

The Klondike Nugget

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THE NUGGET is delivered at cabins on Bonanza and Eldorado creeks for two dollars per month. Orders may be left at this office or given to the agent for the creeks.

NOTICE

When a newspaper offers its advertising space at a nominal figure, it is a practical admission of "no circulation." THE KLONDIKE NUGGET asks a good figure for its space and in justification thereof guarantees to its advertisers a paid circulation five times that of any other paper published between Juneau and the North Pole.

THE REPRIEVE

The combination of circumstances which resulted in a four months' reprieve being granted the condemned murderers, we consider as being most unfortunate. It is difficult to understand how so grave an error could have been made. The trials of the men had dragged so long that it seemed as though the ends of justice never would be met. But when at length, by juries of their peers, all were judged guilty of the crimes with which they were charged; when sentence had been pronounced by the presiding court and that sentence approved by the highest Canadian tribunal, then the public felt justified in believing that at last justice was to be done. In view of these facts it almost passes comprehension that the execution should have been appointed for a day upon which it could not legally take place. Evidently as occurred at the famous charge of the Light Brigade "some one has blundered." How far reaching in its effect this blunder will be remains yet to be seen. The peculiar conditions that surround us here so far removed from the seat of government, renders the situation much more unsatisfactory than otherwise would be the case. Had the same thing occurred in a locality where communication with Ottawa is only a matter of a short time, a few days might suffice to rectify the mistake. But now it will require a period of four months to determine the exact legal status of the matter.

Truly the delays of the law are just as exasperating today as when Hamlet, the melancholy Dane, advised seeking relief therefrom through the agency of a "bare bodkin."

STOPPING THE ENEMY'S WORKS.

Between the time anything happens in Dawson and when the news of it gets back to the city in outside newspapers are often months. It is more or less disconcerting to pick up a paper and find Canada boiling over with indignation at the things which outraged us to the same point months ago, but which has either been remedied or to which we have become callously insensible from use. Yet this is the condition of affairs at present. The water front scandal, the Dominion muddle, holding of government lots, suppression of records, postoffice fees, gold commissioner's office scandals, etc., etc., all largely in the past tense and yet are the subjects of some very lively discussion upon the outside. If, as the newspapers are now claiming, the government is forced to send a commission of inquiry to this place to examine into alleged misconduct of government employes it will be found that they will have to largely confine their labors to investigating matters several months old.

The latest is an account of the arrival of Col. Domville at his home in Manitoba. The colonel has evidently found that the trump card just now in Canada is condemnation of Klondike mismanagement. He is very bitter and not at all backward in his denunciation and the papers state is aspiring to represent the Yukon in the house when representation is conceded us as it undoubtedly will be in a very little while. It is unfortunate for the colonel that the general public in Dawson got to know him as well as it did before his departure for the outside. The facts of the matter are that Mr. Domville was quite a consistent supporter

of the administrators here until some concessions he desired for himself and his company were refused by the Yukon officials. He often deprecated the agitation of this paper for purer government as unwise, impolitic and impossible in its plans, and only when his own affairs received a body blow did the gallant representative assume the role of out-and-out denouncer. Nevertheless the facts he gathered together here and with which he is bombarding the Liberal government are months old facts and the crusade cannot but be productive of much good in the end to every Klondiker.

It appears that our voluntary defender is confining his shot to Minister Sifton, the gentleman directly responsible for the appointment of the officials whose acts in this region are destined to oust the Liberal government of Canada from power. Laurier is evidently above reproach and Sifton already unpopular, and the colonel knows enough to direct his bombardment where it will be productive of most good. Domville is posing as a patriot pure and undefiled and will probably utilize coming exposures as a coach in which to ride to office.

The conservatives of Dawson are naturally jubilant over developments while the Liberals are depressed. To nine out of ten of our population it is a matter of supreme indifference which party rules Canada so long as perfect equity dominates its government of the Yukon territory; yet practical politics suggests that possibly the shortest route to redress is by removal of the present government from power. Partisanship is not in evidence in this section and an impartial investigation of our affairs with removal of untrustworthy officials and ministers is all we care for.

OUR SOCIAL SIDE.

