

# THE KLONDIKE NUGGET.

VOL. I. No. 10

DAWSON, N. W. T., SATURDAY, JULY 23, 1898

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## ANNIHILATION!!

### The Spanish Fleet Wiped Out of Existence

#### AMERICAN VALOR AND MARKSMANSHIP AGAIN EFFECT A GREAT VICTORY

#### Cervera Surrenders After Leaving His Ship

#### Full Details of the Contest That Marks the Climax in the Spanish-American War—Only One American Was Killed and Few Wounded While the Spanish Loss Was Very Heavy.

TEN MILES WEST OF THE ENTRANCE OF THE HARBOR OF SANTIAGO DE CUBA, Sunday, July 31, 4 p. m., by the Associated Press Dispatch boat, Wanda, to Port Antonio, Jamaica, Monday morning, July 4th, via Kingston, July 4th, 4:45 a. m.—Admiral Cervera's fleet, consisting of the armored cruisers Cristobal Colon, Almirante Oquendo, Infanta Maria Teresa and Vizcaya, and two torpedo boat destroyers, the Furor and Pluton, which had been held in the harbor of Santiago de Cuba for six weeks past by the combined squadrons of Rear Admiral Sampson and Commodore Schley, at the bottom of the Caribbean Sea, off the southern coast of Cuba. The Spanish admiral is a prisoner of war on the auxiliary gunboat Gloucester (formerly Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan's yacht Corsair), and 1,000 to 1,500 other Spanish soldiers and sailors, all who escaped the frightful carnage caused by the shells from the American warships are also held as prisoners of war by the United States navy.

There can be no doubt that Admiral Cervera's plan to escape from Santiago Harbor was entirely unexpected by Admiral Sampson, and the best evidence of this fact is that when the Spanish vessels were seen coming out of the harbor the flagship New York was seven miles away, steaming to the eastward toward Jurgu, the military base, ten miles east of Morro. The New York was out of the light altogether at every stage, but she immediately put about and followed the other vessels in the race to the westward, and overtook them in time to join in the chase for the Cristobal Colon, after the other Spanish vessels had been destroyed by the Brooklyn, the Oregon, Iowa, Massachusetts, Indiana, Texas, Gloucester and other ships of the fleet.

Commodore Schley's flagship, the Brooklyn, had her usual position at the extreme western end of the line, ten miles from the New York and Texas. It is a peculiar fact that he should have been in proper position to direct the movements of his flying squadron against the Spanish fleet, which he had bottled up in Santiago Harbor six weeks before.

As a matter of fact, the entire American fleet was much further off than usual when the Spaniards made their appearance this morning. With the exception of the bombardment yesterday morning, which resulted in knocking down the flag on Morro Castle and the supposed silencing of the batteries, which opened fire again this morning, as usual, the navy had done little recently to attract interest here, and the officers and crew themselves were watching the developments of the operations being conducted by the army, which had succeeded in reaching the very gates of Santiago, after an enormous loss in killed and wounded in the fighting of the past two days.

It was not believed that Admiral Cervera would attempt to escape from his perilous position at this late day, but it was supposed that he would keep his ships in the harbor and shell the advancing American army, and that if Santiago fell he would blow up or sink them rather than permit them to be captured by the American squadron lying outside.

The American victory is complete, and according to the best information obtainable at this time, the American vessels were practically untouched, and only one man was killed, though the ships were subjected to the heavy fire of the Spaniards all the time the battle lasted.

It was about 9 o'clock this morning when the flagship Infanta Maria Teresa passed under the

wall of Morro Castle and steamed out to sea. She was followed by the Cristobal Colon, Vizcaya and Oquendo, and last by the torpedo boat destroyers, Furor and Pluton. The lookout on the American vessels which were lying five or ten miles off the entrance to the harbor sighted them immediately. Most of the American cruisers were at the usual Sunday morning quarters, without thought of anything as surprising as the Spanish fleet sailing past the sunken collier Merrimac, which they had been led to believe effectually blockaded the harbor.

As the ships ran in toward the shore, it soon became evident that the Spaniards had not come out to make an aggressive fight, but they turned to the westward as soon as they had cleared the harbor and started on their race for safety, at the same time sending shots at the Americans as fast as the men could load and fire the guns. The Brooklyn, Massachusetts, Texas, Oregon and Iowa were nearest the Spaniards than any other of the American vessels, but still some of them were too far away to get effective range. They crowded on all steam, however, in preparation for the chase, never stopping their fire for a moment.

Meantime, the larger American ships were gaining on the Spanish cruisers and a storm of shots was passing between the pursuers and pursued. The American fire was so rapid that the ships were enveloped in thick clouds of smoke, and it was impossible to tell at the distance, which vessels were doing the greatest execution. The Brooklyn and the five battleships were keeping up an incessant fire upon the Infanta Maria Teresa, the Vizcaya and the Almirante Oquendo, and the latter was returning it bravely, though with no success. The Spanish gunners seemed unable to get the proper range, and many of their shots were wild, though a number of them fell dangerously near the mark. The guns of the battery just east of Morro also took part in the game, and their shells fell around the American ships. Many of them struck the upper works of the fleeing Spaniards, and must have resulted in killing and wounding many of their men.

The Spanish ships had now reached a point about seven miles west of Morro and a mile or two beyond the place where the Furor was burning and the Pluton broken in two against the cliff.

