

The Klondike Nugget

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NOTICE

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THE "TIP" OF A "TOUT."

The evolution of a racing stable "tout" is phenomenally rapid. A raw country boy, familiar with plow stock, hires out for cleaning up purposes and is promoted during the first "event" to the position of "rubber," in which capacity he sits under the horse's belly and rubs his legs with a downward motion for an hour at a time. Suddenly he blossoms out as a "high roller" and nightly spends and loses more than his month's salary amounts to. Everyone around the stable knows what has happened—he has uncovered a road to wealth in the credulity of the public and is simply selling "tips" on the pending races. It makes not the least difference in the world that the pretended information as to which horse is set to win is utterly unreliable, for "suckers" are horn every day who will buy the "tip" of the "tout" with the confiding innocence of an infant at the breast.

Mr. Ogilvie's brief career in London over a year ago was a tempestuous affair. His lectures on the geology of the Northwest territory were first attended by a handful of scientific men who went out to laugh before the conclusion of the lecture, and then the scientific journals started a guffaw which reverberated from one end of England to the other at the daring ignorance of the man who knowing absolutely nothing of the science was gifted with the immaculate gall which enabled him to exploit his ignorance on a national scale. Nevertheless that London trip was not altogether a failure, for as a giver of "tips" Mr. Ogilvie was as great a success as his scientific lecture was a failure. The following is the comment of The Engineering and Mining Journal, of New York, upon the same subject:

THE FLOTATION OF A "POINTER."

"We have received a copy of the prospectus of the 'British Canadian Goldfields of the Klondike, Limited,' which has been organized in London with a capital of £275,000 to undertake the exploration of the gold-bearing regions of the Yukon and the acquisition of mining properties therein. In some respects this prospectus is the most remarkable that has come to our notice in many months, and on the face of it we have no hesitation in condemning the company and advising investors to keep out of it. The promoters have in some way obtained the services of Mr. William Ogilvie, provincial land surveyor, who was the chief representative of the Canadian government in the Klondike when gold was discovered there, and who, during a visit home in 1897, gave out a foolish estimate of the wealth of the placers, which estimate was roughly criticised in The Engineering and Mining Journal at the time. This estimate is repeated in the prospectus under discussion. We repeat to the public that no credence should be given to any such estimate. Mr. Ogilvie is not a mining engineer, but a mere land surveyor and if he were a mining engineer and geologist of the highest conceivable attainments (save the gift of clairvoyance) he could not possibly have trustworthy data for such an estimate.

"In this matter Mr. Ogilvie is to be criticised also for something more than mere ignorance and exaggeration, because, although he is now government administrator of the Klondike, he has

evidently given his services to a company of private adventurers, stating in a letter to the founders of the company that he has furnished them with a private map on which he has marked places, not yet taken up, where he knows gold to exist, and advises that claims upon them be staked for the company as soon as possible, while he has also privately indicated the location of other unclaimed mineral deposits. The company now proposes that an exploration party shall be dispatched to certain districts with regard to which Mr. Ogilvie has given to the founders exclusive information, and to their secure possession of the most desirable properties already indicated by him.

"We herewith inform investors that no wild 'pointer' like this is a safe basis for a company with a capital of £275,000, nor one-hundredth of that amount. We also call the attention of the Canadian government to the impropriety of this exploitation of Mr. Ogilvie, and the amazing statement in the prospectus that Mr. Ogilvie has given to the company valuable information by permission of his government, and has agreed to advise and assist the company generally, with the sole stipulation that the undertaking shall be conducted in accordance with the views of the Canadian government. If the Canadian government is to favor private interests in this manner, we wonder what the miners of the Klondike will have to say about it. And if the official administrator of the government is to exploit his official position in such a way, it is not difficult to foresee the fine crop of scandals which will come out of it, and indirectly on the government that permits it."

PRACTICALLY A REVERSAL.

The "Masters and Servants" act is a never failing source of wonder to the American residents of this territory. Never before have they seen such summary justice dealt out to debtors even in the mining camps. "When can you pay these wages?" is asked the employer. "I haven't got the money and can't pay till I earn it," is the frequent answer. "I'll give you 10 days to pay or go to jail until you do" is the sentence. The strangest thing about the entire proceeding is that the very men who spend from five to nine days trying to convince the justice that it is impossible for them to raise the wherewithal to pay the account will on the tenth day pay the wages and escape the jail, for though suits under this act are every day occurrences, we have yet to hear of the first employer going to jail for the non-payment of wages though it is not unknown for the police to bring them back from dangerously near the American line.

