

THE KLONDIKE NUGGET.

VOL. I. No. 49

DAWSON, Y. T., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1898

PRICE 25 CENTS

HE IS HERE AT LAST

The New Gold Commissioner Arrived on Tuesday.

L. E. SENKLER, SUCCESSOR TO THOMAS FAWCETT, WITH A NEW OFFICE STAFF.

Will Shortly Take the Reins of Office and Administer Its Affairs.

Since June 16 the "Nugget" has Industriouslly Labored for the End Now Almost Accomplished—And Many a Sigh of Relief Will Ascend on Every Creek in the Yukon Territory—The New Gold Commissioner Gives the "Nugget" a Night Interview.

At last! What meaning there is in those two words this Wednesday morning to every reader of the Nugget as he shall take his favorite paper and have conveyed to him the cheering and cheerful intelligence that at last the successor to Thomas Fawcett, the misfit gold commissioner has arrived in Dawson and will shortly assume the duties of his office. At last and deviously those two words will go up in one chorus, over Bonanza, Eldorado, Munkler, Dominion, Sulphur and other creeks of the Yukon Territory, that soon will come to an end the administration of Thomas Fawcett, in one of the most important branches of the government. Recognizing the incompetency and wrongs so manifest in that office the Nugget has persistently and despite all hugging opposition, ever since its first issue away back in June, called for a remedy—the removal of Mr. Fawcett from his official position. At last these efforts have been rewarded and today the people are about to be released from the most aggravating disappointment ever placed in official power. It has not been any personal animosity toward poor Mr. Fawcett that has induced THE NUGGET to take its position, but more with a sense of pity and sympathy towards the men for accepting a position which he has so manifestly shown himself to be utterly incompetent to fill. But why follow him further? His power is practically gone and only the consummation of detail necessary to the transfer of so important an office is required to install his successor.

Mr. L. E. Senkler the new gold commissioner, arrived in Dawson late Tuesday night, and immediately a NUGGET man was dispatched to meet the official. Mr. Senkler has many friends in Dawson and it was not until after midnight that the NUGGET representative found the foot-sore and weary official at his quarters in the Fairview, where for the present he is stopping. Despite the long and weary—not to mention perilous—trip of Mr. Senkler, that gentleman upon being approached by the newspaper man kindly granted an interview. Approaching Mr. Senkler the interviewer at once introduced himself and stated that although undoubtedly anxious to obtain his much-needed rest, nevertheless thousands of earnest men, were patiently but anxiously awaiting the announcement of his arrival, and that the NUGGET was more than anxious to tell them that its efforts had been rewarded by his coming to Dawson.

Mr. Senkler at once and most interestingly told of his and his party's trip to Dawson. The party left Vancouver Oct. 21, on the steamer Danube, arriving at Skaguay Oct. 28, leaving there the day following, tramping over White Pass and arriving at Bennett Oct. 31. There being no steamer there, a start was made in an open boat, but meeting a river steamer, boarded her, returned to Bennett and left there again on November 2, arriving at White Horse November 8.

Here the party of six with three N. W. M. Police took two boats, but were troubled with ice in Lake LeBarge, and were compelled to abandon them and proceed as best they could on foot over the rock-bound shores of the lake, and in fearfully windy weather made only four miles in one day. One day each were occupied in reaching the Hootaliqua, Big Salmon and Ignatius rivers. Here a boat was again procured, but about 15 miles above Selkirk they were caught in an ice jam, and there they lay one entire night, suffering intensely from the cold, but with the assistance of two policemen aided by oars, found their way to shore, and chopping logs, laid a spruce pontoon—as it were—to the boat and rescued their provisions and luggage, which had hardly been done before their boat was on end in the jammed ice and a wreck. It required two days to reach Selkirk where the party arrived November 16 and remained twelve days, when two dog teams were procured from the N. W. M. P. and the re-

mainder of the journey to Dawson completed in nine days.

