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January, 1886.
W. NORMAN HOLE,
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ON THE FARWELL TOWN
nd crossing of the Columbia
A. S. FARWELL,
Crown Granted.
Sentinel copy.]

Weekly Colonist.
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1885.

SUPPLEMENT

Local and Provincial News.

From the Daily Colonist February 24.

What Some People Say.

That the Soudan country is supposed to contain 50,000,000 to 75,000,000 people. Most of them are Mahommedans. Some of the tribes are quite civilized and industrious. Among others human sacrifices are still offered. The slave trade is extensive. Honey made by wild bees is an important article of commerce.

That President Arthur has held his last public reception.

That the Washington monument was formally dedicated on Saturday.

That reciprocity is all very well in its way, but when it comes to your wife wanting you to reciprocate a pair of fifty-cent brooches with a fifty-dollar ring, you've got to open up and figure out just where the reciprocity hits you on a sore spot.

That the heaviest load carried by any European soldier is that of the Swiss. When fully equipped he carries a burden of 75 pounds, while the Russian carries 69, the Italian 67, the English 62½, the German 62, the French 61 and the Austrian 60½ pounds.

That a Staten Island widow, who has changed her name three times, wrote to a young lady friend: "Never marry a man with a mustache; if you do, he'll think more of the horrid thing than of you."

That a bright woman, who says she has never yet found a lawyer in his office, wants an amendment to the constitution making lawyers pay for clients' time. The lawyer never fails to charge for his own time, never thinking to deduct the value of the time of his client.

That Miss Henrietta Moore, of the National Christian and Temperance Union, is now lecturing in San Francisco.

That if the gasman were to write poetry, would his meter be correct?

That the Times indulges in some silly twaddle respecting the premier and the provincial secretary anent Coal Harbor lands; but it is singularly quiet on the "poor squatters' rights." Why is this thus?

That money at Seattle is reported scarce, and high and worse times than any yet experienced there are anticipated.

Marine.

The steamship Wellington has been libeled by a carpenter, who was on board at the time of the recent accident, and rigged up a concern by which the vessel was enabled to reach port.

British bark Condor, from Panama, scuttling, arrived yesterday morning.

Steamship G. W. Elder arrived from San Francisco on Sunday morning, and sailed for the Sound in the afternoon.

Ship Spartan has arrived safely at Port Townsend from Barclay Sound.

The ship Barnard Castle passed up last night for Departure Bay.

Steamship Wellington passed down Sunday morning.

Official information is given that Tusker light, in the Irish channel, will be unlighted from June 1st to August 31st. It will be the same for the lightship, which will be moved one mile north, fifty-five degrees west, until it is relighted.

More than 200 vessels are overdue at New York. The recent severe storms on the Atlantic are the cause, and grave fears are entertained for the safety of many of the vessels.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 23.—Cleared—Steamer Oregon, Portland.

Arrived—Steamer Mexico, Victoria; ship Shirley, Tacoma.

Sailed—Steamer Queen of the Pacific, Astoria.

An Automatic Track Layer.

Mr. G. A. Smith, of Los Angelos, Cal., who is at the Driard, showed us the photographs of a machine for the purpose of laying ties and rails in railway construction, recently invented by him and for which he has secured patents in the United States and Canada. The machine is so constructed that it lays ties and rails automatically with great rapidity and will enable 25 men to do the work that formerly took 300. Should it prove a success, as there is reason to believe that it will, it will no doubt be a wonderful means of facilitating rapid railway construction at a reduced cost of labor. The machine has been pronounced by such men as Strowbridge of San Francisco a thoroughly practical contrivance. The object of the inventor's presence in Victoria is to introduce it into the construction of railways in this province.

Personal.

Mr. A. W. Ross, M. P., and Mr. Beatty, C.P. R., left for Ottawa yesterday via the Northern Pacific railway.

Mr. H. Percy Blanchard, attorney and advocate, of Windsor, N. S., has established himself on Bastion street.

Hon. Dr. Helmcken will shortly go to Southern California to recruit his strength.

Mr. F. S. Barnard, manager of the B. C. Express Co., starts for the east today.

Mr. W. Power, Mr. B. Springer and Capt. Van Bremmer will return to Moodyville to-day.

A Hint for Victoria.

Victoria may learn something from the experience of Richmond, Va., which city owns the gas works. Last year gas, coke, etc., were sold to the amount of $241,055, while the operating expenses were only $128,534, leaving a net profit of $112,521: from which must be deducted $26,772 for gas furnished the city at $1 per thousand feet. The cost of the gas was a little less than 80 cents per thousand feet, furnished to consumers.

