# The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

FORTY-FOURTH YEAR VICTORIA B. C. TUESDAY DECEMBER 30. 1902 VOLUME LXV I.


## Nine Men The Victims

### Terrible Record of the Snowslide at the Mollie Gibson Mine.

### Eight Men Are Still Entombed Without Hope of Recovery.

### Rescue Party Having Difficult [illegible]

Nelson [illegible]—One body found a[illegible] buried with no hope of r[illegible] record to date of [illegible] shows [illegible] Molly Gibson mine. [illegible] survi[illegible] of the disaster are at [illegible]nt huddled in a tunnel mouth with [illegible]uel or clothing beyond underwear. [illegible] your correspondent left the lower [illegible]inal of the railway at 1 p. m. the [illegible]e party which has been toiling up [illegible] mile and a half of the mountain [illegible]ered by the tram since 8 a. m., were [illegible] 400 feet below the tunnel. The [illegible]line is approximately 8,000 feet up; above it is an immense glacier for half a mile, then jagged bare peaks of rock.

The slide started from the peak and and by some probably slight cause swung around the cliff or ridge sheltering the building, struck the bunk house endways, sweeping it and its occupants down a dry canyon. Of 19 in the building, ten escaped, although more or less injured. Four of the survivors spent the night in the snow wrapped in blankets. In the morning they started down the hill. The first two reached the hut at the foot of the tramway at 2 o'clock, the other men at 4 o'clock. The snow was from 6 to 20 feet deep. One man, with a broken leg and shoulder bone, was carried into the tunnel and spent all of Friday and today till noon without food or attention.

A couple of the survivors then got the tramway working and sent him down in a bucket. It could not be used to get the rescuers up.

The names of the men in the bunk house were:

J. Campbell, whose dead body was found.

T. Rouse, W. Solins, L. Broulle, W. G. Murphy, Pietro (Italian), Hireo (Italian), M. E. Hall, assayer; Chinese cook. All buried since Christmas night. D. McLaughlin (leg and shoulder broken), A. Harris, D. McCreath, J. Dunlop, G. D. Bell, J. A. Bell, W. Saville, A. McDonald, Charles Johnstone, all frost bitten and bruised. Jules Labelle and W. McGinnis were injured. G. E. Clark was in the hut at the foot of the tramway at the time of the slide and escaped.

McLaughlin was partly carried and sledded down ten miles of road to Kootenay lake, and taken to Nelson for treatment. The bones having been set by Dr. Hawkey, at the foot of the tramway. Campbell and Murphy were married men with families. The rest were single. It will probably be Monday before any of the bodies are recovered. Food will be taken up for the survivors and rescuers tomorrow morning. A stable containing two horses was destroyed, but the horses uninjured, although without food.

LABELLE'S STORY.

Nelson, Dec. 27.—Further particulars are learned of the snowslides that occurred on Christmas night, resulting in the razing of the Molly Gibson bunk house, probably the death of eight men, and the maiming of several others. The slide was totally unexpected, as since the miners first came there have been erected, no slide has ever threatened them. The bunk house, which was a two-storey frame structure, stood on a small ridge, at the lower edge of a basin, sloping gradually up to the glacier that can be seen from Nelson; below the Kokanee peaks. The mine is above the timber line, and is about 10 miles from Kootenay lake. The men who were in the bunk house, and have not yet been accounted for, although possibly some of them are alive, are: L. Brownlee, M. E. Hall, assayer, Nelson; W. G. Murphy, Ainsworth; T. Rouse, Silverton; W. Collins, Nelson; two Italians, unknown; Gee Chip, Chinese cook.

Those accounted for are: J. A. Campbell, dead; D. McLaughlin, shoulder dislocated and leg broken; J. R. Dunlop, uninjured; J. McGinnes, slightly hurt; John A. Bell, foreman, one arm cut; McCreath, safe; Harris, safe; Johnston, safe; "Billy", safe; J. McDonald, safe; Italian, unknown, safe; Jules Labelle, safe.

