

RECEIVED BY WIRE.

NOME SCANDALS

To be Subject of Thorough Investigation by Judiciary Committee.

DISASTROUS FIRE IN FOREST CITY.

Two Hundred Boers Totally Defeated at Orange River.

GERMAN FRIGATE IS LOST.

Clark's Case Again Up for Investigation—McKinley Will Visit 'Frisco in May.

From Thursday and Friday's Daily, Washington, Dec. 19, via Skagway, Dec. 27.—Indications are that the Nome judicial scandals will be a long time in course of investigation.

Senator Carter has introduced a sweeping resolution that any investigation of the official acts of Judge Noyes at Nome shall include a careful investigation into and of the character and record of all who are defaming Noyes. If the resolution is passed, it will be necessary to send an investigating committee to Nome and that can not be done before next summer. Congress will have adjourned before any reports can be obtained from Nome and as the judiciary committee will not sit in the interim, the Nome scandals can not possibly be reported upon and settled for nearly another year.

Forest City Fire.

Cleveland, O., Dec. 19, via Skagway, Dec. 27.—Fire almost entirely destroyed the plant of the Brown Hoisting & Conveying Machine Co., the largest of the kind in the world. Hundreds of workmen escaped from the burning building by jumping through the windows, many being seriously injured. The loss is fully half a million. Eleven hundred men are thrown out of employment.

Boers Routed

London, Dec. 19, via Skagway, Dec. 27.—Reports of another severe battle resulting in a sweeping British victory have just been received. Boers to the number of 2000 were cornered at Orange River and totally defeated, their losses in killed and wounded being very heavy. A large number of Boers were captured.

German Frigate Lost.

Berlin, Dec. 19, via Skagway, Dec. 27.—There is general mourning here over the loss of the German training frigate Gueisenau at the entrance to Port Magala. Of the 450 men carried by the frigate, 319 survive and many of them are very badly injured. The lost, numbering 136, were drowned like rats in a hole. It is said that when the captain saw his ship was sinking he committed suicide. The queen of Spain has sent a message of condolence to Emperor William.

Clark's Senatorial Seat.

Washington, Dec. 19, via Skagway, Dec. 27.—Investigation as to the right of W. A. Clark, of Montana, to take a seat in the senate has been taken up.

To Visit 'Frisco.

Washington, Dec. 19, via Skagway, Dec. 27.—President McKinley has promised to visit San Francisco next May when the battleship Ohio will be launched.

Initiations Tomorrow Night.

At the regular meeting of the Arctic Brotherhood tomorrow night several

chechakos will be "mushed" over the trail to the camp of her Royal Iciness. It is also expected that the entertainment committee will have something of interest to report.

Steam Engineers Meet.

A regular meeting of the Yukon Engineers' National Association was held at their hall on Second avenue last night. The association is formed of practical engineers and at present is composed of 46 members. At the headquarters of the organization a reading room has been installed where members can peruse the latest periodicals or meet their co workers at any hour during the day or evening. The officers are M. E. Clough, president; E. L. Brant, secretary and treasurer. Communication to the organization should be addressed to P. O. box 330.

The Fire Bell.

The fire department was hustled out at about 9 o'clock this morning by an alarm turned in from the Portland lodging house at the corner of Third street and Second avenue.

The fire proved to be all contained in the stove pipe, however, and a spurt or two from the chemical engine was sufficient to put it out. No damage resulted from the incipient blaze and it was good practice for the fire ladders.

Refused To Pay

Otto Kahn, has troubles yet untold, and is now seeking the services of an attorney into whose sunburned ear he can pour the aforesaid troubles, which arise from a difference of opinion over the settlement of a bill. The holder of the bill is another knight of the jack plane, named George Kline, who appeared in the police court this morning in furtherance of a complaint against the aforesaid Kahn, in which he alleges that on the 24th inst. he went in all peace and quietness to the domicile of the warlike Kahn, intent upon nothing but getting the money due on his little bill. He says he did not get the money, but in lieu thereof he had abuse heaped upon his name and reputation till it will take a steam thawer and an order from the court to resurrect him from beneath the load. He charges that Kahn slammed the door against him, and with his large and powerful fist threatened to scatter the Kline intellect about the surrounding landscape. All this Mr. Kline thought to be highly dangerous to his person and general state of health, and therefore he produced a good sharp knife, and told the fighting Kahn that if he presumed to attempt to brain him, he would defend himself. Kahn said that the charge had come upon him very abruptly and that he had not had time to see an attorney, but that he would be ready to go to trial in the morning, whereupon the case was postponed till to a m. tomorrow.

Dr. Hurdman was called to the witness stand this morning to testify in the case of the supposedly demented Japanese, and gave it as his opinion that the man was all right so far as his head was concerned, but thought one of his feet needed fixing. The subject of the Mikado who has been in the barracks hospital since the 5th of the month, was sent in by Dr. Sutherland, and for some days it was supposed that he was more or less crazy. The story goes that although the Jap complied with the prison rules and took the big bath without a murmur, although he acted violently at times which led to the belief that his reason had deserted its throne and gone on a strike. It transpired later, however, that he was suffering from a frozen foot and had too limited a command of the English language to tell what ailed him, and was so much lacking in inventive genius to otherwise make known his troubles. He was discharged from custody this morning.

