

FERN WRECKED AT TEN MILE POINT

Little Steamer Struck Rock and Slid into Deep Water Yesterday Morning

MAUDE IS DOING SALVAGE WORK

The Queen City Takes Presents to Cape Beale for Mrs. Paterson—The Amur in From Skagway

The little tug Fern, constructed into a cruising steamer three years ago by James Anderson, and used in making surveys at Kaien Island, latterly owned by Capt. W. E. Gardner, formerly master of the steamer City of Nanaimo, was wrecked Wednesday night on a rock near Ten-Mile Point. The Fern was bound to Victoria when she struck and slid up on the rock. The master and engineer left the vessel yesterday morning. Soon afterward, as the tide fell, it keeled over, and went down. The captain made his way to the nearest telephone and notified the B. C. Salvage company. Buoying Calcutt, once dispatched Capt. Charles Harris in charge of the wrecking steamer Maude, and the wreckers are endeavoring to raise the little ship.

The Fern was originally built as a small passenger steamer for service on Lake Washington, Seattle, and afterward used at Tacoma. She was used converted into a halibut fishing vessel, and made several trips to the fishing grounds off Cape Scott. Three years ago she was purchased by Mr. Anderson, who converted her into a cruising steamer. She was housed in, staterooms, lavatories, and other passenger accommodations added. She was used in the survey work at Kaien Island. Not long ago the vessel was sold to Capt. Gardner. He was not on board at the time of the disaster.

The Fern was a steamer about 60 feet long and 12 feet beam, and valued at about \$8,500. She is reported to have been insured through E. P. Rithet & Co. of this city for \$2,000.

THE CHRISTMAS TRIP.

Queen City Takes Holiday Cheers—Presents for Mrs. Paterson.

Steamer Queen City, Capt. Townsend, left last night for Cape Scott, and was the first of the west coast of Vancouver Island, carrying Christmas supplies for the many ports of call on the island coast. There was a large complement of passengers. Every berth was occupied and there were passengers who did not occupy berths. Among those who went to the coast were W. Deffenhagen, a special writer of the Seattle Times, and E. Davidson, photographer of the Seattle paper, who are bound to Cape Beale to "write up" Mrs. Thomas Paterson, heroine of the Goldens disaster. The two newspapermen will land at Bamfield and go over the trail by way of which Mrs. Paterson carried the news to the steamer Queen, which heroic feat resulted in nine lives being saved. If opportunity affords, they will also visit the scene of the Valencia wreck, and probably go to the Sochart wreck.

The Queen City took many Christmas presents for Mrs. Paterson. There was over \$500 from the Seattle Merchants' Exchange, collected by the Seattle companies and others, \$220 contributed in Victoria, a medal sent from Seattle by shipping men, addresses, one splendidly engraved, and in instance of the women's Council of Victoria, and a silver service of four pieces given by Capt. Townsend and the officers and crew of the steamer Queen City. These are given in recognition of the efforts of the wife of the Cape Beale lightkeeper in connection with the Coloma disaster. Two children of Mrs. Paterson were also on board, homeward bound for Christmas.

The passengers of the steamer also included John J. McKenna, H. Rieman, for Clayoquot; G. Adams, for Skagway; J. Wallace, for Clayoquot, and A. F. Gwynn, for Alberta.

THE COAL SCARCITY.

Steamers are finding it difficult to get bunker coal owing to the heavy demand for fuel. Steamer Salvor, which called at Ladysmith on her way from the wreck of the Themis, was obliged to leave without securing any. Steamer Sheila, on time charter for carrying coal from the island mines to San Francisco, has been lying five days at Ladysmith awaiting cargo. Steamer Wellington has been twelve days at the docks, and her cargo is being put on board slowly. On arrival at San Francisco the cargoes are speedily disposed of, teams often waiting all night for loads from the vessel. Tramp steamers loading at Portland and Puget Sound likewise have difficulty in getting bunker coal, as the mine owners will supply only those with which contracts have been made.