The Gloucester, a fast little yacht that cannot boast of any heavier battery than several six-pounders and three-pounders, was lying off Aguadores, three miles east of Morro, when the Spaniards came out. At first she joined in the attack on a leading vessel, and then held off, Captain Wainwright concluding to reserve his efforts for the two torpedo boat destroyers in the rear. The Gloucester steamed after them when they appeared and chased them to a point five miles west of Morro Castle, pouring shot after shot into them all the time. Her efforts bore abundant fruit, for to her belongs the credit for the destruction of both the destroyers. She fired 1,000 shots during the chase, and it was not long before both destroyers were on fire and plainly disabled. Notwithstanding they both returned the Gloucester's fire and a rain of small shells fell around the yacht. The Furor evidently determined that she would not stand the fire any longer, and she put about and headed back for Santiago. Then the Gloucester simply smothered her with shots from her rapid fire guns, and running like the wind forced her to turn around and again head westward. Smoke commenced to rise from the Furor's sides and she put in toward the shore. Before she had gone far what was left of her crew abandoned her and took to the boats, reaching the shore later. By that time she was a mass of flames and was drifting along helplessly.

It did not take the flames long to reach the Furor's magazines and there were two terrific explosions, probably of gun cotton on board of her, which blew holes in her bottom. Her stern sunk immediately, and she settled in the water her bow rose straight into the air and she went to the bottom in perpetual oblivion, giving out a hissing, sizzling sound as she disappeared below the surface. The Pluton was in the same distressed condition and was also headed for the shore, running up along side of a low bluff where she soon pounded to pieces and finally broke in two completely. It was a most dangerous landing place for her crew and but about half of them reached the shore alive.

The Gloucester did not go any farther west, but lay off shore and sent in a boat to the assistance of the destroyers.

The flag ship and the Aquendo were the first to show signals of distress. Two 12-inch shells from one of the battle ships had struck the Marie Theresa at the water line, tearing great holes in her side and causing her to fill rapidly. The Aquendo suffered about the same fate, and both ships headed for a small cove and went around 200 yards from shore, flames shooting up from them in every direction.

The officers and crew must have been aware of the fate which seemed to be before them, but it was not until the ships were on fire and enveloped in flames and smoke that the men ceased firing.

The Gloucester, after sending a boat ashore to the Pluton, secured along the coast to where the armored cruisers were stranded and went to their assistance. One man swam through the surf with a line from the Marie Theresa, making it fast to a tree on the shore. By this means many of the Spaniards, including Admiral Cervera, lowered themselves into the Gloucester's boats. The Gloucester's crew gave the wounded men every attention possible. A dozen or more explosions followed the firing, the smoke of the guns rising almost to the water's edge. Another column of smoke two miles further to the westward, was observed. The Vizcaya was also in flames, and was obliged to run ashore to keep from going down. The Iowa and Indiana were keeping up a terrific fire upon her and her condition was as bad as that of the others.

The Brooklyn, Oregon, Massachusetts and Texas and several smaller vessels continued the chase after the Cristobal Colon, and in less than an hour were lost to view of the burning ships on shore. The Iowa and Texas both gave assistance to the imperilled crew of the Vizcaya. Her captain surrendered his command and the prisoners were transferred to the battleship. The Vizcaya probably lost about 60 men, as she carried a complement of 400 and only 340 were taken aboard the Iowa.

Soon after Admiral Cervera reached the shore and surrendered he was taken to the Gloucester at his own request. There was no mistaking the heartbroken expression upon the old seaman's face as he took the proffered hand of Capt. Wainwright and was shown to the latter's cabin, but he made every effort to bear bravely the bitter defeat that had come to him. He thanked the captain of the Gloucester for the words of congratulation offered on the gallant fight and then spoke earnestly of his solicitude for the safety of his men on shore. He informed Capt. Wainwright that Cuban soldiers were on the hill preparing to attack his unarmed men, and said he thought his sailors had suffered enough in their battle with the American forces and that he was willing to surrender his entire command but asked that some protection be given to his men until they could be taken off in the American vessels. Capt. Wainwright had heard similar reports from his own officers regarding the presence of Cubans in the brush and he sent a guard of a few sailors ashore to prevent the Spanish prisoners from being molested.

For hours after Cervera went aboard the Gloucester, the Infanta Maria Teresa, Almirante Oquendo and the Vizcaya continued to burn and every now and then a deep roar accompanied by a burst of flames and smoke from the sides of the ship, would announce the explosion of ammunition or magazine, as the flames shot higher and higher above the decks of the magnificent vessels.

Many who witnessed the scene felt it had a strong resemblance with the destruction of the Maine in Havana harbor five months ago.

Wainwright, commander of the Gloucester, was executive officer of the Maine at the time of the disaster, and although he remained in Havana two months after the explosion he lived on board the dispatch boat Fern, and steadfastly refused to set his foot within the city until, to use his own words, the time had come when he could go ashore at the head of a landing party of American blue-jackets.

