Weekly Colonist.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1886.

THE NEW CABINET.

The cable brought last night the personnel of the newly formed English cabinet, which is one of undoubted strength, though we can hardly agree that it indicates signs of a compromise, for its principal members are all more or less steeped in liberalism and its various shades of radicalism. Earl Spencer, now lord president of the council, retired, it will be remembered, from the lord lieutenancy of Ireland upon the defeat of Gladstone's previous ministry. Mr. H. C. Childers, now home secretary, has held office as secretary of the navy. He formulated a most exhaustive system of home rule for Ireland, which he expounded on the hustings at the last general election and was defeated. Earl Granville, now secretary for the colonies, has since his election to the commons in 1836, been a pronounced liberal and a consistent advocate of free trade. He held office under the first and second administrations of Lord Palmerston, and has filled many important public positions under Gladstone, the last being secretary for foreign affairs—the position now assumed by Earl Rosebery. Mr. H. C. Bannerman, now secretary of war, succeeded Trevelyan in the Irish secretaryship, from which he retired upon the resignation of the liberal cabinet. The Marquis of Ripon, now first lord of the admiralty, was governor-general of India previous to the present viceroy, and was always a consistent supporter of the liberal party. Mr. Chamberlain, the acknowledged leader of the radicals, occupies the office of president of the local government. Mr. John Morley, the new chief secretary for Ireland, all along declared Gladstone to be the only man capable of finding a constructive solution of the Irish problem, and declared for an Irish parliament, for while he admitted the danger of the experiment he held that it would have to come to that or the sword. He is, however, or was, strenuously opposed to the inauguration of home rule until an act has been passed preventing tenants from confiscating the property of landlords. Taken altogether the cabinet is a strong one, and it has need to be, for while the absorbing question at home at present is that of Ireland, there are Imperial interests abroad of even more vital importance. But it cannot be concealed that Gladstone gained the reins of power through a compromise with Parnell, at whose mercy he will always be to a great extent. After a parliamentary career of over fifty years he would perhaps have been more than human not to consent to sacrifice certain political principles in return for that support which may as long as it choose, save him from dozing away his last years on an opposition bench in confessed failure.

A STALKING HORSE.

The people of Canada are looking forward with more than usual interest to the coming session of the Dominion commons, to witness the result of the struggle for power which the grits intend to make by introducing a motion condemnatory of the hanging of Riel. The government can appeal to the house on this question with perfect safety. The real crisis was before the cabinet had finally decided whether to move for the clemency of the crown or let the law take its course—whether they would endeavor to stay the administration of justice for political purposes, or hold aloof and abide the result. They decided—how, is known to all—and decided rightly, and the question whether the government should stand or fall was at once settled in their favor. Though eastern Canada papers have flooded their columns to weariness with the subject of Riel and the half-breeds' grievances, though the grit organs have left no stone unturned to excite sympathy for the so-called martyr, and though many reform members addressed inflammatory speeches to their constituents on the subject, yet the heat of party feeling has gradually died away; owing partly to the pastorals issued by the Catholic church, and largely, also, to the soothing influence of time, and perhaps an innate conviction that justice had been done. The reward for standing firm will shortly appear in the establishment of the government by the house, backed with that increase of respect which the exercise of moral force always evokes. So confident on the subject are the government themselves that one of its members, Hon. Mr. Chapleau, felt that he could afford to disdain the offer of a renewal of allegiance from several erstwhile disaffected Bleus. Whatever may or may not happen the government this coming session, it may be safely placed as a foregone conclusion that the number of its supporters will be increased rather than diminished by any vote upon its action in regard to the Riel agitation.

THE ENGLISH CRISIS.