Too Much Christmas.

"Where is Mr. So and So today?" "He is up at his house. He is not feeling very well and been rather knocked out for a day or two. In fact, he worked too hard for his own good the week preceding Christmas."

And there is where the story stops. But if it went on it would be something like this:

"The night before Christmas Mr. So and So took 30 or 40 Scotches in long 'glawsees' and Christmas he started breaking small 'bots' and kept it up all day and until after midnight. His wife is keeping his head swathed in wet towels. So and So sent for a motary public last night to draw up a pledge which he signed. He believes yet he is going to die, but I think he'll be all right by tomorrow. But he won't probably take another drink before the roth or middle of January."

Buried Today.

Horace Yoxall, a native of Portsmouth, England, died on December 24th and was buried this afternoon from Brinston & Stewart's undertaking parlors after suitable services held at St. Paul's church. Yoxall was employed at the McDonald hotel when taken sick. He was 30 years of age and unmarried.

TRAIL MYSTERY

Dr. Joseph Bettinger Disappears Between Dawson and Whitehorse.

LEFT HERE ON THE COLDEST DAY

His Bride of Three Months Following Three Days Later.

HE WAS SEEN AT OGILVIE

Police Along the Line Conducting a Search—Hailed From Detroit, Michigan.

Where is Dr. Joseph Bettinger, formerly house surgeon at St. Mary's hospital?

This is a question which many of his friends here and especially his wife, who is now at Whitehorse, would like to have answered.

On the very coldest day of the present winter, sometime the latter part of November and on a morning when thermometers marked 60 degrees below zero, Dr. Bettinger left afoot and alone for Whitehorse. He was lightly clad, wearing a light summer overcoat and a pair of ordinary silk mitts.

His wife, a bride of but three months, was to start three days later, the arrangement between them being that she would overtake her husband on the journey, she to travel by horse team. She started as per arrangement, but traveled clear on to Whitehorse without overtaking the doctor, nor did she hear of him after passing Ogilvie, at which place he reported in due time after leaving Dawson.

Not finding her husband at Whitehorse, Mrs. Bettinger thought that she had passed him on the trail and decided to await his arrival; but as time passed and he failed to show up, she put the matter in the hands of the police, who, although most diligent inquiry has been made, and is still being made, have thus far failed to get any trace of the missing man further than the fact that he was at Ogilvie on his way out. Constable Borrows has charge of the matter at this end of the line, but can obtain no information relative to the mysterious disappearance. It is feared, and there is very good grounds for the suggestion, that the man, owing to his insufficient clothing, became numbed with the cold and wandering from the trail perished. The police all along the line are conducting a systematic search but thus far it has been unrewarded.

Dr. Bettinger first came to Dawson in '97, and has been here nearly all the time since. He was from Detroit, Mich., to which place he returned last summer, bringing his bride with him to Dawson about three months ago.

Not being able to practice his profession here, being an American, and losing his position as house surgeon at the hospital, he was practically broke when he left here and it was to better his condition that he undertook the journey over the ice on foot and alone to the outside.

A Lesson in Modesty.

When our heads reach that stage when a foot tub will about fit us for a hat it's a mighty good thing to have some wise friend or relative to put 'em under the pump and hold 'em there until the swelling subsides. A nice young fellow here married into a society family, says a Louisville paper. His father was one of those blunt, honest sort of men who have accumulated a pretty good fortune by hard labor, and who had no nonsense in him. The young couple began pretty soon to put on fancy trimmings with the old man. He was not invited out when they had a pink tea or green breakfast, but was used to fill in the chinks. Well, the old man wouldn't have enjoyed it anyhow, for he was used to plain, substantial eating, and a supper of little cakes, ice cream, one croquette, a dab of salad and a glass of frappe would floor him. When he had suppers there would be a big dish of birds, hot biscuits, pickles and preserves, coffee, old

style chicken salad and a hot punch afterward. But the old man stood the change in the boy for a while until one day he came down home and asked him to give his wife a chiffonier, pronouncing it a "chee-fon ee-ny." This was too much. "Get in the buggy with me, said the parent sternly; "I want to drive you to see something." The son complied, and the two drove up a side street until they came to a little, old, tumble-down cottage. "There, sir," said the irate parent, "there's where you were born. Don't you forget it again and be talking to me about your wife's schee-fong-yeas."

Oldest Inhabitant Stumped.

This being the third week of weather in which the mercury has passed 15 degrees below zero but two or three times, the old timers who blazed the trail for Skookum Jim and George Carmack and who are weather connoisseurs, are at a loss to account for existing conditions. They assert that there are usually a few days of mild weather in the month of December, but three weeks of it at one time has been a hitherto unknown quantity. "We will make up for it in January and February," is the consolation extended, as these weather specialists say there is just so much cold weather allotted for this country each year, and if it does not come on time it appears later.

New Trial Directed

The decree of the full court of British Columbia in the appeal case of Purden against the Alaska Exploration Company has just been received by Messrs. Wade & Aikman, advocates for the defendants.