The first information as to there being anything wrong at the mines was received at 1:30 yesterday afternoon, when Jules Labelle staggered into the house of Robt. McGuire at the Molly Gibson landing. McGuire saw by his appearance that something had happened, and getting a few of the chief particulars from him as quickly as possible, telephoned to Nelson for assistance. A relief party was quickly formed at Nelson and, accompanied by the mine physician and the coroner, left on the C. P. R. Co.'s steamer Kokanee for the scene of disaster. According to Labelle's story, there were 19 or 20 men in the bunk house at the time of the slide. Only one shift is worked, and as it was Christmas day, they had "knocked off" at noon and stayed in all the afternoon. After supper an impromptu concert was held, which was kept up till a little after 10. Then all turned in but Labelle, and all lights were extinguished except a candle, which he stuck up at the head of his bunk to read by. After reading for a short time, he blew out his light and turned over to go to sleep. The weather was very stormy, it was snowing hard, and a regular gale was blowing.

THE SLIDE.

As he was sinking off to sleep, he heard a distant rumble, which rapidly grew louder. He knew it was a slide, but never dreamed of its coming close till a sudden crash came and the building seemed to go to pieces. The bunk house was about 30x40 feet in dimensions. On the ground floor were the kitchen, dining and sitting rooms, while the office was in a small separate building L-shaped, but between the bunk house and the main building. Upstairs the bunks were arranged in two tiers, in some of which there were two men and in the others one. Strange to say, instead of striking the office, the slide seemed to swing around and struck the other end of the building, sweeping it away. The only corner left of the upstairs, so far as Labelle could judge, was the upper corner next to the office. He was in a lower corner bunk. Johnston was in the next row in the upper bunk, and McGinnes in the next one to Johnston. The roof came right down on top of Labelle, but although the upper bunk was destroyed, he was unhurt, though there was not an inch to spare between the jointing and his body. He managed to crawl out, pulling out his clothes, which had been rolled up for a pillow under his head, with him.

CRIES FOR HELP.

Above the roar of the wind he could hear a dozen voices calling for help away down the hillside below. He helped Johnston and McGinnes out and John Bell, the foreman, also showed up. He and Bell then went down the hillside, hoping to extricate some of the victims. There was from four to ten feet of loose snow along the trail, and it was only with the greatest difficulty that any progress was made. McLaughlin was found about 300 feet below the site of the bunk house. Despite his dislocated shoulder and broken leg, he managed to partially crawl out, and then with the aid of Labelle and Bell, was finally got over to the blacksmith shop, which was in the mouth of No. 5 tunnel, a short distance away. Here they made a fire and went back to the office for some blankets to make as easy a bed as possible and to warm him, as in common with all who had been carried down the hill, he was practically without clothes, the snow having ripped the thin nightclothes and underwear from the bodies. Campbell was found lying in the snow writhing in agony without any covering. He could only moan, and had not strength enough to rise. They tried to move him towards the blacksmith shop, but in the loose snow could accomplish nothing. Bell then went for a blanket, but by the time he got back Campbell was dead, having died a few moments after he left. Johnston and McGinnes were working at the upper part of the hill, but Labelle did not come close enough to them to speak to, and did not know what success they had. McCreath and Harris were next found. They were unhurt, although buried in the snow and tangled up in their blankets. As well as they could, they contrived rough moccasins and cloaks of the blankets and started down the hill to reach the half-way camp, two miles below the foot of the tram.

James Dunlop and "Billy" were then found. They also were unhurt, and being comfortably wrapped in their blankets, decided to stay where they were, half-buried in the loose snow, rather than risk the climb back through the deep snow in the face of the storm in their scanty attire. The men mentioned as being safe were found near by. Collins was heard to cry for help a number of times, but before they could reach the place the cries had ceased and they could find no trace of him.

## Accident on Grand Trunk

### Pacific Express and a Freight in Head on Collision at Wanstead.

### Twenty Three Killed and Thirty Injured—Partial List of Fatalities.

From Our Own Correspondent.

London, Ont., Dec. 27.—A serious accident occurred last night at Wanstead station, on the Sarnia branch of the Grand Trunk railway. It was a head-on collision between the Pacific Express and an Eastbound freight.

The express was proceeding West at its usual high rate of speed, while the freight was under slow headway, and was to have taken a switch at Wanstead to allow the passenger to pass. Apparently neither engineers saw the danger ahead in time to avoid the accident, for the two engines came together near the East switch with a frightful crash, overturning into the ditch.

The accident was caused by the negligence of the operator to inform the freight to take the siding. It is estimated that 23 people were killed and 30 injured.

