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XIOUS TO HAVE QUESTIONS SETTLED

TION MAY BE TAKEN REGARDING BOUNDARY

posal That Direct Negotiations Be Opened Between Secretary Hay and Lord Pauncefote.

Washington, Dec. 29.—It is expected that efforts will be renewed before long for the settlement of numerous controversies which have long existed between the United States and Great Britain, growing out of relations along the Canadian border, the Atlantic fisheries, warships on the Great Lakes, the Alaskan boundary and other questions. Heretofore the negotiations designed to secure a settlement of the matters recited have not proved effective, largely because of the cumbersome machinery of negotiation, and this has led to a belief that much more could be accomplished by direct negotiations between Secretary Hay and Lord Pauncefote, on the main points, and the subsequent assembling of a commission representing the United States, Great Britain and Canada, to give form to the basis of the agreement rendered. The British authorities have ordered for some time that when the Isthmian canal treaty was once disposed of there would be a renewal of the efforts to adjust the Alaskan boundary and other pending questions, the canal treaty being regarded as one of many pending issues.

Now that the British government has yielded the Clayton-Bulwer treaty and other points in the Isthmian negotiations desires to take up some of the other questions in which they have important interests involved.

Lord Pauncefote desires to clear up all pending differences and have "a clean slate" before his present term as ambassador comes to a close. When he came to Washington there were four great issues between the two governments. The first of these was the Behring Sea question, which had reached an acute stage. The diplomats disposed of this question. The next was over Venezuela, which, like the seal question, at one time threatened war. But the efforts of diplomacy were again successful in averting trouble and bringing about a settlement. The third important issue was on the Isthmian canal, which has been satisfactorily disposed of by the recent Hay-Pauncefote treaty.

This leaves only one issue remaining in order to bring about "a clean slate," namely, the border controversy, both as to Canada and Alaska. The British officials usually link these various boundary controversies together, as they are more or less connected. At present a modus vivendi exists as to the Alaskan boundary question, chiefly for the purpose of avoiding a clash along the border and holding each side in check until a final boundary is determined upon. It seems to be conceded in both sides that the modus cannot be carried on indefinitely, and that sooner or later the question of establishing a permanent boundary must be settled.

Lord Lansdowne's desire to take up the question was expressed clearly in his note to Secretary Hay last spring, when the British government declined to accept the senate amendment in the first Hay-Pauncefote treaty.

Recently Lord Lansdowne again has expressed in speeches the need of taking up the Alaskan boundary question. These declarations by the head of the British foreign service, together with the well-known wish of Lord Pauncefote to clear away all pending differences between the two countries, doubtless will lead to the formal exchanges necessary to an adjustment. Just what steps will be adopted are not disclosed, but it seems likely that direct negotiations and the subsequent assemblage of a commission will commend itself to the parties concerned as the most favorable procedure.

The border issues, outside of that relating to Alaska, are those which long have existed and have created more or less friction. The joint high commission which assembled some time ago practically disposed of these lesser issues, but the deadlock on Alaska prevented the treaty covering these and other points of agreement. With the disposal of the Alaska boundary, therefore, it is felt that the way would be clear to dispose of the controversies. The reciprocity question, which is among those formerly considered, is not likely to be taken up in this connection, as Canada desires to make it the subject of separate negotiation. The Atlantic fisheries question also may be the subject of separate negotiations.

FOUND DEAD.

Alameda, Alta., Dec. 30.—James Cuddington, aged 48, was found dead in his arm-chair early on Saturday by one of his sons, who was teaming home some furniture. Deceased came here last August from Toronto, but came originally from Brighton, Sussex, England. Dr. Dyell pronounced death due to a frozen foot, which he contracted a couple of weeks ago. His wife is expected here from Toronto to-night.

Premier Roblin, of Manitoba, Hon. C. H. Campbell and others, attended a banquet at Port Arthur in honor of Mackenzie & Mann, on the completion of the Canadian Northern.

MAY ISSUE ULTIMATUM.

Germany Preparing to Press Demands on Venezuela—Fight Between Troops and Insurgents.

