

## MINING COMMITTEE REPORT

Passed After Much Discussion and Slight Alterations.

Size of Claims Will Be Fixed Later—Two Per Cent on Net Output Is Sufficient Royalty.

(From Thursday's Daily)

The meeting of the Board of Trade adjourned from the 7th instant was continued last night with Second Vice-President Vemans in the chair. The report of the committee on mines and mining was taken up where it was left off at the previous session, section 19, the previous sections being passed over hurriedly with the exception of clauses seven and ten, which were discussed for two hours when the former clause was turned over to Attorney Woodworth for reconstruction. Clause ten, regarding the shape, size, base, rimrock, level and various other features of a claim came in for discussion in which Messrs Woodworth, Wilcoxon, Gates, Olson, Alex McDonald, Condon and Tezler took part. Fritz Kloke, the first white man who ever saw the Klondike country, gave it as his opinion that the present law governing locations, metes and bounds of claims is good enough and that there would be no likelihood of securing a change even if such change be recommended by the board. Motion of Condon, seconded by Woodworth, section 10 was adopted, leaving the metes and bounds of claims vacant to be supplied later, which portion of the clause was referred back to the committee. That portion of the report striking out the present mining law clause giving to the crown every alternate ten claims was adopted. After considerable discussion all clauses up to 30 were adopted with the corrections and omissions above mentioned.

When the royalty clause was reached Attorney Woodworth spoke forcibly at length on the flagrant injustice of the present law which demands royalty on the gross returns. He stated that the present law is driving from the mining business the operators now here. He moved that it be recommended that the royalty be fixed at 5 per cent on the net output in case royalty is at all imposed. Alex McDonald thought 2 per cent, the rate charged elsewhere, was sufficient. Mr Woodworth thought Canadians were glad to have alien claim in and develop their country and that the only class objected to is Chinese. He thought there might probably be some gratters in the Dominion but that they did not voice the sentiment of the masses of the Canadian people. The question of 5 per cent royalty was amended to recommend that the royalty be placed at 2 per cent of the net output, which amendment was adopted.

The clause governing prospecting claims was referred back to the committee for correction, it being suggested that the committee incorporate that the prospector be required to do work underground to the amount of \$200 before he be allowed to abandon his claim without forfeiture of his rights to further prospect and locate in that particular district. The remainder of the report as previously published was adopted, with the exception that clauses 31 and 32 be repealed, and that it be added to the report that in case of death of a mine owner his mining property be handled by the deceased's duly selected administrator or executor the same as his other property.

Midnight having come and gone, a motion to adjourn for one week carried without a hesitating vote.

### Mr. and Mrs. Dick Lowe.

Under the heading "Romance of the Klondike," a Chicago paper produces the following:  
"Richard R. Lowe, a Klondike millionaire, and his wife, who nine days ago was Miss Virgie Graves, who had played ingenue parts in the Olga

Nethersole, Frohman, and Daly companies, are at the Auditorium Annex on their way to New York city. The news of their marriage, which took place on Dec. 21 in California came as a surprise. It took place secretly at a hotel in Oakland, just across the bay from San Francisco, and Mrs. Lowe says that she is ready to renounce the theatrical profession and accompany her husband to the Klondike, where the foundation of his fortune was laid.

Mrs. Lowe is a Southern woman. She has already made two trips to the Klondike, and considers herself well acclimated to the country. Her husband, Richard Lowe, is a rugged type of the Klondike miner, and has been a resident of Alaska since 1885, before the renowned Captain Healy went to that region. However, he got there only in the spring of the year that Captain Healy arrived, so that the difference in the time is not great.  
"I have been to the Klondike by two routes," said Mrs. Lowe yesterday, "and now Dick and I are going there by the third route, over the ice next time. We expect to start some time in February, and will leave Seattle with the dog team. I don't suppose I shall ever go on the stage again, but of course my husband will decide that question. I don't care much about that, though, or I like the Klondike as a place of residence, and know what I am talking about, for I have already been there twice."

