The Weekly Colonist.

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HAWAIIAN ADVICES.

Minister Stevens Declines to Regard Secretary Foster's Dispatch as a Snub.

Formation of a Civil Rights League—Its Objects and Membership Criticized.

HONOLULU, March 9.—If the friends of annexation were elated on the receipt of the news brought by the steamships China and Australia on February 20 and 22, they were correspondingly depressed when the Belgic put into Honolulu, March 2, and it was found that the treaty consummated by Secretary Foster and the Hawaiian commissioners had not reached a vote in the U. S. Senate. With the exception of Minister Stevens and a few other Americans, no one had expected the treaty to be advanced so speedily. In fact, it was known that certain of the commissioners had arranged their business affairs here with a view to being absent at least six months, and the fact that so important a measure had been prepared within a few days led to the belief that the United States had formed a serious opinion as to the gravity of the situation, and were desirous of applying remedial agencies to the difficulties of the Provisional Government. The disappointment of the American party in the islands was a source of much gratification to the Royalists, and it was not long before assertions were boldly made that the treaty would never pass the Senate; that annexation was an impossibility, and the Democratic majority which was to enter the halls of Congress on March 4, would carry out the so-called American policy of opposition to the acquiring of foreign territory, and would recognize the autonomy of Hawaii, at least to the extent of agreeing to the accession of Kaiulani, the heir apparent, backed possibly by an American protectorate.

The published letter of Secretary Foster to U. S. Minister Stevens, from their point of view, sustained the adherents of monarchial rule in their belief that the course of Mr. Stevens and Captain Wiltse, of the cruiser Boston, was not countenanced by the Washington Government. It was recently pointed out to them that the flag of the United States had not been hauled down from its place over the Government building, as would have followed the official disavowal of the temporary protectorate, and furthermore that Minister Stevens himself preserved a cheerfulness that could hardly be expected in the face of a rebuff from his Government.

Minister Stevens, when seen by the United Press correspondent, expressed himself as perfectly satisfied with the contents of Secretary Foster's letter. "You will frequently find," he said, "that a judge in rendering a decision states his opinions in such a way that two-thirds of his listeners will say that he will give judgment in favor of the opposite party, yet the logical conclusion of the decision may not be in accordance with these opinions. So with Mr. Foster's letter, which I am satisfied was prepared with care, and which, to use my simile, I think, gives me the case." Mr. Stevens thought the situation had undergone no change. It was possible that a vote on the treaty would have been reached before the close of President Harrison's administration; but he hardly thought likely. The Senate might continue its sessions beyond the expiration of Congress or a special session might be called. He did not think that the newspapers which had been received, indicated that any party lines had been drawn on the subject and reviewed the public utterances of many of the leading men of both parties to support his view that they were in accord on this matter. He declined to express an individual opinion of the political side of the question, but said that history showed that for over 30 years, whether under Jefferson and the later Democratic, Whig or Republican ministers, the policy of the State department had tended to this end—that when the Hawaiian monarchy should cease to exist the United States would assume the responsibilities necessary to the preservation of its paramount interests here.

Minister Stevens said theletters which he had sent to Washington bearing on affairs in the Islands were not written with a view to publication, but he saw from the newspapers that they had been given out together with the other official documents. His letters, he said, expressed his views, although they might be open to the criticism of the Opposition here. He thought that the treaty as published was a carefully drawn and satisfactory document, and it might be that the Senate would deem it wise to ratify it ere long. Why did England, he said, take a stand in Samoa? Because she was practically forced by the cry of the Australian colonies that they were being betrayed by her inaction. So herein a great delay, if such were likely, might impair our relations with England. Canada and the Canadian Pacific Railway, which is straining every point to maintain its commercial supremacy, are urging the English Government to action, and it may lead to a protest from the Gladstone ministry, which would not be desirable. A popular vote on the question of annexation taken here would be useless, for, with the exception of a rowdy element and a few interested persons of prominence, there is no strong feeling against annexation. "I am," he said, "in communication with the prominent men of the other Islands, and they assure me that there is, if anything, a sentiment in favor of it among the better class of natives."

