The Colonist.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1899.

THE WAR.

Gen. Gatacre seems slow in advancing toward the Free State border, and no explanation of his delay is offered. We are without particulars as to the strength of the force under his command or its exact location.

The news from Ladysmith bears out the idea that the Boer forces are being at least partly withdrawn. Gen. Buller's tactics are well concealed so far as the public know. He has been in touch with the enemy in Natal for about two weeks and has delayed striking. Being in communication with Ladysmith, every night, by means of searchlight signals, he knows that there is no immediate necessity for and advance for the relief of that town. Therefore the presumption is that he is waiting until he has perfected certain plans before engaging the Boer force and attempting to drive it from its position on the Tugela river. Ladysmith was all right up to Wednesday night, and there are reports of a very successful repulse of a Boer assault, followed by the retreat of the latter. The London Stock Exchange had a rumor that Ladysmith had been relieved, but it probably grew out of the reports above referred to, although, as we have pointed out, it is quite possible that the enemy may have decided not to make a stand against our forces in Natal.

Reports that the Dutch in the northeastern part of Cape Colony are going over to the enemy are repeated, and in the absence of any success for our arms in that vicinity, may well be true.

Gen. Methuen seems to have a heavy piece of work before him before he disposes of the Boers who are now alleged to be massed at Spytfontein. His troops have rested and been reinforced, and they ought to be able to give an excellent account of themselves. Some of the delay in following up the advantage gained at Modder River was doubtless due to the desire of Methuen to command his force in person. On Wednesday the Canadian regiment was at De Aar, and it will probably be on hand to take part in the fight, if one occurs, at Spytfontein.

The news that Gen. Gatacre is being reinforced and that he may have already taken the offensive is very welcome. The force opposed to him cannot be very powerful, and we anticipate that he will not find his advance very strenuously resisted.

From Natal comes the news that the relieving force is in constant heliographic communication with Ladysmith, and that the commanding officers are conferring as to their future movements. Buller having gone to the front, it is to be expected that the delayed blow at the Boer forces in Natal may even now have been delivered. At least it will be given very soon, and with 20,000 men in front and 12,000 in the rear, it will be strange indeed if we do not inflict a crushing blow upon the enemy, whose force seems to have been weakened by the withdrawal of a portion at least of the Free Staters.

Early yesterday morning a culvert on the railway near Graspan was blown up and the telegraph line was cut. This shows that the Boers, probably in a small party, have made a dash with the view of interrupting Methuen's line of communication with his base. We do not suppose this is a matter of any great importance, for during the last week abundance of supplies have gone forward. Additional reinforcements, among them the Canadian regiment, are going forward, so that we may expect to hear that communication has been restored. Heavy firing is reported from the north of Graspans, which, if true, shows that Methuen was again engaging Cronje. Methuen has nearly 10,000 men and should be able to give a very good account of himself, especially as he is likely to be co-operating with the Kimberley garrison.

A circumstantial report of the relief of Mafeking has been received. It had previously been stated that the Boer forces were largely withdrawn to strengthen Cronje at Kimberley. The relief is said to have come from Rhodesia. If this is true, it will materially simplify the situation on the western border, for there will then be no necessity for Methuen to advance northward after disposing of Cronje, and he will be free to invade the Free State from the west.

Reports of dissensions between the Free Staters and the Transvaalers continue, and there is some reason to believe that they may be true, seeing that the next phase of the war is likely to be the invasion in two, if not three, directions of the territory of the latter, upon which the brunt of the campaign is likely to fall during the next few weeks. If it is true that President Steyn has gone to the front at Modder River, it may be that his object is to keep his men up to the fighting point. As matters now stand, it is not impossible that upon Methuen may rest the task of inflicting the first decisive blow in the war.

Things are approaching a climax in South Africa. Buller is ready, or very nearly so, to fall upon the main Boer army in force, and yesterday's despatches showed that White is able to do his share in striking a blow there; Methuen is about ready to attempt the dislodgment of Cronje's command from its position between Modder River and Kimberley. French is advancing on Colesburg by rail and as the distance to be covered is only thirty-six miles, he must be in a position to invest the Boer force there, if not to drive them out; Gatacre must be almost ready to advance on Stormberg. Thus we are certain to strike the enemy in three places and probably four within a very few days.