### The Ketchikan District.

For the past year or so infrequent reports have reached Dawson respecting the mineral wealth of the country surrounding Ketchikan, Alaska. Recently Mr. Gus Baake, received a letter dated January 22d, from a friend in Juneau regarding the district. It says:

"Ketchikan is about 100 miles below Fort Wrangel. There is a quartz vein there, and over 400 claims have been recorded already, and one mill has been erected. Indeed, quite a town is located there now. Ex Governor Swinford of Alaska, is the recorder. The rush was started by the finding of \$13,000 worth of ore in one pocket."

In speaking of Juneau and vicinity, Mr. Baake's correspondent says:

"Juneau is very dull; but everyone expects good times next spring. The treadwell company are employing over a thousand men, and there are five mills operating on the island. Richard has been struck at Sandum. The Bald Eagle and the Sandum Chief are abnormally rich. Ore is being hoisted from these mines which runs as high as \$1000 to the car. Last night it was reported that the Bald Eagle had struck ore which assays \$7000 to the ton. Charles Reynolds and William Wright hold their claims on Prince Edward's stand for \$200,000. Jim Birch will start a dance hall at Ketchikan."

### Dawson's Late Fire.

The following special telegram from Tacoma, Wash., appeared in the Chicago Inter-Ocean of January 17th:

A large part of the business portion of Dawson City was burned last Wednesday night. The loss exceeds \$500,000 according to a brief dispatch received at Skagway on Wednesday night. The steamer Farallon, which brought the news, left Skagway before the details were received. Much suffering followed the fire, as the temperature at Dawson was 40 degrees below zero with a high wind blowing.

To make matters worse, the city has been entirely without a regular water supply for two weeks. The city mains were hurriedly put in two years ago, and have worn out in many places. In consequence the pumping plant was shut down about Christmas, leaving the city dependent upon its old method of hauling water from the Yukon river.

Between Dec. 1 and 20 eighteen fires occurred at Dawson, caused by overheated stoves. Wednesday night's fire was stated to be under control when the steamer left Skagway.

Carbon paper for sale at the Nugget office.

## VICTOR ET AL. VS. BUTLER

Now Being Tried in the Territorial Court.

The Action Involves the Title to a Very Valuable Claim on Gold Hill.

The case of Thomas Victor, Hugh Murray and L. F. Hastings, plaintiffs, vs. Addie Butler, defendant, is now on trial before Justice Dugas, in the territorial court. The action involves the title of very valuable mining ground on Gold Hill.

The plaintiffs allege that July 5th, 1898, Thomas Victor staked a certain claim, 100 feet wide and 200 feet long, on Gold Hill; that a grant was issued; that the ground was properly surveyed by L. Bolton; that in December, 1898, Thomas Victor sold to Hugh Murray and L. F. Hastings a one third interest each; that in October, 1898, Addie Butler, defendant, trespassed upon said claim, and that the defendant by misrepresentation to the gold commissioner, secured a grant for a portion of said claim. The plaintiffs pray that they be declared the owners of said claim and that the defendant be permanently enjoined from entering upon the same.

The defendant, in answering the plaintiffs' allegations, asserts that Thos Victor, in order to secure a grant for the ground which he had staked on July 5th, 1898, misrepresented to the gold commissioner the exact description of the claim. The defendant alleges that on January 25th, 1898, one Arthur Mensing made and recorded a location, particularly described as the bench claim on the right bank of Skookum in the fourth tier from Bonanza, and in the eighth tier from Skookum gulch; that Mensing failed to perform the required work for representation; that she relocated said claim as soon as Mensing's right thereto had expired, namely, on October 26th, 1898; and that on November 10th, 1898, she received from the government a grant for said claim. The defendant further alleges that the ground staked by Thos. Victor, on July 5th, 1898, includes a portion of the original Mensing claim, which did not become open for relocation until said 26th day of October, 1898. The defendant prays that Victor's location, insofar as it interferes with the Mensing claim, be declared void, and that she, by reason of legal relocation, be declared the owner of said Mensing claim.

The trial of the case was commenced on Tuesday afternoon, and it will probably be Friday before all the evidence is submitted. The facts, over which the present action arose, were fully explained, over a year ago by the Nugget; and everyone familiar with the issue is anxiously awaiting the outcome of the lawsuit now pending.