Asked as to the clause of the treaty relating to special laws for the disposal of the public lands, and which clause is disappointing in its terms to certain of the Provisional Government, Mr. Stevens said that any disappointment thereby must arise from a misunderstanding of the matter. The idea conveyed by the clause in question is the same as that which led public surveyors in the United States to oppose the granting of the arid lands, which yet may turn out to be the most important part of our public domain, by the territorial governments, in order to avert as far as possible the acquisition of these lands by speculators, who might control the water rights. "You may rest assured," said Mr. Stevens, "that the United States does not intend to deprive the Hawaiians of the right to their laws; but in the drawing up of this treaty it was necessary to remove the objections that might be raised at home by those who have studied the land question. Of course no question is raised as to the ability of the Provisional Government to dispose of their lands with justice and fairness."

Regarding the labor question, which is one of the most important problems that will require solution under annexation, Minister Stevens said there was no provision in the treaty for getting rid of the Chinese and Japanese laborers now here, nor for the prohibition of further Japanese immigration. A better class of labor, both Japanese and Portuguese, can be obtained without resorting to the contract system, the employer dealing directly with the employed. This is the view also taken by Minister Jones, of the Finance department, who differs, however, from Mr. Stevens in that he (Minister Jones) believes that the sugar industry must not be curtailed, and that cheap and foreign labor is a necessity. The whites of any manual ability, he thinks, would not labor in the cane fields, and the work is too severe for the Kanakas. Mr. Stevens thought that raising cane would decline for the reason that much of the sugar now used in the world is the product of beet culture.

The value of these sugar plantations, with proper roads, bridges and highways, would be vastly greater if used for coffee, ramie or fruit growing, or for manufacturing purposes under the divers industries that would spring up here, than for the cultivation of sugar cane. He thought it was the intention of some of the most prominent planters so gradually decrease their sugar output and turn to other industries which would pay better prices for labor. At all events, Mr. Baldwin, the largest employer of labor in the Islands, and who has about twenty-five hundred hands at Maui, is not opposed to annexation, while Mr. Spaulding, an extensive planter at Kauai, is favoring it. Minister Stevens said he had long ago made up his mind that he would relinquish his position in May, if not earlier, no matter who was elected President.

Through the influence of the deposed Queen's Government, the United Press correspondent was enabled to be present at the meeting at which the Hawaiian Civil Rights League was formally organized. The meeting was called at the house of John Colburn, the last minister of the interior under Liliuokalani. Seventeen persons, all proposed members of the league, were the only ones present except the correspondent. Among these were Sam Parker, the ex-Queen's premier, A. P. Parson, recently attorney-general, Charles Creighton, ex-marshal, and Charles Wilson Ashford, brother of Col. Ashford, the refugee.

Mr. Colburn rapped the meeting to order, Mr. Creighton acting as secretary. He called upon Mr. Ashford to explain the objects of the meeting as previously outlined. Mr. Ashford made a stirring speech, in which, after saying that the Hawaiians were to be annexed by the United States whether they wanted or not, he referred to the principle of free speech and no taxation without representation as the one contended for by force of arms in the older days of the American republic. He then read the draft of a constitution drawn up by a committee of which he and Peterson were members, the gist of which was that the object of the League shall be to promote by all legal means a love of country and of free representative government, and to encourage and promote such action on the part of the people of Hawaii, irrespective of race, nationality or past political affiliations, as will serve to acquaint the people of America and of the world at large with the political conditions and sentiments here prevailing, to the end that no illiberal or despotic schemes of government may be imposed upon our land by any foreign power, and to preserve to Hawaii, in her future political career, whether under the Hawaiian flag or any other flag, a continuance of the privilege of self-government such as she has enjoyed during the last half century.

The constitution was discussed and finally adopted with some amendments. When the time came for the signing of the constitution, Mr. Parker and one or two others who had not participated in the debate held back, Parker stating that he had understood that the meeting was only a preliminary one. He was not then prepared to sign a constitution. Mr. Colburn then announced that it was the intention of the meeting to make Mr. Parker president of the league. He, however, positively declined to accept the office, saying that he was going back to his plantation shortly, and that he had not yet decided upon his course with regard to the objects of the league. On Mr. Parker's refusing to accept, the nomination to the office of President was passed until the league should be established in the other islands, and Colburn was chosen Vice-President at large. He withdrew in favor of one whom he termed "a representative Hawaiian," C. W. Ashford.

