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"Scotch," old and mellow..$1.00
cotch," pure and wholesome. $1.00
rish," the favorite, per bot. $1.00
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42 Government Street.

MARRIED.

UTLER—On Saturday, 19th inst., e residence of the Rev. R. B. Wm. McKay, of Victoria, to es Butler, of London, England.

D-CUTLER—At Vancouver, on 22nd, by Rev. C. H. M. Sutherland, Harford and Miss Mabel C.

EID—At Vancouver, on Dec. 22nd, v. R. G. MacBeth, John d and Miss Annie Doherty.

SON-BEADLESTON—At Ladner, c. 16th, by Rev. Thomas Oswald, s Reive Patterson and Miss Anna Beadleston.

DIED.

DS—At Vancouver, on Dec. 22nd, W. Edwards, aged 64 years.

t Vancouver, on Dec. 21st, W. C. aged 23 years.

—At Vancouver, on Dec. 20th, Clarke, aged 82 years.

K OF THE JULIA PLANTE.

lark night on Lac St. Pierre,
she blow, blow, blow,
ew of de wood scow Julia Plante
t' an' run better—
in' she blow lak' hurricane,
he blow some more,
ew bus' up on Lac St. Pierre,
ent from the shore.

ne walk on de front deck,
de bun' deck, too—
e crew from up de hole,
de cook also.
he's name was Rosie,
e from Montreal,
ber maid on lumber barge,
rande Lachine Canal.

he blow from nor'-eas'-wes',
win' she blow, too,
e cry, "Mon chere captinne,
e, w'at I shall do?"
aptinne throw de big ankerre,
de scow she dreef,
e can't pass on de shore,
e los' hees skeef.

was dark lak' wan black cat,
run high an' fas',
captinne tak' de Rosie girl
her to de mas',
he tak' de life preserve,
p off on de lak',
"Good-bye, ma Rosie dear,
own for your sak'!"

ning very early,
a-pas' two—three—four—
me—scow—an' de poor Rosie
rpses on de shore.
in' she blow lak' hurricane,
she blow some more,
ow bus' up on Lac St. Pierre,
pent from de shore.

Moral.

ood wood scow sailor man
rning by dat storm,
marry some nice French girl,
on wan beeg farm,
an blow lak' hurricane,
ss' she blow some more,
get drown-on Lac St. Pierre,
you stay on shore.

LLIAM HENRY DRUMMOND.

OUR FORE-FATHERS.

Buffalo Express.

on the subject that man is de-
rom the monkey, the Boston
s out to know what the monkey
nded from, and thinks maybe
is the answer. Well, then, what
f life descended from? Might as
this question of ancestry set-

HE UNREGENERATE.

Toronto Star.

ation of the W. C. T. U. and
es who persist in praying for
s called to a case of conscience
sm. Two London editors have
for refusing to write Joe Cham-
torials.

s a game, is said to have origin-
the Greeks, and to have been
at the Olympic games 700 B.C.
ly loss by wear in British gold
8,000.

eid, of Matchosin, is in the
ng at the Dominion.

AN ADJOURNMENT OVER VACATION

TRIAL OF WILL CASE TO RESUME TUESDAY

J. J. Agnew Says He Complained of the Wedding Being a Very Dry One.

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

The Hopper-Dunsmuir trial progresses slowly. The defence have a great number of witnesses, and these are subjected in turn to a most searching cross-examination.

Upon court resuming yesterday afternoon the cross-examination of Mr. Nevin was continued by L. P. Duff, K. C. The witness, with the plan of the San Leandro estate before him, was questioned as to the physical character of the ground, the buildings, etc. There were two reservoirs, one at an elevation of about 200 feet, holding from 175,000 to 200,000 gallons. The water is conveyed from this to a small reservoir of about 500 gallons, and the water supply is all got from that. The artesian wells supply the reservoirs. They are not used for purposes of irrigation. The water for irrigation was supplied by the Coster County Water Company. A supply was got by a pipe line from a lake belonging to the water company. The lake was about a mile away. It was installed a few months ago. It cost about $40 or $50 a month. The initial cost was about $300 for installing. The Coster County Water Company supplied Oakland city with water. If water from it could be taken into the small reservoir there would be no need of getting the supply from the artesian wells. The artesian well system was installed about the beginning of 1900 or the latter part of 1899. It kept one man running the machinery. The County Coster water supply was got in because it was thought it would be cheaper. He had a conversation with Mrs. Hopper when Mr. Elkins was present in 1903. He might have said in 1902 to Mrs. Hopper when Judge Coyne and Mr. Elkins was present that he never expected to see Mr. Dunsmuir again, when the latter left in 1899. He swore positively that he never told Mrs. Hopper when Judge Coyne was present in 1902 that Mr. Dunsmuir very rarely went to San Francisco alone.

About a year ago he first talked with Mr. Lowe about this case. He saw Mrs. Hopper and Judge Coyne in June of this year. He did not tell them that he was not coming up to Victoria to give evidence in this trial.

