

The Klondike Nugget

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1898

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.

RE THOS. FAWCETT ET AL.

There is positive irony in the Yukon Commissioner's statements to the committee of the Miners' Association which waited upon him Wednesday afternoon. He asked for sworn affidavits of wrong doing in the gold commissioner's office, as if men whose claims were hanging in the balance held by Thomas Fawcett, ought to be quite willing to volunteer affidavits which would make that gold commissioner an enemy for life; or as if men whose rights can be and are daily abrogated and rendered null by Messrs. Bolton & Craig should be willing to volunteer affidavits which would prevent them ever afterwards from recording or filing anything as long as those aforementioned gentlemen were the autocratic rulers of Thomas Fawcett's office. If Mr. Ogilvie will empower a commission of inquiry consisting of a man or men free from suspicion of official leanings, with powers to subpoena and protect witnesses, and a desire to examine them; and if Mr. Ogilvie will suspend Messrs. Fawcett, Bolton and Craig pending the inquiry; and if the said commission of enquiry will summons and examine whomsoever we will name, then the Nugget will undertake to furnish Mr. Ogilvie with evidence under affidavit so voluminous and so convincing and convicting that the Liberal Government of Canada will demand that it be withheld from the public prints. Since its first issue in June this paper has made sufficient charges which have remained unanswered to have put to shame the devil himself and yet so far are we from the seat of government at Ottawa and from the rest of Canada that the good people of the country are only just becoming acquainted with the many acts of official waywardness which we have brought to light. If Mr. Ogilvie will appoint the commission we suggest we will guarantee him such evidence as he desires in volumes; one, two, three, or until he says "enough!"

We would like to call the attention of the commissioner to the fact that men who have connived at suborning public officers and who received *quid pro quo* for each dollar paid illicitly, are not in the habit of carrying affidavits around in their pockets; nor of turning such documents over to commissioners of their own sweet will.

The fact of the matter appears to be that the government of Canada dare not order an official inquiry and yet desires to stop this eternal howl against Dawson officials. They find themselves much in the predicament of the Irish soldier who had a prisoner whom he would have given worlds to have let loose of, yet dared not let go his hold of him from fears of his own personal safety. To let Mr. Fawcett out just now would mean a virtual admission of the serious charges against him. To retain him requires that nothing in the form of a bona fide inquiry shall take place.

A STRANGE PEOPLE.

There are many strange things about Dawson but by far the most remarkable to a thinking man is the stoic-like apathy of nine out of ten to public matters such as fire protection. At a recent public meeting a gentleman called the attention of those present to the smallness of the gathering and thought it might be better to await a larger meeting. In reply it was stated that that was a very fair specimen of a public meeting as such things go in Dawson; that it was needless to wait for larger meetings as

though people were sufficiently interested to discuss all these matters in private, it would take a Punch and Judy show or a short skirt dance to draw together a very much larger crowd than was present.

Was there ever before a wooden town of 20,000 people with its fire apparatus "in hock" for \$9000 and being held from use by the man to whom the money is due? Was there ever before such a gathering of really clever people yet so self-engrossed that two hours cannot be spared for a public meeting. To a man, people are sufficiently interested in these public matters to have firm convictions upon the desirability of this, that or the other public measure, but no time can be spared for public meetings. Some of these very men, who have no time for public meetings, etc., are quite willing to reap the cheap glory of being candidates for office in the new city of Dawson. They are "in the hands of their friends" so to speak, and are willing, "for the public good," to accept any sugar plums which may happen their way. But can these indifferent or apathetic people be depended upon in the future to devote any part of their time to the public any more than they do now? Would a prosy council meeting draw them from their counters any more than a lively public meeting will now? The conviction is forced upon one that the men who are in the public eye today will have to perform the brunt of the work that has to be done or it will remain undone. There are always those standing ready to criticize gentlemen with the public spiritedness to take hold of public matters; but the Nugget has nothing but praise for them, whether they move in the direction of fire protection or whether it is to framing an incorporation ordinance they are devoting their energies.

FAWCETT'S CHAMPION.