The Advertiser, learning of the meeting through a half-caste reporter, printed a summary of the proceedings the next morning, March 2, under the heading: "The Black Flag, the Royalists are at Work Again," accompanying the article by an editorial a few days later in which it was said: "It is as plain as a pikestaff that this Civil Rights league is anti-American organization made up of rank Royalists, contrived to delay annexation and, if possible, prevent it altogether. It is intended to serve as the nucleus for malcontents and all who sympathize with the desire to replace the present order by the former anarchy. It is true that Mr. Ashford declares the league to be in favor of annexation. He says that it is the object merely to secure stable government. Since when, may we ask, have Creighton and the rest of these gentlemen been such good annexationists. If Mr. Ashford were himself the cordial annexationist he now pretends to be he would hardly join a political movement with these persons. This dilemma, indeed, will make no impression on Mr. Ashford, who has been on all sides in politics ever since he landed in the country, but it should prove as a warning to those, if there be any such, who are disposed to take his movement in good faith." This editorial gave rise to a warm discussion in political circles, and letters from Creighton, Ashford and others have been flowing into the columns of the local press.

The first public meeting of the league was held at Robinson's on Saturday evening, March 4. There was not a large attendance either of orators or hearers. Mr. Ashford presided. The question of holding a mass meeting was discussed, and Mr. Hopkins was appointed a committee to secure a place for holding the meeting. The discussion during the evening has been exceeded in warmth by no debates in political precinct clubs in the United States. An attempt is being made by full-blooded Hawaiians to form a club in opposition to Ashford, and, moreover, the native sons of Hawaii have been considering the advisability of taking some action as a body, the first against annexation, and the latter in favor of suffrage.

BOYCOTTING RUSSIAN LOANS.

LONDON, March 16.—The London Russo-Jewish committee has sent to every Jewish banker and bank director, bank manager, stockbroker and "agent de change" in Europe a passionate appeal to combine in boycotting the trade in Russian securities generally. The appeal is significant in connection with the fact that the Russian Government has just issued a ukase providing for an internal loan, and Russian bankers are endeavoring to extend their relations with money centres outside of Russia. Owing to the leading position of the Jews in the money markets of Europe, it is expected that the appeal, if complied with, will drive Russian securities of all sorts out of the market and work great disaster to Russian industrial enterprise. The appeal is in retaliation for the continued severity of the Czar in dealing with the Jews.

CAPITAL NOTES.

The French Commercial Treaty—Hon. Mr. Foster's Explanations—Prorogation Before Easter.

Early Records Regarding the Territories and British Columbia—McCarthy's Motion Defeated.

(From our own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, March 16.—J. R. Arnoldi, of bronze dogs renown, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment and $1,000 fine for malfeasance in office, the outcome of the boodle prosecutions two sessions ago. The case has been dragging along from court to court. An effort will be made to stay judgment, but it is not possible. Arnoldi's friends are greatly surprised at the decision.

A strong deputation of grape growers and wine manufacturers of Ontario have interviewed Hon. Mr. Foster and strongly protested against the provisions of the French treaty. It is said that a million and a half gallons of wine are raised in Canada annually, and twelve million pounds of grapes. The wine industry will be greatly affected by the treaty law. Hon. Mr. Foster said he had no idea of the magnitude of the industry. He would carefully consider the representation.

The question of the ratification of the French treaty was considered in the House of Commons this afternoon. Hon. Mr. Foster stated, replying to a scathing criticism of Sir Charles Tupper, that the latter had misunderstood him. Then the Opposition wanted to know what the Government proposed. Mr. Foster would not give a definite answer.

The Sugar Combine bill was practically killed in committee this morning by a vote of 24 to 17. Five Conservatives voted in the majority.

The Agricultural committee have decided to recommend a Government grant of $200 each to cheese factories converted into winter creameries, not exceeding four in each constituency. Prof. Robertson expects to visit British Columbia this year and give dairying in the Province a lift.

Correspondence presented to Parliament shows that Sir Charles Tupper disregarded the Government's instructions relative to favored nation treatment.

The Government is endeavoring to procure the Hudson Bay Company's documents relative to the early history of the Territories and British Columbia.

Hon. Mr. Foster announced to-day that it was expected that prorogation would take place before Easter.

Messrs. Prior and Corbould have returned from attending the Sons of England Grand lodge. The proposed new constitution and the formation of Provincial Grand lodges were deferred for one year. Both members got a splendid reception.

Hon. Mr. Foster created a great laugh at Mr. Davin's expense when he answered that the Government had no official information relative to the alleged observations of the Controller of Customs, promising the active aid of the Orangemen of Canada to the Orangemen of Ireland in resisting Home Rule.

