant.

### JUDGMENT DETERMINES TWO SUITS

#### Hillside Claim Opposite No. 29 Below on Bonanza

#### THE PROPERTY INVOLVED.

#### The Defendant's Ground is Declared to Be Included in the Claim of Defendant.

This morning, Gold Commissioner Senkler rendered a decision in the case of William E. Thompson, plaintiff, vs. Nellie Cashman, defendant. The action involved the title to a bench claim, left limit, opposite the lower half of No. 29 below discovery on Bonanza creek, for which property the defendant had received a grant. The plaintiff recorded the hillside claim, known as the "Dickey hillside," which is located on the left limit, opposite the lower half of No. 29 below discovery on Bonanza, and he alleged that the "Dickey hillside" of 1000 feet includes the bench to which defendant, Nellie Cashman, had secured title. In addition to the suit of Thompson against Cashman, there is also an action which is entitled Meikle et al. plaintiffs, vs. Cashman, defendant. In this latter case, the plaintiffs, who recorded the hillside claim, left limit, opposite No. 3 Monte Cristo, contend that their hillside extends a thousand feet in length, and includes the ground which is involved in the Thompson vs. Cashman suit. The judgment of Commissioner Senkler disposes of all questions in litigation; and the bench which had been recorded by defendant Cashman is decreed to be included in plaintiff's Bonanza creek hillside.

The text of the judgment is as follows: "The Dickey hillside location was staked on August 18th, 1898, opposite the lower half, left limit, of No. 29 Bonanza, below discovery. The plaintiff is the present owner of the claim. The defendant obtained a record of the ground on January 25th, 1899. The Dickey claim was staked and recorded as a hillside location. The owners thereof are entitled to all the ground therein contained, with the exception of such portion thereof as conflicts with any prior location. It appears from the evidence that a bench claim staked by one Mousseau opposite 2 and 3 Monte Cristo, left limit, a prior location conflicts with the Dickey claim. The survey of the Mousseau made by Mr. Green is, I consider, correct. He took the down hill, down-stream stake as the initial post. I think satisfactory evidence cannot be obtained of the locator's initial post, which should be obtained in this case, as Mousseau did not remember which of his front stakes was his initial stake. Mr. Jepson's survey of the Mousseau claim is, as far as this point is concerned, the same as Mr. Green's. These surveys show that the front portion of the Dickey claim is connected with the ground in dispute by a neck of ground from 10 to 15 feet wide. The evidence shows that there is a continuous raise from Bonanza to the upper end of said ground, which is less than 1000 feet from the base of the hill on Bonanza; I think, therefore, that as against the defendant Cashman, the plaintiff is entitled to the ground in question, and the grant to Nellie Cashman should be cancelled. The plaintiffs were represented by attorney A. G. Smith; and Mr. F. J. McDougall appeared on behalf of the defendant.

#### Arrival of Mail.

On Saturday evening, 13 sacks of mail arrived in Dawson from the outside. Four of the sacks were consigned to points on the lower river; and they left here in charge of Carrier Downing yesterday morning. The other nine sacks have been sorted; and they are now ready for distribution to the public. The next consignment of mail is expected to arrive in Dawson on Saturday, May 5th. Mr. Davis, of the C. D. Co., asserts that the mail carriers will not be delayed longer than two weeks at any time during the present spring.

#### Citizens Mass Meeting.

A meeting will be held at the Palace Grand opera house, Saturday, May 5th, 1900 at 8 p. m., to hear the report of the citizens committee to secure representation, and deal with a resolution now on the table, and for the discussion of public questions generally. The committee has been notified that a motion will be introduced to secure united action of the mine-owners in contesting for the present season the payment of the present illegal and excessive royalty, and also the present proposed illegal and excessive taxation ordinance, and also dealing with the subjects of toll bridges, roads and other public improvements, in the Yukon territory. Every mine-owner is requested to be present at the meeting which is called pursuant to the adjournment of the citizens mass meeting of March 23d, 1900. By order

#### CITIZENS' COMMITTEE.

Dated at Dawson, Y. T., April 28th, 1900.

#### POLICE COURT NEWS.

There was only a brief session of Capt. Scarth's court this forenoon, only three cases being up for consideration. The Blaker case which was held over from Saturday was again continued until Wednesday morning.

In the case of James Mathews, charged with excessive drinking, an order was issued that papers be drawn interdicting him for a period of one year.

Paul Helm, who had sued Chas. Goodwin, for \$25 for labor performed, was awarded \$15, it appearing that Helm had not fully carried out his part of the contract.

#### A Story of Customs.

Mr. James Johnston, formerly one of the proprietors of the blacksmith shop near the corner of Third avenue and Third street, last December purchased a few trinkets of Klondike jewelry which he forwarded by C. D. Co. express for Christmas presents to his wife and children at Telluride, Colorado. Time went on and nothing was heard of the express package which cost Mr. Johnston \$70. Today he received a letter from his wife telling him that she has been informed that the package is still at Victoria, and that it can not be entered into the United States until customs duty to the amount of \$42 is paid thereon. The lady writes that she wrote and ordered the package returned to her husband in this place.