Completing the thrilling and interesting story of his hazardous trip the new gold commissioner was then asked: "Will you immediately assume the duties of your office?" To which Mr. Senkler responded: "Having just arrived, I am scarcely prepared to answer that question, but details necessary must first be arranged and they are numerous. I must first see Mr. Ogilvie and it may be the first of the year before taking charge of the office."

"Did you bring with you any persons whom you will have to assist you in your work and duties as gold commissioner?" was next asked.

"Yes, sir," promptly replied Mr. Senkler, "Mr. J. E. Bolduc and Mr. K. H. Baker, who will have positions of trust in the office, but in what positions I am of course as yet unable to say." "This will be as delightful news to the NUGGET readers as even the arrival of Mr. Senkler, as it undoubtedly means the removal of at least a portion of those who have been under Mr. Fawcett in the gold commissioner's office, and be received without much weeping or gnashing of teeth."

Asked if he had seen copies of the NUGGET on the outside Mr. Senkler smilingly replied "Oh, yes, quite a number of them and read them too."

But the dawn of happiness seems not to be involved alone in the arrival of the new gold commissioner, for the honorable Fred C. Wade's successor, was one of the party. Mr. W. H. P. Clement bears a commission appointing him to the position of legal advisor to the Yukon commissioner and council. Another new appointee is Mr. Gosselin, succeeding J. W. Willson as timber and land agent. Accompanying the party simply as an individual, however, was Dr. R. W. Simpson, of Winnipeg.

Mr. Senkler is comparatively a young man, about 23 years of age, of fine physique, athletic in build and evidently a man of firmness, decision and character as indicated by a splendidly shaped head, good features, and firm square jaw. Graduating as an attorney, he commenced the practice of his profession in Toronto, but during the past two and a half years, has been a resident and practicing attorney of Nelson, B. C. That being the center of a large mining district known as the Kootenai country, the knowledge gained there by Mr. Senkler regarding placer and quartz mining will be of immense value to him here in his new position.

Mr. Senkler is evidently a hard worker, careful and thoughtful, easy of approach, affable in manner, and the NUGGET welcomes him to this country and his new position while congratulating the miners of the Yukon Territory upon the actual accomplishment of a much-to-be-desired change in an important office. Mr. Fawcett on stepping down and out, it is said, will be made Chief of Survey, a position he is far better qualified to fill than the one he has so long occupied. The Minister of the Interior is evidently reading to good advantage the handwriting on the wall.

A Fortunate Raise.

A party consisting of C. Everitt, J. W. Burwell, J. Lewis, R. Lambier and G. Davis, arrived in Dawson Saturday from below Circle City. The Robert Kerr is laid up for the winter some 40 miles below the round city, and is

Funeral Expenses	\$300.00
One Bottle King's Cough Syrup	2.50
Amount Saved	\$297.50

KELLY & CO.

Druggists,

First Avenue.

is only one of the Moran boats which failed to make Dawson last summer. The party left Circle City 21 days ago and for the first hundred miles had to break their own trail through the soft snow. From there to Dawson was found either a beaten trail or the ice had been overflown, covering the snow and making it ideal traveling.

An interesting story of good fortune is told of the Robert Kerr. The freeze-up found her high and dry on a bar near the center of the river in such a position as guaranteed destruction in the early spring when the ice broke up. Supplies were reluctantly taken from her and cached on the bank and the same with her cargo. Just below was a convenient blind slough. It had broken away and formed a vast jam right across the river. Immediately the water backed up behind. Soon it was raising on the bar which held the Kerr upon its crest. Inch by inch, then foot by foot and, with a suddenly increasing speed it rose around the sides of the helpless boat and raised her bodily from her sandy bed. The demolition was so sudden and unexpected that nothing had been prepared for the involuntary trip down the river. Steam engines were dead and she just floated without anyone being able to direct her movements. To everyone's surprise and delight she made straight for the very slough she would have been placed in had she been movable, and when the ice jam gave way and the river sank as suddenly as it had arisen, the Robert Kerr was within a few feet of where she should have been last fall; and this without the help of anyone.

