

## ATHENS OF SOUTH AFRICA.

Is Bloemfontein, Capital of the Orange Free State.

Which Is Located in the Center of a Plain, Surrounded By Picturesque Hills.

Bloemfontein, the capital of the Orange Free State, which has been figuring so conspicuously in the South African news of late, is one of the most charming cities in the southern end of the dark continent. To the Boer it is known as "the City of the Flower Garden," but the English-speaking folks call it "The Athens of South Africa."

The Boer appellation is due to historical legend. When the great trek of 1836 occurred, a party of Boers came upon a little plain north of the Orange river. It was covered with a profusion of wild flowers. One of the Boer women exclaimed, "It is a bloemfontein." She meant that it was a flower garden. "Here we shall camp," said the leader. And there they did camp. Their descendants are there yet.

But the English speaking Afrikaners, not knowing the legend and wondering only at the many educational institutions which flourish in the Free State capital, have called it "the Athens of South Africa."

Bloemfontein sits in the center of a little plain. On all sides are hills. These hills are the ones which the Boers have been busy fortifying since the beginning of the war. The British built the first fort in Bloemfontein. It was in 1848, when they took possession of the country. The original fort is a quaint little stone structure which would be utterly useless in resisting modern artillery had not the Boers strengthened it by elaborate earthworks. In the adjoining hills they threw up many similar earthworks. Thus, although the defenses of Bloemfontein have never equalled those of Pretoria or Johannesburg, they were made quite formidable.

From the top of one of these hills Bloemfontein presents a pretty appearance. The town is regularly laid out, with a large market square in the center, and the houses, for the most part painted white, with red roofs, are surrounded by large and luxuriant gardens and shaded by willow, gum and other trees.

The new raadsaal, or capitol, is a large and handsome building of mixed architecture. It is built of red brick, trimmed with a peculiar close grained white stone, quarried in the neighborhood, and is surrounded by a row of doric columns, some 50 feet high and about 3 feet thick at the base. An almost perfect dome 90 feet high surmounts the structure. The doors of the main entrance are of bronze, handsomely sculptured, and the interior is beautiful. It is finished with marble, and many of the rooms are beautifully decorated.

The president has an office in the raadsaal, and quarters are also provided for his council and a few other government officers. The old raadsaal is a plain brick structure, two stories high, surmounted by a small tower. It is surrounded by a large, well-kept garden. A splendid view of Bloemfontein may be obtained from the top of the tower. The building is now given over to the various courts and government offices, all of which are located here, with the exception of the few in the capitol.

The slope above these two buildings is used by the aristocracy of the town, the government officers, English and Scotch residents, as a residence section and contains some very handsome villas.

Around the big market square, which is a veritable beehive of industry on market days, are situated a number of large buildings. The town hall is an immense structure, but of a not very striking appearance. Here are located the various municipal offices. The building also contains a large hall, where concerts and theatricals are held.

Adjoining the town hall is a library building of pretentious appearance. It has a fine reading room and contains about 15,000 volumes. Among the other handsome buildings in the town are the official residence of the president, a handsome stone building, which is said to have cost nearly \$80,000; the Dutch Reformed church, which has two beautiful spires, and the Anglican Cathedral, having a most magnificent interior.

The town has many educational institutions. The largest of these is Grey college, which was founded by Sir George Grey, at one time Governor of Cape Colony. It provides a complete college course and as an educational

institution has a high rank. There are also St. Andrew's college, the Ladies' Government Institute and an academy for girls, St. Michael's Home. There are also many private schools in the city and an excellent public school system.

### Skagway's Grievance.

A letter received yesterday by a member of the Nugget staff from a Skagway merchant is strong in its denunciation of the treatment which the writer alleges is being accorded his city at the hands of the White Pass & Yukon Ry. Co., in that he says preference is being given by that transportation company to through consignments from lower points over local shipments, much to the detriment of Skagway merchants, many of whom have already purchased large stocks of goods with the view of wholesaling to interior points.

The Skagway letter writer expresses a fear that by the time the season's business regularly begins the consignments from below for Dawson and other inside points will be so extensive as to preclude entirely the handling of local business at Skagway, which state of affairs will work an irreparable injury to the merchants, especially the wholesalers, of that enterprising young city.

In reference to the above Jack Wiley, acting local representative of the W. P. & Y. Ry. Co., says that the Skagway author is certainly mistaken, as it can not possibly be the intention of the company to discriminate against its own own, the headquarters of its business and the home of many of its officials. Mr. Wiley thinks the letter is probably the result of a deranged liver, and that its statements should not be taken seriously.