He had not made up his mind when he saw them that he would come up. They did not want him to come up. He did not say that he could not afford to offend Mr. Lowe, whom he might have to work for again. He never told Mrs. Hopper that he could not appear as a witness for her because he could not afford to offend Mr. Lowe.

He remembered Dr. Thorn coming to San Leandro while Mrs. Hopper and Judge Coyne were present in 1902.

He could not remember discussing Alexander Dunsmuir with Mrs. Hopper in December, 1901.

He remembered E. P. Ward, of New York, coming to San Leandro about 1902. Mr. Ward said that he was representing Mrs. Hopper in connection with the will of Alexander Dunsmuir. He knew that Mr. Ward and Mrs. Hopper represented that they trusted him in this matter.

Witness denied that he had ever told Judge Coyne that he did not think that Mrs. Dunsmuir knew that Wilson & Wilson were appearing as the solicitors of James Dunsmuir. He knew that Mrs. Hopper paid the deficit in connection with carrying on the affairs of the estate.

Witness made a statement to Mr. Thorn, the attorney, and signed it. In June, 1903, he told Judge Coyne and Mrs. Hopper that he had given this statement. He told Judge Coyne this, but he could not remember whether he was asked concerning it first or not. He told Judge Coyne he might come up to give evidence. He had not made up his mind in that matter.

A statement made by a maid Louisa had been brought out to him to read over.

Re-examined by A. P. Luxton, witness said that it had been suggested to him by Judge Coyne that he might appear as a witness for his side. Judge Coyne said he might be taken back to New York and be provided for. This was in 1902.

Jas. Taylor, a "forty-niner," who lived at Oakland, had sold Dunsmuir coal in that city. He dealt in all kinds of coal. He knew Alexander Dunsmuir from about 1871. He saw him last on the 21st of December, 1899. He had seen him quite frequently. During 1899 he saw him about twice a week. He had visited him at San Leandro, his office, on the train and in the Grand Pacific hotel. Alexander Dunsmuir was sometimes sick at the Grand hotel. He went to see him there on one occasion, and he said he was living on buttermilk. He had visited at San Leandro and told of Alexander Dunsmuir taking an interest in everything about the place. Sometimes witness stayed over night, and often went back with Alexander Dunsmuir, who would then be going to San Francisco.

Witness had noticed no change in Alexander Dunsmuir from the earlier days of his acquaintance until the later years. He talked just as clear on business.

After a trip to Victoria about October, 1899, Alexander Dunsmuir had asked all about Comox, Departure Bay and Nanaimo, and remembered all about these places.

Witness attended the wedding. He had made arrangements for the license and for the parlor at the inn at San Pablo. Before the ceremony Alexander Dunsmuir said he was a little nervous. They had gone in and got a little whiskey, witness pouring it out.

He told of purchasing the barque Oreole from Alexander Dunsmuir, and told of the business conversations concerning it. Alexander Dunsmuir had also spoken of his wealth to witness, and said that the more a man had the more worry he had. He said it would not do himself much good. It might help the children of his brother James.

After dinner at Mrs. Agnew's Alexander Dunsmuir asked James Dunsmuir for "that paper." Witness and Mrs. Lowe went into another room with him and witnessed the signing of the will.

The court then adjourned until this morning.

This Morning's Proceedings.

Upon the trial resuming in the Hopper vs. Dunsmuir case this morning, Sir C. Hibbert Tupper made formal motion protesting against the statement of defence made by opposing counsel, inasmuch as it raised a new issue, that connected with the previous will of 1898. The statement of claims made by Mrs. Joan Dunsmuir was prepared in consideration of the fact that no such issue would be raised, as proved by the statement of counsel for the defence in court. Sir Charles wished this clause struck out. If it was proposed to introduce this it might be done in the regular way, and the necessary opportunity given to him to take such course as was considered necessary.

Mr. Davis was agreeable to striking this clause out of the statement of defence, retaining the right to make a motion if necessary later on to amend the statement.

Mr. Luxton proposed to put in certain questions answered in connection with the examination for discovery. Mr. Bodwell objected to this as contrary to the rule.

Mr. Davis said he would agree to put in his questions, preparing them so as to show to what questions put in by the plaintiff they were to be regarded as an answer.

This was agreeable to His Lordship, Mr. Justice Drake.

Resuming the examination of Mr. Taylor, the witness said, in reply to Mr. Davis, that shortly before the marriage of Alexander Dunsmuir he had had a business transaction with him relating to a rebate with respect to coal. Alexander Dunsmuir was satisfied with the statement witness had, and told one of the bookkeepers to credit witness with that amount.

Cross-examined by Mr. Bodwell, witness said that this last incident had come to his memory after he left the box yesterday, and had so told counsel for the defence.

He had compared dates with Mr. Lowe after he came up to Victoria in order to find where Alexander Dunsmuir was living at certain dates.

