

NEER... DIAN WHISKIES... IRORA... MILL CO... SALOON... CITY... and Cigars... RTHERN... SALOON... Carlo... DAWSON... HOUSE... DEGA... ing... Styles executed in... ing and... ing... AND WELL ASSORTED... KE NUGGET

A LETTER FROM JUSTICE MCGUIRE

He Writes From Dawson and his Letter Widely Quoted.

Writes the People and the People's Champion the Nugget: "The Sweepings of the Coast" is What he Calls the American Portion.

In our issue of August 29 we recited the case of Hebb vs. Healy but refrained from comment for the reason that the venerable form of Judge McGuire was no longer in our midst and it was to show all others in whom must fall any criticism on that rank and file of justice. The worthy judge was no stranger in the office of the Nugget and the garrulous and confiding simplicity of the old gentleman had impressed us with a desire to protect and befriend as we ourselves would be protected and befriended when age shall have shelved us from the front ranks of the battle of life. The judge's weak and futile attempts to himself reap the reward of "inside information" were covered up by this paper purely as we would have the weaknesses of our own father overlooked. We know that in the matter of the water front scandal the worthy judge had permitted himself in writing to ask that all bids be held in abeyance until he could have an opportunity to see them and overtop them, and we also knew that the bids were so held in abeyance in conformity with his written request until in writing he admitted his willingness that Messrs. Morrison and McDonald should have the lease at \$20.00 per annum.

There are other things revealed to us in garrulous confidence which we hold sacred but which make the appended letter from the pen of the worthy justice appear in the nature of sticking a knife into a friend's back at the very time when he was professing the friendliest feelings.

From one end to the other of Canada the press is discussing the revelations made by the Nugget of crookedness and incompetency. The judge's letter was probably not written for publication but is evidently being used to defame the Nugget and the good citizens of Dawson in order to bolster up Mr. Sifton and some of his colleagues who have been responsible for what was undoubtedly the most impure and corrupt administration which has ever been foisted upon a Canadian territory. That the worthy judge could speak of Americans as he did in the appended letter and then in public pay those gracious compliments to the American residents of Dawson which he did on the occasion of the public rejoicing of the Dewey and Schley victories lends color to the statements of those near friends of the worthy judge who came to the Nugget with a request that we would not notice any little irrationalities of the Justice as there were grave fears for his reason. Lawyers and all who were thrown in contact with him petted him as a child and we much regret that he has not quietly faded from our sight leaving in our minds nothing but the venerable picture of venerable age which we desired to retain. A stab at us from the distance of Montreal might have been considered safe from ever reaching our prying eyes, but the following is from the Montreal Herald reproduced by the Manitoba Free Press and Evening News Bulletin of August 20th and is from the pen of Judge McGuire and written in Dawson:

"We have now two local newspapers so called, both published by enterprising American mongers who belong to that class of satiation-mongers which grow in such abundance in Frisco and Seattle. One of these, the Nugget, has taken for its special role the abuse of government officials, especially those connected with the Gold Commissioner's office. There are gathered here thousands of the sweepings of the least portions of the large west coast American cities all bent on getting claims in any way or by any possible fraud. These have found the Gold Commissioner a serious stumbling-block in the carrying out of their schemes and have therefore no love for him. Most of the miners, too, are dissatisfied with the royalty, and in fact with everything that the Commissioner has to do with. They are, however, not confined to Dawson. It seems to be as universal as the human race.

The Nugget perceived that to attack the mining regulations and the Gold Commissioner and his staff would be of little interest and would make the papers sell. The price at which this sheet is sold is cents a copy. It comes out twice a week and when the publisher wants to more rapidly replenish his exchequer he gets out an "extra" issue dodging hindrance at some startling disclosures in the office and that they will be published in the extra. Boys rush around crying out those "extras", with the result that a good many half dollars roll into the Nugget treasury. It is a profitable means the publisher has struck, and promises to pay out well unless the editor should find himself in jail for criminal libel. He seems to confine himself to insinuations and vague charges against the staff. He hints that the staff, for consideration give out to their friends secret information from the office. Now, for a Government employee to disclose official secrets is an indictable offence, punishable by imprisonment and fine. If these charges are based on fact it would be easy for the Nugget to have the dishonest clerk brought up and punished. But that would not suit his purpose. There would be little money for his paper in that course. It pays better to keep up abuse and lying insinuations at 50 cents a lie. The paper rather indiscreetly boasted that one of its extras sold so rapidly that its presses were not able to turn them out fast enough. It also boasts that another edition is to be published in Seattle and sent broadcast over America repeating these charges. That there is exceedingly doubtful evidence—if any—of such charges, is pretty evident from the fact that at one of the recent meetings an appeal was made to the several thousands in the crowd to come forward and give the particulars of any wrongdoing such as referred to by the Nugget, but not one man responded. Still the abuse goes on. There is not a particle of fairness in its course.

