

### SAYS IT WAS FOUL PLAY

Case of J. H. Rogers vs. Mortimer  
In Court Yesterday.

Plaintiff Says Defendant Kept Him  
in the Shaft for Nearly Twelve  
Hours.

Standing room was at a premium at the police court yesterday afternoon when the preliminary hearing of J. H. Rogers charged with assaulting R. E. Mortimer by keeping him in a shaft for 12 hours without food or water, was commenced before Magistrate Wroughton. Mortimer, the man who alleges to have been assaulted, was put on the stand and told the story of the manner in which he claims to have been enticed into the shaft, of his imprisonment and final escape, all of which was accompanied by the most thrilling experience and narrow escapes in which he says he was in constant danger of losing his life by freezing and starvation, and he had even contemplated committing suicide in order to escape the tortures of such a slow, lingering death.

The reason he said that Rogers had enticed him into the shaft was to force a confession of guilt from him concerning the disappearance of some gold dust amounting to \$1,400, which had been taken from the cabin. The dust had been washed from the claim which was owned by Mortimer, Rogers and a man named Field. After the disappearance of the dust Mortimer said that a man on the creek had been suspected and that Rogers had made a proposition to catch the man and hang him; not with the intention of killing the man but just to choke him to make him confess. This Mortimer had refused to do and submitted a counter proposition to keep the man under close surveillance and if anything suspicious was found in his actions to have the matter reported to the police. A meeting of miners had been called and the two propositions submitted to them and it was decided that the latter was the proper course to pursue.

An effort was made by the defense under cross examination to discredit the old man's story by trying to get him to admit that he is a romancer and has been in the habit of regaling his companions with stories of wonderful deeds on land and sea performed by himself. Mortimer would only admit that perhaps he would tell a story while sitting around a campfire, the same as any other man would but he denied being a romancer and stated that his stories were all true unless he passed it off as a joke. He was asked concerning the story Corporal Hobbs of the Stewart detachment said that he reported in the fall of '99 concerning the drowning of a number of men above Stewart in which he (Mortimer) had also nearly lost his life. Mortimer denied ever having made that report.

Mortimer was then asked if he remembered having told a story of robbing a dead man of a watch while he was ship's carpenter on board a vessel and then throwing it overboard to avoid detection: Mortimer also denied having told this story. He was then asked if he did not propose to Field to steal the gold and divide it among the two of them. This was also denied.

He was then asked if he had not told Rogers and Field of stealing some gold when he was placer mining at Caribou. He replied that he had not.

He was asked how much money he had when he went to work in the fall to which he replied that he had \$9.50 — \$7.50 he had earned on Yukon and \$2 he had received from Mrs. Shroud a roadhouse keeper on the Yukon. When asked what he had done with the money he replied that he had paid it with some more to a man by the name of Kolbe. "Where did you get the money you put with it to give Kolbe?" was the next question, to which he replied that he had washed it from the dump at night, and when asked if he had reported the amount to the other partners he replied that he had told Field he had taken out about \$2. The next witness called was a man named Housher, but he could not tell any of the facts about the case except from hearsay.

As Field's name was brought forward so prominently in the case by Mortimer's evidence it is considered that he is a very material witness and he will be summoned to appear at the next hearing which will be held next Tuesday at 2 p. m.

**Short but Enjoyable.**  
Capt. Gray of the Northern Navigation Co., gave a free excursion yesterday afternoon to a large number of people, the steamer Susie being sent up the river for the purpose. The run was a short but enjoyable one. Pictures were taken of the handsome craft by Goetzman as she sped homeward under a full head of steam.

Wanted—10,000 gunny sacks. Highest price paid. N. A. T. & T. Co.  
Fresh Lowney's candles. Kelly & Co., druggists.

### Police Court.

The time-honored charge of drunk and disorderly was repeated four consecutive times this morning by Magistrate Wroughton in the police court. John King was the first called to the box and when the charge was read to him he pleaded guilty. He said that he was an industrious young man who had been working hard all summer on Dominion and he was going back today. The magistrate dismissed the case warning him to be a more careful in the future.

