

# The Weekly Economist.

THIRTY-SEVENTH YEAR.

VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, FRIDAY JANUARY 4 1895.

VOLUME XXXVII. NO. 4

## NEWS OF THE PROVINCE.

### Vancouver's Visitation of Criminals—Adventures of a Lumber Leden Ship—Charter Amendments.

### A Woman Shoots Her Husband—Christmas at the Penitentiary—Masonic Ball.

(Special to the Colonist.)

#### VANCOUVER.

VANCOUVER, Dec. 27.—A number of hold-ups have occurred here lately. Last night a son of Alderman Salabury was held up on Granville street when returning from a party. Fortunately a jack-knife was all the young man had in his pockets. This was examined by the highwayman and returned with the remark "I am never robbed anyone worse than themselves. The same evening Mr. Thompson was held up, who was the stealer of the horse, which he held in her hand. The fog was dense, and seeing no one in the distance she quietly submitted. It is said this morning that K. N. Thompson was held up by the fog for the same reason. Mr. Thompson evidently does not want to talk about the matter, and the police are anxious to keep the footpad epidemic which has struck Vancouver as quiet as possible until they nab some of these undesirable guests.

Besides the numerous hold-ups and incendiaries several burglaries have been committed in several private houses, where the larders have been cleaned out. The most recent was at the residence of Mr. J. M. Salabury, 560 of the Self Denial Salvation Army. The quarters of the army officers on Gore avenue were broken into by thieves, and besides the amount stated a valuable watch was taken.

The Dominion Express Company here will extend its business to the United States after January 1. News has reached here that on the 26th ult., the British barque Zuzipge, lumber laden from this port for Honolulu, had put in at Skibberone, Ireland, with captain, officers and crew, eighteen all told, suffering from scurvy of the most aggravated type. Captain Falconer, a Scotchman weighing about twenty stone, who was in command, died two or three days later. The Zuzipge left Vancouver about six months ago, and having experienced a succession of storms in the North Atlantic, was greatly distressed. When lying off the coast of the British Isles, the equator of the boat was fearful, and caused intense suffering, while scurvy broke out three weeks before sighting the Irish coast.

A bonfire was recently kindled near Quinn's hall, close by fire-bugs. This morning, about two o'clock, a fire very much like the other, was kindled in the shed behind the store formerly occupied by Bailey. The fire broke out in the morning, and the firemen were alerted by the prompt and efficient work of the firemen. On the occasion of this morning's fire the close proximity of wooden buildings to the business met and alarmed the police are on the scene of the fire-bugs.

An alleged case of wife desertion nearly terminated in a tragedy last night. A year ago a young man married in Tacoma, and leaving his wife in Seattle came to Vancouver, B. C., to look for work. He was engaged at several hotels. When at the Cosmopolitan, he was noticed by a woman who had been in Seattle. His wife in Seattle heard of it and came on to Vancouver with their child. Their meeting was very stormy and terminated by the woman shooting her husband. Fortunately the shot only made a flesh wound in the wrist, but it was almost another murder. The woman is sorry and the affair is being kept as quiet as possible. The newspapers have promised not to mention names, as everything is likely to be hushed up. About one hundred and twenty-five rate-payers met at the market hall to-night to discuss Vancouver's proposed charter amendments now before the house. Mayor Anderson occupied the chair. Mr. Williams, M. P. P., thought the amendments should have been postponed until after the municipal elections so as to get the opinion of the people. The opinions of the members of the local legislature should be notified. The City Solicitor read the proposed amendments and explained the more important ones, which were all passed by those present, one or two being slightly amended.

The schooner C. D. Rand has been chartered for a sailing cruise next month. VANCOUVER, Dec. 28.—Japanese Consul Shemizu leaves for Honolulu January 2. A private banquet was given in his honor to-night, and a banquet to him under the auspices of a large number of prominent citizens takes place on Saturday evening. The "greatest" who were released only yesterday from custody in connection with the "Rand piracy case," have been re-engaged as hunters on the sailing schooner "Seward."

