From THE DAILY COLONIST, Mar. 25.

THE CITY.

Officially Notified.

Mr. M. G. Blanchard, V.S., yesterday received official notification from Ottawa, that the quarantine regulations against American cattle must be at once enforced.

A Decree Granted.

In the divorce suit of Gandy v. Gandy, heard before Mr. Justice Drake, a decree nisi was granted to the petitioner. Neither respondent nor co-respondent appeared.

A New Road.

Notice is given in the last number of the Gazette, to the effect that a new road, 66 feet wide, has been established in Osoyoos District, connecting with the Pleasant Valley road.

Not Wanted.

The erection of a large hotel by a prominent Chinese firm, for their countrymen, near the outer wharf, is talked of. Residents of the neighborhood hope the project will be abandoned.

Full Five Fathoms Deep.

A diver from H. M. S. Daphne yesterday succeeded in recovering a purse containing $62 in money, which had been dropped accidentally in five fathoms of water by a carpenter named D. J. Ross.

Venturesome Explorers.

Several ladies, accompanied by male relatives and friends, resident on the other side, have decided to spend the coming summer in touring on the Yukon, and have written to people in Victoria, asking for particulars regarding the route, etc.

Firmly United.

The young man, Fenn, who came over with a Port Angeles young lady, whom he registered at the Dominion Hotel as his sister, was married to her by the Rev. Coverdale Watson, yesterday. The bride and bridegroom will presumably return to ask forgiveness.

Back Again for the Season.

Mr. Walter Borns, the well-known and popular fur dealer, is back once more from the east. He will, as usual, stay here over the sealing season, and leave again for New York at the latter end of the year, after having purchased skins for his firm and agencies.

The Queen's Reply in Full.

The Gazette of yesterday prints in full the communications of Lord Knutsford and Her Majesty the Queen, in answer to the messages of condolence sent from this and the other provinces of the Dominion on the occasion of the death of H.R.H. Prince Albert Victor.

A Successful Operation.

Some weeks ago a Chinese laborer had his eye injured, through a splinter, while working in a sawmill, and, yesterday, Dr. Ernest Hall was called in to operate on him and remove the eye from the socket. The difficult piece of surgical work was completed in a very short time, and the sufferer will, in a week, be about again.

The Defendant Examined.

The following case was docketed for hearing in Chambers to-day, but, by consent, was taken up yesterday—H. Coombe (as receiver for the estate of Uriah Nelson, deceased) v. J. Fletcher and Samuel Macartney. Mr. Bodwell appeared for the receiver, and Mr. Pemberton for the defence. Mr. Fletcher was examined.

Nelson and Fort Sheppard Railway.

At a meeting of the shareholders of the above road, Major C. T. Dupont, Peter C. Dunlevy, G. B. Wright, H. S. Mason and Charles G. Major were elected Directors for the ensuing year. Mr. Dupont was elected president of the board, Mr. Dunlevy vice-president, and Mr. Mason secretary-treasurer. The office of the company is in the office of the secretary.

At Cedar Hill.

Cedar Hill is flourishing. Several English families have settled in the district during the last few weeks, and the place is fast spreading out towards Gordon head. A grant of land has been given for a new post office, which will be built by the 1st of next month, and a number of stores are being erected. The little settlement will soon be entitled to the name of a town, and probably by this time next year its residents will be prepared to argue the question with anybody giving the locality a lower name than "city."

A Well-Known Newspaper Man Dead.

Mr. Francis R. King-Hall, who, it will be remembered, arrived here last year, and went north to Behring Sea in the schooner Otto, in the interests of the New York Herald, is dead. Mr. King-Hall was one of the finest newspaper correspondents on this continent, and for the two big New York dailies—the Herald and World—has been engaged, from time to time, upon work of very great importance. He was the World representative in the Franco-Chinese war, and was sent by that paper to Jacksonville, Fla., at the time of the great yellow fever scourge in that city. For the Herald he has been constantly employed on important work in every continent. He was a thoroughly bright, genial fellow, and all who knew him will regret his death very greatly. His father, Admiral King-Hall, is one of the best known naval officers in the British service, while his elder brother is a post-captain in the navy, and was with Lord Charles Beresford in his celebrated "Condor" deed of heroism in front of Alexandria.

New York Society.

