

# The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

THIRTY-EIGHTH YEAR.

VICTORIA BRITISH COLUMBIA THURSDAY JANUARY 23 1896.

VOLUME XXXVIII. NO. 16.

## BEHRING SEA CLAIMS.

### Great Britain Has Approved the Proposed Convention—Hon. Mr. Prior's Cabinet Appointment.

### British Columbia's Minister Heartily Greeted at the Capital—Mr. Martin an Inquirer.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, Jan. 18.—The Cabinet was engaged this afternoon considering the estimates, the intention being to endeavor to complete all the seasonal work before the dissolution.

Despite the efforts of a few Montreal Grits to prevent Sir Charles Tupper addressing the board of trade on Monday, the address will be given. The Secretary of State says his speech will be non-political.

The report that the Governor-General sought advice from the Colonial office in the recent crisis turns out to be a canard.

OTTAWA, Jan. 20.—The government was notified to-day that the Behring sea claims convention has been approved by Great Britain and the United States, having first received the approval of Canada.

Either Judge Walkem or Judge Drake will be appointed British representative to assess the damages sustained. In the event of the two commissioners disagreeing, the United States has proposed that the President of the Swiss confederation be invited to nominate an umpire. The latter suggestion was considered by the Canadian government to-day and approved.

Hon. E. G. Prior has been appointed a member of the railway committee of the privy council in Sir Mackenzie Bowell's place.

The government proposes to take steps to collect statistics of the crops throughout the Dominion.

Mr. McNeill gives notice of motion endorsing Mr. Hofmeyer's scheme of preferential trade.

Mr. Bryson, Conservative member for Pontiac, died yesterday of heart disease. The members sent a beautiful offering to-day.

Hon. Peter Mitchell will contest Northumberland, N.B.

Editor Laferriere, of Le Canada, has taken out a summons against Sir Richard Cartwright for assault. Sir Richard grabbed the editor by the throat last Thursday when he was entering the Commons.

Mr. L. Martin is anxious to know whether Lieut. Governor Dewdney interfered in the recent Victoria election, and is also anxious to learn if Hon. Mr. Prior is a member of the cabinet. The proceedings in the house to-day were very dull, the debate being confined to back bench members.

Hon. Mr. Poirer attended Mayor Borthwick's civic banquet to-night and received a hearty greeting. He made a capital speech.

## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS.

BERLIN, Jan. 18.—The twenty-fifth anniversary of the crowning at Versailles of King William of Prussia, grandfather of the present Emperor, as Emperor of Germany, and the re-establishment of the German empire, was celebrated throughout the empire, in accordance with decrees published at the instance of the Secretaries of Culture and Worship, in Prussia, Saxony, Bavaria, Wurtemberg, Baden Hesse and the other German states, and all the schools in the empire suitably observed the day by applying patriotic addresses delivered by the principals and teachers, and by recitations and singing. In Berlin, as well as in the other cities, the municipalities made preparations for the day; stores were closed and business was suspended from noon.

At the banqueting hall of the Rathaus in this city, a special celebration was held, arranged by the city council, consisting of a session in honor of the day and of an oration in the forenoon. In Dresden, Munich, Stuttgart, Leipzig, Breslau, Hamburg, Hanover and other cities, celebrations were held under the auspices of the local governments. At Nuremberg the celebration was especially impressive and general. A grand ovation, in which the singing and veteran associations participated, took place on the picturesque square this evening.

The fete at the whitehall of the Schloss, which was preceded by service in the Protestant and Catholic churches, began at 10:45 a.m., in the presence of the highest dignitaries of the Empire, as well as the delegates of the Reichstag, Bundesrath and Diet, and of all the surviving members of these bodies in 1870-71. The jeweled insignia of the empire, crown, sceptre and globe, were borne by dignitaries standing on both sides of the throne. The presence of Herr Simpson, the veteran president of the reichstag in 1871, and of the leading generals of the war still alive, added much interest to the scene. Delegations from all the regiments whose chief was the Emperor William I, or whose chief is the present Emperor, were also in attendance. All the flags and banners belonging to regiments outside Berlin gathered at Potsdam depot yesterday and were escorted by a company of the Second Guard regiment to the Schloss.

