Weekly Colonist.

FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1886.

THE ABBE LISZT.

So much is just now being said about Franz Liszt who is electrifying the musical world of London with his marvellous and long acknowledged powers that a few particulars of his early life may be of interest. He has both Magyar and German blood in his veins. His mother, Anna Lager, was born in Krema, a little distance from Vienna, while his father, Adam Liszt, was the descendant of an ancient and noble Hungarian family. The boy knew his notes before he had mastered the alphabet, and would steal away from his playmates to his father's pianoforte. From the age of six he seemed to have neither life nor enjoyment out of his music, and applied himself to it with such passionate energy that his mother became alarmed for his health. He was only nine years old when he played at a public concert at Oldenburg, with such success that he was at once secured for a concert which was to be given in the Prince's palace at Presburg. This concert was attended by a most musical and artistic audience, as well as by many Hungarian nobles, who were so struck and delighted with the boy's talent that they guaranteed him £60 a year for six years to enable him to continue his studies under the best masters. Two concerts were given in Vienna for the purpose of introducing the lad of fourteen to the people of this music-loving city. Beethoven, who rarely at this time appeared in public, was among the audience, and was so delighted with the boy's extraordinary talent that he went on to the platform, and before the crowded assembly, took Franz in his arms and kissed him. The letters of introduction he carried from the Hungarian nobles opened the *salons* of the Parisian aristocracy to the *protege*, and the Duchesse de Berry and the Duke of Orleans, afterwards Louis Philippe, took him specially under their protection. Le Petit Litz, as he was called, was the hero of the day, the pet of the nobility, the artists and the learned; in short, of all cultivated Paris. Just as the press in Vienna, in Munich and in Stuttgardt had lauded him, so now did the Paris journals, especially after his appearing at a concert in 1825 at the Italian opera. He was declared to be the "first pianoforte player in Europe, the child beyond compare, whose bewitching elegance, charm of mind and manner, kind heart and aristocratic bearing had taken captive the hearts of all." During the next two years he made artistic tours in Switzerland and in the French provinces; he also came twice to England in 1824 and 1825, accompanied by Erard. George IV. showed him much kindness during these visits. His father dying, he supported his mother in Boulogne by giving pianoforte lessons, rarely appearing in public. He shortly after fell in love with Caroline, countess St. Eriz, daughter of the minister of the interior. The love was reciprocal, but her father had promised her to another. In 1834 he married the Countess D'Agoult, who died in 1876 leaving three children, one of whom was the widow Richard Wagner. After a year of success in Paris, 1834, he lived in retirement at Geneva for two or three years, until he was mastered by the desire of once again living a public life. From 1839 to 1847 he traveled from place to place, triumph and honor following ever at his heels. He was decked with orders and titles by pope and princes. Liszt dwelt at Weimar until 1859, when, owing to some opposition to the production of an opera, he resigned his appointment and went on a long visit to his mother, who still lived in Paris. He went to Rome in 1861 and, four years later received the title of Abbe, became a monk of the Franciscan Order, and dwelt for a whole year in the Vatican. Pio Nono had a great admiration for him; calling him his son, his Palestrina. In 1869 Liszt returned to Germany, and paid long yearly visits to Weimar. The grand duke presented him with a house beautifully situated in the midst of the park, and here, says Amy Fay, "he lives elegantly and free of expense whenever he chooses to come to it." One of the rooms in this house has been furnished and put in order by the grand duchess herself. All Weimar adores him. When he walks out he bows to everybody just like a king. No wonder that he is loved and honored, for never had man done so much to help young artists. His purse and purse have been ever open to them, his time and experience always at their disposal. Since 1847 his life has been exclusively consecrated to the benefit of others, to artistic undertakings and charitable objects. "It is difficult," says La Mara, "to talk of Liszt's playing to those who have never heard him. His playing is a revelation." "The instrument glows and sparkles under his hands," says Schumann. And Mendelssohn, writing of him, declares: "I have never seen a musician like Liszt, in whom feeling and sentiment seem to run to the fingertips and pour out in an unchecked stream." The enthusiasm at his reappearance, after an absence of nearly half a century, has been a marvellous testimony to the power that must have shone out in his early life, the earnestness and quiet strength of his purpose: influences that seem to have followed him even in his retirement. From the Queen, who commanded his attendance at Windsor castle and hastened to Echinhour, down to the humblest of her artistic subjects, there had been the same to express admiration for a life nobly given, a purpose perfectly fulfilled.

HON. LUCIUS SETH HUNTINGTON.

