

JUDGE WANTED

For Alaska, Which is Now Without That Very Important Official.

DEPLORABLE CONDITION OF AFFAIRS

Johnson Has Gone, and Appointee Brown is Too Old.

HE HAS PASSED 50-MILE POST

District Litigation at a Standstill—No United States Commissioner at Juneau.

(From Thursday's Daily.)

The Yukon is not the only country on earth that is forced to look to higher sources for officers and then accept just what the higher sources see fit to thrust upon them. Alaska is in the same boat, and just now the injustice of the laws making such things possible is being keenly felt in that district. The last issue of the Daily Alaskan received here unfolds the following tale of woe: Deputy Marshal J. M. Tanner who returned last evening from Sitka by way of Juneau, brings news that the entire district of Alaska is without a district judge, and there is no telling when it may have one, and consequently no telling when there will be another term of court. The marshal says:

"Not long ago Judge Johnson received a letter of instructions that he might finish work in hand and consider himself released from the bench March 31. This he did, and is on his way to Seattle.

"However, there is no one in Alaska to succeed Judge Johnson. Attorneys who went from Juneau and Skagway on the last Cottage City found no one on the bench, and had to come back home disappointed in their missions.

"It is reported that Judge Melville C. Brown who was named for successor of Judge Johnson, got part of the way here, and turned back or refused to start at all because he is more than 50 years of age and in the pending Carter case for Alaska there is a clause providing that no one more than 50 years old will be eligible to the district judgeship.

"The members of the Juneau bar gave a big banquet at Juneau last night in honor of Judge Johnson, and during the feast presented him with a gold watch and chain. The judge left Juneau on the Dirigo for the Sound."

Marshal Tanner also mentioned that there is no United States commissioner at Juneau.

The same paper in the same issue editorially says: "Alaska is today without any judge, and is without any magistrates either from Wrangel to the head of Lynn canal. Judge Johnson has resigned and his successor is reported to have turned back, as what use would it be for him to come here and attempt to take his seat on the bench when if the pending bill passes he will be found away beyond the age limit of 50 years."

"But affairs in Alaska ought not thus to be brought to a standstill. There are any number of cases on the calendar for trial at the court set here for April 20, and the marshal, who has received orders to hold his prisoners here for this court, finds his little quarters overcrowded.

"This is a mere incident, however, when the inconvenience of a large number of litigants will be put to is considered, and how to best bridge over this difficulty is a question that some representative body should immediately take under consideration."

For Cavalry Horses.

Two Philadelphians, Franz Hieke and Conrad Hieke, have invented a coat of mail to protect cavalry horses and at the same time make mounted infantry more terrifying to the enemy and capable of doing much greater execution in a charge, says a Philadelphia paper.

The arrangement briefly consists of a light framework to project in front of the horses and extend along its flanks, supported by straps. The end of the framework, which is shaped like the

bow of a boat, terminates in a sharp point or blade, which is apt to demoralize any troops upon which the cavalry charges, at least causing them to turn to one side or the other to evade it and making it difficult for any one, mounted or unmounted, to approach very near the trooper. Just in front of the breast of the horse and suspended from an iron rod fastened between the two sides of the framework is a curtain of chain mail, designed to protect the horse from injury. The claims made for this equipment are that it is novel, inexpensive, of light weight and does not interfere with the freedom of movement of the trooper or the rapidity of travel, combining a formidable weapon and a protector for the horse.

Betwixt and Between Period.

The present period in Dawson is similar to that which follows for a month or six weeks the closing of navigation in the fall, in that it is a period when, owing to conditions, there is neither ingress nor egress. As a natural result, business in many departments is very quiet at present, and especially is this quiet apparent in mercantile departments, as the local trade has been supplied, and claim owners and operators are all looking after their interests on the creeks and their visits to the city are infrequent. The hotels, however, are not complaining; and the majority of them are doing much better business than was expected, the patronage being wholly local. This condition of affairs may be expected to continue until the cheering blasts of the river fleet are resonant throughout the vale of the Yukon, when Dawson will blossom as the rose and flourish as the proverbial green bay tree.

POLICE COURT NEWS.