The debate on Mr. McCarthy's motion was continued, Hon. Mr. Ives, Messrs. Davin, Coatsworth, Stevenson, Kenny, Laurier, O'Brien and McNeill speaking. At 11:16 the House divided, the amendment being defeated by 116 to 68. Messrs. O'Brien and Hodgins (Conservatives) and all the Liberals voted with Mr. McCarthy.

CABLE NEWS.

PARIS, March 16.—A choleraic disease has been prevalent in Lorent for a week. In seven cases it has been fatal. To-day four fresh cases were reported.

LONDON, March 16.—In answer to questions in the House of Commons to-day, Herbert Gardiner, President of the Board of Agriculture, said the embargo upon Canadian cattle must be maintained until conclusive proofs of the absence of disease from the Canadian herds were obtained.

LONDON, March 16.—In the House of Commons, this evening, Sir Wm. Houldsworth, Conservative for North Westminster, and British delegate at the Brussels Monetary Conference, criticized the conduct of the British delegates and asked what would be the attitude of the Government should the conference in Brussels be resumed. Sir Wm. Harcourt, Chancellor of the Exchequer, replied that the delegates would be instructed to oppose every bi-metallistic scheme proposed.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 16.—Owing to the spread of cholera in certain districts of Russia, a Congress of Sanitary officers has been summoned to meet and arrange for protective measures against the disease in the Province of Podolia, which adjoins Gallicia, and has considerable trade with Austria and Germany. The number of cases of cholera in the last fortnight of February, according to the official report, was 305, of which 59 were fatal.

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE.

First Sod of a New Railway—Waterworks Extension at Vancouver—Lumber Shipments.

Poker Tabooed by the St. George's Society—Report on the Rail Problem.

(Special to the COLONIST.)

VANCOUVER.

VANCOUVER, March 16.—The Burrard Inlet & Fraser Valley Railway Co. expect to turn the first sod at the Sumas end on Saturday next.

The 4 year-old son of Rev. W. G. Weir, died of diphtheria to-day.

J. A. Crane, of Victoria, is at the Manor House; Gustave Leiser and wife are at the Hotel Vancouver, and J. C. McLaren, Victoria, is at the Oriental.

Steamer Comox left for the North yesterday with a very large cargo.

Steamer Coquitlam left yesterday for another halibut fishing cruise.

Steamer Grandholm arrived yesterday and is being scraped at Moodyville.

The American bark Seminole sails from Moodyville on Friday for Mexico. She has on board 1,040,913 feet of lumber, valued at $8,000.

The Fire, Water and Light committee met yesterday. The following is the estimate of the proposed new work: Dam and settling basin, $7,000; side hill main, $3,000; reservoir and connections, $27,000; new twelve-inch main at Narrows, $8,000; services, $5,000. Total, $50,000.

R. G. Tatlow is expected back from England next Sunday.

The choir of the Princess street Methodist church intend giving a concert in aid of the choir fund on Good Friday.

The St. Andrew's Choral Society are to sing at Miss Monteith's concert.

H. W. Brown, of Chicago, is conducting Gospel meetings every evening at the Baptist church.

The ladies of the First Presbyterian church give a bean social and high tea on St. Patrick's Day.

A dance will be given in the Imperial Opera House by a number of young bachelors on St. Patrick's night.

Jno. Hunter and Jno. Doty returned East yesterday, the branch establishment of Doty & Co. being closed up here.

The Moodyville Mill Co. will ship a consignment of lumber to the World's Fair in a few days.

A business meeting of the St. George's Society took place on Tuesday evening. The annual dinner will be held at Hotel Vancouver on the 22nd inst. It was decided not to erect a joint building with the Scotch societies and to disallow poker playing in the society's room.

The report of the civic commission to Portland, Tacoma and Seattle is practically now prepared. In it the conclusion is reached that the new girder rail with a groove for the wheel is the most serviceable. The grading can be carried close to the rail on both sides. It was thought better not to grade close to the sidewalk, but to leave room for a ditch and space for a horse to stand in.

The Homer Street Epworth League will decide the resolution: "Man is more influenced by the love of woman than the love of gold."

A. McDougall is slowly recovering from a very severe attack of typhoid fever.

The choir of the Mount Pleasant Methodist church are to have a grand sacred concert on Good Friday.

The Chilian flag, red, white and blue with white star, is floating over the offices of W. R. Morris, Chilian consul.

The school board allowed Wm. Brown, chairman, $75 and have christened him "Supervisor." The appointment has caused considerable criticism, and has also been endorsed by prominent people.