The sortie from Ladysmith and the destruction of the Boer guns on Lombard's Kop was a plucky thing, and the fruit of the achievement was valuable. The enemy's battery on the kop had already been reported as giving the Ladysmith garrison considerable annoyance. On the previous day the Boers had been making some good practice, notably against the hospital, and this is the reason, probably, why the night sortie was planned.

Colesburg, which is the objective point of Gen. French's movement, is twenty-three miles from Norval's Pont on the Orange River. We may therefore assume that after recapturing Colesburg, French will advance and invade the Free State. He will likely meet with resistance at Norval's Pont, and the Boers, if they wish, withdraw a portion of their force, which is awaiting Gatacre at Stormberg, and bring it around by rail via Spytfontein to assist in repelling our force. From Stormberg to Norval's Pont by the route the Boers must follow, is 135 miles, and they control the railway.

The Herald despatch, which says that the Boers are concentrating their attention upon provisioning for a retreat from Pietermaritzburg is not very lucid. There are no Boers near that city. What is meant is probably that a general Boer retreat from Natal is contemplated and it is for this that the provisioning is being arranged.

It was just two months yesterday since Kruger issued his ultimatum and the Boer forces were set in motion against our territory. When the possibility of hostilities was being discussed we were told to expect a number of grave catastrophes. It was pointed out that at several points small British garrisons would be subject to attacks from overwhelming Boer forces, and that Gen. Joubert would march into Natal with an army that could not be resisted by our soldiers who were then there. Very promptly after the ultimatum came the investment of Mafeking and Kimberley, and we were told to look for their speedy capture. Yet though the Boers have been in force before these towns since October 14, they are both safe as yet, and apparently quite able to take care of themselves for some time to come. Such fighting as has taken place in those two localities has been in our favor. It is true that the enemy have occupied some undefended towns and made the pretence of annexing territory, but these are minor matters. As for the Natal force, it has more than held its own, and has been sufficient to hold Joubert in check, and to administer several severe blows to the enemy. The expected disasters have not occurred, the only severe loss which our troops have sustained—with the exception of Gen. Gatacre's admitted reverse told of to-day—being the capture of the Fusiliers and Gloucesters, and this was the result of accident. As to Gatacre's loss, in the absence of particulars at this writing, that is a matter for future comment, and did not figure in the data upon which the pessimists have based their criticism.

The two months which have elapsed since the ultimatum have been occupied in preliminary movements on our part. An army had to be carried six thousand miles oversea and then distributed over an area of nearly a quarter of a million square miles. This great work has been accomplished, and the advance columns are face to face with the enemy at three points. Our critics on the Continent and the ingenious people who write despatches for the New York papers, are of the opinion that this is very slow work and is calculated to dishearten any nation. Because Buller on the east and Methuen on the west have not served up Boers on toast three times a day, we are told that our efforts to drive the enemy back are fruitless, and dark hints are thrown out of disasters, the story of which is suppressed. For our part, we confess to a very lively feeling of satisfaction, first, at the splendid powers of resistance exhibited by the small force that had to bear the brunt of the first Boer attacks, second, at the manner in which a great army was transported such a long distance to the scene of action, and third, at the success which has attended the plans for an aggressive campaign. We think the story of the first two months of the South African war, when it comes to be written by an impartial historian, will be recognized as reflecting great credit upon our country.

The reported change in Methuen's plans may be only an ingenious guess, and yet Colonist readers may recall that this paper some weeks ago expressed the opinion that his column might advance on Bloemfontein if Kimberley seemed likely to be able to hold out. Such a movement would nullify all the preparations which the Boers have made for a stand at Spytfontein. Hitherto the tactics of our commanders have been to seek out the enemy in his chosen positions. If it is decided to make a change and compel him to come out into the open country and give battle, most laymen will think the change a wise one. There may be some danger in leaving Kimberley exposed to an attack by Cronje's reinforced command, but this is a matter to which Methuen may be trusted to give sufficient consideration. The distance across country from Methuen's present position to Bloemfontein is a little over one hundred miles. The country is open. There are no railways between the two points.

Mr. Semlin has courteously corrected a statement in the Colonist of yesterday. We said that the Beaven government resigned a few days before the session, whereas it was defeated on the first day of the session. We were misled by what is evidently a typographical error in a Parliamentary Companion.

THE MANITOBA ELECTION.

Manitoba has gone Conservative. There are two elections yet to be held, and possibly recounts may change some of the returns, but doubtless Mr. Greenway will accept the undoubted verdict of the people and resign without waiting for recounts or to hold the elections in Dauphin and Gimli.