Today it was his ship that sank two Spanish torpedo boat destroyers and afterwards received the Spanish admiral aboard as a prisoner of war. From his position on the bridge he could see the clouds of smoke as they enveloped the decks

## THE FIRST BOAT IN AT DAWSON.

### July 21 Sees the Monarch Tied up at the Wharf.

#### And Burros Gets a Free Passage for Being the First to Sight the Approach From Down the River.

The very first boat to get through from St. Michaels to Dawson City was the powerful steamer Monarch of the Columbia Navigation company's line. She is a newly built boat of goodly proportions with excellent accommodations for her seven thousand and four hundred passengers and was built especially for the Yukon trade. Her winter at Ballard, Wash. She has made a remarkably successful trip all the way from Seattle, owned by the ocean steamer Rival. Arriving at St. Michaels she found several ice in the bay, but their river connections were not in evidence. On the night of June 20 she left St. Michaels with her 70 passengers with a clean field ahead. Seven o'clock in the evening of July 21 she tied up to the dock at Dawson, making the phenomenal trip from Seattle to Dawson in 70 days, and from St. Michaels in 20 days and 20 hours. The Yukon days, below the city, were rather some bother and caused her to lose some time, but she is staunch and well managed, and under the eagle eye of Captain C. W. Spague, and his crew of pilots, she has set a record for the summer which will be hard to equal. Seward Persons will have his hands full on the down trip as the Monarch leaves next Tuesday and there will be no other boats here for from five to nine days.

The incident of the trip were numerous. On June 6 the Monarch left Dutch Harbor and was shortly followed by that port by the ship Alliance with the big forty on mail for Dawson.

The company's wide-awake agent at this point, Mr. W. H. Church, has been offering through the Nugget a first-class ticket to Seattle to the first man sighting one of his company's boats coming up the river. A number of men have been out on the hills night and day ever since. For ten days false reports have been coming in every hour. Three times Mr. Burros had reported a steamer on the horizon, but Thursday afternoon he was easily the first from his post down the river to sight the Monarch.

notice J. Rice, J. Rich, Mr. Rankins, T. Hogan, R. Anderson, Mrs. B. Anderson, Mrs. Mrs. M. A. Gangers, C. J. Vilonain, J. H. Sheldaday, E. Gindler, J. Schirvaula, G. Lickman, F. Thiel, P. Schirbner and Mrs. C. Jackson. Mrs. Young and child returns from Holy Cross. From Circle City there came M. Roberts, T. Weidman, A. K. Gomard, J. W. Sullivan, N. W. Zeller, J. G. Murray, Mr. McDonald, D. Bruce, B. E. Clark and A. C. Macle. Some of the passenger from Seventy-mile are Dawsonites. There were J. C. Claffey, W. Richards, E. L. Peterson, H. L. Schaska and Chas. Baerka. Eagle city is represented by C. K. Laitson, Mr. Seaburg, W. A. Rekois, M. J. Donahue, M. Teed, J. Leonard, Geo. Brown, L. S. Ailes and W. Meyers.

## The Lone Slapjack.

Last night my lonely shack  
One short Alaska wind of day,  
The cold came in through every crack,  
Without Old Borens held full sway,  
Upon the stove was a sea of smoke,  
I was my dilly-meal a lone slapjack.

Upon the floor my floor lay,  
In all my useless lean had a sack,  
My hens and bacon eat that day,  
Would you could constitute a pack,  
Could I live until the last of May,  
Upon one lone slapjack a day!

While pondering thus and looking back  
When empty meals three times a day  
I never in my life did lack  
Judge Masterton in sad dismay  
Came in and said "My dear old Me,  
Will you give me a hot slapjack?"

The Judge then without more delay  
Just "off away my lone slapjack!"  
He snatched a broom and talked so gay  
Almost my happy days came back,  
I saw in mind the last of May,  
With hot slapjacks three times a day.

The Judge is one, the days seem black,  
I miss his hearty genial way,  
St. Louis friends will test his sack,  
Mid nonchalant corks as good friends may,  
Should early spring time bring him back,  
He's welcome to a hot slapjack.

RUSSELL S. BATES.

## Rough Weather at Sea.

Mr. Taylor, a well-known citizen of Victoria, B. C., arrived here on Saturday last, making the trip from Victoria to Dawson in 12 days. Mr. Taylor reports the St. Ickeen route as practically abandoned for the present and in consequence the town of Wrangell is almost deserted. The steamers Victoria and Cascade built for navigation of the Stickeen river left the port of Wrangell some time ago for Dawson City via St. Michaels. They encountered rather heavy seas on the northwest coast and thought it prudent to return. The two steamers were making for Wrangell as Mr. Taylor and party were leaving port. The steamers were in a very dilapidated condition.

SICK DOGS better. See Shoff the Druggist, Pioneer Drug Store.

Are you buying your drugs at the Pioneer Drug Store?  
Bring your prescriptions to E. Shoff, Pioneer Drug Store.

ED  
gasoline at Nugget  
I'll trade a full inter  
for a year's provis  
is office  
y woman as cook for  
ess M. this office.  
FOUND  
s near Harper and  
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NUGGET office.  
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name of Pat. Grins  
n. First to collar when  
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s. Front street, or n  
ble reward.  
ALE.  
riter. Jos Mayer Bros.  
d. Peterboro canoe,  
es width. Price \$10.  
ing to leave the city  
sell a valuable lot on  
Third and Fourth  
overclaims on Swedish  
at a low price. Owner  
rtry. Inquire at Nte  
AIN. Positively one of  
Hunker creek. Full  
nd equipped. Plenty  
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LAR TRAIL  
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G.A.W. Vancouver  
C.A.W. Vancouver  
reet, Seattle, Wash.  
Barges will leave Daw  
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ALASKA EX. CO.  
and handles Express  
all points.  
aining in will be handled  
red in transit and stored  
down river points 90 days  
quarantines miners to prove  
fit, and call for their  
camp is located.  
ublished company carry  
to the various points  
information, call on  
FEROLLER, Agent,  
Library Bldg., Dawson  
ATRE  
CITY  
Complete  
eekly  
Y AND ENCOUR  
Everybody should  
Visit the Pavilion



THE GOLD COMMISSIONER EXPOSED.