The two ex-United States soldiers, Thomas and Evans, who in December quit Col Ray's command at Fort Egbert and came to Dawson, and who a month ago were taken into custody here charged with having brought stolen goods into Canada, the charge being based on information sent up by Col. Ray, were arraigned yesterday afternoon. Capt. Starnes, who was the presiding magistrate, permitted Geo. K. French, an American attorney, to appear for the two men, and the case was dismissed in short order. A batch of statements had been received from Fort Egbert to be used as evidence against the men, but it could not be considered; hence the dismissal of the charges and the fact that the men are now out inhaling fresh ozone and basking in the sunshine of gentle spring.

This morning the judicial chair was occupied by Captain Scarth, who for a day or two has been caring for one of the severe colds now almost epidemic in Dawson. The only case disposed of was that of Michael Edwards vs. Jack W. Smith for \$450 alleged to be due for labor performed on No. 55 below on Hunker. Edwards had not progressed far into his side of the story when a contract was mentioned which at the request of the court was produced. It turned out to be of the wrought-iron-clad variety which stipulated that the employees of Smith had agreed to wait until the clean-up for their pay, even if discharged at any previous date. Edwards was asked if a signature appearing thereon was his, and "ha tank eet es." The case was dismissed.

In the case of McConnell vs. Sawyer and Watkins, claim owners on Gold Run for assault, which case was heard Monday afternoon, the charge against Sawyer was dismissed at his costs, while Watkins was fined \$5 with trimmings.

The Proper Spirit.

While just a wee bit premature, the proper spirit is shown in the following from the Skagway Daily Alaskan of April 5th:

The breaking of the Yukon river just now, three weeks earlier than last year, and exceptionally early for any year, so far as known, is looked upon by some as a condition that will probably cause a considerable share of the rush from the Sound for Nome to come by way of Skagway and start down the river in boats. F. C. Wolfe, proprietor of "Swift's Hotel," at Whitehorse, who is in the city en route to the States says:

"Last year the river broke much later than now. April 20th of last year the Fifty-mile river was in good condition, and this year it is already open. I went from Bennett down the lakes and over the Fifty-mile river as late as April 12th.

"It may be possible that those who are on the Sound and desirous of going to Nome among the first and have been disappointed in getting desirable accommodations will find it to their advantage to come this way, and possibly should they do so they will get to their destination earlier than those going by sea and at the same time avoid an ocean voyage."

Nomination Night.

All members of Camp Dawson, No. 4, Arctic Brotherhood, should bear in mind that the meeting tomorrow night is the last meeting in April, and is, therefore, the time provided for the nomination of candidates for election, the first meeting night in May, to the various offices for the ensuing six months. A full attendance should be out tomorrow night.

POLITICS BOOMING

In Atlin, Bennett and Other Portions of the Big Cassiar District,

INCLUDING 164,000 SQUARE MILES

Members of Parliament Out on Stumping Tour.

ALIEN LAW TO BE REPEALED

Lieut.-Gov. McInness and Joseph Martin Condemned—Other Side to Come.

Dawson was an established mining camp with a world-wide reputation more than one year before Atlin had a place on the map or had been heard of; yet the residents of that embryo town, as well as those of Bennett, will be permitted to go to the polls like free born men and cast their ballots at the approaching British Columbia election. The following from the Alaskan savors of old times when the snort of the political warhorse was heard in the land: "The two members of the British Columbia parliament for Cassiar, Hon. D. C. Clifford and Capt. John Irving, came in on the train last night from Atlin. They had been looking over their political fences in view of the general election in June. They have some miles of these fences to look after. The electoral district of Cassiar covers 164,000 square miles, but the voters are about as scarce as oysters in a church social stew. There are only about 1500, the majority of which are at Atlin and Bennett. But it is a wide territory to travel over, all up the Skeena river into the old Cassiar mining region, and this the candidates, or Mr. Clifford at least, is going to do.

"There will be opposition candidates coming shortly to oppose these members of the conservative party; 'grits' such as Bethune Belyea, Wallace, Langley, McCraney and possibly others, and by the 15th of June, the day of election, they will warm things up at Bennett and in Atlin.