London, Dec. 30.—A dispatch to the Central News from Berlin says: "It is believed to be certain here that an ultimatum will be issued within three days and that an attack on Venezuela will follow directly after. In addition to the Vineta and the Falk, the training ships, and the cruiser Geier have been ordered to LaGuaira. In the meanwhile, I am officially assured that the German charge d'affaires has not left Caracas, and that diplomatic relations have not yet been broken off. The pour parlers continue. An agreement has been reached between Germany and the United States in regard to the German course of action in Venezuela."

Commenting on the London Times's statement from Washington, that persons of considerable importance in official circles there profess to believe that war between the United States and Germany is inevitable, the St. James Gazette, though it does not believe that such a disaster will be allowed to occur over a dispute in regard to the debts of Venezuela to Germany, says that if it does, there can be no doubt that English sympathies will be with America. At the same time the St. James Gazette expresses the hope that the United States will not allow such states as Venezuela to gain the impression that they can reckon on the protection of Monroeism if they choose to repudiate their obligations to Europe.

Four Hundred Killed.

Colon, Colombia, Dec. 28.—The following dispatch has been received from Panama:

"General Alban says that he has conclusive proof that the President of Salvador has been assisting the revolutionists. Fifteen hundred of the latter from Tumaco, under Benjamin Herrera, landed on the Peninsula of Tonosi, near Santiago de Veragua, a town of Colombia, 125 miles west-south-west of Panama, near the coast. The small garrison of that place fought for five hours, but when the rebels landed at several points, it could not resist the attack."

Barranquilla papers, dated December 24th, which came to hand this morning, contain further details of the battle fought near Honda. They say that General Leovigildo Rodriguez commanded Honda's small garrison. General Marin's large force of insurgents attacked the place early on the morning of December 9th. At 8 a. m. General Londono brought up 200 Government reinforcements from La Cliguente, across the Magdalena river, facing Honda.

By 11.30 the combined force drove the enemy away from Honda. In the evening the insurgents, on arriving at Caraoli, near Mariquita, awaited the government troops in two wings. It was there that bayonets and machets were freely used, as the insurgents' vanguard being surrounded, the government troops, with the aid of the rear-guard, succeeded in breaking the line and utterly routed the enemy. On the following morning, when 400 men were found to have been killed, the insurgents retreated by way of Guayaquil, taking their wounded with them.

The fighting in this engagement has been characterized as uncivilized. The Liberal colors bore the device: "Neither ask nor give quarter."

VETERINARY INSPECTOR.

J. B. Hart Has Been Appointed to Post at Vancouver.

Ottawa, Dec. 30. (Delayed in transmission.)—J. B. Hart, of Vancouver, has been appointed under the new arrangement with the United States for appointing veterinary inspectors at shipping ports, to act at Vancouver. This is the only appointment in British Columbia.

The official veterinaries for testing in Great Britain are J. G. Rutherford, V. S., for the Canadian Agency, Glasgow, and T. A. Geddes, V. S., U. S. Consul's office, London, England.

OTTAWA MAYORALTY.

Messrs. Lewis and Cook Are the Candidates

Ottawa, Dec. 30. (Delayed in transmission).—The municipal nominations passed over quietly here to-day. Mayor Davidson, Fred Cook, Alderman Dearing, John Coates and Alderman Lewis were nominated for the mayoralty. The contest will be between Lewis and Cook, the others having retired. Mayor Davidson, for business reasons, has declined to run.

OUTRAGE AT WELLINGTON.

Supposed Dastardly Attempt to Shoot Supt. Alexander Faulds.

Nanaimo, Dec. 30.—Last night what appears to be a dastardly attempt to shoot Alexander Faulds, superintendent of Alexandria mine, occurred at South Wellington.

About half-past seven three shots from a Winchester rifle were fired at the house. Two bullets went through the pantry window, blind and partition into the dining room. One bullet lodged in the wall of the latter room, and another in the bedroom of Mr. Faulds's son. Fortunately no one was injured by the shots.

The matter was at once reported to the provincial police, who are now at work on the case.

There is no clue to the perpetrators of the deed.

Two of the bullets went through the same pane of glass, showing how accurate was the aim. Judging from the situation, it is thought that the shots were fired from the lower track.

The pantry window is at the back of the house.

RICHNESS OF BIG SALMON COUNTRY

VICTORIAN HAS FAITH IN NEW DIGGINGS

Creeks Have Shown Most Favorable Prospects—Likelihood of District Rivalling the Klondike.

Judging by indications disclosed by recent developments, it is quite likely that the Golden Klondike will have a strong rival as a treasure storehouse in the Big Salmon Country. It is at the south fork of this tributary of the mighty Yukon, where the most favorable prospects were discovered some time ago and, as recorded in these columns, there was a general migration of gold hunters in that direction. Among them were Victorians whose experience has strengthened their faith in the new diggings and who intend developing their holdings to the utmost.

George F. Askew, well known in athletic circles here, is one of those who has faith in the recently discovered district. He was there in July and August and has several claims of which he has the most hopeful expectations. Skeptics who doubt the richness of the country are referred to the man who owns Discovery on Livingstone creek, Mr. Peters, who, Mr. Askew says, has taken out as much as $1,000 in a day. It has been said that in the last two weeks of the season Mr. Peters took out $26,000. He has a hydraulic proposition and is in a fair way to amass wealth that will give him a position in the Big Salmon country similar to that held by Big Alex. McDonald in the Klondike.

Below Discovery, the A. C. Company, in which Jos. Hansen & Co. of Dawson are interested, have ten claims. These were acquired, Mr. Askew states, for $15,000. The company intends developing its holdings quite extensively and is taking in twenty-six tons of hydraulicing machinery this winter. But it is not only on Livingstone creek that the prospects are roseate. Mr. Askew names Lake Summit, Moose, Cottaneva, Germaine, Bear and Fish creeks, where there are undoubtedly auriferous deposits of great richness, which are now being actively developed.

Last summer there were between four and five hundred miners there. Mr. Askew says th country is not very difficult of access, he himself having walked from Mason's Landing on the Hootalinqua, to Discovery on Livingstone creek, a distance of twenty-three miles, in several hours. For the accommodation of the miners, a number of hotels are in course of construction. One on the Livingstone has been in operation all summer. Peters has also a good road house on the same creek.

Communication by water was maintained during the summer by the steamers Bailey and Wilbur McCrimmon, both of which made several trips. Formerly the miners were compelled to procure their outfits at Hootalinqua post, where there were stores, and canoe up the river. Now they can secure what they desire on the spot, as several general stores have been recently opened.

The claims on Livingstone are on the left limit of the creek and the formation is identically the same as that of the Klondike. The general supposition is that the creek in changing its course washed the gold down from the hillsides, as an exceptionally wide quartz ledge strikes through the hills to the head of Moose creek. Mr. Askew has several bench claims just back of Discovery on Livingstone and he is well satisfied with the showing made thus far. Several other Victorians are also interested.

The country is yet in its infancy. There are hundreds of miles of territory untrodden and unexplored. Back of the Salmon on the North Fork is the Quiet Lake country, which must contain a proportion of that treasure which is the heritage of the great north, and coming years should witness some startling revelations. Mr. Askew points out that even with ordinary rockers on the Hootalinqua bars, miners take out $7 and $8 a day.

The diggings on the creeks mentioned at the south fork of the Big Salmon are essentially winter ones, although the bench claims may be worked during the winter as well. The season commences about the first of May.

IN MID-OCEAN.

Umbria and Eturia Exchanged Christmas Greetings By Wireless Telegraphy.

New York, Dec. 30.—The Cunard line steamer Umbria arrived in port this morning after a belated voyage from Liverpool and Queenstown, and reported an exchange of Christmas greetings by wireless telegraphy with the Campania on the 28th inst.

The Umbria was also in communication with the Eturia on Christmas morning. The instruments came in touch at 10.25 o'clock. They kept up the communication for two hours and twenty-five minutes. The minimum distance was 41 miles, the maximum 87 miles.

Miss Hammersley, of Berlin, Ont., took an overdose of carbolic acid solution for sore throat, and died from the effects.

THE CHINESE COURT.

Preparing For Return of Emperor and Empress—Trying to Drive Out Foreigners.

Pekin, Dec. 29.—A party of Manchu princes, including Prince Su, collector of taxes on goods entering Pekin, started Saturday to meet the Chinese court. Prince Su intends to press his claim to be sent as an envoy to Great Britain upon the occasion of the coronation of King Edward.

The Dowager Empress is making vigorous efforts to assert herself before the Chinese populace, with a view to renewing the prestige lost by her during the last few years.

The programme for the court's return to Pekin provides that the Emperor shall precede the Dowager Empress to this city in order that he may be enabled to meet the Dowager Empress with great honors at the station when she arrives.

The ministers of the foreign powers at Pekin have agreed that when the Chinese court returns here, if they are merely invited to dine with the tsungli-yamen as heretofore, instead of with the Chinese Emperor in the palace, as was recently stipulated, they will all refuse the invitation.

Two thousand additional Chinese troops entered Pekin last Friday.

The Austrians have mounted two large guns upon the fortifications surrounding their legation. The other delegations kept their guns concealed. Already the British are well supplied with artillery, and the Germans can occasionally be seen drilling on their glacis with field and rapid-firing guns; the United States troops, who hold the crucial position at the Cham-Men gate, are not supplied with artillery. With the approval of United States Minister Conger, Major Robertson, of the Ninth Infantry, commanding the legation guard, applied to the war department for two guns. This was refused, because when the department consulted with Mr. Rockhill, special commissioner of the United States here, on the matter, the latter replied that artillery was not needed, and its presence would be harmful.

At Newchwang the Russians have secured control of the telegraph and cables. This action on the part of Russia is causing disputes between that country and the foreign consuls at Newchwang.

A sensation has been created in Chinese official circles by a dinner given at his residence by United States Minister Conger, and which was attended by the leading officials of the Chinese foreign office. Among the officials present were Ma Tung, former Boxer leader, and Wang Wen Shao, one of the Chinese plenipotentiaries. The dinner was attended by several American ladies. It was formerly the custom for prominent Chinese officials never to enter a foreign legation except on the most formal occasions, while the meeting of foreign ladies socially would have been considered as degrading as would association with Chinese women upon the same footing. This event is significant of the progressive tendency of to-day, which has recently been manifested in many ways.

Preparing For Action.

New York, Dec. 30.—Charles F. Gammon, superintendent of colporteurs for the American Bible Society in Northern China, writes to the society concerning the present situation in the Chinese empire as follows:

"While at Shanghai, I observed that the government was openly violating the provisions of the protocol. The great empire would shake off European domination. Thousands of boatloads of small arms and ammunition were passing weekly up the Yang-tse-Kiang, and the arsenals were enlarged and worked day and night. Cargoes of explosives were being received and the Dowager Empress had issued instructions to all officials to recruit the army and also to inform her as to the fighting strength of each division, and the time required to concentrate the forces at a given point. There were and are many other unpromising features which weighed heavily upon the minds of those interested. I must believe that the end is not yet, and that within 10 years, and possibly 5, a war will ensue, the like of which the world has never known.

"For centuries China has been making repeated attempts to expel the foreigners, each time profiting by past experiences, each time with more power and success, each time better equipped and better planned. She is now preparing as never before, buying vast quantities of superior weapons and reorganizing her armies on a correct basis. Therefore, the next attempt will be gigantic in force and terrible in execution. It will result in a universal upheaval, and the final dismemberment of this empire at a terrible cost."

A WATERSPOUT

Burst Over Town in Morocco Destroying Buildings and Causing Loss of Life.

Tangiers, Morocco, Dec. 29.—A waterspout has burst over the town of Saffe, Morocco, sweeping everything into the sea. A hundred persons are reported to have been drowned. There are no Europeans among the dead. The damage to Saffe is enormous.

Saffe is a fortified seaport town of Morocco. It has a population of 12,000, including 3,000 Jews. It is enclosed by massive walls and has a palace and a small fort.

PRISONERS RELEASED.

London, Dec. 29.—The war office has received a dispatch from Lord Kitchener, dated Johannesburg, saying that the British prisoners captured when the Boers successfully rushed Colonel Firman's camp at Zeftontein on December 24th, have been liberated and returned to Bethlehem.

STEAMER SINKS AFTER COLLISION

SERIOUS ACCIDENT IN HONGKONG HARBOR

Opening of the Japanese Diet—Government Scheme for Placing Finances on a Sound Basis.

News is brought from Hongkong by the steamer Kaga Maru to-day of a very serious accident, involving the sinking of the Norwegian steamer Skramstadt, and the damaging of the steamers Perla and Tai Cheong at that port late last month. The Skramstadt was in the harbor in ballast from Amoy. The Perla was heavily loaded, and carried a good complement of passengers. She was steaming at six knots when overhauled and passed by the Tai Cheong. The Perla steered a course in a straight line almost behind the Tai Cheong, which led the way towards the exit from the harbor. The Norwegian steamer was making all speed to reach port before dark. Her skipper saw the Tai Cheong coming on showing a green light. He then saw a red light, and, assuming, naturally, that the Tai Cheong—he didn't know what boat she was at the time—was changing her course and crossing his bows, he altered his course in order to avert a collision and pass the approaching vessel red light to red light. The manoeuvre was, however, too late, and both vessels, which were going at a good speed at the time, crashed into each other.

The impact was so severe as to smash up the bows of the Norwegian. The boats remained locked together for about twenty minutes and floated back upon the Perla which was hard behind. The Perla had already slowed down and reversed her engines, but had so much way on that she was unable to clear herself in time. She accordingly cannoned off the Tai Cheong on to the Skramstadt and damaged her bows. When the Tai Cheong and Skramstadt parted company, the latter vessel plunged forward and her stem was quickly under water. Anticipating this, her crew had already rushed aft to the poop and, this portion of the ship remaining high and dry, they were enabled to get off at their leisure.

The Kaga Maru brings advices of the opening of the Japanese Diet or, as it is sometimes referred to, Japan's three months' political session. On the 12th inst. Mr. Sone, minister of finance, speaking on the financial scheme for the coming fiscal year, said the total estimates of the revenue for the year amounted to 278,350,000 yen, and the total expenditure to 275,750,000 yen, the revenue leaving a surplus of 2,600,000 yen. This surplus it was proposed to use as a subsidy to Formosa, and it will be submitted to the House as a supplementary budget. The estimates for the next fiscal year, as compared with those for the present year, show an increase of 17,210,000 yen in the ordinary revenue, but a decrease of 16,350,000 yen in the extraordinary revenue. Compared with the present year, the estimates of expenditure for next year show an increase of 12,060,000 yen in the ordinary expenditure, but a decrease of 6,650,000 yen in the extraorinary expenditure.

The new works to be undertaken next year would include the construction of barracks at Formosa, the extension of the Kure Naval Arsenal, the establishment of a new college of medicine, two higher commercial schools, and the erection of a building carrying on experiments in sake brewing and providing better facilities of transport between land and sea at Yokohama and Kobe.

The amount of the indemnity receivable from China was about 50,000,000 yen, which would be paid in bonds bearing 4 per cent. interest. Of this amount 2,500,000 yen must be paid by China as compensation for damages suffered by private individuals, leaving a balance of 47,500,000 yen. It was proposed to sell the latter amount to the deposit bureau at a discount of 20 per cent., thus realizing 3,800,000 yen. The additional revenue from the raising of the sake tax and the sugar consumption tax, was estimated at 21,000,000 yen, though it might possibly not amount to more than 20,000,000 yen. When this amount was added to the indemnity receivable from China, the total additional revenue would be brought up to some 59,000,000 yen. From this sum it was proposed to defray 2,500,000 yen on account of the expenditure incurred in the Chinese disturbance, and 20,400,000 yen in redemption of the amount drawn from the special naval fund. Other payments would absorb about 17,500,000 yen. When all amounts in connection with the China disturbance were paid, there would still be a surplus from the additional revenue of some 18,000,000 yen.

It was well known that in consequence of the expansion of government works and private business, the circulation of money had been seriously affected. The government was confident that the financial situation would be much relieved by the abandonment of the issue of bonds on the one hand and the redemption of bonds on the other. Briefly, the financial scheme had for its object the economy of expenditure and the relief of the business situation, thus placing both government and general finance on a sound basis.

The Japanese steamer Yuko-Maru was destroyed by fire in Osake on the 13th inst. Upon examination, it was found that one of the passengers, a woman named Yasuda Shige, was missing. Search was made, and the body of the woman was discovered in the steerage hold burned to death. It was found that she got into a boat, but afterwards returned to the burning vessel with the object of saving her luggage. The steamer formerly belonged to the Chinese government, being captured in November, 1895, during the war. She was a wooden vessel of 390 tons, built at Hongkong in November, 1895.

The Kaga Maru brings advices that owing to an outbreak of smallpox in some of the Philippine islands, the civil commission has prepared an act for the compulsory vaccination of all persons resident in the islands.

The Kobe Chronicle of December 13th says: "The American steamer Victoria, which arrived from Yokohama this morning, experienced exceedingly stormy weather during her trip from British Colombia to Yokohama. She left Victoria on the 21st ult., and encountered in 132 deg. lat. S. a strong gale from S.W. lasting over 30 hours, and from there had moderate northerly and westerly winds until lat. 163 deg. S. was reached, when the ship ran into a whole gale from SS.E. hauling next day to W. by N. with furious seas and frequent hail and snow storms. In lat. 150 deg. S. to lat. 145 deg. S. she encountered another gale veering from South to West, lasting for nearly three days with tremendously high seas and much snow; thereafter fine weather into Yokohama."

WINNIPEG NOTES.

The Lisgar Contest—Manitoba Legislature Summoned For January 9th.

Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 28.—The Free Press says: "A well-known Conservative from Lisgar, in the city yesterday, said that it was likely that there would be some interesting developments in the Dominion contest in that constituency. He claimed that there was a strong tendency among the leaders of the Conservative party to bring out a straight Conservative candidate. Last year Mr. Richardson was elected by the Conservative vote, and were a straight Conservative in the field, the recently-unseated member would have no chance whatever. Some of the Conservative party leaders thought that Mr. George E. Foster should be offered the chance of contesting the seat in the interest of the opposition. He added that local feeling might insist on a home candidate, and again that Mr. Foster would probably not care to run. Still, his name had been mentioned, and it is not altogether improbable that he may be approached to run in Lisgar."

Premier Roblin, Hon. Colin H. Campbell and others leave to-morrow for Port Arthur to attend the banquet there on Monday night, given in honor of Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann, on the completion of the Canadian Northern.

An electric road is to be built, connecting this city with Headingly.

The Manitoba Gazette contains a proclamation, calling the legislature to meet on January 9th, for the dispatch of business.

THE COAL SUPPLY.

Royal Commission Will Inquire Into the Resources of Britain.

London, Dec. 29.—A royal commission has been appointed to inquire into the coal resources of Great Britain.

The questions to be covered by the commission's inquiries include the rate of possible exhaustion of British coal fields, the effect of the export of coal on the home supply, the possibility of a reduction in its cost by cheaper transportation, and whether the coal mining industry of Great Britain, under the existing conditions, is maintaining its competitive power with foreign coal fields, etc.

The commission is composed of seventeen members, and includes the chairmen of railroad companies, the heads of big colliery companies, prominent engineers and geologists. William Lawies-Jackson, M. P., is chairman of the Great Northern Railroad Company.

A similar commission was appointed in 1865, and in 1871 delivered an opinion to the effect that the supply of coal to the depth of 4,000 feet was 90,206,000,000 tons.

It is estimated that during the 30 years from 1871 to 1900, inclusive, the British output of coal was 5,205,000,000 tons, a rate of exhaustion far in excess of that assumed by the royal commission and due to the enormous increases of exports. If this rate of doubling the output in 30 years be maintained, the end of the present century will see the exhaustion of British coal fields.

TO DECIDE PLANS.

Preparing Conference of Governors Opposed to Railway Combine.

Butte, Mont., Dec. 30.—A special from Helena says: "Governor Toole is actively preparing for the conference of Northwestern governors to be held in this city to decide upon plans to block the proposed consolidation of the Great Northern, Northern Pacific and Burlington roads. The meeting to-day will be merely a conference at which the governors will endeavor to formulate a plan for united action."

An exceptionally pathetic message from the dead has found its way to the shore of Carnarvon Bay, having been tossed about in a bottle since the terrible disaster to the Liverpool vessel Primrose Hill, off Holyhead, eight months ago, when only one of the crew of 34 was saved. The bottle was picked up on the beach, and the writing inside said: "The Primrose Hill is sinking fast; not the slightest chance of escape. If this should come to the ears of Susy say Rupert forgives all. May God have mercy on our souls. Good-bye."

WRECKAGE COMING ASHORE ON COAST

SUPPOSED THAT IT BELONGED TO COLLIER

Wellington and Walla Walla Arrive—Former's Cargo Shifted and Gave Ship a List.

In a badly battered condition, but with crew all safe, the big steam collier Wellington has arrived at San Francisco. She was one of the ships for which much anxiety had been felt, having been known to have been caught out in the storm of Christmas night somewhere off the Cape during the blow.

The good ship rode out the rage of the elements, but on a very small margin of safety. She encountered the blow at 9 o'clock, and for nine hours her crew remained at their different posts of duty ready for the worst. It was a terrible struggle. One sea striking her amidships surged aft and carried everything moveable with it, including a life buoy lashed in the davits. Her cargo of 2,300 tons of coal shifted, and the vessel, when she reached San Francisco, had a big list to starboard.

The Walla Walla, which passed down the Straits outward bound, some six or seven hours after the Wellington, also made San Francisco in safety. She was a few hours late, but so far as known suffered none from the storm.

Steamer Mineola, which has arrived at Nanaimo, reports the San Mateo safe, having sighted her off Cape Race on Saturday.

There is still no news from the West Coast of the Island. The steamer Kagi Maru, which arrived from the Orient this morning, had passed up the Strait too late last night to distinguish any vessels ashore, and the identity of the craft reported yesterday to be high and dry between Carmanah and Cape Beale remains a mystery. Further particulars will doubtless be brought by the City. The steamer should have arrived from Cape Scott and way ports last night, but up to the hour of going to press had not been reported.

From the American side word was received of a great amount of wreckage drifting ashore at Neah Bay. This included a broken row boat, bedding, several oars and life preservers, broken doors and a quantity of lumber belonging to the deck house of some vessel. The general opinion of the people along the shore where the wreckage was found is that the jetsam belonged to the lost collier Matteawan but nothing has been found so far as known to positively identify it as such.

News comes from the Mainland that ten Japanese are missing from Steveston, but whether or not they have been swallowed up in the tremendous seas of the storm has yet to be told.

Locally the position of Victoria is unchanged since the night of the storm. The wires to the Mainland and to the American side are still down. The long distance telephone, however, will be working to Nanaimo this evening.

TO TOUR THE STATES.

Matti Kurikka Will Make a Trip in Interests of Malcolm Island Colony.

Matti Kurikka, Finnish editor of a paper published in Nanaimo in the interests of the people of that nationality on Vancouver Island, is in the city, and is staying at the Queen's hotel. Mr. Kurikka is now on his way to Astoria, Ore., whence he will go to the principal cities of California and other states.

When interviewed he expressed the intention of leaving in a day or so on the first stage of the journey which, he expects, will take up two or three months. The points visited will be centres where there are Finnish settlers, and at these places Mr. Kurikka will give addresses to his countrymen telling them of the advantages of settling in the province of British Columbia and also relating to them the scheme of habiting Malcolm island with Finlanders and to run the colony on a co-operative system. Astoria, Ore., as is well known, has a large population of Finns, thus Mr. Kurikka has chosen it as his first point of stopping. From Oregon he will visit centres in California, and from the latter place he will gradually work his way East. Among the points to be visited are Montana, Wisconsin and Massachusetts, all of which have a large population of Finlanders.

Speaking of his proposition of populating Malcolm island Mr. Kurikka expressed every confidence in being able to carry the scheme to a successful culmination. He said emphatically that it was his intention to get settlers who were total abstainers and in every way fit to work for a living. He would not take in any who were likely to prove worthless. Already five or six men are employed on the Island in clearing a little land and erecting houses. The real work of populating the island and getting the colony started will not, however, commence until Mr. Kurikka's return from the States.

The rapidity with which caste is giving way in India is indicated by the fact that it recently cost a wealthy man who had lost caste only £60 to be reinstated. Seventy years ago it would have cost him £20,000.

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