

The Klondike Nugget

(DAWSON'S PIONEER PAPER)
ISSUED SEMI-WEEKLY
On Wednesday and Saturday

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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.

PITY FOR THE RICH

The evidence given in our last issue regarding the giving of a most valuable claim on Dominion to Alex. McDonald by the ex-gold commissioner was amusing and convincing. With the self-justification which characterizes such men, Mr. Fawcett had built up a most plausible defense showing how the wealthy beneficiary of his large generosity had been defrauded of one valuable claim by the development of the fact that the government had issued two recording certificates to the same piece of ground, Alex. McDonald getting a title through no fault of his own which was afterwards forfeited. The defense was wreathed in smiles, and suggested that "the government 'can't' let the individual suffer through its own mistakes, you know." The echoes of this beautiful Christian-like sentiment had hardly died away when a volunteer witness came forward unexpectedly and the defense fell to the ground from the elicitation of the simple fact that the loss of the claim was nothing to Alex. McDonald, for, if he really owned it by purchase as stated, he had never paid for it. So the beautiful story is out and now the miners know the reason why in the early days of prospecting they were refused a recording certificate on No. 16 Dominion. "Given to McDonald," was the only information vouchsafed by the "hoity toity" clerks. Given him long after it had been applied for by legitimate prospectors. Given him long after the creek had been closed to every other man on earth. And for what reason? Simply because an attempt to secure another claim by purchase had fallen through by reason of its turning out that the seller's title was no good.

The Nugget has frequently pointed out that not the least of Mr. Fawcett's failings was his blind, unreasoning servility to rich men. It destroyed his judgment, made him arrogant and oppressive to the poor, merciless to the prospector and heartless to the noninfluential miner. The Nugget must not in any manner be understood as blaming Alex. McDonald one bit for accepting favors at Fawcett's hands. It is not in human nature to withstand such temptations.

Does the big miner make a bad debt by loaning Birt \$2000 without security, then the sympathetic Fawcett restores the money to him by extorting it from two innocent third parties who owed him nothing in this wide world, by refusing to record a claim for them on which Alex had not even a protest. Does the big man "plunge" a little heavily and become financially embarrassed, then the tender-hearted gold commissioner's breast bursts with compassion for his millionaire client and he refuses to exact the royalty which had been so mercilessly extorted from the poorest and most unfortunate miners upon the creeks. Does one of McDonald's hundreds of purchases fail of materialization before he pays for it, then with bleeding sympathy and heart-torn compassion our ex-gold commis-

sioner wrests from the legitimate applicants a piece of ground which had proved rich, and applies it compassionately, as a salve to the rich man's financial wounds, notwithstanding that the said wounds were a fiction pure and simple. And so the evidence accumulates at the investigation, even handicapped as is the public by the commissioner's rulings absent the 25th of August.

THAT ANGLO-SAXON ALLIANCE

Douglas White, in the San Francisco Examiner, gives an interesting and most graphic account to the public, for the first time, of personal observations of the manœuvres of the line of battleships of all nations in the harbor of Manila on that eventful occasion, when the immortal Dewey had delivered his ultimatum to the citizens. Five German warships were in the bay, while France was represented by two more. England was represented by a fleet of transports headed by the immortalite, a battleship of importance. The neutral fleet lay at anchor clear of Dewey's command, but as the time approached which the commander had set, under each boiler the fires were started and the decks were cleared alarmingly. In view of the alarming mutterings from France and Germany, the presence of their ships was regarded by all as threatening and foreboding. Manila had been interceded for and the triple alliance was known to be strongly sympathizing with Spain. As the important moment neared an eager watch was kept on every ship of the neutral fleet. At last a strange movement of the watched fleet was reported from the mizzen top, and Dewey's glass was riveted upon the scene. Slowly the Englishman were seen to be getting under half motion, and then headed by the immortalite the fleet steamed towards the Americans. As she passed the flagship she dipped her colors, while from her decks was heard the familiar strains of the "Star Spangled Banner." Dewey smiled and dictated the signals which brought out a return dipping of the American colors, and simultaneously the band, by direction, struck up, "God Save the Queen." Then the Englishman signaled for anchorage, at the same time swinging into line with the U. S. ship Olympia and dropping her own anchors. The friendliness of it all at a critical moment had the effect of bringing ringing cheers from American throats and the waving of American caps. The Germans had watched the manœuvres helplessly, and the men were piped below in discomfiture. Their naval demonstration to bluff Dewey into not forcing the surrender of Manila had failed, and the very thing Germany dreaded was actually brought about, namely, an Anglo-Saxon alliance, without even the necessity of a treaty.