The following interesting notes on climbing the New York social ladder are by Julian Ralph, writing to the Providence Journal: Whoever should write an analysis of affairs in New York, to-day, and should leave out the strain of social ambition would miss the most serious thing in the life of the metropolis. We are apt to think the hardest thing a man can do, is to come to New York, establish a foothold, and eventually make a fortune, as so many thousands of country boys have done. But my observation is, that if you will go to those same men after they have put the city under their feet, they will tell you that what they have accomplished was nothing as compared with what they have yet to do—and that is to get into society. I do not mean McAllister's Four Hundred when I say "society;" I mean polite society of any sort. I mean the *entree* into any one of a hundred far more desirable circles than McAllister's band of self-instituted aristocrats. The day was when a man had the *entree* of any such circle if he was a respectable man of any profession, or if he was rich. That is the case in the smaller cities to-day. Any doctor, lawyer, judge, or rich man, whose reputation is clean, can instantly gain admission to the nicest circles in the small cities. But he cannot do so in New York. The only sure passports to such circles that I know of in New York to-day is to be born in such a circle. The next best thing is to boast a commission in the army or navy. The city is old and rich, and suspicious of all new-comers. That makes its society the most rigid and cruel in America.

Declared to be the Owners.

Messrs. Yates, Jay & Russell have a notification in this week's Gazette to the effect that Messrs. Lowen & Erb have, by an order of the Supreme Court, been confirmed in their possession of subdivision No. 17 of lot 654 and 655, this city.

Assignments for the Week.

The B. C. Gazette, issued yesterday, contains announcements to the effect that the following residents of the province have made assignments for the benefit of their creditors: David Morrice, of Roger's Pass, Kootenay, to J. C. Pitts of Donald; P. G. Strickland and J. C. Whyte, of New Westminster, to Sheriff Armstrong; and L. S. Plumb, of New Westminster, to J. M. Wise of the same city.

Business Change.

In another column will be found an advertisement, announcing the fact that was made public in the COLONIST last week, that Messrs. Turner & Beeton have dissolved partnership. It will be seen that the place of Mr. Beeton, in the firm, will be filled by Mr. R. A. L. Kirk, of London, England. While the London office will trade under the firm name of H. C. Beeton & Co., the name of the Victoria house will remain unchanged.

New Appointments.

The issue of the Gazette, yesterday, contains announcements regarding new appointments, as follows: To be Notaries Public—John L. Retallack, of Ainsworth, and E. Percy Whalley, of Nelson, Esquires, for and within the county of Kootenay; R. Devereux Pitt and William Weeks, of Vancouver; Robert Irving, John Keen, Joseph Hetherington Bowes and Finimore Melbourne McLeod, of Victoria, and Henry Albert Simpson, of Nanaimo, Esquires, for and within the province.

Insurance Profits.

The Finance Chronicle, of London, gives the following figures, showing the average "trading profit" for ten years of the principal British fire insurance companies:—

Year	No. of offices.	Loss ratio.	Management Exp'ses.	Losses and Exp'ses.	Surpl.
1881	41	66.2	30.6	96.8	3.2
1882	43	67.4	30.2	97.6	2.4
1883	41	63.3	31.0	94.3	6.7
1884	38	64.6	30.4	95.0	5.0
1885	41	60.1	30.5	90.6	9.4
1886	42	59.0	31.1	90.1	9.9
1887	42	60.3	31.6	91.8	8.2
1888	43	57.3	31.8	89.1	10.9
1889	42	58.9	32.1	91.0	9.0
1890	41	57.7	32.1	89.8	10.2
Averages,		61.1	31.1	92.2	7.8

AN IMPORTANT REPORT.

The following report of the Police Committee of the City Council has been handed in to the clerk. It explains itself.

"Re complaint of J. Phoenix who was fined $5, in the police court for using a portion of the street for piling lumber thereon without having obtained permission so to do, your Police Committee beg to report as follows:—

"That the By-Law has been uniformally observed by contractors and others, requiring the use of the street, inasmuch as no less than $1,800 was paid into the treasury last year, as deposits for permission to use the streets for building and other purposes. Your committee learn that preceding councils, irresponsive to petitions presented to them by parties interested, such as owners of blacksmiths shops and others, doing a large business, the nature of which business requires the use of a limited portion of the street in front of the premises where business is carried on, have granted permission to such to use same, and those carrying on such business, iron shops, and factories, lumber mills, &c., have always considered that they were entitled to do so without making a request to the council for express permission every year.

"In the case, however, of persons requiring the use of any particular street, and not carrying on permanently in said street, any extensive business as aforementioned, and not applying for permission to use the street, the By-Law has been enforced, and Mr. Phoenix's case is no exception to the rule.

"The Police Court record shows that persons have been repeatedly summoned for the same offence as that of Mr. Phoenix and similarly fined.

"Your committee therefore are of opinion that Mr. Phoenix has not been unjustly dealt with, or discriminated against in this matter, and has no genuine cause for complaint."

Insurance in New York.