Chinatown has been found to be in a dreadful state of filth. The tenements are raised from the ground and refuse has been dropped through the floor underneath until beneath each house is a festering accumulation of filth which has been there for years. Chief McLaren has labored incessantly for several days with little effect. Scow loads of visible filth have been removed; but the invisible filth is the danger that cannot be got at.

VANCOUVER, March 17.—Mr. A. Linton and Capt. Mellon went to the mouth of the Fraser river in the Skidegate yesterday to examine the schooner C. D. Rand, which ran ashore on her way to the West Indies. If she can be got off without much damage she will proceed on her voyage.

The survey party of the new railroad will start from Sumas on Saturday and work towards the Fraser river.

George D. Rodney, of Yale, is in the city. He speaks very hopefully of several mines belonging to Vancouver people in that district.

The Ladies' Auxiliary to the Y.M.C.A. met yesterday. Mrs. Abbott was elected honorary president; Mrs. Cope, acting president; Mrs. Beecher, Mrs. McLagan and Mrs. Capt. Soule, vice-presidents.

The following resolution was passed last night by Vancouver Loyal Orange Lodge No. 1560 in session: "Resolved, that this meeting of Loyal Orange Lodge No. 1560 endorse the action of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia in protesting against the Home Rule bill now before the Imperial House of Commons, and as we understand that another periodical appeal will shortly be made by the advocates of Home Rule, when the citizens of Vancouver will be called upon to contribute funds for that cause, we respectfully call their attention to the following facts: A million and a quarter of our fellow subjects in Ireland, loyal, peaceable, industrious citizens of our great Empire, a people whose trade and commerce under the present system of government has increased despite a world-wide financial crisis, are now threatened by an act of Parliament repugnant to their every sense. Their homes, property and civil rights are alike in danger from a proposed change which offers them not one advantage, but which would jeopardize their liberties by placing them under a government which is sure to be controlled by the Romish Hierarchy. These people protest with all their strength against the severance of the tie which has been their safeguard and the cause of their prosperity, and in unity with them we ask the citizens of Vancouver and British Columbians in general not to lend their assistance in any way to a cause which would undermine, and ultimately destroy, the freedom of the Loyal Protestant minority in Ireland."

Mr. Trendell has composed a march chorus for the amateur minstrels which has been pronounced an excellent composition.

Almost the entire police force were in Chinatown yesterday compelling the Mongolians to clear away the filth about their premises.

The underwriters in Vancouver have decided to accept no credit in the payment of premiums. Several insurance men here have been bitten pretty hard by delinquent policy holders not paying their accommodation notes.

The Knights of Labor wrote to the Board of Works that the nine-hour clause in the Potter & Co. contract was being violated. The Board will look after it.

The grade on Harris and Burrard streets will be improved by day labor.

The following is from the report of Ald. McCraney and City Engineer Tracey, who went to Portland, Seattle and Tacoma on city business: Having examined the different forms of rails on street railways in Seattle, Tacoma and Portland, on streets which have been paved with bituminous rock, and also on streets paved with stone, plank and macadam, report as follows: 1st. Owing to the gauge of the railway in those cities being 3 feet 6 inches, while those of Vancouver are 4 feet 8½ inches, the conditions are different, as it is not possible for vehicles to travel within the tracks in these cities. The tracks examined have in nearly every case settled and become uneven. With the timber set in concrete, as in our contract, this will be obviated and the track should keep in good condition. A good job cannot be made with any rail set on the tie direct unless a grooved rail at least seven inches deep. The paving along the outside of the rails was in the best condition where the bituminous rock covering was carried up close to the rail without any stone courses. For the purposes of the street railway and its passengers we believe the T rail to be the most advantageous. A fairly good and lasting job of paving can be made to the "T" rail, but with a deep girder rail, grooved for the flange of wheels, there would be no doubt of the security of the pavement. This would be the most expensive, and the question of the best rail under the circumstances will depend on how the Street Railway Co. will keep up their share of the roadway when completed, that is eight inches either side of the rail.

The average daily attendance at the East End school for 1892 was 400.

A Mexican consul is needed here or in Victoria; vessel papers are constantly being sent from here to San Francisco.

Fred. Giles was arrested yesterday, charged with stealing a gold watch from Fred. Menatz on July 3, 1891. Menatz missed $120 and the watch one night after being in Giles' company. A prisoner sent down for three years, named Carroll, confessed to stealing the watch from Giles in August. Carroll gave the watch to Miss Molasacs, who presented it to her sister in Vernon. The police sent for it and a brass one was sent. The brass one was returned and the missing gold watch demanded, which came duly to hand yesterday.

