

THAT MILL TEST

A. D. Donaldson, the Assayer, States that Lawrence Told Him It Never Took Place.

He Also Tells of His Small Assays and the High Ores That Lawrence Got.

The case of J. A. Lawrence was continued before Police Magistrate Macrae this morning. A. D. Donaldson, who was employed by accused as assayer at Goldstream, gave some evidence regarding the poor assays he made of the rock he took himself and the higher ones he made from that given him by Lawrence.

Herbert Carmichael and his assistant gave evidence as to the high assays. Capt. McCallum, recalled at the request of Mr. Bodwell, recognized the quartz exhibited as that which he gave to Lawrence. He had it for eight years in his possession, he said, and was constantly looking at it, so he was sure of it.

Alexander D. Donaldson was the next witness called. He said he was experienced in mining, having prospected for many years. He had learned assaying and had practiced it for many years. He was not a certificated assayer, he was self-taught. He had known accused for many years. He went to Goldstream on his behalf. On or about the 11th or 12th of August last accused came to his house and asked him to go to Goldstream to look at the mill test. He and accused went out. They brought back some specimens, which he assayed.

On the way back they met Capt. McCallum, and witness got out of the buggy and walked with the company that they were in. He said he had a conversation in his hearing they spoke of some negotiations which accused said he could settle by telegraph. On Aug. 15th he went out again with the Sniders and John Dalby, who stated out several claims. He did not know how many. They put a shot in the creek there and he made assays of the results, which went from \$2 to \$8 to the ton. About Aug. 23rd or 24th, witness said he was going to leave them, they asked him to stay and they would give him a good position. Accused then gave him a piece of rock, which he said would go to at least \$15 to the ton, which he said if it did he would stay with them. Witness assayed it and it went \$25 to the ton. The first time that he heard of Capt. McCallum's interest in it was about Aug. 23rd, when accused told him the captain would take an interest in it.

They afterwards came to his house and asked him his opinion of the mine. Lawrence told him that he had not trusted to his assays alone; he said he had brought in about 700 lbs of ore, which he had sent over to the other side to have a mill test made. Witness asked him if he had told Capt. McCallum about the mill test. Accused said he had not, as he did not want to blow up the mill test. The result of the mill test, accused told witness, was a button of gold valued at about \$64. He said he would show it to him another time, and asked him if he could meet it over as he did not like the shape of it. A few days afterwards accused came in and showed him a piece of gold, which witness recognized as the piece shown in court, which Capt. McCallum in his evidence said was one of the specimens he had given to Lawrence. Capt. McCallum came into his house that day and showed him some papers, showing poor assays. He (witness) was just going to tell him of the mill test when accused came in. He told Capt. McCallum of the mill test, and the captain asked to see the papers relating to it. Accused told him that he had not got them, but he would get them from his confidential agent.

On Sept. 2nd witness went out to the mine while out there he made many assays, about 45; none were high assays. A suggestion was made that half his quartz be sent down and duplicate assays made, but this was never done. On Sept. 25th Mr. Ditchburn came out to finish staking out a claim. Mr. Ditchburn told him Lawrence had got a big assay made. Mr. Ditchburn gave him a piece of rock about the size of a hen's egg, which he assayed, and a small piece showing free gold about the size of a pea. Mr. Ditchburn told him the little piece was broken off the larger piece. Witness said he questioned this. He recognized the small piece as the piece exhibited in court. He had not seen any rock like it at Goldstream. Capt. McCallum afterwards told him that he had taken them. When they spoke to accused of his big assay, which resulted from the rock he brought in, he said they were not going to the right place. He pointed out a place further down where he said he got the rock which assayed so high. About Oct. 8th he came in from Goldstream. He first heard of trouble between Capt. McCallum and accused on Oct. 1st, when he came into town, as Lawrence had asked him to go and give some information to Mr. Helmecken. Lawrence told him on the way in that he came near locking Capt. McCallum up. Accused said that Capt. McCallum had come to his house while he was away and had broken up some of his furniture. He did not speak of Capt. McCallum as an assayer or anything like that. Lawrence told him also as they came in that there had been no mill test; he said that was all bosh. This was the first time that accused had intimated this to him. He had been suspicious of it, though, for some time.