A CELESTIAL PHENOMENON.—Between 9 and 10 o'clock on Sunday morning a meteor or aerolite was seen by several persons in the vicinity of Cedar Hill. Mr. James Deans describes the appearance as that of a column of deep red matter or fire which descended slowly, a little west of north. It seemed to fall near James or Salt Spring Island. Mr. F. King says he was out of doors a little after 9 o'clock, when a reflection of light caught his eye. On looking up, he saw a body of red light as long as a cedar post slowly falling into the sea. Others in the neighborhood gave the same description of it. The sun was shining brightly at the time in an unclouded sky. A meteor whose light is strong enough to be so distinctly visible in the sunlight is rarely seen.

FUNERAL.—The mortal remains of Mr. John Bagnall were laid to rest in the Ross Bay cemetery yesterday. The cortege left the residence of his son-in-law, Mr. Harry Rhodes, at 2:30, and from St. John's church at 3 p. m., attended by the many sorrowing friends of the deceased.

THE BURSTED BANK.—At the creditors' meeting of the Tacoma Savings Bank the liabilities were stated at $12,000 and the assets at $5,000. The entire capital of the proprietors when they started business was only $2,000.

A COMET.—Quite a large comet is visible towards the north in the early evening sky. Although on Sunday night the atmosphere was quite clear, it could be but indistinctly made out. The tail appears to point to the horizon.

STEAMER EVANGEL.—This favorite steamer will ply between Seattle, Victoria and the islands, on Mondays, leaving Seattle at 4 a. m., and arriving at Victoria at 1 p. m. Mr. Engelhardt, on Turner's wharf, is the Victoria agent.

UNPRECEDENTED SUICIDE.

Geo. Watts, a Bellevue Homicidal Maniac, Shoots Himself.

Last night between 9 and 10 o'clock Nightwatchman Farrell found a man staggering about the side street near the gas works. As he was acting strangely the officer asked him what was the matter, and the man told him he had shot himself. The officer immediately brought him to the police barracks. A doctor was sent for, but none was procured until after midnight when Dr. Dearden was called on, who came to the barracks at 12:30. On making an examination, it was discovered that a bullet had penetrated his left breast, three inches below the nipple. There was very little external bleeding and evidently slight hemorrhage and the man apparently quite strong and concious. The man, who is a Dane named George Hatty, when asked his reason for committing the act, replied in broken English that he was a wicked man, and had shot himself so that the Lord would forgive him. From this and similar expressions it would seem that the man is laboring under an attack of religious monomania. Dr. Dearden put the unfortunate man to bed, where he is resting easy, though the danger of the wound was not ascertained.

From Victoria to Australia by Steam.

A telegram from Ottawa of Feb. 12th conveys this information. "A return was laid on the table of the house by the finance minister to-day, showing that the government is now in communication with the Australian colonies with a view of establishing a line of steamers connecting with Victoria, B. C., and the Canadian Pacific to England. This was brought about through congress refusing to pay its share to a line of steamers of the Pacific Mail Company running between San Francisco and Sydney, and which were stopped last December. Two years ago a resolution was passed by the Australian parliament stopping its subsidy if the American congress did not pay its share. The last session of congress made no provision to supplement the subsidy, and therefore the resolution of the Australian parliament is now in force. Several cables have passed regarding the matter."

Antwerp and London.

Mr. John Jessop, who has been appointed agent for the collection of articles intended for exhibition at the Antwerp and London exhibitions, 1885 and 1886, in another column draws attention to the order in council. The time for forwarding the articles is exceedingly limited, and intending exhibitors should make immediate application. The Antwerp exhibition will open in May. It is believed that these exhibitions will afford a favorable opportunity for making known the natural capabilities and manufacturing and industrial progress of the Dominion, and also for opening markets abroad for such articles as can be manufactured in Canada and exported with advantage.

NEW THEATRE.—The ground for the new theatre has been enclosed with a high board fence, and a sidewalk laid out. A sensible idea, and one that contractors of large buildings should generally follow. Work of clearing rubbish and excavation for the foundation was commenced yesterday, and will be expeditiously pushed.

BURGLARY.—Mr. Williams' clothing store, on Johnson near Douglas street was entered by burglars on Sunday night and robbed of about $50 worth of goods. Entrance was obtained through the back way. Traces left behind show that the depredators are Chinamen.