### EAGLE WHISPER NOTES.

That the worthy treasurer made a bet a few days ago with a six-foot gentleman; the one losing was to wheel the other in a wheelbarrow from the Palace Grand to the postoffice. The worthy treasurer lost, a wheelbarrow was procured; the treasurer drew himself up to his full height—4 feet 2 inches—and started on his difficult feat. He managed to go about a block, after resting about a dozen times; finally the other gentleman got tired, as it looked like a day's work for the treasurer. The worthy brother says that when he undertakes anything of the kind again, he will have at least a month's training. He admits that if there had been a pair of wings on the barrow that everything would have been all O. K.

That Professor S. surprised the boys last Sunday evening by his clever performances in mesmerism.

That the worthy secretary only held the position of doorkeeper for one week, and now swears vengeance on Old Baldie for letting his friends know about it.

### Kruger Interviewed.

"This war was forced upon us by Rhodes and the mining millionaires who want the country," says President Kruger in a recent interview. "The Boers yielded as far as possible, until they saw that nothing but complete surrender of their independence would satisfy England. Having been forced into the war the Boers will conquer or die."

"I expect no aid from other nations, but we are glad of sympathy and friendship. But we want no more conventions. Only absolute independence is possible. We do not want more territory but are content with our present frontier if we are permitted to live peacefully. This is all we ask."

"There is no truth in the story of a conspiracy among South African Dutch. This is not their quarrel. Mr. Schreiner repeatedly urged us to yield. The Boers are in God's hands and he will not let us perish."

"Our total fighting strength is forty thousand, but with God's aid we can prevail. I have two hundred blood relations fighting and would rather see them all perish than yield. It is liberty or death."

### A Fast Steamer.

The Alaska Steamship Company has advised Frank E. Burns, general agent at this port, says the Alaskan, that it has purchased the fleet and elegant Long Island steamer Dolphin, and will put her on the Seattle-Skagway route. Capt. O'Brien, master of the steamer Rosalie, has gone to New York to bring the Dolphin to the coast. It is expected to have the ship here about July 1st.

The Dolphin has a speed of 18 knots, 220 feet long, 40-foot beam, and is propelled by triple screws driven by triple expansion engines. She will be by all odds the fastest ship in Alaskan waters, and the Alaska Steamship Company hope to gain a big share of travel with the greyhound. She has a freight capacity of 700 tons.

The liquors are the best to be had, at the Regina.

Half interest in tundra placer mining claim two miles from Nome for sale. Inquire Norton D. Walling, Grand Forks.

Happy days at the Rochester Bar.

The Star Clothing House can fit you out. See ad for sale days.

## FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS

Of Dawson Held an Important Meeting Recently.

Grand Master Prince of Wales Congratulated on Escaping the Assassin's Bullet.

A smoking concert was held by the Masons of Dawson on Saturday evening, the 14th inst., at the Fraternity hall, Mission street. A very enjoyable evening was spent. The following made short and happy speeches: The chairman, W. E. Burritt; H. P. Hanson, of the Parson Produce Co.; A. B. Guptill, N. A. Fuller and Dr. Thompson, of the Good Samaritan hospital; J. Turner.

The following resolution was moved by A. B. Guptill, seconded by S. C. Shepard:

Whereas, The Masonic Fraternity of Dawson in the Yukon territory, Dominion of Canada, has learned with deep regret of the dastardly attempt upon the life of His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of Masons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and

Whereas, The intelligence that our brother and his Royal Princess Consort escaped unharmed the bullets of the assassin is the occasion of great joy to us, as it doubtless is to the civilized world;

Resolved, That we recognize in their preservation the protecting hand of the Grand Master of the Universe, and be it further

Resolved, That, as Masons assembled in social gathering this 14th day of April, A. D. 1900, in Dawson, we extend to our distinguished fraternal most hearty congratulations upon his safety, and beg to express the hope that the world may never again be shocked by an occurrence such as give rise to these resolutions.

H. A. HANSON, Belmont Lodge, Marden, Man. JOHN BOSLAND, Benvolent Lodge, No. 145, Mason City, Iowa.

ALFRED B. GUPTILL, 33d, Dakota Consistory, Fargo, N. D. Committee.

This was unanimously carried and will be engrossed and sent to the Prince of Wales.

The chairman extended a vote of thanks to the following on behalf of the committee for so willingly contributing towards making the evening a success: H. P. Hanson, J. M. Wilson, A. L. Stephens, W. F. Matlock and Wm. Somerville.

The following contributed to the musical program: Recitation, G. L. Cowen; banjo solo, L. Simanson; recitation, Hospital Sergeant McIntosh; laughing song, Mr. Bligh. All of which received accolades.

Special praise is due and a vote of thanks was passed to the committee, Messrs. Cutch, Hospital Sergeant McIntosh, secretary; J. Borland and J. Carroll, for the success of the evening. About 75 members were present and at midnight the meeting broke up after the national was duly honored.

Special meetings will be held hereafter at the same place every Saturday evening at 8 p. m.