Mr. Johnston does not state which branch of politics he used while on the outside, but if he was a howling protectionist, it is probable that the little jewelry episode will cause him to pause and reflect.

#### Four Flore Eagles.

At the regular weekly meeting of the Eagles last night four candidates recited the dizzy heights and were received into full membership. After the business of the meeting had been transacted the regular social session was in order, at which the usual effervescent time was enjoyed. The meeting was largely attended, the commodious hall being crowded.

#### Celebration May 24.

A public meeting of all interested in celebrating the Queen's birthday is hereby called for Thursday, May 3d, at 8 p. m., in the parlor of Chisholm's Aurora hotel.

If it is decided to hold a celebration, committees will be appointed at this meeting to look after all the details. As patriotism is more pronounced throughout Canada this year than ever before, there is no doubt but that the citizens of Dawson will celebrate with greater eclat than ever before, for Her Majesty's 82d anniversary of 1900 God Save the Queen.

#### Got Cold Feet.

A man by the name of Huddleson who started three weeks ago for the Koyukuk country, returned to Dawson Saturday, having only gone as far as Circle City on his intended journey. His reason for not continuing is that at Circle he inquired for news concerning the Koyukuk and was not able to obtain any favorable reports, in fact, the Circle people knew nothing about any reports of Koyukuk wealth, and further, they did not believe there is any ground for any reports of fabulous wealth in that country. In view of what he learned, or rather, in view of what he failed to learn, Mr. Huddleson decided to right about face and return to Dawson.

#### Live Stock Coming.

Skagway, April 30.—Burns yesterday shipped to Bennett en route to Dawson, two car loads of cattle, one car of hogs and two cars of sheep, all the stock being alive.

A large amount of live stock is already here awaiting shipment to the inside.

# RUMORS OF WAR

## From the Philippines Are Something of a Record Breaker.

### 120 SKIRMISHES SINCE JANUARY

#### Ten Officers and Seventy-eight Men Killed.

#### 1,400 INSURGENTS KILLED.

#### The Situation is Gradually Becoming Pacific—Leading Insurgents Surrendering.

Washington, D. C., April 8.—Gen. Otis has cabled to the war department, probably with a view to correcting the erroneous impressions that exist in the country as to the state of the insurrection in the Philippines, a summary of the rise and development of the campaign since the first of the calendar year. His figures go far toward offsetting a belief that exists in some quarters that since the adoption of guerrilla methods of warfare the insurgents have inflicted substantial losses upon American armies in comparison with the punishment which they have received. A significant sentence in the report differentiates the insurgents and Ladrones, showing that Otis has taken cognizance of the fact that a considerable number of hostiles are not soldiers under the rules of war and may expect the same treatment. The report, which is dated Manila, April 5, is as follows:

"Since January 1, 120 skirmishes in the Philippines have been reported, mostly slight affairs. Our casualties were 10 officers and 78 enlisted men killed, 13 officers and 151 men wounded. The insurgents and Ladrones lost in killed and left on the field, 1426; captured (mostly wounded) 1453, small arms secured, 3051; pieces of artillery, 165—large captures of other insurgents' property. A number of important insurgent officers are surrendering and the situation is gradually becoming more pacific.

#### Bank Men Ill.

Messrs. Willis and McMullen of the Canadian Bank of Commerce are both laid up with the grippe. Neither gentleman is seriously ill, but both are feeling sufficiently under the weather to remain within rooms most of the time.

#### Sunday Night Entertainment.

The vocal and instrumental concert at the Orpheum last night was a most commendable production, but it was greeted by a very poor audience, there being a large number of vacant chairs. The performers all acquitted themselves creditably, Miss Tracie being by all odds the favorite of the evening. The young lady was in excellent voice and on her first appearance of the evening graciously responded to no less than four encores.

The following is the program as presented:

March	.....	Signa
Vocal quartet	.....	Kohat
Clarinets solo	.....	Cox
Mr. Denman	.....	Bevan
Vocal solo	.....	Bevan
Selection, "Maristina"	.....	Wallace
Vocal solo, "Daisy"	.....	Behrend
Miss Marion Tracie	.....	Walden
Vocal solo, "Life is a Dream"	.....	Neldinger
Vocal solo, "Birth of a King"	.....	Neldinger
Mr. Shank	.....	Chambliss
(b) "Tramers"	.....	Shuman
Mr. E. B. Lyon	.....	Shuman
Vocal solo, "In Dreamland"	.....	Herbert
Opera, "Wizard of the Nile"	.....	Herbert
Mr. Zimmerman	.....	Herbert
Revue, "Little Boy Blue"	.....	Eugene Field
obligato	.....	Tracie
Hallelujah Chorus	.....	Band
Due Miserere and Prison Scene	.....	Yard
Leonore, Miss Tracie; Maurice, Mr. Zimmerman	.....	

#### Poor Sluicing Weather.

The present weather is somewhat discouraging to the mine operators who are all ready for the work of sluicing. The fact that the surface of the ground trees every night causes the flow of water to decrease in volume until the middle of the following afternoon, when it does not flow with sufficient volume to permit of uninterrupted work. On many of the streams the water reserve is slowly but surely running away and but little benefit is being derived from it.

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