SAUFTLY-CROUSE.—The Port Townsend Argus says: A festive clerk named Sauftly created a sensation at Snohomish city by Sauftly slipping out of town by the light of the pale moon with ten thousand or so of somebody else's money. He was accompanied by his "cousin," Miss Carol Crouse, who entertained our citizens once in her rendering of that bewitching song, "For goodness sake don't say I told you."

BIG FISH.—A salmon weighing 51½ pounds was on view at Beauchamp's yesterday. The fish was caught off the harbor.

FOUND DEAD.—It was reported late last night that a man had been found dead in a cabin in the rear of Jarves' hotel.

From the Daily Colonist, February 25.

WAYWARD HUSBANDS.—This is the way the Port Townsend Argus adopts to bring wayward husbands back to a realization of their duty: "Ellison Ebey, of the Ebey Landing Hotel, is in town courting. We are tempted to send word to his wife, but will refrain if he will promise to be more prudent in future."

DECREASED EARNINGS.—The Northern Pacific railroad earned in December and January last less money by over $150,000 than it did the same months the year before, notwithstanding its increased mileage. During the seven months ending January 31, 1883, its gross earnings were $7,182,811; during the seven months ending January 31, 1884, $7,232,093. The decrease of the last seven months amounted to $48,283.

POLICE COURT.—Amelia, a Cowichan, was fined $1.25 for being drunk and disorderly. Molly McGuinness and Mary Miller, charged with being vagrants, did not appear, and warrants for their arrest were issued.

GEORGE HOLTZ, the man who shot himself Monday night, was removed to the Royal Hospital yesterday. The wound is not dangerous, and the ball was removed in the afternoon.

THE SMALLPOX.—Dr. Prager will accompany Mr. Busk to Camp 10, E. & N. R., to-day, to examine and report upon the case of smallpox which is alleged to have developed there.

FENIAN SCARE.—Anonymous letter-writers predicted the blowing up of the Manitoba public buildings and the Minneapolis flour mills on the 15th inst.

A MISSING MAN.—Isaac H. Radford, a Toronto realestate man, is missing with $37,000. He was last seen in a rowboat on the 20th inst. Foul play is feared.

THE TUG BEAVER was inspected by Mr. Vigor yesterday, and passed the test very fairly. This old and famous boat is now in her 50th year of service. The engines are by the firm of Watt & Co., London, and are said to be very reliable and capable of doing considerable work yet. She is styled by the engineers of the port the "Old Eight-day Clock." The R. P. Rithet was inspected by Mr. Vigor yesterday.

BOOMING COAL HARBOR.—A Winnipeg paper prints the following despatch from Toronto: J. C. McLagan, formerly business manager of the Winnipeg Sun, and now of the Victoria (B. C.) Times, is here at present. He has plans of Coal Harbor, in which he owns a large quantity of land. His intention is to endeavor to work up in boom in Toronto and try and dispose of his property.

FOR COAL HARBOR.—A number of prospective Coal Harbor investors left for Burrard Inlet yesterday morning.

BRITAIN'S HIGHWAY.—The Toronto Mail, in an article on Canadians and the war says: "Canada may yet be called on to render services of another sort. The Morning Post argues that it is now quite evident that the Suez Canal can no longer be regarded as a secure road to India, and it urges the imperial government to make arrangements with the Dominion for the adaptation of the Canadian Pacific railway as a great military highway between England and her Mohammedan empire. This would suit us infinitely better than sending men to do duty in English barracks."

FOURTH PROVINCIAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION.

TUESDAY, Feb. 24th.

The speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock.

Prayers were offered by the Rev. Mr. Stephen.

TELEPHONE CO.

The petition of the New Westminster and Fort Moody Telephone Co. was read, asking for power to extend their lines along Burrard Inlet.

The petition was received and referred to the committee on private bills.

NANAIMO WATER WORKS.

A petition from Nanaimo in favor of the water works bill from S. Robins, and the Mayor and Council, was received.

PRIVATE BILLS.

Mr. Martin presented the report of the private bills committee in favor of the Nanaimo Water Works & Co. and the Simalkameen Railway Company, which was received.

Mr. Helgeesen asked the Provincial Secretary, "Has any part of the sum of $4,500 set apart under Vote 170 of last year's estimates, in aid of prospecting and explorations, been devoted to that purpose; if so, how much, and who were the recipients of the same? 2nd. And, in what part of the province were such expeditions carried on."

Hon. Mr. Robson replied as follows: 1. Yes; $1,443.16; W. A. Robertson, $100; J. Healy, $150; J. Lauyoriand, O. D'Orpentigny, $40; a party of them (names not given), fitted out by the government, Spencer, Clinton, $16; N. H. Chitenden, $1,000.

2. Vancouver and Queen Charlotte islands, districts of Cariboo and Lillooet.

Hon. Mr. Robson, seconded by the honorable premier, moved that a supply be granted Her Majesty, and that this house resolve itself into committee of the whole to consider this resolution. Carried.

MUNICIPALITIES AMENDMENT ACT.

Mr. Theo. Davie, in moving the second reading of the act to amend the Municipalities Act, referred verbally to the different clauses of the bill, stating that its provisions were recommended by the City Council of Victoria.

The house went into committee, Mr. Semlin in the chair.

Section 1 provides for an indemnity not to exceed $2.50 per day, or $25 per year, to members of municipal councils in the rural districts.

Section 2 applies to the city of Victoria only, and states that the councillors elected for 1886 obtaining the greatest number of votes in each ward shall hold office for the following year; also, councillors in each ward retiring. Should three councillors be elected by acclamation, then the one who shall hold office for two years will be determined by resolution of the council at its first meeting.

Section 4 provides that all voters must have been householders for six months before an election was held, at a rent of not less than sixty dollars per annum. This was laid over for further consideration.

Section 7 provides that "the corporate seal, tools and office furniture, pictures and fittings of every municipal corporation shall be exempt from forced seizure or sale by any process of law."

Section 9 is as follows:

"For regulating the erection of buildings and preventing the erection of wooden buildings or addition thereto or alteration thereof, and wooden fences in the municipality, or in specified parts thereof; and also for prohibiting the erection or placing of buildings other than with main walls of brick, iron or stone, and roofing of incombustible material in the municipality or in specified parts thereof, and for authorizing the pulling down or removal, at the expense of the owner thereof, of any building or erection which may be constructed or placed in contravention of any by-law."

Section 11 is for licensing and regulating wash-houses and laundries and provides that, "From every person who keeps or carries on a public wash-house or laundry, or carries on the business of a washerwoman or laundryman, such sum as shall be fixed by by-law, not exceeding $75 for every six months."

An added clause to regulate the price of liquor licenses was put and lost.

The following clauses were added to the act, the first being to overcome the illegality of Maple Ridge elections. The returning officers not having been appointed at the right and the voters' list revised at the proper time:—

12. The election of reeve and councillors for the municipality of Maple Ridge, held in January, 1885, is hereby declared to have been and to be valid to all intents and purposes.

13. Whenever it shall appear that letters patent creating a municipality provide for a greater or less number of councillors than is in accordance with the law for the time being in force, the lieutenant-governor in council may revoke such letters patent, and issue other letters patent so as to be in accordance with such law.

The committee rose, reported progress, and will sit again to consider deferred clauses.

PETITION.

Mr. T. Davie presented a petition from E. Williams and others against the Sunday closing of saloons.

NEW WESTMINSTER CITY LANDS

Mr. Cunningham moved the second reading of the bill to provide the further facilitating of the sale of lands in that city, power for which was granted last session, Mr. Duck in the chair.

The committee reported the bill without amendment.

ESQUIMALT WATER WORKS.

The bill, introduced by Mr. Pooley, granting power for the construction of water-works to supply Esquimalt was considered in committee, Mr. Martin in the chair.

The employment of Chinese in the building of the works was discussed at length and the stereotyped views advanced for and against. The objections against the clause prohibiting Chinese from being employed on the works were withdrawn, and such a provision added to the bill.

The committee reported the bill complete with amendments.

House adjourned at 5.20.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. Galbraith on Thursday—That an order of the house be granted for a return showing the amount collected under the several heads of revenue in the Kootenay district from 1st Jan., 1884, to 31st December, 1884.

Hon. Mr. Smithe on Thursday next will introduce a bill to amend Sumas Dyking Act, 1878.

Marine.

The steamship Zealandia arrived in San Francisco on the 22d inst. from Sydney, in twenty-one days, making the fastest trip on record between those two ports.

Recent reports from Port Townsend state that an extraordinarily strong current is running to the north along the coast of Washington Territory and past the Straits of Fuca. This current is supposed to be responsible for the number of vessels which get into Barclay Sound.

The steamer Empress will be due this afternoon from San Francisco.

The bark Haidee will probably leave for Portland the beginning of next week.

Personal.

Miss Katie Putnam and Mrs. Putnam are at the Driard.

Mr. J. H. Ferris, manager of the Putnam Comedy Company, is at the Oriental, where the other members of the company are also stopping.

Mr. E. Allen, M. P. P., has entirely recovered from his recent illness.

Mr. H. H. Heywood came up on the last trip of the Elder, and intends remaining for some time.

"Lena, the Madcap."

There could be no stronger proof of Miss Kate Putnam's great popularity in Victoria than the crowded house that greeted her reappearance here last night. Indement lovers of the long season of the Grimmer company would have had a serious effect on a less talented troupe, but the charming little actress was generously received at the deserved, there scarcely being standing room remaining when the curtain was rung up. The piece given was "Lena, the Madcap," a favorite and familiar one, made so by Miss Putnam's charming rendition of the leaf character of the play, a way ward, noydenish, true-hearted girl. The little lady has lost none of her charm and versatility and the audience was delighted every minute she appeared before them. There are a number of new faces in the company since its last appearance here, and Mr. F. Bosworth as "Commodore Hailstorm," took that character in an excellent way. Mr. W. H. Murdoch as "Cloudy" played the bog lover with great acceptance, and Miss Putnam in the good-bye duet were recalled. Mr. Devlin's is a familiar and welcome face, and his appearance was warmly greeted. He is as witty and natural as of old, and makes one of the best negro characters we have seen. As a comedian, Mr. Devlin can rank with the highest, and only seems to grow better as he grows older. Mr. Emery as "Dr. Grimshaw," and Mr. Jennison as "Thurston Wilmax," were excellent. Mrs. Putnam as "Henrietta Hailstorm," the commodore's wife, was the natural self-possessed old lady to perfection. "Edith" is a pretty part, and Miss Carrie Rankcliffe was as sweet and pretty naturally as could be, and acted the character in a captivating manner. Miss Mabel Amber as "Lena's" fretful, peevish mother was also excellent.

To-night "Old Curiosity Shop" will be given with Miss Putnam in the dual role of "Little Nell" and the "Marchioness."

The Smallpox Scare.

In consequence of the smallpox scare the Enterprise did not land at Ghemainus yesterday, but sent a boat ashore for the mails. At the entrance of the inner harbor the Enterprise was boarded by Dr. Jackson, who pronounced the vessel to be entirely free from the disease which is so much feared.

Dean Swift's Joke.

The witty priest was never happy unless jesting. He once had printed and circulated some last words of a street robber named Ellison, purporting to be written shortly after his execution, in which the condemned thief was made to say: "Now, as I am a dying man, I have done something which may be of good unto the public. I have left with one honest man—the only honest man I was ever acquainted with—the name of all my wicked brethern, the place of their abode, with a short account of the chief crimes they have committed, in many of which I have been their accomplice, and heard the rest from their own mouths. I have likewise set down the name of those we call our setters, of the wicked houses we frequent, and all of those who receive and buy our stolen goods. I have solemnly charged this honest man, and have received his promise upon oath that whenever he hears of any rogue to be tried for robbery or housebreaking he will look into his list, and if he finds the name there of the thief concerned, to send to send the whole paper to the Government. Of this I here give my companions fair and public warning, and I hope they will take it." The joke was a good one, and had, at least, as is rarely the case with a practical joke, a good effect, for street robberies were for a long time suspended.

A Brief Chapter on Girls.

The girl of sixteen who will neither sew nor do homework has no business to be decked out in finery and rambling about in search of fun and frolic unless her parents are rich, and in that event she needs the watchful direction of a good mother none the less. There is no objection to fun, but it should be well-chosen and well-timed. No woman or girl who will not work has a right to share the wages of a poor man's toil. If she does work, if she makes the clothes she wears, and assists in the household duties, the chances are she will have enough self-respect to behave when playtime comes; but if she should still be a little "wild" the honest toil she has done will confer on her some degree of right to have her own way, ill-judged though it may be. The wild girl usually aspires to prominence in some social circle or other, and her manners and conduct are in greater or less degree designed to attract the following of men. She should remember that followers are not always admirers, and that the most sincere admiration a man ever feels for a woman in a drawing-room is when he looks upon her and says in his own consciousness, "She is a perfect lady.

Succeeded Too Well.

"Now," said the bride, "Henry, I want you to understand distinctly that I do not wish to be taken for a bride. I am going to behave exactly as if I were an old married woman. So, dearest, do not think me cold and unloving, if I treat you very practically when there is anybody by."

"I don't believe I can pass for an old married man. I am so fond of you that I am sure to give the snap away."

"No, you musn't. It's easy enough. And I insist that you behave like all married men do. Do you hear?"

"Well, darling, I'll try; but know I will not succeed."

The first evening of their arrival the bride retired to her chamber and the groom fell in with a poker party, with whom he sat playing cards until 4 o'clock in the morning. His wife spent the weary hours weeping. At last he turned up, and met his grief-stricken bride with the bilarious question:

"Well, ain't I doing the old man like a daisy?"

She never referred to the subject again, and everybody knew them that they had just been married.—San Francisco Chronicle.

IRISHMEN IN LONDON.—A priest who knows the poor of London thoroughly tells me what seems to be the most important phrase of the outrage campaign's results—that there are over 40,000 Irish people out of work in London, and of these fully one-tenth have been discharged since the recent explosions. He said, with almost tearful emphasis, that the most brutalized scoundrel in the world would hesitate if he could see the destitution and disfavor amounting to persecution which these acts have entailed upon his countrymen in English cities. They are the ones who really suffer, and not the English.—London dispatch.

A young lady whose very best young man lived over the way with his parents, took a seat by the window one cloudy mo ning. "Why do you sit by the windo such a chilly morning, Laura?" asked the mother. "I'm waiting for the son to come out, ma," she replied.

BY ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.

EXCLUSIVE DISPATCHES TO THE COLONIST.

ENGLAND.

LONDON, Feb. 21.—The enthusiasm of the London populace for a vigorous prosecution of the war in the Soudan reached a culmination to-day on the departure of the Scots guards from the capital. At Westminster bridge the Prince of Wales accompanied by his daughter, was waiting to bid the guards God speed. The Prince signalized the event by appearing in the uniform of the guards. He addressed them briefly, encouraging them to high endeavor, and expressed hope that the necessity of their absence from England might be of brief duration.

The papers make much of the account published in the Times that there is great danger of a conflict between Russians on Afghan composts. The trouble arises over a disputed territorial boundary.

Rumors are current here to-day of a serious disaster to the force of General Buller, entrenched at Abu Klea Wells, but neither the war office nor any of the several news agents have any confirmed report.

LONDON, Feb. 23.—A number of dispatches from General Gordon to the Home government in regard to the situation of affairs at Khartoum previous to the surrender of that city, are published to-day. They were written on November 4th. Gen. Gordon declined to agree with the home authorities that the expedition under Lord Wolseley was for the purpose of rescuing him, but way, he says, designed to rescue the garrison at Khartoum. On December 16th he wrote the following: "How many times have I written, asking for reinforcements, but my letters have never been answered. Here are my gallant men, worn out that long waiting for assistance and failure to receive any word of encouragement, which would lead them to expect help shortly. While you eat, drink and rest in good beds, we are always fighting." It appears from letters, dated Dec. 14th, that Gordon never said, "I can hold out for years," as had been published, but on the contrary declared that food was scarce, and relief should be sent him at once. Gordon further wrote: "Lupton Dey has surrendered. I have sent out scores of messages in all directions during the last eight months. Do not send private letters to me, the risk is too great. Do not write me in cipher. The Mahdi knows everything. Take the road from Abulloi to Metemneh; you need not fear El Mahdi. Both Greek consul and Austrian consul are safe. The Mahdi has captured a letter from the King of Abyssinia to me. Your expedition, as I understand, is for the relief of the garrison of Khartoum which I failed to accomplish. I decline to admit that it is for the rescue of me personally." A letter from General Gordon, dated September 9th, contains the following statements: "We have sufficient money and provisions here at Khartoum to last four months; at the expiration of that period we shall be much embarrassed. Although we wrote you, it was impossible to send Col. Stewart to Berber, on account of many things which occurred here. We afterwards saw fit to send him, together with French and English consuls, in a small steamer, to Dongola, to communicate with the British commander there concerning the Soudan. We detailed two large steamers to accompany them to Berber, to keep the way clear for them to pass by Berber towards Dongola. How many times have we written, asking for reinforcements, and calling your serious attention to the Soudan, and no answer came."

General Gordon also instructed the messenger sent from Khartoum Dec. 14th, to deliver the following message to Lord Wolseley: "Don't scatter your troops; bring plenty of troops; enemy numerous; we still hold Omdurman. El Mahdi's lines are beyond Munsho. The Mahdi, two months ago, attacked Obdurman and disabled one of our steamers. We disabled one of their guns. The fighting was renewed on the south side three days later. The rebels were again repulsed. Come quickly. Don't leave Berber in your rear; keep enemy in your front. Don't let rumors of your approach spread."

One of the most singular incidents ever connected with an execution, or attempted execution, of a murderer, happened to-day at Exeter. On the occasion of carrying out the death sentence passed upon John Lee, recently condemned to be hanged for the murder of Miss Emma W. Keyes, at Babbacombe, near Torquay, Nov. 15th last, three attempts were made to execute Lee, but each attempt was futile, the drop failing to do the work successfully. The execution was consequently postponed.

The details of the futile attempt to hang Lee make a case the most horrible that ever disgraced a gibbet in England. At first Lee was perfectly firm, and went to the scaffold undaunted. When the first attempt to hang him failed, the prisoner's spirit remained unbroken. He was led from the gallows and walked back to the cell with a firm step. When placed upon the trap, he resigned himself completely but firmly into the hands of the executioner. He stood motionless during the preliminary proceedings, and when the noose was placed and the spring about to be touched, he made an apparent effort to adjust his body to the expected drop, so that death might be as quick as possible. When the murderer was made to realize that the gibbet had not done its work, and he had not yet been hanged, he appeared to start as if from a nightmare, but quickly recovered himself. The machinery was then carefully overhauled, and the wood work found wet and swollen, so that the trap refused to work. After being oiled and tried until it was thought to be all right the prisoner was again brought forth. The same scene as before was then enacted once again. The man was led away and the trap a second time examined and oiled, and for a second time pronounced all right. For a third time he was made to stand upon the trap and a third time did the gibbet refuse to do its work. The strain and suspense now overtaxed Lee. He sank down in a swoon and had to be carried away from the place. No word can give an adequate idea of the painfulness of the scene. A kind of overpowering dismay, like that of superstition, seemed to have got control of the sheriff's officers. The gallows was deserted and no one made any more attempts to put it in working order. The man that was to have been hanged was limp and motionless and in a most pitiable condition, lying in his prison cell, dazed and stupified, and physically exhausted. The sheriff decided to abandon his task. He closed up the execution yard, and went down to the post-office to telegraph Sir Wm. Vernon Harcourt, home secretary, the full history of the horrible failure to execute Lee and to ask for instructions.

LONDON, Feb. 23.—The Marquis of Lorne publishes a letter in the Pall Mall Gazette this afternoon in which he deprecates a British advance against Khartoum, now that Gordon is dead. The British, the Marquis contends, should be satisfied to take up a position on the Nile to block El Mahdi from advancing on lower Egypt.

At a meeting of the conservative peers held at the residence of the Marquis of Salisbury this evening it was unanimously resolved to give in the house of lords a vote of censure against the government for its Egyptian policy.

The mail and passenger steamer Princess Beatrice, bound from Barne for Strauraer, Scotland, is missing since Saturday.

The Evening News says it is asserted that the guards ostensibly dispatched to the Soudan are destined to land at Kuvi-acho and thence to proceed to Afghanistan. It says: "This report, if true, forms England's reply to Russia's advance to Herat."

LONDON, Feb. 23.—Northcote in the presence of a full house rose and moved that the address of which he gave notice on Thursday be presented to the Queen representing that the course pursued by the government in regard to Egypt and Soudan has involved a great sacrifice of valuable lives and heavy expenses without any beneficial results, rendering it imperatively necessary to interests of the British empire and Egyptian people the government should distinctly recognize and take decided measures to fulfil the responsibility now incumbent on them. Northcote said he was aware that making the motion involved a serious responsibility to himself, but he was prepared to assert that the government had failed to conduct affairs in Egyptian matters satisfactory to the public or beneficial to Egypt. The government had not taken nor was it now taking steps to establish a stable government in Egypt. Twice last year the house of commons to a certain extent acquitted the government and many members felt bound to support the government although dissatisfied in their own minds with the manner in which affairs in Egypt was conducted. He was led to believe satisfactory operations were being undertaken, but so far his expectations has been largely if not entirely disappointed. The government has been compelled to change the military policy adopted last year. Having failed to attain the object desired the result is due not to particular faults here and there but to the general spirit wherein the advisers of the crown conducted matters. (Cheers.) Northcote, continuing, said: "Unless a complete and entire change has taken place in the policy of the government it will still be our lot to fail at whatever we may be called upon to do. While brave soldiers were going to Egypt there was a voice proceeding from the counsels of Her Majesty that deprived the expedition of half its strength—a voice of uncertainty concerning what the government was trying to attain in Egypt. Success was impossible unless the government distinctly laid down what it was fighting for and declared its determination to obtain that object. Ministers' words hitherto had implied that the government's object was to make the stay of troops in Egypt as short as possible. Nothing was more dangerous to the interests of a country than such a declaration." Continuing, Sir Stafford said: "Our gallant troops occupy a position which is causing much anxiety. Any talk about withdrawing as soon as possible is calculated to dishearten and discourage the troops and make a serious impression upon the native chiefs who, like the Mudir of Dongola, have been loyal." Sir Stafford referred to the gallant conduct of Gen. Gordon, and said: "While we feel proud of his courage we have at the same time a feeling of shame at the mention of his name." (Cheers from conservatives). Northcote quoted from Gen. Gordon's message of April 16th: 'If troops are not sent it will leave upon the government the indelible disgrace of abandoning a garrison with a certainty of being compelled eventually to submit to the Mahdi. "Have not these prophesies come to pass?" asked Northcote. "Are we sure treachery was not caused or brought on by the action of the government which weakened and almost paralyzed Egypt?"

LONDON, Feb. 23.—Sir Stafford Northcote closed as follows:—"The country has heard quite enough of the policy of Gladstone and Granville. In fact, we have been too much of a slave to phrases. Hicks Pasha's unhappy expedition should have been prevented or made more effective. Government has conducted its whole business with the fatal drawbacks of having to proclaim that its mission was only temporary. Now some distinct announcement is demanded. Is the war one of vengeance or for the purpose of attaining some useful object? "It was," he said, "impossible to retain confidence in the government with the fear always uppermost that it would by its after-course destroy by words the effect of what it was doing. The government must drop the habit of evading troubles by the adoption of a smart phrase. We are getting daily into deeper water and whatever the consequence may be I feel compelled to summon the house to pronounce its verdict on our case, the same as it has done on previous occasions. With the additional experience of the value of the ministry's promise and the success of the ministry's action it is impossible for any government to command success when it is dependent on the support of two sections—one urging abandonment and the other supporting its policy of advance.

John Morley, liberal, offered an amendment to the motion of censure in favor of the evacuation of the Soudan. He refrained from expressing an opinion on the policy of the government, and regretted its decision to smash the Mahdi. Morley said the tories were partially blameable for the death of Gordon through their importuning the government with questions and preventing compliance with Gen. Gordon's request for the assistance of Zebehr Pasha. Something might still be done, he thought, by legislation with the Mahdi, but the Soudan must be left to the Soudanese.

Gladstone paid a tribute to the devotion of Gen. Gordon, saying, his one object in life was to do good. He denied that the government had any reason last year to suppose Gen. Gordon was in imminent danger. Gen. Gordon's own despatches had led the government to believe he would retreat with the garrison southward, if possible. The government had not changed a hairsbroadth from the covenant to send Gen. Gordon assistance when necessary and when possible to do so. He referred to the statement of Gen. Gordon's colonels, that under no circumstances could relief have been timely, as Faraz had long ago agreed to betray Khartoum as soon as the British arrived. Gladstone said it was painful in the regret for the loss of a gallant officer, but there was some comfort in believing that no great effusion of blood had occurred at Khartoum. England's mission in the Soudan was safe. The government might have committed errors of judgment, but throughout it had acted with honesty of purpose, and he felt satisfied no other course was open to them. He referred to the better government and other reforms established in Egypt, and said there was no longer any danger of a rupture with France. If Sir Stafford Northcote wanted established a good, stable government in the Soudan such a covenant was not compatible with common prudence, because it meant the establishment of a British Christian government over Mohammedans. This would entail a struggle, for the people were courageous by birth and made reckless by fanaticism. The government refused to enter into any covenant not reasonable and prudent, even without the determination to smash El Mahdi. If the house thought the government had failed in its duty, the latter would cheerfully accept the verdict, but if they believed it had acted with good intentions and without palpable errors of judgment, he hoped they would give expression to their confidence, and thus strengthen the hands of the whole country in the face of the world. (Prolonged cheering).

Several speakers of less prominence then addressed the house. Redmond said: The Irish people desired to see El Mahdi successful in his struggle for liberty. Adjourned.

LONDON, Feb. 23.—Secret negotiations are being carried on between the government and the Irish party with regard to the terms on which the Irish members of parliament will support government in a division on the question of a vote of censure. Government agents have offered in return for such support a modification of the crimes act, but Parnell insists on a pledge there shall be no renewal of the act. The prospects that the government will obtain a majority is brighter. The Marquis of Salisbury's notice of motion committing the tories to a policy of prolonged occupation of the Soudan has driven the radical section back into the government's ranks. The cohesion of group of peace extremists will secure to the government 30 votes hitherto doubtful.

LONDON, Feb. 23.—A blue book concerning Egypt contains a telegram received in September which gives a summary of letters sent by Gen. Gordon on various dates from April 21 to July 31, 1884.