The fireman at No. 1 hall have invented a device by which the trap door which they strike in sliding down the pole sets the machinery in motion that opens the doors for the horses.

The Locksmiths hall was attended last evening by most of the Germans in the city. The affair was a social success.

Mr. Olson, of Victoria, is to tear down a number of wooden buildings owned by him on Cordova street, and erect a handsome brick block.

The poultry association held an enthusiastic meeting last night. Two letters were received from Victoria. One from J. A. Ferrin, promising "dainty" for the kitchen, and another from Frank Turner, asking for entry blanks for dogs. These gentlemen will be notified that there will be no dog show, as there appears to be no love of dogs in Vancouver sufficiently to enter prize in a kennel show. The poultry exhibition will be held January 23, 24, 25 and 26, and probably about the same date every year hereafter. A large number of entries have been promised from Westminster, Victoria, and Nanaimo. The association will transport exhibitors' birds to and from the depot.

A number of business changes have taken place lately, the most important being the merging of the Cassidy Co. and Leary & Kyle's lumber firm into one corporation. The new company have taken over the Cassidy mills, released the mortgage on the Red Mills and 5,000 acres of timber, and put \$40,000 cash into the business. The company have 10,000 acres of timber. Last night's rate-payers' meeting to dis-

pose Vancouver's proposed charter amendments was not, it is claimed, a representative one. The faces of those present looked strangely familiar—in fact it was the usual mass-meeting market hall crowd.

The steamer Thibide, chartered by the Victoria Fishing Co., arrived from the hall, but banks to-day with three car loads of fish.

Large numbers are skating at Trout Lake a few miles from Vancouver on the Westminister-Vancouver tram line.

#### WESTMINSTER.

New Westminster, Dec. 27.—There is good skating at Burnaby Lake, and a large number of Westminsters have organized skating parties.

C. G. Major is sitting as judge of the Court of Revision and Appeal. Several important cases came up to-day. The Bullen and Dominion bridge companies plans have been found to be equal as regards price for the new bridge to be erected across the Fraser, the figures being \$330,000. The Hamilton company is rather higher. The Dominion company submitted entirely to a plan and came down in price being in possession of the figures formerly submitted by the Bullen and Hamilton companies, so that the bridge committee and general on committees have still some knotty questions to wrestle with.

Among the many institutions of the province in none was Christmas more heartily celebrated than at the B. C. penitentiary. A special grant is made annually by the Minister of Justice to furnish the institution with a pudding. By the united efforts of willing hands a large pudding weighing over three hundred pounds was ready early on Christmas eve, and the cooking was fine. Many people have the idea that a man's floor feelings are eradicated on entering a place of this character. But nowhere are home-likes stronger or the remembrance of a mother or a dear friend more keenly felt than in the penitentiary. Instead of being a place, as the name would indicate, for inflicting perpetual punishment it is the reverse—a reformatory—and as such all the finer feelings of humanity are to be cultivated in treating those who are so unfortunate as to be confined within its precincts. Nowhere has the warm, sympathetic, kindly heart more scope in which to exercise his high function of raising by its influence the unfortunate. At 8 a.m. the B. C. service was held and at 2 p.m. the Protestant service was conducted by the chaplain, Rev. Mr. Gowen. For some time both choirs have been busily practicing anthems and hymns for the occasion. The anthems were finely rendered and nothing could excel the heartiness with which the hymns were sung. Mr. Gowen presided on an able and eloquent discourse, taking for his text, "Immanuel." The choir, M. P. P., and members of his family were present and entered heartily into the service.

New Westminster, Dec. 28.—At the Masonic temple last night officers were installed in Union No. 9 and King Solomon No. 17, by R. W. D. G. M., Dr. W. A. De Wolf Smith.

In the case of the Bank of British Columbia v. F. C. Costin, Mr. Justice McCreight made an order to commit him on the ruling of the judge.

S. R. Hilg's interests at North Arm and Langley were sold at auction to-day. William Brown, charged with having a wagon the property of J. Daneman in his possession, was committed for trial.