Hon. Lucius Seth Huntington, died at New York on the 19th inst. of bronchitis. He was a descendant of a New England family that came over in the time of the Mayflower, and participated in all the vicissitudes of that time. No New England family has more distinguished itself in the church, field and senate. His grandfather, a U. E. loyalist, removed to Canada and settled at Compton, Que., towards the close of the last century. The deceased was a son of the late Seth Huntington, of Waterville, Que., and was born on the 26th of May, 1827, thus lacking but a few days of completing his 59th year at the time of his death. He was married to Miriam Jane, daughter of the late Major David Wood, of Shefford. This lady died in 1871, and in 1878 Mr. Huntington remarried, taking unto himself Mrs. Marsh, relict of the late Charles Marsh, civil engineer. He was called to the bar of Lower Canada in 1853, and created a Queen's counsel ten years later. Mr. Huntington was a member of the executive council of Canada and solicitor-general of Lower Canada from May, 1863, till March, 1864, when the government (Sanfield-Macdonald-Dorion) resigned. Deceased was sworn in as a privy councillor on the 20th of January, 1874, and was president of that body till he was appointed postmaster-general in the Mackenzie government in October, 1878; he had previously acted as minister of public works during Mr. Mackenzie's absence in England in 1875. Mr. Huntington had been in public life since 1860, representing Shefford. At the last general election he decided to retire, and took up his residence in New York. He was of a literary bent of mind, and has given to the world a very readable novel in "The Professor." Mr. Huntington was a finished orator, and his speeches were excellent specimens of eloquent delivery and finished diction.

THE OPIUM TRADE.

In the British house of commons lately, Sir Joseph Pease introduced an old motion to the effect that it was expedient that the Indian government should take steps to terminate gradually its direct connection with the cultivation of the poppy and the manufacture of and trade in opium. Such a prohibition would practically entail an annual loss of at least £5,000,000 upon the Indian exchequer. The question is one that has often been discussed from a moral standpoint, but somehow or another the commercial aspect of the case crops up and proves an obstacle which the eloquence of oratory and the agitations of religious philanthropists have failed to overcome. In this regard it occupies a somewhat similar position to malt and spirituous liquors whose sale and manufacture are the source of such vast revenue to governments. Another thing,—although upon moral grounds such an excuse would not be tenable—the cessation of poppy culture, in India would come too late, if its object was to prevent the Chinese from using the narcotic. For years Chinese statesmen represented to Great Britain that the trade in opium forced upon China was distasteful to its government, who were opposed to the introduction of the drug to that country, but without avail. Knowing that John Bull's sensibilities were rather acute in the region of his pocket, the Chinese government, as a reprisal, fostered the native culture of the poppy, with the result that now, if importation of opium to that country were discontinued the home supply would be increased to meet the demand. The injurious physical effects of opium have also perhaps been too highly colored, and while none could be found with sufficient hardihood to advocate its use as a stimulant, the immediate and awful effects of the employment of opium are difficult of proof. Its constant use does, without doubt, sap the energy, the health and the brain of its victims. It is by no means certain that the effects consequent upon the consumption of a pipeful or so of opium are injurious or result in more than temporary excessive exaltation of the nervous system, but it is terribly certain that the drug possesses an influence so subtle as to draw on those who have once tried it to resort to it again and again until the habit gets uncontrollable, and the one who first began as an "experimentalist," perhaps, ends in becoming an "opium fiend" and a victim to its debasing influence. The same may be said of all narcotics the use of many of which, however, is not so generally known. The opium habit is, we believe, incurable or nearly so; and the drug, though not so boisterous in its work is an agent whose power for evil over the human race is as great in the proportion of its use as alcohol. But the question of revenue steps to the front—men, it is argued, are free agents and needn't take it if they do not wish to—and the cultivation of the poppy still goes on.

THE ELECTION OF A NON-RATE PAYER.

Our contemporary of the Times publishes over the opinion of the police magistrate that the meeting at which Neil Henley was appointed gaoler was regular and legal. In the interest of a large majority of ratepayers who utterly condemn that appointment, we cannot help expressing deep regret that the protest has apparently failed in its object—for the present. But there is an old adage which says that those who laugh last laugh best. It may chance that the Times, in throwing its cap in the air because of the election of an entire stranger over old and tried citizens and ratepayers who were candidates for the position of gaoler, is rejoicing over a barren victory. Time will determine.

The Unwieldy English House of Commons.

TO THE EDITOR.—To the colonial mind, looking at this institution through the loop holes of retreat, it would seem to have assumed proportions unfitted for the dispatch of business, and that in the number of members, of which it is composed there is realized the truth of that homely expression "that too many cooks spoil the broth." There is, moreover, that there is too much broth to attend to. One can but read of the difficulty of honorable members finding room on the occasion of the introduction of Gladstone's home rule bill, and of how, so to speak, it was almost necessary for some of them to get their breakfast overnight in order to secure a seat; but they must be impressed with the feeling that the house consists of far too many members, as well as having far too much business for usefulness. Indeed, it has cropped out that one of the objects of Gladstone's home rule bill is to thin the numbers by relieving the Irish members of attendance there, and detailing them to the consideration of their own affairs in Dublin. Doubtless, from hurly hurly good will be eliminated, resulting, may be, in not only something akin to home rule being given to Ireland, and the extension of the system to Scotland and Wales, not forgetting England, by which arrangement on the erection of local institutions for decision of matters affecting those particular interests. Many subjects may be dealt with that now occupy too much the attention of the house to the exclusion of imperial matters; and in this manner the number of members sent to the commons might be advantageously lessened and more time given for those larger questions affecting the empire.

