



# The Klondike Nugget

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On Wednesday and Saturday

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1898

### NOTICE.

When a newspaper offers its advertising space at a nominal figure, it is a practical admission of "no circulation." THE KLONDIKE NUGGET asks a good figure for its space and in justification thereof guarantees to its advertisers a paid circulation five times that of any other paper published between Juneau and the North Pole.

### RE THOS. FAWCETT ET AL.

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

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

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

### A STRANGE PEOPLE.

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

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

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

### FAWCETT'S CHAMPION.

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

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

out voluntary contributions to underpaid underlings.

### A FRIEND OF THE RICH ONLY.

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

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

### NIGHTSHIRTS FOR SOLDIERS.

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

### GOVERNMENT AID FOR TRAILS.

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

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

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

## THE PIONEER

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

## THE AURORA

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

## ELDORADO SALOON

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

## THE NORTHERN

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

## Combination Saloon

Is the Place to go for fun and amusement. Finest kind of Liquors and Cigars.  
Lloyd, Harrison & Co., Proprietors

## The "Monte Carlo"

FINEST BAR IN DAWSON  
QUALITY OF WINES AND LIQUORS THE HIGHEST  
Mixed Drinks a Specialty  
HIGHEST GRADES OF CIGARS

## THE OPERA HOUSE

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

## THE BODEGA

223 First Avenue  
Most Elegant Gentlemen's Resort  
in Dawson.

## Magnificent Stock of Liquors

JUST ARRIVED.  
SOLD BY BOTTLE OR CASE.  
GIN, CHAMPAGNES, BRANDIES,  
BOURBON AND SCOTCH WHISKIES.  
WHOLESALE STORE  
Corner Fourth St. East of N. A. T. & T. Co.

## Job Printing

In all its Latest Styles executed from new type faces at this office.

## Check Binding

Perforating, Numbering and  
Stapling

## STOCK VERY COMPLETE AND WELL ASSORTED

Plenty of type and press facilities for the quick execution of

## Pamphlets, Blanks and Programs

THE KLONDIKE NUGGET

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### PIONEERS OF THE UPPER YUKON.

#### One Transportation Company Which is a Success From the Start.

#### Handled the Bulk of the Up-River Traffic—Vast Improvements in Contemplation—Larger and More Powerful Boats to Be Built.

The B. L. & K. N. Company are just closing a season of enterprise and daring energy which has been crowned with success from the day the first of their three boats was launched in Lake Bennett. Last winter the North American continent was swamped with a multitude of transportation schemes. There were balloon schemes, steam ice sleds, reindeer transportation companies and steamboat lines by way of St. Michaels, till you couldn't rest. But in Victoria live people in possession of practical information of the upper Yukon and its lakes, so that while vast sums were being subscribed for railroads, all-Canadian routes, all-American routes, etc., Mr. F. M. Rattenbury quietly organized a company to operate on the upper river and contributed heavily himself.

All the transportation schemes hatched last winter none have proved the unqualified success of the B. L. & K. N. It was known that boats could not ascend the White Horse rapids, and again it was supposed to be impossible to take a steamer up Five Fingers, so the company adopted the plans of Mr. Rattenbury and decided upon building three boats with transfer of freight and passengers at the two points mentioned. The company obtained a timber grant at the mouth of the Wheaton river, 20 miles from Bennett and first put in a sawmill—the machinery for the mill and three steamers being hauled over the icy Skaguay trail.

The gallant little steamer Ora, under the able command of Captain Ritchie made the first successful trip from Bennett to Dawson and back to White Horse and then transferred to the Flora for Bennett, making the time of the first complete round trip, Bennett to Bennett, in less than nine days. The captain found that it was possible to climb the Five Fingers at any stage of the river by use of cables, and without any extraneous aid for the greater part of the summer. Thus it has happened that the Ora and Flora have completed the seventeenth trip from Dawson, connecting with the Nora at White Horse and taking out of the country some 1500 people and bringing in about 700. As for freight, the amount handled from the first trip to the last has been limited only by the capacity of the boats. The company is at present besieged with contracts for next season, both for passage and freight and right now could book all the company could handle for a number of the first trips of 1898.