The barque Hera Morse has been towed in to the wharf at Moodyville.

The Grandholm came off the beach at Moodyville to-day.

WESTMINSTER.

NEW WESTMINSTER, March 16.—The first bonded express from Eastern Canada by the Great Northern Railway for Vancouver, arrived last night, and was conveyed to Vancouver by train.

The Government steamer Samson is to have a new boiler put in her to increase her power.

Doubts are expressed as to whether Messrs. Mead and Douglas, the two License Commissioners appointed by the Government, can legally take their seats on the board. Both own hotel property and, if they sit, are liable to a fine for infringing the city by-law, which provides that no person owning hotel property can act on the board.

NEW WESTMINSTER, March 17.—A good coal prospect has been struck at Barnet, near Port Moody, and will be worked if the vein improves in quality with further development.

St. Patrick's day was celebrated here by a grand concert at the Opera House this evening. Miss Zippora Monteith's singing gave great satisfaction.

Findlay, Durham & Brodie's Deas Island cannery is to be enlarged to double its capacity right away.

The steamer Clara Young, one of the best cannery tenders on the river, has been sold to Mr. Price, of Gardiner's Inlet, and goes North in a few days.

The impression appears to be general that the arctic weather of last month has destroyed many peach and pear trees throughout the district. Manager Sharpe, of the experimental farm, hardly expects to see some of his finest trees in leaf again.

NANAIMO.

NANAIMO, March 16.—To-morrow evening the social and dance given by the Trades and Labor Council of Nanaimo will be held in the Co-operative hall. This is the first attempt of the Council at entertaining, and promises to be a very successful effort, not only in giving amusement to the large number that are sure to be present, but in being the means of awakening a greater interest in the aims and objects of the organization.

About 10 o'clock last night a small fire broke out in the wash-house adjoining the Occidental hotel. The fire bell rang and the boys were soon on hand, but a few pails of water had extinguished the flames before they arrived. Beyond the burning of a few clothes, very little damage was done. When the fire bell rang some idiot in the opera house, whilst the "New Edgewood Folks" were holding the boards, shouted out "fire," with the natural result of causing a rush for the doors, which might have resulted injuriously for several had not a few cool heads succeeded in persuading the startled audience that the fire was about half a mile off.

Joseph Bevilockway, an early pioneer, died this evening, aged 67. He came here in '54 with his family from Staffordshire. His wife died last Tuesday.

James Probert was brought in from Northfield this morning, supposed to be insane. He will be detained in jail for examination.

NANAIMO, March 17.—E. W. Bickle, general dealer, Wellington, has assigned to W. Paterson, manager of Hull Bros.; liabilities not known yet exactly. T. Bickle, brother of the assignor, holds a chattel mortgage of $5,000. The other creditors are Eastern and California wholesale houses. There is very little indebtedness in the Province. Mr. Bickle at one time did an extensive business and carries a heavy stock.

In the County court to-day W. McCape obtained a judgment for $183 against J. C. Jones. The case has been pending for a long time.

St. Patrick's day was celebrated by a grand ball at Northfield this evening also by a social and dance in town.

Steamship Bawnmore sailed this morning for San Francisco.

NELSON.

(From the Miner.)

The concert in the Odd Fellows' hall was an unqualified success. Though admission was only 25 cents, $32 was taken at the door. Among these who took part were Mr. Chadbourne, Mr. Robson, Mr. Hamber, and Miss Stella Kane. The part songs in which Messrs. Chadbourne, Hamber and Robson, Valleau, Shaw, Turner and Whalley took part were exceedingly well received. Messrs. Rolfe and Turner were accompanists.

Captain S. J. McCormick, Leo Sutor and R. Gorkow own some 130 acres of placer ground on both sides of the Salmon river, about three miles above the place where it joins the Pend d'Oreille. They intend to work the ground themselves. "We have prepared the ground and will work it on a large scale this season," said Mr. Sutor. "It is tapped by two creeks. We blasted and worked through the country rock, making good solid ditches. The water has a 300 foot head, and we attained a fall all the way of 150 to 300 feet. We work the gravel through sluice boxes, over grizzly plates. The heavier dirt is carried through the flumes and pumped, while the finer dirt, containing gold, passes through perforations in the grizzlies and thence on to tables, over which it is washed by the undercurrent, to be finally separated from the black sand by contact with amalgamated plates. Captain McCormick, who is in charge of the engineering department, was the originator of this mode of saving fine gold, and we all have the fullest confidence in its efficiency." The placer ground is situated about 22 miles from Wanita landing, on the Columbia river, at the confluence of the Pend 'Oreille.

