

The Klondike Nugget

Published by the Klondike Nugget Co. (Incorporated in the State of Alaska) Dawson, Yukon Territory, Alaska. Issued Daily and Semi-Weekly. George M. Allen, Publisher.

From Saturday and Monday's Daily HOW LONG? The publication in this paper yesterday of the fact that the White Pass company is charging storage for boilers and other machinery now lying in the public streets, was a matter of surprise to a great many people.

Some refused to believe the facts as set forth in the article referred to, thinking that even the White Pass concern would not carry its greed to such an extent. Nevertheless the statements set forth in yesterday's Nugget are absolutely correct. The company has taken possession of a portion of a public thoroughfare—the most important in the town. A large portion of the street has been filled with machinery, which not only blocks and hinders traffic but utterly destroys the appearance of the street.

But that is not all. The greed and audacity of this grafting corporation do not stop here. It only has the concern taken possession of a public highway, but it makes its illegal action a source of revenue to itself. Shippers are actually made to pay storage on freight which the White Pass company has piled in a public street. Such a monstrous action is unprecedented. But it is done by the railroad company simply because the public is at the mercy of this worse than highway robber. The shipper is told to pay the charges demanded by the railroad or his freight will be sold—and what can he do?

Now the question which the Nugget wishes brought to the attention of the people of this territory is simply this: How long do they propose to submit to such outrageous treatment? Are they going to continue without action for an indefinite length of time and allow the vitality to be drawn from the community by this vampire, or will they take the means that are within their power and seek redress where it may be obtained?

The Nugget has used strong words in dealing with the attitude of the railroad toward the territory but it is a case where strong words are required. We believe that an appeal should be made to the government of Canada, to the government of British Columbia and to the United States government, from all of which the railroad company has charters. If something is not done along this line, another twelve months will see the Yukon territory so closely bound in grasp of the corporation that escape will be practically impossible.

ANGLO-SAXON UNITY. Two events have occurred during the past twelve months which have served to bring the two branches of the Anglo-Saxon race into closer touch than anything else that has happened in the course of a century. These two events, it need scarcely be said, are the death of Queen Victoria and the assassination of President McKinley.

During the administration of President Cleveland an incident known as the Venezuela affair occurred which brought the governments of the United States and Great Britain to a point where history will certainly say that peaceful relations were strained. That incident in itself served to open the eyes of the people of the two great English speaking nations to the absurdity of permitting any circumstance whatsoever to array them against each other. It would be impossible at the present time to conceive of any situation which would cause a rupture of pleasant relations between the two powers. In all the councils of the nations of the world the two stand shoulder to shoulder and each takes a deep interest and a large share in the joys and sorrows of the other.

Now, the bonds which have been formed through close commercial, social and diplomatic relations have been sealed, it is to be hoped, forever, through the influence of a mutual sorrow. A people who have mingled their tears over the same coffin can never be forced into war with each other. Victoria is dead. McKinley is

assassinated. Two of the greatest rulers of the world have gone to their final account. But they have left behind two nations bound together by the indissoluble ties of a common grief.

Who knows but that in the passing of Victoria and McKinley, Anglo-Saxon unity has been re-established forever.

A WORLD-WIDE CALAMITY. The exercises held yesterday in the Savoy theatre commemorative of the death of President McKinley, were of a most impressive nature. The addresses delivered, while perhaps lacking in brilliancy of rhetorical finish, left no doubt with the audience as to the deep sincerity and earnestness of the speakers. The sentiment running through the entire service displayed most clearly the universal feeling of admiration and respect that has been shown to the martyred president.

There were no lines of nationality visible at yesterday's meeting. There was nothing to indicate that one people were in mourning and another merely sympathizing. Throughout the utterances of each speaker, irrespective of his own nationality, the idea of a personal sorrow and loss seemed to predominate.

McKinley's death was not merely a calamity to the American republic. The late president's influence and efforts while always exerted toward the advancement of his own country's welfare, did not stop at that point. He was essentially a man of peace, who desired to see the republic established in the friendship of every one of the powers of the earth. He labored to insure continued and uninterrupted prosperity for his native land, but the breadth of mind was sufficient to enable him to lend his influence to the betterment of the conditions of other countries as well.

Hence it is that in mourning for the dead president men have forgotten that McKinley was a citizen of the United States. They have given him his true value, and mourned for him in the knowledge that his tragic end is a world-wide calamity. The meeting of yesterday and to form the key-note of all the able addresses which were delivered.

American citizens will remember with grateful affection the spirit that has so generally been manifested in connection with their great bereavement.

