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THIRTY-NINTH YEAR.

VICTORIA BRITISH COLUMBIA MONDAY JANUARY 25 1897.

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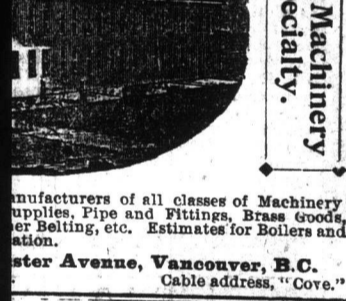
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THE IRISH PRISONERS.

O'Brien Makes Appeals in the House of Commons for a General Amnesty.

Ivory, the Alleged Dynamiter, Discharged—Comments in Dublin and New York.

LONDON, Jan. 21.—The debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne was resumed in the House of Commons yesterday. Patrick O'Brien, Parnellite, moved an amendment that the time had come when the cases of all Irish political prisoners should be considered. He appealed for amnesty for the few remaining prisoners.

Timothy Healy, Parnellite member for North Louth, said that if an inquiry were made into the conspiracies and plots in America it would be found that an English agent had his nose in every one. He also expressed the belief that 15 years' imprisonment was enough punishment and that the sixtieth anniversary of the Queen's reign was a good occasion to show clemency. He attacked the course followed by the Home Secretary, Mr. Asquith, and the political prisoners, raised as a police case and paid £10,000 yearly to maintain such plots. In the course of his remarks Healy was repeatedly called to order.

The Home Secretary, Sir Matthew White Ridley, said that it would be satisfactory to the government if he could remedy any Irish grievances; but he added, whatever the motives of the political prisoners, they were guilty of crimes abhorred by the civilized world, and he was unable to present to advise Her Majesty to grant them amnesty. The Home Secretary pointed out that in the withdrawal of the charge against Bell (Edward J. Ivory), the country has just had a proof of the fairness and impartiality of the court. He also said he was convinced that the police discovery of the conspiracy with which Ivory was connected had saved the public from a great disaster. He added that should the health or sanity of the political prisoners be affected they would be released. He did not desire a repetition of the results which unfortunately happened in the case of Thomas Gallagher, explaining that he had heard Dr. Gallagher was threatened with insanity at the end of June and that he acted immediately.

Mr. Clancy, in supporting O'Brien's motion, referred to the case of Ivory and said that the most important witness was an American informer, whom the government shrunk from putting in the box. If they had done so, continued Mr. Clancy, he is certain that instead of proving Ivory's guilt, it would have shown the complexity of government officials in the alleged conspiracy. The O'Brien amendment was defeated, 204 to 132.

Mr. Dillon moved an amendment calling upon the government to introduce comprehensive measures for the relief of Irish husbandry, saying that the proposed board of agriculture, as a remedy, was a mockery.

James Daly, anti-Parnellite member from South Monaghan, was supporting the motion when the house adjourned.

The crown prosecutor yesterday withdrew the charge against Edward J. Ivory, alias Bell, the saloon keeper of New York arrested in Glasgow in September, and Justice Hawkins discharged the prisoner. It was reported that the opening of the proceedings the Solicitor General R. B. Finlay, announced that he definitely ascertained yesterday that the explosion at Antwerp occurred after Ivory left that place, and that there was no legal evidence that the prisoner was the organizer of the crime. Therefore it had been decided not to present evidence thereon. Mr. Finlay said that while he felt that the correspondence which had fallen into the hands of the police, and the movements of Ivory were grounds for the gravest suspicions, there was no evidence justifying the crown in asking for a conviction.

After complimenting the police upon the intelligence shown in the discharge of a difficult duty, Justice Hawkins directed the jury to return a verdict of not guilty. Justice Hawkins advised Ivory strongly to look carefully to his future. Ivory bowed smilingly and left the dock, several friends congratulating him. Ivory was heard to remark, "I knew I should get out of it."

The collapse of the prosecution was a complete surprise to all. The afternoon papers express disgust and blame the police. Ivory said last night, in the course of an interview: "They wanted me to implicate William Lyman, president of the Irish National Alliance, but that was all nonsense. I refused to have anything to do with it." Ivory said he had no idea of suing the government, but suggested that the United States government might do so. He is going to Dublin in a few days and will depart for the United States in a week.

An editorial in the Chronicle on the Ivory case says: "It is not a put-up job. It is a hideous middle and we do not know why Irish members should not demand a parliamentary inquiry." A dispatch from Dublin says: "The withdrawal of the charges against Edward J. Ivory, in the central criminal court of London to-day, is regarded here as being due to the crown's dread of the exposure of Thomas M. Jones, the informer. Two witnesses left this city Saturday in order to testify for the defense in regard to sensational overtures made to them by Jones a week before he appeared at the Bow Street police court to testify against Ivory."