With the recently issued official report of the New York insurance department covering the business of 1891, we are able to see the extent of the year's unprofitable results to fire insurance. The total number of joint-stock fire and fire-marine insurance companies reporting for 1891 was 129, against 148 for 1890. The premiums received in 1891 by these 129 companies amounted to $110,561,043, an increase over the premiums of the 148 companies for 1890 of $3,832,443. As the premium rate charged was about the same—a trifle lower—as in 1890, this shows a considerable increase in volume of business. While the increase of premiums was as above, the increase in losses paid was, however, very much greater. The 129 companies paid in 1891 for losses $69,007,453, while in 1890 the 148 companies paid $59,455,312, an increase in losses paid of $9,552,141, or two and a-half times as much as the premium increase. This increase, however, is not so serious as might seem when we consider that 1890 was an exceptionally good year for the companies. If we look at total income and expenditure, we find that in 1891 increase in the former over 1890 was $3,709,479, and the increase in the latter $12,355,557. This is relatively larger than the increase in losses, and as less rather than more was paid out for dividends, more would seem to have been paid out for general expenses. Very naturally, the surplus shows a shrinkage from $28,109,467 to $25,683,721—a decrease of $2,425,746.—[Insurance and Finance Chronicle.

Manitoba's Budget.

In his budget speech, Treasurer McMillan, the other day, showed revenue for the year, $739,095.59; expenditures, $828,646.95. There was used for education $123,500, and immigration $74,170. The bill respecting the representation of the province at the World's Fair received its second reading in the House. It provides for the appointment of a person to be commissioner of agriculture and immigration at and in reference to the international exhibition. The minister of agriculture will be authorized to make provision for the erection of a building if necessary. It is expected that upwards of $25,000 will be set apart for this purpose. The first division took place on motion of the leader of the Opposition that the election act of 1892, did not meet the approval of the House. The vote was—Government, 20; Opposition, 11.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Second Session of the Sixth Parliament.

THIRTY-FOURTH DAY.

THURSDAY, March 24.

The Speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE.

MR. BROWN rose to a question of privilege. Several times lately he had found printed matter, etc., on his desk without any name attached. He wished to let members of the House know that if they had anything to communicate to him, he would be glad to see their names attached to the documents.

ARCHITECTS' ACT.

MR. COTTON moved the second reading of the bill to protect the profession of architects. He explained that it was not intended to exclude any who were already practising in the province. All these could register and belong to the association.

MR. SEMLIN and HON. MR. BEAVEN opposed the bill.

MR. HUNTER thought the proposed legislation was along the right lines. Sometimes, he said, very important interests were entrusted to architects, and it was just as much in the public interests that the architects should be protected as that doctors, lawyers, druggists, etc., should be protected.

HON. MR. DAVIE supported the Bill in a somewhat lengthy speech.

The second reading passed. Bill put down to be committed on Saturday.

THE MARRIAGE ACT.

MR. SWORD moved the second reading of the bill to ammend the Marriage Act. He created a great deal of amusement by referring to an article in a New Westminster paper, wherein it was stated that he (Mr. Sword) had some improper motive in bringing the bill forward. (Laughter.)

HON. MR. BEAVEN said that he did not know why a private member of the House should be permitted to amend a public statute for private purposes. (Laughter.) If the hon. gentleman for New Westminster district wished to become a Benedict, he should go about it in the usual way. (Renewed laughter.)

MR. SPEAKER—Does the hon. leader of the Opposition charge that the hon. member for Westminster district (Mr. Sword,) has a personal interest in the bill?

HON. MR. BEAVEN—It looks like it.

MR. SPEAKER—Perhaps the hon. leader of the Opposition will give the House the name, etc. (Laughter.)

After further remarks by Mr. Sword the second reading passed.

COAL MINES BILL.

HON. MR. VERNON moved the second reading of the Coal Mines Bill. Read a second time and put down to be committed Saturday.

HORTICULTURE BILL.

HON. MR. TURNER moved the second reading of the Horticulture Bill. He explained fully its scope, which was to establish Boards of Horticulture to encourage the fruit industry of the province, and also to do away with the pests which so often destroy fine orchards and valuable trees.

The second reading passed. Bill put down to be committed Saturday.

BILLS OF SALE ACT.

MR. EBERTS moved the second reading of the Bills of Sale Act. Read a second time, to be committed Saturday.

RAILWAY, TRAMWAY AND TELEPHONE COMPANIES' BILL.

MR. SPEAKER informed the hon. member for West Kootenay (Mr. Kellie) that his bill, No. 9, respecting the incorporation of Railway, Tramway and Telephone companies was out of order. A bill to cover such objects as were here set out could only be introduced as a private measure.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE.

MR. GRANT rose to a question of privilege. In the COLONIST of March 23rd, and the Times of March 24th, he was reported as having voted nay on Mr. Sword's amendment to a motion of Hon. Mr. Robson *re* the Columbian incident. As a matter of fact he had voted yea. He wished to say that he was sure the error was unintentional, as he was thoroughly satisfied that no member of the press gallery would wilfully misrepresent any member of the House.

