

THE KLONDIKE NUGGET.

VOL. 2 No 18

DAWSON, Y. T., SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1899

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ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Information From Many Sources Upon Many Vexed Questions.

Some of Fawcett's Tangles Untangled—Gold Commissioner's Rulings—What Constitutes Hillside and Bench—Rights in the Country.

The correspondence of the Nugget from all parts of the district has grown to be voluminous, and not a small part of it is in the way of requests for information, which has been given privately as requested. However, the following queries are of a public nature, and the answers to some of them have been secured directly from the gold commissioner, Mr. Senkler, who courteously granted us an interview for that purpose:

1. Ques. Is the gold commissioner acting in a dual capacity, viz., that of gold commissioner and recorder?

Ans. Yes. Messrs. Bolton, Craig and Hurdman are simply subordinates or deputies, for whose acts the gold commissioner is largely responsible.

2. Ques. Is there a new mining recorder of experience, with qualified assistants appointed?

Ans. No.

3. Ques. Are any of the late gold commissioner's and recorder's assistants now in the recording office?

Ans. Yes, excepting Cotley, who has lately taken to field surveying again. It is claimed that the records at the office are in such a state of confusion that none but the present incumbents of the recording office could ever disentangle them. Notwithstanding the total loss of public confidence in the present incumbents of the office, it is deemed expedient and in the interests of the public that the men be retained pending the booking of the records, as it is now being done.

4. Ques. When any new prospects are found will it be safe for a miner, on going to the recording office, to disclose the particulars without being "hoo-dooed"?

Ans. Decidedly no, unless your disclosures are made directly to the gold commissioner, Mr. Senkler, who has given orders that discoveries be at once reported to him. Immediately upon securing the find to the discoverer, public notices are posted up in the outer office and sent to the papers. Publicity is found to be the very best safeguard against fraud.

5. Ques. Will assistant recorders be stationed at suitable distances outside of Dawson?

Ans. No. Inspectors are now at the Forbs, and will shortly be stationed at Dominion and other places. They are to be empowered to take affidavits of application, which will act as a certificate of record until the parties can reach town.

6. Ques. Will there be presented and distributed copies of the mining laws which now exist, and the rules and regulations which have existed and which may hereafter be made?

Ans. Free copies of the present mining regulations can now be obtained of the inquiry clerk upon application, until the supply runs out. It is the intention of the government to supply all miners with a copy of the regulations to date.

7. Ques. Do the rules and regulations allow mining claims to be staked by proxy?

Ans. No. Must be staked in person.

8. Ques. Can any free miner stake 62 or more claims at one time?

Ans. There is nothing in the regulations to prevent any one person staking a thousand, though only one can be recorded in a division. There is no penalty for staking.

9. Ques. Can any free miner, if not a lady, procure a list of unrecorded or improperly staked ground at the recording office without giving some consideration?

Ans. We believe not. The information contained in the records is by a popular fiction presumed to be public; but really is not so. Such a list as you describe, you are entitled to but will not be given you. The clerks are still preparing such lists for friends; but the consideration is not known. You will, probably, have to give an interest or money or both, to secure such a list. The principle appears to be that the information contained in the records is for the private gain of officials. Amongst the plans for the future is a larger building, more clerks and a set of books for the public.

10. Ques. Have ladies greater rights and privileges, by virtue of their free miners certificates than free miners who are men? Are the laws of the land discriminating or is it only a local custom?

Ans. The preference heretofore given to women in public offices and elsewhere has been a simple outgrowth of custom in a land where women were as scarce as baby's teeth. Observation will show you that the advent of more women has done much to bring the custom you speak of into disuse.

11. Ques. Are ladies exempted from working their claims by the employment of labor?

Ans. No. Claims held by women must be worked as if held by men.

12. Ques. Is this Klondike camp one mining district or is it cut up into divisions, and if so, how many, and for what reasons?

Ans. The Yukon Territory has, for the sake of convenience, been divided into four mining districts: The Tagish, Pelly, Stewart and Dawson districts. Its Tagish district extends

from the British Columbia line to Tagish post. The Pelly district extends from there to within 60 miles of the Stewart. The Stewart district extends from a point 60 miles above its mouth to Henderson creek, though not including the latter stream. The Dawson district extends from Henderson, including that stream, to the American boundary line. Gold has been found in but two of the districts—Dawson and Stewart. In the case of the Stewart district each large tributary of the Stewart, the Yukon or other stream has been decided at Ottawa to be a separate division. In the case of the Dawson district the former gold commissioner ruled that each stream emptying into the Yukon, together with all its tributaries was a distinct division.

13. Ques. Can a miner legitimately hold a claim in each division of the district at one and the same time by pre-emption?

Ans. Yes; not to exceed four in each district. For illustration, the Klondike and its tributaries being one division, one claim can be staked and held, Henderson being another of the Dawson district, another can be taken there. And so with Indian and Nipemile. Having then exhausted his four rights the miner could not stake, even if Enslay turned out richer than Eldorado. In the Stewart district a miner could take up one claim on Black Hills, one on Scroggie, one on Thistle and one on McQuestion, but would then have exhausted his rights.

14. Ques. Are reservations of fractions and percentage of claims still in operation?

Ans. Yes. All fractions are by order from Ottawa reserved to the crown. There has been a great difference in the ruling of gold commissioners as to what constitutes a fraction. Mr. Fawcett often allowed employees to record ground which was only one-tenth of a full claim. The present incumbent is more particular, and a fraction must be nearly the size of a full claim and nearly square to be recorded. The reservation of alternate blocks of ten claims is still in effect.

15. Ques. Is it a felony or a misdemeanor to alter, take out, destroy or otherwise tamper with stakes?

Ans. Not necessarily. The regulations provide that the alteration or moving of a stake "with the object of changing the boundary" is a serious and punishable offense. This, of course, only applies to recorded claims.