Three tramp steamers have been tied up for a week on Puget Sound because of the failure to secure fuel. It has been estimated at Seattle that there is a shortage of 10,000 tons of coal in the steamship trade of Puget Sound.

AMUR FROM NORTH.

Returned Yesterday From Skagway—Had Rough Trip.

Steamer Amur, Capt. Hughes, returned yesterday from Skagway and Northern British Columbia ports, bringing 63 passengers, about half of whom came from Yukon interior points on the coast. The steamer was delayed in northern waters by heavy weather, gales, with rain and snow, being encountered day after day. The weather was very cold in northern waters, the thermometer at Skagway registering 20 degrees below zero when the steamer left the Lynn Canal port.

At the beginning of December the thermometer fell to 70 degrees below zero at Yukon Crossing, half way between Whitehorse and Dawson. The Skagway Alaskan of December 1 says: "At Lower Labarre the thermometer was frozen. At Whitehorse, 100 miles away, the temperature was 56 below zero. It was 22 degrees below zero at White Pass and 17 below at Glacier. At Skagway it was 2 below.

"The severe cold is not the only disagreeable feature with northern weather, but the worst storm that has prevailed on the Summit and between there and Bennett in seven years is raging. The snow is packed up in great drifts, which move along the line of the railroad in great waves.

"So severe was the weather for the

25 miles between the White Pass Summit and Bennett that no trains were sent out from Skagway or Whitehorse today and the old rotary is resting quietly in its berth at the shops. Not a wheel has turned on the White Pass road today."

MARINE NOTES.

Steamer Tees was hauled out at the B. C. Marine railway to have a new propeller adjusted, and will proceed north to Naas and way ports today.

Steamers New England and Manhattan have arrived at Vancouver from the northern halibut banks, the former with 25,000 pounds of fish, the latter with 50,000.

Some of the residents at Clayoquot secured a portion of the loot from the wrecked bark Coloma. With a steam launch a party visited the wreck before it broke up and saved ropes, blocks and other things to the value of about \$100.

Bark Deannount from Glasgow for Victoria, was spoken Nov. 20 in latitude 14 N., longitude 24 W.

British steamer Manor, which was under charter to load lumber here for Callao, may not come. The steamer has been sold at a British merchant's sale to a Greek firm for £15,150. She is now at Cardiff.

Capt. Mason of ship Waverlee, now in Royal Roads for orders, from Talchano, says his steamer had a rough voyage, encountering ten gales in as many days when nearing Flatery. A French ship, Celtic Queen, which had been towed to Port Townsend, reports having sighted a French vessel off Cape Flatery, which signalled: "I am seriously damaged." The Celtic Queen was close to the breakers near Barkley Sound on the 11th.

Fourteen prominent tugboat owners of Puget Sound have formed an association to raise towage rates at the beginning of the year. Sixty-three tugs are controlled by the combine.

Local News

Ask for Amherst solid leather foot wear.

Socialist Lecturer.—George H. Goebel, a national organizer of the Socialist party of the United States, will deliver a lecture in Victoria on the evening of Friday, Jan. 4. Mr. Goebel is well known throughout the United States and Canada as an able lecturer.

Plans For Hotels.—F. M. Rattenbury, the architect, is at present busy on the plans for the big hotel at Prince Rupert. The plans show that the building will be a handsome structure. It will be of wood, and three stories in height. Mr. Rattenbury states that it will be finished by the middle of June. He is also engaged upon plans for a new hotel at Bamf.

Killed By Bull.—At McPherson's station, Cowichan district, yesterday, John McPherson was gored to death by a bull. Deceased who was a married man, had been a resident of the district for a long time. No particulars of the affair are available, only the brief announcement of his death being conveyed to officers of Dominion lodge, No. 4, I. O. O. F. in this city, of which deceased was a member.

Anti-Tuberculosis Society.—The special committee of the Anti-Tuberculosis society met at Bishop's hall on Friday evening when they selected committees to make a canvass for subscriptions. A meeting of the newly appointed committees will be held in the city hall on Friday evening next, at 8 o'clock. All interested in the movement are invited to be present. A donation of \$10 towards the fund was received from His Worship Mayor Morley yesterday.

