

The Klondike Nugget

ISSUED SEMI-WEEKLY

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 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.

POOR YUKONERS.

How unfortunate is the Yukon district. The inhabitants are practically all from lands over which floats either the Union Jack or the Stars and Stripes. The dwellers under each flag have always vied with each other in claiming for themselves perfect freedom of speech and action, and "taxation without representation" is as earnestly condemned by the one branch of our race as by the other. But the action which has taken a stronger hold of us than any other, and which is one of the fundamental reasons of our greatness is that our government is by the people but more than all for the people.

It has become quite the usual thing—especially about election time—for public officers to dub themselves the servants of the people with the emphasis on the "servants." Yet here in Dawson every tradition of our race is trampled under foot. The only good thing that can be said of the government of the Yukon district is that we have an excellent police and court; when you have said that you have put on the credit side of the ledger all that rightfully belongs there. The debit side covers several pages. In the first place, every official outside of the police and judiciary considers himself in nowise beholden to the people and under no obligation to conserve their rights. Approach them on the subject and they will tell you: "I am here to protect the government's interests." Not a single official in Dawson who considers it his duty to protect the people's interests. The latest injustice perpetrated by government officials is the granting of what is virtually a firewood monopoly to a couple of influential firms. The importance of the firewood supply of Dawson for the winter cannot be overestimated. If the supply of flour ran out there might be an abundance of other articles of diet, which would offset the scarcity. Not so with fuel. In the Arctic region in which we dwell fuel is dignified into the most important single item of a man's winter necessities. An abundance of it means life and comfort, the absence of it would be sure death.

The imperative importance of the fuel supply being conceded, the first duty of a just and good government—or government official—should be the prevention of anything like a monopoly of such a prime necessity. What would be thought of the officialism which said that the only sellers of eatables in Dawson this winter, after the freeze-up, should be some favored company chosen by themselves? Yet this is practically what has been done in the case of fuel, unless indeed the growing indignation of the people compels the mistaken officials to rescind or annul their action by taking shelter behind the convenient formula: "We have exceeded our authority and do call it off," which phrase we are all becoming so accustomed to. The facts as given in our local columns could not be true if Mr. Willison considered himself for one moment under primal obligations to the people. He says: "I am here representing the government at Ottawa. I have done this thing because

by such a course I can collect more royalty and collect it less expensively than by letting every individual who wanted cut wood for the market." The undeniable fact is that we are regarded as sheep—to be fleeced to the last hair regardless of the discomforts or distress which will be occasioned thereby. The excuse is often made that "the district must be made self supporting," yet when it is shown them that she is already self supporting three times over the plea is at once changed to "Well, if the gold fields cannot be made to contribute to the government coffers we might just as well close them up." The foregoing is an actual quotation and well illustrates the dominant spirit of some of the departments.

THE TRUE MINER'S SPIRIT.

There is as much difference between the spirit that prevails among real genuine miners and that which is seen within the crowded walls of a large city as there is between black and white. Men who are brought up in constant competition with their fellows, concentrating all their energies upon the single purpose of besting their competitors are bound to have their better natures warped to a greater or less extent. Under such circumstances men come to regard even their friends as just so much material to be used for a purpose.

How different is the case with the man who spends his time in the woods and hills breathing in the freedom and freshness of the mountain air. He is a healthy, well met with everyone who comes his way. When you pass his cabin his first salutation is followed by a hearty invitation to come in and make yourself at home, and dispose of as much of his grub as you like. His latch string is always out and even when away from his cabin he sees no cause for objection if some one has been in meanwhile and helped himself to a square meal.

In religious matters he is usually not of the orthodox variety. When occasion demands he will swear a good round oath and think himself none the worse for having done so. When he comes to town the chances are he will enjoy himself in the manner that best suggests itself to him and very often his favorite method of enjoyment is anything but such as is endorsed by people who pose as examples of all that is good in society.

