

# The Klondike Nugget

(DAWSON'S PIONEER PAPER)  
ISSUED SEMI-WEEKLY  
On Wednesday and Saturday  
E. C. ALLEN, Manager  
GEO. M. ALLEN, Editor  
A. F. GEORGE, City Editor

SUBSCRIPTION RATES  
Yearly in advance, \$24 00  
Six months, 12 00  
Three months, 6 00  
Per month by carrier in city (in advance), 2 00  
Single copies, 25

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 1899

## 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 Nugget has a regular carrier and express service covering Bonanza, Eldorado, Hunker, Sulphur and Dominion creeks and tributaries. Mail orders taken and prompt delivery guaranteed on all the above. Orders for delivery of papers, mail or express may be left at the Nugget Express office or given to creek agents.

## ANOTHER "GRAFT."

The suborning of governmental prerogatives in the interests of private individuals is the one thing above all else which has brought the Yukon administration to its present condition of unpopularity with the people governed. There is not as much of it going on at the present moment as in the past, but now and again the snake's head is raised and the trail of the snake is observed to have crossed to fields afresh. The latest is the notice served upon those small merchants clustered around the suspension bridge that they must vacate the river bank by June 1. The buildings are mostly small log structures, built out upon piling upon the river bar, the river itself not reaching within one hundred feet excepting upon the few flood days of June. Most of the buildings are built clear of the bank and are reached by a board walk. The road itself is little more than a trail leading to the bridge or to the numerous cabins perched like an eagle's eyrie upon the sides of that immense Klondike bluff. It is possible that the order might have been attributed to a mistaken governmental interest in the public welfare but for the concomitant circumstances. The first question which naturally arises in every man's mind upon hearing of the order is, "Who owns the land on the other side of the street which is to be benefited?" Owing to the small merchants being allowed to squat upon the bar, the opposite lots have been somewhat neglected. The order, if carried out, will create a sudden demand at an advance in the price, and to observers of Yukon affairs this explains the whole thing. There is absolutely no question of fire protection, public health or even public utility in the order. The fifty odd cabin dwellers present an opportunity for the extraction of wealth in greater or lesser quantities, which is well nigh irresistible to a true disciple of Sifton. It would be out of line with the government's Yukon policy to allow those squatters to escape the general levy. True the ground, if vacated, will be worthless for any other purpose because of the distance to water, and the occupants are in no one's way where they are. Their chief offense appears to be that they are escaping taxation by living in cramped and insecure quarters, and this thing has got to be stopped.

On the other side of the street there is also great dissatisfaction. The land was surveyed into lots by the government last year but reserved from purchase, though in places built on in quite a substantial manner. The occupants believed they would be given the first opportunity to buy when their lots should be placed upon the market though why they believed it is beyond finding out. Anyhow there are deep mutterings of discontent along there just now, for some of them who are without the proper influence in the proper circles find that within a few days the land has been sold from under their dwellings. Protests have been unavailing. The ejected ones say the land should have been advertised for sale and all given an opportunity for purchase, and if that ground has been so advertised no one knows it. This is a proposition of equity which does not seem to appeal to those in control. They simply see an opportunity and avail themselves of it, as has been the case ever since the first batch of revenue collectors was hurriedly dispatched from Ottawa in '97 upon receipt of the first news of the great strike.

How long are our unorganized citizens to be left defenseless at the mercy of irresponsible officials? How long are we, the tax paying people, to be left without a voice in our own affairs? How long will Anglo-Saxons submit to a condition of government the like of which is seen nowhere else in this broad earth where the English language is spoken? With one live representative of the people with a right to the floor at Ottawa, and with true representation, chosen by ourselves, upon the Council of the Yukon, such petty "grafts" as we now have to submit to daily, would disappear from this land

of oppression and unhallowed taxation. The spring is poisoned, and no good can come from that stream even to its mouth. It brought about rebellion and bloodshed in the Northwest territory, and such a form of government once cost Great Britain her most promising colonies.

## THE AMENDED REGULATIONS.

As will be seen from our local columns the agitation for reforms in the mining regulations has not been without good results. The disbarment of government attaches from staking mining property, or of even acquiring any by purchase or otherwise, is one of the wisest of moves for the purification of administration. The scandals of the past year would all have been avoided had such a regulation been in force from the first.

The change in the royalty to an exemption of \$5,000 upon the gross annual output will prove a welcome change to our small miners. The word annual means the exemption of the first \$5,000 mined or it means nothing at all. The custom under the old regulations has been to largely nullify the old exemption by a ruling making it weekly and monthly, instead of annually, that the royalty should be contributed. In this way many a man whose entire output just barely reached four figures was compelled to contribute of his pittance because it came out of the ground at a greater rate than \$7 per day. Why the local officials should so zealously have endeavored to nullify the exemption is something for their own consciences. If it is attempted again in the face of the intimation from Ottawa that the exemption is annual and not monthly or daily, there should be such a vigorous protest raised from the Klondike to Eureka that this unrighteous zeal will wither like a cabbage leaf in the sun.