Wm. McDonald was found yesterday afternoon lying in the street in front of the Canadian Bank of Commerce in a helpless condition from the effect of alcoholic stimulants. It took three men to lift him into a wagon and two horses to pull him to the barracks. He also pleaded guilty to the charge and as this was his second offense within three months a fine of \$10 and costs and an extra charge of \$5 for his ride was imposed, or, as an alternative, he will spend 15 days operating the royal saw.

R. Rocco was found lying in the alley back of the Northern saloon in a helpless condition. It was necessary for two men to assist him to the barracks and they had to carry him all the way. He was given the option of paying \$10 and costs or ten days.

John McMillan pleaded guilty to the charge of drunk and obstructing the public highway and was fined \$5 and costs.

### BONNIFIELD AND DAVIS

Legal Difficulties Are Being Tried  
in Territorial Court.

The legal difficulties of Bonnifield against Davis are being aired in the territorial court today. Their business relations date back to June 1, 1898, when a co-partnership was formed to enter the liquor trade. According to the plaintiff Davis was to furnish the building and room necessary for the business and he (Bonnifield) was to supply the capital to start with and apply his whole time to the management of the concern, the profits arising from the venture to be divided equally between them. The first settlement was made March 1, 1899, when it was learned Davis had overdrawn his account \$16,000. There was not enough cash left on hand to permit the plaintiff to equalize matters and in lieu thereof stock was taken from the business to make up the deficit. On May 1 Bonnifield took over the business himself agreeing to pay Davis \$1000 a month rent for the premises, the latter to furnish a bookkeeper to look after the books. A settlement of the co-partnership affairs was never had and suit is now brought to have the entangled accounts straightened out.

### COMING AND GOING.

G. Hamburger, of Grand Forks, is visiting Dawson.

J. Barnes, of Rampart City, is a recent arrival in Dawson.

Mr. Wordock of Eldorado is a guest at the Regina hotel today.

Fred Johnson of Eldorado, is stopping at the Flannery hotel.

Dr. A. E. Clendeman of Hunker, is a guest at the Flannery hotel today.

Dr. Hurdman took his departure for the outside Monday evening on the Dawson.

Gus Sproul of Sulphur, is attending to business in Dawson today. He will return to the creeks shortly.

There will be a match game of cricket at the Forks Saturday in which a picked team from Dawson will strive for first honors.

Louis Schloss, president of the Northern Commercial Co., is expected to arrive from St. Michael on the steamer Sarah which is due in about ten days.

George C. Dinmore who had charge of Cleveland's roadhouse at the mouth of Eureka creek last winter was a passenger on the steamer Yukoner which left Dawson today. Mr. Dinmore is bound for his home which is in Eureka, Humboldt county, California.

The boys at the town station are happy in the possession of a little red fox which is as pretty and playful as a kitten. The little animal was sent to Constable Wade as a present from a friend in St. Michael and has become the most popular pet the boys ever had.

Judge McCauley, the new police magistrate occupied the bench in the police court Monday for the first time, sitting in conjunction with Major Primrose. When the territorial court moves into the new courthouse the police court will occupy the rooms vacated.

After four years of hard and successful work in this country Mr. A. W. Brazier started this afternoon for his home in Detroit, Michigan, where he hopes in the next three or four months to renew his acquaintance with his family. He will return to Dawson over the ice in the winter.

Monday night the weather was the coldest yet experienced since the beginning of summer. The thermometer registered 30.05 degrees above zero, which is 1.05 degrees below freezing. The ground was covered with a heavy frost which is an unmistakable sign of the approach of the winter season.

W. B. Copping is expected to arrive in Dawson tomorrow in charge of snows bringing the inside finishing lumber for the new schoolhouse. Work on the building is being rapidly carried forward and it is the expectation to have it completed by the time the school term commences in the first week of September.

### A FINE MAP OF DAWSON

W. D. Bruce Has Chart for In-  
surance Company.

Shows Every Building in Dawson  
With Streets and Alleys—A Com-  
prehensive Work.