This was an action brought by James G. Purden against the A. E. Co. for services as carpenter and architect in connection with the construction of the A. E. Co.'s store in Dawson. In addition to his wages as a carpenter the plaintiff claimed \$500 for drawing plans and acting as an architect. The case was tried before a jury last spring when the plaintiff was awarded \$500 for architectural services in addition to the wages as a carpenter. The decree of the appellate court sets aside the judgment and a new trial is directed as to this item; in other respects, the judgment stands. Neither side pays nor receives any costs of the appeal. Messrs. Belcourt, McDougall & Smith are the plaintiff's advocates in the court here.

Many Deaths Occurring.

The apparent epidemic of pneumonia, which in many cases results in the death of the patient, is still on, a number of deaths having occurred in the city and on the creeks within the past few days. The sickness in most cases is the result of a neglected cold which in a day or two develops a case of aggravated pneumonia, against which medical skill is apparently unable to cope. A great many of the cases thus far developed can be directly traced to useless exposure, dissipation or carelessness on the part of the victim.

How Can It?

A number of private letters received here during the past week from Skagway all assert that "Skagway is booming." Such may be the case but just what there is to warrant the statement at this season of the year is a mystery. There is now but little travel to or from the interior, there is little transient travel on the steamers, Skagway has not discovered any vast mining fields in her immediate vicinity, and just what there is to warrant the statement "Skagway is booming" is not apparent to the naked eye, especially from this particular point of view.

Gracious Victoria.

Out of the lengthy deliberations and reports of the recent Church congress in London there is one story of the Queen connected with it which will be remembered when the sermons and speeches are forgotten. It was told by Prof. Bevan, who heard it from the Dean of Windsor. The dean went to see a kitchen maid at Windsor Castle who was suffering from influenza. Her room was at the top of the house and was reached by long staircases. The moment the dean entered the patient said: "Oh, sir, what do you think! Her majesty has been to see me!" This only happened a few months ago, and when the Queen came into the room she said: "My dear, I have got up here, but it was hard work for me, and I sat down on the stairs." Coming from the Dean of Windsor this charming little story may be accepted as authentic, and it is not the least touching incident in this memorable year of her majesty's life.—Ex.

HUNKER CREEK

Merry-Makers Land in the Police Court and Tell Their Troubles

TO CAPTAIN STARNES WHO FINES

Cameron for Using a Gun to Persuade a Guest to Leave

THE SCENE OF FESTIVITIES.

De Gang Wanted a Lame Plan to Kick the Stuffing Out of Galbraith, and Davis Objected.

George Martin accused Jack Cameron, of a Hunker creek roadhouse, in the police court this morning, of having pointed a gun at him on Christmas eve and using the same accompanied by threats of annihilation, as an inducement to him to leave the house, which he did.

The evidence of Martin, the complaining witness, went to show that on the night in question a large number of people were in Cameron's caravansary, all more or less busy celebrating the day. He was not a boarder at the house, in fact had left there some time before, owing to a misunderstanding about a liquor bill. A man name Galbraith was there also, and carried about his person a large consignment of the product of hootch which led to a fight with a lame man. The witness said that he believed Galbraith was in great danger of receiving rough handling and had attempted to remove him from the scene of festivity, but had been prevented by others who caught the inebriated Galbraith by the legs and threw him upon the floor, whereupon he heard many voices calling from all over the room, to "kick the stuffing out of him."

The devoted friend of the man thus threatened with being turned into vacuum, again endeavored to take him out of the house, when pretty nearly every one present had laid more or less violent hands upon him, and Cameron had held a gun in both hands and told him to leave the house. He said he went and took the cause of the trouble, Galbraith, with him, and that afterwards that hootch-laden party had gone back into the house and he had followed him up to preserve the peace, when a general mixup had taken place, everyone there once more laying hands upon him.

During this argument the stove had been upset, some benches were overturned and the table had acquired such a list to starboard that the dishes had gone by the board and the top hamper, consisting of a pitcher of syrup had broken against the wall and been wrecked. The other evidence was to the effect that Davis had been the main breeder of discontent and general inharmonious, and that upon the arrival of the police who had been summoned to preserve the peace, Jack Cameron, who is afflicted with heart trouble, had fainted.

The case goes into history as resulting in a fine of \$10 and costs to Cameron, for which he received an intimation from Magistrate Starnes that in future it would be well to cut the gun play out.

Back From Alaska.

Richard J. McArthur, who has been in Alaska for 14 years, arrived in Butte recently on a visit to his brother, E. J. McArthur, alderman from the First ward. Mr. McArthur, will probably hold the distinction of being the tallest man in Butte while he remains in the city. His height is 6 feet 3 inches. Mr. McArthur built the first house that designated the town of Circle City. He is also the discoverer of Beach creek, one of the famous money producers of the northern country. He will remain in the city for a few days, the guest of Alderman McArthur, and will then make a trip to the coast, visiting all of the Sound towns, and will put in the greater part of his time in San Francisco. Leaving San Francisco he will go to Washington, where he is interested in some legislation that concerns the northern country.—Butte Miner.