The meagre telegraphic report of the defeat of the Salisbury government failed to convey an intelligible idea of Mr. Jesse Collings' motion which encompassed the defeat. It was entirely a side issue. Mr. Collings is radical member for Ipswich. He moved an amendment to the address, regretting that the Queen did not announce in her speech any measures for the relief of the sufferers by the depression in trade and agriculture, particularly in regard to affording facilities to farm laborers for obtaining allotments of small holdings on equitable terms as to rent and security of tenure, and that was carried against the government by a majority of 79 votes. Mr. Collings has long been identified with land reform questions. He is a retired merchant, lives at Edgbaston, a suburb of Birmingham, and is fifty-four years old. He has been very active in the municipal life of Birmingham, is an alderman and magistrate, chairman of the free libraries committee, and was one of the founders of the famous education league. He has been president of the national federation of liberal associations, and will, of course, after this fill a prominent place in the eyes of the public. His name does not appear in the list of the new government, a fact which will create surprise. He may be held in reserve, but his failure to secure a seat may create disaffection among the radicals. The Times ascribes the defeat of the ministry to its hesitations and delays, and claims that it goes out needlessly on a side issue. It says Mr. Gladstone will have to reckon with the country, and that it is certain that his parliament will be short-lived. It will be the duty of all who regard patriotism more than party attachments to maintain an unflinching resistance to the measures of such a government, as that now threatened and to wage the war against it till the commonwealth has been delivered from a peril greater than any that has pended over England for upwards of 70 years. The appointment of Mr. John Morley as chief secretary for Ireland is significant of another somersault by Mr. Gladstone, in which he is joined by Mr. Chamberlain, whose anti-home rule speeches during the election campaign were widely quoted as the radical programme should they gain power. It was Mr. John Morley himself who made it impossible for any government, liberal or conservative, to renew in the late parliament the coercion act. Mr. Gladstone postponed week after week any declaration of the extent to which he was disposed or proposed to renew the act, and, when at last he did declare to the house of commons, in language of Gladstonian vagueness, that there were some useful and reasonable provisions in the act, which he proposed to renew, within half an hour of that announcement being made, Mr. John Morley rose in the house and gave notice of a resolution which he intended to propose, protesting against the renewal of any exceptional legislation in the case of Ireland. The action then taken by Mr. Morley—taken, it was reasonably believed to be, in consort with certain members of the late government—made it impossible for any government in an expiring parliament to renew the coercion act. Whether the late government were right or wrong in taking office under the circumstances they did, and allowing the act to wholly expire, is a question which there will be an opportunity of discussing in the house of commons. But if it should turn out that it has proved a misfortune to Ireland that some portions of the crimes act were not re-enacted, the man upon whom primarily the responsibility and blame for this result must rest is Mr. John Morley.

A WOOLLEN MILL.

It would appear that tardy as has been the advantage taken of the bonus offered by the government for the erection at some suitable place in the province of a woollen mill with five looms and at least four hundred spindles, the sum of the bonus offered, $3,000, will probably be applied for before very long. A company is being organized in New Westminster for the establishment of a woollen mill there, and apparently on the favorable basis of a capital of $16,000. Two years ago the city of Victoria offered as a bonus for the construction of a woollen mill, adjacent to the city, the sum of $5,000, and an additional benefit in the way of a gratuitous water supply for a stated period; while the government supplemented the offer with, as we said before, a bonus of $3,000. These inducements have been literally going begging for two years; two desultory propositions were made by strangers, but their requests could by no means be met by the above terms, and their advances came to nothing. The lesson of internal spirit of enterprise would appear to have been taught this city by the good people of New Westminster, whose company, upon carrying their project to completion, will most certainly claim and will most certainly deserve the government bonus of $3000. Surely with a wool supply at hand and no home rivalry, woollen goods manufactured in the province could compete advantageously with those imported from the States, or even Canada! No one can be reasonably expected to put his hand in his pocket to foster home industries upon a general principle of patriotism, but when united with certain benefit to the province there is an equal assurance of a fair rate of profit to those embarking in it, the apathy that has been shown regarding the erection of a woollen mill near this city is somewhat of a reflection upon those amongst us who, with capital at command, seem chary to embark it in a legitimate and promising enterprise.

We Are Seven.

He'd been an honest M. P. P.
For full eight years, he said;
He'd sessional papers on his desk
And "figures" in his head.

"And with your colleagues, worthy sir,
How many you be?"
"How many? Seven in all," he said;
And wondering, looked at me.

"And where are they? I pray you tell!"
He answered, "Seven we are.
One comes from sea-ward Kootenay
And one from Cassiar.

I, from fair Metchosin,
In naval language, hail,
And we gathered to our ranks last year
A worthy gent for Yale.

And (most respected of us all)
One from this city, too;
And last, our noble heavy weight—
McLeese, of Cariboo."

"It seems your number you en-*Hance*;
Perhaps you think it sticks.
If all the opposition—these,
Why you can be but six?"

"I hate faces clean can all be seen,"
The honest man replied;
"A few steps or more from yonder door,
They 'figger' side by side."

"The first who tried was noble John,
Who had a lofty way;
Till chaos came to his relief,
And then he died away."

"And Armstrong, too, was with us once
His name in voting's missed.
Alas! appointment came along
And 'took it of our list.'"

"How many of you, then?" said I;
"If Bill deserted Beaven?"
The man for Esquimalt replied,
"Oh, master, we are seven!"

"But the Royal city claimed its own
Bill vacated votes on Beaven's side;
'Twas throwing words away—for still
The worthy man would hain his will,
And said 'No, we are seven!'"

[What are his] Wordsworth.

School of Gunnery.

To the Editor:—I see by *The Colonist* that a school of gunnery will be started in this city on the 15th March. This is a step in the right direction, and Col. Holmes, Major Wolfenden and officers of the V. G. A. are to be complimented on the success of their efforts, which I trust will be appreciated by the young men of Victoria. An impression seems to prevail that it is not the "correct thing" to join a volunteer corps, but for the general information to young gentlemen of this city, that the volunteer corps of the eastern provinces are made up almost entirely of young fellows connected with the best families. Some say they will join when there is a necessity for it, while others complain that it is a waste of time. Such ideas are destitute of reason, as in the former case raw recruits stand a very poor show in time of war compared with those men who have been well drilled; and in the latter case it has been shown that the exercise one gains by attending to drills is beneficial to the mind as well as the body. In attending drill a young man therefore giving time to a worthy object. What was it enabled the Canadian volunteers to win the battles in the Northwest? Nothing but the severe drill they had been previously subjected to. Of course, there are many who cannot attend a course at the school; but all who can should exert themselves and gain a knowledge which may be useful to them in after life. Ex-Volunteer.