It is seldom transportation companies have such a run of unparalleled good luck right from the inception. Not an accident of importance mar the season's success. One reason of it all is the disposition of the company to spare no expense in securing the wisest and best rated men to handle the boats. Captain Ritchie, master of navigation and captain of the Ora, is a phenomenal water man and has charted thirty-mile river after the fashion of a government chart, for use in the low water of next spring. Every rock, sand bar and hidden danger is correctly marked and it is the intention of this enterprising company to be navigating the river next year from the foot of LeBarge to Dawson long before the ice leaves the lakes.

Mr. H. Temple Fall, who has managed the Dawson end of the line for the past summer, has done much to popularize that line. Contracts made either in Victoria or Dawson have been carried out with such perfect good faith that the Bennett Lake & Klondike Navigation company is now regarded as standard and reliable as the C. P. R. or other great lines. Such public approval can only follow conscientious and able management.

The bringing of the Ora and Flora through Miles Canyon was a critical time for the company. Dixon, the famous police pilot, was secured and given carte blanche for what help he needed. Green logs were securely fastened along the guard rails and into the foaming chasm went the Ora. Should her nose strike in an angle of one wall the stern would swing and jamb against the other and in an instant the rushing torrent would tear her plank from plank. However, she went through like a chariot, merely skimming the bark from the logs on one side. It was the occasion for much cheering and self-congratulation when the company found itself with one boat below the rapids. Then the Flora made the run, and with two boats below and one above, the company has been enabled to give uninterrupted service all summer.

Mr. F. M. Rattenbury, the head of the company, is a gentleman who came into prominence some time ago as the architect of the famous government buildings lately completed in Victoria. Another large stockholder is manager Gallotly, of the Victoria Bank of Montreal. The company has made the most distinguished success of any "cheecharko" company organized last winter, and intends to fully keep pace with the transpiring events. The plans for the coming summer of 1899 includes the building of two and probably three large steamers, which will be built with a special view to securing great power and speed. The 800 mile round trip from Dawson to White Horse and back will be made, if power can do it every seven days, while the hundred-mile trip from the Canyon to Bennett will be made in from ten to seven hours.

The company is now firmly established in the public mind as permanent and efficient,

and as the pioneers of upper river transportation are certainly deserving of every commendation for their enterprising and courageous opening of rapid transportation and transit over courses until this year deemed practically impassable to anything but canoes and small boats.

Much of the successful summer's work in the upper river is due to the great river skill and popularity of Captain Ritchie and Captain Martineau.

From the general Captain Jack Rattenbury brother of President F. M. Rattenbury, we learn of the intended last trip of the Ora. She will once more make the ascent of the river unless prevented by a combination of the elements. Other boats have been laid up in winter quarters for a month, but "fortune favors the brave" and nature is kind enough to leave the river open and free for weeks beyond the time navigation usually becomes impossible.

#### THE DOG BAY, Wash., Sept. 15.—James Kent, of this place, met with a peculiar form of confidence man while operating a pack train near Skaguay last spring. He had noticed a little sore on his hip for some time, but paid little attention to it until one day a man approached him and told him he had a cancer, sure, and that his friend had just recovered from having one removed by an eminent Cincinnati surgeon who was going in to start a hospital in Dawson. The next day the man returned and brought with him the doctor, who showed a card with "Professor of Official Surgery" in some college in Cincinnati printed on it. Mr. Kent was induced to have some medicine injected into his hip to cure the cancer, but was told that if the cancer had gone too far it would have to be cut out. They also left some of the same medicine to rub on the hip. In three days the hip was so sore and swollen that he started for the hospital in Skaguay, but meeting the doctor, he was told that he could not live if the "cancer" was not cut out immediately, which he had done. He was laid up for two weeks, during which time he was requested to pay a fee of \$1,000. He finally settled for \$300, and saw no more of the doctor.