The house of commons, as at present constituted to colonial readers of the debates, seems a perfect batch of confusion, not only from its having so many members but from their growing desire to deliver long winded orations. W. K. B.

THE EXHIBITION.

What a Victorian Saw There at a Glance.

What Taking a Hasty Glance.

LONDON, May 8th, 1886.

TO THE EDITOR:—The opening of the Colonial exhibition was quite a success, the whole programme being carried out without a single failure, except that the Queen was about fifteen minutes behind the time appointed for her arrival. The ceremony was not imposing, but quite suitable for the occasion. In the procession the effect was marred by the absurd and tawdry vestments of the heralds, pursuivants, etc., and the hugger mugger confused crowd of ununiformed officials and others preceding the Queen. Her Majesty looked graciously dignified, but flushed by the heat of the building and the exertion. The Prince of Wales looked pleasant, as though he thought, "If it gives you pleasure I am glad to do it, but it is not much fun for me."

The enthusiasm of the visitors was of the English sort, somewhat restrained and manifested by cheering, half subdued as though not sure that it was quite the right thing to holla at the Queen.

BRITISH COLUMBIA,

of course, is not prominent in the exhibition. The pyramid representing the gold product of the province being the most striking feature. The trophy of Burrard Inlet lumber, in the form of an arch or gateway, is a mistake. Douglas pine must rely on its strength and size, not in its ornamental qualities. Aaronson has a good show of curios which will attract attention. Pendray's soap is overshadowed by eastern Canadian exhibits. In Canadian manufactures Christie, Brown & Co. of Toronto have a fine show of crackers; one would think never excelled by any display in that line. Tillow, Hersey & Co.'s display of nails, tacks, etc., is very complete, and quite attractive.

CANADA

is well to the front also in cloths, rubber goods, woodware, furs, skates, pianos, organs and sewing machines, and also in brasswork.

In general attractiveness to the sightseer, of course, India and tropical countries lead; Australian colonies coming next. In haste,

T. ALLSOP.

Mainland News.

(Columbist.)

Hydraulic mining at Barkerville is just commencing, but only the more favorably situated claims have been able to get to work. It will probably be two weeks yet, or more, before all will be in full operation. The usual summer inflow of working miners has begun; and this season it includes some who had gone off to try the new diggings.

The water continues to rise rapidly and considerable quantities of driftwood are coming down.

FROM THE CAPITAL.

THE FISHERIES QUESTION.—ANOTHER GRIT SCANDAL DISPOSED OF.—AMNESTY.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, May 15th.

We are rapidly approaching the end. Government business has precedence every day and the measures initiated by the administration have made excellent progress. There was quite a fight over the Chinese bill Mr. Shakespeare advocating an increase in the tax from $50 to $1000, and Peter Mitchell protesting against the payment of a salary of $3000 to the interpreter. While the details of the measure may not be entirely acceptable to the people of British Columbia still on the authority of your representatives it will be satisfactory to learn that the bill is a vast improvement on that of last year. Credit is due to the B. C. members for the vigorous manner in which they upheld the interest of the province.

THE FISHERIES QUESTION.

The excitement which prevails along the Atlantic coast over the seizure of the David J. Adams, the American fishing schooner is having the effect of inducing the people of Canada to familiarize themselves with the points in dispute between us and the United States over the fisheries question. At the first blush it might be said that to prohibit vessels from coming into our ports to purchase bait is the height of absurdity; that we are throwing good money away, and refusing a lucrative trade. The fact is, however, that by doing this we are just taking the one step which will bring the United States to time, and compel them to adopt reciprocal trade relations. By the treaty of 1818, which, since the abrogation by the U. S. government of the Washington treaty, governs our fishery relations with the States, fishing vessels of the neighboring republic are absolutely prohibited from entering our ports or bays except for the purpose of shelter and repairing damage, of purchasing wood and of obtaining water, and *for no other purpose whatever*. By the latter clause the purchase of bait, which the Adams was doing, is prohibited, and if we surrender our point then good-bye to the Canadian fisheries. Providence appears to have given us the whip hand, and let us keep it. The United States fishermen cannot get bait on their own coasts; they must come to us for it. They are prohibited from fishing within the three mile limit off our coasts, where the bait is to be had, and they boast that they do not even desire this privilege if they be permitted to purchase bait from us. Let us keep them from their desired goal, unless they give us a *quid pro. quo*. If the Canadian government only remains firm we shall procably gain our point, as at present there are reported to be more than one hundred American fishing vessels in the Bay of Fundy doing nothing.

ANOTHER GRIT SCANDAL COLLAPSES.