The following list of killed is authentic:

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Stewart, Petrolia.
Mr. A. Ricketts, Sarnia Tunnel.
Mr. J. Gillies, Sarnia Tunnel.
Mrs. Trotter, Petrolia.
Mr. Lawrence, Waterford, Ont.
Mr. S. Freeman, Oil Springs, or Hanshall.
Mr. Jeffry, London.
Mr. Glenn, Roaley, Port Huron, Mich.
Guy Depenier, ticketed to Lacrosse, Wis.
Dr. Penwarden, ticketed to Petrolia.
A lady supposed to be Dr. Penwarden's wife.
J. H. Brock, Brucefield.
O. B. Beurwell, Port Huron, Mich.
Wilson Morton, Chicago.
Miss Geddes, Carnia.
Mr. Cameron, Petrolia.
Several other bodies are still unidentified.

WORK OF RESCUE.

Proceedings at Askabad Among the Ruins.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 27.—Advices from Askabad, Russian Turkestan, says that in the country around Andijan 11 villages are in ruins, a result of the recent earthquakes, and that fully 6,000 houses have been destroyed in these scattered settlements. The weather is warmer and the work of rescue is proceeding with better results. No one is permitted to enter Andijan without a police pass.

MASCAGNI ARRESTED.

Unfortunate Composer in Trouble in Chicago.

Chicago, Dec. 26.—Signor Mascagni, the Italian composer, who abandoned his American trip while playing in Chicago last week, was placed under arrest tonight on a charge of embezzlement, made by his former manager, Richard Heard. When Mascagni decided to return to Italy he had no further use for his American manager, and discharged him. Heard claims that his contract called for $5,000, and tried to collect that amount. Mascagni refused to pay Heard any such sum, and the arrest followed.

Mascagni was allowed to remain at the Auditorium hotel, where he is living, the house detectives agreeing to be responsible for his appearance in court.

BLEW UP BANK.

How Missouri Burglars Celebrated Christmas Week.

St. Louis, Dec. 27.—The bank at Union, Mo., was robbed of $15,000 in a sensational manner early today. Residents near the bank were aroused by the sound of an explosion, and rushed into the street. The burglars opened fire and finally made their escape in safety. Their number is variably estimated at from two to seven. A hasty examination of the vault showed that it had been looted. The building had been almost wrecked. Probably 50 shots were fired by the burglars. While the noise aroused citizens generally, the gang was enabled to escape because most persons supposed some hilarious crowd was indulging in a belated Christmas celebration.

## Settling The Terms

### Trying to Make Basis on Which to Arbitrate Venezuelan Question.

### Some Days Must Elapse Before the Preliminaries are Decided.

### Germany Insists On Being Paid Ten Per Cent. of Claims At Once.

Washington, Dec. 27.—There is now in progress an active exchange of notes between the allied powers, Venezuela and the United States respecting the method of submitting to arbitration the issues which have arisen between Venezuela and the allies.

The weight of official opinion here this afternoon was that several days at least must elapse before anything in the nature of a preliminary protocol can be made ready for signature. Germany's insistence upon a prepayment of 10 per cent. of her full claim before submitting her case to arbitration, and perhaps President Castro's resistance to meeting what the allies regard as the obligation of honor, are believed to be now the sticking points. But it is hoped that this can be passed within the next few days, and it is further hoped that some arrangements will be made in the preliminary protocol for the raising of the blockade, though it is intimated that the allied ships will be kept ready to renew it in case of any difficulty on the part of Venezuela in her obligations.

Berlin, Dec. 27.—The German government is disappointed by President Roosevelt's declination to be arbitrator in the Venezuelan dispute, but, in pursuance of this decision, will correspond at once with Great Britain and Italy on the subsidiary questions that must now be agreed upon, such as raising the blockade and definite form of request whereby Venezuela on one side, and Germany, Britain and Italy on the other, will ask The Hague tribunal to adjudge the dispute. The interchange of views on these and other requirements probably will take place at Washington, where the ambassador can confer freely with Secretary Hay and obtain through him President Castro's assent to the precise propositions.

