

ASSISTANCE IS WANTED

Railway Company Expects the Province to Help Keep the Atlin Trail Open.

A Thousand Men Said to Be at Tagish on the Way From Dawson.

The steamer Rosalie arrived Tuesday evening with a very small number of passengers—over fifteen in all. She left Skagway on the 1st inst., having arrived there just in time to escape the storm of a few weeks ago which lasted for eight days and effectually closed all communication from Dawson. A thousand men from the metropolis were reported at Tagish, making their way to the coast, but those aboard the Rosalie knew nothing of them further than that they were all there before the steamer's return. Though pretty well isolated Skagway is still not without its excitement. The news is being circulated in the town principally by the railroad men, and news articles are talking of all hands.

On the 1st inst. A. L. Smith was to leave Tanana River several hundred miles below Dawson with large quantities of mail. His long journey was looked upon as an extremely perilous one as the country he has to travel is of a very rough nature and the weather was terribly cold. This fact O. Vige and party, returning from the Atlin country, testify to. The mail was to be carried on the journey to Skagway, having time and again found themselves in a snow drift almost completely covering them. It took three days in one instance to extricate themselves from one snow bank and they were eleven days on the Atlin trail. Their tramp was a very trying one and was attended with all the misfortunes of frost bites, etc.

A contingent of Northwest Mounted Police were also set out from Skagway on the 1st and were going to Tagish to there establish a new railway. They were deprived through death of all except nine of their Labrador dogs which they had taken with them from Quebec. The dogs while in Vancouver got hold of some strychnine, which killed forty of them and came near ending the whole lot. They are described as being of the finest kind of dogs for sleighing purposes in the North.

C. Hawkins, general manager and chief engineer of the Skagway railway, was a passenger on the Rosalie. He went on to Seattle to look after some business in connection with the railway, but will be back in Victoria this evening to remain several days. Mr. Hawkins says that British Columbia is to contribute towards the building of the trail to Atlin, but further states that his company will not wait for this support. The road is now all cut out from the coast across to Otter lake and thence to Atlin while a sleigh road for the heaviest part of the trail, particularly for the hauling of machinery, has been built from Log Cabin to Bennett. In an interview with the Alaskan Mr. Hawkins is quoted as saying:

"I went before the people of Victoria and represented to them it was proper that the British Columbia government should appropriate money for the purpose of keeping in good order the trail leading and leading to the coast of British territory. It will require a considerable sum of money to keep the trails in good condition, and I have written to Atlin and also the trail from the lakes to Bennett. British Columbia is a province and it should look after its own highways and not depend on outside persons or people of another country to do this work. I have made application for this appropriation and I believe that by this time the money is available. The trail is the only route to the Atlin gold fields and I believe that the travel cannot proceed over the ice then we will build bridges. This is what the appropriation will aid in accomplishing."

The customs officials will oblige all persons travelling to Atlin to go to Log Cabin to pay their duty instead of permitting the miners to proceed direct from Shallow lake to Atlin. This route simply takes the traveller a little farther north before branching off to the east.

The only passengers to embark here were Mr. Johnson and wife.

FRIENDLY HELP SOCIETY.
Preparing for the Annual Distribution of Christmas Gifts.

The Friendly Help held their meeting at their rooms yesterday morning. The usual reports for the month were received and discussed. Mrs. Chas. Hayward was appointed president instead of Mrs. (Col.) Baker, resigned, and Mrs. Higgins Grant vice Mrs. Higgins, who at present is unable to attend. The committee in charge of Christmas gifts are making arrangements for the systematic distribution of Christmas gifts to the deserving poor members of the society are reminded of the usual custom of each donating one or more new garments and helping at least one friend outside the society to get new clothing. The list of all kinds will be thankfully received from any benevolent friend who wishes to assist the poor through the medium of this charitable society. As will appear later these donations are asked for with the name of the donor after 9 a. m. Monday, 10th inst. The committee will be at the rooms that and succeeding days for receiving and distributing gifts.