For the last four weeks Mr. Blake has had on the order paper a motion declaring that Murray Dodd, M. P., had, in the Cape Breton election of 1884, when Mr. McDougall, the sitting member, was a candidate, attempted to compel Mr. Roche, a member of the Sydney pilotage commission, to vote for the conservative candidate threatening him with dismissal from office unless he did so, and that subsequently Mr. Roche was removed from his position because he had failed to support Mr. McDougall. Mr. Blake did not make his motion until this week, and he was not permitted to present his side of the case without having the ground cut completely from under his feet by Mr. Dodd himself. He stated that Mr. Roche, who is a personal friend and political supporter of his, had been advised by him that he exposed himself to dismissal if he took an active part in the election hostile to the government, and that he gave his warning in all sincerity and friendliness, because of the precedents set by the liberal party when in office. The cases which Mr. Todd quoted are conclusive, and entirely took the wind out of Mr. Blake's sails. There was that of Hon. D. A. McDonald, postmaster-general in the Mackenzie government, who wrote the postmaster at Carillon warning him that he would be liable to dismissal if he voted against the liberal candidate; the case of Hon. William Ross, member of the Mackenzie government, who wrote to a government official in Cape Breton, threatening him with dismissal if he took part against the government candidate; the declaration of Hon. Mr. Jones at Halifax, that if any government employe voted against him it would be at his peril, and innumerable other instances of kind as laid down by the liberals themselves. With regard to the charge that Rocke had been dismissed from his office, that was incorrect, as he still retained it. Blake looked as if he was cornered, and the only remark made in justification of his charges was that Roche had informed him of them. He did not press for a committee.

PROPOSED AMNESTY.

A short discussion took place on Thursday on the initiation of Mr. Laurie, with regard to the proposed amnesty to those implicated in the late rebellion. Sir John was in a conciliatory mood, and said that the government had decided to grant a general amnesty, with the exception of one or two men known to have been guilty of cold-blooded murder. He understood that some of the half-breeds now in the States were preparing petitions to the Queen praying for pardon, and asking permission to be allowed to return to their homes, and when these petitions had been received, signifying the submission of these men to the Queen's authority, the governor-general's proclamation would be issued.

THE ALASKA-BRITISH COLUMBIA BOUNDARY.

Congress Asked for $100,000.

WASHINGTON, May 17.—The president has transmitted to congress a report of the secretary of state, with accompanying papers, in respect to the location of a frontier line between Alaska and British Columbia. Mr. Bayard says:

The British government is prepared to take part in a preliminary investigation of the boundary question, and now nothing delays action but the want of an appropriation by congress to enable the government to take part in the survey. In view of the fact that important and grave international questions of jurisdiction may at any time arise, owing to the circumstance that great mineral wealth exists in the territory which is traversed by the boundary line, the secretary of state has the honor to recommend that congress be requested to enact a law to authorize the survey and to appropriate $100,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to defray the expenses of the preliminary survey.

The president, in his letter of transmittal, says:

In view of the importance of the subject, I recommend that a provision be made by law for the preliminary survey of the boundary line in question by officers of the United States, in order that the information necessary for the basis of a treaty between this country and Great Britain for the establishment of a definite boundary line may be obtainable.

Dominion Trade Statistics.

The government, in answer to questions, declared that the total value of goods exported from July 1 to April 1, in the fiscal year 1885 and 1886, is for the former $59,762,676, and for the latter $67,940,674. The amount of goods entered for competition for 1885 was $75,665,285, and for 1886, $72,856,598.

GRANITE CREEK.—Mr. Allison reports continued high water at the Granite creek mines and little gold being taken out. The snow is rapidly disappearing and it is thought that in two or three weeks' time the freshet will be over. The district was full of men who were awaiting a favorable opportunity to go out and prospect or work their claims.

The Colonial and Indian Exhibition.

(*From our Special Reporter.*)

London, 4th May, 1886.

In charming weather such as May sometimes favors London with, the Queen to-day opened the Colonial and Indian Exhibition, the fourth (and probably the last) of the series inaugurated by "the Fisheries." The suggestion for the present exhibition came from the Prince of Wales, who, as far back as 1878, during the Paris Exhibition, spoke of the great value which would accrue to commerce from a concensus of the products of the British Empire, and of

THE NOBLE PURPOSE

such a gathering would serve in strengthening the ties which bind Great to Greater Britain. H. R. Highness's idea took final shape in 1884, when a Royal Commission, with himself as Executive President, was formed to carry out the scheme. Invitations were sent to the Government of India and to all the colonies; and walking through the Exhibition one can see at a glance how universally and heartily they have been responded to. Even Fiji sends her contributions, and apparently the only Colonies unrepresented are Tasmania and Newfoundland.

The buildings (with a few additions the same as were erected for the Fisheries Exhibition) are in South Kensington; the scene in this most fashionable neighborhood this morning was very animated, and the progress of the long lines of carriages which were making either for the Exhibition or the Albert Hall (where the opening ceremony was to take place) was considerably impeded by the large crowd.