VICTORIA AND ESQUIMALT TELEPHONE CO.

The House went into committee of the whole on the Victoria and Esquimalt Telephone Company's Bill, Mr. Anderson in the chair.

The committee rose and reported the bill complete with amendments.

SISTERS OF CHARITY.

The House went into Committee of the Whole, on the bill to incorporate the Sisters of Charity and of Providence in British Columbia, Mr. Rogers in the Chair.

Committee rose and reported the bill complete with amendments.

KASLO SLOCAN RAILWAY CO.

The House went into Committee of the Whole, to consider the bill to incorporate the Kaslo-Slocan Railway company, Mr. Smith in the Chair. Committee rose and reported bill complete with amendments.

KOOTENAY POWER CO.'S BILL.

MR. EBERTS, for Col. Baker, moved the second reading of the Kootenay Power Co.'s bill. Read a second time, and put down for committee on Saturday.

MUNICIPALITIES BILL.

HON. MR. DAVIE resumed the adjourned debate on the Municipalities Bill, No. 24 (Mr. Brown.) He said he had carefully examined the bill, and found that its principles were much more extensive than had been at first explained by the promoter. The chief provisions were, (1,) to permit residents owning no property to vote on money by-laws, which money, it must be remembered, would have to be paid by the taxes on property, and also (2) to provide for the appointment by the electors of a Board of three Commissioners at an unstated salary, who would have control of the police and of all the revenue-earning property of the cities. He (Mr. Davie) thought it was unnecessary to go into any agument to oppose such principles as these, which it must be apparent to any and every member of the House, were at least not such as were desirable in the interests of the cities of the province.

MR. BROWN asked the indulgence of the House to explain the provisions of the act, which he said had been unfairly stated by the Attorney-General. He claimed that even were this bill passed it would be optional with the cities whether they adopted it or not, and the principles were, in fact, on more conservative lines than the present municipal law.

HON. MR. ROBSON said that the House had no business to offer any option to the cities in a bill of this kind when, the principles of the measure were so obviously bad. He did not propose to go into the details of the bill, but there was one matter to which he must refer. There had been sent to him officially as Provincial Secretary, a copy of a resolution passed by the New Westminster City Council, wherein they opposed the clause of the bill permitting non-property owners to vote. He (Mr. Robson) could not understand the peculiar position the member for Westminster City (Mr. Brown) occupied in endeavoring to force upon the city a provision they had said so plainly they did not want.

After remarks by Messrs. Booth and Sword,

HON. MR. BEAVEN said that he thought it would be inadvisable to pass the bill at present. Such legislation was considerably in advance of the time. If British Columbia had not a written constitution like the B. N. A., or was in the same position as the adjoining states of the Union, the measure now proposed might be useful. He would have to oppose the second reading.

MR. GRANT expressed the opinion that the Government was forcing the people to ask for such legislation as this. The Government had, he said, been trying to centralize the power and take it away from the municipalities, and such action would force the people to ask for legislation of this kind.

The motion for the second reading was lost, without a division.

MUNICIPAL BILLS.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on Municipal Bills, Nos. 21 and 27, Mr. McKenzie in the chair.

The clauses referring to the appointment of Police Magistrates by the Lieut.-Governor-in-Council, again provoked considerable discussion. Hon. Mr. Beaven, and Messrs. Kitchen and Grant, objected strenuously on the ground that the people of the cities were the ones who had to foot the bill, and this being the case, they should certainly be able to keep in their hands the power of making the appointments.

MR. BROWN dealt with the question at considerable length. He claimed that the Government was entirely out of sympathy with the people, and that the members of the Opposition more truly represented the popular voice of the people than did the members of the Government. (Laughter.)

HON. MR. ROBSON said he was surprised at the remarks made by the hon. member for Westminster district, who stated that the people of the country were represented by members of the Opposition. The fact was that when the people had an opportunity of expressing their opinion, they had by a large majority elected to support the Government. He thought it came with bad grace from the member for Westminster to attempt to say that the Government was not in sympathy with the people, for he (Mr. Brown) was himself in exactly that position. Twice within the last few weeks the City Council of New Westminster, which might be fairly supposed to represent the people, had passed votes of censure upon their member (Mr. Brown).

MR. BROWN claimed that the votes of censure had been passed at the instigation of the Premier himself.

HON. MR. ROBSON denied that in any way he had suggested, or even hinted, to the Council that they should "go for" Mr. Brown. He (Mr. Robson) read a statement made by the Mayor of New Westminster, to the effect that Mr. Brown had stated he was trying to get a certain piece of land wanted for the city of Westminster for the Bishop of New Westminster—this, too, in opposition to the express wishes of the City Council.