Friends of His Office Secure the "Plums."

The Opening of Dominion Creek Shows a Most Rotten Condition of Affairs and Only Those on the Inside Got Anything.

The lengthy report of the citizens' committee to the mass meeting on Tuesday evening was in the nature of a sensation. Gold Commissioner Thomas Fawcett had been shown by the local press in a very bad light, as will be seen in the reprinted article in a late issue. An indignation meeting of miners had appointed a committee to investigate the gold commissioner and they had put to him some very sharp but pertinent questions. His replies to those questions were given out in the meeting and were accepted as gospel. Major Walsh had been shown to the world by Thomas Fawcett, Esq., to have not only deliberately prevaricated, but to have, with cunning duplicity used his subordinate for a shield for his own iniquities and short-comings.

The crowd had laughed merrily when the gold commissioner deliberately accused the Major of sending a lady to him with an order for a "permit to prospect forbidden ground." What a revelation to know that the Major and his council were in the habit of signing the poor gold commissioner's name whenever it suited them to cover their own tracks. What an abuse of a poor, overworked recorder had been perpetrated by his superiors! Over and over again the questions "Who has done this?" "Who did this?" "Mr. Fawcett had replied, "Major Walsh! Major Walsh!" "Poor Tom Fawcett" was in everyone's mouth, and as the extent of his woes became more and more apparent, a strong wave of sympathy passed over the meeting and took its even due course. If what the gold commissioner said of Walsh were true, then was the Major trampling upon an inferior in an unheard-of fashion. Documents had been signed without his knowledge or consent and foisted upon the public as the doings of Thomas Fawcett.

Changes in dates had been made deliberately and charged to Thomas Fawcett. The Major had pursued a vacillating course and deliberately allowed the odium to fall upon his inferior, who stated to the committee that he was merely an one of his clerks—no more and no less. A lady friend of the Major had pursued the hapless gold commissioner, and with Mrs. Koch's denials, she ordered in her hand had hidden him, step aside from the paths of rectitude and issue a permit to prospect ground he was holding closed against 20,000 eager, struggling applicants, and which was widely known as "forbidden ground."

The poor, despised gold commissioner was impudently shown the respect of his superiors in issue that positively illegal permit. That is all; he wouldn't dare say "no" when his superior said "yes."

"Well! well! well!" is me, when designing men encompass me round about.

Documents of destruction had been designed in darkness and put forth as his. He had not even been used as a puppet, for a puppet takes part in its own helpless pantomime. No, he was not even the catspaw used by the monkey to draw roasted chestnuts from the fire.

Such was the substance of Mr. Fawcett's answer to the citizens' committee. The veracity of the committee is unshakable and unquestioned. Most of the questions had been carefully written out and the answers just as carefully taken down. That the gold commissioner would deliberately prevaricate on matters which could so easily be verified or proven false, was the last thing anyone thought of. Therefore, the mass meeting of 3000 people swarmed Mr. Fawcett's denials of himself as readily as a gourmand could swallow an Eastern oyster. "What do you think of Major Walsh now?" was asked a thousand times of the Nugget representative.

The Nugget had nothing to say, but early Wednesday morning a representative found his way to the headquarters of the gold commissioner, a formidable pile of papers, never disconnected, a government official. Some leading questions were in the Nugget pocketbook and some sharp retortations for misinformation taking shape. Mr. Fawcett refused to meet the Nugget man in Major Walsh's presence or anywhere else for that matter. The next best thing was to fire some questions at the Yukon gold commissioner.

"Is it a fact that you or the council sign Mr. Fawcett's name whenever you so desire?" "No!" "Have you yourself signed his name?" "No!" "Has Mr. Fawcett's name ever been signed to documents without his knowledge and consent or against his expressed wishes?" "No!"

"Then how do you account for Mr. Fawcett's reply to the following question put to him by the citizens' committee: 'Why did you issue a mandate saying permits would be issued on behalf of persons desiring to prospect bench claims?'" Mr. Fawcett's answer was: "The notice was framed by the council without my being consulted and I had nothing to do with it. It was signed by the council."

The major was astounded. He assured the Nugget that Mr. Fawcett must have been misquoted. He explained that when in council any matters decided upon were signed by his own private secretary who was also secretary of the council, whether the signature was his own, Mr. Fawcett's or Mr. Wade's. The major made an unsuccessful attempt to get Mr. Fawcett to come and substantiate his words, but the gold commissioner was too wise to face the scribble.

The next question was a pointed one. "Major, regarding the last proclamation, Mr. Fawcett says: 'Major Walsh also had this proclamation printed and posted upon the 9th,' and gives the committee the idea that his own hands were clean."