Messrs. Everitt and Burwell are leaving again for the coast in a few days.

Christmas Night.

On Christmas night there will be given a carnival of minstrelsy at the Tivoli theatre for the aid of St. Mary's hospital. There has never been a minstrel show in Dawson yet, and the gentlemen who are booked for the evening's entertainment are devoting their time and thought to it without reservation, and it undoubtedly will be the one great event of the season par excellence. It is often remarked what an abundance of all kinds of talent there is in Dawson and never will this be more transparently true than on Christmas night next. Already arrangements have been made for handsome costumes, and nothing is to be spared.

LOCAL UNEVENTS.

The Elks Club of Dawson will meet at the Bodega on Thursday evening to hear the report of the committee appointed to arrange for a social session.

The public library and reading room has passed into the hands of the First Presbyterian church and has been removed to the top of the A. C. office building.

On No. 22 below Sulphur, a large buffalo horn was found 45 feet down. Various bones of some large animal were also found. The horn is the exact counterpart of those of the American bison or buffalo, only several times larger.

The skating rink is no more, at least the covering of the rink. Along came the "typhoon" of Tuesday afternoon and away went the tent into shreds. Several narrow escapes from injury by pedestrians from flying signs are reported.

The wondrouscope, on Sunday evening at the Monte Carlo, was greeted by a full house. New pictures were introduced and new songs by Mr. Fred Tracy. By request he repeated his favorite of a week ago: "It's a picture of My Best Girl."

Local mail from Circle City, Ft. Yukon and intermediate points, reached Dawson Saturday in the care of Mr. Hawley, representing the Arctic Express Co. Mail for Circle City and intermediate points left Dawson on Monday in care of Mr. Robertson.

The Tivoli bar is being altered this week into a Bazaar which will be a novelty to Dawson, and is illustrative of Manager Bled's enterprise. There is to be a grand raffle on December 23rd of \$10,000 worth of useful presents and cash. Furniture, furs, jewelry, diamonds, etc. Announcement will be made later.

The net proceeds of the hippodrome sparring contest of two weeks ago, amounting to \$284.75 have been turned over to St. Mary's hospital as ordered by the referee, Mr. James Donaldson. It will be remembered that the referee decided the affair "no contest" and awarded the receipts to the hospital.

A fire that might have resulted disastrously but for the prompt action of "shorty," the porter, occurred at the Monte Carlo theatre about 5 o'clock, Sunday last. Sparks had fallen into an open crack in the roof, and smouldered into a blaze. Prompt application of water from the buckets with which the house is well provided arrested the flames.

Frank Slavin reports that Little Blanche and Canon are showing up very well, but the pay seems to deserve the creek and take to the benches, for wherever the creek cuts into the bench ground good pay is found, but Quartz is not proving a winner and many of the laymen are leaving. He also says No. 21 Little Eldorado has struck six feet of pay dirt averaging 30 cents.

Andy Young, the energetic and successful local paper-seller says he knows his falling and has turned over a new leaf. He wants his friends to take notice of this fact and restrain their generous impulse to pass the flowing bowl whenever he puts in an appearance. He says the holidays are coming and there will be plenty time enough to celebrate; till then refrain from that familiar remark: "Well, Andy, what are you going to have?"

The captain of the Columbia Navigation Co.'s steamer sovereign is having all kinds of trouble down at Circle City where the boat is laid up for the winter. He has been arrested several times on various charges. Among other accusations that are brought against him he is charged with collecting money from the company for wood which the deck hands had cut. Also with selling a library which the company had sent up for the use of the men and appropriating the money. He has been up before the courts at Circle City nearly all the time the boat has been there. The company affairs have been taken out of his hands and placed in charge of Mr. Storey.

Money to Loan

First Avenue. on pledge security. Apply at Nugget office.

A ROUND-UP OF THE CREEKS.

The True Status of Dominion and Sulphur Creeks.

What Claims are Being Worked—Laymen Leaving the Lower Creeks—Some Pertinent Facts Concerning the Digging.