SKINS OF THE TIME. The signs of the times indicate most clearly that the era of extensive quartz operations is at hand. The Nugget has clung to the conviction from the beginning that the Klondike is to be the scene of immense quartz development, and today we are more convinced than ever before that all theory will be borne out by results. Twelve months hence, we confidently believe that work will be under way on a large scale. The talking period has gone by. Quartz operators are now backing their opinions by their dollars, which fact is the strongest argument that could be advanced on behalf of the outlook for quartz mining.

Premier Laurier has promised that upon the completion of the census and the receipt of the returns at Ottawa, representation will be granted. Under any circumstances, it cannot be expected that action will be taken before the next session of parliament, and it will be noticed from the interview referred to that the commission believes, as does the Nugget, that an act covering the matter will be passed at that time.

The investigation into the Islander disaster has taken a turn which will receive very general endorsement from the public. The circumstances which led up to the accident should be sifted to the very bottom. If the officers of the ship were intoxicated at the time the disaster occurred that fact should be brought out in order that protection may be given to the travelling public in the future.

Elsewhere in this issue of the Nugget is published an interview with Commissioner Ross, forwarded by wire from our correspondent in Skagway.

Particular attention is called to the fact that Commissioner Ross takes identically the same view of the representation question as has been set forth by the Nugget.

Arrangements are all perfected for the memorial services which will be held at the Savoy theatre tomorrow afternoon. The program will be of an impressive character and in keeping with the nature of the occasion. The public need not be urged to attend. In no place in the world was more genuine sorrow exhibited for the death of President McKinley than was shown in Dawson. The sincerity of this feeling will undoubtedly be shown by the attendance at the memorial services tomorrow.

The News, the champion (?) of the downtrodden miner, which formerly could not find language to express its contempt for the Sun, is now eating from the same spoon as the latter just as chummy as you please. Well, well! It is often said that politics makes strange bedfellows, but we never saw anything quite the equal of this latest combination.

If the through telegraph line continues in operation throughout the winter we shall almost forget that Dawson is a long way out of civilization. The news of the day on the day it occurs. It sounds marvelous, but that is what the Nugget is now giving its readers.

The Sun is gradually losing the individuality which once belonged to it, and as has previously been suggested in these columns, is now nothing more nor less than a morning edition of the News. Think of it.

It is believed by those who are in a position to know that the warehouses of Dawson are supplied with enough food to furnish the district for two years to come. It is much better to have too much than too little.

The evening edition of the News yells "down with the government," and the morning edition—called by courtesy the "Sun"—shouts "hurrah for the government." You pay your money and take your choice.

Our first snow fall is about thirty days late this year. Let us hope that this fact may augur well for a mild winter.

Dawson Going Ahead. Dawson, the northern mining metropolis, is getting on as a town. Its eventual fate may be that of Virginia City, which just when it was when it was most prosperous suffered an eclipse, due to the exhaustion of the mines, and has since been one of the most poverty-stricken places on the coast; but whether or not history will repeat itself, the lucky miners of Dawson have had confidence enough during the past year to put up a lot of good dwellings and warehouses and the government has built a new court house. New administration buildings and a dwelling for the governor are now going up.

The United States government official who makes this report adds that notwithstanding the intense cold of last winter the water works were a success, there being a constant flow in the banks of the Klondike river. The water is pumped directly into the mains from the wells, and such pressure is maintained that the pipes are kept open. Taps are located on the sidewalks along the streets. Store rents continue as high as ever though it is supposed with the amount of building being done a reduction must come before long. The Bonanza mines along the two famous creeks are beginning to fail, here are already some indications, although the output of the season was large, amounting to more than \$20,000,000. But the richest claims have not yielded quite so abundantly as formerly and already there is talk of more economical methods being introduced. Consul McCook places the time for the working out of the placer at ten years from the present date, but that refers to the bench claims and other workings outside of the main creeks; the latter will be exhausted sooner.

The Canadian government recognizing the conditions, has reduced the royalty from 10 to 5 per cent. One merit of the Canadian government in the northwest is that it gives something in return for what it takes from the miners. It has built good roads to the various mining sections near Dawson, and that is something which our own government never thinks of doing in such a region as the Klondike.—Oakland Times.

PEOPLE WE MEET.



THE HON. JUSTICE CRAIG.

DEVELOPMENT OF QUARTZ

Will be Extensively Gone Into by the Munger Syndicate, Which Is Prepared to Expend Millions of Dollars in Klondike Mining—Stamp Mill Is Already in Operation.