But after all is said and done it cannot be gainsaid that your typical miner is an honest man whom the poet aptly terms "the noblest work of God." Though he may not live up to the strict letter of the orthodox creed and though various sins of omission and commission may be charged to his account, and though he may be anything but a lover of religious forms and ceremonies he can at the very least be numbered among those who love their fellow man. And we are told that Ben Adhem, for a similar recommendation, was placed by the recording angel at the very head of the celestials.

WE MUST ORGANIZE.

There is in the Yukon district no official whose continuance in lucrative office depends upon the satisfaction he gives the people. So far from this, being the case it appears to be their highest aim to "mine the miners." There being no organized defense, 20,000 intelligent men are being squeezed to the screaming point. Canadians and other colonials assure us that this bleeding of the miners is an entirely new thing; that they are ashamed and bitterly disappointed to find such a state of affairs under a flag which they are proud to believe is the emblem of all that is just, all that is equitable and all that is good. By turning over a few pages of history we can soon see whether or not good miners have been harassed and mulcted before by irresponsible officials—officials who have considered their duty well discharged when they weighted down with collected gold the coffers of their government, regardless of the effects upon the hard working miner. The history of the South African gold fields shows that defenseless miners had imposed upon them one regulation after another until thousands upon thousands were

driven from the mines and the balance

prayed for the time when they would have enough to follow. Then the miners organized. Assessments were levied and now behold! The miners had some one at last to represent them.

One restriction after another was stricken down by the organization which at last became so powerful that it was consulted by the government whenever changes in the regulations were proposed. Under this new policy the South African gold fields have become the greatest producers in the world and are teeming with people who one and all declare their government to be the fairest on earth. Similarly in Australia. Regulation upon regulation imposed by rapacious officials. Life becomes a burden, riots ensue, organization of the miners takes place and is immediately followed by relieved conditions. The miners there are now reaping the benefit of the wise efforts of their predecessors, join hands in praise of the wise government which oversees them. In either case improved conditions and wiser laws were brought about by themselves by organization. There is no reason to suppose that the Yukon District of the North West Territory will be made an exception to the general rule. Regulation has followed close upon the heels of regulation until even the officials themselves are sometimes in doubt which law they are working under. The point of every regulation has always been "more revenue." We have petitioned the government in the past and were ignored. We have prepared another petition and it will be presented at Ottawa by Major Walsh when he arrives there, yet it is doubtful whether the petition of a disorganized body of men will be regarded as sufficient grounds for the concessions prayed for. Major Walsh will himself make suggestions calculated to improve our conditions. It remains to be seen even then whether the government will change in its attitude towards us. We

will, in our next issue, outline a plan of organization. There can be no doubt from past experiences in other gold countries that even a good government will act closer to its principles when confronted by a solid phalanx of miners than when it has only to deal with a discontented, unorganized mob.

THE PIONEER
DINSMORE, SPENCER & MC THREE, Proprietors
BEST GRADES OF
SCOTCH and CANADIAN WHISKIES
And the Old Favorite Brand of
JACK MCQUESTIAN CIGARS

THE AURORA
TOM C. HISLOM, Prop't
COR. FRONT AND SECOND STREET
Headquarters for
BEST OF WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS
Mixed Drinks a Specialty
YOU WANT THE BEST?
OF COURSE YOU DO!

CHOICE LIQUORS, WINES, MIXED DRINKS
AND CIGARS
AT

"THE NEW ENGLAND"
McGrath & Patterson, Prop'ts.
Sole Agents for M. Fortier & Co., Montreal

ELDORADO SALOON
HALL, MCKINNEY & YOUNG, Proprietors

KLONDIKE CITY
Finest Brands of

Wines, Liquors and Cigars

THE KLONDIKE HOTEL
DAWSON

NELSON SMITH, Prop'r

Each room furnished with fine writing desk and
modern comforts

EUROPEAN PLAN—FINE RESTAURANT IN CONNECTION

FINEST WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS

THE NORTHERN
ADM. & MANAGER, PROPR'.

Choicest Wines, Liquors and Cigars

Expert Mixologists

MINING HEADQUARTERS

DAWSON

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Lloyd, Harrison & Co.