The festival at the palace was attended by the Empress, ex-Empress Frederick and the four oldest princes. The statues of Emperors William and Frederick were crowned with laurel. When the Emperor entered the white hall,

## THE ASHANTEE PICNIC.

### Grand Palaver in the Square of Coomassie—British Commander Well Received.

### King Prempeh and Some of His Relatives to Be Held as Hostages.

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## NEWS FROM LONDON.

London, Jan. 18.—It seems to be the general opinion here that the events of the past week have in no way impaired the prestige of Great Britain. The agreement arrived at with France regarding Siam is, for instance, gravely looked upon in some quarters as being an excellent reply to Emperor William's dispatch to President Kruger on the result of the Transvaal invasion in spite of the utterances to the contrary of the French newspapers.

La Liberté, of Paris, on Wednesday had an interview with Mr. Berthelot, the French minister of foreign affairs, in which he was quoted as saying: "The (Mekong) convention does not modify our external policy the English newspapers are willfully mistaken in declaring that England has obtained France's co-operation in the settlement of England's foreign affairs."

Yet, in face of this, the newspapers here look upon the Mekong agreement as being a triumph for British diplomacy and a slap for Emperor William. On the other hand, it was indignantly announced to-day that the Ashantee war had been ended with the complete submission of King Prempeh, and the news is received with great satisfaction, as it frees Great Britain from a troublesome little war.

The elation at Great Britain's apparently successful issue from a delicate situation, combined with the promptness with which the naval preparations were carried out, has given a tone of cocksureness to a portion of the press and a majority of the people.

The Standard is so elated that it talks about Great Britain holding her own against any five or six of the Great Powers and thinks it a matter of supreme indifference as to how the powers may group themselves.

The Standard's opinion, however, strongly reproaches Englishmen for such an opinion, describes the Standard's remarks as "swagger" and asks pertinently if Great Britain is prepared to contend against France, Germany, Austria and the United States, and says: "Surely this is making a great deal too much of the fact that we have built a few ironclads and cruisers rapidly during the last few years." Continuing, the Gazette proceeds to enumerate the vulnerable points of Great Britain's armor, namely, the insufficient number of cruisers, lack of trained men and officers to man the fleet, a tiny army, etc.

In connection with the possibility of war between Great Britain and one or more of the powers, the newspapers to-day give much prominence to an article from the pen of a distinguished military strategist, Capt. Baron von Lutwitz of the Prussian general staff, which has appeared in the Militia "Wochenblatt." Discussing the chances of an invasion of Great Britain, Capt. von Lutwitz concludes with the remark that "though an invasion of this country would be dangerous, it is in no way impossible."

The English newspapers refer by repeating the remark attributed to Field Marshal von Moltke, that he had many plans for getting into England, but none for getting out again.

The admiralty department telegraphed to the Iron Works, of the Midland lands yesterday to dispatch immediately further consignments of ship ironwork and other requisites for pushing the completion of warships now in hand. In addition, five military authorities have enrolled a large number of additional employees at the government factories and the men are all working overtime. Cartidges for the new magazine rifles

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## PACIFIC CABLE CONFERENCE.

SYDNEY, N.S.W., Jan. 20.—A conference of postmasters-general from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Adelaide, the latter representing also West Australia and Tasmania, with Sir W. C. Reeves, the new agent general in London for New Zealand, took place here on Friday and Saturday and adopted resolutions that Saul Samuel and Duncan Gillies should be nominated to represent Australia on the Pacific cable commission in London, and that they be requested to consult the agent general on all important points. Their decisions are to be subject to the approval of the colonial government.

The conference also resolved that the cable should be owned jointly by the various governments interested, and that the landing places should be solely on territory controlled by Great Britain, the cost of the construction and maintenance to be borne by Great Britain, Canada and Australia in the proportion of one-third each. The route from Fiji to Australia is to be to Norfolk island, thence to the nearest convenient landing place in North New Zealand and Moreton Bay.

It was further resolved that it was highly desirable that South Australia should join in the scheme. Responding to an invitation of the conference, Dr. Cockburn submitted an offer on behalf of South Australia, that she was willing to co-operate, provided a guarantee, either from the contributing colonies or from them jointly, with the Imperial government, be given that her financial basis as regards the Port Darwin line to Australia is to be to Norfolk island, thence to the nearest convenient landing place in North New Zealand and Moreton Bay.