The Lokal Anzeiger's Caracas correspondent says: "President Castro is one of the few Venezuelans who do not distrust the Yankees. Minister Bowen has his confidence fully. The German wholesale merchants would regret arbitration if it leads to United States instead of international financial control. Some of them have declared emphatically that if United States control is established it would be better to transfer their business relations forthwith from Hamburg to New York. President Castro plans confiscating the property of British, German and Italian subjects whenever the blockade exhausts its resources."

The Foreign Office officials decline to indicate what Germany will do regarding President Castro's reported demand that the powers raise the blockade and restore the Venezuelan fleet before Venezuela will accept The Hague arbitration.

Rome, Dec. 27.—United States Ambassador Meyer today presented to the Foreign Office President Roosevelt's note on the subject of Venezuelan arbitration. The President says, although he is very gratified at the confidence the powers have shown in him by choosing him as arbitrator, which position he would have accepted if there were no other means of solving the question, he thinks it better to submit the case to The Hague tribunal, especially as all the powers concerned are willing. The President adds that as there is no question of national honor or cession of territory involved, after thorough consideration and in accord with all the powers concerned, who have shown an honorable spirit of mutual consideration and moderation, he is glad to be informed that they all have agreed to submit the question to The Hague tribunal.

London, Dec. 27.—The Foreign Office officials say a note from Secretary Hay similar to those presented at Rome and Berlin, has been received here. Nothing has yet been decided regarding the cessation of the blockade or the terms of the arbitration protocol.

## STEALING MATTE FROM NORTHPORT

### Man Arrested in Rossland Reveals an Extensive Robbing System

Rossland, B. C., Dec. 27.—Peter Swanson, a saloon keeper from Northport, was arrested here today on the charge of having stolen goods in his possession. His arrest is the outcome of a campaign against a ring of thieves who have been stealing matte from the Northport smelter for some time. The matte is valued at from $3.50 to $6 per pound, and it is an easy matter for men about the works to put a pound or two in their pockets. This has been done and the swag traded at saloons about Northport until the practice has become notorious. Swanson's place was a well-known fence for stolen matte, and when Swanson came to Rossland today he had about a hundred pounds of the stuff, valued at $450, in his possession.

John S. Ingram, chief of police, made the arrest, and Swanson was promptly arraigned on a charge of having stolen goods in his possession. He pleaded guilty to the charge, and was remanded to Monday for sentence. The maximum penalty is 14 years imprisonment, and in view of the facts the Northport man is likely to be severely dealt with. Swanson has not divulged the names of the men who actually stole the matte.

LATER.

The stolen smelter product which Peter Swanson brought to Rossland today consisted of sections of "sows" or rich furnace bottoms carrying much more gold and silver than ordinary matte. Samples of his load were assayed, and the value of the lot is placed at not less than $1,000. Swanson made a confession this afternoon implicating a number of smelter employees and business men of Northport in the stealing and purchasing of valuable material from the smelter. It is stated that much excitement exists at Northport, and that a number of men will leave there on Sunday to avoid the prosecutions which the smelter company will commence on Monday.

FORT GEORGE.

Historic Ruin Being Spoiled by Vandals.

Historic old Fort George, on the Canadian side at the mouth of the Niagara river, around the ruins of which cluster so many memories, has fallen a prey to the vandal and the utilitarian, and the fortress around the walls of which the fire of war burned fiercely in 1812-13 and 14, is on a fair way towards demolition and total extinction as an historical landmark.

It appears that the spirit of improvement has taken possession of the council of the town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, and has impelled them to lay gravel sidewalks to replace the plank walks at present in use. The gravel for the new walk is being taken from the old fort, to the great danger of that part of the structure that still remains. If the excavation of gravel be continued much longer the walls will inevitably collapse.

Some time ago an unsightly building used as a barn was erected close to the old fort, notwithstanding the protests of those who would preserve undefiled the associations of the spot.

Great indignation is felt that the Niagara town authorities should not only permit the desecration of the historic fort, but should deliberately become participators in such desecration.

## Murdered By Savages

### Natives of Malliculo Shoot Capt. Atkinson of Schooner Lily

### Tragedy Was the Result of Superstitiousness of the Natives.

The steamer Moana, which arrived from the South Seas on Christmas Eve, brought news of an attack on the recruiting schooner Lily by the natives of Malliculo, in the New Hebrides, who murdered Capt. Henry Asmus Atkinson, Britisher, and wounded two of the Lily's crew. The schooner was employed in taking a large number of natives, who had been employed in New Caledonia by French planters, to their homes. One of those consigned to Malliculo died when near there and Capt. Atkinson decided to bury the body ashore instead of at sea.