Proprietors

Combination Saloon

Is the Place to go for fun and amusement. Finest Kind of Liquors and Cigars.

DAWSON

Front Street

Lloyd, Harrison & Co.

Proprietors

To those within the Arctic Circle
We send Greetings . . . O. K.
We supplied many of you with your traps
and you can see our men's traps and some
good traps mailing this advertisement O. K. be
sure mailing them a copy of this paper.

LOUCH, AUGUSTINE & CO.
515-517 First Ave.
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GUS. BROWN COMPANY
CLOTHIERS AND FURNISHERS
ALASKA OUTFITTERS

New and Seasonable Clothing always on hand
515-518 Second Ave. Seattle, Wash.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE

R. R. SPENCER, Cashier

GOLD DUST bought on advances made awaiting
mint returns. Proceeds of drafts sent us
will be required to any point named or
credited as may be directed. Accounts
settled.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK
OF Seattle, Wash.
GOLD DUST BOUGHT ON ADVANCE VALUE

If drawer drafts are sent us, proceeds credited
to amount or remitted to any part of the world

LESTER TURNER, Cashier

The Scandinavian American Bank of Seattle

Andrew Chilberg, President

A. M. Sörlbom, Cashier
GOLD DUST bought on advances made awaiting
mint returns. If drawer drafts are sent us
proceeds credited to amount or remitted to any
part of the world

Railway and Steamship Tickets to all points
East and Europe. All kinds of Tickets sold via fast
and commodious steamers.

YUKON River Gold Dredging Co.
OPERATING ON FORTY MIL CREEK
M. W. T.

Offices: 513-514 New York Block
SEATTLE, WASH.
P. A. MORGAN, Secretary

GARROLL, JOHNSON & CO.
STEAMSHIP AGENTS
Operating Steamers from PUGET
SOUND POINTS to All Points in
ALASKA
Also operating steamers on the LAKES of the
head waters of the YUKON

Office: 110 W. Yesler Way
SEATTLE

MINE OWNERS
Our Mr. Thomas is in Europe selling mining
properties and we are in a position to buy claims
If you want QUICK SALES see us. Unique
references furnished.

THE THOMAS INVESTMENT CO.
Collins' Building, Seattle, Wash.

HAND-Y
BRAND
Evaporated
Fruit and
Vegetables
ARE THE BEST

As they have been used in Alaska and Mining
Camps of the Northwest for a number of years
and have given highest satisfaction. Ask
your outfitter for them.

THE HORSESHOE
John W. E. McKee
SENGS GREETINGS to many friends, and kind
WISHES FOR A PROSPEROUS RETURN

DROP IN AND SEE US
WHEN IN SEATTLE

THE HORSESHOE LIQUOR CO.

Seattle Yukon Transportation Company

Four Lane Route
W. D. Wood, Santa Fe
President

W. H. Smith, Vice President

J. F. McNamee, General Manager

90-92 Columbia Street, Seattle, Wash.

Seattle No. 3 and Barges will leave Dawson
for St. Michaels and down river points on
or about July 25 and connect with our A. S. S.
Alliance for Seattle.

THE PACIFIC-ALASKA EX. CO.

Operates over our line and handles Express
Matter for all points.

Orders for freight coming in will be handled
promptly. Goods insured en transit and stored
at Dawson and other down river points 30 days
free of charge. This enables miners to pro-
spect with a light outfit and sell for their
goods when permanent camp is located.

We are the only established company carrying
freight for shippers to the various points
on the Yukon.

For rates and other information, call on
H. TROLLER, Agent,
Library Bldg., Dawson

The real swagga
40 turned out on
of the swell society
the ordinary vul-
mising, but it is
eternal fitness of the
reception given.

The gentlemen's palatial r

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TO BE HANGED BY THE NECK.**The Only Sentence Which Could Be Imposed Upon the Murderers.**

The Sentence Received as Stolidly as the Other Proceedings Were By the Indians Who Knew of No God and no Hereafter.