W. D. Bruce, one of the leading fire insurance agents in this city, is exhibiting with much pride a fire map of Dawson which was compiled by himself and subsequently reproduced in tint by the Dakin Publishing Company, of San Francisco, neatly bound in chart form convenient for handling. The area shown in the map extends from the waterfront east to Eighth avenue and from St. Mary's hospital to the Klondike river. The nine sheets covering the tract are most complete as to detail, showing every business house and building, by whom occupied, and if used for business purposes the character of the business, the width of streets, alleys, passageways, material from which houses are made, the position of fire halls and full particulars concerning the fire apparatus; also, the position and nature of fire fighting appliances owned by private individuals and corporations. A facsimile of these maps is kept on file in the head offices of the different companies writing insurance in Dawson and when a risk is applied for the managers can tell at a glance the chances they are taking. As new buildings are erected additions are made on the map showing the same and in that manner the information is kept strictly up-to-date.

Apropos of fire insurance, there are probably few people in the city outside of those directly interested who realize the strides which have been made in that line within the past year. Eighteen months ago neither love or money could have induced a reputable company to have taken a fire risk in Dawson. Today there are policies held amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars and at a comparatively low rate. All the large company stores, the outlying warehouses filled with goods, the banks and many others possess an insurance against loss by fire. It is not every business house nor every locality, however upon which insurance can be gotten. No company will take a risk along First avenue between First and Third streets. In the block bounded by First and Second avenues and Second and Third streets there is but one policy held by any of the tenants or property owners, that of \$5000 on the stock of a well known establishment fronting Second avenue. The Bank of British North America had \$15,000 insurance at the time it was destroyed by fire, since which time companies have been extremely chary in writing risks in the thickly settled portion of the city. Residences when properly constructed do not have any difficulty in getting insurance nor will business houses or warehouses containing stocks of goods if not located within the proscribed limits. The Phoenix of London, one of the oldest and largest companies in the world, is the principal company doing business here. A very great advantage to merchants, jobbers and wholesalers in the changed condition of things is that they are now able to do business on a much greater scale and with less capital than heretofore. Both banks in the city make heavy advances and take up freight bills on warehouse receipts when the consignments are covered by insurance. The transition to security against loss today from the state that existed a few years ago, when as in '97 many life insurance companies notified the holders of their policies that a trip to the Yukon meant a cancellation of their risks, has been more than remarkable.

### Received the Victoria

Billy Perkins' brother Jack, who was all through the Box war as a scout, has received the Victoria Cross. In one of his adventures he was at the head of nine men when they were surrounded by the enemy. Four of the party were shot dead, four made prisoners and Jack, who was bearing important dispatches to Lord Roberts, was the only one who escaped. It was this which called attention to his merit and led to his being decorated.

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### CAPT. NIXON AT CIRCLE

The Festive Skipper is Waiting  
for Something to Turn Up.

Capt. Nixon, formerly master of the Gold Star, whose quiet departure down the river in a small boat a couple of weeks ago was the occasion of considerable mourning, has been heard from. He has not gone to the Koyukuk as was stated in an evening contemporary nor does he intend to, but is quietly awaiting at Circle City for something to turn up. A gentleman of this city received a letter by the Susie from his brother in Circle which bears the information. He says: "Harry Hamburger passed here a few days ago on the Louise in search of Capt. Nixon. He was under the impression Capt. Nixon had already gone by Circle so proceeded on to the mouth of the Koyukuk. Two days after Harry had passed Nixon arrived and is still here. I had a talk with him last night and he told me he intended staying here until the two men whom he had left in charge of his goods at the Koyukuk arrived with the goods. Mr. Hamburger will doubtless go on to the point above Bettles where the goods were cashed and as he will fail to find Capt. Nixon there he may have some trouble in regaining possession of his own."

### German in Nome.

B. F. Germain, he of the monumental peddling capacity, whose departure several months ago was mourned by various creditors, is now in Nome and patrons of one of the Silent City's two-bit restaurants are enjoying the unusual felicity of having their hash dished up by a one time chef of ex-President Cleveland.

### A Correction.

The steamer Prospector is billed to sail Monday next for Stewart river and not Wednesday as published by error.

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