16. Ques. Is the present confusion resulting from numbering claims to be abated by naming claims in the future?

Ans. We do not anticipate any change. Bench claims, today, are practically located by the name of adjacent claim owners, as "bounded on the east by the Jones claim, on the west by the Smith claim, etc. etc."

17. Ques. Will it be necessary for persons owning five, ten, fifteen or sixty-two claims at one time in the district, to work them continuously in a workmanlike manner, some time during the year?

Ans. This is an important question, and we are glad you asked it. The regulations are well known to require a miner to "represent" or work upon his claim for three months in each year. The ruling of the gold commissioner is that if Smith, Jones and Brown each own consecutive claims upon any creek, they will file partnership papers in the three claims, they may then proceed to work one of those claims for three months with three men, or for nine months with one man; and obtain renewals upon all three claims. In the case of Smith and Brown owning one claim, and Smith and Jones another, Smith is a partner in both claims, while Brown and Jones are not, hence both claims must be worked. Claims must be adjacent and owned by the same parties.

18. Ques. Are the bench claims, or portions thereof, which have been taken from their owners and given to creek claim owners, to be restored to them?

Ans. Not if they have been awarded to the creek claims legally. Boundary disputes between creek and bench claims are destined to consume the time of several courts for years to come. It is only just now that the full evils of the regulation boundaries are becoming fully apparent. A decision cannot be given in a general way. If you will submit a specific instance with the necessary dates, etc., we can decide it for you.

19. Ques. Has the gold commissioner the power to interpret laws passed by the legislature, and to add or subtract clauses at his discretion?

Ans. His duties are to interpret the regulations. His powers to add or subtract clauses is no greater than that of you or others. In interpreting the laws he cannot depart from a clearly laid down principle, though in an obscure clause, which may be capable of two interpretations, his judgment is his only guide, so that in effect he may appear to those who have read a disputed regulation another way, to be really making a new law. The duties of a gold commissioner place so many powers in his hand for weal or woe, that it is always

essential that we have not only an honest man in that position but a competent one also. Mr. Fawcett has in several instances arrogated to himself a law-making power which was not his.

20. Ques. Is it obtaining money under false pretenses when the gold commissioner recorder takes away a claim from a miner after receiving from him the recording fee of \$15?

Ans. It is an unfortunate fact that Canadian law books are filled with ways for the government to gather in money from the people, and little or no provision is ever made for restoring moneys wrongfully collected. This enables such men as Thomas Fawcett to take advantage of even their own mistakes for the profit of the government, as in cases we know of where two innocent parties are both allowed to stake and record the same claim through a mistake of the office, and though neither precipitated the contest, the \$15 from both was retained.

21. Ques. If a hillside is a succession of benches and a miner stakes a hillside claim of a thousand feet instead of the 250-foot bench, can a prospector stake a bench claim within the boundary of the said hill claim?

Ans. As a rule, no. The ruling upon this point is explicit and clear. Though the hillside may rise by a succession of steps, as you describe, if it is a continuous water shed it can be staked a thousand feet. By watershed is meant that all the water upon it shall run down toward the creek to which the claim is tied. If the thousand feet reaches over the brow of the hill to where water turns and runs away from the claim, then the line is at the highest point of continuous ascent.

REGULATIONS.

LOCAL BREVITIES.

Important letters are awaiting Anderson & Nelson at Canadian Bank of Commerce.

Molly Gleim is confined to the Anglo-American hospital, where she will be subjected to an operation.

Thomas Jackson has sold his claim in Monte Christo gulch to Messrs. Schneider, Kirk and Trabold, the consideration being \$8,000.

A burning chimney in a Second avenue cabin called out the fire department Thursday night, making two runs for the week.

Mr. Estby, of 33 Eldorado, was able to return to his claim and business duties during this week, after a rather serious illness.

Ame Ameson, of Magnet gulch, fell down a shaft this week and fractured one of his arms. The fracture was reduced by Dr. Edwards.

Advices from the outside, of especial interest to sound people, is that Humes has been elected to the United States senate by the Washington legislature.

George Martin, while up from Forty-mile some days ago, purchased a steam engine from A. P. Lester, which he will employ on his claim down the river.

R. M. Henningsen and R. S. Walker left this week for Tacoma; the first named to purchase a stock of merchandise, the other to put a collection of bonded claims on the market.

Mr. Williams, who is interested in one of Hunker's rich benches at 25 below, is convalescent after submitting to an operation, and will be discharged from the Anglo-American hospital this week.

Beginning next Monday morning, the royal investigation will meet at the Pioneer hall instead of at the court house. This was decided upon in order that the work of the territorial court shall not be further impeded.

The next dog team to be sent to the coast by the Nugget Express will leave the main office in the Phoenix on Thursday, March 9, carrying passengers mail and express. Orders may be left there, at the branch office at Grand Forks, or at the office of the Nugget. The most reliable service in existence.

W. E. Press arrived in from Skaguay Friday afternoon with a horse and a heavy load of diversified articles. He was thirty-eight days on the road, and the trip was quite a hard one on the horse, judging from appearances. He reports that one of the horses employed to bring in the big batch of fiddim, which is a few days out, had to be shot, and that the balance of the trip is being made with dogs.

Mail Up and Down River.

On Monday, March 3, Mr. M. A. Mahoney, who has the mail contract, will dispatch two dog teams, carrying mail, for Tanana and all intermediate points along the river. On the same date two teams will start for the coast. Mr. Mahoney's experience in winter traveling is a guarantee of quick and safe delivery of all mail entrusted to his care. Can be seen at Pete McDonald's "Phoenix" any evening.

Services in a Dance Hall.

Mr. Levy, proprietor of the Horse Shoe Dance Hall—formerly the Oatley Sisters—has kindly loaned the Salvation Army his hall again, for a Sunday evening service March 5, at 7:30 p. m.

A large crowd attended the last meeting among whom were a good number of ladies, so we extend the invitation to all. Comfortable seats will be provided.