About fifty applicants received assistance from the society during the month of November. Eleven had groceries, 9 had rent paid and 22 had clothing. Donations were thankfully received from the following: The city cash, Miss Skinner, Mrs. Nolte, Mrs. Griggs, M. J. Pearson & Co., A. Friend, Mrs. Beynes, Mrs. Higgins, Mrs. B. H. Ross, Mrs. B. B. Bowers, clothing; Mrs. H. G. Ross, hats; Mrs. Williams, shoes; Mrs. McKelving, underclothes; Mrs. Brown, lamp; B. Porter & Son, meat.

NEGRO SOLDIER ASSASSIN.
Accused of Shooting Two Spanish Soldiers and American Commissionary.

Hayana, Dec. 6.—Understanding that Campbell, who had been charged with the charge of being connected with the shooting of two Spanish soldiers, belonging to the United States army, the secretary of the Spanish expedition commission went to the American commission and thereupon he was taken to the disposal of the Americans. The latter, however, refused to take charge of Campbell, and the Spanish officers dealt with by the Spanish authorities in the same manner as any other prisoner. Campbell was then taken to jail to await his trial.

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MERCHANTMAN'S TROUBLES.

Troubles Between Officers and Men of the Bark Wilson Arrive in Court.

By the time that all the troubles that occurred on the British bark, the Wilson during her recent voyage, which ended with her arrival in the Royal Roads on Saturday last, are adjusted there will be few officers or men of the ship who will not have appeared in the provincial police court to answer to some charge or counter charge. Yesterday fewer than six cases were recorded arising out of the differences between officers and men and were before Magistrate Hall.

In the first place the Japanese steward was charged by W. Veitch, an able seaman, with cutting and wounding him. The evidence was very contradictory but in the main went to show that Veitch prytch to the galley where he had no right and abused the steward, pushing him into the coal bunker. The steward had a dish of mashed potatoes, and a silver table knife in the other. When Veitch emerged from the galley he was covered with blood, and the dust and other refuse generally found around a galley about dinner time. Hence the charge of cutting and wounding. The magistrate did not consider the evidence direct enough to justify him in recording a conviction.

Then Henry Becker, Harry Kosch, Gus Peterson and T. Hendrickson were charged by Capt. Doty with refusing to obey the orders of the commanding officer and were sentenced to two weeks imprisonment, to return to the ship before they were allowed to go ashore. As each was sentenced he was asked if he would prefer not to go back to the ship at all, but the magistrate advised them that they might as well serve their time for which they signed that they could show good cause why they should not.

The next charge was against the mate who is charged with assaulting T. Hendrickson. This will be heard on Monday and will be followed, it is said, by information against all the seamen charging them with refusing duty.

TELEPHONE IMPROVEMENTS.

A Hurry Up Switch Board for the Hello Girls to Be Put in.

The telephone company are making arrangements by which such improvements will result that the hello girl will no longer have cause to regret that she has not at least three ears. This is a new switch-board with the very latest improvements to it. The present board has a little shudder that drops when a number calls up. Then the telephone bell in a plug to make the connection with the number desired. The new board combines all these three motions in one, so that the bell rings, the bell rings, and so there is no shudder lost in looking about for the proper bell to ring. Another improvement in view is the traffic, particularly for the hauling of machinery, has been built from Log Cabin to Bennett. In an interview with the Alaskan Mr. Hawkins is quoted as saying:

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TIMBER LIMITS.
A Ruling That Is Bad for the Lumber Interests.

Victoria, Nov. 19. '98. Sir.—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th inst. and have certain timber limits you desire to acquire in Kootenay district.

C. A. SEMLIN.
Chief Commissioner of L. & W. G. O. Buchanan, K. C.

The foregoing is Mr. Semlin's reply to an inquiry as to what the special conditions under which the timber limits would have to be granted as hinted at in a recent Gazette notice. Mr. Semlin does not state whether the timber limits would have to be granted as hinted at in a recent Gazette notice. Mr. Semlin does not state whether the timber limits would have to be granted as hinted at in a recent Gazette notice.

WOMEN DIPLOMATS.
A Bold Departure in Russia's Eastern Policy.

London Mail.
It is intimated by the sincerest form of flattery a decision of the Russian minister of public instruction which has just been promulgated, should be regarded as peculiarly gratifying to Englishmen, although the object in view is calculated to furnish them with sordid food for reflection.