#### NAIMALO.

NAIMALO, Dec. 27.—The annual Masonic ball this evening is the success of the season. The opera house had been beautifully and artistically decorated and the attendance is all that could be desired. The supper by Danneberg of the Windsor house is most excellent in every detail. Negotiations are under way to secure the new wharves at City of Everett for coal carrying between this city and Seattle. Other charters are also being looked for to replace the badly shattered fleet. Two "ladies" of the "devil's half acre" recently exchanged compliments, one hurrying about and the other a pair of scissors. The scissors missed the original mark landing in the eye of a spectator named Casak. The eye has been removed and an interesting case is on in the police court for next week. Judge Crease is up from Victoria. Present indications point to interesting developments in the police commission case. The city books are said to show a rather loose method of posting business "when the weather permits."

NAIMALO, Dec. 28.—A petition is being circulated for the purpose of making legal and official the recent re-survey of the city. The variations in the old surveys have caused much trouble in one or two sections of the city.

Meetings for the discussion of the coming civic election and the questions of the day are becoming very numerous. The election promises to be very spirited as many claim that the time is ripe to materially change the old order of things.

#### FLUMPER PASS.

FLUMPER PASS, Dec. 28.—The Christmas examination of the Mayne Island school took place on Friday in the schoolroom, when many friends and visitors were present, including Trustees Bennett and Macklin. The scholars acquitted themselves with great credit. The recitations, readings and acted high comedies from an appreciative audience. The progress made by this school during the year has been especially noteworthy, and the teacher, Mr. J. W. Sinclair, may well be congratulated on the success which has attended his scholastic efforts. An entertainment and Christmas tree was held on Monday evening when Santa Claus made a highly gratifying visit.

The closing exercises of Pender Island school took place on Friday, the hall being artistically decorated with evergreens and bunting. There was a good attendance of parents and friends, and great interest was taken in the doings of the children. This school was only opened in July, consequently the proceedings were merely formal. The parents, however, did not fail to notice

the improvement manifested by the young ones, and the teacher, Miss F. Lawson, is to be complimented on the efficiency of the school and the good discipline which prevails on that day. The Christmas tree supplied each of the children with a handsome present, and the conviviality which followed was much enjoyed.

#### VANCOUVER.

Mr. A. B. Knox shipped a load of best cattle to New Westminster on Thursday last.

Supt. Marpole on Friday made a trip down the lake to Pentiction, returning the following day.

On Saturday Sister Frances, who made a small strike on Sitwah creek some time ago, still continues to get good pay from their claim, and the weekly clean-ups are of a very satisfactory nature.

On Saturday Sister Frances and the remaining nurses left for the coast, the diphtheria patients having fully recovered and no vestige of the disease remaining in the city. For their prompt response to the city's request for consideration, the nursing efforts put forth by these devoted ladies in combating this terrible disease, have been placed under an obligation which all will recognize and which cannot fully be assessed by pecuniary considerations.

Mr. W. R. McClintock has resigned his position as manager of the B. X. ranch. At the beginning of the new year Mr. A. McDonald will assume the management. It is reported that the one from the Morning Star mines at Fairview, which is being put through the Strathgry company's mill, is turning out remarkably well, an average of about \$300 per day from between 15 and 20 tons of ore is said to be the correct figure.

Clément Vetter, one of the proprietors of the St. Lawrence mine at White's camp, Boundary Mountains, was in the city last week and left on Monday for the South Sea. This property, formerly known as the "McCormick Discovery," has been in litigation for some time, but an adjustment has been reached and Mr. Vetter has formed a company to work the property.

Municipal politics form the subject of conversation on the streets these days. It is probable that Mayor Martin will continue in his office for another term, and all the members of the present council with the exception of Alderman Crowell, will likely be again in the field.

Charles Lawson, well known among the old-timers of this country, met with a very serious accident last Saturday morning. Lawson is said to have been in the city living at the Victoria hotel, and some months ago had the misfortune to lose his eyesight from an accident and is now totally blind. He was going to the office on the morning of the accident and fell over the railing at the head of the steps, a distance of about 10 feet, fracturing his leg near the hip and breaking the bones of his arm near the elbow.

