

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.

MAIL MATTERS.

P. C. Richardson, the man to whom so many of us feel we owe so much of the anxiety we have experienced the last few months because of our utter isolation from those loved ones we left behind us in the various parts of the American continent, is reported by Jake Kline and the Northwest mounted police to be progressing slowly Dawsonward with about 3000 pounds of delayed mail matter. He is expected to arrive here on one of the first steamboats in the spring. Mr. Kline, writing from Skaguay, says that the aforesaid Richardson was averaging between four and five miles a day. Five N. W. M. P. dog teams were dispatched from Dawson some weeks ago with prompt instructions to the various police posts between here and Bennett to make a "clean up" of all inward bound mail and bring it to its destination with all dispatch. Those who are familiar with the workings of the Northwest mounted police force will realize at once what that "rush" order meant. Every effort was made by the police at the other end of the route to get Richardson's men to relinquish their loads to the care of the better equipped semi-military body which is the one creditable feature of this otherwise illy governed and God-forsaken land. The police reports to Colonel Steele show that nothing would induce this graceless whelp of a contractor to hand over the mailsacks, with the result that he and his men are at this moment floundering around in the snowstorms of the lakes while the mail secured at Bennett by the police has passed him and has already been distributed to the home-hungry people of Dawson and the Klondike.

P. C. Richardson's idea, in hanging onto the few mailsacks now in his possession is to lend the appearance of honest effort to his claim to having really tried to get the mail in as per his contract with the United States government. With the resumption of steamboat travel in the summer he purposes sending down whatever of the mail comes to his hands at cheap freight rates and then will put in his claim to Uncle Sam for the \$34,000 which he will pretend to be entitled to as per his contract. He depends upon the United States government's utter ignorance of this country and its opportunities for fair mail service for the granting of his bill, and has no anticipation of anyone here making it his business to enter a protest at this grant of money without due value received. To prove that a regular mail service is not only feasible but may reasonably be expected of this blundering and snow-bound Richardson, we have only to point to the mail service maintained at first for the officials and now for the general public by the police. Letters mailed in Seattle January 12th arrived here on February 10th, because in some way the mail failed to fall into the baneful hands of P. C. Richardson. The inference is plain; if Richardson and his contract had fortunately fallen into the bay at Skaguay last November, with the possible intervening of a month

or six weeks during the freeze up we might have been hearing from our homes all winter. We call upon the American consul at this place to note these things and to advise his government of the duplicity of the fictitious effort of P. C. Richardson to fulfill his contract.

LUCILLE ELLIOTT GETS HER CLAIM.

The appealed case, locally known as the 34-17 Dominion affair, has been settled at last and a decision handed down which gives the disputed piece of ground to Andrew Nelson and Lucille Elliott, as against Andrew Donnelly, H. A. Fairchild, Alex. McDonald and R. Morrison, who appealed against Mr. Fawcett's decision in the case. The decision appears to us to give substantial justice to all concerned, though at the same time very much in the nature of a compromise, for the defeated claimants are given a first lien upon the claim for \$8,000.

The facts as given in the review of the case by the minister of the interior appear to be that one Blade staked No. 34 below the upper discovery, on Dominion, on June 12th, 1897. Nelson and Elliott are the assignees of the said Blade. Under the regulations then in force Blade was secured in possession of the ground for 60 days before he need record. Before the expiration of the 60 days, however, Donnelly came up from the lower discovery and staked the same ground as No. 17 above lower discovery and proceeded to record it, the certificate of record being granted in all innocence at the gold commissioner's office where there was of course no record yet of Blade's doings on the creek. At the expiration of 61 days Blade appeared and recorded, the oneness of the ground not appearing owing to the dissimilarity of the numbers. In the suit which ensued before the gold commissioner, Mr. Fawcett, held that Donnelly secured his certificate while the ground, under the regulations was not open to location, being held under the 60-day exemption clause, and therefore awarded the claim to the assignees of Blade. In the decision just received from Ottawa the ground is taken that Donnelly's staking while the ground had actually been staked by another, was illegal; that the certificate of record obtained by him was obtained by false representations—though probably unintentionally—as before securing that certificate the applicant had to declare that it was vacant Dominion grounds at the time, which the evidence shows it was not. This is declared to adversely dispose of the case of the appellants.