The Lieut.-Governorship.

To the Editor:—Should the Times meet the eye of the Canadian premier no doubt he will be strongly impressed with its dignified sentiments and accurate conclusions. In treating the question of the lieut.-governorship, he seeks to cast a stigma on Mr. Cornwall, which is very ill-mannered, and in his reference to Mr. Macdonald he says that he has nothing against that gentleman, admits that he knows nothing of him, and in the next breath says "he knows him to be lacking in essentials necessary to the office." What essentials does the Times consider necessary? I am not in a position to compare Mr. Macdonald and Mr. Nelson's public services, but if no one more familiar with the history of those gentlemen will undertake the task, I will by making inquiries. This controversy I know will have little influence in the selection for governor, but I like fair play.

Fair Play.

The Island Railway.—On Wednesday last Hon. Jos. Trutch, Mr. Robt. Dunsmuir, M. P. P., Mr. Brophy, C. E., Mr. Macleod, C. E., and Mr. Jos. Hunter, C. E., inspected ten miles of the completed portion of McLellan & Earle's contract of the Island railway. Train was taken at the Four-Mile House at 10 o'clock, and the party proceeded as far as Niagara can n, thoroughly examining the work, returning at 3:30 p m. The character of the work was favorably commented on by all present.

Overland Monthly.—The February number of this coast magazine is exceptionally creditable. Both sides of the Chinese question are fairly put before the readers and thoroughly discussed, while a series of articles on various topics of peculiar interest to Pacific coast people are ably written. The usual amount of fiction and general descriptive and literary matter is also present.

Free and frank
Are the tributes bestowed.
They may be
Satirical or sweet.
But who's the crank?
So little endorsed,
And can't see,
With the licensed
Good nature allowed,
The harmless incline
Towards the 14th of February—
St. Valentine.

T. N. HIBBEN & CO.

You Invite Disease when you neglect a regular action of the bowels, and incurable disease may result. Regulate the bowels and the entire system with Burdock Blood Bitters, which acts upon the Bowels, Stomach, Liver and Blood. tu-th-sa

Municipal Council.

Wednesday, Feb. 3, 1886.

The regular meeting of the city council was held last evening at 8:10 o'clock.

Present—His Worship Mayor Fell and Couns. Grant Styles, Robertson, Higgins, Vigelius, Lipsett, Humber and Barnard.

The minutes of last regular meeting were read and adopted.

PRIVILEGE.

Coun. Higgins rose to a question of privilege. He referred to a letter signed "Citizen," which appeared in the Standard. It alluded to the employment of a hack belonging to a company in which Coun. Barnard was supposed to be interested. He did not believe the law had been violated, and thought that the matter should be taken up, as it was necessary to state what course was to be followed in the case of a member of the council receiving work from the corporation. He hoped some older member of the council would move a resolution.

Coun. Robertson said that it was his intention to bring forward a resolution to-night in regard to the matter.

Coun. Barnard for the information of the council would state that it was not a Victoria Transfer hack that was employed and, further, that he was not a member of that company, but a paid servant.

Coun. Robertson said it was not the intention of the street committee to give a monopoly to anybody, but to distribute the trade around.

Mayor Fell said he also had a few remarks to make under the head of privilege. He referred to the meeting in the city hall on Saturday night, and the unusual way in which the chairman of that meeting acted in leaving the chair and shutting off debate. The hall had been granted by the council and both sides should have been heard on the question. It was wrong to shut off free debate. A vote of thanks should have been tendered to the council for the use of the hall.

Coun. Robertson said he was also present at the meeting, and while he was sorry that the objection to the question had not come up at the first of the meeting, he also deprecated the action of the chairman on that night.

COMMUNICATIONS.

From D. Spencer on behalf of trustees of Herald street Indian church, requesting that a sidewalk be placed on north side to the church. Referred to street committee.

From Wm. Smith, deputy minister of marine, Ottawa, with reference to a lease of the foreshore of Victoria harbor to Thomas Earle, and whether the council had any objection, and asking that a reply be forwarded him on the matter.

City Clerk Robinson said the previous letter had been referred to the street committee in 1884, and they had not reported on it, and therefore there had been no reply.

Referred to park committee for report.

From H. Percy Blanchard, with regard to rock obstructions on Harrison street.

Referred to street committee for report.

From the W. C. T. U., requesting the attendance of the council at the temperance lecture to be delivered by Miss N. White on Thursday night.

On motion of Coun. Grant the invitation was accepted with thanks.

From Mr. Field, asking street lines on Herald street. Granted.