TO OTTAWA

Upon the occasion of the deliverance of the ruling that the holder of the Royal commission could not investigate anything subsequent to August 25th, Mr. Ogilvie stated that he would immediately address a communication to Ottawa asking for an extension of powers to date. It is presumed that already such a letter has gone forward. But other letters were also started immediately for Ottawa, and not the least important is one from the same gentlemen who addressed the memorial to which the royal commission was supposed to be an answer.

DAWSON, 27th Feb., 1899.

The Right Hon. Sir Wilfred Laurier, M. P.
Sir: Our memorial, dated August, 1898, desired on behalf of the miners of this country a searching and impartial investigation into the conduct of the officials of this territory.

It appears that the interpretation which Mr. Ogilvie's legal advisers place on the commission framed in response to that memorial, limits the inquiry to the actions of the officials prior to the 25th August, '98 (the date of our memorial) six months ago.

We cannot believe the interpretation is in accordance with the spirit in which the commission was framed, falling so far short of what we, your memorialists, desired, and so helplessly inadequate to the needs of the situation.

We would also call to your notice that

Mr. Ogilvie informs us he has no instructions with regard to expenses, and cannot even provide maintenance for penniless witnesses compelled to come in from remote creeks.

We desire to point out that such an inquiry can be productive of no good, adds to the dissatisfaction of the people, and has already become a by-word amongst the miners.

We took part in the first two days of the commission and conclusively proved one, the least, of our charges, when a decision was called for by the attorney for the officials, regarding the illegality of evidence of misconduct subsequent to the 25th August, '98. The decision was given that such evidence was inadmissible.

We therefore immediately withdrew from such an unsatisfactory and inefficient inquiry.

Further more, we strongly object to the principle of a departmental inquiry, the head of a department inquiring into the acts of his subordinates, for which he is responsible.

We would beg for the immediate appointment of a parliamentary commission, with power to inquire into matters occurring up to the date of the sitting, and with proper provision for expenses, consisting of at least three members acting under the instructions of a parliamentary committee.

Your obedient servants,
[Sgd.] GEORGE J. C. ARMSTRONG,
DONALD MCGREGOR,
PERCY MCDUGAL.

We also learn that various members of the government were provided with copies, while to certain influential members who had shown themselves to be interested, was mailed a detailed account of the proceedings to date, which will at a glance show the farcical nature of the proceedings. It will undoubtedly prove unpleasant to Mr. Ogilvie if prominent Canadians take the ground that the decision, barring the period of Mr. Ogilvie's own incumbency from investigation, was not altogether disinterested. It may be an unjust conclusion that the limitation of August 25th, and the consequent shielding from inquiry of all subsequent official acts, had any relation to Mr. Ogilvie's incumbency, yet it can readily be foreseen that in practical politics the ugly inference will be used for all that can be gotten out of it, and brings forcibly to mind that "Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown."

Consul General McCook is just in receipt of official notice from the American secretary of state of the death of Thomas Francis Bayard, in his time one of the most distinguished and popular citizens of the United States. Mr. Bayard served his fellow citizens as United States senator from the state of Delaware, as secretary of state and as ambassador extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Great Britain, in all of which his career was marked by great usefulness and unflinching fidelity. The stars and stripes now flying at half-mast over the consulate in Dawson will be a strong reminder to our American citizens that they have suffered a loss which is shared in a degree in all countries where the virtues of Thomas Bayard were known.