As for the matter of Blade not recording for 61 days when the limit of the regulations was 60 days, the minister decides that that is a matter purely between Blade and the crown. Mr. Fawcett, as the representative of the crown, had decided to overlook that slip of one day, and the minister saw no good reason to overrule him as the appellants would receive no additional rights thereby. However, as this irregularity in the recording had evidently encouraged the appellants into the prosecution of this expensive suit, they are given a first lien upon the ground as staked, for \$8,000, which will be seen to be in the nature of a penalty to Blade, or his assignees, for that one day's slip in recording.

WHY CAPITAL LEAVES US.

It seems somewhat odd that the boats last summer should have taken at least seven millions of dollars out from Dawson where money is scarce at from five to ten per cent a month, and have taken it to the states and provinces where money rules at from four to eight per cent per year. There will be no need of inviting foreign capital if we can ever persuade the capital already here to remain with us. What moneyed men think of Dawson opportunities is well exemplified by the rapidity with which every man removes his last dollar from here just as quick as the river opens. It appears as if he were afraid his money was not safe from over taxation until he had reached civilization with it, either in the states or the eastern provinces of Canada. Capitalists will fight shy of a

section which blatantly invites them to come and invest when at the same time the laws are so unstable and oppressive that the height of every man's ambition is to get out of the country with his money as quickly as he can. In a country like this one would expect a kindly government to do all in its power to make up by gracious legislation for the hardships we endure and the deprivations which are ours. The policy which has made England the greatest colonial power on earth is one of concession of authority to and maternal concern in those colonies. Their prosperity is reflected in her own mercantile greatness and any unrest and dissatisfaction she regards as a sore spot upon her own body politic to be treated at once with remedies as heroic as the case warrants.

A SUGGESTION.

The decision in the Lucille Elliott case, given elsewhere, raises the question in one's mind whether or not a claim should be recorded for anyone until the expiration of the full limit of time allowed by the regulations between staking and recording. The law, as it stands, is well known to all; ten days and an additional day for each ten miles the ground is from the recording office. For illustration we will take a supposititious piece of ground at a distance which would allow a man 13 days before recording became necessary. The prospector stakes it and takes the privilege of the full 13 days before applying for his certificate. Six days after being staked by the first man it is staked by a second individual who proceeds at once to obtain a certificate and gets it. As we well know, in innumerable cases the first staker is met at the office with a blank refusal to record, as the ground has already been secured to someone else, and goes away from the office a sadder and a suspicious man. Were the full limit of time enforced, as suggested, the first staker would have put in his appearance at the office six days before the second.

The decision of Captain Starnes in the recent case of a miner shooting a dog escaping from his cache with a side of bacon was undoubtedly correct, yet it opens up quite a vista of possibilities and questions. It will be remembered that the testimony was that the miner was being annoyed by the thefts of a strange dog. The dog chewed a way into his cache and was shot dead as stated. The man was fined \$25 and costs besides paying \$75 for the dog, and received a lecture about taking the law into his own hands, etc. A point we would raise is that if a man was shot under the same circumstances the shooter would probably be justified under the law, a great difference in favor of a dog. A man caught burglarizing after dark can be shot if he fails to drop his plunder at command, but not so a mongrel malamute. A malamute is just as "foxy" in his thefts as a pickpocket and gives every evidence of being morally conscious of the wrong he is committing so that it cannot be argued that he doesn't know any better. Of course a man can hang his bacon beyond the dog's reach for we have yet to hear of the native canine which can climb a pole.

There are an increasing number of children in Dawson of school age, and though it does one good to observe them playing in the snow and growing fat as pigs from the fresh air and exercise, the fact remains that as far as education goes, most of them are growing up little heathens. The coming summer will see a large increase in our juvenile population and we hope to see due provision made for their schooling. There are plenty of trained teachers in our midst and it is just a matter of will or won't with our rulers.

Yukon Hydraulic Mining.

OTTAWA, Dec. 2. The government has issued new regulations governing hydraulic mining in the Yukon country. The conditions upon which concessions of territory carrying alluvial gold will be granted are these: Provided, first, that concessions shall

be in extent from one to five miles along the valleys and beds of creeks or rivers, and shall not exceed one mile in length.

Concessions which may be hereafter granted under these regulations shall be allotted under certain set conditions and only after due advertisement and public tender. Exception is made, however, in the case of those parties who have already made application to the minister of the interior for territory which they have prospected and proved in Yukon. Concessions granted to such parties are exempted from the foregoing requirements, as well as from the regulations as to fees to be paid thereon to the government.