In 1898 he could only recollect of Alexander Dunsmuir being sick on one occasion at the Grand. He understood it was owing to excessive drinking that Alexander Dunsmuir was sick.

Witness was asked to compare the volume of business with Dunsmuirs for the year 1900 and 1901 with those of 1902 and 1903. Witness said he could not do it, although he had compared years from 1898 to 1901. He approximately paid about $100,000 a year to the firm.

Of late years Alexander Dunsmuir appeared to drink more. He was laid up more frequently. That was all the change he saw. He was noticeably weaker. He was confined to bed more, and when he came out he showed signs of having been drinking and of having been without food. He did not walk around so much; he stooped a little. He continued to drink.

Mr. Bodwell asked if witness knowing Alexander Dunsmuir as he did would have entrusted him with a large business in 1899.

Witness replied: "Not if he continued drinking."

Questioned as to conversations with any other friends witness had, he could not recall any conversations which took place.

Witness when he came to British Columbia looked into business matters but little. The barque Aureole had been bought back by Dunsmuir Sons, about a year or a year and a half ago. Witness found it did not pay to use it.

The court then adjourned until 2 o'clock this afternoon.

(From Wednesday's Daily.)

An important witness for the defence in the Hopper vs. Dunsmuir trial went to the stand yesterday afternoon, and was cross-examined this forenoon. It is Mrs. Agnew, who represents herself as the closest personal friend of Mrs. Wallace, and at whose house the wedding dinner took place and the will in question was signed.

She was examined by E. P. Davis, K. C., and said she had known Mrs. Wallace for about seventeen or eighteen years. Mrs. Wallace introduced her to Alexander Dunsmuir at the Grand hotel. She frequently went to see Mrs. Wallace at the Grand and saw Alexander Dunsmuir nearly every time. On some occasions Alexander Dunsmuir would be in bed sick when she visited at the Grand. There was nothing unusual in his actions or in his ways. Witness had visited them at San Leandro. Alexander Dunsmuir's conversation in 1899 was in no respect unusual. She never saw him shuffle his feet or heard him mumble.

Witness had arranged with the clergyman to perform the ceremony at the request of Mrs. Wallace and Mr. Dunsmuir.

Mr. and Mrs. Dunsmuir had explained the putting of Edna Wallace Hopper, when a child, in the bath tub by Mr. Dunsmuir. It was explained that Edna had, in a playful way, turned the hose on Mr. Dunsmuir. The latter when he got the opportunity seized her and threw her in a playful way into the bath tub. Edna had said when she got out that she did not mind as he would have to buy her a new pair of shoes.

Witness told of lunching with Mr. Dunsmuir alone at the house, when the latter told her he was going to marry Mrs. Wallace. Witness expressed her pleasure at hearing this.

Witness told of a will being read to her by Mrs. Wallace, in which part of the San Leandro property was to be left to Edna Wallace Hopper, in case of Mrs. Wallace's death. Alexander Dunsmuir tore up the will as he said he would not consent to any part of the property going to her children. He wanted San Leandro to come back to himself in case of her death.

On the day of the wedding Alexander Dunsmuir looked remarkably well. Mr. and Mrs. Dunsmuir stayed at her place that night, and the next morning left for New York. She never saw Alexander Dunsmuir in a condition where he would require to be amused.

Witness said Mrs. Wallace was always of a changeable disposition. There was no alteration in this characteristic during latter years.

Witness remembered while visiting Mrs. Wallace at the Grand in 1898, prior to the buying of San Leandro, of Mrs. Wallace being called out from her presence for a time. Mrs. Wallace returned after a conversation with Alexander and James Dunsmuir, and said she was happy now as an agreement had been reached by which James was to pay her $1,000 a month in case of anything happening to Alexander.

The cross-examining of the witness was deferred, and the reading of evidence taken under commission was proceeded with.

The evidence of J. W. Harrison and Walter Young was read, both of whom in the general trend of their evidence testified to the fact that Alexander Dunsmuir was capable of doing business. The former is known widely in consequence of his circular issued regularly regarding the state of the coal market. The latter is a banker. Both under cross-examination had admitted that it was commonly reported that Alexander Dunsmuir drank to excess.

The court then adjourned until this morning.

This Morning's Proceedings.

When court resumed this morning Sir Charles H. Tupper called attention to the fact that it was necessary to inspect certain books. It had been found difficult to make the arrangements for so doing. Some of these books were in use and were those of the E. & N. Railway Company. The defendant's solicitor had agreed to allow the books to be at the disposal of his side at 11 o'clock on Thursday. It might be necessary to continue the examination at a later time. He had no assurance that this would be granted. He also requested that an accountant be allowed to examine these books.

E. P. Davis, K. C., said that he could not see why this should be asked. He said that Sir Charles should take the regular course by making an application in Chambers.