It being 6 o'clock, the House rose.

EVENING SESSION.

The Speaker took the Chair at 8 o'clock.

MUNICIPAL BILLS.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on Municipal Bills, No. 21 and 27, Mr. McKenzie in the Chair.

DR. MILNE opposed the passage of clause 24, which provides for the appointment of all Police Magistrates by the Government. He said that Victoria, at least, had got along very well under the present system, and there was no need for a change.

After remarks by Hon. Mr. Davie, the clause passed.

There was considerable difference of opinion with regard to the clause which prevents police magistrates acting as counsel in any criminal case. Some of the members thought this clause should be so amended that the magistrates could act as counsel outside the cities in which their appointment was. The clause, however, finally passed without amendment.

Several explanatory and modifying clauses being passed, brought the committee to the section placing the appointment and control of the police in the hands of a Board of Commissioners, composed of the County Judge, the Mayor, and the Police Magistrate.

HON. MR. DAVIE explained that at present the members of the police force were more or less at all times under the control of the City Council. These very policemen could be made puppets in the hands of the aldermen, and it was but natural to suppose that when election time came round every policeman would deem it to be more or less in his interest to work for his favorites.

HON. MR. BEAVEN objected, on the ground that the City Council had to supply the money and should have the control.

MR. BROWN said that now the Attorney-General had explained the clause, he could see what it was. At first, his idea was that the clause had been put in from simple internal cussedness. The Government had now made all the school teachers in the province their political agents, and now they wanted to make the policemen do the same work. However, the innovation would not last very long.

HON. MR. DAVIE—It will last longer than you will be in political life.

MR. BROWN—That may be. The way things are going now I don't care very much if it does. (Laughter.) He continued ennumerating a number of ojections he saw to the proposed system.

HON. MR. BEAVEN claimed that the law in Ontario was not the same as was now proposed. There they could by by-law dissolve the board and take the responsibility of running their own affairs.

MR. COTTON rose to remark that the Government's political soul was shrivelled up.

MR. SEMLIN claimed that the Attorney-General had deceived the House, in saying that the proposed clause was copied from the Ontario Statute, and this had been shown by the hon. leader of the Opposition to be incorrect.

HON. MR. DAVIE replied that he had not said the change he proposed was a copy of the Ontario law. What he did say was, that it was the system in Ontario. He had, however, no objection to adding the option of the Ontario Statute. The idea was to adopt the same system as was in vogue elsewhere.

The original clause was then withdrawn, and a clause inserted the same as the provisions of the Ontario statute. This clause passed unanimously.

Additional clauses were passed, and the committee rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

The House adjourned at 11 o'clock.

It is said the Reading combine paid $300,000 cash to get the bill legalizing the deal through the New Jersey Legislature.

WHAT HE REMEMBERS.

Interesting Incidents in the Life of a Pioneer in the H. B. Co's Service.

An Indian's Terrible Revenge — A Woman Prays for a Looking-glass in Exchange for Her Child.

Going up in the train to Goldstream, recently, I sat in the seat behind a very old man, who was watching the scenery, as the carriage flew along, with evident enjoyment. There being very few other people in the car, we soon got into conversation, that is to say my fellow traveller did, for I sat the whole time in delight and listened to him speak about old adventures and early days in Canada. We had not been speaking above a couple of minutes when I found out that he was a pioneer of pioneers, and that, though physically old and feeble, his mental capabilities were as bright and active as ever. So I sat still and let him go ahead, switching him off occasionally by a judicious word or two into the subjects I more particularly wished him to speak of. It would be impossible to crowd into such a short sketch, as this is intended to be, half of what my companion said, nor could I, however much I tried, give any idea of the manner in which each anecdote fell from his lips, nor of the animated gestures and powerful word pictures with which he garnished his remarks.

"I was a raw Scotch lad in them days," he said, "when we broke up home in Wick, and I tumbled off to London with the old man, who was going to see me safe aboard the Hudson Bay company's ship Prince of Wales. I was apprenticed for the usual number of years, and on the 2nd of March, 1851, we sailed away, down past the docks, out into the Channel, and off to sea. I won't speak of the voyage now, beyond saying that, as in all the H. B. Co.'s ships at that time, the apprentices were treated with the greatest kindness, and the vessels belonging to the corporation were always splendidly manned, on account of their reputation. Our chief officer was the father-in-law of Senator Macdonald, and our captain one of the best known skippers sailing out of England. We arrived in Hudson's Straits in the latter end of the year, and sailed up them before entering the Bay, staying at several small native trading posts on the way. At one of these, as our ship sailed up through the smooth, ice-cold water, I happened to be busy in the lee chains, and when we swung round on our anchor chains a long skin canoe hauled in right alongside me, and looked on to the chains on which I was standing. In the bow of the canoe was a young woman, with a child in her arms, and, as they got underneath me, I pulled out from my pocket a small, cracked piece of looking-glass that I had bought for a penny before I left Wick, and held it right over her face. She looked into it, screamed with delight, and then offered me her baby for the precious treasure. She cried and screamed alternately until I gave her the glass, and when she handed me the child in return I put it back in her arms and waved her away. She could not believe that she was to have possession of both, for several minutes, and when our interpreter explained it to her she passed up, out of the boat, four ivory tusks, which I took, and afterwards sold in Montreal for six hundred dollars. So out of my penny investment I made thirty thousand per cent. That would have satisfied Jay Gould, wouldn't it?" asked the old man, as he plunged into his second tale.