J. R. Keenan, late of Pentiction, has been recommended for the position of customs officer at Midway.

A shipment of hops to the London market will be made this morning by the Golden Era. The hops containing in all about 21 tons will be sent. The hops are of an excellent quality.

#### CHILLIWACK.

Mr. Devlin, the Indian agent, was in town on Saturday. The government has placed a sum of money at his disposal in aid of the Indians, to be used for feed for their stock. Mr. Devlin has made a minute investigation of their wants and is arranging to procure the necessary supplies. The Indian agent has also yet received but little interest. Speculation as to the composition of the next council has scarcely begun. So much general satisfaction has been expressed with the present council it is possible that the electorate has made up its mind to return them to office on bloc.

#### WINTER WEATHER.

New York, Dec. 27.—Dispatches from numerous points in this state and from points throughout the New England States, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Maryland, say that snow has fallen throughout the night and continues this morning. The snow is from several inches to two feet deep, and in many places travel is seriously impeded. In this city the snow turned into rain in the early hours, and the streets are almost impassable with slush. A high northwest wind prevails, and the water in the bay is very rough. Very few vessels have been reported as entering or leaving the harbor. At Washington, D. C., Dec. 27.—The streets are almost impassable to-day. The heavy snowfall of yesterday was followed by rain, and a keen frost. Consequently the sidewalks are a ridge of ice, which renders locomotion difficult. Slight furies of snow occurred during the morning.

#### FORCED INTO FLAMES.

New York, Dec. 27.—A special cable to a morning paper from Montevideo, Uruguay, says: A house at San Gabriel, used as a hospital, was burned by Brazilian troops in which more than 120 rebels perished. Several who tried to escape were forced back into the flames by bayonets. Over 200 soldiers, it is reported, have deserted near Ors Alva and gone over to the rebels.

## ANOTHER DEFEAT.

### Chinese Forced to Retreat—Several Important Points Evacuated and Occupied by Japanese.

### Ex-Secretary of State Foster Retained by the Chinese to Visit Japan.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—A dispatch to the Central News says the Chinese army under General Sun, having been defeated at Kung Wa Set, retreated to Newchwang. They were joined by the troops under command of General Ma, and the combined force retreated to Tien Chou Te, the town of Newchwang being completely evacuated. The Chinese troops at Tsa Han Lien are spreading their front and increasing the number of banners in order to make the greatest possible display of strength. Japanese cavalry scouts report that 3,000 Chinese from King Chow have reached Tsa Han Lien. The native officials at Shanghai and Ning Po are in a complete state of panic, fearing a Japanese invasion. Chang Chi Lung, the new viceroy of Hankow, is in spreading the force of the Yang Tze King, and Commissioner Moorehead is sending new European drill instructors to the Yang Tze King forts under the viceroy's direction.

The Times correspondent in the city says the Japanese have a body of marines, had dispersed the Tonghak rebels in Chollado, Korea. The Japanese have dispersed 5,000 Tonghaks in the province of Hwanghae.

The London News correspondent in Peking says that Liu Kun Yi, ex-viceroy of Nankin, has arrived at the capital and is expected to leave Li Hung Chang in the department of civil affairs. The following announcement was made to the United States government to-day by ex-Secretary of State J. W. Foster: "Mr. John W. Foster has been requested by the Chinese government to go to Japan as a special plenipotentiary of the former government to aid them in their negotiations for peace. He has accepted the invitation, and expects to leave Washington within a few days, sailing from Vancouver for Yokohama on January 7th, unless informed of a delay in the departure of the plenipotentiaries. The Japanese government has been advised of the appointment, and its satisfaction with it. Mr. Foster desires to have it understood that he goes to Japan purely in a private capacity, as an adviser to the Chinese plenipotentiaries, and not as an authorized representative of the government of the United States." Mr. Foster who beyond the statement made he had nothing to impart to the Chinese legation, showed the statement of ex-Secretary Foster, but the diplomatic secretary refrained from expressing an opinion upon the subject. When a reporter asked for the opinion of the Japanese plenipotentiaries, Mr. Foster said that he had expressed his satisfaction with it. Mr. Foster desires to have it understood that he goes to Japan purely in a private capacity, as an adviser to the Chinese plenipotentiaries, and not as an authorized representative of the government of the United States.