The rule that from now on no new regulations shall go into effect until they have been received by the gold commissioner, is something of which the wisdom is so apparent that even the children of the Klondike could have suggested it to our gray headed law makers at Ottawa had they been given an opportunity. The only wonder is that the door-keepers of the house were not able to put our law makers right on that matter long ago.

As for the matter of withholding fractions from the public, the sweeping nature of the regulations which retains to the crown the fractions throughout the territory are a step in advance of even Major Walsh's order. His idea was to retain the fractions on such creeks as Dominion in lieu of the government reservations. Under this new rule it will retain to the government nearly two-thirds of Thistle creek, or any new streams which shall happen to become known, for to the fractions must be added the blocks of ten.

## THE FUTURE.

It requires no gift of prophecy to foresee that the resumption of steamboat navigation is going to witness a migration of Klondikers in the opposite direction from that witnessed last summer. The present population upon all the creeks of the territory is estimated at about 40,000 souls. About one in twenty have secured more or less profitable locations, and a number of others have established business connections which also will attract them to the country for some time to come. But a conservative estimate of the out and out failures—men who have tried and tried again and who have finally eaten up their last dollar and are unable to get more—is well upwards of from ten to fifteen thousand men. This does not include those less unfortunate ones, who, through friends, or because of some peculiar aptness, have secured employment as wages which will "grub stake" them for another try at the great wheel of fortune. Strangely enough there is not much sympathy wasted upon the unlucky ten or fifteen thousand, though all but a small percentage have tramped through bleak and dreary weather, over endless hills, in their unavailing pilgrimage to the shrine of the fickle goddess. Klondikers are too busy to give much thought to the failures, and each man's chief aim is to himself keep out of their ranks. But nevertheless it is a problem which has to be worked out. The grubstake thousands are already bearing down the labor market below the standard of the country and not a few are even working for what they eat.

That there is to be a grand exodus is conceded on all hands. The results of that exodus are to be far reaching and to cover a long period of time. Most of those men have been or believe themselves to have been unjustly treated at the recording office. Every one of them has contributed handsomely to Canadian revenues in direct and indirect taxes. The story of heartless extortion from poor prospectors will be carried to the four corners of the earth. At innumerable firesides will be told and retold the story of how these men paid through the nose for the bare privilege of attempting to uncover the taxable mineral wealth of the country at their own expense. How on the Yukon they were mulcted and discouraged on every hand, while every other government outside of the Transvaal and the Yukon is engaged in offering every possible inducement to the hardy prospector for the same service.

Some of the results of the emigration can be accurately foreseen. The remarkable activity which we have witnessed the past season in the prospecting of new lands will largely cease.

Many worked claims which have been believed by their owners to be dividend-producing will prove profitless when the expenses and royalty are all paid, and will next season lie idle pending a sale. The large number of small mines, which by the new exemption will escape the royalty, will produce a "grub stake" and a little more, and their development will be continued with unabated zeal. The few truly rich mines will be worked out as quickly as possible and the wealth taken out of the country. The hardy prospector who at his own expense has dug into every hill in sight, who has panned every stream from McIntock to McKenzie, who has snow-shoed a path for himself and dogs from Ogilvie's boundary to the Rocky mountains—these are the men who must either get out this summer or starve.

## SPARRING CONTESTS.

We hope there is nothing in the reported inclination of the N. W. M. P. to suppress or discourage the sparring exhibitions which seem to attract more of the people of Dawson than any other advertised amusement. Rough sports may be in "beastly bad form," but a cursory glance over the pages of history shows a wonderful vitality in the races which indulge in them. Weakly continental nations point with scorn to the "brutal" sports of Old and New England, in which stalwart men strive with stalwart men for a blue ribbon, a medal or some temporary triumph or emolument, little understanding the warrior souls which find such fierce joy in the struggle itself. They all understand the sweets of triumph, but to joy in the struggle itself, is the mark of a conquering people.

The foregoing comes vividly to one's mind upon reading of the recent doings of the Grenadier and Coldstream Guards in London. After a prolonged boxing tournament, the prizes were distributed by Gen. Lord Garnet Wolseley, who also spoke in glowing terms of the manly art of self defense as illustrated by the big fellows of the guards. It is only in Britain, Ireland, America and the colonies that sparring is at all popular, other races indulging their sporting instincts in bull-fighting or kindred amusements, in which human intelligence and skill is pitted against brute strength and blind, unreasoning rage. There can be no comparison in the manliness of such sports and the standing up of two men in contest—as nearly the equal of each other in intelligence, strength and the science of the game as can be secured, and the combatants surrounded with the safeguards which experience has suggested, to prevent serious results to either one. Time was when sparring was indulged in by mighty men of muscle in the Roman arena. So little was understood of the art that to make it interesting to the spectators the combatants had their bare fists armed with weapons much resembling what are known today as brass knuckles, the outside armed with beautiful spikes varying in length from a half an inch to an inch and a half. Today the hands are padded with stuffed gloves, and by a system of rules the safety of the combatants is amply provided for. Physiology and experience has taught the followers of the manly art that a condition of semi-consciousness can be induced with those innocent pillows for a period varying from one to thirty seconds by landing with sufficient force upon certain spots. Vital spots are arbitrarily protected by the rules of the game. All this being true, we reiterate that we should very much dislike to see the sport arbitrarily suspended by the police, and our people forced to patronize the gentler games of croquet or archery, when they preferred well conducted sparring exhibitions. To our thinking, the love of the sport is not at all a symptom of degeneracy, but rather the opposite. As writer has it:—

He who can struggle with friend  
Will learn to wrestle with foe,  
And will cheerily lend his strength to contend  
With poverty, sin and woe.