The unsatisfactory results obtained in India through the various women's missions established there of late years have been studied with great interest by the Russian government for some time past writes a correspondent from St. Petersburg.

The excellent means that such a system would present for the "Russification" of Oriental races were recognized, and several years ago, as a tentative measure, special facilities for the study of the Russian language were accorded to a carefully selected group of lady students at St. Petersburg.

The results appear to be satisfactory to the Russian government that arrangements have now been made by the minister of public instruction for the immediate opening of special classes reserved exclusively for women, at St. Petersburg and at Moscow, in which, besides the study of the Russian language, the study of the Russian language, the study of the Russian language, the study of the Russian language.

COAL ON THE DUMP

Quatino's New Mine Has Thirty Tons Ready for Shipment—A New Discovery.

Still No News of the Schooner Pioneer—Important Notices to Mariners.

Thirty tons of coal lie on the dump, and it was reported that two new reef seams had been discovered. Such is briefly the news brought from Quatino by the steamer Willapa, arriving at Victoria on Saturday last. The new coal mines which American capital is just opening up at that point of the Island. Parts of the steamer's trip were very rough, especially around Cape Scott, where the vessel went to land 15 or 20 tons of coal for the new mining colony. Not on the whole stretch of coast line traversed was anything heard of the missing schooner Pioneer, and the hope for the craft, now out 74 days from Behring Sea, can mainly rest on a possibility of her having been driven southward by strong southerly gales, in which event shipping men think she may not be heard of until spring.

Very brief word of a triple killing reached St. Petersburg yesterday afternoon from Provincial Governor Anderson at Quatino. The telegram from Mr. Anderson states that three Chinamen had been killed near Cottonwood, in Kariboo district, and that six other Chinamen are under arrest on suspicion of being connected with the crime. At the same time, it appears from Mr. Anderson's telegram, that a Chinaman lying dead is responsible for all three deaths. Two of the men were found hanging from a tree in the vicinity of the mine, the third man was lying dead on the ground.

MURDER AT COTTONWOOD.

Two Chinamen Found Chopped to Death and a Third Man Hanging From a Tree.

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NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

A Winter's Programme Drafted—Importation of Song Birds Considered.

The meeting of the Natural History Society Monday evening in their quarters in the old, grand library room, was the oldest, largest and most interesting. The society has had the room, under the direction of Messrs. Hastings & Sylvester, fitted up in first class style and with ample provision for the comfort and convenience of the members. The room is a large hall, with a high ceiling, and is a large hall, with a high ceiling, and is a large hall, with a high ceiling.

RICH COPPER.

A strike of unusual richness has just been made on the railway construction on the North Fork on a mineral claim called the Collier, near the mining camp of Grand Forks. The graders were running a large open cut through this property, when they came upon a five-foot vein of copper sulphides of exceedingly high grade. This cut will be some 65 feet in depth, so that the ore should be well exposed. The property is owned by Colin Campbell, of Grand Forks.

GRAND FORKS BANKERS.

Mr. Ad. M. Brown, of London, representing the Smelting Corporation, Limited, which operates works in the Kootenay district in England, has been buying ore in the Kootenays, and concerning his operations he says: "The report is true that the Smelting Corporation is buying ore in the Kootenays. I have purchased 220 tons of concentrates from the Kootenay mines, and the value of these concentrates will average 68 per cent. lead and 32 per cent. silver. This will be, I believe, the first shipment made from the Kootenay mines of silver-lead concentrates to an English smelter. It can save for the mine owner about \$3 per ton, over American smelter charges. The Smelting Corporation is also a consideration. You see, we have no large duty to pay, and besides, the value of the concentrates is higher, and the galena ore going to the States have to pay a higher penalty on the zinc."

CLINTON SODA.

Two hundred and fifty tons of the soda deposit have been mined at Clinton, British Columbia, by George Powell and men, and are arrangements are being made for its proper preparation for putting on the market. The soda is a high quality, and is also a consideration. You see, we have no large duty to pay, and besides, the value of the concentrates is higher, and the galena ore going to the States have to pay a higher penalty on the zinc."