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Official circles, when the announcement became known, it was taken to mean that from now until peace is concluded, Mr. Foster will be a complete stranger to the Japanese and Chinese plenipotentiaries. Mr. Foster's appointment as plenipotentiary of the former government to aid them in their negotiations for peace, as announced in the United States, was a surprise to the Chinese plenipotentiaries. Mr. Foster's appointment as plenipotentiary of the former government to aid them in their negotiations for peace, as announced in the United States, was a surprise to the Chinese plenipotentiaries.

Mr. Foster has had an extended diplomatic career, having, in addition to being Secretary of State in President Harrison's cabinet, represented the United States at the court of Spain and more recently one of the United States' counsel in the Behring Sea arbitration in Paris. The immediate effect of his appointment will be to delay the beginning of the peace negotiations. The state department officials had been confident from Minister Denny's dispatches that the Chinese plenipotentiaries, Chin Yen Huan and She were already on their way to Japan, and it was their understanding that the formalities for peace would be concluded as rapidly as possible with due respect to Oriental delicateness, the preliminaries having been practically arranged in advance. Mr. Foster's mission, however, is taken as an indication that the Chinese expect to gain more favorable terms from Japan than has hitherto been considered as all probable. Until to-day no one has doubted that Japan's ultimate terms had been definitely known to China, and that China, powerless to effect any further resistance to Japanese arms, had fully consented to accept the ultimatum without delay. As Mr. Foster does not intend to sail for more than a week, and the voyage across the Pacific will consume two weeks more, nearly a month must elapse before the peace negotiations are fairly inaugurated.

#### IN A PITEROUS STATE.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—The Daily News will say to-morrow in a leader on the arrests of the bank officers in Newfoundland: "The arrests which have been announced to-day seem to be in the nature of an heroic remedy for the financial troubles in the colony. Whatever the issue of the prosecution may be it can hardly strengthen the public confidence on which the poor remnants of the colony's prosperity for the moment rests. Newfoundland is in a pitiful state. She has almost returned to first principles as a social organization, and must regret her short-sighted refusal to enter the Dominion. If she had joined the federation she would have a better claim on the support of her sister communities. Her refusal, never was based on any other reason than selfish prejudice."

#### STRIKE AVERTED.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—The threatened great strike of the employees of the Great Southern & Western Railway of Ireland, which has appeared inevitable for some time, has been averted for the present at least by the action of Secretary Trevelyan, of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants, who has just issued a notice to the men along the line calling upon them to postpone a settlement of their demands until the route of the American mails, now under consideration, has been decided. The notice says: "The Great Southern & Western Railway Company of Ireland has invested a large sum of money in fitting up and making Queenstown one of the most suitable ports of call in the United Kingdom. There is a subsidy granted annually of \$400,000 for sale and the carriage of mails. In addition to this the City of Dublin Steam Packet Company receives \$400,000, and thousands of dollars find their way into the country through this channel which it would be desirable to divert. A protracted strike would have this effect."

#### HURRICANE AT QUEBEC.

QUEBEC, Dec. 27.—(Special.)—A hurricane which has been raging here all day reached its height about 8 o'clock this evening. Very few ventured out of doors, as the roads were blocked. Trees were blown down in all directions and considerable damage was done to property. Telegraphic and telephone communications are demolished and the city is darkness to-night, the electric wires having been mixed up with other wires. At midnight the storm is gradually subsiding.

#### Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder

World's Fair Highest Award.

## AGAINST THE SOCIETIES.

### WILMINGTON, Dec. 27.—Bishop Curtis issued the following letter to all the priests in the diocese of Wilmington: "As soon as practicable you will read on Sunday, at least once, the following documents, and you will, I am sure, to the very utmost of your ability, endeavor to procure from all whom the decree of the Holy See may concern, a prompt and loyal obedience to this decree. When Christ speaks through his vicar and in such words, there can be no question as to the purpose of the utterance. A Catholic, excuse himself how he may, ceases to be a Catholic if he fails to conform himself thoroughly and at once to that utterance."