The Great Northern has had a corps of engineers in that field and it is understood that the company contemplates the construction of a branch from a point between Bonner's Ferry and Sand Point, through the Metaline country, following the Pend 'Oreille to Wanita landing, crossing the Salmon river near its mouth, thence down the Pend 'Oreille to its mouth.

DUNCAN'S.

DUNCAN'S, March 16.—H. Fry, Dr. A. M. Watson and C. H. Dickie returned from Victoria last Saturday.

Hughitt & McIntyre, of the Genoa saw mills, Cowichan, are making preparations for starting a large logging camp on the North arm of Cowichan lake.

H. H. Nagle arrived here Monday, and it is rumored that work on the Alexandra Park townsite will be commenced at an early date.

John Lee, Chinese, was charged Monday before H. O. Wellburn and W. H. Elkington, J.'s P., with carrying on a wash-house at Duncan's without having taken out a license. John was ordered to pay the license fee, $25, and costs.

H. Phillips (oculist) is at the hotel.

Jno. Cullen came up and C. Bazett (Duncan's) and Stewart Williams (Thetis Island) travelled down to Victoria on this morning's train.

Martin, a Clemclemalats Indian, was brought up at the court house to-day before Edward Musgrave and H. O. Wellburn, J.'s P., on charges of stealing chickens and of having whiskey in his possession. Martin was convicted and will spend one month in Nanaimo jail with hard labor for each offence.

Capt. Clarke will sell by auction on Saturday the furniture of Mr. Strickland Bevins' residence, near Duncan's. Mr. Bevins is leaving for Nova Scotia in a few days to attend to his orchard interests in that province.

NORTHFIELD.

NORTHFIELD, March 16.—(Special)—On Wednesday last, at East Wellington, Mr. William J. Richardson and Miss Alice Louisa Kelly, daughter of Mr. Robert Kelly, of East Wellington, were joined in marriage, the ceremony being performed at the home of the bride's parents by Rev. William Stablesmith, of the Northfield Presbyterian church.

KASLO-SLOCAN.

(From the Kaslo-Slocan Examiner.)

With a new town, such as this, there will be a diversity of interests, which will bring others than miners and prospectors. The foundation for our prosperity must be the rich mineral belt of the Slocan, but aside from this there will be work in many other directions. The saw mills will provide lumber; buildings will be needed, and men to build them. This will be the place where the majority will fit themselves out for their exploring tours. The railway to the claims in the Slocan will soon be under way. But the matter of greatest interest to strangers who have never been here is perhaps some knowledge of the kind of country to which they are coming. Mountains, such as are to be found in Colorado, Montana, Idaho, etc., will hardly be seen here, as we are on a lower level than many portions of those states in that respect, as is evidenced by our shorter and milder winters. We believe the height here is less than 2,000 feet above the sea. Mineral is therefore found lower down than is the case in localities referred to, and in our now world-famed Slocan some of the best claims are not more than two or three thousand feet above this town, a large majority much lower down. We look for great results from the discoveries this year. The Slocan region still offers many inducements to prospectors, and there is no doubt a large section in which valuable claims will yet be found—some, perhaps, far better than any yet discovered.

Mr. Tobas, who has been looking after the business of the Reco, says the property is looking well.

David O'Neil, superintendent of the Blue Bird, reports the workings going on very nicely.

E. M. J. Hall, Samuel Silverman and Consant, who are all interested in the Slocan Boy, returned to-day from their property and are all well pleased.

Mr. Fisher, of the Freddie Lee, reports the work going on nicely.

The steamer Nelson is making regular trips to the head of the lake.

S. J. Holland, of Spokane, will open up a variety theatre in Kaslo.

Archie Fletcher is getting ready to build the extension on the Grand Central.

A fine specimen of galena was brought down from the Slocan Boy this week, which weighed 187 pounds.

The constant hammer of many carpenters at work in all parts of the town, makes Kaslo the busiest town in British Columbia.

It was said by John C. Davenport this week, that Kaslo would, in three years, be the largest city in the Province.

The real estate market has been very active this week, many good lots having changed hands at very reasonable figures.