New Discovery.

In accordance with the recent orders of the new gold commissioner, Mr. Senkler, the following notice has been posted up in the outer office:

"A new discovery is recorded today at this office. The given description is as follows: On the main fork of Sixty-mile creek, about 100 yards up the creek from the mouth, between the outlets of Gold and Miller creeks, and being about fifteen miles from Dawson."

It is a curious fact that the publication of these notices is killing the stampeding business dead. When such information was suppressed at the office, the discoverers would tell select party of friends, and they would whisper it to others in an ever widening circle of information. Each hearer would suppose himself one of a small exclusive circle to be in possession of the news, and the result would be a rush of thousands of people to a point of which they had but the vaguest information, and the chief recommendation of which was that it was being talked of in whispers.

THE WATER-FRONTERS ARE ACTIVE.

Preparing to Serve a Monster Petition on the Government.

Ask That the Use of the Ground for Present Purposes Be Perpetuated—Large Mass Meeting Held.

Occupants of the water-front are on the point of taking an important step to end one feature of the controversy which has agitated their ranks for the past several months. A largely attended mass meeting of interested ones was held Thursday night at the Pioneer restaurant to listen to a report of their committee and talk over the projects. Messrs. Fish and Spring presided while Mr. Hall acted as secretary. As will be remembered, when the late fire swept through the upper portion of the water-front, permission to rebuild was temporarily refused by the commissioner; but the gentleman was finally induced to give his consent with the proviso that occupancy of the ground was to extend only to May 1st next.

The water-fronters now propose to address a monster petition to the government, represented by the commissioner, asking that permanent use of the ground for business purposes be permitted. The petition sets up: First, that the occupants of the water-front have been notified that they, with their buildings and stocks, must vacate the premises; second, that, if compelled to do so at the time specified it will entail much hardship upon them; third, that business has been unexpectedly dull during the winter and many of the occupants will be without means to meet the cost of removal and building operations; fourth, that the present location of the occupants is most conducive to the good health of the town, from a sanitary point of view; fifth, that the water-front is unsuited for any other purpose than that for which it is at present used.

At the meeting last night, a committee, consisting of Messrs. Fish, Gardner, Solid, Spring, Hall, Hamburg and Hamilton reported on the progress being made and stated that the petition had already received the signatures of nearly 2,000 persons, none of whom are occupants of the water-front. The sense of the meeting was that the interests of the movement would be best subserved by a respectful and dignified presentation of the situation and all present seemed to be encouraged by the seeming prospect.

Of course, some talk was indulged in on the rent side of the controversy, it having come to the ears of some that the agent of Morrison & McDonald, through their attorneys, Pattullo, Ridley & Clement, are about to proceed to the collection of arrearages forthwith and by the application of stringent means where opposition is met with; but this has nothing to do with the project above described. Some of the water fronters have paid their rent from the first, others are waiting for the trial of a test case to prove the right of Morrison & McDonald to their lease and others are unable to pay for want of means. One man is in arrears for upwards of \$1,200, while many are back for less, but still large amounts. One business man told a reporter last night that he had not taken in 25 cents in the past two days, while another said that if his choice lay between hanging and paying the back rent he would, of necessity, be obliged to select the gallows. Trial of the Kiefer case is expected to take place before Judge Dugas this month, at which time the second feature of the controversy may be decided definitely.

The water fronters have accumulated the sum of \$300 to defray the incidental expenses of the movement, and vigorously brand as absolutely untrue that the sum of \$1,700, or any other than that one first named, has been raised.

Bates Discharged.

The case of the Queen vs. J. L. Bates, in which defendant was charged with theft and receiving stolen property in connection with Billy Moss, took place before Judge Dugas on Thursday and Friday and resulted in the complete vindication of Mr. Bates. The crown had sought to show that Bates was connected with the robbery of Stauff & Zilly's cache on the night of February 2d, but the evidence produced consisted practically of Constable Skirving's statement that he saw Bates under the sidewalk where a part of the stolen property was and the remarks attributed to him at the time of his arrest. The prosecutor also referred to Bates' other late legal troubles. To offset this, Moss was placed on the stand by the defense and told a strong story that, notwithstanding his own conviction, did Bates' case a great deal of good. Bates also took the stand to explain his whereabouts at the time of Moss' arrest, and denied positively that he ever left his house during the night, or that he left First avenue when he went out to get a drink in the morning.

Moss' story was that upon arriving down town on the morning of the 3d he was hired by a stranger to haul some loaded sleds to Bates' restaurant and asked Bates to help. Bates replied that he knew nothing of the goods and did not have time to help. Bates testified that he did meet Moss outside the restaurant, but that Moss said nothing about any goods, and did not ask his help.

Atty. Pattullo ably defended Bates.

The Regina Club Hotel Bar is the standard of Dawson in quality.

ARCTIC SAW MILL

UPPER KLONDIKE FERRY.

Stices and Flume Lumber a Specialty.

ALL KINDS OF DIMENSION LUMBER.

LOWEST PRICES IN THE KLONDIKE.

City Agents: *Stauf & Zilly.*

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The Klondike Nugget

(DAWSON'S PIONEER PAPER)
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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.

THE INVESTIGATION.

The almost verbatim report of the extortion trial which was published in our last issue, was a revelation to even the staunchest of our supporters in the battle for good government. The case never having been published, most of our readers were unfamiliar with the facts which we were prevented from publishing in our columns by reason of our given word to the interested parties. The public trial lifted the embargo and the most complete case of malfeasance ever printed in the NUGGET is now flying over the ice in a thousand envelopes to as many quarters of the earth. To foretell that it will be reprinted throughout Canada, with extensive comment, is an easy task. Its effect upon the defenders of the Yukon administration can only be imagined. That such evidence was elicited under the ruling which allows only voluntary testimony concerning events subsequent to August 25th but makes the case the stronger. Our story of the trial is accompanied in the same mailbags to Ottawa with a signed memorial similar to the one quoted in the letters patent, but setting forth the inadequacy of the commission now in session and praying for an investigation, with power to investigate, not with voluntary testimony with the thousand-and-one mental reservations which we always see in the unwilling witness not under oath, testifying upon a matter in which they have a personal interest; but with the power to subpoena witnesses, compel testimony and to imprison, in case of a refusal to answer. As it is now, the investigation from which we had hoped so much has assumed an aspect which has already lost for it the faith of the people for whose benefit it was presumably instigated.