AS SOON, however, as he could get around, he went down to Victoria, where he went to the hospital. He was assured that no cancer had existed, and having the bottle of medicine with him, it was tested and found to be the juice of leaves from an evergreen tree, used by quacks for causing a simple sore to look like a cancer, after which it can be cured for a big fee, "no cure, no pay." It was also tested on a dog from the pound, and caused what the doctor called "beautiful bogus cancers" after a few days, the dog dying in a week.

Mr. Kent is well, but very badly disgusted and out \$300, besides his time and the anxiety of a lingering death from cancer. He was told of two other men victimized in the same way, the steerer approaching the man first and the "doctor" later. In each case the medicine was injected first and then the person becoming so much worse that he would pay all he could raise to get relief from what he supposed was a cancer. One man paid the full \$1,000. As many persons have cracked tips in that country, this cancer fakir is, perhaps reaping a harvest in Dawson. Anyone going in should take warning.

#### Threats of What is to Come.

Hardly a day passes without a threat of fire in one or more of our defenseless buildings. Wednesday morning about 9:30 the roof of the Fairview hotel was discovered to be on fire and a crowd gathered to watch employees clambering over the roof and trying to stamp it out with their feet. Fortunately the fire did not secure such a hold but a few pails of water put it out. Dawson will just as surely be wiped out by fire unless something is done in the way of fire protection as that the river will freeze up this winter but for a miraculous intervention of providence. The fire was occasioned by sparks from a low smoke stack.

Tuesday morning George Ward, asleep in one of the rooms of the Northern, was awakened by the voices of persons inquiring from one another if they could not smell fire. At last he roused up sufficiently to see that it was the canvas lined ceiling of his own room which was on fire. Fortunately it had not secured much of a hold and was easily subdued without damage.

#### The "Housewarming."

Wednesday night was an "O be joyful" occasion at the housewarming of the Opera House, hotel given by Miss Helen Holden. Several hundreds of our citizens participated during the evening and "joy was unconfined." Dancing was indulged in with frequent pauses for refreshment, and interspersed with numerous songs from Jack Black, the king of male sopranos, Fred Breen in improvisations and original songs, and a graceful Mexican dancer by one of the ladies.

The reception and retiring rooms are handsomely furnished and finished with walls decorated by elegant paper hangings, set off by crystal mirrors and pretty pictures. The refreshments were served to all and were of dishes dear to the heart of the French, chateaus of chicken and such things most savory to the Klondike palate and served on sparkling silver galore. The hostess was much in evidence and introductions were the order of the hour. It was an occasion long to be remembered by all and its popularity and success promises much for the future.

#### Poultry and game at Portland Market.

#### Special Bargain.

One cabin 14 x 16 and 1 cabin 10 x 19, together with lot 25 x 50. Title guaranteed. Best location in Dawson; close in. Owner has poor health and must go out—a genuine bargain. HENRY NUGGET offers.

### WETHERLY NOT A CONCESSIONAIRE.

#### No Re-Lease of the Water Front Says Commissioner Ogilvie.

#### The Miners' Association and Mr. Ogilvie Compare Notes—Didn't Know Royalty Was Being Charged—Miners on Fire-Wood.

A most important session was that on Wednesday afternoon between the committee of the Miners' Association and the Hon. Wm. Ogilvie, Yukon Commissioner. The meeting was by appointment and no time at all was wasted in preliminaries. Mr. Ogilvie was apprised by the committee that they were directed by the Miners' Association to request of him, if possible, that the two vacancies in the Yukon Council be filled from the ranks of the Yukon miners and by elective choice of the people. Mr. Ogilvie replied that the law which authorized him to appoint men to fill the vacancies was an act of parliament and would not admit of the vacancies being filled by election. However he intended that representative men should shortly be appointed and to that end he proposed consulting with the miners before making his choice.