When Capt. Atkinson landed from the whaler, which brought the natives ashore, he was rushed and his rifle taken by the crowd of blacks on shore. He was then shot and killed with his own rifle, two balls being sent into his breast. Some of the native crew tried to save the captain's body, but the natives who were just landed aided those ashore and the crew fled, two of them being wounded as they swam back to the schooner. The attack was the result of superstition attached to the bringing of the dead body on shore, the natives believing it to be necessary to kill the whites to prevent further deaths from occurring.

The schooner Pearl was attacked on this island a few days later. She called at Espiegle on another part of the island, to land natives, when she was fired upon and several of the native crew were wounded.

The rescued captain and crew of the ketch Marquis of Linlithgow have been brought to Lancaster by a steamer which picked them up in Buss straits, where they had remained on a small rock two miles and a half from the main land without food or water, and with the sea sweeping over them, for three days. Their ketch was wrecked, close by and they ultimately patched up a broken dingby which enabled the seven unfortunates to reach the shore.

## CONDONED HIS OFFENCE

### A Generous Employer Overlooks The Dishonesty of a Trusted Clerk.

The case of Gustave Kereheimer, who is charged with having received stolen goods, the property of Turner, Beeton & Co., knowing the same to have been stolen, will be resumed in the police court this morning. The case bids fair to assume the dimensions of a cause celebre, as only yesterday additional evidence was secured which may mean the placing of another charge against the accused. It is reported that two rolls of linoleum were found in the store of a merchant who had purchased the same from Kercheimer.

In connection with the above case, which has caused more than a mild sensation in the city, a story was current on the streets yesterday of an affair in this city which duplicates the crime which was unearthed in connection with Turner, Beeton & Co.'s losses.

The story goes, that a young man who had been in the employ of a prominent wholesale establishment for a half-dozen years or more, and had gained the complete confidence of his employers was detected in flagrante delicto in an attempt to defraud his firm of a considerable sum of money and as a consequence of the expose and the leniency of his employers, has fled the city.

There is no way of estimating just how much the firm in question has lost from the unfaithfulness of its employee, but the sum must have been quite large. How the expose came about in this case makes an interesting story. A patron of the establishment a few days ago made a considerable purchase, and found, when the bargain was completed, that he had not the money with him to pay for the article. He said he would bring the money in in a few days.

"Oh, that's all right," said the employee, "but when you call pay the money to me."

"All right," replied the purchaser, and the matter rested for a few days.

When the purchaser finally called with the money the employee alluded to was out of the store. Not being inclined to wait for his return, the customer tendered the money to another clerk, saying "I've called to pay for that——"

The books were turned up and it was found that no charge had been entered against the customer. Explanations followed, and the man finally paid his money and was given a receipt.

The denouement came on the return of the dishonest employee. He was asked to step up to the manager's office.

"Mr. ——," said the manager, "is there anything coming to you from this establishment?"

"No, sir."

"Well, I think you had better take the next train or boat out of the city. Do you want me to tell you the reason why you had better do so?"

"No, sir."

And thus the interview ended.

## May Go to The Hague

### Parties to Venezuela Dispute Are Agreeable to the Arbitration.

### Certain Reservations Must Be Made According to Berlin.

### Blockaders Have Now Captured Twenty Vessels Off the Coast.

La Guayra, Dec. 26.—The Swedish bark Framnas, from Cardiff, with 475 tons of coal for the La Guayra-Caracas railroad, a British concern, arrived off this port yesterday and was ordered to remain outside the blockade line. Today orders were conveyed to the captain of the bark to leave. This step was taken because the coal was considered contraband of war. The vessel was not seized, as she left Cardiff before the trouble with Venezuela began. The captain of the Framnas is awaiting orders from his consignees. The Dutch consul here has asked for and obtained permission of the commander of the British cruiser Tribune, to send a schooner to Los Roques, a group of small islands about 120 miles North of here, where the charcoal burners who trade with La Guayra are at present without provisions or water, their sloop having been seized by the blockaders. The schooner must carry a flag of truce. She can only take provisions to last the trip, and will remove all the inhabitants of Los Loques to Willemstad, Curacao, and then return here.