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## HE WAS WITH JAMESON

### Story of the Ill-Fated Expedition Told by One Who Took Part in It.

### Was Compelled to Surrender in Defiant of Support From the Band.

NEW YORK, Jan. 20.—The World has published the following: Cape Town—Captain Thaddeus, a traveller known in the United States who served seven years in India and was with Jameson's column from its start until its surrender, but escaped capture, tells the story of the expedition to the World correspondent:

"The column started on Sunday afternoon. We were 600 strong; there were also 100 Kaffirs, three wagons, eight Maxim and three Whitworth guns. We knew what we were going to do. It is all rubbish about our thinking that we were going to fight natives. We were hotly engaged on all sides with 4,000 entrenched men, but had no cover ourselves. The wounded were dragged along in wagons. All were in the open air, at the mercy of the Boers.

"It was bitterly cold. Our hands were benumbed. The roads were ten to one against us. Our men were cursing Johannesburg. Cries for water went up on every side. The sufferings of the wounded were dreadful. Not an enemy was in sight, all the fighting was done from ambush. The situation was hopeless; we could only stand and be shot down; the Jameson party's flag of truce—an old shirt—went up. The Boers continued to fire for another ten minutes. The Pretoria artillery arrived and opened fire. Our Maxims could have knocked the spots out of them, but we had no ammunition.

"At first, we thought the guns were the artillery of our allies. Thank God, the Rand fellows at last' was the cry that went up. Our hopes were short-lived. The firing stopped and the Boers rode upon us from every direction. They gave us food, for lack of which we were nearly dead. We counted on support from the Rand. There was no other column and we realized that we had no official support.

"The first shot fired was by the Boers on Tuesday night. We were twenty miles from Krugersdorp. It came from about 600 yards. We replied with the Maxims, and they cleared out. We were shot at from every direction. The Boers continued to fire from every direction. We could not charge, but when the Boers vanished under the fire of our guns, we followed them. We were compelled to retreat and were under a hot fire all night. My horse was shot from under me. Horses and men were falling on all sides of the hill where we stood. Dr. Jameson asked if our lives would be spared if we surrendered.

"Yes," the Boer leader replied. "The lives of the men will be spared, but not yours."

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"The Boers' loss has been ridiculously underestimated; they must have lost at least 100 men. I was at the taking of Mandalay in 1885, in the Ruby mountains, was the first up in the Ruby expedition under General Stewart, where I was shot in the chest for the head, but I never saw braver men than Jameson's."

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At Mr. Davis' request the resolution went to the senate calendar.

Mr. Gray (Dem., Delaware) stated that he desired Mr. Sewell's report that the favorable report was not unanimous.

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WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—The curlers are quite elated over their success at the St. Paul bonspiel. McDermid, of the Winnipeg Granites, won the Peister and Duluth jobbers trophies; Keller, of the Winnipeg Granites, the Hall medal; Hoffman, of the Winnipeg Thistles, the Walker international trophy, and Drewry, of Rat Portage, the Consolation prize.

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Mr. Sewell (Rep., New Jersey) then addressed the senate on his resolution, feeling that President Cleveland had exceeded the Monroe doctrine beyond its proper scope, and enunciating the principle that the doctrine was for the interest of the United States and was not an obligation to aid and protect South American republics. The resolution recites that the President's course was premature and that the Monroe doctrine does not commit the United States to a protectorate of South American countries. Mr. Sewell said the President's Venezuela message presented questions of most serious importance.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—Two opposing phases of the Monroe doctrine were presented in the senate to-day, one from the committee on foreign relations favoring a strong re-affirmation of the doctrine, and another from Mr. Sewell, of New Jersey, urging that the doctrine had been carried so far beyond its scope as to threaten dangerous consequences. Mr. Sewell's speech attracted attention from the fact that it is the utterance of opposition to the prevailing tendency in congress on the doctrine, and, moreover, the New Jersey senator used direct language in criticizing the haste of the President in precipitating a question which involved the possibilities of war.

At Mr. Davis' request the resolution went to the senate calendar.

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