From W. H. Robertson, calling attention to the dangerous presence of a large rock on Blanchard street, and asking its removal.

Coun. Higgins called attention to the fact that there were a number of rocks on various streets, and thought they should be removed. Referred to street committee for report.

From ratepayers of James bay, stating that Oswego street from Simcoe was almost impassable to the sea, and requesting certain improvements. Referred to street committee for report.

From residents of John, Turner and Henry streets, calling attention to the impassable condition of those streets, and requesting that they be metalled and certain sidewalks laid. Referred to street committee for report.

From W. H. Kettle, calling attention to disgraceful condition of gutter on John street, and asking that it be remedied. Referred to street committee for report.

From E. Mallandaine, with reference to a new provincial directory, and asking that $200 be granted to help the publication through, or that the council agree to subscribe to 200 copies of same at $1.25 each. Laid on table.

From ratepayers of St. Lawrence street, calling attention to the impassable condition of that street, and asking that the street be repaired and a sidewalk laid. Referred to street committee for report.

From residents of Rock Bay avenue, asking for a sidewalk on the north side. Referred to street committee for report.

From A. Lewis, secretary U. H. & L. Co., stating that he had been requested to ask a reply as to the purchase of furniture of that company. Laid on table.

From G. Doughty, calling attention to a defective chimney in the rear of his premises in a Chinese wash-house, liable to cause a fire. Referred to fire wardens.

From T. Lubbe, enclosing letter forwarded the council in 1883, in reference to the blasting of rock on Vancouver street, which stated that he would contribute $100 to its cost. Received and the offer accepted, with power to act.

From R. Noble, asking that a two-plank walk be placed on Telegraph street. Referred to street committee for report.

Bills for the month of January to the amount of $1,760.67 were submitted and referred to the finance committee for payment.

A $40,000 DRAFT.

Coun. Grant introduced a bylaw empowering the council to arrange for an overdraft of $40,000 from the Bank of British North America, interest not to exceed 6 per cent. Read a first time.

JAMES BAY FLATS.

Coun. Higgins moved that the council take into consideration the letter and resolution of the board of trade in reference to the improvement of James Bay flats. Laid on table.

STREET MACHINERY.

Coun. Higgins moved, seconded by Coun. Lipsett, that the proper officers report on the condition and cost of the machinery used in working on the streets. Carried.

CITY CENSUS.

Coun. Higgins moved, seconded by Coun. Robertson, that a scheme be prepared to ascertain the number of inhabitants at present in the city of Victoria.

Coun. Higgins said that while a communication had been received from private parties with reference to a similar object, yet he thought a census of this kind should be official in order to be correct, and it was becoming more of a necessity every day that a proper census of the city should be taken. However, it might be well to defer the resolution for one week and confer with the private parties in the matter. He would move that a committee be appointed for that end. Seconded by Coun. Lipsett, and carried. The mayor appointed Messrs. Barnard, Higgins and Robertson a committee.

EXTENSION OF BORROWING POWER.

Coun. Barnard moved that the legal adviser of the city be instructed to prepare an act for the legislature, amending the municipalities act of 1881, so as to extend the time for payment of loans contracted in accordance with the act.

Coun. Barnard said his object was that now the legislature was in session, they might be enabled to get the necessary power to extend the term of payment, should they come before the ratepayers this year for an extensive loan.

Coun. Grant seconded the motion, and thought the power to borrow large loans was desirable, as the twenty years limit, as at present, was too short a period.

Coun. Lipsett thought a fifty-year limit was sufficient.

The motion carried.

STREET COMMITTEE WORK.

Coun. Barnard moved, seconded by Coun. Humber, that hereafter any communications received calling attention to repairs or improvements required on streets or sidewalks, be referred to councillors upon the street committee, from the ward in which repairs or improvements are asked to be made, to be reported upon by them to the council.

Coun. Barnard thought that this would be a fair way to distribute the work of the street committee. Carried.

PRINTING REPORT.

The printing committee reported recommending that all job printing be given to the lowest tenderer. Signed by Couns. Barnard and Vigelius.

Coun. Robertson said that he was opposed to the report. He agreed with his colleagues that the daily papers should have the advertising distributed among them but he would not agree that the newspaper job offices should be allowed to tender; as it was unfair.

Coun. Barnard thought no distinction should be made.

Coun. Vigelius thought no one should be debarred from tendering for any work for which tenders were asked. With regard to advertising he thought it wise to leave that to the council to decide.

The report was on motion adopted.

STREET COMMITTEE REPORT.

The street committee reported recommending a number of improvements and appointments. On motion the report was referred back, and the city surveyor requested to report estimated cost at next meeting.

ELECTRIC LIGHT ENGINE.

The electric light committee reported in reference to the complaint that the specifications had been altered after contract was awarded. The alteration was in the interest of the city, and would cost the contractors $125. Report adopted.

SANITARY REPORT.

The sanitary committee reported that there was no nuisance existing as complained by Mr. Justice Crease. Also that the sanitary officer for the coming year be a police officer in connection with other duties, as in the past.