"The major was using great self-restraint but was evidently warm. Another attempt was made to get Mr. Fawcett, upstairs but it was equally unsuccessful. Major Walsh stated that the gold commissioner was the advocate of the measure, drafted the document, and either handed it to the printer himself or saw it handed as could be proved by witnesses. As the date being two days back instead of two days ahead (the major) was absolutely in the dark. He desired the day of opening to be on the eleventh."

"Major, the following question was put to Mr. Fawcett with the following answer: 'Did you not issue one or more permits to prospect forbidden ground, and to whom?' The gold commissioner's answer was: 'I have only issued one permit that was to a lady—Mrs. Koch—and it was by order of Major Walsh.' The major was now clearly angry. He declared emphatically that he had never sent anyone to Fawcett for a permit and at this point he took up the scribble papers which contained the questions and answers of the committee and Mr. Fawcett, and disappeared into the lower offices. An interval of some twenty

minutes and the papers were brought back by the Yukon Commissioner but what change in the papers, Fawcett had denied his damaging admissions to the committee and in support of his retraction had scratched out all that was to the point and had added in his own handwriting what mustadden him eternally in the minds of all honest men. The childish minded recorder insisted that the citizens' committee misunderstood him for he now admitted himself to be one of the council which drew up the disclaimed proclamations. The hectic headed gold commissioner takes back his statement of his utter innocence of the second proclamation and says in his own hand-writing: 'And the major's suggestion on the second notice, etc., etc.' This changeable incompetent of a gold commissioner, in his own peculiar hieroglyphics, hastens to condemn the committee's veracity and assure the world that he never sent the major sent him an order to issue a permit before the date set by the council. Was ever such a jumbling jargon of a council in office before? Did the major's council official ever have such a change to vex men's souls? That he asserted to the committee that he did so by the major's orders, no one on earth doubts who knows the committee. Yet upon being confronted by his perjury he cannot refrain from chuckling, the Irishman's head, when you put your finger on the nose, he is there, nodding to a statement and you find him slipping out of his garments and escaping. Prevarications followed by retraction and we suppose the retraction will be followed by more prevarication. Has he no respect for truth at all that he could have in deliberately falsifying the gold commissioner's name in a matter which anyone can verify in ten minutes?

Did Mrs. Emma Koch go to Mr. Fawcett with an order for a permit from Major Walsh? or even did she go from Major Walsh's office to Fawcett's as though backed officially in her request for a permit to prospect? Did she take it to him? Here is a copy of the permit issued on June 27th, when Dominion creek was believed by all honest men, who believed in the gold commissioner's integrity, to be closed to friends and foes alike:

MINING DIVISION DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR Mining Recorder's Office, YUKON. June 28, 1898.

DISTRICT CANADA: Permission is hereby granted to Mrs. E. Koch to locate or stake a claim on any unlocated and unoccupied ground on the hillsides, on closed portions of Dominion creek.

THOS. FAWCETT, Gold Commissioner.

What does this emerald-hand official say now? Simply this: 'I issued under instructions purporting to come from Major Walsh.' This travesty on manhood simply says that the lady lied—not he. Let us see about that. Mrs. Koch is a highly respectable lady of well-known antecedents, industrious and above reproach, as all agree who know her. Her story is supported in every detail by Mr. Arabella Merrill, who bears letters of endorsement which stamp her a perfect lady and a Christian woman. Her mission in the North West is that of a missionary nurse—a calling she has followed for years.

Mrs. Koch kept a restaurant on Main street before the present overdone rash. A miner told her of some good ground off Dominion but she must get a permit in order to get it. Mrs. Koch is a German lady and knows as little of mines or mining laws as Fawcett himself. In her ignorance she presented herself to the recorder's office and asked for a permit. The recorder, in his lofty superiority, knowing that the creek was closed, replied that a permit was unnecessary.

The lady thought the news was too good to be true but nevertheless went home with the matter still on her mind. She decided that a forty-mile tramp through the woods was not to be thought of unless she was sure about the permit so she persuaded her friend, Dr. Merrill to go and ask Major Walsh. She felt sure that the Major would not willingly send her on a wild goose chase. To the doctor's inquiry about the permit the major said: 'Why yes, certainly; the creek is closed and cannot be prospected or staked without a permit.' Mrs. Koch was told and went for the permit. It was handed out to her. The ladies will take note before their god to the above facts. Mrs. Koch had not seen the major and did not mention him.

Is anything more necessary to prove the utter unreliability of this man calling himself gold commissioner? Have we got to pile proof on proof forever before he will have the decency to step down and out? We feel that if this thing goes on we shall get weary after a while and say something.

FAWCETT EXONERATES HIMSELF. His Answers to the Committee Show Him to Be a Very Ill-used Individual.

The mass-meeting which was called on Tuesday evening to hear the report of the two committees appointed at a former mass-meeting to wait upon the gold commissioner, was a success in every particular. Mr. J. Knight Smith, who was chairman of both committees, presided at the meeting. Mr. Geo. C. Armstrong reported for the committee which was to wait upon Mr. Fawcett and got the clerical force and the office itself extended so that the business of the miners could be despatched without the exasperating delays of the past.