The Postoffice. The improvements in the post-office service are vast and those improvements are recog-

nized gratefully by a long-suffering and patient public. Yet there is ever a crowd of people anxiously taking their turn at the door through the delays in getting to the delivery windows are becoming shorter and shorter each day. However, with each improvement in the mail service comes an ever-increasing talk of mail matter—the Arnold on Tuesday night bringing in 50 immense racks, much of it second-class. It will take days and days to sort those two wagon loads of mail matter with the limited force of clerks on hand and most of them occupied constantly at the delivery windows.

The force has been somewhat shorthanded this week owing to the illness of three of the clerks.

Letters at the "Nugget" Office. Quite a number of letters have been left at this office recently. A complete list is posted on our bulletin-board and we will be pleased to deliver them to the proper owners.

A THOUGHTFUL COMMUNICATION On Matters of Interest to the Public and to the Miners' Association—Suggestions.

EDITOR NUGGET:—Although the inauguration of the Miners' Association is an accomplished fact, yet there has not appeared that enthusiasm on the part of the bulk of the miners of the camp to make it what it should be—a power for good. Its present membership is small in comparison to the numbers who should join it, and doubtless most of the members were not plainly understood what its policy is to be in regard to the future betterment of the conditions of the mining affairs in this important district and the more perfect association of the miners for their own protection. In order to meet these ends it might appear of much advantage if the executive committee of the Association were to make public a prospectus showing precisely the objects of its formation. This would increase vastly its membership of practical miners and make it what it should be.

The following suggestions are respectfully submitted for consideration:—It should bear but very little resemblance to a secret society, except insofar as its economic and private business is concerned—its meetings which affect the public should be open to the public and the press, and it should for the present confine itself entirely to the proper adjustment of the mining laws and to the future proper administration of them.

Looking at their present condition and the iniquitous mode of administration it is lamentably apparent that what should be a rich and prosperous mining camp is being utterly ruined and closed up for further development and investment of capital by the experience of the whole mining community, and one that is very cosmopolitan, such conditions which here exist were never known in any mining camp under British rule, not to mention the great and prosperous mining regions of Uncle Sam's domain. Such being the case it becomes absolutely necessary that the miners, lawfully associated, should now exercise their long-accrued and accented right to make their own mining laws and seek the assent of the government for their passage in the legislature where by they may become a written law and administered according to true intent and meaning "as a better law" by a gentleman possessed of the executive ability and other necessary qualifications which we have heretofore been accustomed to. Thus superseding the chaotic and irresponsible "rules and regulations," changeable from time to time at the caprice of an incompetent gold commissioner. In order to accomplish this purpose the Association might elect a mining board to draw up a general code based upon those of the Province of British Columbia and the Australian colonies all of which are good and well understood. These would be sent to Ottawa and passed with few or no alterations. This should be done as soon as possible, and the government should assist the government and expedite the return of the gold commissioner not having tendered his resignation, according to the well-expressed wishes of the people, and that full justice should be given him in dealing with the many grave charges hanging over him in his official capacity. The same mining board might hold an inquiry into the proceedings concerning the gold commissioner and record offices, take evidence, of sufficient number of cases and if substantial, report to the government and request his immediate removal. Both the mining code and the report of the investigation should be submitted to the honorable commissioner and counsel of the Yukon Territory that he may be courteously advised of the proceedings and requested to submit them to the government with or without any recommendations or remarks he may see fit to present. All these matters should be done openly and aboveboard, so that all interested in our welfare shall be made fully cognizant of such proceedings, especially the gold commissioner who should be present at any inquiry which may be made affecting him.

The Association having first dealt with these important matters it can then turn its attention to the subjects of legislative representation for the district and to the incorporation of the town of Dawson as a municipality. It being the only organized public body of the people, they will naturally look to it for assistance and to the initiation of the foregoing measures and it would be desirable that it recommend the people to vote for the application for a chartered incorporation when they the municipality is fully established, representation in the legislature will naturally follow. Apparently the association has taken no action in accordance with its purposes, quick communication will soon be closed up and something should be done. Although the membership is at present small, yet the affairs of the Association are in good hands, so that when the bulk of the old "sour doughs" come in on their claims for their winter supplies they will doubtless, speedily become members and approve the acts of the present executive members. They will also find a comfortable building resembling a club house for their exclusive benefit, with library, reading room and hall for meetings, lectures, concerts and other entertainments. This will be a great boon to those who, during the dreary winter, sojourn at short intervals in Dawson, especially to those who do not frequent the usual places of recreation which Dawson affords.

In concluding this communication it may be said the majority of your many readers will no doubt bear in mind that the commissioner is giving palpable evidence of his ability and desire to correct the abuses which here cropped up in the official atmosphere, to better guard our rights, and to evince that loyalty to his government that its usual liberal policy shall be again established in this portion of the Dominion. He has very onerous and multifarious duties to perform and the people should give him every support in their power, respecting in those who have mistaken a painful or unpleasant character—few to the number the chips fall where they may.