Attracted by the opportunity of

SEEING THE QUEEN,

the people began to assemble as early as nine o'clock, and they found plenty to interest them in the dresses of the ladies, the uniforms of the naval and military officers, and the still more gorgeous robes of the Orientals, who for two hours passed in a constant stream. It was soon evident that both the Exhibition buildings and the Albert Hall would be quite full, notwithstanding that the price of admission to the former was 20s. each person, and in the latter ranged from 25s. for a seat in the balcony or gallery to £25 for a Loggia box.

The main entrance to the Exhibition had been specially reserved for the Queen and the persons taking part in the procession. The Hall into which this entrance opens (and where the State reception of Her Majesty was to take place) was splendidly decorated with azaleas, roses, and other flowers massed amongst ferns, the whole producing a most beautiful effect. Almost rivalling the flowers and suspended banners, were the uniforms of the Officers and Ministers, the Yeomen of the Guard, the Heralds, and Trumpeters. About twenty minutes to twelve o'clock the brilliant party—prominent among whom were the Marquis of Hartington, Lord Derby, Sir Fredrick Leighton, Sir Peter Lumsden, Sir Charles Tupper, Lord Iddesleigh, and Lords Northbrook and Ripon—was joined by the Prince and Princess of Wales; and shortly after twelve o'clock, having been heralded by a flourish of trumpets, the Queen arrived, during the rendering of the "National Anthem" and a salute by the Life Guards. The Prince of Wales then introduced to her Majesty the members of the Royal and Colonial commission including Sir Charles Tupper and the Hon. Hector Fabre (representing Canada) and the company was marshalled by the Lord Chamberlain into a procession, which was headed by the Serjeants-at-arms, Heralds, Macebears, and the members of the commission. The Marquis of Salisbury, looking quite at home, was almost the last of this section; and it was evident during the progress of the procession that almost all present were his admirers. Then came the Queen—dressed entirely in black, with the exception of a grey feather in her bonnet—accompanied by the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Crown Princess of Germany, the Duchess of Edinburgh, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, Prince and Princess Christian, Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne), Princess Beatrice, Prince Henry of Battenberg, the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke, Duchess, and Princess Victoria of Teck, and other members of the Royal Family.

AFTER THE RECEPTION

the procession passed into a second hall, splendidly decorated with Indian curtains and carpets, and around which were placed life-sized models, fully accoutred, of the various types of soldiers composing our native Indian regiments. Regarding those models, the question may reasonably be asked whether a great point would not have been made by having some of the magnificent Sikh soldiers brought from India for this Exhibition; the picturesque uniforms and perfect bearing and physique of these men would have been no slight addition from a scenic point of view, and a revelation to many colonists, who have no adequate conception of the splendid Indian army we possess. From this second hall the procession went under the screen from Jeypore into the gallery devoted to the Indian exhibits. The chief features of this gallery are the screens from every part of India, each in its distinctive style, varying from the heavy carved woodwork of the Central Provinces to the plain bamboo work of Assam, the spaces between the screens and the walls being filled with specimens of work from the respective districts. At a previous private view the appearance of this long gallery had been rather disappointing, owing possibly, to the uniform height of these screens; but the effect produced by the passing of the procession, as seen from the Press Stand, was most striking, the screens forming a very effective background to the bright dresses and uniforms. Leaving this gallery, the route taken was past the Indian Palace, through the Australian and

CANADIAN COURTS,

and across the grounds to the Albert Hall.

The doors of the Albert Hall had been opened at half-past ten o'clock, and the great building (capable of seating about ten thousand persons) began to fill rapidly. A Throne for Her Majesty was placed on the platform in front of the orchestra in a temporary erection about twenty feet high by twelve feet wide, which formed a most effective setting to the throne. The back of this was of cloth of gold, with the letters V. R. I. in gold on green velvet, surmounted by a coronet in relief in a circle in the centre. The top, and the carpet on which the throne stood, were of Indian work, gold on scarlet, and the sides were hung with richest maroon velvet edged with green and scarlet panelled by gold, the whole forming a magnificent piece of work.

The front of the arena was on one side reserved for Ambassadors and distinguished guests, and on the other for the members forming the procession. The Persian Ambassador was one of the early arrivals, and was followed quickly by Rustem Pacha, the Turkish Ambassador, looking worn, as if the diplomatic tension of the past few weeks had left its mark. Another well known arrival was Sir W. Vernon Harcourt, trying to look jolly under the circumstances, but seemingly not at ease in his court suit and sword. Then came the Archbishop of Canterbury, looking every inch a prelate, and the Bishop of London, with his firm business-like appearance. The Sultan of Labore, with three attendants, arrived early; while in the amphitheatre stalls, and noticeable from the rich yellow silk shawl edged with magnificent diamonds which covered her head and figure, was the Maharanee of Kooch of Behar, who, judging from her energetic but graceful manner of conversing with her attendants, appeared much interested.