The trial and sentence on Thursday and Friday last of the four Indians—Joe, Jim, Frank and Dawson Nantuck—for the murder of Hilley Meechan, was held in Pioneer hall, the courtroom in the barracks being much too small. There were a large number of people present to witness the proceedings. The Indians understood little or no English, and at the trial were given two interpreters to translate for them. Great pains were taken by the judge to have them understand that they did not need to plead guilty, unless they wished; that if they had any excuses to offer for their acts it would be perfectly proper to say "not guilty" of the charge of murder. Nevertheless, Dawson and Joe pleaded guilty, with characteristic Indian stolidity.

A jury of six, taken from a venire of twelve, heard the evidence given by C. A. Fox, the partner of the murdered man. Corporal Rudo, who had captured the first Indian, also had very good evidence. The prisoner, Frank, had made a clean breast of the affair immediately after his capture; in spite of the corporal's reiterated advice that he didn't necessarily have to tell anything to incriminate himself. Frank had showed the police where the body was sunk in the McCloud river, where the cache was hidden and where the boat was tied up. This prisoner appeared to be almost penitent. He is but a boy and was dragged into the affair by the influence of prisoner Jim. The questions put to the murderers by the judge through the interpreter showed them to be wholly deficient in the most ordinary morals. Their cunning, also, was of low order. They could plot to destroy the two men in the boat and steal their goods; but appeared to be stolidly indifferent to the results of the admissions they were making, though it was repeatedly impressed upon them. Questioned about their knowledge of a God or a future state, everyone was surprised to find they knew nothing about either one. Even the "Great Spirit" and "Happy hunting grounds" of the North American Indians were unknown to them.

Mrs. L. M. Bradbury, who penetrated 200 miles into the interior tells the following to a representative of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer: "As regards conditions in the interior, I would say that there are many disgusted people who would give anything to get back home. There are about 500 men camped at the lake and as many more at the river, twenty-five miles beyond. Only one party that I know of is further in than that. It is headed by Messrs. Amy and Stevens, of Stockton and San Francisco. They were ten miles up the river when we last heard from them, and had found an Indian trail to the headwaters of the river, over which they had started."

The swift waters of the river have caused many parties to come to grief. They put their outfit in boats and lost them, barely escaping with their lives. Some of the men who were grubstaked were glad for an excuse to come home. Most of the people who are discouraged and coming back are of the sort that expected to find a gold mine as soon as they crossed the glacier and were not prepared for further hardships.

It is seldom that a judge can repeat that formula without being much affected, and yet it had to be gone over to each of the four prisoners. Not one in the court-room but was sympathetically affected by the venerable judge's suppressed emotion at sentencing those intelligent children to death.

The prisoners had had the whole thing explained to them beforehand, so they knew what was said, yet they were probably the most unmoved men in the court-room. They had been asked if they had anything to say why sentence should not be imposed upon them and had emphatically shaken their heads. They evidently wondered why, having been caught, they had been allowed to live so long, and could not understand the gray-haired judge's emotion at sentencing them. Having been hopeless from the first they experienced no shock at the sentence of death. The church-like stillness of the court-room they looked upon simply as the reverence of a people for their big chief. That their own impending deaths lent solemnity to the occasion they could not conceive.

The jury strongly recommended Frank to mercy, and that recommendation will be forwarded to Ottawa by the Judge together with a report of the proceedings. There is time between now and November 1st for Frank's sentence to be changed, if deemed wise, and in the interests of justice that such should be done.

It is generally supposed, though not officially decided upon that the murderers will be hung in Dawson. Public executions have long been abolished in British territory so that but few will witness the execution.

A Society Event.

The real swagger element of West Dawson's was turned out on Tuesday last to assist at one of the swell society functions of the season. In the ordinary vulgar parlance of the country, the occasion would probably be termed a "log raising" but it is far more in accord with the eternal fitness of things to speak of the affair as a reception given upon the completion of Mrs. Crane's palatial residence.