In his attempted defense of the gold commissioner in our last issue Mr. Rutledge lays himself open to the inference of "having a pull" with the said gold commissioner. Mr. Rutledge claims to have made four thousand legal transfers of one kind or another, requiring recording to make them legal. We offered him \$1,000 in gold coin to prove he had ever taken his turn at the door and affected an entrance four hundred times during the incumbency of Mr. Fawcett. By a typographical error we were made to offer that money if it should be proven that he had been into that office "four thousand" times. We amend the foregoing. The fact of the matter is that Mr. Rutledge will find it very hard to convince the people that he ever once took his turn with the non-influential miners who have stood in lines of hundreds at the front entrance to the commissioner's office for the past year and have been from five to ten days getting inside. Maybe if there had been fewer like Mr. Rutledge there would have been fewer angry waiting men at the front door.

Mr. Rutledge makes a statement in his communication defending Mr. Fawcett which is strangely at variance with what we have always considered facts in our possession. Speaking of the dispatch with which his business has always been put through by the commissioner and his clerks, he adds: "without one cent of extra pay to the commissioner or any of his assistants." The use of the word "extra" presupposes that there was a regular scale of payments by himself. Or does Mr. Rutledge intend the public to understand that nothing but the regular recording fees has ever been paid by him, through him or at his instigation? From information at our disposal, we had been led to believe that Mr. Fawcett's deputies were not at all strangers to Mr. Rutledge's office or his money. Mr. Rutledge cannot wish us to believe he got into Mr. Fawcett's office fourteen times a day for a year and escaped taxation. To get in there twice a month has been considered very fortunate by ordinary people—but then Mr. Rutledge is not at all ordinary, as is demonstrated by his ability to get such an enormous amount of work through a congested office with-

out voluntary contributions to underpaid underlings.

A FRIEND OF THE RICH ONLY.

The article in the Nugget headed "Beaten Out of His Claim," tells of what is probably the rankest piece of injustice which has emanated from the gold commissioner's office in a whole week. That the public has and is being repeatedly misled at the commissioner's office concerning ground which is vacant has been demonstrated through these columns time and again, but it is not always the perpetrators are so recklessly bold in their wrong doing. There is a dash of irony in a subordinate tearing up Mr. Fawcett's letter and asking: "What good did it do you to go to Mr. Fawcett? You had to come back to me again?"

The gold commissioner's failings and shortcomings are patent to friends and foes alike. The champions are invariably men who profit by the frailties we condemn. Mr. Fawcett's greatest fault is his penchant for rich men and contempt for poor ones. He will scheme and plan and bulldoze for months to make the richest man in camp a pauper \$2000 richer. In order to do this he stands prepared to break the mining regulations and land laws of his country till further orders.

NIGHTSHIRTS FOR SOLDIERS.

The inadequacy of the commissary department of the United States army in Cuba is the subject of much comment in two hemispheres. Tender hearted ladies endeavored to remedy the evil and a letter from Cuba, written by a soldier in the volunteer army gratefully acknowledges the receipt of a night shirt sent to him by loving friends in New York. He says: "Nearly every man in our regiment received a night shirt from the Ladies' Aid Society and they came in handy for cleaning guns, as the sand and rain keep the rifles in bad shape and rags are scarce. They were all glad to get the shirts, as it is better to have your gun in good shape than to sleep in a night gown." A great many inappropriate things were sent to the soldiers. Many of the things that would have been beneficial did not reach them, being intercepted somewhere. If there was effective administration of the army service, it would not be necessary to send anything. With well trained and efficient management, not one of the aid societies would be necessary, the government doing everything needful for the soldiers.

GOVERNMENT AID FOR TRAILS.

The action of the Yukon council in voting \$200 to pay the labor bill of Joseph Terrault is most commendable. The expense was incurred in building the Klondike City trail and all connected with it are delighted to see the last bill of expense wiped out. It is not so much the amount—which is a mere trifle—that arouses commendation as the principle. In effect the Yukon commissioner and his council admit what we have all along contended; the people who pay the taxes have a right to receive the benefit of their expenditure. Government is admittedly a necessary evil and taxation is another, and the only justification which can be urged for that taxation is the public needs of the people taxed.