W. E. BURRITT, Ionic Lodge, No. 25, Chairman. A. MINTOSH, Cataroquy Lodge, No. 92, Secretary.

### A Suggestion.

In all friendliness and good feeling this suggestion is made to the police court orderly, namely: That he address men as men and not as mules or dogs.

To yell "stand up there" at a gentleman who may have business before the court, and yell it in a tone that a blacksmith would use towards a fractious mule is, to say the least, very rude and wholly uncalled for.

To many persons who may appear before the police court either in the capacity of client or witness, the rules to be followed are wholly different from those to which they have been accustomed. For instance: In nearly all courts neither the witness nor attorney is required to stand while answering or putting questions.

In view, therefore, of the ignorance of the majority of people of the customs in vogue here, the above suggestion to the police court orderly is made. The fact that a man may, in one capacity or another, have business in the police court is no reason why he should be addressed as though he were a felon or a brute.

### Cold Comfort.

The following appeared in a late Victoria paper as a telegram from Montreal: The Herald's correspondent with the first contingent, in a letter to that paper, describing the battle of Paardeberg, here nineteen Canadians were killed, says the lives were lost in a needless charge, that the commander of the Cornwall regiment, which was with

the Canadians when the assault was made, ordered the charge because he thought too much time had been occupied in firing on the Boer position, and that the brigadier, after expressing regret that the charge had taken place, which he said was not intended, expressed sympathy at the loss of so many Canadians, but congratulated them on their fine fighting qualities.

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Best imported wines and liquors at the Regina.

Shoff's Cough Balsam; sure cure.

Sliced Lubeck potatoes and Crown flour. Royal Grocery, Second ave.

Silver shield apricots 50 cents a can. Royal Grocery, Second ave.

Private dining rooms at the Holborn.

### N. A. C. & C. Co.

Ladies' Attention

Do you want a new pair of...

Dress Shoes, or High Top Walking Shoes, or Heavy Trail Shoes, or Rubber Boots or Storm Rubbers?

If so we have them and at prices to suit you. We have also a complete line of...

Children's and Misses' Boys' and Youths' Shoes and Rubber Boots.

Quality Best  
Prices Lowest

Plows ... Are Not Sold At

Harrow ...

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Shindler's,  
But Everything else in the Hardware line is

### MOHR & WILKENS,

DEALERS IN

The Finest Select Groceries

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S. E. Cor. Third Street and Third Avenue

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### Electric... Light

A Steady  
A Satisfactory  
A Safe

Dawson Electric Light & Power Co. Ltd.

Donald B. Olson, Manager.

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Power House near Klondike. Tel. No.

Full Line Choice Brands

Wines, Liquors and Cigars

Chisholm's Saloon

TOM CHISHOLM Proprietor

### Special Sale

## Jams and Jellies

At The YUKON STORE For a Few Days

J. E. Broge, Mgr.

### Mitchell, Lewis & Stover Co.

OF SEATTLE, WASH.

### Mining Machinery

Of all Descriptions.

Pumping Plants a Specialty

Orders Taken For Early Spring Delivery

Chas. E. Severance, Gen. Agt.  
Room 15 A. C. Building

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## Saddle : Train

DAILY TO AND FROM THE FORKS

Will leave A. C. Office Building at 9 o'clock a. m. and returning leave the Forks at 3:30 p. m. Comfortable and safe trip.

Transportation of Express and Gold Dust made a specialty and delivery guaranteed.

### John McDonald...

## Merchant Tailor

Full Line of New Suitings.

FIRST AVE. OPP. S. Y. T. WAREHOUSE

### S. S. Reindeer

...With...

## Direct To Nome.

Barge Duff

will be dispatched at the opening of navigation. Space limited; no crowding. Your interests ours. Apply for passenger and freight rates to

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NEAR POSTOFFICE

### Health Is More Than Wealth

## Cry the Sanitarium Baths...

For All Physical Ailments

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Ford's Club Baths The Only Health Resort in Dawson

Third Ave., Bet. 3rd & 4th Sts.

BERT FORD --- Proprietor

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## SHOVELS

We Have the Celebrated Ames Make at the

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### The Monte Carlo

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### A Pleasure Resort

Fitted with a First Class Bar, Club Rooms, Cigar Stand, and Two Bowling Alleys.

All Goods Sold in the House of the Best Quality

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Full Line of

## Globe Valves

and Steamfitters' Supplies

### McLennan, McFeely & Co. Ltd.

DAWSON, Y. T.

### Printing..

Business, as a rule, being dependant upon the patronage of the public, it follows that one of the chief promoters, in fact a factor essential to success, is the medium through which the business man reaches the public, which in our day is Printing..... We will print your office and business stationery, or your advertising matter, and do it right.....

## The Nugget.

Third St. Near 3rd Ave.