Mr. Bodwell then started his cross-examination of the witness. "When you made your statement to Mr. Helmecken did you not say that you thought the mill test was a joke?" "Well, I did not consider it a fact," replied the witness.

Rock was sent in, witness said, in order that a mill test might be made in San Francisco. As to getting a high assay out of one piece, he said, and a small as-

say out of another piece, there is nothing remarkable in the matter. Lawrence told him that he had left some samples at his office to be assayed. Mr. Lawrence took a small piece of quartz from his pocket at that time with free gold in it and said it was a piece of the quartz which he had left at the provincial assayer's office. Witness went over to his office afterwards and found that the samples accused left were exhibited different. Mr. Lawrence came for his assays the next morning and exhibited apparent surprise of the large assays. On Sept. 1st and 2nd Capt. McCallum gave him some rock to assay. The results were small.

Walter Engelhardt, assistant assayer, said he recalled the accused, who called at the provincial assayer's office to have some assays made. He (Lawrence) took half of one of the samples—the crushed quartz—to have it assayed in town as well as at the provincial assayer's office. There was free gold in it. He came back the same day, and when told there was free gold in the crushed quartz expressed surprise.

W. H. Snider, recalled at the request of Mr. Bodwell, said accused told him at the time the property was turned over to him, that he was not anxious for them—himself and Messrs. John Snider and John Dalby—to sell. An arrangement was then made until Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock.

BRIEF LOCALS

Cleanings of City and Provincial News in a Condensed Form.

From Friday's Daily. The partnership existing heretofore between Messrs. Ledingham Bros. has been dissolved, W. J. Ledingham retiring.

The marriage was solemnized recently in San Francisco of Mrs. L. Jones, daughter of a former Victorian, Mr. J. T. Pabst, to Mr. D. A. Hanna. Rev. J. G. Gibson was the officiating clergyman.

The agent of the N.P.R., Mr. E. E. Blackwood, has been notified by the Spokane and Northern company that they will be ready to carry freight direct to Rossland, over the Red Mountain road, on the 15th of November.

Jim and Annie, Neah Bay Indians, were charged in the police court this morning with being found drunk. Both were fined \$5 and costs or in default 14 days imprisonment. Big Jim, a West coast Indian, incurred a like punishment for the same offence.

James McNeill, accused of assaulting a Chinaman by striking him on the head with a stone, was brought before Magistrate Macrae this morning, who convicted him and sentenced him to two months imprisonment and to pay a fine of \$20 and costs, or in default a further month's imprisonment.

The local committee appointed by the Senate of Queen's University, Kingston, Ont., held an examination for medical matriculation at the high school of this city on Thursday and Friday. Three of the pupils of the principal's division were among the candidates for this examination.

The Arlington Hotel Company, of Portland, has been registered among the foreign companies authorized to do business in this province. It will have a capital stock of \$100,000. Its object, as stated, is to conduct hotels, inns, etc., in British Columbia, and also to engage in mining operations.

Notices of private bills were published in yesterday's official Gazette, on behalf of two companies who wish to build railways in the interior of the province. Messrs. McPhillips, Wootton & Barnard give notice on behalf of a proposed company who wish to operate within 50 miles of Galea Bay, Arrow Lake, and Messrs. Hunter & Duff, on behalf of a company to build a road from Revelstoke to the junction of the Columbia and Canoe rivers.

Notice is given in yesterday's Gazette by Messrs. Bodwell & Irving of their intention to apply during the coming session of the provincial parliament for an extension of time for the commencement of operations under the Kootenay Power Company's Construction Act. The Cumberland and Vernon waterworks company will also be seeking confirmation of their incorporation during the coming session. They propose to take their water from Hamilton creek and several small lakes near the town of Cumberland.

Some time ago, James Lee, of Almonte, Ont., advertised for a missing brother William Lee, in the Times. Bill Lee, as he is commonly called, came to British Columbia and engaged in lumbering, but left here some years ago and nothing was heard of him until a telegram in the eastern press announced that his skeleton was found on the shore of Lake Ontario, near Rochester, N. Y. The remains were identified by a tooth, a knife and a pair of boots. A revolver, not his own, was found beside him, and it is supposed that he was murdered for his money.