However there is a fair to be a change pretty soon judging by a dictum from the bench. Judge Dugas has looked into the matter and disagrees with his predecessor, Judge McGuire, and on a recent occasion said: "If no other authority (than such laws as has already been submitted) is presented I shall hold at the proper time that you cannot imprison under the 'Masters and Servants' acts."

ANOTHER GRAFT.

Another "graft" apparently finding much favor in the eyes of Mr. Ogilvie is the proposed granting to Fred C. Johnson of the ground on the opposite side of the Yukon river for townsite purposes. The ground is already occupied by some 72 cabins and there are innumerable plans being laid for more residences there this summer. The law under which Johnson expects Ogilvie to give him the land right from under the feet of the present occupants was passed last fall, when this was set apart as a separate territory and the Yukon commission was empowered to dispose of vacant Dominion ground in 40-acre lots at not less than \$10 per acre. The money is supposed to have been paid and Mr. Ogilvie is to issue a grant to the said Johnson under instructions from Ottawa. This means that Johnson gets the ground for \$1 25 per lot, for there are about eight 50-foot lots in an acre which Johnson gets for \$10. Then the actual users of the ground are supposed to pay from \$100 to \$300 to Johnson or get off the earth.

The "graft" is so plainly apparent that Mr. Ogilvie's predecessor consistently refused to sanction it and thus it was that Major Walsh directed such Dawsonites as so desired to cross the river and build, assuring them that when the gov-

ernment laid out a townsite there, as was intended, they would simply be assessed their share of the cost of survey. Now if the government insists in getting \$10 per acre or \$1 25 per lot from cabin builders, why not let the cabin builder pay the money directly to the government and obtain a grant? Why compel them to pay a middle man an additional two or three hundred dollars? Why take the ground from the genuine occupant and give it to a man whose only interest in it is not to live there but sell at an advance?

LOOKS BAD FOR MR. OGILVIE.

The Hon. Clifford Sifton spoke at a banquet at Waterloo on January 27, this year, and made the amazing statement that Mr. Wm. Ogilvie had written the government that he had already investigated the charges being made against officials on the Yukon and had found nothing wrong; this was long before the royal investigation had commenced, and so we find conclusive proof that the governor went into that investigation having already committed himself to find "nothing wrong." This prejudging of the accused officials to be innocent men and the putting of this written and signed judgment in the hands of the government before the trial, lends a mighty suspicious light to all Mr. Ogilvie's actions at that trial. It explains his ruling that nothing should be investigated subsequent to August 25; it explains his endorsement and enjoin of Fawcett during the trial; it explains his coming repeatedly to the rescue of bogged and contradictory witnesses and it explains his attempt at a plausible explanation of the many suspicious facts elicited and brought to light in spite of him.

We submit to our readers that having committed himself to a written statement to his government that there was nothing in the charges against officials, it was hardly honorable to invite citizens to come forward with specific charges, when his sole interest in the matter was to substantiate his hasty whitewash sent to the government from here before January 1.

SIFTON ON ROYALTY.

In a recent speech the minister of the interior spoke as follows: "The net result of the first year (on the Yukon) was that the receipts were \$1,053,150, and the expenditure on police, charity, and everything else was \$647,000, leaving a balance of \$406,000 to the good. The figures for the present year are not in, but will be found equally satisfactory, and this has been accomplished in the teeth of the bitterest opposition of the conservatives. Sir Charles Tupper called me the other day (from London) for authority to tell the people of England that the royalty of 10 per cent would be abolished or substantially reduced, but I replied that neither would be done. Two unarméd mining inspectors collected \$400,000 royalty, although the conservatives predicted that an armed force could not collect from the wild miners. I believe the royalty next year will amount to \$800,000, and this in the face of the fact that Sir Charles Tupper has predicted that the royalty will kill the industry."

Thus will be seen the utter uselessness of petitioning our rulers against this unjust tax when they are so firmly wedded to it. Only political pressure will ever accomplish the downfall of that unjust and obnoxious measure, and we join with our friends in their anxiety to hear of the progress being made in Ottawa by Messrs. Allen and Semple.