A NUGGET representative has just completed the round trip down Dominion, up Sulphur and back by way of Gold Bottom.

Work is progressing on all of the creeks, although on both lower Dominion and Sulphur the water has interfered and set the work back to a great extent.

Between discoveries on Dominion almost every claim is being worked and several good strikes are reported.

On 13 below upper the laymen are quite jubilant and men are being put on the lower half at wages. The pay streak has been located on 18 below and also on 20 and 21, but strange to say several holes on 18 have failed to locate the hidden treasure.

The biggest thing yet reported is the late find on 33 below upper. On this claim there are six lays. Three of them have located the pay streak and pans from \$25 to \$50 taken out, the pay streak averaging upwards of \$1.00. Wage-workers are on the claims both above and below this one but haven't yet located the streak. The claims just above discovery are mostly in the hands of laymen and they are all hard at work sinking. The next month will undoubtedly bring forth very pleasing results from this locality for very good prospects were reported.

Below lower discovery nothing startling has been found and the farther down the less are the chances for a strike being made this season. The creek gradually becomes viler and as there are so many claims "not open to record" it makes prospecting very difficult. One man cannot undermine enough ground to give a claim a fair test. He must act in co-operation with the adjoining claim owner, and if he is alone, and such is the case in many instances, it is simply "pot luck" if he strikes it.

In the hundreds most claims are being simply represented, which means one or two holes to bedrock, although several claims are let out in lays and will be a little better prospected. Quite a few laymen have returned to town disgusted with the creek and deserted cabins are quite frequent.

Messrs. Rasmussen and Holt, formerly of Seattle, are sinking on 124 below lower and have several holes under way. They are undoubtedly the champion moose hunters on the creek for two fine moose, hanging in front of their cabin, are the fruits of a successful hunting trip.

In the two hundreds the claims are being represented, and those near the mouth of Gold Run, 220 to 228 are being prospected more thoroughly. The reason for this is the recent finds on upper Gold Run, Nos. 45, 46 and 49 have uncovered good pay-streaks of coarse gold and nuggets weighing 32 have been taken out. Pay is also reported on several other claims on that creek.

A good trail leaves Dominion at No. 230 and leads to No. 117 below on Sulphur, two claims above the mouth. Here the claim-owners were sinking, but no prospects had been found. This is true of almost every claim from 31 below to the mouth and disheartened laymen are returning to Dawson almost every day. The creek is quite wide, and, like Dominion, has not been thoroughly prospected.

On 35, 36 and 37 below six holes have been sunk across the channel and one more is being put down but a more disgusted set of laymen could not be found. The same is true of 18 below, where four laymen have put seven holes down. Fair prospects have been found on 11 below and from here to discovery pay has been struck in several places. The several fractions below report very good pay, and on 5 below Mr. Brimstone reports fair pay with bedrock only 12 feet. He will summer sluice the claim, and in the meanwhile, helps entertain the guests in his road house, where the Nugget man spent a very pleasant evening.

Strange to say nothing is being done on McDonald's high-priced claims, Nos. 7 and 11 above, but from 15 to 20 above the workers are fast getting on the pay-streak. Robert Menzies who owns No. 17 has two holes down on the streak from 8 inches to 4 feet thick that will average 25 cents. On 18 the pans were averaging 21 cents and on 19, 81 cents, the best pan being \$1.25.

The richest claim on the creek, so far, is 30 above, owned by Charles Nelson. He is employing nine men and has three lays out on the claim. The pay-streak is a thick one and very wide and averages over 40 cents; one hole showing up still better and \$1 dirt is found. It was on this claim that Ted Martinson, the man who was recently hurt by a falling bucket, was employed.

On 25 above there are two holes to bedrock, one of which panned \$2.54, the other from five cents to 50 cents. Here seven wage laborers are employed and four lays are being worked. Upper Sulphur will be pretty thoroughly prospected, but the water has kept the work back and is still proving a great hindrance.

Considerable work is going on up Gold Bottom and strikes are reported from 5 to 8 above discovery.