CREEK BOUNDARIES.

There is a question rapidly coming forward for settlement which is going to cause a great many law suits and a great many heart burnings, and that is the creek claim boundary question. It is little use to philosophize and to say that the creek man is entitled to this, that or the other. The fact remains that in the district are over double as many bench men as creek men and after all there should be no question upon any ground other than priority. There is no rule for telling where the end of the creek claim comes in and where the bench commences. It is all very well to point out that the regulations under which the creek claim was staked will give its boundaries; but they don't do it. "From base to base of hill" is just about as inadequate as from "rimrock to rimrock." No two men in the district with diverse interests can ever decide within 20 feet as to the base of the hill. In fact government surveyors with their angles and planes differ as much as laymen upon this all important boundary question. Every day the matter of a definite boundary becomes more and more pressing, and every day more and more bench claim men are forced to suspend

operations while the creek man appropriates the dump. We do not wish to be understood as saying that the disputed ground is not his—far from it—it is probable that as far as possible the regulations are being conscientiously adhered to.

The objection to the whole thing is the indefiniteness of the boundary of a claim which allows a conscientious prospector to come along and stake a neighboring piece of ground in good faith, and after wasting his substance and strength in proving it of value, the boundary question comes up and his mine is appropriated. After two generations of placer mining in Australia, the accumulated wisdom of many years has hit upon a four-stake plan as the only solution of the boundary trouble. The Australians had that there is no more reason why a creek claim should not have a definite side boundary than a bench or hill claim.

A plan hit upon at a meeting of miners up the creeks, called for the discussion of this very matter, was the requiring of the taking up of a square piece of ground of a specified size and enclosed by four stakes, the boundary being a straight line between those stakes. It was suggested that the ground of that size be allowed where you will and at any angle you please. If you want it on one side of the creek, and half hill and half flat, it was yours if you were there first. Whatever may be thought of the plan, it is clear that there would be no boundary disputes.

THE COMING FEVER.

The time of the spring thaw is approaching and the Dawson flat will be found, under the snow, to be covered with the undrained accumulated filth of a six-months winter. Frozen smells will permeate the air, and frozen swill from our thousands of cabins will lie festering in the summer sun. Ten thousand people up the Klondike have unconsciously united to vitiate the aforesaid pure waters of that stream, while the Yukon will be filled for months with the seepage of nearly a thousand miles of rotten moss and muck. The natural consequence of this will undoubtedly be an epidemic of typhoid fever, such as will put even last summer in the shade by comparison. Many of our hardy miners working in sunless drifts along bedrock and buoyed up with glowing anticipations of that delicious moment when they shall be reunited once more to their much loved families, with the means in hand to guarantee them a few of the comforts of life and immunity from any present want, many hundreds of these men we say, are destined to be laid shortly beneath the ever frozen surface of this "land of wealth untold," and their broken families left to the harsh care of strangers, with just a few handfuls of yellow dust to remind them of the man who dared so much for them and who went down in this relentless fight for gold.

It is proposed now by the Yukon Council to have a great ditch dug from the river to the hill, into which numerous transverse ditches can empty themselves. While it is true that this could have been done at a minimum of cost last fall, it is a case of better late than never, and even though the cost of digging such a ditch in winter time will be great, it will enable the first flush of the thaw to carry off much that we dread. But more important than even the drainage is the providing for Dawson of a pure water supply at any cost. Water taken from the near shore of the Yukon has proved itself an aid to the spread of disease, while even the Klondike has lost all hold on popular favor. The spring under the hill back of the hospital has not been protected by a government reservation forbidding the construction of cabins and outhouses within a specified radius, with the result that this summer will see the populous hill above draining itself into the spring and transforming it into a source of danger and a constant menace to the health of the many people who have ever been anxious to use its ice-cold waters even at a cost of fifty cents per gallon.

As a few precautionary measures we

suggest the compulsory use of watertight boxes in all outhouses, with proper inspection and constant renewal. Secondly, the compulsory use of water taken from the opposite side of the Yukon river, if not from even more distant points.

Restaurants, breweries, or other semi-public institutions should not for one moment be allowed to disseminate the germs of death.

THE DAWSON TELEGRAPH.

The London papers are full of the floating of the stock for the construction of a telegraph line into Dawson from the outside world. The gravity with which the dignified *Financial News* informs would-be investors that the difficulties of life are not insurmountable to the employees of a wealthy company is somewhat amusing. It will be years before the Cockneys learn that there has not been a day this winter but what men, women and children have traveled from point to point without particular danger to themselves, while for five months in the year the public enemy is the heat, not the cold. The five months of summer would easily permit of the stringing of a wire the length of the Yukon, from the coast to Dawson. The greatest obstacle to a through wire would be found to be the impracticability of stringing a cable underneath intersecting rivers such as the Pelly, Hootanqua and a dozen more. The fact of the matter is that there is every reason to believe that the freezing of the rivers at the bottom would interfere with continuous service, not that freezing would injure the cable, but owing to the odd fashion this anchor ice often has of rising to the top and floating away with the current, in which case it would take the cable with it. A long stretch of wire from island to island from high poles in the air might solve the difficulty in a few instances.

NOT SO COLD AS IT SEEMED.