The "life" of the Klondike as a mining camp and the consequent stability of Dawson as a city of importance has been a subject which has agitated the minds of those whose interests are settled in this territory, actual as well as prospective, for some time, and while there have been numbers pessimistically inclined who have not hesitated to venture the opinion that the camp and district in general has seen its best days, there are others who hold to the view diametrically opposite, and declare that the Yukon, the Klondike and Dawson are but in their infancy, scarcely past the age of babyhood, and that the ultimate greatness of the territory as one of the foremost mining centres of the world, not transitory but permanent in its character, is as inevitable as the rising of the sun in the east. In support of the theory advanced by the latter class, the possibilities yet to be made apparent by the hydraulic miner are pointed out as sources of wealth, the extent of which is little dreamed of. Experts with years of experience and who are thoroughly conversant with the subject have made the unqualified statement that upon Bonanza creek alone there is sufficient gold bearing gravel to keep a half hundred Little Giants in operation continuously for thirty years. But it is of quartz that the following article deals with, from which has come the millions of gold the auriferous gravels of the Klondike have already produced.

It is only within the past year or two that the hard rock miner has made his presence known in the community; he has come unknown to all save a very few to whom he has given his confidence, but he has come with a specimen of quartz in his pocket was somewhat of a curiosity, and when he talked of leads, dykes, walls, true fissures and primary formations his words fell upon ears more accustomed to hear of pay-streaks, bedrock, lags and big pans. Others, followed in his footsteps until today there is scarcely a fidge or hill whose surface has not been trampled over by the searchers after a gold bearing lead. Many have had their diligence and perseverance rewarded by making discoveries of an extremely promising character, but with their stakes planted and their locations recorded came the question, "now that I have a quartz claim what can I do with it?" The average prospector is not a man of means, and if perchance he succeeds in developing his property to such an extent that it is given a tangible value the chances are that he will have to sell an interest in his claim in order to secure the wherewithal to buy a mill. In the Klondike as in all mining countries, there are doubtless hundreds of promising mining claims in the hands of persons who are unable to expend the thousands of dollars necessary to develop their properties into paying and salable mines, and who do not feel justified

muscle would make but slow progress in enriching the world through the medium of the reduction of ores.

Through the kindness and courtesy of Mr. Edward Spencer, who is representing the Munger syndicate, the Nugget is today able to give its readers the first authentic account of the beginning of what will doubtless develop into a corporation of colossal magnitude. The term corporation is used advisedly as is also the reference made to it in the future tense, as those most heavily interested in the welfare of the Klondike from a quartz standpoint have not yet formed themselves into a company nor have they a name. They have simply made up a "jack pot," as it were, of a few hundred thousand dollars to see what the Klondike quartz contains, and while their investment so far may be said to be only in the experimental stage, yet enough is known to them that unless all signs utterly fail, there is today opportunities in this region which in their opinion have never been exceeded by any other locality in the world. A word concerning the personnel of the syndicate, as it may be termed. With the exception of Mr. Munger, they are all engaged in the manufacture of mining machinery. Fairbanks, Morse & Co. is one of the oldest established concerns in the city of Chicago, which might also be said of the Gates Iron Works, while the firm of Fraser & Chalmers is known from one end of the world to the other. And such is the class of men who are prepared to spend unlimited capital in the exploitation, development and reduction of Klondike quartz.

As the easiest handled and least expensive class of ore to work is that of the free milling variety, so the first experiments of the company are in the treatment of that character of ore. The plant, a brief notice of which appeared in these columns a few weeks ago, is now installed upon a tract of land which the company has secured lying on the left limit of the Klondike river about 200 yards below the Ogilvie bridge. There is adequate room for the various buildings employed and for such expansion as may be necessary in the future. The mill building is 30x30 in size with an annex 6x24, which will be occupied by the ore crusher, one of the Gates pattern, as soon as it arrives.

Within the building is everything necessary for the treating of free milling ore and all so arranged that the severe cold of the winter will possess no terrors. A well 16 feet deep has been sunk beneath the floor, solidly timbered and made steam tight, and from this source will be derived the supply of water necessary not alone for the boilers, but also for the stamp battery. There are two separate and distinct engines and two boilers. One of the latter is an upright 12 horsepower boiler, which operates a 5 horsepower friction hoist used to elevate the ore to the hopper and also supplies live steam for heating purposes. A pipe leads into the well which in extreme cold weather will keep the water at an even temperature. Another pipe performs a like service in the reservoir placed near the top of the building from which the water supply for the battery and apron flows by gravity. The same boiler also operates a Duplex pump with a 24 inch suction and 2 inch discharge, which pumps the water from the well to the reservoir, the steam from the exhaust being turned into the covered tail race through which the tailings are carried out into the Klondike some 30 or 40 feet distant. Within the race an ingeniously contrived trap which while allowing the free passage of the slimes effectually bars the air and cold from without. The other boiler referred to is a 15 horsepower, tubular, locomotive type, and will supply the power to an engine of the same size which operates the stamps, crusher, wood saw, and concentrator; the latter being also yet to arrive. The mill is of the Tremaine type, the difference between it and the old style mill where the weight of the stamp and stem and gravity alone does the work, being that steam supplements the use of the cams in raising the stamp and the weight in its descent. The mill stands 7 feet 6 inches in height and rests on a solid block of wood 22x24 inches, which is sunk in the ground 16 feet, the lower end standing on a mud sill 12 inches thick, 16 inches wide and 6 feet long, thus giving it a solidity capable of withstanding the constant pounding of the stamps. The mill may be said to be entirely self-contained and briefly may be described as consisting of two stamp stems, the upper ends of which terminate in pistons working in cast iron cylinders after the manner of the steam engine. These pistons are turned out of the solid forging which forms the stamp stems, are 5 1/2 inches in diameter, and are fitted with three sets of piston rings, making them steam tight. The pis-