## Don't Worry, Dear.

Don't worry, dear, the bleakest years  
That close the forward view  
Each thing to nothing when it nears  
And we may saunter through.  
The darkest moment never comes,  
It only looms before;  
The loss of hope is what befalls,  
Not trouble at the door.

Don't worry, dear, the clouds are black,  
But with them comes the rain,  
And stifled souls that parch and crack  
May thrill with sap again.  
The burden bear as best we can,  
And there'll be none to bear;  
Hard work has never killed a man,  
But worry did its share.

Don't worry, dear, don't blanch, don't yield  
But dare the years to come;  
Nor give the enemy the field  
Because he beats his drum.  
These little woes that hover near,  
Are nothing though they call;  
We know that life is love, my dear,  
And life and love are all.

DAWSON, April 26, '98. S. B. L.

## A Celebrated Case.

It will surprise many to know that until late last year in August there was on lower Bonanza some 600 feet of unrecorded ground. In August a 400-foot slice of it was recorded for one Quinier, whose sister was an employee of the gold commissioner's office. W. D. Smith knew of the ground and thought Quinier should be held down to 250 feet which would leave another claim. Hence the suit. The decision was handed down Monday.

SMITH VS. QUINIER DECISION.  
Quinier staked fraction between creek claims 76 and 77, below discovery on Bonanza in October, 1897.

At that time Bonanza not having been surveyed it was difficult to tell the length of the claim, and his record was put off by Mr. Fawcett until August 1898.

Mr. Quinier claimed 400 feet on his staked. His application describes his ground as 250 feet more or less. This description is explained by the uncertainty of the size of the claim, and I consider would not disentitle Mr. Quinier to the 400 feet staked by him.

The plaintiff Smith applies for the 250 feet called by Mr. Gibbon's survey 76 B. On the plaintiff's own admission this ground, or at least a part of it, is within the ground staked by Quinier, and before he could receive a grant he must show that there is 250 feet of ground outside of what Mr. Quinier is entitled to. By Mr. Fawcett's ruling at the time of Mr. Quinier's staking 500 foot claims were allowed on the old creeks. Mr. Quinier is therefore entitled to 400 feet of ground, commencing at the lower end of creek claim No. 76.

This leaves only 205 feet of vacant ground. The plaintiff's case must be dismissed.  
Dated this 1st day of May, 1899.  
E. C. SENKLER,  
Gold Commissioner.

The Flyer will land you in Seattle in 10 days or bust.

Purify your blood in the Spring with Shon's Blood & Liver Bitters. Pioneer Drug store.

When you get to Seattle Jos. Mayer & Bro. will buy your dust at full assay value. Full returns within 24 hours. P. L. building, Cherry street.

Sargent & Pinska have a fine line of clothing. Front street, opposite Monte Carlo.

## FOR SALE

FINE PROPERTY ON FIRST AVE., Block B, producing \$500 per month revenue. \$10,000. Good terms.

Also large list of other choice properties on First Avenue at Bargain Figures.  
FALCON JOSLIN, Broker, 111 and St.

## ALASKA EXPLORATION CO.

Operating the palatial river steamers  
Leon, Linda, Arnold, Herman, F. K. Gustin, Mary F. Graff, and Six Large Barges

Connecting with the elegant Ocean Steamers  
CHAS. NELSON

at St. Michael, Direct for San Francisco, Cal.

GENERAL MERCHANDISE AND MINERS' SUPPLIES.  
OUTFITS STORED.

Our Goods are all First Class and Guaranteed.  
I. R. FULDA, Agent.

## RE-OPENED - OLD STAND

## Northern Cafe,

GRIFFIN & BOYKER, PROPS.

OUR MOTTO:—  
"Quick Service and Only the Best."

JAS. D. HOGE, JR., Pres. LESTER TURNER, Cashier

## FIRST NATIONAL BANK

OF SEATTLE, WASH.

Gold dust bought or advanced on. Interest paid on deposits. Safety deposit box is free to customers.

## THE SCANDINAVIAN AMERICAN BANK

of Seattle, Wash.

ANDREW CHILBERG, President. A. H. SOMMER, Cashier.

Gold dust received for delivery to the mint or assay office in Seattle. Prompt returns made.

INTEREST PAID ON DEPOSITS.  
Safe deposit boxes free to customers.

Railway and steamship tickets sold to all parts of the world.

Write Your Friends On the Outside To Send Their Letters and Packages Via

THE NUGGET EXPRESS

Offices at Seattle, Skaguay and Lake Bennett

THE NUGGET EXPRESS

E. C. ALLEN, MANAGER

MAIN OFFICE: Nugget Building, Next to the N. A. T. & P. Co. warehouse.