Coun. Humber did not approve of the combining of police and sanitary duties. Neither would be well attended to. A man had been injured in corporation work, and he should receive the appointment.

Coun. Higgins said that the police sanitary officer would be only a temporary appointment, now that his duties were so slight. It had been thought necessary to reinstate Sergeant Flewin on the police force on account of press of work, but the police committee were surprised to know that that officer was now on the American side.

Couns. Robertson and Lipsett supported the suggestion of appointing the man who was injured in corporation work.

The report was adopted.

FIRE REPORT.

The fire wardens reported that three tenders for the supply of horses had been received, but the committee recommend that the corporation purchase horses for the use of the department. Also recommend that the police be instructed to summon any persons who allow their chimneys to take fire, and whom they are able to bring proof against; buildings partially destroyed by fire, and removal of which has been ordered, fresh notices be served, and if not attended to that the council will order the pulling down of the same; that the helmets be purchased from the Deluge engine company, but that the furniture is of no use; rules are being got ready recommend that bunks be erected in the engine-houses, and telephones be extended to the chief engineer's and assistant engineer's offices.

Coun. Vigelius thought it was advisable that the city should own horses, as it was cheaper and better. It would be impossible to depend on hiring horses for drawing the engines to the fire. It was necessary that they should be trained.

After considerable discussion the report was adopted.

PARK COMMITTEE.

The park committee reported recommending that the minister of marine and fisheries be communicated with in regard to the protection of the esplanade, and that notices be posted up, warning people not to remove shingle from the beach.

On motion the report was adopted.

The electric light committee reported in reference to the application of Mr. Haynes on behalf of the Columbia Electric Light Co., stating that there was no reason why they should not be granted permission to erect poles to supply consumers with light.

On motion the report was received and permission granted; poles to be erected under the supervision of the street committee.

POLICE REPORT.

The police committee reported recommending the adoption of rules submitted with report, which were read and referred to a special committee on Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock.

The question of defining the *status* of the chief and assistant engineers, was referred to the city barrister.

Coun. Robertson, seconded by Coun. Grant, moved that the city barrister be asked to state whether a city councillor as an individual or as a member of a joint-stock company could, consistent with his oath of office, perform any service for the corporation to which pay attached. Carried.

Finlayson's bridge closing was ordered to be advertised; also, tenders for new sidewalks.

Coun. Robertson gave notice of a bylaw to provide for the publication of city assessment roll and accounts.

Coun. Higgins moved that the rocks at the corners of streets be removed. Carried.

Coun. Higgins gave notice of an adulterated food act.

Coun. Grant moved that $25 be donated to the Thompson family, who were burned out at the recent fire. Carried.

Council adjourned till Monday at 7:30.

THE SCHOOL OF GUNNERY

Authorized to be Held at Victoria.

Instructions have been received by Col. Holmes to open a school of gunnery at Victoria, commencing on the 15th of March, provided a sufficient number of qualified candidates present themselves. The course will last for three months, and will be open to non-qualified officers, non-commissioned officers and men of all corps of active militia in this district. The class will be limited to ten officers and twenty non-commissioned officers and men, between the ages of 18 and 45, not less than 5 feet 6 inches in height and 34 inches around the chest. The hours of drill will be about four and a half daily, and will terminate at 12 o'clock m., except on Sundays and holidays.

Port Hamilton.

The Pioneer says: "An interesting story throwing a little light upon our occupation of Port Hamilton, has just been published. It is said that when the King of Corea heard of England's intention to retain possession of Port Hamilton, he was furious with rage, and after an interview with M. Speyer, the Russian envoy, determined to call together all the foreign representatives at his Court except the British, and solemnly protest against the act. This was reported to Mr. Aston, the British Consul-General, who is a fluent Corean scholar. Mr. Aston at once sought an audience of the King, told him the whole story of the recent Anglo-Russian scare, and represented the ease of England in so favorable a light, and insisted so strongly upon the necessity of England maintaining her prestige in the Eastern seas, that the King's mind was completely changed. He declared that England might have a lease of the place and that the authorities might make use of it with perfect assurance. At present we hold Port Hamilton only as a lease at the King's pleasure, but fortifications and other evidences of fixity of tenure are being pushed forward with so much rapidity that, should the Corean monarch ever desire to put an end to the agreement, it is doubtful whether he will be strong enough to carry out the process of eviction."

OVERLAND FROM THE EAST.

The Disadvantages of Railway Travel at this Season.