The first four days of the past week have demonstrated a proposition we have often made, that in the absence of numerous reliable thermometers it would be comparatively easy for stories of extreme cold to originate in this land of continuous low temperatures. A sharp breeze of from eight to ten miles an hour afflicted us continuously for nearly four days and nights, and many men who had hitherto escaped the ravages of Jack Frost succumbed to his ruthless might, and have for days been engaged in doctoring nipped faces and hands for the first time this winter. Thermometers are nowadays quite common, and it took a constant reference to those pink columns of spirit to rid one of the impression that a temperature of at least sixty below was being experienced, while as a matter of fact it was hovering at thirty below, a point some ten to twenty degrees warmer than it has been several times this winter, without any considerable discomfort to the residents here. But for the reassuring presence of the aforementioned thermometers, on many a diary would be noted: "February 27th, Monday, sixty below. Tuesday, 28th, seventy-five below, etc., etc."

UNCLE SAM IN COMMERCE.

The remarkable financial prosperity of the United States last year is a subject of comment throughout the world. The excess of exports over imports was more than double that of the best year the United States has heretofore enjoyed, and this in spite of the prosecution of an international war which would naturally be supposed to act as a dampener upon mercantile enterprise. Nor was this altogether because of phenomenal crops in the States with failures abroad, for the export which showed the greatest advance was not wheat but railway steel which is in no way affected by drought or plentiful rains. The fact is that the United States is awakening to a broader commercial policy than the mere supplying of her own needs, and by virtue of being a direct descendant of the present greatest commercial nation on earth, it is not at all surprising that she makes great strides in international commerce when she starts out to do so. The time

is not so far distant when a loosening of the bonds of protective tariff swaddling clothes may enable this sturdy infant among nations to stretch its clothes and show its proportions.

Quid Vides.

[The would-be funny man of the *Miner-Sun* says in a recent issue that the seven-pound nugget it had announced as being found on Eldorado wasn't a nugget at all, though of course the paragon value it highly.—Ed.]

I heard a tale the other day,
It seemed beyond all bound;
A nugget found outside the post,
When washed weighed seven pounds.
Now do you think the story's true?
Was such a treasure found?
Would you believe it told to you,
E'en if exposed to view—
But it came from the ground?
But would you like to stake a claim,
And find such nuggets just the same?

The stories that are told by men,
To gentle maidens dear,
Are mostly fables; now and then
Such nuggets do appear.
Such "nuggets," e'en when bare to view,
It's often said are "found."
I do not think the story's true—
That it came from the ground.
Yes, I'd like to stake a large claim,
And find such "nuggets" just the same.

An Outside Account of Dawson's Fire.
The *Brooklyn Eagle* tells of our recent catastrophe in the following words:

Miss Doty Mitchell and another lady had some words in the Green Tree saloon in Dawson, the commercial capital of the Klondike, and threw a lighted lamp at her. The flame caught the greasy floor of the temple of an where these two ladies had been dancing, and presently the place was afire. A high wind blowing and the inhabitants turned out a thousand to check the fire, but as Dawson is a suburb this was not possible until the city hall, opera-house, board of health building, postoffice and cotton exchange had been reduced to ashes. There was a steam fire engine, that had not been paid for, in a warehouse, and the public got it out, put it together, melted some water and got up steam just as the fire was over. The loss is half a million, and several families are left out in the cold in a place where it is quite cold. The destruction of the stores with their contents means that clothing and possibly food will be hard to get this winter, and as the ground will be frozen and the winter mills will not be at work it is doubtful if adequate shelter can be provided for all of the Dawsonians before spring. And all this time nobody knows what became of the other lady, who had the lamp thrown at her. As to Miss Mitchell, there are quite a number of opinions about her in the capital, but none of them are good ones, and a proposition to lynch her was received with considerable favor. Ere this she may be under the sod, and the hat may be going around to supply her with ammunition.

Tivoli Theatre and Dance Hall
SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS FOR
Week Commencing Monday, Feb. 27

FRED BREEN
ENWOMEN CHILDREN OATLEY SISTERS GAD WILSON
And 10 Other Specialty Artists

When at Grand Forks stop at the
HOTEL BUTLER
BAR AND CAFE.
MEALS AT ALL HOURS.
Finest of Wines, Liquors and Cigars.
"Nothing is too good for us."
Billy Thomas, Mgr

YOU PLACE THE ORDER

WE DO THE REST

Will make purchases and deliver goods (either express packages or freight) to any claim on the creeks.

HAVE YOU TRIED OUR SERVICE?

Nugget Express

E. C. ALLEN, Manager
MAIN OFFICE—in the "Phoenix"
BRANCH OFFICE—Forks of Eldorado and Bonanza.
Orders may be given any agent or driver of team.

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THE TERRITORIAL ASSIZES.

Dr. McM. Bourke Wins His Water-Front Case.

Two Indians Dead and Two Reprived—Powell Got Six Months—Perjurors Plead Guilty—Illegal Appeals Quashed.

Exceptionally interesting and important is the sessions of the Territorial court, which opened before his lordship Judge Dugas on Wednesday. The criminal calendar is large and above the ordinary in other respects, while the legal trials promise to test the best judgment of the chosen ones.

James and Dawson Nantuck, the two Wood Indians convicted of the murder of a white man on the McIntock river last spring, and who were to have been hanged on Thursday, have again been respited, this time until the fourth day of August.

The criminal calendar was taken up with the introduction of a number of the defendants in the Kentucky creek perjury cases. E. J. Fisher and A. H. Broman pleaded guilty, while Herman Figur, Theo Jones, Sam Kirk and Thomas Boldman all entered pleas of not guilty and elected to be tried by jury.

One of the several cases against Billy Moss, the pugilist—that of stealing some goods from St. Mary's hospital and was sentenced to six months at hard labor.

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governing appeals. It was all done, undoubtedly, in the friendliest of ways and for the general welfare of the bar but the fact that the lessons necessitated adjournment of several cases was a bitter pill to swallow, though it will probably serve to indelibly impress the incident upon the memory of the interested ones and keep them off the shoals on future occasions.