### The Late Premier's Estate Very Small—English Post Cards of Foreign Currency.

OTTAWA, Dec. 27.—The usual papers for the administration of the estate of the late Sir John Thompson were filed to-day by Messrs. O'Connor & Hogg, on behalf of Lady Thompson, in the surrogate court in the county of Carleton. Sir John died testate. His estate is sworn to be \$9,727, of which \$5,726 is from life insurance. It will thus be seen that Sir John had but little of this world's goods. Of the cash on hand there is an amount of \$258, being twelve days' salary during the present month, due to Sir John as Minister of Justice, which has been paid to Lady Thompson since his death. An item of \$2,483 money in the Savings bank is made up of sums which the late Premier managed from time to time to save while a resident of Nova Scotia. Out of these moneys the debts due by the estate will have to be paid. These amount in the aggregate to about \$1,200, composed chiefly of household accounts. Deducting this amount it will leave only \$1,500 over and above the life insurance available for the family.

The Post Office department has under consideration the issue of an order conforming to that recently issued by the Imperial government for the recognition of post cards of private issues, provided they do not exceed the regulation size and that they have Canadian postage stamps attached. If it is decided to allow these to circulate it is probable also that the order may apply to reply post cards of private make as being received in Canada and are returned to England in the ordinary course of postage, even though English stamps are attached, Canada gaining no benefit from them.

To-day Ottawa revelled in an old-fashioned snow storm. The electric railway had a pretty hard time keeping its track clear but was successful. Hon. Mr. Bowell kept to his room all day, but it is good health except that his cough troubled him occasionally. The Premier received many telegrams of congratulation from all parts of the country on the occasion of his seventy-first birthday. A new proclamation has been issued declaring the value of foreign currencies for customs purposes.

#### THE TIGER LOOSE.

New York, Dec. 27.—The Evening Sun publishes an interview with Richard Croker, in which he challenges not only Bourke Cochrane, but all his enemies, inside or outside of Tammany hall, to meet him before the executive committee of Tammany on Saturday and substantiate, if they can, any charges they have to make against him. He denies that a pamphlet, entitled "The Elevated Railroad and Appropriated by him," is a work of his. He also denies that he and Cochrane differed at the Chicago convention. He declares that the only grievance that he is aware of that Cochrane can have against him is his refusal to support Cochrane for the United States senatorship. Mr. Croker added that he would leave for the South in a few days. He declared that he was out of politics forever.

A leader of Tammany Hall, who did not desire his name mentioned, said: "Mr. Cochrane has been around for over two years lambasting Mr. Croker. He was creating mischief in our organization for some time before. Mr. Croker could not be made to believe that Mr. Cochrane was originating certain stories reflecting on the leadership of Tammany Hall. The break between them did not really take place in earnest until Mr. Croker favored the election of Edward Murphy as United States senator. Mr. Cochrane, although he had advised Mr. Croker, thought that the latter would support him for senator. I understand that he and Mr. Croker had a heated argument at that time, and that they have never exchanged a word since." Mr. Croker thought that the latter would support him for senator. I understand that he and Mr. Croker had a heated argument at that time, and that they have never exchanged a word since.

Mr. Croker has had an extended diplomatic career, having, in addition to being Secretary of State in President Harrison's cabinet, represented the United States at the court of Spain and more recently one of the United States' counsel in the Behring Sea arbitration in Paris. The immediate effect of his appointment will be to delay the beginning of the peace negotiations. The state department officials had been confident from Minister Denny's dispatches that the Chinese plenipotentiaries, Chin Yen Huan and She were already on their way to Japan, and it was their understanding that the formalities for peace would be concluded as rapidly as possible with due respect to Oriental delicateness, the preliminaries having been practically arranged in advance.