The people of Canada will not concern themselves very much about what he may do. They know that Manitoba has been carried by the Conservatives, who, from having only six seats in the last house, have secured more than a majority of the new one. It is a wonderful turn-over. There has been nothing like it in the history of Canada.

We heartily congratulate Hugh John Macdonald upon his splendid success. It places him in the very forefront of the party and marks him as its leader when Sir Charles Tupper lays down the burden which he has borne so well, and never better than during the exceedingly active contest from which he has emerged with so much honor.

This election shows that the sentiment of the country is changing very rapidly. Following upon the last Ontario general election, it spells out the unquestioned defeat of the Laurier ministry when next they appeal to the people, but it will have the effect of postponing as long as possible a dissolution of the House of Commons.

The election was a square trial of party strength in Manitoba, and was so regarded by every one. The result shows that the western portion of the Dominion is strongly Conservative, and fully bears out the contention that the verdict of 1896 was a snap one, which did not reflect the real sentiments of the people.

Conservatives everywhere will feel immensely gratified at the work done yesterday. It will give them new heart. It will correspondingly depress their opponents, who will not be able to hide from themselves the unmistakable handwriting on the wall. The Conservative party would have been content with what might be called a moral victory; that is, with reducing Greenway's majority to something near the vanishing point, and the manner in which the voters of Manitoba have spoken fills their cup of rejoicing to overflowing.

Yesterday was a great day for Manitoba, a great day for the Conservative party and a great day for Canada. It ensures the early return to power of the party which has made the Dominion what it is.

THE WEST COAST TELEGRAPH.

The Colonist has been compelled on several occasions to refer to the inadequate telegraph facilities on the West Coast of the Island, and some additional facts and suggestions in connection with it appear elsewhere in to-day's paper. This is a question upon which there can be only one side, and we feel very sure that if the case were properly stated to the Dominion government it would receive attention. Mr. W. W. B. McInnes is the member of the Commons whose special duty it is to make representations on the subject, but he would undoubtedly find all the other representatives of the province, as well as the senators, join with him in making the necessary representations. With the increasing sea-going traffic of this part of the Continent, it is important that better facilities of communication should be provided with those localities where disasters are likely to occur. The case only needs to be stated to secure support.

A NEEDED PUBLIC WORK.

A much needed public work is a road across Vancouver Island from Quatsino Sound to Hardy Bay. The distance is only ten miles, and several years ago an appropriation was made by the legislature and a road was cut through the forest for about four miles of the distance, leaving six miles more to be cut. In addition to cutting away the timber some low places would have to be gravelled, but the material is close at hand. Besides such a highway a wharf ought to be built at Hardy Bay. The whole cost ought not to exceed $6,000.

At Quatsino Sound there are some few settlers and considerable prospecting is being done. The principal operation being carried on is the opening of a coal mine by a San Francisco company, which has already expended $80,000 for that purpose. The mineral indications around the Sound are very promising, but the means of communication are so exceedingly inadequate that it is next to impossible to get possible investors to visit the district. At present the only means of regular communication with the outside world is that afforded by the C. P. N. Company, which sends a steamer up there once a month. This is as much as the company can be expected to do in view of the amount of business available, but every one will see how the development of the district is handicapped. A monthly mail is better than none at all, but that is all there is to be said about it. If any person desires to examine a property on Quatsino Sound and cannot do so while the steamer is up there—and except in very few instances this would be impossible—he must stay a month away from his other business, not including the time occupied in the journey. The only other way of getting out of the district is to take an Indian guide and tramp over the trail to Fort Rupert and then go down the coast twenty-one miles in a canoe to Alert Bay, and there catch one of the steamers plying to northern ports on the Mainland. If the proposed road and wharf were built, at least two mails a month could be sent up by steamers on the East Coast of the Island, and these with one mail a month on the West Coast would give three mails monthly, instead of one, and greatly improve the facilities for getting in and out of the district.

The country between the two terminii of the proposed road is very well adapted for settlement, and as there will be a good local market as mining development progresses, it would undoubtedly be at once taken up. The whole region is splendidly timbered with spruce, fir, hemlock and cedar. Attention has already been directed to it as a field for extensive pulp works. No part of the province will better repay development, and in on part can so much good be accomplished with so small an outlay. In addition to this, the fact that over $1,000 a year is collected by the government from the property owners in that neighborhood, for which substantially no return is being made to them, affords an additional reason why the claim above advanced should have immediate consideration. All the Island representatives should unite in urging this matter upon the attention of the government.