Trails and river improvements take the place here of highway and road work and are truly occasions for the expenditure of public funds by the government.

The document forged by the French officer who has committed suicide was not necessary to the conviction of Dreyfus, but was intended to create the belief that conviction was right and the evidence could not be made public without peril to the national interests. Dreyfus may be guilty in spite of this confessed forgery. It tends, however, to strengthen the impression that he did not have a fair trial, that an important section of the military staff desired to get rid of Jewish officers, and that the conviction was on testimony of doubtful weight or truth, which was not made known to the accused or his defenders. The opinion of the world is that Dreyfus ought to have a new trial.

THE PIONEER

DINSMORE, SPENCER & McPHAIL, Proprietors.
BEST GRADES OF
SCOTCH AND CANADIAN WHISKIES
And the Old Favorite Brand of
JACK McQUESTION CIGARS

THE AURORA

Tom Christy, Proprietor.
COR. FRONT AND SECOND STREET
Headquarters for
BEST OF WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS
Mixed Drinks a Specialty

ELDORADO SALOON

HALL, MCKINNEY & YOUNG, Proprietors
KLONDIKE CITY
Finest Brands of
Wines, Liquors and Cigars

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ASH & MANNING, Proprietors
Choice Wines, Liquors and Cigars
Expert Mixologists
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FRONT STREET DAWSON

Combination Saloon

Is the Place to go for fun and amusement. Finest kind of Liquors and Cigars.
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FINEST BAR IN DAWSON
QUALITY OF WINES AND LIQUORS THE HIGHEST
Mixed Drinks a Specialty
HIGHEST GRADES OF CIGARS

THE OPERA HOUSE

BANKER, WILSON & PETERSON, Proprietors
DAWSON
Headquarters for Best of
Wines, Liquors and Cigars
Mixed Drinks a Specialty

BILLY CHENOWETH

BILLY WILSON
THE BODEGA
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Most Elegant Gentlemen's Resort

in Dawson.
Magnificent Stock of Liquors
JUST ARRIVED.
SOLD BY BOTTLE OR CASE.

GIN, CHAMPAGNES, BRANDIES, BOURBON AND SCOTCH WHISKIES.

WHOLESALE STORE
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STOCK VERY COMPLETE AND WELL ASSORTED

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Pamphlets, Blanks and Programs

THE KLONDIKE NUGGET

PIONEERS

One Trans... is a S...
The B. L. & season of ent... has been cre... the first of t... Lake Bennet... can continen... of transporta... schemes, stea... tion compan... St. Michaels... toria live, pe... formation of... that while va... railroads, al... routes, etc.,... ganized a co... river and co... Of it the... last winter n... success of the... boats could n... and again it... take a steam... pany adopted... decided upon... of freight... mentioned... grant at the... from Bennet... machinery to... ing hauled o... The gallan... able comman... first successi... son and back... ferred to the... of the first co... nett, in less... found that it... fingers at a... cables, and a... greater part... ped that the... the seventee... ing with the... out of the co... ing in abou... handled from... limited only... company is n... for next seas... and right ne... could handle... It is seldom... such a run of... the inception... to make the se... all is the dis... no expense... pated men... Ritchie, man... of the Ore, is... chartered Thir... a government... of next spring... den danger is... tion of fair... ing the ri... LeBarge to Da... the lakes... Mr. H. Tom... Dawson ep... has done muc... tracts made e... been carried o... that the Benn... company is n... liable as the C... public approv... and able man... The bringin... Miles Canyon... party Dixon... cured and giv... needed. G... along the gu... chism went t... in an angle o... and jam agai... the rushing to... plank. How... charm, merely... on one side... chieving and... company foun... rapids. Then... two boats bel... has been enab... all summer... Mr. F. M. Ra... pany, is a gen... ence some tim... us government... Victoria. An... ager Gallotly... treat. The ca... tive success... organized last... pace with the... for the combin... building of t... steamers, whic... view to sear... 90 miles rou... horse and bac... it, every seven... from ten... The compan... the public m...