Sir Charles objected that this would involve delaying this over vacation. He wished, on behalf of Mrs. Joan Dunsmuir, to consult these books with respect to the transfer of the property from his client to James Dunsmuir.

His Lordship, Mr. Justice Drake, could not see how this would be material to the present trial. He admitted it might have a bearing on future actions, but could hardly be construed as affecting the validity of the will which was affected by this trial.

Sir Charles argued that in view of the fact that some of the witnesses which were being called, that for cross-examining it was necessary to have these books examined, or otherwise his case would be prejudiced. He wished an application to be allowed before the trial judge in this matter.

His Lordship agreed to hear such an application on Monday.

Sir Charles pointed out that this would afford very little time to make the examination before the trial reopened on Tuesday. He was agreeable to it if Mr. Davis would consent not to call the witnesses whose cross-examination would be affected by the consultation of these books until an opportunity had been afforded his side to carry out the examination of the books.

Mr. Davis said he would give no such assurances.

His Lordship fixed Monday as the time for the hearing of the application.

The cross-examination of Mrs. Agnew was then proceeded with by L. P. Duff, K.C.

Witness knew that Alexander Dunsmuir and Mrs. Wallace were not married. Mrs. Wallace gave her to understand that they were going to be married. Witness did not know that she would not have remained intimate with Mrs. Wallace even if she did not understand that they were to be married. Mrs. Wallace told her that Mr. Dunsmuir had not married her because he was afraid of his mother turning him off if he did so. Mr. Dunsmuir seemed to be very fond of Mrs. Wallace.

When witness spoke to Rev. Mr. Shaw about marrying them she did not tell him that they were living under a contract marriage. She understood there was some kind of a marriage between themselves.

Witness got a letter from Mrs. Dunsmuir, in which the latter complained of witness having done something at which she was astonished, and at which she felt hurt. There was no occasion to feel offended, and witness was surprised at Mrs. Dunsmuir taking offence.

Witness never saw Mrs. Dunsmuir after the latter part of September, 1900. Once she tried to see Mrs. Dunsmuir, but was told that the doctor would not allow any one to see her. She was not told that Mrs. Dunsmuir had refused to see her.

Mrs. Dunsmuir had objected to the bill presented by the firm of Plumb's for work done in the house. There was no disapproval expressed with regard to what witness had ordered to be done. Mrs. Dunsmuir invited witness to visit her in San Leandro.

It was always understood between Mrs. Agnew and Mrs. Wallace that when the latter became married that Mrs. Agnew would not visit at San Leandro. Mrs. Agnew gave both Mr. Dunsmuir and Mrs. Wallace to understand that she would visit them very seldom, and only when they were alone. This was when they were preparing for the marriage. Both Mr. Dunsmuir and Mrs. Wallace objected to this. Mrs. Wallace gave her to understand that she was the best friend the former ever had. She had no reason to doubt that Mrs. Wallace was sincere. In September things occurred which changed the feeling of Mrs. Dunsmuir towards her, and witness told her then that when she (Mrs. Dunsmuir) wanted her to telephone for her.

When the will of Mrs. Wallace was brought in the latter part of 1898 or the early part of 1899 Mrs. Wallace was ill in the Grand. The will was signed by Mrs. Wallace, and witnessed by Capt. Freeman and witness. It was handed to Alexander Dunsmuir, who read it, tore it up and threw it in the fire. Mr. Dunsmuir said that he wanted the property to be given to him. He wanted a free deed gift. He said he wanted no will, but a free gift. He seemed to be put out with respect to the will. Witness was not surprised that Mrs. Wallace left the property to Mrs. Hopper.

When witness called at the Grand to see Mrs. Wallace she saw Alexander Dunsmuir frequently in bed. Whenever Mrs. Wallace told her, the cause of his being in bed was drink.

Witness had got a card from Mr. Lowe to go and see Mr. Thorn. She knew Mr. Lowe, one of the sons of witness had been employed for about three years in the office of R. Dunsmuir & Sons. He had remained in the office until March of this year. Her son handed her Mr. Thorn's card, and said the latter wanted to see her. She knew a case was pending. Mr. Hineman had spoken to her about the case, having come to her house with a stenographer. Witness said that she disapproved of Mrs. Hopper's action in dragging her mother's name into the case. That she loved Mrs. Wallace as her own daughter. Witness had refused to allow a stenographer to take down her words. She had sent him out of the house.

Witness in December, 1901, had said to Mamie Howe that she disapproved of Mrs. Hopper taking this action on account of her mother's name. She could not recollect that she had said to Mamie Howe that two words from her (witness) would settle this case one way or the other. "Who was I to settle the case?" she replied to Mr. Duff's question.

Witness also recollected meeting J. M. Duggan this year. She never told either Mr. or Mrs. Duggan that two words from her would settle this case one way or the other. To the best of her recollection she never said so.