Lee left a wife and several children who are now residing in Oklahoma Territory.

Miss Sanderson and Miss Kermode severed their connection with the Victoria teaching staff to-day. This afternoon the pupils of Miss Sanderson's division, North Ward school, presented her with a complimentary address and a very pretty writing desk and a silver bristly spoon. The teachers of the school invited her to a farewell tea party in the principal's room and presented her with five o'clock tea spoons and a parlor lamp. The pupils and teachers of Victoria West school gave Miss Kermode some very pretty presents. The presentation took place in Semple's hall, where many of the parents of the pupils and other friends were assembled. A short, but interesting programme of music, recitations and club singing was carried out by the pupils, and addresses were delivered by Mrs. Macrae, Barber and Hicks. The pupils present was a beautiful silver cream pitcher, and that of the teachers a handsome biscuit jar.

Ten new mining companies, with an aggregate capitalization of \$9,800,000, have obtained incorporation during the

past week. The new companies will operate mostly in Kootenay district. Two of the ten only are coast companies. The Lornevale, of Nanaimo, the organizers of which are Messrs. John Maher, Thomas W. Gilmour and F. MCB. Young, was organized for the purpose of obtaining and developing the Lornevale and adjacent claims on Texada island. The Big Chief company will have its head office in Vancouver. The complete list of the new companies and their capitalization follows: Red Point Gold Mining Company, of Rossland, \$1,000,000; Robert E. Lee Gold Mining Company, of Rossland, \$2,000,000; Pick-up Mining and Smelting Company, of Rossland, \$1,000,000; Mascot Gold Mining Company, of Rossland, \$1,000,000; Buffalo Gold Mining Company, of Rossland, \$1,000,000; Hattie Gold Mining Company, of Rossland, \$1,000,000; Lloyd Gold Mining and Development Company, of Rossland, \$1,000,000; Victoria Mining Company, of Spokane, \$500,000; Big Chief Mining Company, of Vancouver, \$1,000,000; Lornevale Mining Company, of Nanaimo, \$800,000.

From Saturday's Daily. Adolph Adelson was brought before the police magistrate this morning charged with having exposed for sale an offensive weapon, a sword. It was found that he merely had it in the store as a curiosity. He was discharged and the stick confiscated.

At the residence of Mr. Reilly, Third street, Mr. W. H. Gibson was married on Thursday evening to Miss G. L. N. Reilly by Rev. S. Cleaver. Miss Reilly was bridesmaid and Mr. J. J. Townsend supported the groom.

The department of agriculture, assisted by Mr. Thos. G. Earl, of Lytton, has made a valuable collection of autumn fruit samples, which will be sent to the Imperial Institute, London, England. There are 26 varieties of apples and some pears, magnificent specimens which will reflect great credit on the fruit growers of the province.

The New Westminster Board of Trade, the City Council and the Liberal Association have combined to make arrangements for an excursion up the Fraser river upon the arrival of Hon. Mr. Tarte, the minister of public works. Those in charge intend taking Mr. Tarte as far as Hope if possible, but Mr. Thos. Cunningham, of Dewdney, who is in the city, says that the Fraser is very low and he does not think a steamer will be able to reach that point.

Josep Etienne, one of the most prominent Indians of the Songwee tribe, died at his home on the Indian reserve this morning. The deceased was a grandson of the late Chief Jim, who was the first chief appointed by Sir James Douglas, governor of the colony. The deceased leaves a wife and one child and two brothers and two sisters.

The funeral will take place at 8:30 Monday morning, from the residence of the late Mrs. Andrew's R. C. Cathedral.

A Joseph, a colored sailor, applied to County Magistrate Macrae yesterday to be sent to the poor farm. One of his legs was in a fearful condition, and it is so badly mortified that it is feared that it will have to be amputated. Joseph came here from Vancouver, B. C., and was a member of the British Columbia branch of a British order, and the authorities there should have taken care of him. Instead of doing so he was furnished transportation to Seattle.

Commissioner Gatch held a consultation with Health Officer Palmer, Kinnaly, this morning. The deceased was a young man, who was in the military service, and he was sent to the county arm for medical treatment.—Seattle P.-I.