Mr. R. E. Gibson, who arrived Monday from Pembroke, Ontario, occupied fourteen days on the trip, owing to the various delays by snowdrifts and washouts. The first obstruction was met between Carlton junction and Toronto (Ontario and Quebec branch C. P. R.), but the cars were only delayed a few hours by the snowfall. On the 21st ult., when between Chicago and St. Paul, the train ran up to a heavy bank of snow, which had already been met by two freight trains and the express. The thirty hours occupied in clearing the track were passed in a decidedly comfortless manner. The fires in the cars were allowed to go out, and the stock of provisions following suit, there was nothing to eat unless one chose to walk two miles through three feet of snow to the nearest place for refreshment. The situation of the passengers was more forcibly impressed upon them by the state of the atmosphere—38 degrees below zero. But the snow-ploughs having cleared the line, the train proceeded, making a good run. The travellers reached Wallula junction, where there was an extensive washout further up the line. Here the N. P. R. company took away their cars and the passengers were crowded to the number of 57 in one first class coach. Mr. Gibson speaks strongly of the indifference and incivility of the O. R. & N. officials, who declined all information during the 50 hours' delay, at the personal expense of each passenger, meals being charged at from 75c to $1 25. After nine hours more delay at The Dalles, through snow, the steamer Olympian forced her way through the river ice from Portland to Warrendale, at which place the delayed passengers and mails embarked, meeting with no further impediment on their journey.

Another End of the World Excitement.

The French are an easily excited people, and this is the year when the sound of all superstitious Frenchmen and Frenchwomen will be filled with silent alarm. There is a prophecy of an old date, which fixes the end of the world in 1886. The basis is that when Easter Sunday falls on St. Mark's day human beings may make up their minds to leave this world in a hurry, for destruction will come upon this planet. Well, Easter Sunday does comes on St. Mark's day this year, and on the 25th of April next the prophecy is set for fulfillment. That there will be fright in France and in French speaking countries there can be no doubt. Nor will such fear of the final end of all earthly things be confined to the public of M. Grevy. Contiguous European peoples, and even American religionists, who are always looking for the conflagration on earth, will not fail to experience a little trepidation until St. Mark's day has passed. In every century of Christianity the final termination of mural concerns has been confidently looked for by its adherents. Gibbon speaks in his splendid way of the belief in such a catastrophe in the early Christian times. The symbolic words of Daniel have furnished Millerites and other sects with a basis for fanatical action, and in the future scores of people will not be deterred from indulging in wild ideas as to the coming of such a result. Meanwhile, the gray old globe will still float in its ocean of ether, and men and women will continue to occupy its surface, barter and trade, court and marry, and live and die in a very natural and usually commonplace manner. Our planet has a mission which is scarcely commenced. Once the poles were tropic lands, as the geologic and animal remains plainly indicate. Greenland is but a vast cape of an ice-covered Arctic continent. The United States exploring expedition, in 1840, outlined a vast Antarctic continent. These frozen lands are to be reuncovered. The change in the axis of the earth cannot be permanent. The Creator made everything for use, and the polar continents must necessarily be inhabited. In fact, it may be said that they are to be reinhabited by man. It is a remarkable fact that the population of the earth is rapidly increasing. At the present ratio of increase per annum, in a few thousand of years there will not be arable land enough to sustain the human beings then on the planetary surface. To meet such human needs the planet, if swung into perpendicularity, would be wholly habitable. It would then be a garden of beauty. The poles would be uncovered and the frozen Siberias would bloom fruitfully. The sun would reach all parts of the earth as the little globe revolved around it. Great changes are to come, but the destruction of the earth is not one of them. Millions of St. Mark's days would only find a more improved and a more beautiful planet beating rhythmic time to the eternal music of the universes.

Care of Animals in Winter.

The American Humane Association offers the following suggestions relative to fowls, horses and cattle to persons having these in charge, in the northern latitudes, during the winter months.

Do not compel domestic fowls to roost in trees. Aside from danger of being captured by owls and other enemies, the swaying of the branches upon which they are sitting will prevent them from getting rest; while in the severely cold weather, thus exposed, feet and combs are frozen and the bird is so benumbed as to make it impossible for it to be of much profit on the farm. Securely sheltered from wind and storm, and allowed to sit on a broad roost, feet are thus kept warm, refreshing rest is obtained and the fowl is much stronger, healthier and more profitable to its owner.

Do not clip horses during the winter months. With the same propriety we might cut the hair from a dog or shear a sheep at this season of the year. The argument in behalf of the practice is that the horse in perspiration will dry more quickly if the hair is short. If the animal is thoroughly blanketed and kept in a sheltered or warm place, after being driven, no danger results from perspiration, whatever the length of hair; while the horse that has been deprived of its coat in the winter time suffers perpetually while being exposed to the cold.

It is a cruelty inflicted upon beautiful carriage horses for the purpose of style. Blessed is the ordinary work-horse, in the winter time, for, however much it may perspire, it is allowed to carry its full growth of hair during the cold weather.

Do not leave cattle to stand shivering, while extremities often freeze, in the snow storms and severe winds of winter, when a little time would suffice to construct of boards, rails or poles, a support upon and around which may be placed hay, straw or weeds, thus making a shelter that may comfortably protect them. Cattle kept in fairly warm condition throughout the winter will, as milkers, give a larger and better yield of milk, and as beeves will take on flesh much more rapidly than if left exposed to inclement weather.