The figures given by Mr. Sifton, we believe do not include the amount of over a million and a half which were also received by the Canadian government in duties, sale of dredging privileges and sale of lands, which sum goes into an entirely separate fund and is counted in with the outcome of the Dominion.

A TARDY appreciation of the immortal Gordon is to be shown at last by the erection of the Gordon Memorial College on a site just outside of Omdurman, the scene of that unnecessary death to a man whose name will but

shine out with a clearer lustre as the centuries roll on. Lord Kitchener reports the site a healthy one and the people enthusiastic, and the cornerstone is probably laid by this time.

A very pat quotation of scripture was made by someone during the earlier stages of the investigation farce now in progress in Dawson which really describes the goings of the retired occupant of the gold commissioners office very aptly: "To him that hath shall be given and to him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath."

THE KLONDIKER'S RETURN.

C. CURTIS.
From the field of gold I came,
Sweet Marie;
Will you kiss me welcome home,
Love, to thee?
I am only skin and bones,
All my muscles are gone,
And I'm full of pork and beans.
As can be seen,
Oh! I got it in the neck,
Sweet Marie;
I am but a battered wreck,
Don't you see?
And the snow and ice I slept,
While the rest of you were me crept,
And the watch vigils kept
Over me.
When I left you I was fat,
Sweet Marie;
Never was a Thomas out
SPT as me;
I could hit a barrel of beer,
I could run like a deer,
And there never was a tear
In my eye.
Now I am thinner than a ghost,
Sweet Marie;
You could make a hitching post
Out of me;
Every joint that's in my frame
Is stiff with rheumatic stiffness pains,
Oh! Klondike, I'm ashamed,
In bed, of this.
But I'm with you once again,
Sweet Marie;
Though you seem not to
Identify me,
Now that I am on my feet,
And will have a chance to eat,
I'll accumulate more meat
Than you see.
From the bitter spruce bough tea,
(Oh, sweet Marie)
And from Klondike scurvy pains
I am free.
Now I'll live almighty high,
And I soon will be as spry
As the boy you kissed good-by,
Sweet Marie.
Sweet Marie, list to me; list to me,
Sweet Marie,
Though I'm getting old,
Now you see,
I have got the frame work yet,
And the meat I soon will get,
With the help of you, let
With the help of you we have got to get,
Sweet Marie.

A New "Cad."

A number on the program of the Tivoli theatre the past week which has created much diversion and amusement is the "smoke up" and "stump" of George Newman, as a smaller edition of Cad Wilson, in such a nice girl, too. The number is met with much approval by the audience, and the "take off" is very good. The Gagey sisters, Maude and Bessie, and Brown got out with an entire change of program, while Cad Wilson's "stump" comes on just ahead of George to give the audience the benefit of a sweet comparison.

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SPECIAL

A Resume of

Complete List of Ratings of The Arrival at Sk

While it is a plod long overland job completed; yet it is regret that the con- attained.

While it is pleo once more, to use the threshold of a such luxuries as a can furnish, and of fruits, etc. of po- Kon. Nevertheless that the reputation been devoid of H- annoyances of H- even the kind of intelligent dogs s- plodded along, a- proach you with a- and real, that has- noble fellows wh- whom we had be- left behind an- Tuesday we shall, along on their- glances of recogni- tall.

State within a particularly even- days' run was o- Canyon to Tugh- Lake Marsh in a- and severe with- crossing we met- the Dawson Fire- and on Bennett- others. At Benn- starting out for- he trail over the- in good weather, ing that point- and blind, tin- into resue- night, and the m- signs of abating- the railroad tra- through the Whit- packed trail below- water and on ar- barren ground, w- For the benefit- travelers over- the list of station- tances apart and- lions:

Table with columns: MILES FROM DAWSON, ROAD, and various route names like Anstey, Indian, Reindeer, Tent, Sixty-Mile, Steward, Keeg, White, Tristram, Steatun, Tulare, Bertha, Big Foot, N.W.E., N.W.E., N.W.E., Little, Little, Big Sal, Cassar, Wreath, Hader, Howard, Hudi wa, Foot La, Island, Head L, Wood C, Wreath, Kake M, English, Carlton, Little, B. Jones, Lang, Kogob.