"When the 'Prince of Wales' reached the upper waters of Hudson's Bay, I was told by the old hands aboard, who had been in those parts before, that they would show me some wonderful Esquimaux shooting before we got up much further. They then proceeded to attach to some fine string some big ship's biscuits, and tied them, with about a hang of three feet, to the extremity of every yard of the vessel. When we reached James Bay, which was our next point of call, the water was rather rough, and, as we let go the anchor, the old Prince was shaking and tumbling about not a little. This, however, did not deter the natives from crowding around us in their skin boats, and a shout went up as they recognized the buscuits, for they knew what they meant. And in a minute a man fantastically clothed got up in the bow of the largest canoe with a bow and arrow in his hands, and, as he was steered round the ship, fired upwards. Out of six shots he cut four strings, clean in two, and caught in his hands three out of the four biscuits. I have never since seen or heard of such accurate shooting, even when men were armed with the latest invented rifles."

"When I left the 'Prince of Wales,' and, after a series of adventures, reached the Fraser River, still in the service of the H. B. Co., I was sent up to posts on the river, and for some time was engaged in salting and pickling salmon. When the fish were brought up from the river we used to prepare the salt in the barrels and stand them outside round about the fort. One day, late in the season, we had about ten barrels outside, full of the clear, strong pickle, all ready for their fish, when about twenty ugly-looking Indians came down to the fort, with weapons reversed and all signs of abject submission on their faces. Mr. James Murray Yale happened to be in the fort at the time, and it was soon ascertained that they were all suffering from the worst sort of ophthalmia, their eyes being distended and bloodshot and in a very bad condition. The tribes about us, whose members were our fishermen, were hostile to those who had come down, and some of the local chiefs determined, as they dared not fight at the fort, to wreak their vengeance upon them in some other manner. Accordingly, three of their women, prompted by the chiefs, approached the afflicted warriors and told them that some medicine had been just made for bad eyes, but it was to be distributed among the river Indians, and that none would be given them because they were hostile. "However," they went on, "if you are quick and will go to-night when the white men are asleep and dip your heads in those barrels for two minutes your eyes will be bright and good once more." That same evening everybody in the fort was aroused by a terrible screaming and yelling, and rushing out, headed by Mr. Yale, we found the 20 visitors in a terrible condition, their eyes and faces saturated with the strongest brine pickle ever made. They were at once ordered to plunge in the river, and for several hours behaved like madmen. Our doctor succeeded in allaying the torture of several of them, but it was soon ascertained that eight were blinded for life. Three years later, some time after our post had been removed from that point, I heard incidentally that the Indians who had practised the joke had been wiped out of existence by the tribe to which the blinded men belonged. So that justice sometimes gets evened up among the Indians as well as white men."

From THE DAILY COLONIST, Mar. 26.

THE CITY.

Traffic Was Delayed.

A car off the track near the Windsor Hotel, last evening, delayed traffic for a considerable time.

Died in Westminster.

Dean S. Sears, for many years a resident of Victoria, where he was engaged in business as a sailmaker, died in Westminster on the 22nd inst. of paralysis. Notice of funeral will be given later.

To Take a Recess.

The mock parliament, the debates in which have sharpened the wits of the members of the Y.M.C.A., during the winter months, will be formally prorogued on April 1, when a legislative banquet will be enjoyed.

To Sing in the Mission.

Before they leave Victoria, which it is hoped will not be for a fortnight or more, the Ball family, jubilee singers, have promised to give a concert in the Methodist church, Fisgard street, for the especial benefit of the boys of the Mission.

Assigned.

Mr. John W. Fleming, yesterday, made an assignment, for the benefit of his creditors, to Mr. W. P. Sayward, of this city. Liabilities are placed at about $5,000, while the new stone and lumber wharf on Belleville street are the principal assets.

Two Drunks.

A duo of drunks awaited the coming of his honor at the police court yesterday, and secured freedom on payment of five dollars fine. It is expected that a member of the local House will be on hand to-day to explain how he came to be in possession of a brace of wild geese out of season.