### Tonight's Entertainment.

All arrangements have been completed for the benefit entertainment tonight which bids fair to be one of the best of the season. Already a large number of tickets have been sold and there is no doubt but that the Palace Grand will be packed to its full capacity.

The entertainment will begin at 8 o'clock sharp, as the use of the theater can be had only until 10:30.

### Comforts for Cape Nome.

San Francisco, Cal., Jan. 27.—The new mining camp of Cape Nome, under the arctic circle, will start the spring with the appliances of civilization and the most modern mining apparatus. It will have a telephone system, electric light, and electric mining machinery. Articles of incorporation of the Cape Nome Electric Light and Telephone Company were filed today. The incorporators are residents of Nome City and local capitalists.

Charles S. Rosener, one of the number and an attorney of Nome, said "Capital,

especially New York and English capital, is invested heavily in Alaska, and considerable San Francisco money will go up in the spring. Our company will erect at Nome City a modern electrical plant, with sufficient capacity to supply the town with lights and the beach and tundra lands with electric power.

"We shall also install at Nome a telephone system and connect the town by telephone with the adjacent mines, and with Port Clarence, Cape York, Port Safety, Council City, Golovin Bay, and St Michael."

Rosener predicts an immense rush to the new gold fields, not only from this and the Eastern coast, but from all points in Southeastern Alaska and on the Yukon river, estimating the population of Nome City next summer at 40,000.

### Pictures on the Wall.

On the wall to the right of the door of the Dawson postoffice is an array of from 50 to 100 photographs and pictures which tell the silent story of husband and father in the Klondike and mother and children back at the old home. These pictures have all arrived by mail, but owing to their being insufficiently wrapped or to rough handling of the mail bags, the wrappers containing the addresses are torn off and lost, and on their reaching the postoffice there is no way of knowing for whom they are intended. The picture of many a "papa's boy" and petted daughter are on the wall in the postoffice today, and in some instances where the father has been here for two years or more he might look on the picture of his own child in the array and not recognize it. How many of those pictures, could they find the father or husband for whom they were intended, would cheer the solitude of log cabins where they would be gazed upon in loving adoration by those who perhaps are now cursing the loved ones "back home" for not sending their pictures which for weeks perhaps months, have been posted on the wall of the local postoffice with the hope that they may be seen and recognized by the one for whom they were intended.

People here who have been expecting pictures from home and who have not received them, will do well after having read the above to call at the postoffice and take a "rubber" at the pictures on the wall. Perhaps they may recognize what they have long and patiently awaited.

### POLICE COURT.

In Major Perry's court this morning J. H. Crowley was up on the charge of being drunk and of disturbing the peace at the Aurora last night where the arresting officer said he was interfering with the games. Crowley had no recollection of having been in any way offensive, but cheerfully paid a fine of \$10 and trimmings.

The experience of F. R. Mason as a dog dealer has not been conducive to peace of mind on his part. Sometime in December he invested \$1400 in nine dogs, purchasing them from various parties, one from a man named Geo. Banks who gave a bill of sale with the dog. It turned out later that the dog was not owned by Banks, but was the property of a man by the name of La Rue. The latter went and recovered his dog, and it was to see as to who is entitled to the animal that Mason was in court this morning. But no trial was held, it being evident that La Rue is the rightful owner. Banks, who sold the dog, has departed for pastures new.

Suit was entered by A. B. Llewellyn against Bigelow Bros. & Romaker for \$405 for wages alleged to be due for labor performed on claim 46 on Eldorado. The case will come up for hearing Monday afternoon. Patrick Whalen instituted suit against Dr. Thompson for \$288, labor performed on a mining claim operated by the latter; trial set for Tuesday morning.

The three men Yakshaw, Zimeran and Krusner who were implicated with John Dickerson in the robbing of a scow at Halfway post on the Yukon river, to which charge Dickerson plead guilty and is now serving a six months' sentence, were brought into court yesterday afternoon and after being handed a severe warning were discharged.

1900 calendars, very swell. Nugget office.