Mr. Armstrong reported that the committee had met Mr. Fawcett by appointment one evening and the stated that he was powerless to render the very comforting of. Last winter he had been compelled to reduce his clerical force because the stores would not guarantee to feed them all. He had no anticipation at the time of the number of "stampedeers" which afterwards took place, not of the amount of work it would throw upon his office. The committee replied by letter setting forth the inanity of the gold commissioner's force and the delays in every department, and urging that the proper representative at Ottawa be at once communicated with. Mr. Fawcett replied by letter that he had received the intelligence from Ottawa that a party of 12 persons had been appointed to assist in his office, and the reason they were not already here was probably due to their camping in over the Stickeen route. Mr. Armstrong made a few apt remarks on the report and sat down amid applause.

Mr. Frank Dunleavy, for the committee appointed to investigate the Dominion stampede, made the most interesting and valuable report, and much applause and laughter. The committee had written Mr. Fawcett and he met them by appointment. The gold commissioner had met them cordially and frankly and answered all questions freely. He was evidently much worked up over the Dominion stampede, and most interesting in the air from forty miles to Bennett, and had once last winter demanded his office out entirely of his clerks and called for specific charges from the public. None were made.

The following questions were put and answered: Why were the Dominion bench claims closed to the public in the first place? He "didn't know." (Much laughter.) Why did you issue a mandate saying per-

mits would be issued on July 11th to persons desiring to prospect bench claims? "The notice was framed by the council without my being consulted and signed by one of that council." (Laughter.) Why was that mandate revoked on July 7th, and another issued on the 8th saying "Bench and bench claims are now open to free miners" and do you know how some of the public received information before the posting of that proclamation? "I thought permits unnecessary and illegal as a miner's right was the only permit required. On my suggestion the second notice was framed on the 8th of July, but I understood it was not to be published until the 11th. Major Walsh then printed and posted up on the 9th, the second notice, and on the 10th and 11th, with the dates 11th, 12th and 13th; but whether or not they got their information from this office I have no means of knowing. I am only one of the council." (Cries of "Oh! Oh!")

"When did your supreme power as gold commissioner with regard to mining matters, cease, and who is now responsible for the edicts issued from the gold commissioner's office and signed by you?" "On the arrival of Major Walsh I had no absolute power as gold commissioner, except in mining disputes, and even that power was conferred on me by Major Walsh." (Much laughter.)

The next question was a pertinent one and was productive of howls of derision and delight: "Did you not issue one or more permits to prospect forbidden ground, and to whom?" "I did issue only one permit and that was to a lady (yells of laughter) prior to the first proclamation being thought of."

"By order of Major Walsh?" (Much laughter and applause.) "Did anyone go out to Dominion creek previous to July 9th to stake by your advice?" "No! No one went out to stake, but not to staked." (Cries of derision.)

Mr. Fawcett further stated that he had requested Major Walsh to appoint Judge McGuire to investigate the charges which had been brought against him; but that Major Walsh said "he had not the power to do so—that the matter was for the council to decide." Mr. Fawcett stated that if he had had his own way about the Dominion benches there would have been no "Dominion muddle."

Mr. Dunleavy continued his report and said that Mr. Fawcett claimed it was a usual thing for the council to pass orders and sign his name. (Much laughter.) He (Fawcett) had been given to understand by the members of the council that the proclamation opening Dominion creek without permits was not to be made public until the eleventh. To the question as to who had changed this order Mr. Fawcett replied: "Major Walsh." (Laughter.)

"Who is responsible for edicts now emanating from your office?" "Major Walsh" (doubt and prolonge! laughter.) Mr. Fawcett claimed that the sole cause of the "Dominion muddle" was this interference of the council in the other offices of the gold commissioner. In his remarks upon the report he had just made Mr. Dunleavy said that in regard to the first question as to why the creek had been closed in the first place Mr. Fawcett's answer of "I don't know" was most unsatisfactory because he ought to have known. Major Walsh was not here at that time to interpose his authority.

In regard to Mr. Fawcett's plea that he was not even responsible for his own signature Mr. Dunleavy said: I know what I would say if anyone signed my name without my knowledge or approval as Fawcett says was done with his. I would say "everybody" but the mining laws are not only "proclamation" the cause of the trouble appears to me to lie in "one man government." What do you think of the abuse of official power which will select one person for favors to the detriment of a permit and debar the other twenty thousand? The opinion of the community is not that the gold commissioner is a man who is not wholly to blame in this Dominion scandal and other matters. Fawcett puts it where it belongs. I think Mr. Walsh is advised by incompetent advisors. What do Capt. Bliss and Inspector Metreger know about a pick and shovel? If Mr. Fawcett is to be believed you had no mining laws. Major Walsh can set him and then assist with impunity. If as the gold commissioner says the Major is the supreme head of that office as well as the others he must accept supreme responsibility. The gold commissioner thinks he is a much abused man. So would I if anyone signed my name without my sanction and approval.

Mr. Dunleavy was much applauded throughout and the meeting seemed to think the gold commissioner had made out a very good case for himself throwing the responsibility on Major Walsh, who, according to the committee's report, was said by Mr. Fawcett to be "quite in the habit of having proclamations drafted up and signed without even the gold commissioner's sanction to what purported to be his own signature."

A Mr. Cox next spoke making some very humorous allusions to present affairs. His dry way of telling his own troubles, convulsed the audience. Some weeks ago he had staked a claim and staked a 200 ft. claim. A friend was taken out to stake but when he went in to record the gold commissioner marked it with but 20 feet. The friend persuaded Cox to go to Major and speak for him. The major received him affably and heard him through and finally asked him to change his claim to 200 feet. Mr. Fawcett with a note. When it came back it also was marked "20 feet." (loud and continued laughter.) "Whatever you do whenever you have a grievance go and see the major; he is a perfect gentleman—but don't give him your certificate." (Much laughter.)