The following is a summary of the cases brought before Police Magistrate Macrae during the month just past. The drunks, it will be seen, are much more numerous than during past months: Aggravated assault, 5; obtaining money by false pretences, 3; infringement of public morals, 2; stealing, 3; assault, 1; malicious damage to property, 4; vagrancy, 5; infraction of the city by-laws, 3; fighting, 2; using threatening language, 2; disturbing a place of worship, 1; supplying liquor to Indians, 3; gambling, 1; charged with being a nuisance, 2; disorderly conduct, 2; in possession of intoxicants, 4; willfully possessing for sale an offensive weapon, 1; drunk, 45.

Joe, a Sooke Indian, was this morning fined \$5 and costs or 14 days in jail by the police magistrate for being found drunk. Jim, another Sooke Indian, was fined \$25 and costs or one month in prison for being found with intoxicants in his possession. Ah Fook, a Chinaman, was found guilty of supplying liquor to the Indians and condemned to be imprisoned for two months. Max Lohmeyer, who was charged with refusing to support his own family, did not appear when the case was called. A warrant was issued by Magistrate Macrae for his arrest. James Brennan, charged with vagrancy on Wednesday last, was again brought before the magistrate, but he failed to appear, and a warrant was issued by the police magistrate for his arrest.

In the case of J. A. Lawrence, charged before Police Magistrate Macrae with having obtained money by false pretences, Capt. McCallum, continuing his evidence, said he did not think that Mr. Ditchburn knew that the quartz he brought out to Goldstream to show the witness was not from the Goldstream claims. His (the witness') idea was that Lawrence had given the rich quartz to Ditchburn with the object of getting something about the claims in the papers. Three witnesses were examined, John and W. H. Snider and John W. Dalby. All three told the same story. They had located the claims at Goldstream, they said, and had an interest in them. Their interest in the Bre claims, at Wonder, Stanley, Hope, Edith and Kate, they afterwards sold to Lawrence for \$500. The case did not come up at all to-day, it being adjourned until Monday at 10:30 o'clock.

From Monday's Daily. The daughter of the late Mrs. Margaret Lane, infant daughter of Officer J. B. Lane, of Whittaker street.

Mr. Arthur Charlton mourns the loss of his infant son Freddie, who died this morning after a short illness.

To-morrow being the birthday of the Empress, the Japanese residents of this city have decided to celebrate the event by holding a patriotic demonstration in Castle hall, Broad street.

News has been received of the death at Alexandria on October 28th of Alexander Clark, one of the pioneers of the province, and well known to many Victorians.

James Potts, a milkman living on Head street, Victoria West, was found dead in bed this morning. The deceased was a middle-aged man and it is supposed that death resulted from heart disease.

Wm. Cain, John Bessford, Henry Graham, Heister and Frederic Wilson were brought before Police Magistrate Macrae this morning charged with vagrancy. Each of the accused was remanded for a week in his own recognizance of \$25 to give them a chance to obtain employment.

To-day the winter time table of the E. & N. railway goes into effect. The daily northbound train left this city this morning at 8 o'clock, and the express train, which leaves at 10:30, will leave the Saturday extra will from now on leave the city at 3:20 p.m. and arrive at 7 o'clock in the evening.

The city police received a visit from William Ashe, a Vancouver expressman, who is in the city in search of his wife. He states that she left her home in Vancouver about a week ago with a Vancouver bootmaker, going to San Francisco. The city police are being able to render him any assistance, Mr. Ashe leaves for San Francisco on the first steamer to try to find and bring back his runaway wife, and to settle his differences with her companion.

The funeral of the late W. R. Higgins will take place from the family residence, No. 2 Belleville street, at 2:30 to-morrow afternoon, and later from the Reformed Episcopal church. Members of Victoria and Quadra lodge No. 2, Victoria Columbia No. 1, and United Service No. 24, A. P. & A. M., will attend the funeral. The latter brother is a body, and will also be present. The J. B. A. I. The latter are requested to meet at the club house at 2 o'clock to-morrow afternoon.

The sum of \$475 was handed to the directors of the Jubilee Hospital by the Ladies' Auxiliary at their meeting held on Saturday last, to go towards furnishing the operating theatre of the hospital. This was the proceeds derived from the ball, lacrosse match, and other entertainments. The ladies expressed their thanks to the Capital lacrosse club, the Fifth Regiment band, the Caledonia Park syndicate and to all those who had assisted them.