ton rods which pass through the stuffing boxes are four inches in diameter, and the steam pressure which is admitted under the piston to raise the stamp is confined to an area which is due to the difference between the diameter of the piston and the piston rod, amounting to an annular ring about three-quarters of an inch wide, a small area, it is true, but sufficient to quickly raise the stamps, the total weight of which is but 300 pounds. Each piston in its travel toward the top of its cylinder passes a small steam port, which admits the pressure to the valve mechanism and moves the valve to its valve cutting off the admission of steam to the underside of the piston, but admitting it to the underside of its mate, at the same time connecting the top and bottom ends of the first mentioned cylinder together, thus allowing the confined steam which is holding the stamp up to be expanded around the piston to its upper side, and acting expansively upon the large area there encountered, to so energetically assist the 300 pound stamp in its downward movement, as to strike a blow upon the die equal to that of an 800 to 1000 pound gravity stamp. The pistons alternate with each other perfectly and when the valve is moved back again to admit steam to the underside of the first mentioned, it also connects the top side with the exhaust port so that the steam remaining after the blow has been struck is passed into the atmosphere. This arrangement makes it possible to use the steam expansively and to obtain the same crushing effect with each drop of the 300 pound stamp as would be secured with a gravity stamp of 800 to 1000 pounds dropping eight inches. Instead of being limited to about 90 drops per minute, as with the gravity stamp, with the Tremaine mill it is possible to obtain a speed of 200 or more drops per minute of each stamp and it will be quite obvious that the crushing capacity must be correspondingly increased. The capacity of the mill varies greatly according to the character of the ore and the size of mesh in the screens used. Ore that is friable and partially decomposed is much more quickly reduced to a pulp than that which is hard and flinty. With the average gold quartz, using a 40 mesh screen, the mill will handle from 8 to 18 tons in 24 hours, the power required being from 7 to 10 horsepower, according to the speed at which the mill is run, and fuel needed but one cord of wood. The water required for both the boiler and mill is 1 1/2 miner's inches, equal to about 800 gallons per hour. Persons who have used the Tremaine mill say it is an excellent amalgamator. The mortar is provided with silver plated lip plates in lieu of the inside coppers used in the gravity stamp mill. These lip plates retain amalgam wonderfully well, are always in sight, and are a perfect index of the conditions inside the mortar. The screening capacity of the mill is relatively large, there being about 549 square inches of sieve used in the mortar as against 45 square inches in the standard gravity stamp mortar. Because of the very rapid movement accomplished by the steam driven stamps, which greater agitation of the pulp in the mortar is kept up and a not greater height of the screen surface made available for the discharge of the pulp. The speed of the mill is variable at will and depends entirely upon the steam pressure used. With 60 pounds pressure the speed is 140 drops to the minute of each stamp; with 80 pounds, 180 drops; with 100 pounds, 200 drops.

(Continued tomorrow.)

DISTRESSINGLY PEACEFUL

Police Have Little to Do These Quiet Days.

Another Saturday and Sunday have been rolled together on the scroll of Time and laid away on the shelf of Eternity and Monday morning found the lonesome bench at police court unoccupied save for one dejected and billious appearing individual who has not yet been in Dawson sufficiently long to regulate his hootch gauge. The individual in question arrived in Dawson Saturday afternoon on the Seattle No. 3 from St. Michael and at once proceeded to celebrate his arrival which would have been all right had his gauge been regulated, but it wasn't. However, as it was one of those quiet, "peace on earth, good will toward men" drunks, and in view of the fellow's newness in Dawson his honor looked with compassion on the offender, imparted some kindly advice, told him to be careful in future libations and let him go. If you want a fine room try the Fairview hotel.