

THE HOODOOED TOWNSEND.

Made Many Financial Wrecks—
Is Now With Davy Jones.

Was to Corral Copper River Trade—
Ruined Every Man Connected
With Her—Stranger Than Fiction.

The steamer Townsend, spoken of by late telegraphic dispatches from Skagway as having been wrecked and now lying at the bottom of Lynn canal, has been a hoodoo to every person in any way connected for more than two years past.

Late in the fall of '97 what was termed the Copper River Trading and Transportation Company was organized at Port Townsend, Wash. The original promoters of the enterprise had little money, but the first trial, that of dispatching a small sailing vessel to Valdez with passengers and freight, proved very successful. So elated were the members of the company at the success of their first venture that they solicited men of means to become interested with them, and after the reorganization of the company, ex-Collector of Customs J. C. Saunders was one of its most active promoters. Saunders was dispatched to Portland where he purchased from the ship boneyard an old steamer which was rechristened the Townsend in honor of the name of the home of her new owners. The old craft was hauled out on the ways and overhauled, something like \$8000 in cash and a large amount in jawbone being expended on her. In the meantime the company was selling hundreds of tickets to Copper river via the "new, fast and commodious steamer Townsend." Sailing dates were postponed from day to day and from week to week until the army of waiting passengers at Port Townsend began to make life a burden to the members of the company. At last the "almost new steamer, so much had she been patched and overhauled, was launched at Portland, steam was made and amid a blare of trumpets and with nearly every member of the company aboard, they having gone to Portland to make the trip around to Puget sound on "our" steamer, the Townsend cast off her lines and started for the mouth of the Columbia. Then is when the woes and trials of the Copper River Trading and Transportation Company began, for before going five miles down the Willamette the steamer was found to be on fire. The incipient blaze was soon extinguished, but every time sufficient fire was put on to make steam the house of the Townsend would burst into flame. She was taken back to Portland and a tug telegraphed for from the Sound. Before the Townsend again got away from Portland libels for unpaid bills was nailed on her mast and the then harrassed members of the company were forced to put up bonds in the amount of several thousand dollars before she would be released.

After being towed to Port Townsend repairs on the steamer's boilers to the amount of several thousand dollars were made, after which the Townsend started up the Sound for Seattle, when it was discovered that with a fair tide and favorable wind she could keep up with drifting kelp, but could not steam above four knots an hour. During all this time men who had paid their money for passage to the Copper river on the Townsend continued to harrass the members of the company. The sailing date had been continued until 10 weeks and been rolled together like a scroll and laid away on the shelf of eternity. Each member of the company began to wear that far-away, dim and distant look indicative of loss of both appetite and sleep.

After several days had been spent at Seattle and more debts had been contracted in the way of repairs, the Townsend finally returned to her new home port from whence she sailed for

Copper river. It was a gala day, and as soon as the steamer rounded Point Wilson each member of the company went home, ate a square meal and laid down to rest, the first easy moment enjoyed by any of them for nearly three months. For five days nothing was heard of the "fast and commodious steamer Townsend," when there came a cruel telegram from Nanaimo to the effect that her boilers had exploded while off the west coast of Vancouver island. A week later the unfortunate steamer with her indignant passengers and crestfallen crew was towed back to Port Townsend and every member of the Copper River Trading and Transportation Company went to bed and covered up his head. Scarcely was the disabled craft tied up to the wharf when libels began to pour in on her and after a few days her pilot house looked like a bill-board. Being in the hands of the U. S. marshal, a watchman was put aboard, but one night the watchman went ashore to see a friend when a fire broke out on the Townsend which burned her to the water's edge. All the members of the company were "flat broke," having lost their all in the endeavor to make their venture a success. The company went to pieces without the formality of dissolving, and to this day judgments are hanging over its members individually and collectively like rain clouds over a camp meeting ground. The hull of the Townsend was sold at marshal's sale and towed to San Francisco where she was again built up. She had been in northern waters less than a month when she was wrecked for good and all and sunk forever and for aye in the chilly waters of Lynn canal.

Another consignment of pure drugs over the ice. Cribbs & Rogers, druggists.

Sour Dough Letter Heads for sale at the Nugget office.

FIRE! J. L. Sale & Co., now at branch store, 2nd Ave., next to Palmer Bros.

The liquors are the best to be had, at the Regina.

The Down Town Bank.

The business of the down town branch of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, will until further notice, be transacted at the main office near the barracks. The books and records of the branch were removed to the main office before the fire.

Shoff, the Dawson Dog Doctor, Pioneer Drug Store.

Are you planning any improvements in the building line? Place orders for lumber with the Nugget Express. Office, Boyle's wharf.

Best imported wines and liquors at the Regina.

Notice to Next of Kin

In the matter of the Estate of Karl Olaus Karlson Odegaard, late of the Parish of Stranden, in the Kingdom of Norway, miner, deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons claiming to be next of kin of the said Karl Olaus Karlson Odegaard, who died in or about the months of July or August, A. D. 1897, at Dawson, in the Yukon Territory of Canada, or having, or pretending to have, any interest in the estate of the said Karl Olaus Karlson Odegaard, deceased, are required to give notice thereof to The Ottawa Trust and Deposit Company (Limited), administrators of the above estate, at the address below given, on or before the 10th day of March, A. D. 1900.

Dated, at the City of Ottawa, this 12th day of December, A. D. 1899.

THE OTTAWA TRUST AND DEPOSIT COMPANY (LIMITED),
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada,
Administrators of the Estate.

Notice to Creditors.

In the matter of the Estate of Rasmus Karlson Odegaard, late of the Parish of Stranden, in the Kingdom of Norway, miner, deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1897, Cap 129, Sec. 38, and Amending Acts, that all persons having claims against the estate of the said Rasmus Karlson Odegaard, who died in or about the months of July or August, A. D. 1897, at Dawson, in the Yukon Territory of Canada, are required to send by post, prepaid, or to deliver to The Ottawa Trust and Deposit Company (Limited), administrators of the above estate, at the address below given, on or before the 10th day of March, A. D. 1900, their names, addresses and descriptions and a full statement of particulars of their claims and the nature of the security (if any) held by them, duly certified, and that after the said day the undersigned, administrators, will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which they shall then have notice.

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Gold Commissioner's Court.

No lawsuits nor disputes are being tried in the gold commissioner's court today.

Yesterday afternoon, a decision was rendered by Commissioner Senkler in the case of McManus vs. Northrup. The property affected is the hillside claim, right limit, adjoining portions of Nos. 2 and 3, Magnet gulch. The judgment is as follows:

"The plaintiff staked the ground, in dispute, on August 10th, 1898, and applied for record within the prescribed time, but was told he would

have to have a survey of the ground made. The plaintiff's claim, as staked, conflicts with two properties, one of which was staked by the defendant and the other subsequently purchased by him. The two properties were staked on August 25th, 1898, and a survey being made, grants were issued. It appears from the evidence that the plaintiff did not have his claim surveyed as he was told to do upon making application for a record, and this protest was not brought for 15 months after defendant's locations had been staked. Both parties are in the same position as far as their locations being fractional is concerned, as McManus' location conflicts with the Crouch claim, a prior location. Considerable work has been done upon the properties, ample to show the ground is fairly valuable. The plaintiff should not only have had his ground surveyed within a reasonable time as directed, but should have brought his protest promptly, upon ascertaining that the defendant had acquired his property. I do not think he is entitled to this property against the defendant on account of his lateness in bringing protest. Plaintiff's case is dismissed."

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