Aside from a question of humanity, the more attention and care that is bestowed upon animals, with a view to their comfort, the more will they be of service and a source of profit to their owners.

Malaria is the action of disease germs in bad air, poor drainage, swampy regions, etc., upon the system, producing chills, fever, neuralgia, and many dangerous diseases. Burdock Blood Bitters regulates the bowels, liver and blood, and wards off and cures Malaria. tu-th-sa

British Columbia.

Mr. Baillie-Grohman fills several pages of the last Fortnightly with an eulogium on British Columbia, to which he desires to attract the attention of British settlers. Mr. Grohman was long enough in the province to realize not only its possibilities, but also the strong probability that sooner or later it might be absorbed into the American Union. He notes the progress of Americanization which is going on there, mentions the fact that he saw more bunting in Victoria on the Fourth of July than on the Queen's birthday, and casually remarks that he saw the British ironclad on the station coaling up at a wharf owned by Americans with coal taken from a mine worked by San Francisco operators, and carried over a road built with San Francisco capital. He cannot help fearing that when British Columbia becomes prosperous it may find itself wedged in between Alaska as a top-weight pressing downwards, and Oregon and Washington expanding upwardly, and may be unable to resist the pressure. Hence he urges that the British Government should take vigorous steps to fill up the colony with British subjects who will resist Americanization.

It may be questioned whether Mr. Grohman's therapeutics are as sound as his diagnosis. This tide of emigration cannot be forced. It goes where it is wanted, as air rushes in to fill a vacuum. Men who change their homes think more of their own future well-being than the future of their native country. Great Britain spent millions to divert the tide of emigration from the United States to Canada, but most of the emigrants crossed the border after they landed, and settled in this country. England may possibly induce a portion of her surplus people to settle in British Columbia, if she can convince them they will do better there than elsewhere. But arguments to show that they will promote British supremacy on the Pacific by settling on Vancouver will fall on deaf ears. The completion of the Canadian Pacific and the establishment of lines of steamers from its terminus to Japan and China will of course tend to swell the population of the province, but its slow growth during the past twenty years, while Washington and Oregon have been rapidly filling up, shows it possesses few attractions for immigrants. And there is no question but the idea prevailing in British Columbia is that its backwardness is due to the fact that it is under the British flag. It is common talk in Victoria that a new era of prosperity would be inaugurated if the province could be annexed to the United States.

Mr. Grohman does this country the justice to admit that there is no danger of our forcibly seizing British Columbia. He might perhaps have done fuller justice to his subject if he had said that the American people view its possession by a foreign power with concern. Ever since the acquisition of Alaska it has been felt that this small strip of coast ought to belong to us. So long as it remains in the hands of a foreign power, a belligerent power, and a power which is constantly seeking extensions of territory by force, we cannot disguise the fact that it is a menace to our safety. Our friendly relations with Great Britain would rest on a more secure basis if it were ours. It has frequently been said that our fathers made a mistake when they backed down from the position of "54-40 or fight." But the mistake may have been on the other side. England might find, if she went to war, that the defense of British Columbia involved an intolerable strain on her resources.

Certain it is that when the time comes—as it seemingly must come—that the people of British Columbia, by the vote of a large majority at a fair election, declare their desire to be admitted to the Union, there will be a strong party in this country in favor of granting their request. If England resists she may find herself with another Ireland on her hands, with these difference, that the new Ireland may have a powerful nation at her back to indorse her demands.—S. F. Chronicle.

TWO WOMEN BOYCOTTED.

Insulted at a Church Door by the Congregation.

New York, Jan. 25.—The Herald's Dublin cable of the 24th says: The boycotting of the Misses Curtin for bearing witness against the moonlighters who murdered their father, assumes greater proportions. Telegrams received here for the Irish morning papers accounts of a serious riot this morning at the church in the parish of Firies. The Curtin girls came to mass without any serious demonstration. During the service the priest, O'Connor, read an ordinance from the bishop which forbade him to celebrate the church ceremonies if the displays continued to be made against the Curtin family.

Nevertheless, when the congregation had been dismissed and the young ladies came out, the entire congregation surrounded them, hooting and yelling. Head Inspector McDermot was in the churchyard with a force of forty police. He asked the people to disperse, upon which they became menacing toward the girls. He then ordered his force to charge, and they succeeded in dispersing the assemblage, after which the force escorted the young women to their homes. While they were gone a number of women entered the church and broke up the Curtin family pew.

WHY I AM IN OPPOSITION.

In Six Numbers.