The gentlemen who so gallantly tendered their services to the lady are to be greatly commended for being able to enter so heartily into the spirit of the occasion. They labored long and diligently—though some unkind persons have insinuated that the dinner which awaited

the termination of the work was the principal incentive.

The Rev. Mr. Seaton, of Seattle, officiated as general director of construction. It is a singular coincidence that all the other gentlemen concerned had offered to act in the same capacity. This, of course, is only evidence of the great amount of executive talent possessed by West Dawsonites.

Some critically-minded individuals who did not participate in the affair have been heard to remark that when it rains the water is more likely to run toward the ridge pole than toward the eaves. The NUGGET discredits this story, though if true it doubtless was done with a purpose. Probably the general director of construction, knowing that the climate forbids anything in the way of roof gardens, intended to provide Mrs. Crane with a skating rink as a roof attachment.

It is also stated that no exit was left in the roof for a stove pipe. Anyone who knows anything at all is aware of the fact that more or less heat always escapes through a stove-pipe. Hence, if the stove-pipe does not protrude from the house no heat will be wasted. The reasoning is so exceedingly simple, the wonder is that no one has thought of it before. When their labors were completed the gentlemen were invited to partake of a sumptuous repast. Mrs. Crane assisted, by Messrs. Taylor and Hall, of Seattle, did the honors for the occasion. The ladies were attired in costumes befitting so distinguished a gathering, and the gentlemen wore the conventional overalls and jumper.

Among the guests were the following: Mr. E. A. Jackson, representing "Recreation," Mr. Eugene Seaford, of "Delaire Place," in the Adirondacks; Mr. McLean, of the B. C. Mining Journal; Mr. Brown, representing London financial interests; Mr. Geo. DeLeon, representing California capital, the Dawson representative of the Rocky Mountain News, and several prominent Californians whose names were not secured. The affair was voted one of the successes of the season.

Copper River a Failure.

The rush to Copper river upon which such great hopes were based last winter has almost entirely stopped. Late papers from the outside state that Copper river has proven a dismal failure. Men who invested their all in their efforts to reach the headwaters of the stream where the coveted gold was supposed to be in abundance are returning to the states, sick and discouraged.

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On the Trail.

A representative of this paper made a round trip to Dominion creek last week.

A six-foot German, supposed to be insane, is visiting the trail occasionally. He carries a gunny-sack of provisions, carries a red buck-saw and talks constantly to himself. When seen by the representative, the insane man had descended the mountains somewhere and had headed up the Bonanza trail, being fast asleep at the time, lying on the bog of lower Bonanza. Some days ago he attacked a party of passers-by with the buck-saw and cut one of them over the leg quite badly.

Roddy Connor keeps the Dew-Drop Inn on 25 below on Bonanza. The unprecedented travel this summer has eaten him out of house and home, and a sign confronts passers-by: "Meals \$75 to men with full sacks. Meals gratis to men with no sack at all."

The man of newspapers found on Dominion that most of the work had been abandoned for the summer. The difficulty of taking in food over the summer trail has resulted in the closing of many cabins, and twenty of them were passed in succession, either nailed up or deserted and empty. It looked for a time as though the subscription man would have to go hungry. Andrew Robertson, on 19 above upper discovery, found his grub supply made it impossible to sell any amount, however small, at any price. Learning what paper was represented, the popularity of this periodical was immediately demonstrated by its representative being made free of the best in the house.

Finest line of soaps and perfumes, Kelly & Co., Druggists, Front street.

TO MONOPOLIZE DAWSON'S FUEL.**A Movement in the Wrong Direction**
by the Timber Office.**Only Two Firms to be Allowed to Cut Wood for Sale Excepting the Mills and They are Much Too Busy.**