Among the cases was that of Joseph Schwartz, charged with having in his possession liquors with the intention of sale, and those of one Johnson and Curley Carr, charged with vagrancy.

The incident also brought out the fact that, while Judge Dugas is the supreme judicial arbiter in the Yukon territory, a typewritten signature on legal documents will not "pass muster." In one of the appeals set back, Crown Prosecutor Clark had shown that the notice of appeal bore the signature of appellant's attorney in typewriting which, he contended, did not comprise a legal signature. In this he was sustained by the court, who passed some pertinent remarks on the subject.

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S. Y. T. CO. SEATTLE-YUKON TRANSPORTATION CO. STAPLE AND FANCY PROVISIONS, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

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THE FAIRVIEW DAWSON'S FINEST HOTEL. All Modern Improvements.

EL DORADO SALOON. Wines, Liquors and Cigars.

THE PIONEER. BEST GRADES OF SCOTCH AND CANADIAN WHISKIES.

THE AURORA. Wines, Liquors and Cigars.

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The "Monte Carlo". FINEST BAR IN DAWSON.

LOUIS SECKELS. ASSAYER AND ANALYTICAL CHEMIST.

Alaska Exploration Co. LEON, LINDA AND ARNOLD.

YUKON SAW MILL CO. First Quality Matched, Dressed Rustic, Roofing, and Rough Lumber.

There are no takers for the wager that the two men will be dead before the day of execution arrives. Two of the four guilty Indians having already died.

Judge Dugas set a good pace at the opening by delivering his decision in Dr. Isadore McM. Bourke's famous water-front case, trial of which was concluded about a fortnight ago.

James Powell, one of the fellows taken in by the police during their recent raid, pleaded guilty to a charge of stealing some goods from St. Mary's hospital and was sentenced to six months at hard labor.

An interesting legal question arose, with the request of counsel for Joseph Schwartz that the latter's sack of gold dust, seized at the time of his arrest on a charge of attempting to pass dust impregnated with brass filings and which contained \$2,000 (less the brass), be returned to him, the charge having been dismissed.

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YUKON SAW MILL CO. First Quality Matched, Dressed Rustic, Roofing, and Rough Lumber.

RIVAL TELEGRAPH LINES TO DAWSON

May Result in a Speedily Built Line Into Dawson.

Police Regulations Being Enforced at the Summit; But Do Not Affect Atlin Stampeders—Must Have Money and Food.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Jan. 20.—The fight in London, Eng., between two rival telegraph companies who want to string a wire to the Klondike has been watched with much interest here, and it appears that the Canadian, British Columbian & Dawson City Telegraph Company is getting the worst of it. Two letters addressed by Hon. A. C. Blair, minister of railways, to a person whose name is suppressed, but who is presumably Col. Domville, M. P., show that the government has approved of the scheme of the Northern Commercial Telegraph Company. Minister Blair writes one letter, warning the unnamed person that his rival has been interviewing the government for aid, and says: "I mention this so that you may learn what is moving and as an additional reason which may urge you to such activity in the prosecution of your enterprise as is practicable. I told this gentleman very frankly that my department had an understanding with you, and that we were giving you a preference, at least until we were satisfied that you were delaying in pushing work unduly, and I said that upon that point we would not be in a position to form an opinion until next spring."

In another letter Minister Blair says: "I am very much pleased indeed to learn that it is your intention, representing the Northern Commercial Company, limited, to proceed without unnecessary delay with the construction of a telegraph line from the coast to Dawson, to be followed with reasonable dispatch by the laying of a cable or cables to a point of connection with the line on land. The government is extremely desirous that private enterprise should take up this work and that it should be prosecuted without delay, and the needs of the district are such that we believe an enterprise of this nature will be found extremely profitable. You may rely upon receiving the countenance and approval of the government in carrying this enterprise forward to a successful issue."

The "Summit" Regulations.
The following from the Seattle P.-I. shows that the police are thoroughly enforcing the order issued by Colonel Steele some months ago:

The mounted police of the Northwest Territory have again placed the ban on prospectors risking their lives by plunging into the interior without money and with very light outfits. A required outfit of supplies and money must be carried, or the gates of the golden land are shut up tight.

This police regulation saved many lives last year. It also saved the police a great deal of trouble and the government much expense. The police do not object to helping a man who has been unfortunate in losing his supplies, and have helped scores. They do object to prospectors going into the interior with a few hundred pounds of supplies and no money, with the intention of throwing themselves on the charity of the police in case they get stranded.

This year the requirements are rather stiff. In order to go to the Yukon one must have three months' supplies and \$500 in cash, or six months' supplies and \$200. Klondikers who came out past Tagish Post were told by the Captain of Police in charge there that these regulations would be enforced to the letter.

The rule does not apply to prospectors going into the Atlin country. Old time Yukoners, those who have property in the camp and who are returning for the winter are not compelled to show up money and supplies. They are compelled, however, to prove their identity to the satisfaction of the officer in charge.

A Big Mail.
To Mr. M. A. Mahoney are Dawsonites largely indebted for the breaking of the mail blockade brought about by the failure of P. C. Richardson to fulfil his contract. Mr. Mahoney went out over the ice last fall, and his departure was duly chronicled in these columns. Of immense physique and unwearied constitution, the trip proved but child's play to him. On his way out the congested condition of the mails at Skagway, Bennett and Tagish had attracted his attention, and arriving at Victoria, one of the best gentlemen sought out and interviewed by

loads upon the sleds, the dogs reached town without a sore foot or a sore neck; in fact when photographed by Photographer Meggs, the appearance was as if they were just standing out instead of coming in from such a trip. Seventeen of the twenty-seven dogs had already made the trip out from Dawson, while the Atlin water team of a breed, half malamute and half boarhound, has made itself famous by making a trip to Skagway, to Hoodaliqua, to Skagway, and back to Dawson, with less than an hour's rest of a whole day for rest at either end of the run. One of the dogs in another team went from St. Michaels to Skagway last winter.