Three schooners were captured this morning, the total number of craft taken by the blockade is now 20.

Washington, Dec. 26.—The notes received from the European governments interested in the Venezuelan controversy, including Venezuela, agree to submit the question at issue to the tribunal at The Hague. A note is being prepared by Secretary Hay in which the United States government announces its hearty approval of such a course.

Berlin, Dec. 26.—A semi-official note published today says: "As in the case of the Italian note, the British and German notes on Venezuela, presented on December 23, declare if President Roosevelt does not accept the post of arbitrator the powers would be prepared, subject to certain reservations, to submit the matter to The Hague tribunal."

The Lokal Anzeiger, of Berlin, published yesterday the following, evidently inspired by the Foreign Office: "The German government has excluded from the scope of arbitration of the Venezuelan difficulty a claim of 1,700,000 bolivars (about $330,000), which must be paid immediately in cash before arbitration is begun."

London, Dec. 26.—Except by the opponents of the government, who view it as a virtual defeat, and as discrediting the ministry, the latest phase of the Venezuelan trouble has been welcomed very lukewarmly. Arbitration by President Roosevelt had been anticipated as a desirable issue from a difficult business, and his decision, which is regarded as final, has caused keen disappointment. It is foreseen that even if satisfactory conditions for the submission of the disputes to The Hague can be arranged, this method will entail endless and wearisome details, with no assurance that at the end President Castro still will be in power, or Venezuela in the mood to abide by the decision of The Hague. In short, the element of guarantee which would have accompanied President Roosevelt's acceptance of the office of arbitrator is now lacking. At the same time, it is readily admitted that from the United States point of view, President Roosevelt has acted wisely in declining to act. The foregoing represents the general drift of newspaper comment this morning. The only paper which really welcomes the decision to refer the Venezuelan matter to The Hague, is the Radical Daily News, which seeks a chance of making arbitration once more a reputable theory.

## BURIED IN SNOWSLIDE

### One Man Killed at Mollie Gibson Mine and Eight Others Entombed.

Nelson, B. C., Dec. 26.—Word reached this city this afternoon that a snowslide on Christmas night carried away a bunk house of the Mollie Gibson mine. There were 19 men sleeping in the house at the time, in which one, J. Campbell, is known to be dead, D. McLaughlin had his shoulder and leg broken and eight others are buried.

A party of 18, with a doctor, went up from Nelson this evening, but nothing will be known until tomorrow as to the condition of the missing men. J. Labelle, who was the only survivor to reach the city yesterday, says that there is little hope of saving the missing men. Nine of the men are out of the slide and supposed to be safe in the tunnel.

DENMARK SUFFERS.

Gales Do Great Damage on Christmas.

Copenhagen, Dec. 26.—The worst gale of many years visited Denmark Christmas night and this morning, and has done enormous damage to property and shipping. Two boats have been wrecked off Elsinore and eight persons were lost. Eleven men of the crew, including Captain Tobiasen were drowned in the wreck of the Norwegian bark G. S. Penry, which went ashore at Scaw. The Penry will be a total wreck, and her cargo is washing ashore.

Telegraphic and railroad services have been interrupted and delayed. It is unsafe to walk the streets of Copenhagen owing to falling tiles, etc. Some streets were closed to traffic to avert this danger. The hospital reports show that several persons were killed and many sustained injuries in the city. The pillars holding up the overhead trolley lines were blown down, and the street car service was stopped. Many houses have been unroofed, and some mills and factories have been partly destroyed. The water in the Sound rose suddenly nearly as high as it did in the great flood of 1872. Several ships dragged their anchors and collided or were sunk in the outer harbor. The ferry service between the Danish islands and Sweden has been forced to stop. The gale was accompanied by thunder and lightning.

ROBBED AND MURDERED.

Stranger Traps a Merchant and Kills Him.

Matthews, Ga., Dec. 26.—At a late hour Christmas evening an unknown man called at the home of Edward Gay, six miles from here, and asked him to change a bill. Mr. Gay not having the change, walked with the stranger into his store not far distant. When they entered it is supposed the stranger drew a revolver and forced Mr. Gay to open his safe, which contained $1,200. He then possibly murdered Mr. Gay and set fire to the store to hide his crime. The store was completely gutted, and yesterday the safe was found open, and the skull of the victim discovered in the ruins. The community is highly excited. So far there is no clue to the perpetrator of the crime.