Fees which must be paid upon concessions hereafter granted are at the rate of \$150 annually per mile frontage. A royalty upon the output is also to be contributed the same as is required of the ordinary placer miner (at present 10 per cent.), but the royalty is only assessable upon so much of the output as may be in excess of \$25,000.

Holder of concessions will be required to do work upon their properties equivalent to an expenditure of \$5,000 per year.

Another clause provides that upon issue of a grant, the party to whom it is given must undertake to commence mining operations within one year.

An applicant for a hydraulic mining grant must establish that he has actually been upon the ground applied for that he has prospected it, and that he is a bona fide miner. These facts are to be set forth in a certificate to that effect, signed by the administrator of the Yukon district. A further certificate is required stating that the area applied for has not already been taken up, and is of such a character that it cannot be profitably worked by the ordinary methods of placer mining.

Would Stop the Sale.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Oct. 25. Proceedings in a suit which involves a million dollars were begun here today.

Robert Anderson and Samuel Lichtenstadter, South African miners, started to the Klondike as partners in 1897. Anderson reached there first and secured a hydraulic lease for a strip of land two and a half miles in length beside Hunker creek. When his partner, who was delayed on the Yukon river, appeared, Anderson refused to recognize his claim to any share of it. Anderson floated a company in London with \$2,500,000 capital, and was to receive a million when the deal was closed.

Lichtenstadter arrived here yesterday, having come down on the City of Seattle. He applied for an injunction to restrain Anderson from receiving any money on the property. The application was refused.

Lichtenstadter leaves on Saturday with his solicitor, D. G. MacDonnell, to fight the case out in London, where Anderson now is.

50c Buys the BEST Meal in Dawson AT THE Rainier House Clean and Commodious Bunk House in connection with Water Front opp. A. C. Co. F. W. Arnold, Manager.

THE Nugget Express

E. C. ALLEN, Mgr.

Dog Teams Leave Daily For Eldorado and Bonanza Creeks.

Next Trip

to the Outside

On or About March 1st.

For Hunker, Dominion and Sulphur on every Wednesday Morning.

ORDERS may be left at the Forks Office, or at Main Office in the Phoenix.

THE WATER-FRONT

A Letter From C. Convey

The Case of Dr. Evidence—Well The Case not a Re

The trial of the case Bourke vs. Morrison, water front was concluded on Thursday. Woodworth opening for the plaintiff and the testimony show last, leased a portion of the water front, three feet wide and extended to the river bank, the balance of the river bottom being until November and Mr. Grottschier with the lessees, executed a deed to Frank Hagen, given to Constable S. seized plaintiff's bulldozer. About seven days' distress, however, as the former had plaintiff thereupon a distress and argued was to this effect: There is no land there and the ground to the made while the sun was during the show the back part of the wood were not of the building is not that the re had been second distress was officer threatened to appraisal by the selected an excessive did not give sufficient the banks of the river the purposes of navigation. The attorney also letter from Constable Bourke, written by original survey of 1897, which is claim bearing on the whole in that it specifies the river bank, according the river bank, registration. After explanation to make the survey streets not less than Ogilvie said in the l

"In making my survey I found in connection with the water front, a small parcel of land, which was found necessary to make it a continuous parcel. On account of the river, as it would be a street line conforming to the front. For a distance of 66 feet, more than 66 feet in width 30 feet. * * * operations were done I apprehend, but of that portion of the over ground that I my points where the

On the basis of the subject, Attorney V. Nelson & McDonald the water front, as cannot be leased. hearing of the letter versy of last summer. Messrs. Pattullo objected to the evidence, as a tena the title of the land accepted, subject to held that it would employ in this country when there is libiting seizures and sunrise.

At the conclusion

took the matter un

Creek Collis

Colonel Steele is popular member of the view to improving to establish what "lection" on the cre he issued notifying they can now come as mailing offices stamped or unstam stated times by the 27th of each month licensed houses on the 12th and 24th vicinity on the 14th will bring the let the post-office wi in time for the re 1st and 15th of e

Oath Judge Dugas ga the territorial cou right of a witness form of oath pres out of the case of plaintiff had refus ground that he is inclined to believe mistaken and a mad pertinent on e making an eleque of conscience. A Judge Dugas anno