Mrs. Wallace, witness said, had anxiety at different times as to provision being made for her. Witness also urged her to have a settlement made. Upon the occasion of the settlement having been made by which James Dunsmuir would give $1,000 a month to Mrs. Dunsmuir in case of Alexander's death, Mrs. Dunsmuir said to witness that now she would be happy. Mrs. Dunsmuir said that Alexander had every confidence that James would do anything he said he would.

Re-examined, witness said Mr. Duggan was a private detective. Her son was dismissed on account of lack of work owing to the strike.

Witness was not sure whether the will was torn up the evening it was signed or the morning after.

The next witness called was J. J. Agnew, who was examined by A. P. Luxton. He testified to having seen Alexander Dunsmuir many times from 1898 on. He had been out to San Leandro on several occasions. Alexander Dunsmuir would take long walks about the farm. At the wedding dinner Alexander Dunsmuir did not drink any. There was very little liquor drunk to the surprise of witness, who "expected to have quite a time himself." The next morning Mr. and Mrs. Dunsmuir got on the train at 16th street.

In 1898 before Alexander Dunsmuir and Mrs. Wallace went East the former had asked witness to be on the look out for a farm for him. After he came back they went out to see the places which witness had selected. Alexander Dunsmuir said he wanted the place as a home for Mrs. Wallace.

The court then adjourned until this afternoon.

(From Thursday's Daily.)

An adjournment in the Hopper vs. Dunsmuir trial was taken yesterday until Tuesday of next week.

In the afternoon Mr. Luxton proceeded with the examination of J. J. Agnew. The witness told of Alexander Dunsmuir having objected to a newspaper man who came out to San Leandro.

Alexander Dunsmuir had told witness that he had done enough for the Wallace children, and he did not want either of them to get a cent. Alexander Dunsmuir was insulted by Mrs. Hopper at the dinner table while witness was present on one occasion.

Cross-examining witness E. V. Bodwell, K. C., wanted to have the time of this incident revived. It was in the summer of 1899, while Mrs. Hopper was there. It was at the dinner table. There were present Mr. and Mrs. Dunsmuir, Mrs. Agnew, Edna and himself. He was insulted, and so did Alexander Dunsmuir think he was insulted. Witness could not recall it. He could not recall the exact words. It was a slur with respect to drinking.

Alexander did not say anything at the time, but witness knew by the way he looked that he was provoked. Afterwards in the drawing room Alexander Dunsmuir referred to it, and said "Edna insulted me at the table." Witness could not recall whether Alexander Dunsmuir took a drink or not at the table. Mrs. Hopper did not try to stop him from drinking. Witness said his wife left about half-past nine. Alexander Dunsmuir never joined the ladies again that evening because of this insult. Alexander Dunsmuir did not say so, but witness knew it. He did not believe it was the presence of Mrs. Agnew which prevented Alexander joining the ladies. Mrs. Dunsmuir always liked Mrs. Agnew.

Alexander Dunsmuir objected to the newspaper man who came to take photos. Witness went for a walk with him away from the place when Alexander Dunsmuir objected to the pictures being taken. Several views were taken of Mrs. Hopper about the outside of the house. The newspaper man was believed, from the Examiner. Witness understood the man had been sent for by Mrs. Hopper. Witness helped to arrange matters for the pictures. During the taking of them Alexander Dunsmuir complained to him, and said he did not want any notoriety. The picture-taking went on, however. There was a general talk over it afterwards. While witness and Alexander Dunsmuir were taking a walk this was the subject of the conversation. This continued for an hour and a half. Witness said nothing about it. In the evening Alexander Dunsmuir spoke of this again. He could not remember anything else which he said.

Witness was foreman of the teamsters' department for the gas company. During the last year he was with the company there were about twelve teams and drivers. It was Thanksgiving Day that he went out to look at these farms as he would not have been off work otherwise. The day that he was out at San Leandro when Mrs. Hopper was there must have been a holiday. Witness went over frequently to San Leandro in 1899. He often went out and stayed over Sunday. There was no reason in particular for this. Alexander Dunsmuir walked as fast as witness, who admitted he could go a mile and a half or two miles in fifteen minutes.

The champagne was never opened at the wedding dinner. It had been sent there the day before by Mrs. Wallace's orders. It was the first wedding he ever attended where no champagne was drunk. After the wedding he said it was "a very dry wedding."

Pressed for a reason as to why the wine was not opened, witness could not tell the reason. He did not know that it was because they did not want Alexander Dunsmuir to have any drink. James Dunsmuir left about fifteen minutes after the dinner. The paper was executed in the intervening time. At the dinner only claret was drunk by Mr. Lowe and Mr. Taylor. Alexander Dunsmuir, Mr. Lowe and Mr. Taylor went out of the room to sign the paper. Witness did not know what they were doing. He did not know that Mrs. Dunsmuir knew what was being done.

Before the wedding Alexander Dunsmuir never mentioned the wedding to him.

The health of the bride was drunk in water, with the exception of Mr. Lowe and Mr. Taylor, who drank it in claret. Mr. Taylor proposed the bride's health, but he could not recollect Alexander Dunsmuir replying to it.