TRAIN WRECK.

Several Men Killed in Accident in Colorado.

Trinidad, Colo., Dec. 25.—A wreck on the Colorado & Southern railroad, just outside of this city, last night, which was caused by a collision between a merchandise freight train and a heavily loaded coal train, was the most disastrous in the history of the road, where freight trains alone were concerned. It is known tonight that at least ten men were killed, and rumor has it that several more bodies will be unearthed before the wreckage is cleared away.

Trinidad, Colo., Dec. 26.—A coal miner, who was taken out of the freight wreck, said just before he died, that there were 14 miners beside himself in the car in which he was riding, and which still remains under tons of wreckage. It is now estimated that the number of dead will reach from 25 to 30.

## Mr. Chamberlain In South Africa

### He Asks That the Animosities of the Past Be Buried.

### Announces That Boer Offer to Fight In Somaliland Is Accepted.

Durban, Dec. 26.—Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, Colonial Secretary, and Mrs. Chamberlain, who left Portsmouth, England, on November 25, on board the armored cruiser Good Hope, landed here at 10:30 this morning. They received a warm welcome from large crowds of people.

The speeches made by Mr. Chamberlain in the course of the reception functions were notable for their strong tone of conciliation, and as expressing his confidence in Lord Milner, British High Commissioner in South Africa.

Bearing in mind seemingly, the rumors that his visit would lead to the displacement of Lord Milner, Mr. Chamberlain declared his belief that his visit would have the effect of strengthening Lord Milner's hands, whom he hoped would be as great in conciliation as he had been in the maintenance of the rights of the Empire. Referring to the war, the Colonial Secretary said the Dutch and British had fought in courageous rivalry. Between the two races, not kindred in origin or nature, such a struggle for supremacy had been inevitable. From that struggle two proud and kindred races would grow in mutual respect, appreciation and lasting friendship.

"Victor and vanquished," said Mr. Chamberlain, "bravely played their parts. We scorn to glory in our triumph. The enemy need fear no humiliations in their defeat, let us see as Britons worthy of the name, that nothing be done to revive the animosities of the past. We must give our new fellow subjects equality of position with ourselves. We ask, however, something in return: It is with them that the issue lies. We hold out our hand and ask them to take it, without thought of the past, but frankly, and in the spirit in which it is offered."

Mr. Chamberlain eloquently elaborated his theme and was loudly cheered. He announced incidentally the acceptance of the Boer offer to fight in Somaliland.

## CANADIAN NORHERN

### Application For Aid to Be Made To the Dominion Parliament.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Toronto, Dec. 26.—D. D. Mann, vice-president of the Canadian Northern, stated today that the company would apply for aid for its transcontinental line at the next session of parliament.

The company has not yet decided what aid will be asked for, but it is understood that no land grants are expected. In repeating his former statement, that no negotiations were going on between the Canadian Northern and Grand Trunk Pacific, Mr. Mann said: There is room out West for us all."

Four or five men arrested for personating at the recent vote on the liquor act were fined $50 and costs or six months in the Central prison, this morning in the police court.

Judge McDougall sentenced John Brady alias Perkins to two years in the Central prison and to be given 30 lashes with the "cat" before his release. The charge was indecent assault on a 6-year-old child.

Ald. Daniel Lamb has entered the mayoralty lists as a candidate against Howland and Robinson.

REFERENDUM.

Toronto, Dec. 26.—Latest returns from the recent vote on the liquor act received by T. S. Spence, secretary of the Dominion Alliance, are: For the act, 194,700; against, 101,2[illegible] majority for, 93,466.

The Police Court.—John Ralph, a bluejacket, was arrested at Esquimalt yesterday on a charge of theft, being accused by one of the women of Chatham street with having stolen a ring from her house of ill-fame. The sailor managed to get away with the ring, which was valued at $20, but the woman pursued him to Esquimalt and pointed him out to the police officer. He will be brought up for trial in the Police court this morning. Kate Wallace was given three months on a charge of vagrancy in the Police court yesterday morning.