William Hooper Saunders, a well known resident of Victoria West, died at St. Joseph's hospital on Saturday evening after a brief illness. Mr. Saunders was a native of Plymouth, Devonshire, and was 29 years of age. For a number of years he had been water collector for the Esquimalt Waterworks company, in which position he made himself very popular. He leaves a young wife and a child of three weeks old. The funeral will take place to-morrow afternoon.

The unmarried girls of British Columbia will have to organize for their own protection. An attempt is being made to foist the surplus old maids of the world upon this province. A short time ago Eastern busybodies interested themselves in a scheme to send a lot of unmarried women from the east, and now some San Francisco fakir has sent out the following dispatch to buoy up the hopes of the spinsters of the world: "The mining camps, trail creeks and Boundary creek, British Columbia, where there are ten men to one woman, want wives. Steady work, with good pay, with the fact that British Columbia laws from severely on gambling and drinking, making the miners prosperous. The question of getting wives was raised recently as a joke, but the outcome has been to thoroughly advertise the fact that a large number of marriageable girls can find good husbands by emigrating to the mining districts of British Columbia."

NOT A TECHNICALITY

Hon. Justice Walkem Condemns a Report of the Action Against Mr. Seafie.

The Decision in the Tramway Company's Motion re the Commercial Journal.

This morning the motion by the Consolidated Railway Company to commit Mr. Henderson, publisher of the Commercial Journal for contempt of court for comments on the actions pending regarding the Point Ellice bridge claims, came up in court before the Hon. Mr. Justice Walkem. Mr. McPhillips, for the railway company, stated that Mr. Henderson had promptly published an apology for his remarks, and under the circumstances he would not press for any other punishment than payment of costs, and that Mr. Henderson should be restrained from publishing anything further regarding the case. His lordship stated that such an order would meet the circumstances of this case, and pointed out that newspapers must take care not to refer to pending litigation in any way calculated to prejudice the rights or parties or interfere in the administration of justice.

As referring to the case heard on Friday against Mr. Seafie, his lordship stated that in order to avoid any misunderstanding or mischief in the future he felt called upon to say that the statement which had appeared in a Victoria newspaper to the effect that Mr. Seafie had escaped by a technicality was an improper statement to make and the matter should not have been so reported. A charge of contempt had been laid against Mr. Seafie and those saying that charge had failed on the hearing of it to produce such evidence as would warrant the court in finding the accused guilty. The charge had failed, and it was perfectly clear that such a case was not a technicality at all; it was the same as any other trial. The charge was not proven against the accused, and the matter was over. "It is gone, and gone for ever, and cannot be brought up again." His lordship wished the situation to be clearly understood, for a false impression of it might lead to error and would lead those conducting newspapers and others into mischief, and a wrong understanding of their duties.

On Saturday evening there arrived in Royal Roads the British ship Speke, 2712 tons register, after a very stormy passage of 105 days from Singapore. Capt. Wainwright reports that his vessel passed through three or four typhoons, but the only damage was the carrying away of some canvas. When the Cape was reached the vessel was in sight and the big ship had to stand off, so that thirteen days was spent there. The Speke is waiting for orders.

San Francisco, Nov. 2.—The official inquiry into the wreck of the steamer Arago, which was lost in the bay on October 20 and went to the bottom with 14 members of her crew and passengers, has commenced before Captains Phillips and Bolles, United States inspectors of steam vessels. The story of the wreck that has been so often told was repeated by Captain Reed and his officers in detail. The investigation was not completed.

Capt. Foster, of the British bark Snowdrop, 585 tons, which arrived in Esquimalt yesterday, reports a disagreeable passage of 64 days from Arica, Chile. The Snowdrop will be towed to the outer wharf to-morrow, where she loads salmon for England. R. P. Rihet & Co. are the charterers.

The steamship Mowera left Sydney four days later than the regular date and will therefore not arrive here probably before the 5th or 6th inst. Her departure from Vancouver will consequently be delayed until about November 14.

THE CASTLES CASE. Hearing of the Case Has Been Set for Friday.