Re-examined by Mr. Luxton witness said that on the evening of the wedding Mrs. Dunsmuir asked the son of witness to witness a will also. Witness owned three other houses in Oakland—"in an aristocratic part of the town, too."

The court then adjourned until Tuesday.

SEALERS FOR JAPAN.

Only two of the Victoria sealers will go to the Japan coast this year. They will be the Casco and Triumph, of the Victoria Sealing Company's fleet, which are preparing for sea, and will be sailing on or about the first of the New Year. They are signing crews for the voyage and will each carry a full white complement of men. The Casco will be commanded by Capt. Blume and the Triumph by Capt. Munroe. Other schooners are also preparing for an early departure on Coast expeditions. The Jessie, one of the independent vessels, will probably be the first of the Indian schooners away. She will leave for Claycquot early in the year, where it is hoped to secure a native crew for her.

The Ottawa correspondent of the Toronto Globe says: "The Russian government have intimated their acceptance of January as the date for the meeting of a representative named by them with Mr. Little, of Woodstock, the representative of the Canadian government, to adjust the claims for the seizure of Canadian sealers in the Asiatic waters of the Pacific. Russia has admitted the justice of the Canadian claims to compensation, and the only thing which remains to be done is to assess the damages to be paid for each vessel seized. The meeting will be held in London."

The cofferdam was yesterday adjusted to the stern of the steamer Moana. It is a square box-shaped contrivance with one end fitted to the ship so that when pumped out the pressure of water keeps it in place.

The steamer Tees is due from Northern British Columbia ports to-morrow. She will bring the latest news from the disabled Lynn Canal liner Amur. Capt. Troup and James Macgowan, chief engineer of the Canadian Pacific steamship line, have gone North on the Danube to inspect the damages to the ship, and, if not deciding to remain over and see the temporary repairs effected on the injured vessel, may come south on the Tees.

GAY LITTLE BOYS OF THE YUKON

Through the short days of the long winter time Dawson is full of the laughter and shouts of little boys; little boys with cheeks as red as apples and eyes like the northern stars. Little boys clad in furs and with their legs very fat indeed from the numerous stockings they wear, big gauntleted gloves on wee hands, funny caps, fur lined, that cover all their heads save for the glimpse of face, and with felt shoes or moccasins on swift little feet; little boys who have not a care in all the whole broad world, but who chatter and laugh from morning until night, their hands never idle, their feet never still. The keen biting air fills them with vigor and running, jumping, leaping, as they always are, the blood rushes through their little bodies, making them warm and healthy and strong; and, as health means happiness, perhaps there is no place in the world where, for its size, there are more happy little boys than in the Yukon valley.

As soon as the first frost begins you may see them out with their dogs, beautiful, gentle-eyed collies, great black hounds, graceful setters, huge Newfoundlands, or the especial dog of the Yukon—the Malemute—some of whose ancestors were wolves not very long ago, and who have handed down to their progeny the fiery eyes, the sharp ears, the lean body, but, above all, the weird "singing" voice which wails and moans all night long, driving sleep quite away from anyone who hears it for the first time, though the little people of Dawson, a great many of whom were born there, are quite accustomed to the howling and pay no attention whatever. The Malemutes, though perhaps not very lovable dogs, are the best drivers of any, and very fortunate is the boy who has one to pull his sledge in the winter time.

At the very first suggestion of winter the boys begin to train their pets. This is a little difficult. At first it seems almost impossible to get them to pay the slightest attention to the "mush" and the "gee" and the "haw." The little masters are very tired, and the dogs are surly and frightened, standing stock still, their tails between their legs, or lying down heavily and refusing to be coaxed up. At such times the only ones who seem to thoroughly enjoy the state of affairs are the fat little puppies, whose turn will come next year, but who, just now, are absolutely free from care and wild with play. If they see a good opportunity they will make a dash for the rope of the cart, and, dragging it from their master's hand, will run as fast and as hard as they can, though they never get very far. By the time the snow comes, however, the little boys, with the help of someone older, have broken their dogs to the sledge. The collies seem to enjoy it more than any of the other dogs. When they have once learned and are ready in harness they are wild to be off. As soon as their master is ready and has shouted "mush," away they run with all their might, barking with delight every foot of the way, uphill or down. But it will very likely happen that Mr. Collie or Mr. Malemute will see an old friend across the street, and, if so, good-bye to discipline. Not all the "gees" and "haws" in all the world will stop him until he has dashed across the road, upsetting his small master in a snow heap incidentally, and renewed his old acquaintance; or if, instead of a friend it is an enemy, and an enemy also in harness, there is a very bad mix up, and it takes some time before order is restored. But the sledges are so low that no one is ever hurt by falling off. It is simply another occasion for merriment. A laugh is the nearest thing to the little Yukoner's lips anyway.