IN ACTUAL BATTLE.

Late English papers contain accounts of the fights at Talana Hill and Elandslaagte, giving full details of those engagements. The descriptions are much too long to be reproduced in these columns, full of interest though they are. There is not as much difference between them as those of battles fought twenty-five, fifty or even a hundred years ago. Modern arms have not altered the conditions of actual fighting as much as theorists thought would be the case. Gallant leadership, personal courage, physical force and discipline still play their part and enthusiasm remains a potent factor. The skirl of the pipes, the cheery bugle call, even the battle cry, remain an incentive to heroic effort. Thus at Elandslaagte the Devonshires, the Manchesters, the Highlanders and the Light Horsemen combined in a charge down hill upon a Boer laager, shouting the battle cry, "Majuba!" just as their ancestors centuries ago would rush upon the foe crying "St. George and Merry England!" This sort of thing seems all right amid

"The clash of Saxon battle axes,"

but appears almost an anachronism in these day of quick-firing rifles and smokeless powder. It is true that our fellows had their bayonets fixed and were seeking a fight at close quarters, when the best man would stand some chance of winning; but we are told by the so-called authorities that in battles nowadays there would be a zone of death across which no men could cross.

In this same battle our men had to charge across a level tract intersected with an entanglement of barbed wire. The Boer bullets came in such showers that in many cases they cut the wires. Not a man of the enemy could be seen, but "stumbling forward among the stones, blundering over the bodies of their comrades as they fell before them, our men pressed on. It had ceased to be a moment for regimental commanders," says the correspondent of the London Times. "Even sections could barely keep together; it was the brute courage of the individual alone that carried them on." Again he says: "On the summit of the kopje there seemed one continual burst of shrapnel, yet the enemy's fire was in no way diminished."

During this battle the Boers more than once made use of the white flag to gain a momentary respite. An officer of the Natal field force writes that he himself saw a Boer officer waving a flag of truce with one hand and discharging his revolver at our men with the other. In his account of the battle he says: "Bullets were fairly raining like hail, but somehow no one took notice of them after they had got started." He tells in a few words a touching story of how one of his men had a very bad wound and would probably have died on the field during the night from cold and exhaustion if two of his comrades had not remained by him, lying close to him to shelter and warm him with their bodies.

The frontal attack in this fight was delivered by the Devonshires. They advanced 1,200 yards, exposed to a heavy fire of shell and shrapnel; then halted and opened fire. There before them lay 800 yards of open plain, swept by the rifle fire of the enemy. Across this the magnificent Devonshires moved in an advance that was "slow, deliberate and irresistible." Then they lay down at the base of the hill to avail themselves of a slight cover until word came that the Highlanders and the Manchesters and the Light Horse had got into a position to support them. In the early part of the day the Fifth Lancers were exposed to a Maxim fire at "ridiculously short range," but strange to say not a man was hit. This was too much for the nerves of the Boers who were handling the gun, and they retreated to a safe distance and took no further part in the fight.

The detailed story of the battle of Talana Hill shows that Gen. Symons had ridden to the front and given the command that the hill must be taken, when he received his death wound. The charge up the hill was a remarkable affair. It was the first time when infantry have been sent against a concealed enemy armed with modern weapons. Gen. Symons displayed a degree of confidence in his men that is almost without parallel. They were told to accomplish an unprecedented thing in the face of an enemy greatly outnumbering them. They did it, in that splendid charge refuting all theories as to what infantry could or could not do.

The interest attaching to these details is great, and will make readers look forward to the particulars of the fighting at Modder River, where our men had to go up against a position which the enemy had been fortifying for several weeks. They show that the chance of a man's going into the hottest kind of a scrimmage and coming out alive are about as good as they used to be. They also show that the casualties are very low in proportion to the number of shots fired. It also seems to be established that the use of smokless powder does not conceal the whereabouts of an enemy as much as was expected.

THE MAIL SERVICE.