London, Nov. 2.—At the opening of the Clerkenwell sessions to-day Chairman McConnell directed special attention of the grand jury to the case of Mr. and Mrs. Walter M. Castle, of San Francisco, who are charged with stealing goods from various London houses, saying it presented some remarkable circumstances. He added the facts did not differ from ordinary charges of larceny, except for the position of the parties. Continuing the chairman stated that the most peculiar feature of the Castle case was that the female prisoner was a fugitive from the male prisoner was alone. Hearing of the case was set for Friday next at 10 a.m.

Artificial cotton, says a Paris journal, resembles the natural product in this, that both are formed of cellulose nearly pure; and as nature has prepared cotton by means of the elements of the air and soil forming the cellulose in fine fibres by means of secret forces, and offering it in the state of wool to the spinner, so the chemist in his laboratory takes the natural cellulose of the tree and separates it from the substances which which it is combined, transforming it into threads by means of suitable appliances. For this purpose fire wood is employed, this being submitted to a series of mechanical and chemical operations, and the threads are drawn out, after which they are rolled on bobbins; the ordinary cotton, though having a slight defect which is a little less solid than that is, it is a little less soft and more easily broken, and can be dyed as readily as natural cotton, and when passed through a weak solution of tannin and dried, it is found to resemble ordinary cotton. On the other hand, however, the new substance is not so strong as natural cotton, and will take a shade of artificial colors, and the every dressed and printed on just as are the tissues of natural cotton.

George De Beck, Vancouver, is registered at the Oriental.

On Saturday evening there arrived in Royal Roads the British ship Speke, 2712 tons register, after a very stormy passage of 105 days from Singapore. Capt. Wainwright reports that his vessel passed through three or four typhoons, but the only damage was the carrying away of some canvas. When the Cape was reached the vessel was in sight and the big ship had to stand off, so that thirteen days was spent there. The Speke is waiting for orders.

San Francisco, Nov. 2.—The official inquiry into the wreck of the steamer Arago, which was lost in the bay on October 20 and went to the bottom with 14 members of her crew and passengers, has commenced before Captains Phillips and Bolles, United States inspectors of steam vessels. The story of the wreck that has been so often told was repeated by Captain Reed and his officers in detail. The investigation was not completed.

Capt. Foster, of the British bark Snowdrop, 585 tons, which arrived in Esquimalt yesterday, reports a disagreeable passage of 64 days from Arica, Chile. The Snowdrop will be towed to the outer wharf to-morrow, where she loads salmon for England. R. P. Rihet & Co. are the charterers.

The steamship Mowera left Sydney four days later than the regular date and will therefore not arrive here probably before the 5th or 6th inst. Her departure from Vancouver will consequently be delayed until about November 14.

THE CASTLES CASE. Hearing of the Case Has Been Set for Friday.

London, Nov. 2.—At the opening of the Clerkenwell sessions to-day Chairman McConnell directed special attention of the grand jury to the case of Mr. and Mrs. Walter M. Castle, of San Francisco, who are charged with stealing goods from various London houses, saying it presented some remarkable circumstances. He added the facts did not differ from ordinary charges of larceny, except for the position of the parties. Continuing the chairman stated that the most peculiar feature of the Castle case was that the female prisoner was a fugitive from the male prisoner was alone. Hearing of the case was set for Friday next at 10 a.m.

Artificial cotton, says a Paris journal, resembles the natural product in this, that both are formed of cellulose nearly pure; and as nature has prepared cotton by means of the elements of the air and soil forming the cellulose in fine fibres by means of secret forces, and offering it in the state of wool to the spinner, so the chemist in his laboratory takes the natural cellulose of the tree and separates it from the substances which which it is combined, transforming it into threads by means of suitable appliances. For this purpose fire wood is employed, this being submitted to a series of mechanical and chemical operations, and the threads are drawn out, after which they are rolled on bobbins; the ordinary cotton, though having a slight defect which is a little less solid than that is, it is a little less soft and more easily broken, and can be dyed as readily as natural cotton, and when passed through a weak solution of tannin and dried, it is found to resemble ordinary cotton. On the other hand, however, the new substance is not so strong as natural cotton, and will take a shade of artificial colors, and the every dressed and printed on just as are the tissues of natural cotton.