"We had very successful meetings in Bennett and in Atlin," said Mr. Clifford last night, "and we discussed the situation as it unfortunately is, which you know is in a muddle. The lieutenant-governor has acted very unconstitutionally all through and he and Martin are running the government now. I do not think Martin can get a following, and it would be a bad thing for British Columbia if he did. He is a clever fellow, but, you know.

"He is talking about government ownership of railroads, but it is not practical in British Columbia. If the Dominion took it up it would be all right. But for British Columbia to attempt it would mean a direct tax she cannot afford.

"The Atlin alien bill would have been repealed last session but for the middle, and I have no doubt it will be among the first bills passed next session. All are now in favor of it. I was the solitary member against, its passage. I felt then that it would be very injurious, but I did not think it would be so injurious as it proved to be. Still I think Atlin will do fairly well this season."

Gold Commissioner's Court.

Gold Commissioner Senkler has rendered a judgment in the case of Laing, plaintiff, vs. Bowie, defendant. The action involved the title to the hillside claim, left limit, opposite No. 28 below upper discovery on Dominion creek. The text of the decision is as follows: "Upon hearing the evidence in this matter, and it appearing that the plaintiff allowed his free miner's certificate to expire subsequent to staking the ground in dispute, and the defendant Bowie having paid to Mr. Fawcett the sum of \$100 for the purchase of the ground in question under the 34th section of the placer mining regulations of 1898, the said \$100 being accepted by Mr. Fawcett and a grant issued thereon, it is decided that Mr. Bowie has a good title to the property in question, and

the plaintiff's case is hereby dismissed."

Today the continuation of the trial of the cause of William E. Thompson, plaintiff, vs. Nellie Cashman, defendant, is being heard by Commissioner Senkler. The action involves the hillside claim, left limit, opposite No. 29 below discovery on Bonanza creek.

Territorial Court.

The trial of the case of Charles S. Rogers vs. Alfred S. Reed was not concluded yesterday, and the determination of the issue has been postponed till the early part of May.

A writ of summons has been issued in the case of Williams vs. Faulkner to set aside the appointment of the receiver made in the cause.

In Werber vs. Vincent, a decision has been rendered appointing a receiver to take charge of the output of the property in dispute, pending the hearing on appeal which has been filed in the action.

No legal business will be transacted in the territorial court during the remainder of this month. On May 1st, the case of the Queen vs. Charles Hill, accused of murder, is fixed for trial; as all the important witnesses have arrived in Dawson, the action will be determined without further delay.

Reception to Rev. Sinclair.

Rev. J. A. Sinclair who for the past two years has been engaged in Presbyterian mission work at Skagway and Bennett, arrived in the city at noon yesterday after rather an arduous trip over the ice; but through the somewhat bronzed complexion comes the same old smile, and from a physical standpoint, he is all the better for the trip.

Rev. Wright, the resident Presbyterian minister, and Rev. Sinclair are old college mates and life-long friends; and as a token of his esteem, Rev. Wright arranged for his visitor a hearty reception at the Presbyterian church last night which was largely attended, there being many of the latter's Skagway friends here who were present to extend to him the glad and welcoming hand. In an interesting talk, closely punctuated with the quaint Scotch humor for which he is famed, Rev. Sinclair entertained those present with an account of his trip over the ice which was replete in detail and eminently mirthful. The reception last night was an event in the local Presbyterian ranks and a fitting "all hail" to a deserving and earnest worker in the vineyard of the Lord.

While here Rev. Sinclair will establish Presbyterian missions on the most thickly populated creeks in the mining district, and he estimates that it may require his presence here until July or August to complete the work for which he has been detailed. Later he will return to Whitehorse where already substantial encouragement has been given, and where a church will also be established and a congregation organized.

BRIEF MENTION.

G. L. Burrows is a visitor to Dawson. Sid Perry is visiting friends in the city.

J. Fitzpatrick is spending a few days in town.

W. H. Armstrong is making a brief visit to the city.

J. W. Snell is enjoying a short vacation in Dawson.

George E. Adams came to the city from the creeks yesterday.

Earl Falk, an employee of the S. Y. T. Co., was admitted this morning as a patient to the Good Samaritan hospital.

The electric light company is extending its city service. New poles are being erected, and workmen are engaged in establishing modern improvements.