If Mr. Mulock, postmaster-general, has any conception of the needs of this province in the way of postal accommodation, he has yet to give any evidence of the fact. A more wretched service than the more recently settled parts of the province have to put up with cannot be imagined. To paraphrase his blanket postage stamp, we may say that we have a meaner service than has been. One is inclined to wonder what idea Mr. Mulock has of the people who inhabit our mining camps and the nature of their absolute requirements in the way of postal accommodation. If he understands the matter at all he is grossly neglectful of his plain duty, and if he does not understand it he is culpable for not endeavoring to learn. The subject has been brought to our notice by a strong protest in the Phoenix Pioneer in regard to the sort of service which that growing town of 1,000 people has to put up with. It is perhaps not too much to say that a town in British Columbia gets planked sidewalks, electric light and telephone service before it receives a half decent mail service at the hands of Mr. Mulock. Thus in Phoenix the postmaster gets what the Pioneer describes as the colossal salary of $1.66 a year. We quote our contemporary's suggestion as to how the general service in the Kootenays can be improved:

There is one remedy. A post office inspector should be located at some interior point—say Nelson or Rossland—and not be expected to do all his business from Vancouver. Then he should have control of some emergency fund and be given some discretion in its use. The Kootenays and Yale have grown rapidly and will continue to grow. It apparently takes a long time to appreciate this at Ottawa. The inspectors do the best they can, but they are hampered by a lot of regulations totally inapplicable here.

First let the Laurier government pay reasonably for services performed in the postal department in this section. Then have the district looked after by an official who is not forced to travel 400 miles or more to get on the ground, and give him discretionary powers and the control of an emergency fund. In no other way can the existing deplorable state of things in the postal service in Southern British Columbia be bettered.

THE QUEEN.

The Spectator has published a timely article in which it deals with the qualities which have made Her Most Gracious Majesty such a conspicuous success upon the throne. The writer sums it up in "her genius for silence." He points out that the Queen has on several occasions felt called upon to brush aside the veil of impersonality which surrounds her and to give the nation her own views in her own words, but he adds that she has never said anything which her people could wish to have recalled.

The world knows very little of the real Queen. Of Victoria as a mother and a woman we have happily much information. Of her family relations she has herself told many things. But of the Queen we know hardly anything. A strictly constitutional sovereign, she has never intruded her personality needlessly upon the public in her official capacity. We will have to wait possibly for another generation before the story of her influence upon her times is fully related. Her contemporaries will never know how much of a part she has played in shaping the destiny of the age of which she is such a conspicuous ornament.

To most people it will be in the nature of a surprise to be told that in the reign of William IV, Her Majesty's immediate predecessor, the monarchy was rapidly losing its hold upon the confidence of the people. The republican movement was growing rapidly. Even those who were born well within the Victorian era will remember that not so very long ago there were many in the United Kingdom who anticipated an early overthrow of the monarchy, and the only question in their minds seemed to be how it should be brought about. We hear nothing of this sort now. As the Spectator says, "The monarchy, transmuted by the steady attitude of the Queen, is probably stronger than it has ever been; certainly better rooted in the temperate yet devoted liking of its subjects. The feeling for republicanism, unexasperated by royal blunders, has quietly died away. The idea of a rival dynasty is as dead as if it had never been the predominant thought of English politicians."

One of the great lessons of the Queen's influence is expressed in the closing sentence of the Spectator's article. It says: "Two great colonies—Canada and Australia—have grown into subordinate states capable of sending out armies; and mainly because there is a standard which is reverenced, a Queen who affronts no one, and neglects no one, and preaches to no one obedience as a gospel, they are actually fighting that the Empire which protects and controls them may endure."

We think it may be truthfully said that the influence of Her Majesty has been the strongest single factor in building up her great Empire. A little indiscretion on her part might easily have broken it into fragments, just as the words of George III's mother, "George, be a king," cost the crown half a continent.

It will be recalled that when Sir George Turner was defeated in the Victoria legislature last week he resigned office at once. This is the almost invariable practice.

Will Wm. Baillie call at the Colonist office for Atlin letters.

(From Saturday's Daily Edition.)

Cause For Congratulation

Regular Attendance A Characteristic of Victoria Public School Life.

A Feature of the November Reports Worthy of Commendation.