Woodworth made the next speech and a good solid speech too. He had been pleading law for the past three weeks and had never yet had to plead the law of Major Walsh. Men were running away with a very foolish thing when they run away with the idea that Major Walsh or any other man was the only law of the district. Everybody had the same rights before the law as Major Walsh himself. Mr. Woodworth spoke very loudly under the head "Common Law," "Canadian Law," "Dominion Law" and lastly "Territorial Law" upon all of which, with a reasonable interpretation, you could stand and defy any man to change his will. The mining regulations probably come under the last head, but even they, if studied, were found to be equal and fair and beyond the power of any man to add to or subtract from. He was a Canadian and proud of it, but for some time past had felt much humiliated at what he had found to be the belief of most people present that we were wholly at the mercy of some one or other of the officials here. As illustration of this he quoted the case of his first client before Judge McGuire. As soon as the client heard that Crown Prosecuting Attorney Wade was against them he cried out: "Then for God's sake we are lost!"

"But we were not lost and I say to you that you have a poor appreciation of yourselves or your rights or the laws made for you when you cry 'We are lost' because some official is arraigned against you."

Foreigners also have equal rights with Canadians under the law. All are free and equal under our laws and it is a pity that no free field for you exists than under our laws. "Beware how you treat off Fawcett for some one you don't know. No one here had ever had (Continued on 2nd Page.)"

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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.

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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. FLUDA, Agent. For further information enquire of SYDNEY HANSARD.

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A FINE LINE OF LADIES' FOOTWEAR AND GENTS' PUMPS

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FIRST ST., BET. FIRST AND SECOND AVENUES.

Desirable Lots for Residence and Business. Locations FOR SALE BY

Harper & Ladue Townsite Co.

Office. Corner Second Street and Fourth Avenue

Vertical text on the far left edge of the page, including various small advertisements and notices.

DON'T OFFEND THE COMMISSIONER.

Sour Dough Tells What it May Cost You to "Rile" Recorder Fawcett.

An Old Timer Tells a Friend of an Actual Occurrence on a New Creek and Enjoins Him to Silence.

The conversation between Messrs. C. Chaco and S. Dough reported in our last regular issue was continued in a short walk along the water front. "What is that great crowd at that log building near the stockade?" asked the new arrival who was not yet onto Dawson ways.

"That is the gold commissioner's office," said Mr. Sour Dough. "But I don't see many of them getting in to transact any business," was the wondering remark of Chee Chaco.

"Whist!" replied Sour, putting his finger to his lips in token of silence. "You may want to get in there yourself some day. I guess I'll give you a pointer right here; but for lands sake don't talk so loud. You see,..."

Chee broke in with "What's the use of all this myste-ry? At what we under a free flag?" "Ce-ah-ah-ah-ah!" he replied. "Sour Dough told me that whatever you do don't get the gold commissioner down on you. If you ever get the reputation of being what he calls a 'kicker,' you may have reason to wish the whole blooming country to the 'demnition bow-wows' like Mr. Mantaline."

"Does he ever do..." "If you'll come out here into the woods I will tell you of a case in illustration," and Mr. Sour Dough led the way across lots to the edge of town. Reaching a point behind some bushes and partly concealed by a cache, he looked carefully around to see if anyone was listening.

"You remember Pete, Jack and Tom? Yes, Well, they went out on Dominion last March and found a new creek and called it Vancouver creek. They found good prospects and staked off a discovery and two more claims, making them Nos. 1, 2 and 3. They hurried in to record because people were recording right over the heads of the genuine prospectors.

more worthy of public generosity than the hospital under Father Judge's kind and able administration.

ANNIHILATION!!

Continued from First Page. of the three greatest war ships of the Spanish navy which were soon to be reduced to nothing but shattered masts and twisted smokestacks protruding above the water similar to that other picture in Havana harbor. It was not strange, therefore, that he said to those beside him, "The Maine is avenged!"

Just then the Pluton and Furor sank. The Gloucester's boat picked up many of the survivors on shore as she could find. The prisoners of war included the captains of both boats. None offered resistance and were glad to go to the Gloucester, as they feared being attacked by Germans.

The handsome sloopboat Hamilton was met by the Mousch about a day's travel from the mouth of the river. Full passengers were not obtainable but saw was seen to be badly broken in two. In a scabbard parlance "her back was broke."

YUKON PROVISIONAL DISTRICT. I hereby appoint the officer commanding the North West Mounted Police at Dawson, and Messrs. D. W. Davis, F. C. Wade, H. A. Bliss and J. E. Thompson, a committee for the town of Dawson.

At the first meeting of the Town Committee appointed by the Commissioner of the Yukon Territory there were present, Inspector Staines, Commanding the North West Mounted Police at this point, D. W. Davis, F. C. Wade, H. A. Bliss, W. E. Thompson, M. D. and Richardson, M. J.