The committee was assured by Mr. Ogilvie he had been altogether misquoted in regard to the water-front matter. The occupation of the water-front by store buildings he declared to be wrong on principle and opposed to the intention of the law reserving that strip from settlement. He positively would refuse to sanction a re-lease of any of the ground for any such purpose. Further, he would shortly issue a warning to all of the occupants of the strip that he would endanger their lives and property if they remained until the break-up, for he believed that it would make nearly a clean sweep of everything there. He would not, under any circumstances give his sanction to renewals. Knowing the river from years of residence along its shore he believed it his duty to warn the people on the strip that they might not only realize they were running chances on their own lives but also the lives of the people who should happen to be doing business with them at the time the buildings might collapse. The government will issue no written nor verbal permit for the occupation of the water-front by places of business.

Mr. Ogilvie was asked concerning the privileges given by Postmaster Harper to one Col. Wetherly, whereby the colonel was empowered to sort out of the government mail letters for his clients who were supposed to pay him upwards of \$5 per month for the service. Mr. Ogilvie assured the committee that he had righted this wrong soon after his arrival in Dawson by cancelling all agreements of that nature which had been entered into by Postmaster Harper prior to his arrival. The allowing of private access to the mails to any individuals whatever other than the regular employees was a wrong he could not allow. Col. Wetherly had no more rights at that postoffice than anyone else of the thousands of citizens of Dawson. If people were still continuing to pay Wetherly for services he could not perform they were fools and it was their own lookout. None but employees were allowed to handle the mail and no more privileges were given the colonel than any other citizen. If the colonel or anyone else presented properly signed orders on the mail clerks for the mail of people up the creeks it would be given, but no quicker to one than to another—at least he didn't know of any favoritism and if such existed would like to be advised of it.

Mr. Ogilvie was then asked for the removal of Messrs. Fawcett, Bolton and Craig from the office of the gold commissioner. The inefficiency of Thomas Fawcett was dwelt upon at length and Messrs. Bolton and Craig were accused of working entirely in their own interests and contrary to the public good. The characters of the three men were overhauled somewhat severely and stories were told illustrative of the peculiar qualities of the gentlemen upon whom we are all so dependent for the services of the office they occupy. Mr. Ogilvie sprang the old chestnut about the known integrity of the gold commissioner and said that gentleman was not at all desirous of overstaying the two years for which he had been engaged; in fact that even now was perfectly willing to abdicate but for the various charges which were being made against him. Without an investigation, clearing them up one way or the other he did not care to quit. As for Bolton and Craig, if they were guilty of accepting money as stated in affidavits be prepared to that effect and he (Mr. Ogilvie) would promptly take action. He did not see his way clear to act against the men without definite sworn statements to work upon. However, there are impending changes which he believed would be quite satisfactory to the miners of the Klondike.

The committee further called Mr. Ogilvie's attention to the matter of the wood monopoly and the collection of fees on every cord of wood used for fuel by the free miners of Dawson. Mr. Ogilvie expressed his surprise that royalty was being collected from men who held free miners' certificates and appeared to have been under the impression that royalty was only being paid on wood cut for sale.

The proposed mining exhibition of Yukon products at the Mine Exhibit in London next year was touched upon and Mr. Ogilvie expressed himself highly in favor of this section being represented there. He thought the government should take a hold of it and make a creditable display and should get every assistance possible from the miners.

High grade meats at popular prices at Portland market.

**PIONEER**  
ESTER & McPHERSON, Proprietors  
BEST GRADES OF  
**CANADIAN WHISKIES**  
Old Favorite Brand of  
**QUESTIAN CIGARS**  
**AURORA**  
CINCHOLM, Proprietor  
Headquarters for  
**ES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS**  
L. Danks a Specialty  
**ADO SALOON**  
MONEY & YOUNG, Proprietors  
**INDIANE CITY**  
Finest Brands of  
**Liquors and Cigars**  
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A PORT OF LARGE CONSEQUENCE.

Dawson is a City Cutting Some Figure in Governmental Receipts.

Sixty-Eight Steamers and Eleven Barges Arrived this Season—Nearly 13,000 Tons of Freight Came Up the River.

The port of Dawson makes some impression upon the government receipts through its custom house department. From the opening of navigation probably the hardest worked official is Collector Davis, who with a force utterly inadequate, is compelled to put in long hours and handle an enormous amount of business.