Just before one o'clock a movement amongst the officials showed that the Queen was approaching; the procession filed slowly in, and everyone rose as

HER MAJESTY ENTERED

and took her place in front of the throne, the Prince of Wales standing on her right, the other members of the royal family being on either side. As they took their places, the choir and orchestra (numbering eight hundred), conducted by Mr. Barnby, gave "God Save the Queen," the first and third verses in English, the intermediate one in Sanskrit.

Following the National Anthem came the Ode specially written for this occasion by Lord Tennyson, Poet Laureate, and set to music by Sir Arthur Sullivan, who conducted the choir rendering it.

The second and third verses of the Ode were sung as solos by Madame Albani, the choir joining in at the end of each verse. This finished, Sir Arthur Sullivan called for three cheers for the Queen, which was heartily responded to, but the effect was rather spoiled by the difficulty of cheering together in so large a hall. "One cheer more for the Union," cried a gentleman; and all who heard the call gave the cheer willingly.

The Prince of Wales, as executive president, then read the address to her majesty which was then handed the official catalogue and hamilcos, and a gold mastic cage of exquisite workmanship, capable of opening the hundreds of locks in the exhibition.

To the surprise of most persons present her majesty, who had been standing during the delivery of the address, read her own reply in a voice which, though not powerful, was so clear and distinct as to be heard over the whole hall.

The effect at the close was most striking and impressive, the entire assembly being perfectly motionless, with all eyes rivited on the central figure. As the Queen finished reading, the audience, which had hitherto seemed somewhat awed by the presence of her majesty, lost its subdued tone, and cheered again and again in an unmistakeably hearty manner, the Queen responding by as frequently bowing.

The exhibition was then, by command of the Queen,

DECLARED OPEN,

the fact being formally announced by a flourish of trumpets from the state trumpeters stationed in the hall, and the firing of a royal salute in Hyde park. The heavy boom of the guns sounded throughout the hall while the Archbishop of Canterbury offered up prayer in a clear, distinct voice. The Hallelujah Chorus was then sung by the choir, and again the audience was thrilled by Madame Albani's beautiful rendering of "Home, Sweet Home." Then followed "Rule Britannia" by the choir, and during this her majesty left the hall, turning, however, at the door and repeatedly bowing her acknowledgements of the cheers which came from all sides.

After the departure of the Queen, the greater number of visitors in the Albert Hall passed into the exhibition, where generals and admirals were soon busily engaged in struggles for luncheon.

The scene in the exhibition during the next two hours was very animated, and the chief objects of interest were surrounded by large groups of admirers. The palm for attractiveness must be given to

THE INDIAN PALACE.

Passing through the noble stone gateway presented by the Maharajah of Gwalior, the visitor finds himself in a courtyard round which at least a score of native artificers are working at their various trades. Great facilities are to be offered to workingmen in this country to visit this exhibition, but it is to be hoped they will not copy the leisurely style which passes for work in India. The scene, however, is a perfectly true one, and vividly recalls many such in the northwest provinces. The Durbar Hall of the palace, with its delicate carving and tints and its silver throne, is also a very correct and beautiful representation.

A case, with stuffed animals, representing Indian jungle-life, presented by the Maharajah of Kooch Behar (the husband of the lady previously mentioned), attracted great notice. In it a tiger is attacking an elephant, and the tigress and her cub are in the long grass close by watching the struggle; while a native, too terror-stricken to move, is standing near. Bears, deer, and dozens of other Indian animals and birds are in the collection. In front,

TWO WILD PIGS

are tearing along, one having just been speared by a native hidden in the thick jungle. Alligators are lying in the nearly dry bed of a stream, and a huge python, a magnificent specimen, is in a tree ready to drop on his prey. These are only a few of the details of this splendid case.

ANOTHER SCENE

of a somewhat similar character is in the South Australian court, in which the life of the aborigines is most vividly depicted. No one having seen this representation will easily forget the native who is standing on a strip of bark which serves as a canoe, spear in hand, watching for fish in the creek. His wife and child in a hut near at hand, with the embers of a glowing wood fire in front, make up the presumably happy family; but the precise relationship of the solitary gentleman on the other side, who is trying to kindle a fire by the friction of two sticks of wood, is not officially announced in the catalogue. Close by these are exhibited some of the beautiful manufactures of Adelaide, thus contrasting civilization with savage life. The exhibits sent from

BRITISH COLUMBIA

are in the Canadian court, to which the fine trophy of the Hastings sawmills is no slight addition; but the objects, etc., of prominent interest are far too numerous even to name in this letter; they must therefore be reserved for the following articles, in which the principal exhibits of each colony will be carefully described. Viewed as a whole, this exhibition promises to be of far greater interest than any of its predecessors.

Must Have Been at a Swell Party.

Smith—"You are looking out of sorts this morning, Jones."

Jones—"I feel so."