THOS. FAWCETT, ex-gold commissioner, expects to leave Saturday for the outside, accompanied by an escort from the N. W. M. P. Whether the escort is intended to protect the man of hated memory from injury at the hands of abused miners or whether to keep him from brooding over the misdeeds of his official career is not publicly known. In any event, the nature of Mr. Fawcett's passing from the vision of the people of Klondike is a striking commentary on events connected with the gentleman's residence here that can afford him no pleasurable reflections.

The Nugget is in receipt of numerous inquiries concerning the relationship or kinship of Commissioner Ogilvie and ex-Commissioner Thos. Fawcett. Inquiry from Mr. Ogilvie some six months ago revealed the fact that no such relationship existed at all, and the statement was given to the public through our columns. The persistence with which the story continues to survive and reappear is probably explainable by the illy understood relationship of Mr. Ogilvie and Minister Sifton. The latter is a nephew

by marriage, as his wife was a Miss Burroughs, a niece of Mr. Ogilvie.

OUTSIDE reports are to the effect that the new alien law of British Columbia has proved so generally unpopular in all sections of Canada, and particularly in the populous centers of the province itself, that its repeal at no late day is an expected event. It is becoming evident now that the law will greatly retard the development of the country, besides materially decreasing the revenues, while its effect upon the joint commission sitting at Ottawa or the United States congress is expected to call out some measure of retaliation. The law is now generally stamped as unwise and impolitic.

The establishment at Seattle last year of a government mint has, according to advices just received by Consul McCook, proven to have been a very wise step. The office was opened on July 15 last, and during the first four months has handled the deposits of over 1900 individuals—mostly from Dawson and contiguous territory. The office assays and purchases all bullion at its full assay value and had already handled some \$1,000,000 worth.

It is believed that former reports of the election for Senator of Judge Thos. J. Humes, the mayor of Seattle, is a mistake. A recent number of the P-I contained a print picture of Addison J. Foster with the title "Washington's new senator," from which it is gathered that the contest is over and Foster the successful candidate.

Little Janet by the Sea.

[By Capt. Jack Crawford.]
There's a little blue-eyed lassie in that glorious sunny state,
Where the notes of Old Pacific echo through the Golden Gate;
She is sweeter than the roses that are blooming by the sea,
And while toiling in the Yukon Little Janet prays for me.
CHO—She is sweeter than the sweetest,
She is fairest of the fair—
"God bless dear papa Andy,"
I can hear her simple prayer,
With her image this before me
How much stronger I can be,
To work for home and Janet,
Barring Janet by the sea.

Little Janet is an angel; she is pure as heaven's dew,
And my love for her grows stronger, and I know she loves me too,
Every day seems like a season till I hold her on my knee,
In that little Berkeley cottage, darling Janet by the sea.

I have sent her golden nuggets, I have sent her diamonds galore,
I have sent her news from Dawson, but I've sent her something more,
I have sent her love and kisses and she writes me frank and free,
"Come back to love and mamma, and to Janet by the sea."

I am coming, dearest Janet, tell your mamma not to fret,
For Andy Young and hearty will be with you soon, my pet;
And in that grand re-union, oh! how happy I shall be,
To live and die in Berkeley, with my Janet close to me.

A Good Map for 50 Cents.
The Mine Exchange Map of the Klondike Gold Fields should be in the hands of every miner. For sale at the Nugget office. Price 50 cts.

LETTERS PACKAGES FREIGHT

Delivered on the Creeks.

Our Teams leave daily for Eldorado and Bonanza. Every Wednesday and Saturday for Hunker, Dominion and Sulphur.

THE NUGGET EXPRESS

E. C. ALLEN, Manager.
MAIN OFFICE—in the "Phoenix"
BRANCH OFFICE—FORKS of Eldorado and Bonanza.
Orders may be given any agent or driver of team.

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