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#### INSURANCE UNION BROKEN.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 27.—The Commercial Union, Fireman's Fund, Home Mutual, Manchester, California, American, Agricultural of Watertown, N. Y., Loyalists of Manchester, St. Paul, Teachers of New Orleans and Girard of Philadelphia insurance companies have given notice of their intention to withdraw from the Pacific Insurance Union. The Northwestern National, the New Zealand and Sun are involved in a difficulty with the union over the payment of salaries to solicitors, prohibited by union rules, and the Phoenix and Home are already out of the insurance company. Many agents, some representing the companies mentioned, do not want to disband, recognizing the advantage of concurrent action. They have given notice of withdrawal to be able to meet the rate-cutting expected from those already out of the union. Notices of withdrawal are expected from many other companies, but extraordinary efforts are being made to reorganize the union on new lines. Rate-cutting would greatly diminish the profits and force many small companies to the wall.

#### SIR JOHN THOMPSON.

QUEBEC, Dec. 27.—The Canadians now in San Remo will hold a memorial service on the day of Sir John Thompson's state funeral in Halifax. Among those who will be present are the Baroness Macdonald, Lady Abbott and her daughters, and Sir David Macpherson and his family.

## CAPITAL NOTES.

### The Late Premier's Estate Very Small—English Post Cards of Foreign Currency.

### Old Fashioned Snow Storm—Hon. Mr. Bowell's Birthday—Value of Foreign Currency.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

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#### THE INDIAN PROBLEM.

WASHINGTON CITY, Dec. 27.—General complaint against the issuance of government reports to Indians is made in the annual reports of agents. Captain P. H. Ray, of Shoshone agency, Wyoming, says: "They will never become self-supporting as long as the government gives them a semblance of support, neither do they begin to accumulate property so long as the supply of the necessities of life is solely in the hands of white traders." Another factor regarding development complained of by Captain Ray, is the domination of the agents, who are allowed to dictate to the Indians as to the terms of amending and the terms of the treaty. The removal of troublesome chiefs is recommended.

The international treaty regulating seal hunting in the North Pacific and Behring Sea, has worked great hardship to the Indians at both agency, Washington. These Indians cannot agree upon a headman or chief, and consequently are divided among themselves. Their agent regards the failure to select some one as a disadvantage to them. Considerable opposition to the work of the commission preparing the lands of the Puyallup reservation for sale, is being shown by a minority of these Indians, but the factors are evidently Tammany hall and the restrictions removed.

The progress made at the Tulalip agency, Washington, indicates that within a few years the Indians will become self-supporting and independent of government aid. Some definite action is urged upon the department to restore to the Yakimas their rights to their accustomed fisheries on the Columbia river, Washington, the dispute over which has resulted in considerable trouble. The Yakimas refused to take allotments, but have marked off a line which they claim as their reservation in common. They are reported to have financial condition and in great need of government assistance. "Whisky," says Agent Erwin, "is the greatest hindrance to the Indians' prosperity."

#### INSURANCE UNION BROKEN.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 27.—The Commercial Union, Fireman's Fund, Home Mutual, Manchester, California, American, Agricultural of Watertown, N. Y., Loyalists of Manchester, St. Paul, Teachers of New Orleans and Girard of Philadelphia insurance companies have given notice of their intention to withdraw from the Pacific Insurance Union. The Northwestern National, the New Zealand and Sun are involved in a difficulty with the union over the payment of salaries to solicitors, prohibited by union rules, and the Phoenix and Home are already out of the insurance company. Many agents, some representing the companies mentioned, do not want to disband, recognizing the advantage of concurrent action. They have given notice of withdrawal to be able to meet the rate-cutting expected from those already out of the union. Notices of withdrawal are expected from many other companies, but extraordinary efforts are being made to reorganize the union on new lines. Rate-cutting would greatly diminish the profits and force many small companies to the wall.

#### SIR JOHN THOMPSON.

QUEBEC, Dec. 27.—The Canadians now in San Remo will hold a memorial service on the day of Sir John Thompson's state funeral in Halifax. Among those who will be present are the Baroness Macdonald, Lady Abbott and her daughters, and Sir David Macpherson and his family.

#### Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder

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