RALPH WILLARD DEAD.

The sudden death of Ralph Willard, one of the pioneers of British Columbia, occurred at the Ashcroft Hotel, this city, on Friday, the 4th inst. Mr. Willard had been in the employ of the B. C. Express Company at the 61-Mile House for the last several months, and was a kind-hearted, generous man, and one who leaves behind him many friends.

EARLY MARINE ENGINEERING.

Time Was When to Blow Steam Was Regarded as an Insult.
From Cassier's Magazine.
In 1830 gongs for the engine room were unknown, and in many of the boats when the pilot was in his house (if there was one) on the engine room, the engineer was made known, and all salutes between boats were given by bells.

IS A LAND WITHOUT WOMEN.

Seven Thousand Men Live in a Colony Where There is Not a Female Creature.
There is only one territory of any size—and never has been but one—occupied by every living and breathing creature, man, woman and child, and no woman is absolutely excluded. Yet such a place exists to-day and has existed for many years past.

ROSSLAND BANKS.

The Bank of British Columbia and the Bank of British Columbia have both opened branches in Rossland. Both of them ended a lively race yesterday morning between the two banks for the honor of being the first to open a branch in Rossland. The Bank of British Columbia was the first to open a branch in Rossland.

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IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Kootenay Ore Going to England for Smelting—Clinton Soda Promises Well.

Fatal Attempt to Break Into Gool—Cariboo Old-Timer Dead—The Banks.

BREAKING INTO GAOL.—On Wednesday morning of last week, at about five o'clock night watchman Kennedy noticed two men trying to enter the lock-up. Kennedy at once called upon them to stop, and in reply to his order entering his left breast, but creating only a slight flesh wound. Kennedy felt to the ground, but was able to make good use of his own weapon, shooting one of the liberators through the breast, and also hitting the other as he fled, this second shot, as since ascertained, only creating a slight flesh wound on the arm, but not stopping the man's flight. He has since been arrested. His companion's wound is likely to prove fatal.

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PEACE TREATY READY

Commissioners at Paris at Last Arrange the Details of Their Bargaining.

Spaniards Refused Shipping Privileges in Cuba as American Control Only Temporary.

Paris, Dec. 6.—The peace of Paris is practically an accomplished fact. Today's session disposed of the essential features of the treaty, which are embodied in the following articles:
1. The customary preface of treaties in the name of the expression of amity and of hope for perpetual peace.
2. The relinquishment by Spain of her sovereignty over Cuba.
3. The withdrawal of the Spanish troops.
4. Relinquishment by Spain of sovereignty over Porto Rico.
5. Spain's assent to the Philippines.
6. The withdrawal of the Spanish troops there.
7. Payment by the United States of \$20,000,000 for the Philippines.
8. Provision for the "open door" commercial policy in the Philippines.
9. The rough draft of the treaty, which may be considerably changed, covers these proposals. It makes a long document, which Senator Cushman Davis, of the United States senate, says will be found to be one of the most interesting papers of its character ever written. It is completely agreed that the evacuation of the Philippines stipulated that a commission such as arranged for the Spanish withdrawal from the West Indies will be unnecessary. It is learned that there were differences of opinion among the Americans on the shipping articles, and numerous telegrams were exchanged with Washington. Finally the American commission of the United States senate, principal reason being that Porto Rico is about to be declared within the coast line of the United States, while as regards Cuba, the completely agreed that the United States government will not fix, and the treaty will be signed by the American occupation there is not fixed, and the treaty will be signed by the American occupation there is not fixed.

RESURRECTION OF THE BODY.

Sermon by the Bishop of London Before a Medical Guild Causes Much Comment.
Robes of scarlet and purple, maroon, mauve, green, white and black swarmed in St. Paul's cathedral when the thirty-fourth anniversary of the Guild of St. Luke the Physician was celebrated. These dazzling garments were the state trappings of several hundred medical men and women, the latter, however, being but a small part of the number. It was estimated that 1,000 doctors were present on the invitation of the guild, and that the number of the medical profession was 1,500 all says the London News.
The Bishop of London preached the sermon, contending that it was wrong to regard the human body as a mere machine, and that the human body was a temple of God, and that the human body was a temple of God, and that the human body was a temple of God.