## To Be Hanged On Same Day

### Yukon Murderers Will Die on the Scaffold on January 20.

### Benjamin Suite Retires After Thirty Five Years in Public Service.

### Minister of Interior Is Taking a Jaunt Through the States.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Dec. 26.—The Yukon murderers Labelle and Fournier will be executed on the same day, January 20. Labelle was to have been hanged on the 10th, but has been reprieved for ten days.

Benjamin Suite, poet and historian, chief clerk of the Militia Department, retired today after 35 years' service.

Mr. Sifton is to take a holiday jaunt through the States, ostensibly on a tour of inspection of the Canadian immigration agencies. He will be in Detroit on January 4, Chicago, January 7; Kansas City, January 9, and St. Paul on January 10 and 11, thence he goes to Winnipeg.

Mr. King, Dominion astronomer, has returned from Washington. He says the 15-inch equatorial telescope which is being made in Cleveland for the new astronomical building, will be ready in a few days.

Austro-Hungary is desirous of working up trade with Canada. An exhibition car filled with Austrian exhibits is in Ottawa. M. S. Altman, Canadian trade commissioner, is in charge. He will go through to the Coast, showing the exhibit at all the principal points.

The citizens of the capital enjoyed very seasonable weather on Christmas. There was a slight snowfall in the early morning, which made everything look clean and bright. There were large congregations at the church services.

NEW BRUNSWICK FIRE.

Petitcodiac Suffers Severely from the Flames.

Petitcodiac, N. B., Dec. 26.—Fire today destroyed McLean & Ryan's clothing store, J. J. McFee's store, Bleakney Bros.' store and two warehouses belonging to W. Church; total loss, $30,000.


50 men's and youths' overcoats, half price for cash until December 31. B. Williams & Co.


DROPS DEAD.

George Brown Suddenly Expires at Lumber Camp.

Nanaimo, B. C., Dec. 26.—(Special.)—George Brown, fireman for Lewis & Pitts' logging camp at Cowichan, suddenly dropped dead there last night. Heart failure is supposed to be the cause. Coroner Norcross holds an inquest tomorrow.


Waterproof cravenettes, reduced to $9.00, $12.60, $13.50 and $16.20 until December 31. B. Williams & Co.


MEETS IN MARCH.

Hon. Raymond Prefontaine Speaks of Opening of Parliament.

Montreal, Dec. 26.—Hon. Raymond Prefontaine, who returned tonight from a stay of a couple of weeks with Sir Wilfrid Laurier, says parliament will meet early in March and will consider the Grand Trunk extension, extension of the Intercolonial, the fast Atlantic steamship service and a redistribution bill.

A cable received here today announced the death in England of Rev. Dr. Adams, formerly principal of Bishop's College, Lennoxville.

Working men returned home tonight noticed a powerful smell of gas proceeding from an excavation of Notre Dame street, St. Henri. One of them glanced in and saw three men lying senseless. Assistance was secured and James Staton, Matthew Laird and Wm. McBride were removed. McBride died in the ambulance on the way to the hospital. The others will recover.


Boys' reefers, $1.00 each; boys' overcoats half price for cash until December 31. B. Williams & Co.


DR. BELL'S KITE.

Scientist Has Not Been Engaged on Flying Machine.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 26.—Dr. Alexander Graham Bell, who has just returned to Washington from his summer home in Cape Breton, N. S., tonight made the following statement, in connection with reports that have appeared in the public prints, and that he has invented a flying machine: "The newspapers have been premature in announcing that I have been at work upon a flying machine. I have not any flying machine at all, and have not been trying to make one. I am of course interested in the problem, and have come to the conclusion that a properly constructed flying machine should be capable of being flown as a kite or anchored to the ground, and that conversely a properly constructed kite should be capable of use as a flying machine if provided with suitable means of propulsion. My experiments have had as their object the building of a kite of solid construction, capable of carrying up in a good breeze a weight equivalent to that of a man and engine, and so formed that it could be suitable for use as the body of a flying machine, and with supporting surfaces so arranged that when the kite is cut loose it will come down gently, and steadily and land uninjured. I have successfully accomplished this, but do not care at the present time to make public the details of construction.


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Vancouver, Dec. 24.—(Special)—The Cobblediek dredge has sunk in 10 feet of water, near Lytton. She will likely be a total loss. The dredge had been making large dividends during the summer, and the company are to build three more dredges.

The Tees arrived tonight from Northern British Columbia points with a small passenger list and little freight.


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