George De Beck, Vancouver, is registered at the Oriental.

On Saturday evening there arrived in Royal Roads the British ship Speke, 2712 tons register, after a very stormy passage of 105 days from Singapore. Capt. Wainwright reports that his vessel passed through three or four typhoons, but the only damage was the carrying away of some canvas. When the Cape was reached the vessel was in sight and the big ship had to stand off, so that thirteen days was spent there. The Speke is waiting for orders.

San Francisco, Nov. 2.—The official inquiry into the wreck of the steamer Arago, which was lost in the bay on October 20 and went to the bottom with 14 members of her crew and passengers, has commenced before Captains Phillips and Bolles, United States inspectors of steam vessels. The story of the wreck that has been so often told was repeated by Captain Reed and his officers in detail. The investigation was not completed.

Capt. Foster, of the British bark Snowdrop, 585 tons, which arrived in Esquimalt yesterday, reports a disagreeable passage of 64 days from Arica, Chile. The Snowdrop will be towed to the outer wharf to-morrow, where she loads salmon for England. R. P. Rihet & Co. are the charterers.

The steamship Mowera left Sydney four days later than the regular date and will therefore not arrive here probably before the 5th or 6th inst. Her departure from Vancouver will consequently be delayed until about November 14.

THE CASTLES CASE. Hearing of the Case Has Been Set for Friday.

London, Nov. 2.—At the opening of the Clerkenwell sessions to-day Chairman McConnell directed special attention of the grand jury to the case of Mr. and Mrs. Walter M. Castle, of San Francisco, who are charged with stealing goods from various London houses, saying it presented some remarkable circumstances. He added the facts did not differ from ordinary charges of larceny, except for the position of the parties. Continuing the chairman stated that the most peculiar feature of the Castle case was that the female prisoner was a fugitive from the male prisoner was alone. Hearing of the case was set for Friday next at 10 a.m.

Artificial cotton, says a Paris journal, resembles the natural product in this, that both are formed of cellulose nearly pure; and as nature has prepared cotton by means of the elements of the air and soil forming the cellulose in fine fibres by means of secret forces, and offering it in the state of wool to the spinner, so the chemist in his laboratory takes the natural cellulose of the tree and separates it from the substances which which it is combined, transforming it into threads by means of suitable appliances. For this purpose fire wood is employed, this being submitted to a series of mechanical and chemical operations, and the threads are drawn out, after which they are rolled on bobbins; the ordinary cotton, though having a slight defect which is a little less solid than that is, it is a little less soft and more easily broken, and can be dyed as readily as natural cotton, and when passed through a weak solution of tannin and dried, it is found to resemble ordinary cotton. On the other hand, however, the new substance is not so strong as natural cotton, and will take a shade of artificial colors, and the every dressed and printed on just as are the tissues of natural cotton.

George De Beck, Vancouver, is registered at the Oriental.

SPORTING INTELLIGENCE.

Events of Interest in the Amateur and Professional Field.

FOOTBALL. RUGBY MATCH.

New Westminster, Nov. 2.—The ground at Queen's Park was in a very slippery condition and the chief point about the match between Vancouver and Westminster Saturday afternoon was the ragged playing on both sides, neither team having yet got into form. The result was a win for Vancouver by six points (three tries) to nil.

VICTORIA V. FIFTH REGIMENT. The Victoria Rugby team completely outplayed the Fifth Regiment team on Saturday afternoon at Caledonia park. The score was 30 points to nil. Three tries were scored by Miller, and one each by Spain, Macrae and Atkins. Three goals were kicked by Petticrew from these.

VICTORIA COLLEGE V. BARACKS. Saturday's game between the Victoria college team and one from the Barracks resulted in a win for the latter by a score of 6 goals to 1. The college team played a plucky game, but being of lighter weight had to succumb to the combinations of their opponents. Capt. Barnes made an efficient and impartial referee.

ANNUAL MEETING. The annual meeting of the British Columbia Intermediate Football Association will be held in the Y.M.C.A. parlors on Saturday evening next at 8 o'clock. Officers will be elected after which the drawings will take place. The entrance fee has been placed at \$5.