The approach of winter has brought about a striking change in the public's desire for social intercourse. Two months ago the human animal inhabiting Dawson needed nothing so little as sociability. Today the same public attends everything with the aspects of a social session. The reason is quite plain: the most of us have decided to remain here all winter and the feverish uncertainty of the summer months has flown. But there is another cause for the change of sentiment: The Caucasian race is, for ages, a native of the temperate zone where daylight hours are spent outdoors and the darkened period of the day alone has witnessed the turning loose of the social side of our character. Daylight would find a select lawn or croquet party, but night found the grand ball room crowded; daylight found King Arthur's bowmen and archers in solemn contest or earnest conflict, but night found the famous round table without a vacant chair and the wassail bowl in free circulation. The daylight for business and the darkness for sociability has grown to be second nature with the race and we find ourselves in summer time in a land of eternal daylight with our minds positively distracted by 24 hours of continuous business. With the sun shining brightly it becomes as legitimate to talk "shop" at 10 o'clock at night as at 10 in the forenoon. When the human animal desires to pray he shuts out external sights and impressions by closing his eyes. His most brilliant mental efforts are not put forth nor the social side of himself turned loose until darkness has settled over the world like a pall, creating a feeling of exclusiveness of life for the circle of which he at the moment finds himself a part.

FOR GOOD TRAILS.

The Miners' Association has taken up the matter of securing improvements in the creek trails. No greater good can accrue to the mining interests of the country than from this work if carried out to a successful issue. The Nugget time and again has pointed out the government's duty in the premises but pursuing its now well known policy of grinding out revenue and giving as little as possible in return, the government has shown no disposition to interest itself on behalf of the miners' interests. If any unbiased person desires convincing evidence as to

the crying necessity of the situation, let him but make a trip to the outlying creeks and examine for himself. Let him talk with some of the hundreds of struggling, perspiring, often-times exhausted men who daily are thronging the miserable apologies for trails that lead to the mines. Let him see for himself the almost insurmountable difficulties against which these men who have risked life, health and property to come into this country, have to contend. And then let him ask himself whose duty it is to provide relief from these conditions.

Is it the part of the man who at enormous sacrifice has secured a piece of ground from which he hopes by labor of the hardest kind to take some portion of its hidden wealth, or should it devolve upon the government into whose coffers a ceaseless and constantly increasing golden stream is being poured by the hapless victims of the revenue grind?

In other placer mining districts, notably the province of British Columbia, all that the government requires to begin immediately the construction of good trails, is evidence that gold in paying quantities has been discovered. How deplorably otherwise has been the attitude of the authorities since gold was discovered in this territory. But the past cannot be altered. It is the future that lies before us, and to that the attention of every man who is interested in the welfare of the country must be turned. The Miners' Association is to be commended for taking the initiative in the matter. We believe that Mr. Ogilvie and the Yukon Council will give favorable attention to any representations that may be made to them. Certainly, action cannot come any too soon.

OUR LADY FRIENDS.

Dawson's history to date, from a social standpoint would not fill a very large volume. Last winter there was little or no opportunity for social enjoyment, and few men found any time to devote to such purposes had the opportunity been present.

Ladies in those days were exceedingly conspicuous by their absence and the men who were here were altogether too busy to admit devoting very many moments to social pleasures.

This winter, however, from the present outlook will prove somewhat different. While it is undoubtedly a fact that there are not as many ladies in Dawson as many of us would like to see, still they are here in sufficient numbers to add color and life to many an assembly that otherwise would go down in history as one of those unspeakable affairs denominated in ordinary parlance "stag." It is a remarkable fact and a tribute to the refining influence of the members of the gentler sex that since their advent in Dawson the tone of the camp has undergone a decided change. It is so noticeable as not to escape the attention of the most unobservant. Dawson is a much better dressed city than was the case a year ago. When men are isolated entirely from the society of women they become careless as to their appearance and neglectful of themselves. It is the potent spell of the name "woman" that restores them to a proper appreciation of the proprieties of life.

It is with pleasure, therefore, that the Nugget acknowledges the presence of so many ladies in Dawson. The courage and persistent energy they have displayed in surmounting the difficulties incident to the journey to the Klondike command our respectful admiration. Their influence for good in the community is already apparent as pointed out above. It will become more noticeable as the winter advances and social events become of more frequent occurrence.

Long live the ladies and may the Klondike yield them an abundance of nuggets.

The authorities in dealing with ordinances governing the handling of dogs in the city should not forget that the dog occupies the same relative position to us that the horse does to the people on the outside. A dog in Dawson must be a very bad dog indeed before he can be considered in the light of a common nuisance.

St. Mary's Hospital

IN CHARGE OF THE SISTERS OF ST. ANNE.

Tickets, good for one year and covering all expense in time of sickness, \$50.
Patients without tickets, \$5.00 per day for Nursing, Board and Washing. Doctors' Fees, \$5.00 per visit.

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