S—"Out with the boys last night"

J—"I haven't a very clear recollection of where I was, but judging from the size of my head this morning I think I must have been at a swell party."—*Boston Courier.*

AN OUTRAGE ON SOCIAL DECENCY.—Swell society is agitated over the fact that the Duke of Sutherland attended a fashionable wedding in this city clad in a tweed suit and accompanied by a woman who certainly was not his wife, as the duchess is in England. This may be English, you know, but it is not the less an outrage on social decency. At the same time sensible people will enjoy a smile of grim satisfaction at the expense of the parvenus who have been toadying to everything English and thought themselves honored to touch the hand of a titled foreigner.

OPERATIC NOTES

And Those who Sang Them.

Posthumous Reminiscenses of the Thompson Opera Company.

A TOO TOO SUFFER.

A young man living in this city, but who acknowledges allegiance to the stars and stripes, becoming enamored of one of the "ladies of the chorus" of the Thompson opera company, and having obtained an introduction, proposed a nice little supper. The fair one timidly acquiesced, but stipulated that two members of the company who were standing near should participate in the blow-out. Having committed himself to asking her, and not having the moral courage to refuse to carry it out under the rather heavy condition, the young man accepted the situation and together the quartette adjourned to a restaurant bearing a monarchical name. Here the young lady let herself loose, metaphorically; and throwing off all unnecessary reserve told the proprietor to trot out a couple of bottles of "cham." A cold thrill ran down the vertebral arrangement of her admirer's anatomy, and he sympathetically shuddered as he thought of the $70-a-month-and-find-yourself position that he occupied; however, he gulped it down, or rather they all did; for the way in which that beverage so innocent of the grape disappeared could only have been acquired by long practice on the part of the young lady and her stage companions. The latter, in fact, seemed to think that there was plenty of it while it lasted, and drank it as though it were beer. "Take some more, George?" generously said the young lady to one of her theatre chums, when the bottles were finished. But, George, who had been "taking" during the whole evening, strange to say, declined; and Venus regaled herself on lemonade. The admirer and supper-payer-in-ordinary to the crowd, rose at last to fulfil his office, and, addressing the proverbially polite proprietor, asked what was to pay? The knight of the griddle, trying to look as if had not already calculated the bill, pretended to count over the plates and bottles, and, in an it-isn't-my-fault-you-would-have-it-you-know sort of voice, said: "Eighteen dollars, please!" The young man's face turned ashy pale,—*he hadn't got it!* With a phiz as long as the counter at which he was standing, he paid over $12.37½ and told the restaurateur he would let him have the balance next month. At the door, the young lady said: "I won't trouble you to go any further, Mr. ——" (he had given an *alias*), because my twl friends will be plenty of protection for me back to the hotel. Good-night," and off she tripped, leaving him on the icy-cold wooden sidewalk, to ponder over Shakespeare's definition of frailty.

THE BUCKING HORSE.

Few things are more enjoyable and invigorating than horseback riding. So we thought on the morning of Sunday last certain members of the Thompson opera company, consisting of the tenor and his graceful spouse, and an equally charming young lady who exhibited a modest proportion of star spangled hose, and took a leading part, in the opera of Billee Taylor. They gave their sentiments expression by accepting the friendly offer of a ride made by two gentlemen from Vancouver, who have there invested all their spare cash in town lots. The party, five in number, started from a livery stable in high spirits, until upon arriving at Finlayson's bridge, the tenor, who by some mischance was mounted on the only balking horse in the crowd, found himself unable to proceed. All endeavors proving unavailing, he did the next wisest thing—went back, leading the refractory animal to its stable. The rest of the party, thus reduced to four—a nice number, by the bye—ambled on, regretting the mischance (!) by which they had been deprived of the tenor's company, but not allowing it to sadden them to any measurable extent.

The day passed, the twilight waned, but they returned not; and the jealous tenor fumed up and down the carpeted hall of his hotel listening in vain for the party's return. Half past twelve, and the stillness was broken by the clatter of hoofs and the sound of laughing voices. The quick ear of the tenor was the first to detect the return, and going to the entry he saw them dismount. "Get, madam, to your room with celerity," said he, unconsciously stagy in his agitation; and then turning to the male escorts, words fast and furious ensued. So vociferous became the disputation between the more youthful of the hotel proprietors, albeit that a light conscience gives him sound sleep. Hastily descending to ascertain the cause he was espied by the tenor who now, armed with a pistol, cried: "Perfidious rascal! 'twas you who put that horse on me—or, rather, put me on that horse. I can see that it was a put-up job;—and now you shall die!" And rushing towards the innocent, he let he placed the pistol to his head. There was no time for red fire; and there was also no occasion for it—the scene was sufficiently dramatic. Several onlookers could see a tombstone for the hotel man sticking out of the pistol. The climax fell rather flat, however, for the pistol proved to be empty. But mine host didn't know this and had heard the frequent clicking in an agony of apprehension. The other young men made tracks and when last seen were leaving the harbor in a steam launch. It takes "one of them actor chaps" to give force to a dramatic episode; but for all this the four had a good ride and a time that was just splendid.