There is a hill in the central part of Dawson, and on any day in winter it is crowded with little boys with sledges. Down they come, one after another, four or five on a sledge perhaps, and a little girl tucked in somewhere, and maybe a puppy holding on by his teeth. Of course, a loadful like this falls half-way down or at the end or maybe before they are fairly off. But, bundled up as they are, they feel no hard knocks, and are up in a minute, screaming with the fun of it, to pile on again and start off once more. Every few minutes a vehicle of some kind goes by—one of the "company's" huge expresses, a heavy wood sledge, a funny watering cart covered with icicles, and the little stove burning away merrily to keep the water melted. Almost any sort of sledge is madly welcomed, and for the space of a few minutes the hill is deserted, while the little boys rush into the street, reach the sledge, whose driver has good naturedly stopped, clamber to the seat, hang over the sides, cling to the runners, in fact fill the sledge to overflowing, until it looks exactly as though a score of little brownies had swooped down upon it, such gay, laughing little fellows, that the driver forgets his horses to watch their merry faces and laugh with them. There is only one sort of vehicle which is very contemptuously ignored, and that is the Northwest Mounted Police sledges, driven by a convict, a constable, with his revolvers in his belt, perched on the seat beside him.

Every day some of the Dawson little boys walk out towards Ogilvie bridge, that spans the famous Klondike river, to get a ride on the incoming stages. The road winds around at the foot of a great perpendicular, rocky bluff, and the wind blows here day in and day out, summer and winter alike. But the boys do not mind it. The merry bells jingle long before the great six-seated sledge comes in sight, but presently it looms in view. The drivers, fur-coated, are sitting on the high seat, the passengers are hidden under their wraps, and the horses are perfectly white with frost. On the back, where the mail bags are, the little boys clamber, and away they go towards Dawson, well repaid, as they think, for a long walk in the wind.

There are only a few days when the little apple-faced boys are better in the cabin, and even those days are charming; for there is corn to pop over the red-hot heaters, and apples to eat from the warm store-room. And, when the night comes, they sit very close to mother's knee and, their big eyes bright, they listen to the Christmas tales that she tells them. Outside the wind howls and the Malemutes wail, but the little chaps draw very close to mother, feeling delightfully secure and warm. Later, if they wake in the night, they can hear the sitting-room fire snapping gaily, and out through the curtains they can catch a glimpse of a fairy, white landscape that the moon makes bright as day. And there is nothing but charm in it for the little wakeful boy, who finds his health and his happiness in the cold that older people complain of so bitterly, when, perhaps, they have no right, for there are millions of acres of sun-kissed land where they might live if they pleased, and it is only the little people born and bred in the frost-bound country who can expect to love it.

And love it they do, especially at Christmas time, when the air is full of the sound of sledge bells, and a mimon stars come out to light the great valley. And, in the hush of the night, the great Aurora shakes her fringe of rainbow beams across the wonderful vault above, until we feel as though we were in a fairy world of wonder; and perhaps even the oldest of us can well understand the little boy who, when asked if Santa Claus ever came to the Yukon, replied, almost pityingly:

"Why, didn't you know? Santa Claus lives here."—N. de Bertrand Lugrin in London Ladies' Field.

HANDBALL.

MORE TOURNAMENTS.

The J. B. A. A. handicap tournament, which has been in progress for the last couple of months, will in all probability be completed before the end of the month. As stated in these columns several days ago, the finals remain to be played between B. C. Pettingell, Frank Smith and Stan. Smith. The match between the two former players has been arranged to take place at the club rooms on Saturday evening, and it is expected that the final between the winner of this game and Stan. Smith will be played a few evenings later.

Preparations are being made to organize a single and double handicap tourney among members of the James Bay Athletic Association at the commencement of the New Year. Entries will be called almost immediately and all interested are asked to send in their applications as soon as possible.

During the first two weeks in January there will be a tournament (both double and single) between players representing the J. B. A. A. and the Fernwood Athletic Association. The teams will comprise six men from each club, and the tourney will last two evenings, the first part being played off at the F. Y. M. A. rooms and the second at the J. B. A. A. The Fernwoods' court has been greatly improved since last season, and players will find it as good as any in the city.

RUGBY FOOTBALL.

VANCOUVER v. NANAIMO.

Referring to Saturday's game at Nanaimo between the Vancouver and Coal City fifteens, the Free Press says:

"Vancouver, 10; Nanaimo, 0. This does not tell the whole story of Saturday's game for the Rugby championship of British Columbia, nor is it correct to say that it was a pity that the visitors did not meet foemen worthy of their steel, or that the only reason the score was not higher was that they did not exert themselves as much as they might have done. There was no moment in the game when Vancouver could have afforded the least carelessness. In the first half they only crossed the Nanaimo line once, and in the second half the Hornets several times came within an ace of breaking the duck egg, in other words, while Vancouver deservedly obtained 10 points by sheer force and brute and good play, the fact that Nanaimo entirely failed to score is not altogether a fair index of the part the home team took in the game.