The people of Dawson who are aware of the facts are much worked up over what will prove a cruel monopoly, unless the officials in a certain department immediately take proper steps to modify the effects of a recent action of their own. Since early in June all applicants at the timber agents office were confronted by a type-written proclamation, over the signature of Timber Agent Wilson, informing them that by orders from Ottawa no more permits or berths would be granted to cut either firewood, house logs or wood for the Dawson market. Modifications of this inflexible order have been made from time to time so that men with leisure could cut a set of house logs for themselves by paying over a certain sum of money, usually from \$10 to \$15. The possession of a tree miners' certificate was not regarded in the matter. Then individuals were given permits to go out and cut a small amount of firewood for themselves. Thousands of men willing and anxious to cut wood for the market were turned away or referred to men who already held timber berths. The result is as could be foreseen; here is the 1st of August and scarcely a stick of firewood in Dawson. In one month winter sets in. Suddenly, and without bids, a most peculiar contract or permit is given out to two firms which practically blanket every available stick of fuel on the Yukon, from Dawson to Fort Selkirk. Every stick of driftwood is given to Messrs. Goldsmith & Co., and every stick of dry wood on shore or on the islands given over to Messrs. Smith & Co. The contracts given these gentlemen are of an ambiguous nature, but all agree that outside of a few berth owners, they are to have the exclusive sale of all wood this winter. The berth-owners have green trees suitable for logs, and have their hands quite full in supplying the mills. The gentlemen of the two fuel companies are quiet philanthropic, and are very positive they will not charge anything out of reason for their wood, after the river freezes and no more can be brought down.

Let us see how that works already; A NUGGET representative went to Mr. Smith and was quoted a price of \$20 per cord for present prices on the banks of Dawson. A man was sent to the office of the timber agent to ask for permission to cut wood for sale. He was told that no such permits were being given, but he could see Mr. Smith. He went to Mr. Smith and made a contract by virtue of which he can cut wood between Dawson and Selkirk. His contract reads that he shall, in payment thereof, deliver to the said Smith & Co., fifty per cent. of the wood he brings down.

Here is the thing in a nutshell; The monopoly pays the government 50 cents per cord royalty; the cutter pays the monopoly \$20 per cord royalty—for the cord of wood he gives in return for his own is worth just exactly that much. As the price advances he practically pays more and more royalty. If public agitation does not bring about very quick change in the policy of the timber agent, the freeze-up will find the monopoly with the only dry fuel wood in Dawson.

A Distinguished Arrival.

A distinguished young lady arrived in town on Wednesday night last, and is going to stay with Dr. and Mrs. Brown, while they remain in Dawson. The young lady is not at all opposed to expressing herself, yet refuses to be interviewed as to her first impressions of Dawson. She cares not for gold and is simply here for her health. We congratulate Dr. and Mrs. Brown on the safe arrival of their nine-pound daughter.

Another Arrived One.

EDITOR NUGGET:
MADE IN DAWSON
BY THE

STAUF & ZILLY**Mining and Real Estate Agents**

Mining claims bought and sold

Drafts Issued and Cashed

CLAIMS HANDLED FOR NON-RESIDENTS

We will exchange currency for gold dust

The Alaska Exploration Company

Operating the elegant river steamers

LEON**LINDA****And ARNOLD**

Connecting with

Palatial Ocean Liners**AT ST. MICHAEL****Direct for San Francisco, Cal.**

We are in the field for business. Our stores and warehouses are now in course of construction at Dawson and other points along the Yukon river.

L. R. FULDA, Agent.

For further information enquire of SYDNEY HANSARD.

Drink Beer

It's Healthfull!

It's Invigorating!!

It's Good!!!

MADE IN DAWSON

BY THE

DAWSON CITY BREWERY

IN KEGS OR BOTTLED

A FINE LINE OF

LADIES' FOOTWEAR

AND
GENTS' DANCING SLIPPERS

AT

VARIETY STORE.

First Ave., between First and Second Sts.

PRICES REASONABLE.

Desirable lots for Residence and Business

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Harper & Ladue Townsite Co.

Office

Corner Second Street and Fourth Avenue

Bennett Lake & Klondike Nav. Co.**Strs. Ora, Flora & Nora****SAILING WEEKLY**

FOR

Head of Lake Bennett**OFFICE: 2 DOORS BELOW NUGGET OFFICE**

H. TEMPLE FALL, Agent.

Flora expected to sail Friday, July 22