Eastern Canada Mail

(Per Northern Pacific Railway)

MONTREAL, May 17.—A sensation was created here to-day by Miss Victoria Cohen, the daughter of a Hebrew citizen, firing three shots from a tiny revolver at a former lover named Herman G. Schoyer, a German importer here, whom she met in Place D'Armes square, in the very centre of the city. An action for damages which Miss Cohen brought against Schoyer for breach of promise and seduction was partially heard in the Superior Court last week, but was subsequently withdrawn by the plaintiff on defendant paying her $300 for a full settlement of her claim. The reason she assigned for her conduct to-day was that he had slandered her character when giving information about the settlement of the suit to the local press, and refused to withdraw the offensive expressions when she asked him to do so. Had the revolver been larger Schoyer would certainly have been killed or seriously wounded, as all three balls penetrated his clothes, but only lodged there and he escaped with only a scratch.

At a meeting held at Sydney, Cape Breton, on Saturday, resolutions were adopted and a committee appointed to secure local self-government for the Island as a province of the Dominion.

OTTAWA, May 17.—The Nova Scotia House of Assembly has been dissolved. Nomination day is fixed for June the 10th, and election day for the 17th.

WINNIPEG, May 17.—Very general regret will be felt at the announcement of the death of the Rev. William R. Flett, which occurred at the Home, St. Thomas' Hospital, London, England, on April the 27th, of brain fever. The deceased was a son of the late Mr. Wm. Flett, chief trader of the Hudson's Bay Co., who was in charge of the post at Lower Fort Garry, for many years. He was born in St. Paul's parish on July the 24th, 1852, and was educated at St. John's College, Winnipeg, and at Sydney Sussex College, Cambridge.

BRANTFORD, May 15.—Lightning fired the cannery of A. O. Gill last night, destroying it and an adjoining stable and coal oil storeroom.

THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.

Condition of the Line in the Mountains.

Through Traffic by the First of July.

Construction of Terminal Facilities at Vancouver.

Quick Communication With Victoria.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

VANCOUVER, May 24.

Your correspondent called to-day on Mr. H. Abbott, general superintendent of the Pacific division of the Canadian Pacific railway, and made inquiries as to the state of the road in the mountains, the probable time which would elapse before the line opened for constant traffic, and the company's intentions as to terminal facilities to be constructed at this point.

IN THE MOUNTAINS.

Mr. Abbott stated that he left Donald on Friday, the 14th of May, and the train came west within two and one-half miles of the summit of the Selkirk range, where a hand-car was taken to the summit. From six to eight feet of snow was on the level on the summit for about half a mile, where a slide had occurred. West of the summit there was a depth of from two to three feet of snow for three miles, which gradually diminished until it entirely disappeared about five miles from the summit. He walked two and one-half miles across "the loop," the track winding at this point into two long loops, increasing the two and one-half miles distance in a straight line to five tortuous miles. This is the only portion of the road that was not gone over, an earth-slide at the lower end of the loop preventing connection through from Donald to Farwell. The slide is probably removed by this time. At the end of the loop an engine was in waiting to convey Mr. Abbott to Farwell.

Where snow-slides have occurred they have filled the cuts with snow. This has caused in part the delay in running trains through. Owing to there being no men employed in repairing the track through the winter and spring months, the freshets from the hills have in many places washed out small portions of the road bed, but on the whole Mr. Abbott states that the damage sustained is trifling, and a short time only will be occupied in making the track ready for the running of trains.

A mile and a half west of Farwell the road is built through bad material, commonly known as "gumbo," and for a mile the track has been rendered impassable. However, this is the only piece of road between Farwell and Savonas that was not in a condition, at the time Mr. Abbott passed through, for the safe running of trains. There can be no doubt that a train will pass over the whole distance between Donald and Savonas by the 1st of June.

When railway work suspended last November no station buildings or tank houses had been constructed, but a large force of carpenters are now at work erecting these. About 1200 men are employed in the mountains, and 700 more are on the way. Common report in the mountains states that the season has been unusually late and by this time snow in former years had entirely disappeared. Mr. Abbott is confident that regular trains can be run, unless some unforeseen event in the meantime occurs to prevent, on or before the 1st of July.

TERMINAL FACILITIES.

The contract has been awarded to the California Bridge Co. for the erection of a steamship wharf in front of the property recently placed on the market by the C. P. R. This will be 1000 feet in length, constructed of wood. Work on the wharf will be commenced on the 1st of June.

The station buildings will be contracted for as soon as the site is graded. Freight warehouses will also be erected as soon as the grade is ready for them. It is expected that work on them will begin in a couple of weeks. The offices for the company are at present in course of construction on the reserve for railway purposes in front of block 13. All these buildings will be of wood, well finished.

The machine shops, round houses, etc., which will be of brick, will be placed on the English bay side of False creek, where it is well known that the company have 5,000 acres of land. The site is now being cleared for these, and Mr. Abbott is anxious to commence their erection at once and complete them before the season sets in. They will be the principal workshops of the company west of Winnipeg, and will employ a large number of men.

The hotel ground, on the most prominent part of