Number 1.—Because I exert that wholesome corrective influence which is acknowledged to be desirable in the best of governments. I was born to oppose.—*B—y—n.*

Number 2.—Because I am nothing if I am not loyal, and I hope one day to—but no matter; my thirteen constituents might tumble.—*G—lb—th.*

Number 3.—Because I am a power behind the throne—an organ, you know; and if we *should* ever come into power I can turn the crank, don't you know.—*Gr—nt.*

Number 4.—Because—but why should I rend my feelings by relating how my fond hope of a seat in the cabinet was rudely dispelled. I refuse to give my reason.—*S—wl—n.*

Number 5.—Because I was elected on that ticket, and will remain so till we are six times as many. Six times six are thirty-six; that is eleven more than there are in the house, and eleven is just five more than our number. Oh, hang it! I'm "niggering" again.—*McL—se.*

Number 6.—I am in opposition because—er—well—come to think of it I really don't know why I am. I'll have to ask some one else about it.—*H—ly—s—n.*

At Portland.—Krelle, the blanket thief, is at Portland. Sergeant Flewin, who missed him, is at Seattle.

BRITISH POLITICS.

The Whigs and the Radicals Divided.

Parnell Master of the Situation.

London, Jan. 31.—The Queen's summons reached Gladstone Friday, late at night. In the meantime hourly consultations had been held for three days with and among his former colleagues. No account of what is proceeding can be anything but conjectural, but certain things are taken for granted. It is not believed that Lord Hartington will join Gladstone's ministry.

The breach long postponed between the whigs and radicals appears to have arrived. Chamberlain, a month since, had resolved never to acquiesce in home rule, and never again to serve under Gladstone, but having converted the liberal leader to his agrarian policy, and got rid of the whigs, the radical leader is content to resume his place under the old umbrella. Goschen's abstention is certain. Sir Henry James' abstention is probable. Lord Spencer, Trevelyan and Lord Derby are doubtful. The only strong members of the old cabinet who are certain to join in the next cabinet are Lord Granville, Chamberlain, Sir William Harcourt, Lord Rosebery and Sir Chas. Dilke, if his trial next week results favorably.

A BID FOR THE MODERATES.

Efforts will be made to enlist the support of the moderates, by avoiding a definite proposal for home rule. Gladstone, like Disraeli, will educate his party, and explain to Parnell that the process of conversion requires time. Only a few weeks have elapsed since the whole country pronounced against home rule. It is hoped that Parnell, if he be allowed to govern Ireland as he likes meanwhile through the national league, will wait. Parnell's daily organ at Dublin has already intimated that some effort is necessary, and that with a view to conciliate English opinion the league will abstain for the present from the more cruel forms of boycotting, and prove that they can and will do whatever is necessary to preserve absolute order. This journal forgets that such avowal is regarded in England as an admission of responsibility for the existing system of intimidation. Its claim that the right of the league to rule Ireland is constitutional is a novel view of constitutional law.

The truth is that the Irish party have won a great triumph, and made great advance toward separation, which is their avowed aim, but a long road remains to be traveled. Gladstone's cabinet is yet to be formed. Its Irish policy is yet to be adopted. A majority of the house of commons has yet to be secured. The house of lords and the country are yet to be reckoned with. The land question still presses for solution. No man has yet proposed a workable scheme. Political negotiations between Gladstone and Parnell are conducted indirectly. The Irish believe that an agreement is within sight. One thing is certain, that no liberal ministry can command a majority of the present house unless it does Parnell's bidding.

FROM JUSTIN M'CARTHY.

New York, Jan. 31.—In a cable letter to the Herald, Justin McCarthy says: "Gladstone is in great spirits. He is full of hope and confidence in his power to settle the Irish question. Chamberlain is generally talked of as Irish secretary. A government composed of Messrs. Gladstone, Chilters, Chamberlain and Morley would have strong enough to do without Lord Hartington, should Lord Hartington stand out. No one cares about Dilke. The storm of public opinion against home rule is already blowing over. Two or three great speeches from Gladstone will carry all before them and settle the whole question. It is probable that he will adopt the suggestion of a short time back to have a council of three liberal ministers, when the administration is formed, of three conservatives, and three of the Parnell party, to frame some scheme for home rule among them. If so, the lords will hardly venture to throw out this bill. Otherwise it will be likely to do so the first time. At least it is out of the question for Parnell to take a seat in the Gladstone cabinet. Irish national members regard the situation as wholly satisfactory, and are convinced that no matter who come or who stay, home rule is certain."

FROM O'KELLY.

O'Kelly, member of parliament, cables the Herald: "For years Chamberlain has manoeuvered and schemed and sought with untiring assiduity to secure for himself Gladstone's succession. Now the prize is almost within his grasp, and he will let no effort remain unturned to secure it. Gladstone sees how the wind is veering around, and begins to trim his sails. The Parnellites will make vigorous efforts to prevent disorder in Ireland, in order to give Mr. Gladstone a fair chance. The policy of the new government is not yet defined. Their position is very difficult. Gladstone is making efforts to induce Lord Hartington to accept a place in his cabinet, to prevent a split in the liberal ranks. Advanced radicals hope he won't succeed, as the presence of the whig leader would hamper thorough going reform, both on the land question and home rule."

PARNELL WILL NOT TAKE OFFICE.

New York, Jan. 30.—The Post's London special says: A Scotch member of the house of commons having boldly asked Parnell: "Should you under any circumstances accept an offer of the chief secretaryship of Ireland?" he replied: "