Table with columns: Name of Steamer, Arrived, Tons. Lists various steamers like Victoria, P. B. Wear, C. H. Hamilton, etc., with their arrival dates and tonnage.

It will be seen that, in a moment almost, Dawson has sprung into importance as a port of entry. Sixty-eight steamers have arrived from down river, carrying nearly 13,000 tons of freight and commodities and upon the values of these articles the government is enriched to the extent of \$143,000 through its custom house, \$30,000 of which was collected during last month alone.

The average duty imposed is 23 per cent, and special tariff is 35 per cent; the tax on flour being 60 cents per barrel, and on bacon two cents per pound.

Besides the steamers arriving here, above noted, no account is taken of the upriver boats, but clearances have to be made on their part, and the records show 40 clearances for White Horse and Bennett.

The division of goods show about equal as between American and British importations estimated closely at \$500,000 in value for each.

Some idea must be had of the enormous amount of labor devolving upon the collector in handling this number of boats, in making out papers and the vast details requisite to a systematic handling of affairs in the department, nearly all of which falls upon the collector personally.

Of course he is assisted to the extent of officers being placed about each boat on arrival and serving as inspectors, these men being assigned by the police department. In addition to his duties as collector of the port, Mr. Davis is also registrar of ports for shipping inspection of ship's registers, and he is also measuring surveyor, holding commission signed by the Earl of Aberdeen, E. S. Newcombe, deputy minister of justice, and Joseph Pope, under-secretary of state.

When Mr. Davis was appointed to the Yukon district, as collector he was also commissioned a justice of the peace for the North West Territories, and is the only case of the kind in the history of the country, and sat in judgment in cases in the absence of others possessing magisterial powers.

More difficulty is probably experienced here than in any part of the world, for the reason that scarcely any ships' cargoes arrive here, the manifest for which will check with the invoices for the reason that the deep water vessels, arriving at St. Michael's, leave their cargoes, and the river boats bring them up as best they can, but usually broken lots or marks, some portions being en route as long as two years. This necessarily compels a rearrangement

of cargoes, as the custom house is not bound to respect invoices.

Collector Donald W. Davis has always been an active man in public life, having served ten years as a member of the Canadian Parliament, and furnishes most interesting reminiscences of the growth of the Yukon Territory. Upon his appointment as collector his instructions left him master of his own judgment as to where to locate the custom house, and established himself at Forty Mile, but there being no work to do there he came to Dawson on October 20th, on the steamer Arctic. There were no houses here then, and but one log cabin stood in this place of substantial business houses to-day. The collector's territory includes everything below Tagish and extends to the American line.

It is a pleasure also to compliment the department of the government for its uniform courtesy towards all having relations with it in any way, for despite the enormous amount of labor placed upon the collector, the business of the office is conducted with dispatch, and assistance in every way that will aid the importer of merchandise.

Collector Davis will in a few days remove to handsome new quarters in the A. C. Co. office building; his present office being unable to handle the rapidly increasing volume of business under his department.

A New Creek.

Kentucky Creek, a tributary of Twelvemile creek, below Dawson, was closed to the public on Thursday by orders of Gold Commissioner Fawcett. The avowed reason for the closing was that men were rushing in dozens to record who have never been near the creek. The original discoverer came in, Tuesday and is said to have reported 10 cents to the pan. His own statement is that there were no stakes yet on the creek other than those he had driven and it is impossible for men to have gone there and staked and then returned to town to record in the time which has elapsed since he first reported his discovery. On the face of it it appears true enough, but to the thinking mind familiar with past events on the Klondike there is reason in the madness of the men who would record first and stake afterward. Under the disgraceful regime of the present incumbent of the gold commissioner's office, honest prospecting and staking before recording has been the exception—not because of any particular depravity in our citizens, but because while the foolishly honest man was waiting in line for a week at Fawcett's door to record men with Fawcett's or Bolton's or Craig's passes in their hands would pass right in and record over their heads. The lesson has been dearly learned and men are but profiting by former experience which is that the only safe way to do with Fawcett in office is to record first and stake afterward.