This morning at 2 o'clock 14 sacks of mail left Dawson for the outside. The carriers are confident that the consignment will reach Bennett within the next two weeks.

The fire engine which has been situated on the river ice at the southern end of the town, was removed to ball No. 2 this morning. The shore ice had become so rotten that the position of the engine was unsafe.

Tonight the society ladies of Dawson will give a minstrel performance at the Palace Grand theater. A number of novel and entertaining features comprise the program, and the audience will enjoy a very pleasant time.

Deserving Man Assisted.

Dan Ryan, the railroad foreman who so bravely went out voluntarily last winter near the Summit to search for some one supposed to have been lost, and was lost himself, and so badly frozen that both his hands had to be amputated, has gone into business in Skagway, and there hangs a pretty tale of brotherly feeling among the men of the railroad.

After Ryan had recovered, and it was known he could no longer do manual work with hands, the boys on the road from Skagway to Bennett made up a purse to help Dan to make a start in the world. They raised \$600, and with this the crippled hero has started a neat cigar store on Broadway, not far from the depot.—Alaskan.

ALIEN LABOR

Continues to Flow to the United States in Increased Numbers.

ITALIANS AT HEAD OF LONG LIST

With the Children of Abraham a Close Second.

SOME STARTLING STATISTICS

From John McMakin, State Superintendent of Labor Statistics for New York.

Albany, N. Y., April 8.—The annual report of John McMakin, state superintendent of labor statistics, says: "Immigration returns for the quarter ended December 31, 1899, show an increase of 23,012 more than in the last three months of 1898. In the latter quarter the arrivals numbered 5,880; in the same three months of 1899 74,892. The largest proportionate gain of those races, recording at least 2000 arrivals, was made by the Slovaks. The Polish race was second, the Croatians and Slavonians third."

"In point of numbers the Southern Italians still retain the lead in immigration, the arrivals of that race being nearly one-fourth of the total. There were 18,149 or 24.2 per cent of that class who landed during the quarter which ended last December. Next in the numerical order comes the Hebrews, with 10,076; Poles, 6401; Slovaks, 6226; Germans, 6118; Scandinavians, 4436; Northern Italians, 4140, and Irish, 3745.

"Of the 74,892 immigrants arriving during the quarter, four-fifths were destined to the states composing the North Atlantic division, of which group the state of New York received the largest number. Those who went to the West division numbered 2386."

Superintendent McMakin says that the past year has been the most successful year the Free Employment Bureau in New York city has had since its establishment. On this subject he says:

"The demand for girls as general houseworkers is far in excess of the supply. The reason for this is found mainly in the fact that many employers are doing away with the subdivision of labor. This bureau was not able to find employment for many maids in the quasi-public works in this city. The reason for this is to be found in the fact that most of such work was conducted by the contracting firm acting under instructions from the leaders of the dominant party in the city. The newspaper press and the court proceedings demonstrate just how one of these contracting companies almost wiped out of existence one of the best-paying enterprises in New York city. In order to obtain work on this special contract a man had to see his district leader, and in proportion to his usefulness, to the said leader he was billed on the payroll of this particular company of contractors, the corporation paying the bill regularly."

Down in Georgy.

"Down in Georgy," said the stranger with broad brimmed hat. But the stout man with the bottled gray overcoat interrupted him with:

"Are you going to tell that story again? Don't things happen elsewhere besides 'down in Georgy?'"

"As I wuz a sayin'," continued the stranger, not noticing the interruption, "down in Georgy."

"There you go again!" exclaimed the stout man. "One thing over and over!"

"Yes," continued the stranger, "as I wuz jst remarkin, down in Georgy when we air interrupted in a conversation, like I've been fer the last ten minutes, we takes the interrupter by the collar, this away—"

"An by the waist o' the britches, this away—"

"An we pitches him—"

"Clean out the window, this away!"

And the stout man, as he struggled to his feet and grouped blindly about for his hat, said:

"What was that fellow was sayin' about 'down Georgy?'" "I didn't quite get the last part of it!"—Atlanta Constitution.

ALREADY

Says John

To His Own Street Nugget

Mr. Stephen Dawson as the Daily Nugget from his flames, who the rush la hears the day before

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