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Here's a Snap. For Sale a good, snug cabin 14 x 26. High and dry location. Price, \$700. Reply, this office.

A NEW STRIKE ON HUNKER BENCHES

Rich Pay Streak Uncovered on Claims Adjoining Hydraulic Reserve.

At 32 Feet Gravel is Uncovered Which Averages Forty Six Cents in Sixteen Pans—Claims Will be Developed This Winter.

Bencher claims on Elmer creek are forging rapidly to the front. Reliable information has come to the Nugget that good pay has been struck on the lower end of the creek in a pay-streak of indefinite width. It is a well-known fact that Hunker creek from its mouth to its confluence with Last Chance has been granted to a syndicate and that in this territory, up to date, but little prospecting has been done. On the upper end of the reserve, however, a hole was sunk some time ago, and though the fact is not generally known, good pay was struck. As to the benches along the reserve no authentic information has been secured until recently. Wm. L. Russell and his partner have been quietly prospecting on the left bank of the reserve for the past three months. Few people know of the work being done for the reason that nearly all travel is on the opposite side of the creek. They have sunk a hole 32 feet, and although bed-rock has not been reached, rich pay has been struck. From the small dump which they took out before they were forced to cease operations on account of water, 16 pans averaged 46 cents. As the reserve approaches Last Chance the steepness of the benches decreases until they become an easy, gradual slope, with every indication of having once been the bed of the creek. Mr. Russell is enthusiastic over the prospects of his claim and thinks that Hunker benches are destined to rival those of French and Skookum gulches. He and his partner have built a cabin on their claim, and will immediately proceed to push its development. Other claims in the immediate vicinity will be worked during the winter.

That Bonanza Tramway. Mr. H. E. Henning called at the office of the Nugget this week to explain the ins and outs of the Bonanza tramway. He says there was evidently a misunderstanding somewhere, as he most certainly had been promised a charter for his tramway by Mr. Ogilvie and was advised by that gentleman to go to work on the road pending the drawing-up and granting of the charter by the Yukon council. He says further that he secured the permission of all the claim-holders but two to cross their land and cut what few trees he needed for bridges, etc. As for the kicks at the timber office over his "slaughtering timber," he says that there was undoubtedly some grounds for the "kick," and he explains it by saying that one Sunday the foreman was sick and unable to go out. When he himself returned to the work in the afternoon he found that the men had gone to work lavishly chopping down trees in the wrong patch of timber. He called them off at once, leaving the trees down and trimmed for firewood—the owner, however, refused to be pacified. Mr. Henning further states that the story of men falling to get their wages ended him to inquire about it does him a further injustice. All men who have been discharged have been paid promptly; the balance were under agreement to wait for their pay until October 5th to the 10th.

The work of grading and bridge-building has now been completed to the Forks and only needs the addition of the rails to make a complete railway. The rails will be of poles and the cars will have the usual pole-tramway wheels. Mr. Henning is prepared to guarantee that freight rates to the Forks will not exceed 50 per cent of the rates which have been prevailing via pack train. Another reason he urges for considering the tramway in the nature of a public benefit is that the grade provides a dry foot-path for pedestrians, perfectly level and nearly a third shorter route than the old swampy trail over the bottom. Still further Mr. Henning says that upon the arrival of snow the grade will be open for the use of everyone other than regular freighters.

Electric Lights for Dawson. Dawson has been promised electric lights but it was only on Tuesday night that the current was first in evidence for a few minutes around town. The Dawson Electric Light and Power company has completed an insulated circuit with the Oatley Sisters' concert hall, the Monte Carlo, the Opera House, Regina Cafe and the Warden Hotel.

The company has in position two small dynamos, one a 100 light machine and the other a 200 light machine, though they are anxiously awaiting the arrival of the two 700 light dynamos which are en route and were last heard of at Bennett.

At the Monte Carlo. The Monte Carlo theatre is showing to packed houses this week. There is no scarcity of adult talent but the best card-judging by the applause is little Margie Newman and her brothers. Little Margie is dancing a Highland fling taught her by Mr. Estos and she is a credit to herself and most finished of her many dances. It always provokes a genial laugh in the audience when the little maid drops her stage dignity and comes out to pick up the coins thrown upon the stage by her many admirers.

Who Knows Ike Need? EDITOR KLONDIKE NUGGET:—Dear Sir—The undersigned would ask as a favor in the name of a wife and three children that you assist in locating the whereabouts of one Ike Needor, of Howland, Ill. He left his home in August, 1897, and was last heard from at Lake Bennett on August 28 and September 10 when he stated to answer him at Dawson City, since which time nothing has been heard from him. Yours respectfully, L. L. HAN, 1224 Washington St., Seattle.

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The Klondike Nugget