A. L. McDonald has secured the contract to build the addition to the Palace hotel.

J. J. Welsh, owner of the Cosmos hotel of Spokane, arrived last week and has purchased $10,000 worth of real estate.

Mr. Hamilton Byers has resigned the management of the Galena Trading company's business; and is putting up a handsome store where he will open up a complete stock of hardware.

Messrs. Fran & Cantuell, of Butte, Mont., have commenced a building to be used for a general merchandise business.

S. M. Mishey, of Spokane, will engage in the transfer business.

Mr. H. Madden, of Kalispell, is among the recent arrivals here and will engage in business.

Messrs. Mahoney & Lundberg have commenced work on an addition to their hotel.

Mr. C. E. Perry, Mr. VanNess and Mr. Lemon arrived last evening. Mr. Perry is on his way to Duncan City to arrange for contracts for a wharf at Argenta and the wagon road from Argenta to Duncan.

CANADIAN NEWS.

[Special to the COLONIST.]

ORANGEVILLE, March 16.—The Orange Grand Lodge of Western Ontario is in session here. Grand Master Nicholson in his address expressed the hope that the Home Rule measure now before the British House of Commons would be defeated, a sentiment that was vociferously cheered. Adverting to the annexation movement, he said he was glad to see that the traitorous suggestion had been indignantly spurned by the people of Canada, and that those who had been so lost to every sense of honor and patriotism had been the subjects of the contumely and reproach of every loyal man in Canada. A resolution was adopted assuring the Loyalists of Ireland of the hearty sympathy of the Grand Lodge in their struggle against Home Rule. The resolution was ordered to be cabled to William Johnston, of Ballykilley.

HALIFAX, March 16.—So many companies have withdrawn from the Nova Scotia Insurance Association that that organization, which existed to keep up uniform rates, has collapsed.

TORONTO, March 16.—Rev. Wm. Reid, late of Edinburg, Scotland, who is now here, has received a call from a church in the Presbytery of Paris.

TORONTO, March 16.—A movement is on foot to obtain the provincial franchise for women, and deputations will interview the City Council and Ontario cabinet on the matter.

BRANDON, March 14.—A fire broke out in the rear of Stockton's tailor shop last night. Mrs. Hardie, milliner; H. Choan, barber, and L. Stockton are losers by the fire. Their shops and contents were damaged badly. The total loss will be about $3,000, mostly covered by insurance. John Dickinson, owner of the building, is also a loser of about $1,000.

NEWMARKET, March 16.—The high school here has been destroyed by fire with all its contents. Loss $7,000, partly insured.

CAYUGA, March 16.—A man named McFayden residing here, yesterday locked himself in his house, then shot himself and set the building on fire, subsequently perishing in the flames. Several persons attempted to enter the building, but McFayden fired on them, compelling them to desist. He was temporarily insane.

KINGSTON, March 16.—It is proposed to use the funds collected for a Macdonald monument in erecting a memorial building in which there shall be a Public Reading Room and Board of Trade rooms and a large bust of the late Premier.

TORONTO, March 16.—The Empire's Montreal correspondent says: "There is rumor in Montreal ecclesiastical circles to the effect that Mgr. Tache, the Venerable Archbishop of St. Boniface, had asked the Roman Catholic authorities to appoint a coadjutor, and that Rev. Father Langevin, director of Theological studies at the college of Ottawa will be tendered the honor in question.

HALIFAX, March 16.—The Transatlantic steamer Sarnia, with 800 passengers and a valuable cargo of general merchandise, is now five days overdue, and alarm is felt for her safety.

TORONTO, March 16.—The funeral of the late Lady Mowat took place this morning from the residence of Sir Oliver Mowat, St. George street, to Mount Pleasant cemetery. The funeral was of a private nature, but was nevertheless largely attended by departmental officers and others desirous of showing their respect for the Attorney-General and their sympathy with him in the loss he had sustained. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. Principal Caven, of Knox College, Rev. Prof. Mowat, of Kingston, and Rev. Dr. McLaren.

THE FLAG ATTACKED.

NEW YORK, March 16.—A special to the Evening Post says: "There was an exciting scene in Dublin yesterday. After the Unionist meeting three hundred Trinity collegians paraded the streets bearing the British ensign. A large and menacing crowd followed, yelling "Tear it up!" and singing the "Boys of Wexford." The students, armed with cudgels, repulsed the ugly rushes of their opponents, who, however, seized the flag. At Grafton street a sharp struggle occurred until the flag was recaptured and the collegians entered the college. There were several skirmishes later in the evening. The police finally dispersed the rival factions.