PEOPLE TALKED ABOUT.

Mrs. Humphrey Ward received \$70,000 for her latest novel, "Hebeck of Baradale." Prince of Wales is reported to possess the finest collection of tobacco pipes in the world.
The Queen has a great fancy for powder, and she always keeps a large box of it on the table.
When the late Mr. Gladstone was sold by an enterprising press reporter as an Italian, a party of high position for five francs.
Mr. Gladstone has published an interview with Rudyard Kipling, in which he describes the author as "a little fellow, but a little fellow who groomed little fags." The author is not pleased.

NO WONDER THEY SEEM QUEER.

The Chinese have devoted themselves for nearly 4,000 years to the artificial propagation of fishes, shellfishes, tortois and snappers.—Tallapoole Enquirer.
English women are said to average two inches more in height than Americans. It takes from 40 to 80 years to get the ankles of a stag to attain their full size.
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Chicago, Dec. 9.—John Larson was fatally injured by a scullion in Armstrong street on Nov. 22nd and Morgan street.

MORE DEADLY THAN

Barcelona, Dec. 9.—Steamer Buenos Ayres from Manila on Nov. 23rd was wrecked on a reef on board. There were 100 passengers on the steamer on her way to Manila.

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First of the American Through the City.
Hayana, Dec. 9.—The States troops, to march to Hayana from the Second New which, with hand playing, will march to-morrow transport Minewalka, a of Havana in the West. The line of march the Prado and Central troops will be sent to Philae.

ARCHITECTS I

Coroner's Jury Finds Cause for the Loss of T.
Detroit, Dec. 9.—The tigation of the cause of the roof of the Wonder building in Hayana which collapsed to-day, the heavy weight was placed and placing the responsibility upon the firm of J. architects of the building.

STANDARD OI

The Company's Works Suffer Loss of Qu.
Los Angeles, Dec. 9.—works of the Standard Oil Company were damaged by fire on the 7th inst. The loss was estimated at \$100,000.

PREBTERY OF VICTORIA.

Usual December Meeting Held in St. Andrew's Church, Nanaimo.

Spaniards Refused Shipping Privileges in Cuba as American Control Only Temporary.

The Presbytery of Victoria held its usual December meeting in St. Andrew's church, Nanaimo, on Tuesday, the members present being Rev. J. O. Fisher (moderator), W. L. Clay, A. B. Winchester and D. MacRae, Victoria; W. B. Cumming and Alex. Young, Nanaimo; W. C. Dods, Union; and E. G. Perry, Wellington.
Steps were taken with the view of visiting the newer settlements on the West Coast of the Island to ascertain the necessities of missionary services.
Rev. Mr. Winchester was authorized to organize Chinese congregations in Victoria, and Messrs. T. M. Henderson, John Fullerton and John Park were appointed an interim session to assist him in the work.
The home mission work of the Presbytery was carefully reviewed, and admirable reports from their respective fields were presented by Messrs. Burkholder, Menzies and Brown.
The estimates for the Presbytery and synod funds were adopted.
The Rev. Professor George Bryce, D. D., of Manitoba college, Winnipeg, was nominated for moderator of the general assembly.
The following minute was adopted with reference to the death of the Rev. Dr. Cochrane: "The Presbytery hereby expresses its sympathy for the bereaved church at large has sustained in the lamented death of the Rev. William Cochrane, D. D., of Brandon, Manitoba, who was a member of the general assembly's home mission committee. To his mature judgment and indefatigable energy must be credited in no small measure the present position of the Presbyterian church in Western Canada. His visit to the Pacific coast some 15 or 16 years ago prepared the way for the taking over by the Canadian church of the work which had hitherto been carried on by the Church of Scotland, and led to the more aggressive prosecution of work throughout the whole province.
To the congregation of Zion church, Brandon, and to the members of Dr. Cochrane's family we beg to tender our respectful sympathies. His visit to the next meeting was appointed to be held in St. Andrew's church, Victoria.

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