At this point the chairman read the commission. It was then moved by Mr. Wade, seconded by Mr. Bliss, that immediate steps be taken to remove all the logs in the river along the Smith addition, so as to allow room for steamboats to land along that portion of the water front, and that the officer commanding the Northwest Mounted Police be requested to see that this is done at once, and that the logs as compactly as possible be piled east of the water room for traffic as can be made available, at least 25 feet, and that the removal of the logs from the premises be undertaken first, and that all scows and boat owners be required to remove their scows and boats from the same portion of the river front.

Moved by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Wade, that immediate steps be taken to remove all obstructions from cross streets, from North West side of Front street, and also to clear the water fronting on these streets of all scows, boats, rafts and obstructions of any kind. Carried.

Moved by Inspector Staines, seconded by Dr. Richardson, that a copy of the Commission and minutes of this meeting be published in the newspapers, and any complaints must be made in writing and sent to Mr. Davis, the Chairman of the Committee. Carried.

California Restaurant for first-class meals. Reasonable prices. Try it.

Have your prescriptions filled by Kelly & Co. Druggists, Front street.

Finest cigars in Dawson. Pioneer Drug Store. E. Shoff, prop. Second ave. 2nd st. ft.

WANTED. Benzine or gasoline at Nugget office.

WANTED TO TRADE. Will trade a half interest in a mining claim for a year's provisions. Inquire for M. at this office.

WANTED. A situation by woman as book for men in mines. Address M. at this office.

FOUND. Bunch of keys near Harper and Ladue mill. Owner can secure same by paying for this ad. at the NUGGET office.

LOST. A black Newfoundland dog, medium sized, and answers to name of Pat. Grins when pleased. Had chain fast to collar when last seen. Finder return to Marie Riecksele, Massege and Bath Parlors, Front street, or inquire at this office. Suitable reward.

FOR SALE. A splendid Peterboro canoe, length 19 feet, 40 inches width. Price \$150. Inquire at this office.

FOR SALE. Owner desiring to leave the city at an early date will sell a valuable lot on Second avenue, between Third and Fourth Inquire at Nugget office.

FOR SALE. Will sell two claims on Swedish Creek, near discovery, at a low price. Owner desiring to leave the country. Inquire at Nugget office.

FOR SALE AT A BARGAIN. Positively one of the best mines on Hunker creek. Full claim, well-developed and equipped. Plenty wood and water. Royalty paid on this year's output. Small percentage of the ground touched. In excellent shape to begin operations. Have urgent business which demands my presence outside, so rather than remain and work my ground will sell it for cash at a sacrifice. Also have claim in the twenties below on Bonanza. Inves. gailon invited. Address South Down, this office.

PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS. DR. RICHARDSON - University of Toronto. DR. NORQUAY, University of Manitoba. Physicians and Surgeons. Office open day and night.

LAWYERS. C. M. WOODWORTH - Advocate N. W. T., Notary, Etc. Office opp. New England. C. W. C. TABOR - Barrister and Solicitor; Advocate; Notary Public; Conveyancer. Opposite Monte Carlo saloon.

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MRS. NELSON, Expert Typewriter and Stenographer. For Sale. A new Typewriter, \$65. Library Building.

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DENTISTS. R. G. CALDWELL, Dentist, Office opposite the Dominion.

Combination Saloon. Is the Place to go for fun and amusement. Finest kind of liquors and Cigars.

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Shortest and best route to Eldorado, Bonanza, Hunker Sulphur, Dominion and Eureka

Good trail from A. C. Co.'s store to go below on Bonanza.

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A. L. HENRY, President. O. H. H. NORRIS, Traffic Manager. (Four Lead Clover Route) W. D. WOOD, Seattle, President.

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.T.S. for Seattle.

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T VOL. I. NO. FOR OR The Beginn... A Public Spirit... Conditions... Practical S... Editor KLONDIKE... Sir. - At prese... is not responsi... only to the gov... as the ease in... our governmen... quired colony... cheirs. For suc... ple of Eastern... Ottawa and Eg... tion and such l... we have to than... in very early c... errors to the ab... to choose the r... ince as their c... If the copy of... a separate terri... sition, & Co. ap... all from Ottawa... without being r... without a voice... the recorder's... soldiers are exp... I will not erit... his council. I... wise, just and... that it will take... make a people... It must be reme... responsible to... ready caused th... administrative... Canada. We wis... Dawson shoul... then have a ma... representative of... of Dawson. The... jurisdiction ove... such rivers, bri... the municipali... repeating the m... within these li... levy taxes and... have the usual... streets, drain... water supply, a... works, public l... burial of the de... and other busi... would, until we... for the territor... representative... The resolutions... mayor and coun... should have gr... stoner and his c... eriment at Ott... this mayor and... or chamber of... erial with any... imputation of d... lessness may b... public meetin... imputation of... tions of these p... up to the pres... corporation as... had to be made... been made a sep... sion and coun... to be made to... self. It would b... for incorporati... resident owners... whom should b... ness and shoul... be shown to be... ments. It may... have a special d... paration. In... still have the... town in two we... petition and dra... present them at... separate territor... plan ordinance... pected commissi... suggests? If the suggesti... the citizens no... the preliminary... DAWSON, July 2... The Columbia... eraign" arrived... This is the secon... arrive within th... eign was towed f... "Lakme" which... will reach St. Mic... the "Monarch" w... The total number... Dawson from the... these 96 are direc... der were picked... Yukon. The "La... was passed by the... scow in tow and... difficulty on a sa... The N. A. T. ste...