Mr. Carr brings in a sack of private mail, and reports that there is no probability of a rush of Che-chak-bags for the Klondike this summer, though the Atlin district is being pushed for all it is worth, and the anti-alien law is creating much friction and antagonism.

Hof For the Coast.
The Nugget Express will dispatch another of its fast dog teams to the coast on Thursday, March 9th, carrying passengers, mail and express. Orders may be left either at the main office in the Phoenix, at the branch office at Grand Forks, or at the office of the KLONDIKE NUGGET.

St. Mary's.
The report for the week ending March first shows that nine new patients have been received, three convalescents have been discharged, leaving forty-six occupying beds at present. There were no deaths to chronicle.

Joe Schwartz Loses.
Joseph Schwartz lost both of his liquor cases in the Territorial court on Friday. It will be remembered that he was tried in Justice Harper's court on two charges of having in his possession spirituous liquors, with the intent to barter the same. Conviction followed, and he was fined \$50 and \$100 respectively, with costs. He appealed to the Territorial court, and on Thursday the appeals were dismissed with costs, which sustains the judgment of the lower court.

Relieved From Duty.
Corporal Hanson, of the N. W. M. P., died of consumption at Fort Selkirk, on February 18th, and was laid away with military honors.

Sick Benefit.
A grand benefit will be given at the Tivoli Theatre Sunday evening, March 5, for the sick and poor food of Dawson, with the entire Tivoli Theatre Company and 20 volunteers, making it the strongest attraction ever given in Dawson.

POLICE COURT ITEMS.
J. Gainsbury secured \$50 in wages from F. Fairchild, who also paid the costs.
James Farrar lightened his hide with hootch, with the usual result of a fine of \$20 and costs.
Bert Curt's is averse to so slash an existence, as a life of labor and hence with the woodpile with his presence for the next three months.
A. Sams has been living in wealth and luxury but did not show conclusively how his life of ease was maintained. Says he is not much good "bucking" wood but will be given free lessons in that noble art for the next three months.
Long Naxon disapproved of the distance of the fuel supply from Dawson and sought a shorter road to enjoy the comforting host of a stoveful of dry burning wood. He neglected to make due allowance for the double trip his neighbor would have to make and hence has been given a four months' task of making firewood which he will not be allowed to enjoy.

Church Notices.
ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH: Regular services Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m.; Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock; Sunday-school at 9 p. m.; R. G. BOWEN, Pastor.
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: Regular services every Sabbath morning at 11 o'clock; evening at 7; Bible class at 3 p. m.; Prayer meeting Wednesday evenings at 7:30; Y. P. S. G. E. Thursday evenings at 7:30; A. S. GRANT, Pastor.
FIRST METHODIST CHURCH: Regular Sunday services at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m.; Bible class at 3 p. m.; Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7:30; JAMES TURNER, Pastor; A. E. HERMAN, Sexton, Colleague.
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, GRAND FORKS: Sunday services 2:30 and 7:00 p. m.; Free reading room open every evening; R. M. DICKEY, Minister.

The Dawson Club Social.
The Dawson Club gave the third in their series of monthly entertainments at the club rooms on Wednesday evening, March 1st. The hall was taxed to its utmost capacity to accommodate the assembled guests. The following program was rendered:
Instrumental duet, Dr. Sutherland and Mrs. Barrio; solo, "Queen of the Earth," Mr. Cope; solo, "O Promise Me," Mr. Storry; recitation, "Barbara Frietchie," Miss Josephine Picket; solo, "Kentucky Babe," Mr. Robertson; solo, "Should he Uphold," with violin accompaniment by Mr. Goodwin; Mrs. Davison; encore, "Twickenham Ferry"; recitation, "Mr. Travers' First Hunt," Miss Ross; encore, "The Specs"; solo, Mr. Armour; solo, "Heart of a Sailor," Mr. Finney; harmonica selection, "The Mocking Bird," Mr. Stuart; encore, Imitation of bagpipe; solo, "Death of Nelson," Mr. Fishaven.
After the programme refreshments were served, and the floor was cleared for dancing, which was continued until the early morning. A delightful time was the verdict of all present.

Veteran "Mushers."
The Carr and Yeager party arrived in Dawson at about 10:30 Friday morning. There were five men in the party and twenty-seven dogs, with five sleigh loads of merchandise, etc., weighing two tons. The members of the party are Jack Carl, Chas. Yeager, Turner Townsend, Geo. Taylor and Billy Kinney, composed with one exception of "sour doughs," who went out last fall or this winter.
The party brings in the biggest load which has come in this winter, and progress has been naturally somewhat slow. Bennett was left January 23th. Notwithstanding the immense

loads upon the sleds, the dogs reached town without a sore foot or a sore neck; in fact when photographed by Photographer Meggs, the appearance was as if they were just standing out instead of coming in from such a trip. Seventeen of the twenty-seven dogs had already made the trip out from Dawson, while the Atlin water team of a breed, half malamute and half boarhound, has made itself famous by making a trip to Skagway, to Hoodaliqua, to Skagway, and back to Dawson, with less than an hour's rest of a whole day for rest at either end of the run. One of the dogs in another team went from St. Michaels to Skagway last winter.

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Bert Curt's is averse to so slash an existence, as a life of labor and hence with the woodpile with his presence for the next three months.
A. Sams has been living in wealth and luxury but did not show conclusively how his life of ease was maintained. Says he is not much good "bucking" wood but will be given free lessons in that noble art for the next three months.
Long Naxon disapproved of the distance of the fuel supply from Dawson and sought a shorter road to enjoy the comforting host of a stoveful of dry burning wood. He neglected to make due allowance for the double trip his neighbor would have to make and hence has been given a four months' task of making firewood which he will not be allowed to enjoy.