New York, Jan. 21.—The news of Ivory's release, owing to the abandonment of the prosecution by the English government, was received with rejoicing by Irish-Americans in this city. William

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UNITED STATES AND SPAIN.

NEW YORK, Jan. 20.—A special to the World from Madrid says: Despite official denials the impression in political and diplomatic circles and in the Madrid press is that the government has instructed the Spanish representative at Washington to inform the American government, quite unofficially, how far the government is disposed to go in the way of colonial reforms, including tariff and commercial concessions to the United States. The impression is that President Cleveland and Secretary Olney are disposed to leave the settlement of the Cuban question and all American claims rising out of the Cuban insurrection to their successors, McKinley and Sherman. Spain will, nevertheless, carry out the reforms in February.

CANADIANS FROM BRAZIL.

LONDON, Jan. 21.—The Lambert & Holt steamer Buffon arrived to-night from Santos, Brazil, with 53 stranded Canadian emigrants, who left their northern homes to establish themselves near Santos. The warm climate of southern Brazil was too much for the colonists, and only were unable to toil with their usual energy. They were nearly all destitute of clothing, and a majority of the emigrants, and by his aid they embarked on the Buffon, their transportation being paid for by Canada by the British government. The impression is that the consul papers addressed to the superintendent of immigration of Ellis Island.

BISHOPS' MANDATEMENT.

TORONTO, Jan. 21.—(Special)—Bulldozing articles in the Globe now appearing day by day enter in a general plan to prevent a coalition of the Ontario and Quebec prelates. The authorities at Montreal explain the reluctance of the English-speaking Bishops on the ground that Sir Oliver Mowat had always treated them well in Ontario; yet, it is said, they are thoroughly in accord in sentiment with the Quebec conferees and that they will sign the Bishops' mandement in the end.

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ANGLO-AMERICAN ARBITRATION.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 22.—In a letter to Charles Harrison, of this city, ex-Senator George F. Edmunds reviews the objections raised against the Anglo-American arbitration treaty. In conclusion, he says: "I am an intense supporter of the Monroe doctrine; I believe that the building of the Nicaragua canal under the auspices of the United States is of urgent necessity; I believe most earnestly in international arbitration to the utmost extent that civilized, just and self-respecting nations can go, and I most earnestly hope that the senate will ratify the treaty as it is proposed, as a first step—a very great and auspicious one—toward the attainment of peace among nations."

MONTEAL, Jan. 21.—Hon. Mr. Tarte, who arrived here last evening from the capital, Quebec, tells the story that he is leading the Quebec Liberals in the approaching campaign.

HUDSON BAY INQUIRY.

Canadian Expedition to Ascertain Its Period of Navigability and Times of Closing.

A Newfoundland Vessel Likely to Be Employed—Composition of the Party.

OTTAWA, Jan. 21.—Hon. L. H. Davies is a very busy man just now, making preparations for the expedition to Hudson Bay the coming spring. The minister of marine and fisheries is taking a warm personal interest in the matter, and seems determined that the three great questions with respect to the bay should be thoroughly inquired into next summer. These are, the time of the opening of navigation in the Hudson straits; second, the closing of navigation; and third, the fishery resources of the bay. Incidentally other matters will be inquired into, but the main object of the expedition is the settlement of the question as to the period during which the straits are navigable, and what are the extent and values of the fisheries.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Details of the Slaughter of a Peaceful Expedition in West Africa.

LONDON, Jan. 21.—The Evening News publishes this afternoon a despatch from Lagos, capital of the British West African colony of that name, giving details hitherto unobtainable of the massacre of the British expedition under Consul-General J. R. Phillips, by the inhabitants of Benin city early during the present month. The party consisted of Consul-General Phillips, Major P. W. G. Copeland-Crawford, deputy commissioner, and adjoining native territory; Captain A. M. Boisragon, commander of the Niger coast protectorate forces; Mr. R. F. Locke, of the consular staff; Mr. R. H. Elliot, medical officer, Messrs. Powis and Gordon, civilians.

The party was unarmed, and was proceeding to Benin city in order to make a request for a palaver conference with King Obah in regard to increasing the trading facilities with that part of Africa. Preparations are being made for the expedition landed at a spot about fifteen miles from Benin City, and the carriers were sent on ahead through the dense jungle, the officers following five miles from Benin the officers suddenly came upon a narrow defile, which was the scene of a massacre. The men were fearfully mutilated. Almost immediately afterwards the officers and their servants were surrounded and at the same time the members of the party excepting Messrs. Boisragon and Locke were shot.