Street Improvement.

Ald. S. T. Styles yesterday gave notice, at the City Hall, of his intention to introduce a by-law to grade Victoria Crescent from Burdette avenue to its intersection with Churchway, and also to extend and grade Blanchard street to the junction of McClure and Collinson streets.

Jumped the Track.

Yesterday, a street car on the Esquimalt road, when running at a pretty lively speed, jumped the track, throwing the motoneer off and hurting him slightly. The car ran up to the fence, close to the St. George's Inn, and there several hours of hard work were required before the tram was running again.

A Fine Show Window.

Without doubt one of the prettiest windows in Victoria may be seen at Gilmore & McCandless'. They have imported from London four beautiful wax figures to display boys' clothing, which are certainly a credit to Victoria, and will, no doubt, afford considerable amusement to the children.

Laying Back for a Rush.

The architects of the city agree that their spring work is now tapering off to a finish, and soon everything will be quiet. Next month, however, they expect to have more work than they can handle, and already there are many indications of big summer and fall building operations.

Another Recommendation.

Mayor Beaven, via. the bulletin board, recommends the City Council, at their meeting this morning, to appropriate a sum of not more than $250, to enable the city assessor to obtain from the Land Registry office the information necessary to enable him to enter upon the assessment roll a proper description of the lands in the extended limits of the city of Victoria.

Suggestions Welcomed.

A meeting of the prize list committee of the B. C. Agricultural Association will be held, on Wednesday evening next, at the office of the secretary, Mr. W. H. Bainbridge, Douglas street. Any suggestions calculated to be of benefit will be gladly welcomed. The show of 1892 is to be made far and away the best that British Columbia has ever seen.

Heard in Chambers.

Mr. Charles Williams' celebrated petition against the validity of the last municipal election in this city, was again before the Chief Justice, in Chambers, yesterday, Mr. Yates, in behalf of Mr. Williams, applying for his costs, and pleading the special Act of the Legislature passed this session. The application was not allowed, the Act securing the petitioner in his costs not having yet been completed.

A Horse Exhibition.

This afternoon, at 2:30, Bridle Bill, now well-known to Victorians, will give an exhibition at the residence of Mr. Dumbleton, to which several gentlemen have been invited. The performer will go through his usual feats—breaking wild horses in an hour, and making troublesome and vicious animals do his bidding in a few minutes, follow his whistle, kneel down at command, etc. The exhibition is bound to be interesting.

Greer Has Gone.

Samuel Greer was taken to the New Westminster penitentiary, yesterday, to complete the term of imprisonment to which he was sentenced by Chief Justice Sir M. B. Begbie, for shooting Deputy Sheriff Armstrong, when that officer came to serve a writ of ejectment upon him. Greer, while he expected his appeal on error to result in his favor, believes himself fated to ill luck. He has always been unfortunate, he says, and he expects he always will be.

Pulled Up Just in Time.

A serious accident was averted yesterday afternoon by the promptness of a well known contractor. He was driving in his buggy along Broad street at a good pace, and just as he reached the corner of Yates street, two men who were pulling an electric wire across the road saw fit to lift it at the end opposite the pole just as the horse reached it. The result was that it caught the animal in the neck, throwing it up on its haunches and nearly strangling it. The driver of the vehicle quickly reined in, just in time to prevent difficulties, but had he been a second later the consequences both to himself and the horse would have been disastrous.

Always Obliging.

Post Master Shakespeare, in his official capacity receives many strange communications—many unusual requests. The latest came from a young lady over the Sound, who enclosed a letter addressed to an absent lover, and took the postmaster into her confidence, telling him that she was watched so closely she could not even write to "her dear boy," and asking him to mail the letter from Victoria. The postmaster, while not exactly understanding the combination, can yet remember when he was a younger man, with the romance in his system well developed; so he went down into his inside vest pocket for a Canadian stamp, put it on the letter, and smiled to think that for once cupid had outwitted the dragon.

Anderson Town Site, Alberni.

Mr. Burnet leaves, per steamer Maude, on Sunday, for Alberni, where he will make an extensive survey of Messrs. Anderson's lands. The town of Alberni is to be extended south to the deep water frontage on Stamp harbor, which is at the head of the canal, and where so many vessels loaded at the saw mills established by Captain Stamp years ago. Streets will be located, and reserves for wharves and terminal purposes will be arranged, and the intention is to offer a large number of lots for sale, by auction, during the month of May.

Sailors Attack a Chinaman.

Yesterday afternoon officer Smith put a stop to a fight which would have assuredly terminated in serious harm being done. Two sailors were walking along Government street when a Chinaman, who was apparently sprinkling the sidewalk, insulted one of them in some mysterious way, and it was not long before blows were struck, and by the time the officer reached the spot the Chinaman was rushing out of a back alley with a large piece of iron in his hand, which, if he had used, would have certainly killed the sailor. Both men were arrested.