ASSOCIATION GAME. At Beacon Hill on Saturday a good practice game was played between the Y.M.C.A. team and a mixed eleven. The former won by 9 to 2. The Y.M.C.A. club will have an important meeting in the rooms on Wednesday evening, when the question of entering the competition for the junior cup will be decided.

THE WHEEL. Messrs. Kendall and Spain have been placed in the professional ranks by the C.W.A.

At Toronto on Saturday A. McEachern rode two miles from flying start, posted in 4:11.5, beating his former record of 4:45. Frank Moore lowered the unpaired standing start quarter mile record of 35.25 seconds to 31 seconds.

ANOTHER NEW RECORD. New York, Nov. 2.—The New York to Philadelphia and return cycle record has been broken. Albert Reitcher yesterday covered the entire distance in the elapsed time of 18 hours and 17 minutes. The old record was 19 hours and 56 minutes.

THE OAR. GAUDAUR CHALLENGED. Toronto, Oct. 29.—Australian papers received here announce a challenge to Gaudaur for the sculling championship of the world. The challenger is George Thomas of Newcastle, New South Wales. He wants Gaudaur to row him on the Paramatta, for the championship of the world and \$500 a side. He offers an allowance of £100 for expenses.

TO PROMOTE BETTER FEELING. Mayors of Principal Towns in France Invited to London.

London, Oct. 31.—As a result of the efforts of a number of influential commercial men and politicians on both sides of the channel to promote a better feeling between France and Great Britain through a commercial rapprochement,

the Lord Mayor-elect of London, Mr. George T. Phillips, intends to invite the mayors of thirty of the principal towns of France to attend a grand banquet at the principal town of Great Britain. Already several of the French mayors have signified that they will accept the invitation, among them being Mr. Baudien, president of the municipal council of Paris, and the mayors of Bourdeaux, Marseilles and Lille.

Sadie Turpel Reaches Port from Behring Sea and Reports Dolphin Safe.

Repairs to the Unatilla Completed—Bark Snowdrop Arrives to Load Salmon.

All fears for the safety of the Dolphin were removed by the arrival of the sealing schooner Sadie Turpel this morning. Capt. Crane reports that both his schooners and the Dolphin were at Unalaska on Oct. 7. Both left for sea again, but the weather being unfit for sailing the Turpel left on Oct. 9, and Capt. Crane thinks the Dolphin would do the same. The Turpel landed her Indians at Massett, Queen Charlotte Islands. Her catch for the season is 900 skins, 300 being the result of her Behring Sea cruise. Just before leaving the Turpel was boarded by officers of the revenue cutter, who reported that the Mascot was to have left for home some days previous. Captain Daley of the Dolphin reported a Behring Sea catch of 602 skins.

The steamer Unatilla was ready to leave the drydock at Quatermaster Harbor yesterday. She will take on fuel at Seattle and then load a cargo of wheat at Tacoma for San Francisco. She will carry no passengers, as her up-holsterings and cabin fittings have not yet been repaired. Her engines and machinery have received a thorough overhauling, and with the exception of the elegant surroundings of her cabins and saloons everything is in good shape for the voyage. Her repairs at San Francisco will occupy several weeks, during which time the Mexico will remain on the run.

On Saturday evening there arrived in Royal Roads the British ship Speke, 2712 tons register, after a very stormy passage of 105 days from Singapore. Capt. Wainwright reports that his vessel passed through three or four typhoons, but the only damage was the carrying away of some canvas. When the Cape was reached the vessel was in sight and the big ship had to stand off, so that thirteen days was spent there. The Speke is waiting for orders.

San Francisco, Nov. 2.—The official inquiry into the wreck of the steamer Arago, which was lost in the bay on October 20 and went to the bottom with 14 members of her crew and passengers, has commenced before Captains Phillips and Bolles, United States inspectors of steam vessels. The story of the wreck that has been so often told was repeated by Captain Reed and his officers in detail. The investigation was not completed.

Capt. Foster, of the British bark Snowdrop, 585 tons, which arrived in Esquimalt yesterday, reports a disagreeable passage of 64 days from Arica, Chile. The Snowdrop will be towed to the outer wharf to-morrow, where she loads salmon for England. R. P. Rihet & Co. are the charterers.