"The local team was quite evidently out of practice and out of training, the one redeeming feature being the splendid rushes of the forwards, whose dribbling again and again appeared to be almost irresistible. At the same time it must be admitted that, even in the pack Vancouver played the better game, as almost invariably the visitors secured the ball from the scrum. Between the back divisions there was, unfortunately, no comparison. The Terminals worked like a machine, and once in possession of the ball regained in a moment the ground which the home forwards had won inch by inch."

VICTORIA v. NAVY.

Next Saturday a game will probably be played between the Victoria and Navy teams at the Caledonia grounds. The match will commence at 3 o'clock, and will likely be well contested. It has been arranged by the local fifteen in order to obtain a good practice for preparation for the league game to be played with Vancouver on local grounds in January. All enthusiasts are looking forward to this match. The Victoria team will try hard to beat the tars on the Vancouver fifteen on their own grounds.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

SERGT. WOOD RESIGNS.

A special meeting of the Victoria District Football Association was held Wednesday evening at the Y. M. C. A. rooms, there being present representatives from the Victoria, Garrison, Columbia and Y. M. C. A. senior teams, and the Victoria West intermediates. The chair was occupied by the president, Rev. W. W. Bolton.

The principal business to be dealt with was the resignation of Sergt. Wood, who has acted as secretary of the association for the past several years. It was accepted, and a resolution regretting the necessity of Sergt. Wood severing his connection with the association on account of his leaving for another station was carried unanimously. Sergt. Wood, during his residence in this city, has taken an active interest in sport, especially football, and since becoming connected with the association has done everything in his power to arouse and maintain a lively interest in the game.

W. A. Lorimer was selected to take over the duties of secretary.

A protest from the Victoria West Athletic Association against the failure of the Capitals to turn out on Saturday last to play the third game of a series for the championship was next brought up. After some consideration it was decided to appoint a special committee to investigate the circumstances. In accordance with this the following were selected: Rev. W. W. Bolton, H. A. Goward and C. Wilson. This committee was empowered to act.

There was also some discussion as to furnishing medals to the winning teams. Although the association has some funds it was not thought that there is sufficient to purchase all the medals required. The prevailing opinion was, however, that little difficulty would be met with in raising any money necessary for this purpose.

BASKETBALL.

VICTORIAS CHALLENGE.

The young ladies' basketball team have received a challenge from the Victoria team, which played here a few weeks ago, to a game on the 8th of next month. The local club, however, decided at a meeting the other night that it would be impossible to play in the capital any other night than Saturday, as the ladies cannot spare the time through the week. The Victoria team will be notified to this effect and the match will most probably be arranged for a Saturday evening.—New Westminster Columbian.

CLOVERDALE, 16; FERNWOOD, 5.

A junior league match was played between the Cloverdale and Fernwood teams last evening at the P. Y. M. A. hall. The game resulted in a victory for the Cloverdales by a score of 16 points to 5. There was a fair attendance of spectators. From the start of the match it was apparent that the Fernwoods were outclassed. Their opponents were heavier, played a faster combination game, and proved more accurate in shooting. Al Shotbolt acted as referee to the satisfaction of both teams.

THE RING.

SHARKEY AND MUNROE.

New York, Dec. 21.—Jack Munroe and Tom Sharkey were matched this afternoon to meet in a limited bout some time before March 1st, before the club offering the best inducements.

REDUCED RATES

Over C. P. R. From Winnipeg to Victoria on Public Holidays.

Preparations are already being made by the Victoria Tourist Association for the work of a new year. The annual meeting of the association will be held about the end of the month, when it is understood a number of new proposals for advertising the city will be discussed. The report of the secretary, H. Cuthbert, on the work of the society during the past season will also be ready. It is probable that a number of suggestions will be made by Mr. Cuthbert in reference to the steps to be taken next year for inducing tourists to visit Victoria.

During the past couple of months the association has not been idle. Some time ago the secretary drew the attention of the C. P. R. officials to what appeared to be a plain case of discrimination against Victoria in favor of Vancouver. This was the allowing a rate of one and one-third fare from all stations as far East as Winnipeg to Vancouver on public holidays, tickets good for ten days. The perseverance of the association has at last resulted in action being taken by the C. P. R., and the reduced rate tickets will now be good right through from Winnipeg to Victoria. This information is contained in the following letter from H. H. Abbott, the local agent of the company, to the secretary of the association:

Dear Sir:—I beg to advise that rates have been put in effect between Victoria and Vancouver at the rate of fare and one-third for the round trip during holidays, and I trust this will be satisfactory to you.

A PRESENTATION.

Popular Warrant Officer of Fifth Regiment Recipient of Pretty Gift.

At the drill hall Tuesday the members of the school of instruction, who have just successfully passed their qualifying examination, met, and, headed by Gr. Woolison, presented Regimental Sergt.-Major Mulcahy with a hands