EVIDENCE OF WRECK.

Lightkeeper at Carmansh Point Reports Finding of a Body.

A wreck, involving loss of life, has evidently occurred off the Vancouver Island coast according to a message received by the local agent of marine, Capt. James Gaudin, yesterday from W. P. Daykin, lightkeeper at Carmansh point. The telegram reports the finding of the body of a white man in the surf half way between Carmansh point and Cloosee. It was expected the body would be secured when the tide ebbed last night.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS.

At St. Barnabas church there will be held a midnight celebration of the holy sacrament, commencing at 11:30 p. m. on Christmas eve. The rector will be the celebrant, assisted by the Rev. James Simonds, who will deliver a short address.

The service will be interspersed with Christmas carols, copies of words will be supplied for the congregation. The rector wishes those who intend making their Christmas communion at this service to kindly send their names to him some time the day before. The musical portion will consist of Adams communion service in E, and the organists' selections will be from the "Messiah."

VICTORIA TIDE TABLE.

(Issued by the Tidal Survey Branch of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa.)

Date	Time Ht	Time Ht	Time Ht	Time Ht	Time Ht	Time Ht	Time Ht	
	h. m.	ft.	h. m.	ft.	h. m.	ft.	h. m.	
1	9 23	7.8	8 25	7.4	10 09	8.7	11 42	1.4
2	7 48	7.7	9 01	7.7	10 39	8.6	12 18	1.8
3	6 23	7.6	7 25	7.5	9 08	8.5	10 54	2.1
4	5 01	7.5	6 01	7.4	7 48	8.4	9 34	2.5
5	3 42	7.4	4 41	7.3	6 28	8.3	8 14	2.9
6	2 28	7.3	3 27	7.2	5 08	8.2	6 54	3.3
7	1 19	7.2	2 18	7.1	3 48	8.1	5 34	3.7
8	12 10	7.1	1 09	7.0	2 28	8.0	4 14	4.1
9	11 01	7.0	12 00	6.9	1 08	7.9	2 54	4.5
10	9 52	6.9	10 51	6.8	12 10	7.8	1 34	4.9
11	8 43	6.8	9 42	6.7	10 50	7.7	1 14	5.3
12	7 34	6.7	8 33	6.6	9 30	7.6	1 54	5.7
13	6 25	6.6	7 24	6.5	8 10	7.5	2 34	6.1
14	5 16	6.5	6 15	6.4	6 50	7.4	3 14	6.5
15	4 07	6.4	5 06	6.3	5 30	7.3	3 54	6.9
16	2 58	6.3	3 57	6.2	4 10	7.2	4 34	7.3
17	1 49	6.2	2 48	6.1	2 50	7.1	5 14	7.7
18	12 40	6.1	1 39	6.0	1 30	7.0	5 54	8.1
19	11 31	6.0	12 30	5.9	1 10	6.9	6 34	8.5
20	10 22	5.9	11 21	5.8	12 50	6.8	7 14	8.9
21	9 13	5.8	10 12	5.7	11 30	6.7	7 54	9.3
22	8 04	5.7	9 03	5.6	10 10	6.6	8 34	9.7
23	6 55	5.6	7 54	5.5	8 50	6.5	9 14	10.1
24	5 46	5.5	6 45	5.4	7 30	6.4	9 54	10.5
25	4 37	5.4	5 36	5.3	6 10	6.3	10 34	10.9
26	3 28	5.3	4 27	5.2	4 50	6.2	11 14	11.3
27	2 19	5.2	3 18	5.1	3 30	6.1	11 54	11.7
28	1 10	5.1	2 09	5.0	2 10	6.0	12 34	12.1
29	12 01	5.0	1 00	4.9	1 50	5.9	1 14	12.5
30	10 52	4.9	12 51	4.8	12 30	5.8	1 54	12.9
31	9 43	4.8	11 42	4.7	11 10	5.7	2 34	13.3

At the Eleventh Hour

WE just invite you to step into our store and enjoy yourself, remembering that "no one" nor "anything" has been overlooked. Secure THE BEST GIFTS that are obtainable at THE LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICE. Complete your purchases early tomorrow amidst surroundings that will exhilarate you, adding a charm to all gifts purchased under the pleasantest auspices!

Final and Heartiest Greetings to All!

David Spencer, Ltd.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

There are but few of you who are not directly interested in the opposite sex. Quite a number of you would give "HER" or "HIM" a pair of Gloves if you knew the correct size and the color of their choice; quite a number of you would give something else if you knew what would exactly please. We are anxious that all should be pleased, and we have therefore solved this complex problem by the issue of "GLOVE SCRIP." Here is your opportunity to give just the very thing that personal choice selects! Secure one of these GLOVE SCRIPS today, to whatever amount you decide. Send it to either! All will then secure just THE VERY XMAS GIFT that is most desired from any one of our stores, either in Victoria, Vancouver or Nanaimo.

SPENCER'S GLOVE SCRIP is redeemable at par anytime, anywhere, within twelve months of issue.

In a newspaper it would be impossible to reproduce a facsimile of the scrip as it appears, showing the gold seal, etc., but below is a representation that is sufficiently illustrative.



No. _____ Victoria, B. C., _____ 190

Spencer's Glove Scrip

Redeemable at David Spencer's, Ltd.

This is to Certify that the holder of this Scrip is entitled to gloves or any other article of par value on presentation of this Scrip.

REDEEMABLE IN VICTORIA, VANCOUVER AND NANAIMO

Value, \$ _____

David Spencer, Ltd.

Some Very Pretty and Dainty Gifts—Sure to Please

- Are to be found in the Rotunda (Ground Floor)
- SOUVENIR SPOONS, from \$2.00 down to 75c
- CHATELAINE PURSES in gilt, oxidized and celluloid, from \$2.50 down to 75c
- SOUVENIR BROOCHES AND STICK PINS, from \$2.00 down to 35c
- FANCY HAND MIRRORS, from \$2.50 down to 50c
- BELT BUCKLES in steel, pearl, enamel and oxidized, at all prices.
- HAND SATCHELS, in great variety, ranging from \$8.75 down to \$1.75
- PURSES AND WRIST BAGS, from \$4.50 down to 75c
- WHITE SATIN CHAIN PURSES, with floral design, suitable for the children, at, each 75c
- HAND BAGS—Very handsome, in white and colored kid, buckskin and silk, beautifully mounted and jeweled, from \$12.00 down to \$4.50

A Sensible Gift

Reminding one of the giver every day of the year, is to be found in a "Cyclo" Bearing

Bissell Carpet Sweeper

We have a full assortment of the latest and finest patterns of Bissell's "Cyclo" Bearing Sweepers, in all the leading woods, sizes and styles, at prices ranging from \$4.00 down to \$2.50

The Tea of the Connoisseurs—Mem Sabs Tea

The Tea From High Altitudes—One of the choicest productions from the Eastern tea plantations. It is warranted pure India tea, blended by most skilful tea men, and is specially imported for David Spencer, Limited. Sold in packets at \$1.00, 75c, 50c and 25c

N. B.—It is remarkable how Mem Sabs Tea has been appreciated by hosts of customers who have refreshed in our Oriental Tea Rooms, where it is exclusively used. Our Tea Store is adjacent to the Tea Room.

House Painting and Decorating Department

"Coming events cast their shadows before them." Real estate in the city of Victoria is booming. It is inevitable. As a recent announcement in the press of Winnipeg stated, "Victoria is the Los Angeles of Canada, the Empress City of the West, with no hard winters or hot summers." A warning to property owners, landlords, tenants, etc.

Thousands will flock to this city of prosperity before next spring. Be prepared for them and see that your properties are "in order." Do not delay until the spring, when the rush is upon us and all are busy. It will pay you to have your work done right now. Avoid depreciation and the dislocation of business when a good purchaser or tenant is viewing your premises, in hotels, private houses, boarding houses, furnished rooms, etc.

Our WALL PAPERS are exclusive in qualities and designs. The prices are the lowest to be found in this city of Victoria. Bear in mind always, all work is under the personal superintendence of Mr. Paul Beygrau. Only skilled labor employed, and our prices are worthy of the greatest business enterprise of the West. Consult us free.

House Furnishings Department—2nd Floor

- White and Ecu Embossed Swiss Curtain Net—Special tomorrow, 75c
- Five dozen of these beautiful nets: 36 inches long, 24 inches wide, loops for extension rods, all ready for glass door or window; well worth \$1.25. Our special tomorrow, each 75c
- Deep Frilled Bed Sets—Spread and Sham—each, \$6.50
- Imitation Honiton Lace, new centre design, woven patterns, full bed size. Our special tomorrow, each set \$6.50

Be Sure to Refresh Yourself

Amidst the abundance of pleasures in our Oriental Tea Room, Third Floor. Whilst there it will profit you to spend much time in our Bazaar and Fancy Goods Fair. Keep before you "Our" Christmas Calendars and Christmas Cards.

Visit the Stationery Department Early Tomorrow!

A look round will amply repay you. We have the most complete stock of BOOKS to be found in Victoria

What is Better Appreciated by Many than Books of Verse as a Christmas Gift? A Large Range in the Following Bindings:

- Cloth 50c, 35c and 25c
- Burnt Leather \$1.25
- Padded Seal \$1.25, 85c and 75c
- Crushed Morocco, padded \$2.50

The last style contains only Longfellow, Tennyson and Burns. The others include Scott, Wordsworth, Milton, Cowper, Keats, Hood, Byron, Burns, Mrs. Heman, Pope, Coleridge, Moore, Shelley, Lowell, Shakespeare, Edgar Allen Poe, Mrs. Browning, Robert Browning, The Ingoldsby Legends, Emerson, Carey, Evangeline, Goldsmith, Lucille, Tennyson, Faust, Holmes, Longfellow, Whittier.

THE BIJOU SHAKESPEARE, complete in six volumes, with biographical introduction and an essay on Shakespeare and Bacon by Sir Henry Irving, printed on India paper, bound in crushed Levant and gold, size 3x4 1/4, weight of complete set 1 3/4 lbs. Price \$10.00

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SHAKESPEARE'S COMPLETE WORKS in one volume, with biographical introduction, eight black and white illustrations, bound in cloth, gilt, printed on splendid paper, size 6x7 1/2, 1 1/2 inches thick, weight 2 lbs. Price 75c

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- THE LEGEND OF SLEEPY HOLLOW, by Washington Irving, drawings by Arthur J. Keller, at, each \$1.75
- REVERIES OF A BACHELOR, or, A BOOK OF THE HEART, J. R. Marvel, with illustrations and decorations by E. M. Ashe, at, each \$1.75

Under

MARY ADAY was singing the were some warm table that stood a mouth primly and placently. Ever better she thought as wax. But of object of Mary's little fir-tree set, cut it yesterday, father came home she and mother and toys, while course, would sit smiles. Mary in then as the dawn and going to the ecstasy. Such a world white and a garment of soft it a little way and and clearly there bells. She bange "Davie, Davie, sleeping figure Mother's coming The little rosy "Is mupper co "Yes, yes, can't ting on his felt a and her eyes like "An' my dadd was trembling wi "Oh! Oh, yes, and candies." must be careful o Most likely you c "Mos' likely I c laughing neverth Mary stood him. She folded the rushing into the pulpit her, "The music of t "The music of t and the dogs th their sharp repli at Davie, who wa dow.

"Davie," she w team. Perhaps, "Yes 'tis, yes 't glass. "I know i But when Mar cheeks were white sled had stopped ing softly.

"Oh, it's you, bravely. "Won't wide.

"I ain't got de through his icicle little girl. I bring mama's awful sad envelope and the "This is little pres Davie."

"Thank you," s my father worse?"

A C

Arouse ye, Ye ladies This day C For man

This day a Is born in All in a low Is hid thi

His cradle i Where er But angels And hove

Poor sheph The heav And, guided To worsh

So, rouse ye This blith Good will A The day t