Victoria Building Society.

The twenty-fourth appropriation of the Victoria Building Society was drawn for, last evening, in the Sir William Wallace Hall, under the supervision of a committee composed of Messrs. Cornelius Booth, Fred. Fell, and T. G. Raymer. The winning number proved to be 136, and $4,000 will be awarded as follows:

George McCullagh, 136 A, $1,000.
S. Gintzburger, 136 B, $1,000.
Mrs. B. Smith, 136 C, $1,000.
Joseph Gosnell, 136 D, $1,000.

The society has $83,000 drawn for at date, $76,000 of which is out on mortgage.

Some Fine Rooms.

The new Victoria Brewery that is being built by Messrs. McGregor & Jeeves for Loewen & Erb, has reached its first story, and is already giving indications of the handsome structure that it is to be when completed. The following dimensions of the rooms it is to contain will prove interesting. In the stockhouse: Chip cellar, 14 feet high; rest barrel cellar, 18 feet; fermenting cellar, 14 feet. In the brew house the six stories are: 14, 10, 10, 10, 10, 12½ feet respectively. Fill house, 14 feet; hop storage, 10 feet; malt storage, 20 feet; wash house, 18 feet; ice house, 21 feet; ice machine room, 21 feet; boiler house, 21 feet; driveway, 14 feet high; offices, 18 feet; brewers' parlor, 18 feet; condensing room, 18 feet, and lodge for men, 18 feet.

From Gardner's Inlet.

Mr. Price, of the Gardner Inlet salmon cannery, who arrived by the Danube, yesterday morning, brings with him the latest news from that distant region. He has resided at his cannery since last December, and says that the weather during the winter has been exceptionally mild. Very little snow has fallen since the new year, and, before he left, the "salmon berries," which is the Indian name for wild raspberries, were blooming. Prospects are good. The Indians are contented, but anxious for the fishing season to commence, so that they may earn good wages and have a "hyas" time. There has been but little sickness amongst them during the past winter, although a few cases of la grippe have occurred, even in the healthy region of Gardner's Inlet.

San Francisco Coal Market.

J. W. Harrison writes as follows in reference to the local coal market: The receipts of coal for the past week consists of 17,640 tons from the coast mines, and 15,164 tons from foreign sources. The market is still dull and depressed. A number of causes can be assigned for the present stagnation, which the most prudent of the business never imagined could come to pass. There is not a single jobber in the trade who, prior to 1891, was not fully assured that he had ample yard room for all his requirements, whereas three-fourths of them have now secured every available vacant lot adjacent to the water front and are yet seeking for more. A number of cargoes which have arrived within the past ninety days seeking buyers have been mercilessly slaughtered, as storage room for the same was not procurable. Then the wholesale dealers have been buying for the past six months in advance of their trade wants, feeling assured that bottom prices had been reached, whereas the lowest quotations for twelve months are ruling to-day, and every single jobber is overloaded. The list of foreign coals to arrive here in the next sixty days is narrowing down, and foreign stocks must be reduced very materially within that time as we shall consume during the coming two months five times more coal than can come in.

SEWING MACHINE WORKS.

A Proposition to Establish a Factory for Making a New Patent Machine.

At the special meeting of the Board of Aldermen, to be held this morning, a proposition concerning the establishment of a factory to manufacture a new patent sewing machine will be considered. Mr. O. B. Hardy, well known here, has purchased the exclusive right from the inventor of his patent of a sewing machine, which, while being marvelously simple in its construction and management, is capable of doing all the work of the present rather complicated machine. Mr. Hardy was offered a bonus of $50,000 and water power from the Spokane people to establish the works there; but it is probable, owing to the advantages for distribution, one of the Sound towns will get the factory. He has interested some local capitalists here in the project of establishing a factory to manufacture the machine for the territory lying between here and Winnipeg, and for the whole Pacific slope, including South America, Australia, the Sandwich Islands, China and Japan. The cost of a factory to turn out one hundred machines per day, will be about $75,000. It would require from two to two and a half acres of ground, not included in this estimate. This factory would employ 200 men, and require another $75,000 capital to carry on the business.

Mr. Hardy's proposal is now under consideration by several of Victoria's leading capitalists. It is thought that the city should aid by way of bonus the establishment of the works here, and this is the reason for its being brought before the council. Having so large a field for sales it is believed that when the works are successfully established it would soon be possible to double the capacity of the factory. As this would employ a little army of mechanics, the benefit derived by Victoria generally, would be very great, and it is felt by the promoters that the city should aid them in securing the right to manufacture and in establishing the industry.