There is considerable cause for congratulation in the school attendance reports for the month of November, which will be laid before the board of trustees at their next meeting, these statistics showing that out of a total enrolment of 2,407 at the various public schools of the city during November there was an average daily attendance of 2,110.61—or 87.5 per cent. Two schools show an attendance of over 90 per cent. for the month, viz., Spring Ridge and North Ward, while the percentages in all are gratifyingly high, being as hereunder:

	Per Cent.
Spring Ridge	90.7
North Ward	90.6
Boys' Central	88.5
Girls' Central	88.4
South Park	87.1
West Victoria	84.7
High School	84.4
Hillside Avenue	84.0
Kingston Street	82.6

Twenty divisions attained an average of 90 per cent. or more, as follows:

BOYS' CENTRAL—EIGHT DIVISIONS.	Per Cent.
Division III	93.8
" V	92.5
" VI	90.8
GIRLS' CENTRAL—EIGHT DIVISIONS.	
Division I	94.4
" III	90.4
" IV	92.2
NORTH WARD—NINE DIVISIONS.	
Division I	91.5
" III	90.4
" VI	92
" VI	90
" VII	92.7
" VIII	92.8
SOUTH PARK—EIGHT DIVISIONS.	
Division I	93.2
" II	91.8
" IV	93
SPRING RIDGE—FOUR DIVISIONS.	
Division I	93.1
" II	91.2
" III	90.2
VICTORIA WEST—SIX DIVISIONS.	
Division I	90.2
HILLSIDE—THREE DIVISIONS.	
Division II	90.7

The remarkably high averages of attendance above referred to are more worthy of note, and constitute cause for congratulation among educational authorities, when it is taken into consideration that the past November was a month of notably bad weather. These averages certainly speak well for the general health of the school population, and also for the successful zeal of the teachers in commanding the interest of the pupils and the co-operation of parents in behalf of regular attendance.

LOCAL NEWS.

Will Seek Re-election.—Mayor Redfern having given the matter mature consideration, has decided to seek a fourth term as chief magistrate, and will oppose Ald. Hayward at the forthcoming civic election.

Broke His Ankle.—News has been received here that Mr. J. B. Hobson, manager of the Cariboo Consolidated Co., Quesnelle, had broken his angle. Dr. Hogan, the company's doctor, who was on his way to Victoria to join Mrs. Hogan and remain during the winter, was recalled to Quesnelle by telegraph.

Wharfage Facilities.—In order to perfect their facilities for handling their extensive and growing business, the Sylvester Feed Co. are erecting warehouses and storage buildings with a capacity of 90x40 feet at the foot of St. John's street, James Bay. The water-front site of the new warehouse is an admirable one, capable of accommodating vessels of any draught.

Port Angeles Eastern.—Mr. Trumbull, solicitor for this railway, is in the city. He will return home this afternoon. President Cushing will be over next week. Mr. Trumbull says that the engineering force has been increased and the survey is being pushed with all possible speed. Work of construction will be begun at an early day, a large force of men will be put on, and the railway will be completed as rapidly as the work can be done.

Drowned in the Gulf.—Superintendent F. S. Hussey of the provincial police received information yesterday morning of a disaster in the Gulf by which Joseph Allsop, a resident of Esquimalt, lost his life. He had been on a hunting trip with Peter Morrison, a friend, and was caught in a squall, which capsized their little sloop, Allsop being washed overboard. His partner clung to the overturned sloop and was ultimately washed ashore. The deceased Mr. Allsop was 46 years of age, a native of Lincolnshire, England, and leaves a widow and family in this city.

Collegiate School.—The examination for the entrance scholarship, presented for the fourth year by the Lord Bishop of Columbia, will be held at the school on the first day of the Easter term, January 8, 1900, at 9:30 a.m. Entrance is open to all boys, irrespective of age, but the names of intending candidates must be received by the head master not later than January 6. The school scholarship is now being competed for, and the result will be announced by the examiner, Ven. Archdeacon Scriven, M.A., at the distribution of prizes on the 14th instant.

New Hotel for Kamloops.—Mr. J. Gerhardt Tiarks left this morning for Kamloops where work has commenced on the new hotel for the Kamloops Hotel Co., to cost $20,000 and for which Mr. Tiarks is the architect. On his return home in the middle of the week Mr. Tiarks will invite tenders for a brick and stone building on Yates street, three residences at Esquimalt, and one at Oak Bay. The same busy architect last week awarded the contract for a new brick and stone hotel at New Westminster, to cost about $19,000, the contractors being John Coughlan & Co., of this city and New Westminster.

Mr. Naylor's Address.—Before a somewhat small attendance in the Army barracks last evening Rev. Isaac Naylor gave a stirring address. He is a forcible pulpit speaker of some nineteen years' experience in England and the United States, and especially realistic in word painting.