But the closing of Kentucky creek opens up vast possibilities for perquisites, providing it should turn out good, like Dominion. Fawcett would then be able to resolve upon a certain date for opening the creek and advertise that fact. Then a few days before the date set he can change his mind unknown to all, but his own immediate circle and set the date back three days without making it public. These things have not and shall not be forgotten, Mr. Fawcett, and after your relegation to that obscurity for which your talents fit you, you will be able to recall at your leisure these hilarious episodes which meant so seriously to the "sweepings of the coast cities," i. e., the common miners.

MINERS GETTING DOWN TO WORK.

"Dead Work" being Done in Anticipation of the Freeze-Up.

Bonanza and Eldorado claim owners and laymen are taking advantage of the present fine weather and are making their preparations for a big winter's work. From the lower end of the creek to forks all along Eldorado and the upper end of Bonanza the hum of the saw and the sound of the axe proclaim the systematic search for dust and nuggets that will be in active progress within a few very short weeks.

One of the features of the season will be the development work that will be done on the lower end of Bonanza. Old timers on the creek have smiled in the past at the suggestion that the lower end carried gold in paying quantities. They have pointed to the width of the bottom, to the fact that claims far above failed last year to pay wages and suited at the idea that the marshy claims along that "moose pasture" could possibly be made to yield gold.

Nevertheless, owners of claims along the lower end have shown their faith in the ground by going to work and staking holes without wasting time in discussing the value or non-value of their ground. The result has shown that their faith in their property is well-grounded. The best proof of this is shown in the fact that claims in the eighties are now held and are being sold at prices far in advance of the most conservative estimates that were placed on their value last summer.

At the present time cabins are being completed and wood brought down to the claims for the prosecution of the winter's work. Many lays ranging from fifty to one hundred feet have been let and the laymen are entering with enthusiasm upon their work.

Further up the creek where the value of claims was long ago proven, a number of owners are holding back work in the hope that the iniquitous royalty tax will be taken off. They feel that so long as they are in a position to do so there is more money in keeping the dust in the ground than in taking it out in order to pay the government a 10 per cent dividend on the gross output.

Numerous road-houses and lunch-counters have been established along the trail for the convenience of travelers. The wayfarer will not need to fear lying out on the cold and

ATTEND THE GRAND MASQUERADE BALL. NEW MONTE CARLO THEATRE. FRIDAY NIGHT, OCT. 21, 1898.

Tivoli Theatre. ONLY FIRST CLASS. THEATRE IN DAWSON. ROBERT BLEI AND JOE COOPER, PROPRIETORS. Week of October 10. SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT OF CAD WILSON AND GALAXY OF NEW STARS.

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The Joseph Ladue Gold Mining and Development Company OF YUKON. BEG to announce to the citizens of Dawson and vicinity that they have opened a GENERAL SUPPLY STORE and are prepared to outfit miners with the usual supplies of all kinds at reasonable prices. None but the best quality of goods have been purchased by us and all have been specially prepared and adapted for Klondike use.

REAL ESTATE AND MINES. A. J. BANNERMAN, Mine Broker and General Agent; Special attention given to the purchase, sale and management of mining claims for non-residents; Office, Room 3, Worden Hotel block.

FOR SALE. Good cabin, 14x18, good location, handy to wood and water. A snip. HEMEN, this office.

FOR SALE. Good log cabins, best locations in Dawson. Snip bargain prices. Call in office, HEMEN, this office.

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DRESSMAKER. MISS LUCY PRATT, Fashionable Dress Maker. Just received a large stock of Fancy Linings. 205 Fourth Street, opposite Regina Cafe.

LOST AND FOUND. FOUND—Miner's license 42038, Joseph Lismore, Nigger office. LOST—Ladies' gold watch in buckskin sack near B. N. A. bank. Finder leave at Nigger office and receive liberal reward. FOUND—Miner's certificate, R. F. Nott. Apply at this office.

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