Church Notices.
ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH: Regular services Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m.; Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock; Sunday-school at 9 p. m.; R. G. BOWEN, Pastor.
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH: Regular services every Sabbath morning at 11 o'clock; evening at 7; Bible class at 3 p. m.; Prayer meeting Wednesday evenings at 7:30; Y. P. S. G. E. Thursday evenings at 7:30; A. S. GRANT, Pastor.
FIRST METHODIST CHURCH: Regular Sunday services at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m.; Bible class at 3 p. m.; Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 7:30; JAMES TURNER, Pastor; A. E. HERMAN, Sexton, Colleague.
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, GRAND FORKS: Sunday services 2:30 and 7:00 p. m.; Free reading room open every evening; R. M. DICKEY, Minister.

The Dawson Club Social.
The Dawson Club gave the third in their series of monthly entertainments at the club rooms on Wednesday evening, March 1st. The hall was taxed to its utmost capacity to accommodate the assembled guests. The following program was rendered:
Instrumental duet, Dr. Sutherland and Mrs. Barrio; solo, "Queen of the Earth," Mr. Cope; solo, "O Promise Me," Mr. Storry; recitation, "Barbara Frietchie," Miss Josephine Picket; solo, "Kentucky Babe," Mr. Robertson; solo, "Should he Uphold," with violin accompaniment by Mr. Goodwin; Mrs. Davison; encore, "Twickenham Ferry"; recitation, "Mr. Travers' First Hunt," Miss Ross; encore, "The Specs"; solo, Mr. Armour; solo, "Heart of a Sailor," Mr. Finney; harmonica selection, "The Mocking Bird," Mr. Stuart; encore, Imitation of bagpipe; solo, "Death of Nelson," Mr. Fishaven.
After the programme refreshments were served, and the floor was cleared for dancing, which was continued until the early morning. A delightful time was the verdict of all present.

Veteran "Mushers."
The Carr and Yeager party arrived in Dawson at about 10:30 Friday morning. There were five men in the party and twenty-seven dogs, with five sleigh loads of merchandise, etc., weighing two tons. The members of the party are Jack Carl, Chas. Yeager, Turner Townsend, Geo. Taylor and Billy Kinney, composed with one exception of "sour doughs," who went out last fall or this winter.
The party brings in the biggest load which has come in this winter, and progress has been naturally somewhat slow. Bennett was left January 23th. Notwithstanding the immense

Claims Bought and Sold.
By Louis Conure, North West House, 1/2 mile above mouth of Hunker.

Stage Service to Forks.
Picket & Devlin stages will run on the following schedule:
Stage No. 1 leaves Dawson for Grand Forks..... 9:30 a. m.
Returning leaves Grand Forks..... 8:00 p. m.
Stage No. 2 leaves Grand Forks..... 8:30 a. m.
Returning leaves Dawson..... 7:30 p. m.
Giving passengers five hours in Dawson to transact business.
Baggage & freight receive prompt attention.
Telephone No. 23

Apply at the Nugget Express office, Front St.

Do you know Albert W. Williams, the wheel hauler, at 17 above, on Bonanza?
Those who wish to eat well and enjoy good service, should go to the Cafe Royal, Second Avenue.

Large contracts for freighting and wood a specialty—Albert W. Williams, 17 above Bonanza or the White House.

A nice line of stationery, time, pass and memo books, tablets, paper and envelopes at Pioneer drug store.

The Sunday dinner at the Cafe Royal to-morrow will be worthy of the patronage of the most fastidious.

The best meals served in the city are at the Regina Club Hotel.
The Dining Room service of the Regina Club Hotel is such as to invite you back again.

Special Rates for room and board by the month at the Regina Club Hotel.
Give your contracts for freighting and packing to Albert W. Williams, 17 above Bonanza, or leave orders at the White House.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS
LAWYERS
C. M. WOODWORTH, M. A., L. L. B., Advocate, Solicitor, Commissioner, Notary, etc. Five years' practice in Northwest Territory Room 3, A. C. Office Building.
TALOR & HULME—Barristers and Solicitors, Advocates; Notaries Public; Conveyancers, Offices, opposite Monte Carlo, Front Street.
BURRITT & McRAY—Advocates, Solicitors, Notaries, Commissioners, etc. Office, the A. C. Office Building, 3rd St., Dawson.

CLEMENT, PATTULLO & REDLEY—Advocates, Barristers, Notaries, Conveyancers, &c. Money-to-loan, Offices, Adcock building opposite Opera House saloon.

PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS
DR. J. WILFRED GOOD, M. B., S. R. C. P., Edinburgh, Late Surgeon to Winnipeg General Hospital, Office, Klondyke Hotel, 1st Avenue, Dawson, Telephone No. 16.
DR. J. H. KOONS, Physician and Surgeon, Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Pa., proprietor Miners Hospital, Eldorado City.

DENTISTS
DRS. BROWN & LEE—Crown and Bridge work, Gold, Aluminum or Rubber Plates, Enamel and alloy fillings. All work absolutely guaranteed. Room 13, A. C. office building. H. AMUNDSON, souvenir jeweler and diamond setting.

T. G. ALBIN, D. D. S.—All work guaranteed. Office with Nugget Express Co., Eldorado City.

LOST AND FOUND
LOST—Black Newfoundland dog named "Cap" last seen at 22 on Bonanza. Finder return to this office and receive reward.

FOR SALE.
FOR SALE.—First-class Thawing and Hoisting Plant. Thirty horse power boiler and engine, with friction hoist. Falcon Joslin, 111 2nd Street.

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THE NUGGET EXPRESS
E. C. ALLEN, Mgr.
Main Office in the Phoenix.

Branch office at the forks of Eldorado and Bonanza.

NEXT TRIP TO THE COAST THURSDAY, MARCH 9.

CARRYING
Passengers, Mail and Express.

THE NORTHERN
HARRY ASH & CO.
Choicest Wines, Liquors and Cigars
Expert Mixologists.
MINING HEADQUARTERS
FRONT STREET.

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