High-Class Work.—W. S. Wood, who is introducing here the Gorin tabulator—a device by which the difficulties of tabulated work on a typewriter is made much easier—gave a lecture on the advantages of his device and also on the typewriter before a class in St. Ann's convent yesterday. He says in San Francisco the typewriter is made quite a study, and he was surprised to find in St. Ann's convent such work as was exhibited to him. He says it is on a par with the best he has seen anywhere, and perhaps a little better than that to be seen in San Francisco. He has given the local agency of his machine to Messrs. M. W. Waitt & Co.

Partnership In Shipping.

Prominent Waterfront Business Men Organize Into a New Concern.

Italian Ship Altcar Arrives From Callao for Lumber Cargo.

Langley, Logan & Co. is the firm name of a new shipping company, which is to open up business on the beginning of the new year at the very convenient location of 46 Yates street. Messrs. Langley & Logan are both well known in the business and their popularity will command much business. Captain Langley has resigned his position as port master and general agent for the Dunsmuir fleet, which he has held during the past year or so and to which he was promoted after a very successful season as captain of the tug Lorne. He has taken the present step because of the growth of his own shipping interests and because of having last summer acquired considerable mining property on McKee creek, Atlin, to which he has devoted much of his time. In his capacity as port captain he had also charge of the Puget Sound Tugboat Co.'s agency, which business the new company takes over together with that of the Boscowitz Steamship Company, the British Columbia lighterage and general business. As senior shipping clerk for Robert Ward & Co. for many years, Mr. Logan has come into touch with all kinds of local and foreign shipping and since branching off into business for himself, he has been particularly successful, having done a large per centage of the business of the port during the past twelve-month. He also always keeps himself well posted on general shipping business.

AN ITALIAN MERCHANTMAN.

Ship Altcar Completes a Stormy but Uneventful Passage from Callao.

The Italian bark Altcar, Capt. Umbert Dini, is in the Roads. She arrived from Callao yesterday morning after being out 68 days, and is bound for Moodyville for a return lumber cargo. Capt. Dini says he sighted three men-of-war and a four-masted British ship, loaded and bound in, to the south of the Cape but not close enough to them to identify them. He also reports bad weather on the voyage but came along without accident. When about three miles from the Race he mistook the red light at William Head for Esquimalt and "let go anchor." Fifty-five fathoms was found, however, and the vessel remained fast.

A Sudden Chill often means sudden illness. Pain-Killer is all that is needed to ward it off. Unequalled for cramps and diarrhoea. Avoid substitutes, there is but one Pain-Killer, Perry Davis'. 25c. and 50c.

SHELLING A HOSPITAL.

New York, Dec. 9.—A special to the World dated Ladysmith, December 7, contains the following:

"The Boers spent Thursday in shelling the town, especially the hospital in the town hall in the afternoon. One shot killed one and wounded nine men. Twelve hospital orderlies are now wounded.

"Gen. White had warned the Boer commander that the town hall was used as a hospital, but the warning only produced further fire.

"The Boer guns are being fired with great accuracy, but the luck of the British continues."

According to despatches from Ladysmith, excursions are running weekly from Pretoria, bringing numbers of gaily attired Dutch women who take up points of vantage on the hills and closely scan the proceedings in the town.

A RUSSIAN ATTACHÉ.

London, Dec. 9.—Russia is sending Gen. Gurko, of the general staff, as attache at the Boer head lager.

Mother's Remedy

For Croup, Bronchitis, Coughs, Colds, Sore Throat and Asthma is Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine.

A right remedy, right at hand, is the right way to prevent serious illness.

That Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine is the right remedy for all diseases of the throat and lungs is attested by the prudent mothers of Canada who have cured their dear ones time and again by using this famous family medicine.

Pneumonia and Consumption are always the result of a neglected or uncontrollable cold, and can always be prevented and cured by the timely use of Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine.

Croup and Bronchitis cannot rob the home of its little ones when mother has this her favorite remedy at hand.

Delightfully healing and soothing in action, pleasant to the taste and prompt in affording relief, Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine is the standard remedy for coughs, colds, hoarseness, throat irritation and soreness, tightness in the chest, cold on the lungs, and all kinds of colds in the throat, bronchial tubes or lungs.

25c. a large bottle at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto.