The Victoria Weekly Colonist.

THIRTIETH YEAR. VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 1888. VOLUME XXIX, NO. 53

CABLE NEWS.

An Armed Struggle on the Continent in the Near Future Predicted by the "Standard."

Judge O'Hagan Explains His Reasons for Refusing to Concur in the Reduction of Rents.

A Young Englishman Cuts His Throat on Board an Ocean Steamship —Important Documents.

No Middle Course.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—The conviction is rapidly solidifying that the already strained relations of the various European powers with one another are fast becoming unbearable, and that the irksome ties and barriers must soon be swept aside with the inevitable consequence of bloodshed. The *Standard*, in discussing the situation in an exceedingly serious strain, concludes that there must be an armed struggle on the continent in the near future, or else there must be on the part of the weaker powers an abject submission to the will of the stronger. Nothing in the nature of a middle course, the *Standard* believes, will suffice, while a continuance of the present state of things must necessarily lead to a bankruptcy of the leading European powers both in bone and sinew and finance.

Important Documents.

Sir A. Paget, British ambassador to Vienna, who has been in London for several days paid a visit to the foreign office this afternoon and spent three hours in consultation with the various prominent officials of the department, one hour of which time was devoted to a private conference with Lord Salisbury. The ambassador is on the eve of his return to Vienna, and will bear with him to his post of duty important dispatches particularizing the views of the British government on the present crisis. These documents are understood to convey to the Austrian government an intimation that England will support a triple alliance against Russia, but to stipulate that the integrity of Turkey must remain inviolate.

Suicide on the Ocean.

The steamship "Adriatic," which left New York on Dec. 21st for Liverpool, arrived at Queenstown to-day after a fearfully stormy passage. She reports that on December 22nd her main yard was carried away and the heavy weather on subsequent days inflicted still greater damage. On December 23rd R. W. Chitty, an Englishman, travelling as a saloon passenger, committed suicide by cutting his throat while lying in bed in his stateroom. On the previous day Chitty was knocked down on the deck by a wave, and sustained injuries about the head which affected his brain. He was twenty-two years of age.

Judge O'Hagan Explains.

It is asserted that Judge O'Hagan's reason for refusing to concur with his fellow land commissioners in ordering a reduction of the Irish rents averaging 14 per cent, was not that the reduction was too great, as has been claimed, but that he did not regard the proposed decrease as sufficient. It is expected that the discussion to which the action of the commission has given rise, will impel Judge O'Hagan to make a public declaration over his own signature showing his reasons for opposing the decision of his colleagues.

Fears for the Worst.

The condition of Mr. Thomas Sexton, M.P., is critical. The crisis of his disease has not yet passed, and the worst is feared. A large number of persons called at his apartments to-day to learn his condition and to proffer sympathy, but no one was admitted to his bedside.

Present Indications.

Dr. Mackenzie arrived here to-day. He takes the most optimistic view of the condition of the Crown Prince, and sees no insuperable bar to his ultimate recovery.

The Official Accused.

CORK, Dec. 30.—The name of the official accused of assaulting the three young girls is Major Robert, not Major Bishop as previously reported. Major Robert has not yet been arrested owing to the fact that the mayor has been informed that the magistrates have met and taken cognizance of the case. The mayor has, in consequence, decided to forego interference in the matter and will leave the police to conduct it in their own way.

An Order for Rifles.

PARIS, Dec. 30.—General Lagerot, Minister of War, has ordered a speedy execution of General Boulanger's order for the manufacture of Lebel rifles, which was rescinded by General Ferron.

In the Event of War.

It is stated here that Prince Alexander, of Oldenburg, who has just arrived in Paris from St. Petersburg, is charged with a mission to settle the details for a common Russo-French action in the event of war.

Massing of Troops.

BUCHAREST, Dec. 30.—It is reported here that fifty thousand troops are massed at Bender, in Bessarabia, and that guns and ammunition of war are constantly arriving there.

Dismissed From Office.

ROME, Dec. 30.—The Duke of Torloma has been dismissed from office for the offence of having requested the Vicar of Rome to convey to the Pope the congratulations of the city officials on the occasion of his jubilee.

UNRULY SOLDIERS.

Christmas Festivities Suddenly Terminated in Wellington Barracks.

HALIFAX, Dec. 28.—A state of semi-mutiny prevails among the soldiers of the York and Lancaster regiments quartered in Wellington barracks. Bad feeling has been brewing among certain companies for some time. Two-thirds of the regiment and its officers prepared to celebrate Christmas in old English style. They decorated handsomely their barracks and issued invitations for a ball. During yesterday there was a great deal of drinking among the men; in fact most of them were drunk. Orders were issued that no more liquor should be furnished to Company G men, but not before the men of that company had had enough to be very ugly. From that moment trouble was assured.

At 6 o'clock the festivities and all preparations for the ball were brought to a sudden stop by the discovery that the barracks had been set on fire. The fire was soon located in Company G's apartment, and was quickly extinguished. It was clearly the work of an incendiary. Three of the soldiers were in the place at the time, and were put under guard. The whole battalion was called out into the exercise grounds, and formed in companies. Extra sentries and guards were put on duty, and orders were given that no man should leave the barracks that night. All the festivities were at an end, and the ball was indefinitely postponed.

The men were terribly enraged at the severity of the orders issued by Col. Lack, and that commanding officer clad in full uniform was hooted and jeered at by the frenzied soldiers. A mob of them is reported to have surrounded and jostled him. The same barracks were burned twenty years ago.

A STORMY PASSAGE.

The Steamship Parthia Roughly Handled on Her Last Trip to Japan.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—Advices by the Oceanic from Japan state that the Canadian Pacific steamer Parthia, Capt. Arnold, which arrived there on Thursday morning from Vancouver, experienced very tempestuous weather almost the whole way across, only one day being fine on all the journey. On the 19th ult., during a gale, the captain, while on the bridge, was knocked down by a heavy sea, and had his right leg broken. The broken limb was set by a surgeon, and Capt. Arnold is now able to allow himself to be moved about.

Two days later another sea came on board and broke in the front of the wheelhouse, severely bruising one man and injuring another. The Parthia herself was otherwise injured, her bulwarks amidships on both sides being carried away. Other damage sustained was trifling.

THE SEALING SEIZURES.

The American Authorities at Last Heard From.

Mr. Charles Spring Notified That He Can Have the Schooner Onward, at Ounalaska—Vessel Owners Will Only Accept Vessels in Good Condition or Their Cash Equivalent, the Latter Preferred.

Mr. Chas. Spring, owner of the schooner Onward, yesterday received the following letter from U. S. Marshal Atkins, of Sitka, Alaska:

District of Alaska.
Office of U. S. Marshal.
Sitka, Dec. 5, 1887.

Mr. C. Spring, Victoria, B. C.:

SIR:—I take pleasure in informing you and other owners of the schooners seized in Behring's Sea, by the U. S. S. Corwin, that on in receipt of orders from Washington to deliver to their owners the schooners Onward, Grafton and Carolina, their tackle, apparel and furniture, as they now lie in the harbor of Ounalaska.

Orders for their release have been forwarded to their custodian at Ounalaska.

Very respectfully,
HARVEY ATKINS,
U. S. Marshal, Dist of Alaska.

The above is similar to the telegram published in February last, ordering the release of the same vessels, but which telegram Marshal Atkins would not act upon. However, neither telegram nor letter are of benefit to the owners since the schooners are to be released at Ounalaska. In their present condition it would be impossible to float them, and to take men and material to "Ounalaska's shore" would cost more than the vessels are worth. Consequently, the owners will refuse to accept them unless delivered in Victoria in good order. If this is not done, then they will ask for their full value at the time of seizure, together with the price of the skins, which were recently sold by auction in San Francisco.

It is gratifying to know that some action is being taken by the American government and no doubt the welcome news will soon be received that Uncle Sam has decided to do the fair thing, and pay over the full damages sustained by the sealers in the loss of their vessels and seal catches.

The above letter is the first official document that has been received by an owner in connection with the seizures. It will be seen that it only relates to schooners which were seized in 1886. The depredations of the cutters in 1887 will have to be decided by the fisheries commission.

ELECTS FOR KINGSTON.

Sir John Resigns His Seat for Carleton—Tupper and Thompson's Movements.

Newfoundland Fishermen for the Queen Charlotte Islands—Senator Schultz Coming to Harrison Hot Springs—Chamberlain Banqueted.

(From our own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, Dec. 30.—The Premier has written the speaker deciding to sit for Kingston and vacate Carleton.

Sir Charles Tupper is in Winnipeg to-night. He joins Lady Tupper there and takes her to Washington.

Hon. Mr. Thompson goes to Washington on Wednesday.

Hon. Jos. Chamberlain was banquetted by the Toronto Board of Trade to-night, and was accorded an enthusiastic reception.

Senator Schultz, after attending to his senatorial duties here for a month, proceeds to Harrison Lake Sanitarium, where he has erected a cottage.

Fifty families of Newfoundland fishermen will be moved next spring to a group of the Queen Charlotte Islands.

PUT TO SLEEP BY AN EDITOR.

Frank R. O'Neil of St. Louis Vindicates the Freedom of the Press.

Managing Editor Frank R. O'Neil of the *Republican* vindicated the freedom of the press in a very effective manner recently. At 1 o'clock, while seated with some friends in a popular resort, Judge Noonan of the Court of Criminal Correction entered, and, calling Mr. O'Neil aside, informed him that he desired to speak with him. The conversation had not proceeded far before the judge informed the editor that he (Noonan) had a pistol at full cock in his overcoat pocket and would proceed to scatter the gray matter in the editor's occiput all over the room if he made a single movement. Calling on Mr. Ewing, Clerk of the Supreme Court, to witness what was to take place, he began to abuse Mr. O'Neil in an unwarranted manner. The judge has been criticized in the columns of the *Republican* for his conduct and actions, and, referring to this criticism, he poured forth a tirade of abuse. The editor kept his temper for a few minutes and then came the climax. He let go his left and the judge went down, but before reaching the floor he got a right-hander that put him to sleep. He is seriously hurt and confined to bed.—Chicago *Tribune*.

THE Fischer Pianos are exceeded by none. M. W. Waitt & Co., Agents.

AMERICAN NEWS.

Blood-Thirsty Circular Issued in a Socialistic Newspaper—Dun & Co.'s Trade Circular.

A Young Man Shoots Himself in a Cab on the Brooklyn Bridge—Heavy Liabilities.

Lynched by a Band of Vigilantes—Republican Tariff Bill—Two Absconders Arrested.

Dun & Co.'s Trade Circular.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s trade circular reports the iron industry the largest year's output on record, which is rapidly cutting down production. Since March last the average of all grades at Philadelphia has declined $1 42 and rails $6. The sales of twenty thousand tons of Alabama and Tennessee iron are reported, but no sales of rails. The cotton industry records for the year are larger in production, sales and profit than in 1886, and the year closes with an excellent demand and many will make well no have sold ahead. The woollen manufacture, however, is reported as the most unsatisfactory year ever experienced; business smaller and profits less than last year's and foreign agents are offering heavy worsteds from five to ten per cent below last year's prices. The sales of wool at Boston for the last quarter fall 23 per cent below last year's. The coal production has been the largest on record, but the market closes with some excitement on account of the Lehigh strike, and the possibility of the Reading miners striking. The grocery trade has been very large for the year, and closes with fair activity. Provisions hold the recent advance. Cotton, in spite of small receipts is a shade lower. Breadstuffs have risen; wheat and corn about one cent each. The year's return of failures show a decrease of 200 in number, but an increase of fifty-three millions in liabilities. In the Dominion of Canada there were 1,382 failures, with $16,311,745 liabilities.

A Blood-Thirsty Circular.

The socialistic newspaper, *Volks Zeitung*, to-day publishes the following blood-thirsty circular in German and English, and copies are being distributed along the lines of railroads and on the docks in this city by some mysterious agency. The torch and bomb must be applied. Fellow workmen:—The hour has come when the agencies of science must play a part in the struggle of the future. Yesterday it was the slaughter of our comrades at Chicago, to-day it is the massacre of six thousand of our brothers on the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad system; true, the sword is the weapon of the circumstance, but their victims perish all the same. Do not waste your force on the "scabs;" they are only the effect of the present damnable commercial and competitive systems. Destroy by all the agencies at your command the direct representatives of the system; the Corbins, the Maxwells, and the Goulds. Let the torch, the bomb, or the bullet be your watchword; let all they possess be given to the flames; hound them day and night. This strike must be made the war of the classes. Brothers, remember Chicago and your oath.

Shot Himself in a Cab.

A young man, handsomely dressed and of prepossessing appearance, shot himself in the right temple while being driven across the Brooklyn bridge in a cab this afternoon. The weapon used was a thirty-two calibre revolver. The wound is considered fatal. There is no clue to his identity except a letter which was found in his pocket addressed to E. C. Baldwin, 170 Clinton street.

Kansas Pacific Bondholders.

District Attorney Martine, in turning over to his successor a complaint of the Kansas Pacific bondholders against Gould and Sage, endorses them, with the statement that he believes the acts charged constitute a crime, and that there is very doubtful if the statute of limitations can be pleaded as a defence.

Creditors Want the Safe Blown Open.

The liabilities of Payne, Streck & Co., wholesale jewellers, are reported in the trade to be about $100,000. The members of the firm absent themselves from the store and the creditors desire to have the safe broken open to see what the assets are.

Republican Tariff Bill.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Representative Browne, of Indiana, who was a member of the Ways and Means Committee last Congress, and who will again be assigned on that committee, is preparing a tariff bill which he proposes to submit to his colleagues on the Republican side of the House for their approval, as a substitute for any tariff bill the Democrats may bring in. He thinks there is a chance of the Democrats bringing into the House a tariff bill of such a character that the Republicans could not afford to vote against, and then whatever credit accrued from the measure would go to the Democrats. He proposes, and says, the Republicans shall have a bill of their own, and then if the Democrats adopt one of the same sort the Republicans can claim that they first made the suggestion. His bill is not quite ready, but he expects to complete it in time to submit it to his party friends and get it to the ways and means committee before they have time to report the bill. In character it will not differ widely from what is liable to be taken by the democrats as a compromise. It will propose the repeal of the tobacco tax and of the entire duty on sugar, salt and lumber. It will reduce the duty on some grades of wool, or probably place the coarser grades of wool on the free list. The aim will be to take the tax off articles entering into every day consumption as far as possible without disturbing the "need" productions.

Freight Trains Moving.

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., Dec. 30.—The Reading Company's employees at this point are all at work this afternoon, and freight trains are moving as usual. The officials here report everything in good shape thus far.

Shot Dead While Playing a Joke.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., Dec. 30.—At 3 o'clock this morning Policeman Joseph Seigler shot and killed Officer Abe Smocks while passing along near by Suhrmeich's mill. Policeman Seigler saw two men running up an alley-way. He started after them and called on them to stop, but they only laughed and ran harder. Seigler then fired a shot in the air and again called on them to stop, but they still continued to run. He fired a second shot, bringing his man to the ground, and on approaching his victim he was horrified to find that he had killed a brother officer. The dead man was carried into the mill and Seigler went to headquarters and surrendered himself up. It has been learned that Smocks' companion was Officer Cahill, and that both men were off duty. There object in running through the alley can only be surmised.

Lynched by a Band of Vigilantes.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 30.—A special from St. Francis to this State, says that a band of vigilantes lynched Wm. Herring, who on Thursday last murdered his wife and her paramour. After committing the crime Herring fled, evidently trying to get into Missouri. A force of men started in pursuit and at 11 o'clock last night found him asleep under a tree near Rector. Herring said he was willing to die and regarded his deed as justifiable as his wife had been unfaithful to him. His wife was an actress before her marriage, her stage name being Julia Bennett and has been in Pauline Markham's and other well-known theatrical companies.

Chinese May Import Opium.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 30.—Judge Hoffman decided in the United States District court yesterday that the Chinese may import opium. In December 1886, the customs house authorities seized opium valued at nearly $200,000 which had been smuggled from Panama to Woo Sing & Co., of this city. By virtue of a clause in the treaty which forbids Chinese from engaging in the opium traffic, Judge Hoffman holds that the treaty is not self executory and its congress has adopted no legislation there is nothing to prevent the Chinese from engaging in the business.

Rubber Manufacturers in Session.

BOSTON, Dec. 30.—An important convention of the rubber manufacturers association began its session at Parker House this morning. Nearly every rubber manufacturing concern in the country is represented. The proceedings are kept secret, and the object of the gathering can only be inferred. The retail dealers fear that the prices of goods are to be advanced, and there is also an impression that the wages of employees will be reduced.

Two Absconders Arrested.

Two young men were arrested on the steamer "Cephalonia," which arrived from Liverpool to-day, in compliance with a cablegram stating that they had absconded with $900, with which they had been entrusted by the vestry of the town of Shoreditch, England. They confessed and gave up $780 of the money to the officers. They will be held to wait the arrival of the English officers.

A Passenger Car Rolls Off the Track.

ALTOONA, Pa., Dec. 30.—To-day, about ten miles from Bellwood, on the Clearfield & Jefferson Railroad, the last car of the eastern express, containing twenty passengers, went off the track at a broken rail and down an embankment one hundred feet high, turning over four times in its descent. John Keller was fatally injured, no one else was seriously hurt.

Capt. Edward Taylor Dead.

Capt. Edward Taylor, for 37 years in the service of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, is dead. Captain Taylor is said to have been the first white to safely enter the walls of Canton.

Assisting the Strikers.

READING, Pa., Dec. 30.—The miners held a meeting early this morning and decided to give aid to the striking railroad men. They did not decide to strike, however, believing that the company will continue the advance of eight per cent. after January first, to which date, under the present agreement, the advance holds good.

Accidentally Shot His Sister.

NORWALK, Ohio, Dec. 30.—Last evening Willie, son of W. O. Monett, was shooting at a target and his sister, Mary, aged three years, was standing by, and was accidentally hit by a bullet, which penetrated her right side. She died at midnight.

Toy Works Burned.

SOUTH BEND, Ind., Dec. 30. — South Bend toy works, devoted to the manufacture of croquet sets, etc., and one of the largest establishments of the kind in the country, was destroyed by fire yesterday. Loss about $40,000.

Burned to Death.

LIMA, Ohio, Dec. 30.—A natural gas explosion this morning destroyed an oil derrick and tanks. The pumper, John O'Neil was burned to death.

Trains Collided.

MEADVILLE, Pa., Dec. 31.—At 8 o'clock this morning train No. 8, on the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio, west-bound and running at the rate of fifty miles an hour, collided with a double-header freight train four miles west of here. The entire passenger train is a total wreck. The accident occurred near Tracy's cut. The cars are piled up in indescribable confusion, except the Pullman sleeper. Physicians and railway officials at once went to the scene of the accident by special train. They returned 2:35 p. m. and the following was learned from them: There are five persons dead and fourteen injured. The accident was caused by the freight engineers leaving in advance of orders. They were ordered to leave the yards as soon as No. 8 arrived, and they went in advance of its arrival. When Yard-master Decker saw they had gone he boarded the switch engine and, under all steam, followed, but was unable to overtake them before the two trains met. The scene at the wreck is terrible.

Another Collision.

CHATTENOOGA, Tex., Dec. 31.—Advices from Summit, Ky., state that the north and south bound cannon ball train on the Cincinnati Southern railway collided today at 1 p. m. Eleven persons, including eight passengers, are known to have been killed outright and many are injured.

Two More Cases of Smallpox.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 31.—Two more cases of smallpox were discovered this afternoon, and death occurred.

LORD LYTTON

PARIS, Dec. 29.—Lord Lytton to-day handed his credentials to President Carnot, as British ambassador. In his speech he expressed pleasure at returning to France, where he had already served in the diplomatic corps. Queen Victoria, he said, enjoined him to spare no efforts to maintain and consolidate the good relations that for many years had existed between France and England. On behalf of the Queen and the British government he congratulated France upon her choice of a President. M. Carnot, in his reply, said that he would highly value the realization of Queen Victoria's injunction, and he would not fail to contribute his share toward strengthening those ties of friendship which draw the two people together, and which are the best guarantee of the triumph of the ideas of progress, peace and liberty.

OUR CABLE LETTER.

Commercial Union as Viewed in England—Hopes Entertained of a Compromise.

Speculation as to Changes in the Ministry Again Revived at Conservative Clubs.

Serious Trouble in Wales Over the Payment of Tithes—France's Political Situation.

(Copyrighted by the U. P. A.)

LONDON, Dec. 31.—Papers of all shades of opinion, in reviewing the events of the year, express the hope that the Fisheries Commission will pave the way to a settlement of the Anglo-American disputes. The *Times* says: The Washington government has shown moderation and courtesy. There is reason to hope that the Commission will be able to suggest terms of acceptation of a compromise, and declares the selection of Chamberlain is a pledge of the British policy not to be governed by mere diplomatic traditions, but by a business-like view of the whole case.

Goldwin Smith has a column in the *Times* contending that continental free trade is essential to Canadian prosperity. Goldwin Smith's utterances on this subject are so numerous as to attract much attention.

The *Times* says nothing. The *St. James' Gazette* voices the feeling of a large section of Englishmen in saying that Goldwin Smith implores Englishmen and Canadians to give up the struggle against nature and quietly permit Canada to drift towards its greater neighbor.

Goldwin Smith, writing from Toronto, says the attempt to detach Canada, commercially, from her continent is a hopeless struggle against nature. He reminds the English that their commercial interest in Canada is not only that of exporter but of investors. English investments there, he says, are estimated at $500,000,000. Canadian railways have been built with English money, none of which yet has paid a dividend on original stock. Whatever increases the

PROSPERITY OF CANADA;

Therefore, as must commercial union, will add to the value and security of the English investments. Smith's views are only shared in England by a small section of advanced thinkers. Canada is no longer depending on England, except in name, but the ideas are a great potency in England's politics and probably the majority of the people like to think of a vast country like Canada as being under their rule, even if only nominally, and in spite of the fact that Canada levies duties on British goods. Speaking recently to a prominent politician, and practically the leader of the advanced section of liberals in the House of Commons, on this question, was asked what he thought would be the probable effect of a serious attempt to establish commercial union. "Personaly," he said, "I approve of it as a natural, rational proceeding. The talk of some Canadians about their loyalty, etc., is all humbug and stuff as far as we are concerned it is an empty phrase, but under the shelter of it they shirk the legitimate responsibility of the defence of their own country, and look to England instead of relying on their own manhood." Views like these, however, if publically uttered, would cause a great outcry and nobody could foresee the consequences. One thing is certain that all parties are agreed that commercial union would be practically the annexation of Canada to the United States.

THE CROWN PRINCE'S CONDITION.

Dr. Mackenzie in an interview to-day in regard to the condition of the Crown Prince, said he was pleased with the condition of the patient and he himself had never admitted that the disease was cancer. He had merely stated in November that the new growth which he then discovered in the Prince's throat was cancer-like in appearance and nature. The doctor said that a microscopic test, which could alone ascertain the nature of the disease, had so far shown that the growth was not malignant. The symptoms noticed last November have entirely passed away. "The disease," said the doctor, "is very puzzling; if it is not cancer, it certainly is a very protracted malady."

CHANGES IN THE MINISTRY.

Speculation as to the possible changes of the Ministry is again revived at the Conservative clubs, but there is no longer a talk of any important accession from outside. The latest report is that Balfour and Smith will exchange offices before the meeting of Parliament. Balfour has had a fatiguing season of Irish work, and in the eyes of a large number of his friends he has given proof of his qualities, which will be urgently called for in leading the House in the coming session. Smith has been credited with making a special study of the land-purchase question and with holding definite views as to the proper solution of it, which in the main are approved of by his colleagues in the cabinet, while Balfour has given no conspicuous indications of a financial capacity. Certainly the present leader of the House would be likely to fare badly under persistent "cackling" of Irish members, but he would have the assistance of Col. King-Harmon as Balfour has had in the past. What gives importance to the report is the evidence it affords that the "dead set" which was made against Smith's leadership last session in certain conservative quarters is likely to revive. Everybody admits the arbitrary and coolness with which he has discharged his duties during a trying session, but in the eyes of the younger Conservatives, who are disposed to look on Balfour as their

"RISING HOPE,"

he was far too tolerant, not merely towards the Irish members, but towards the general body of the Opposition. Next session will be one of strong measures against every form of obstruction or delay, and a strong man will be needed to carry them into effect. Since Lord Churchill is out of the race, Balfour, who cannot be accused of carrying courtesy towards his opponent to the point of weakness, seems to be indicated by a pretty general consent as the proper man for the task. In these quarters Mr. Goschen as the leader would be an intolerable spectacle. About Lord Randolph Churchill all sorts of vague and contradictory rumors are afloat. According to the out and out supporters of the government Lord Churchill has *mute proprio* made overtures to Lord Salisbury with a view to his re-admission to join the cabinet and in his support of this some apparent evidence is given by the relation of certain stories, with regard to which it is only worth nothing as their details are a hopeless conflict. On the other hand Randolph's friends assert that not far the first or even the second time during the recess proposals have been made to him with a view to his return to office, if not as the leader of the house at all events as the secretary of state. There is something in the air and it is believed the talk of re-arrangements are connected with the developments of a foreign policy.

After shivering upon the brink for a considerable time Lord Salisbury is

ABOUT TO YIELD

to Bismarck's urgent advice and plunge into an alliance with a central European power, that is to the extent of an active co-operation of the British fleet in the Mediterranean. Still in Randolph's flight to Berlin and St. Petersburg there was no reason to think that he took a sufficiently due and personal interest in matters of foreign policy to induce him to stump the country against any move in the European game which Lord Salisbury may consider advisable. Lord Churchill fully understands that wherever Salisbury's interests are powerful Balfour's is upheld and pushed forward with the prime object of "dishing" Randolph for the leadership of the house, and quite after his own methods is preparing to do his utmost to defeat it. This is the secret of his tour to Berlin and St. Petersburg. It is now an open secret that a year ago, when he tendered his resignation to Salisbury, who then unexpectedly took him at his word and so pushed him from the cabinet, he is

NOT PERSONALLY ANXIOUS

to resume the connection. Neither is Mr. Smith, who does not forget the flouts and gibes which were flung from below the gangway at Sir Stafford Northcote and himself. But the party interests are superior to personal feelings, and if possible an invitation to Lord Churchill to return to the cabinet will be made in a few months. Every effort will be made, however, to keep him from the leadership of the House.

The announcement that

MORLEY IS CONVALESCENT

has been received with general gratification. His friends don't recollect to have ever heard of Mr. Morley being ill. His light figure and bright complexion, and his hair touched only here and there with gray, makes him look peculiarly young for a man in his fiftieth year.

In addition to the Irish troubles the government before long have to force a

SERIOUS ANTI-TITHE AGITATION

at Wales. Last year a number of bailiffs were very seriously dealt with in the Vale of Chivyd, and now disturbances are occurring in the south, where a feeling against the clergy runs very high. Only those who are well acquainted with the country can realize the bitter feud which now exists between dissenting farmers and the recipients of tithes. An official announcement was made to-day that another attempt is to be made to enforce the payment of tithes in Wales and it will inevitably result in a large amount of apprehension throughout the country. The exciting scenes on the last occasion are not forgotten and, if the rumors are correct, the arrangements made this time are likened rather to the advance of a hostile army than the advent of a few bailiffs for enforcing the payment of a debt. The most skilled emergency men of Ireland and a number of army pensioners and ex-policemen have been engaged and further that, the home secretary has promised both civil and military help on all occasions when it is needed. The inevitable result must be a readjustment of the question of tithes and within a reasonable time.

The change in the appearance of European affairs is only on the surface.

THE DANGER OF WAR

has been exhibited the whole year and the only new point in the situation of moment is, that relations between the powers are more plainly visible than they have been for some time past. The prospect is now as peaceable as it was last winter, or in the spring, though, unfortunately, very little comfort can be derived from this fact. France and Russia are still to a large extent unknown factions in the diplomatic calculation. France, indeed, has passed, with wonderful quietness, through the prolonged crisis which threatened a year ago and threw all Europe into confusion, but no one in France or elsewhere is convinced that the calm which is apparent there now is the result of the removal of the causes of disturbance. On the contrary, it represents exactly the same sort of tacit agreement between French political parties to postpone a conflict which for some years marked the international relations between Russia and Austria. There is on one side M. Ferry, representing the traditions of the Government, not without perhaps suspicion on the part of his enemies, but monarchial camp is next in the field, while opposed to this school of ideas is that of M. Clemenceau, behind whom, whether he lives or not, are Rochefort and his friends, apostles of the Commune. The position is that of a compromise. Ferry is in the back ground and the radicals are excluded from the ministry. Ferry is biding his time, but the

RADICALS ARE IMPATIENT.

The radicals by voting in a body for Carnot placed him in the presidential chair, and they are annoyed that he called on Rouvier, Fallieres and Tirard to form a ministry to the exclusion of their own party. Thus Tirard's cabinet holds office during the pleasure of the Right and Left, that is, so long as neither of the extreme sections cares to turn them out. Their programme contains a series of neutral measures to which no party objects and which may be very good for France if they are not carried out. From a European point of view, the danger to be apprehended from France is not from the intentions of the ministry, but from the uncertainty of its retention in power and the absolute impossibility of the following of what will succeed it in the east.

The danger of war comes from Russia as there are no indications on her part to

ABANDON THE POLITICAL AIMS

which bring her into opposition with Austria. Russia still aims at the position of supremacy in the Balkans, which is incompatible with the existence of Austria as a great power. This is really an unsettled question, and until it has been answered there will be no assurance of peace in Eastern Europe. Alliances and diplomacy may postpone the struggle or affect its condition. They cannot do more, and in all probability the present generation would not see, indeed, the ultimate settlement of the question of the Balkans and of Constantinople, but the decision whether the future development of the southern Sclavs should take place under Russian or under Austrian influence.

A DAINTY PIE FOR A VEGETARIAN.

Very gently fry about two dozen mush rooms in a little salt butter until they send forth a delicious aroma, then put them into a pie-dish with the following accompaniments. Salt and pepper, a wine glass of cream, two of port and quite a tumbler of tomato juice, or peeled slices of that fruit. Cover with a very light puff paste and bake.—*London Truth.*

PARLIAMENT POSTPONED.

The Session to be Delayed Until February 23rd.

"The Colonist" Authorized by Sir John to Declare Major Prior the Conservative Candidate.

The C. P. R. Onderdonk Contract Claim to be Arbitrated Upon Immediately—Chancellor Baird, Mr. C. C. Gregory, and Mr. Thos. C. Keefer Appointed Arbitrators.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, Dec. 31.—At the request of Sir Charles Tupper the proclamation for summoning the Dominion Parliament for the dispatch of business for 31st January has been cancelled and the session is further postponed until the 23th of February. Sir Charles, it appears, is hopeful of succeeding in making some arrangement with the United States in regard to the fisheries question. He wants as much time as possible for the negotiations.

The Canadian Pacific claim, arising out of the Onderdonk section, will go to arbitration immediately. Chancellor Baird, Mr. C. C. Gregory, of Nova Scotia, and Mr. Thos. C. Keefer, C. M. G., are appointed arbitrators. It is hardly thought that it will be necessary to go over the line, Gregory and Keefer having visited British Columbia last year.

Sir John authorizes THE COLONIST to state that Major Prior is the government candidate for the Victoria vacancy.

A Happy New Year.

SMALLPOX.

The Authorities of San Francisco Grossly Negligent of their Duty.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 29.—The procession of smallpox sufferers along the crowded sidewalks of Kearney street continues without cessation. This morning the turnkey at the city prison expressed neither horror nor surprise when a man all broken out with disease presented himself at the bars and remarked that he had the smallpox. He was directed to the health officer at the new city hall, where he could obtain a permit to enter the Twenty-sixth street hospital. When last seen the stranger was threading his way among the crowds on Kearney street. This criminal carelessness on the part of public officials is due to a conflict of authority between the police and health departments. Four cases of smallpox were discovered this morning in the Central house, the victims being men aged respectively 19, 20, 30 and 40 years. Sixty-seven smallpox patients have been sent to the Twenty-sixth street hospital this month against thirty-three last month. The board of health held a lengthy session to-day, and adopted a resolution to the effect that it was the sense of the meeting that smallpox was an epidemic in the city. Six additional health inspectors and six additional vaccination examiners were appointed and better provisions made for conveying the patients to the hospital.

QUARANTINED GUESTS ESCAPES.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 30.—One new case of smallpox was discovered in the Central house this morning. Three new cases were discovered in various parts of the city. The Central house, which was quarantined by the board of health yesterday, is the object of much attention. There were 150 lodgers in the building yesterday. During last night and early this morning a large number managed to escape in various ways, through windows and a balcony in the rear part of the house. Only 25 persons are now confined, and all means of escape have been shut off.

THE CROFTERS ANXIOUS

To Come to British Columbia in Hundreds—Begg Meeting With Great Success.

Another Member of the "Fairty of Purity" Unseated for Bribery—Edwards of Russell the Victim—Senator Schultz to be the Next Governor of Manitoba and Joseph Royal M.P. of the Northwest Territories.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, Dec. 29. — The Dominion Government has received full particulars of the negotiations between Mr. Alex. Begg representing British Columbia and the federal authorities on the Crofter question. A special *Empire* cable says that Mr. Begg is meeting with great success in the Highlands. Hundreds of the Crofters are anxious to go to British Columbia.

Edwards, Liberal member for Russell, was unseated to-day for bribery by agents.

It is understood that Senator Schultz will be the next governor of Manitoba, and Joseph Royal, M.P., of the Northwest Territories, but the appointments, as intimated, will not take place until May.

The Hon. Joseph Chamberlain left for Toronto to-day.

LATE CANADIAN NEWS.

ONTARIO.

The government are said to have decided that next season assisted passages will be granted to only agricultural laborers and domestic servants going to Manitoba, the Territories and to British Columbia.

Diphtheria and typhoid fever are prevailing to an alarming extent in the section around Ottawa. Every town or village is afflicted by either one or both of these epidemics, and the death rate during the month just closing from these causes is unprecedented. The water works and drainage system of the capital, which were constructed at an enormous cost, have been found defective.

Mr. Henry J. Morgan, says the Ottawa *Free Press*, states that yesterday a reporter from the *Evening Journal* represented to him that the *Free Press* was about to reproduce certain statements reflecting upon him which appeared in the New York *Herald* with comments, and on the strength of this misrepresentation he was induced to make a statement respecting the charges of irregularity preferred against him with reference to the charges published in the New York *Herald*. Mr. Morgan says the article is full of misstatements and exaggerations, and is evidently the work of some violent personal enemy. He has never been at Newport in his life and has not been to Old Orchard, except for a few hours last summer, in three years. He had gone to the latter place, like others, for recreation, and while there had lived very quietly and indulged in no "high living or dissipation." In this respect he had followed his usual course. As regards debts, unfortunately he was not free from them, but he had labored hard in recent years to overcome them and had partially succeeded. As regards the misunderstanding respecting the issue of his pay list cheque, he says the matter is now in the hands of his official, who he believes will render him justice. In the meantime he asks his friends to exercise forbearance. Mr. Morgan also states that he intends taking an action for libel against the New York *Herald*.

A case is now pending at Osgood Hall, Toronto, before an official referee, which will probably prove the most sensational one that has ever been known for many years. The case is that of Monoghan *vs.* Monoghan. The plaintiff is a Miss Catherine Monoghan, a young lady of good appearance and about 22 years old. Defendant is her father, who is an *attache* of the Toronto post office. On January 9th, 1887, Miss Monoghan's mother died, leaving her the estate bringing her an annual income. The complaint is that her estate was not properly administered, and that she was the victim of a conspiracy by which she was detained in a lunatic asylum in Buffalo for two weeks. She was discharged by the visiting doctors of the institution in April last. She was staying at a New York hotel with another Toronto lady when a telegram from Toronto called the latter home, and Mr. Monoghan proceeded to that city, bringing home his daughter. This is said to have been part of the plot. When the father and daughter got to Buffalo they engaged rooms and stopped several hours waiting for the through train to Toronto. During the afternoon they went out for a drive and made a tour of the city, stopping at a large building, which they entered, the young lady supposing they were going to visit it. The place was an asylum, where she was detained for some time. One of the executors of the estate is Miss Monoghan's father. The story of plaintiff is that her father and others sought to incarcerate her in order to control her income.

QUEBEC.

Ex-Alderman Gormain Guay died suddenly at St. Roch's.

Fire in the Granite woollen mills, St. Hyacinthe, did $1,500 damage.

Federal election petitions in Quebec Centre, Quebec county and Montmorenci have been dismissed.

A heavy snowstorm set in at Quebec on the 28th inst., and continued throughout the next day and night with unabated fury. In some places the snow drifted seven or eight feet.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company's earnings for the week ending December 21st, were $264,000; for the same week last year $198,000. The above does not include the earnings on the South Eastern railway.

Archbishop Fabre has issued a mandement asking all Roman Catholics within his diocese to offer up prayers for the restoration of the temporal power of the Pope. In view of the Pope's approaching Jubilee, Dec. 31, the Archbishop appointed Sunday as a special day for the offering of prayers by the faithful in honor of this event, which will be celebrated by imposing and impressive ceremonies in every Catholic church throughout the world.

Another *coup* of Liberal election tactics ended in the voiding of the L'Assomption election case, Gauthier. The sitting member [illegible] corruption [illegible] seized his wife [illegible] to prevent probably [illegible] election will again be Richer and Gauthier. The evidence in this case again revealed the general use of liquors at election times. Treats were paid for and money given to buy provisions, which included gin and beer. Several witnesses testified that Nazaire Bourgoin, advocate of Montreal, offered $10 to one Michael Gibonleau to vote for his party,