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Pages 9 to 12

A VOTE OF CENSURE

Introduced in the School Board by Trustees McLaughlin and Morrow.

Secretary Erskine Resigns and States Why He Does So—Interesting Meeting.

There was no vacant place in the semi-circle when the School Board met, last evening, with Chairman Hayward presiding, in response to a special call.

Before proceeding to the business on the list, it became necessary to secure a secretary, and Mr. B. Williams was elected to the position *pro tem.* His first official duty was to read the commission appointing Mr. W. McKay to fill the seat upon the Board rendered vacant by the retirement of Mr. John Jessop. Mr. McKay was then introduced, and took his place among the trustees.

The first communication dealt with bore the signature of the Superintendent of Education, and read as below:

VICTORIA, October 24th, 1891.

DEAR SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of yours of the 16th inst., in which it is stated "that at a meeting of the Victoria City School Trustees, held on the 13th inst., a complaint was received that three boys belonging to the Second Division of the Boys' School, named Christie, Englehardt and Goddard had played truant for eleven consecutive days, that no notice had been taken of (the matter) by the teacher, either during their absence or after their return to school, and that generally there was no proper discipline maintained in that class."

On receipt of your communication, a thorough investigation was instituted by this department, and as a result, I am in a position to state as follows:—

1. That Master Christie was enrolled as a pupil of the Second Division on September 10th, since which time he has been absent two days, on account of illness, his mother reporting the facts to the teacher.

2. That Master Englehardt was enrolled on September 10th, and has not missed a day since that date.

3. That Master Goddard has not been enrolled as a pupil of the school during the present term.

In regard to the discipline of the Second Division of the Boys' School, I have been assured that the order maintained in this Division is good, and that the discipline observed is commendable.

Referring to the resolution of the Board (accompanying your letter), in which it is stated that "considerable truancy exists in the schools," I find that there were eight cases of truancy during September, and that, from the reports of the principals, there have been nine cases thus far during the present month, and these confined to one school. The principal of this school has been instructed to adopt more stringent measures for the prevention of truancy.

I would add that, during the present month, three boys of one of the Ward Schools were each absent one hour without the teacher's permission.

Yours truly,
S. D. POPE,
Supt. of Education.

TRUSTEE MCLAUGHLIN—I move that the communication be not received.

TRUSTEES RICHARDS AND MORROW moved that the communication be received, and spread on the minutes.

THE CHAIRMAN advised that the matter be further enquired into; it was evident that a misunderstanding existed.

TRUSTEE RICHARDS said that the resolution of the Board, calling attention in a general way to the cases of truancy was quite sufficient; no names were mentioned, nor were any required.

THE CHAIRMAN explained how names came to be connected with the resolution of the Board; he had thought it better to specify the complaint of the Board, to expedite the investigation of the matter.

Ald. Richard's motion prevailed.

The following communication from the Council of Public Instruction was received and placed on file, without debate or opposition:

Victoria B. C. Oct. 24th, 1891.

R. Erskine, Esq., Sec. Board of Trustees, City

DEAR SIR—Yours of the 22nd inst. conveying notification of several changes made in the teaching staff of the Boys' School at the recent meeting of the Board having been referred to the Council of Public Instruction, I am directed to notify the Board as follows;

1. That Trustees have not the authority to place assistant teachers in other Divisions than those denoted by the grades of their appointment as 1st Assistant, 2nd Assistant, 3rd Assistant, &c., the 1st Assistant being required to teach the 2nd Division, the 2nd Assistant, the 3rd Division, the 3rd Assistant, the 4th Division, and so on.

2. That the granting of a monitor to the 4th Division was for the purpose of rendering needed assistance in that Division, and whoever fills this position can only be paid monitor's salary, viz., $10 per month.

3. That each of the Divisions below the 1st Division of a graded school must be in charge of the assistant whose salary has been provided for in the estimates.

4. That, in consequence of the above, the recent changes made in the teaching staff of the 4th and 8th Divisions of the Boys' School cannot be recognized.

Yours truly, S. D. POPE,
Sec. Council of Public Instruction.

The third letter on the file was, like its two predecessors, from Supt. Pope. It also appears in full:

R. Erskine, Esq., Secy. Board of Trustees, City.

Education Office, October 26, 1891.

R. Erskine, Esq., Secretary, Board School Trustees, Victoria.

SIR—I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of a letter from you, dated the 22nd inst., conveying what appears to be a clipping from some newspaper, purporting, as far as I can understand, to be the deliverance of the Board of Trustees on a communication from the Council of Public Instruction replying to certain resolutions passed by the Board of Trustees. In this clipping the following paragraph occurs:

"The Board, wishing its views clearly understood, respectfully begs to state that it was found by the Board, on unimpeachable evidence, that the schools had been unsatisfactorily examined and badly graded, that practices existed calculated to cast reflections on higher grade teachers, and, generally, that the progress of education was retarded by methods lately adopted in examining and grading schools."

I am directed by the Council of Public Instruction to request that they may, with the least possible delay, be placed in possession of the "unimpeachable evidence," presumably in the custody of the Board, in order that, should it be deemed necessary, a thorough investigation into the very serious charges made against the Department of Education may be instituted. Yours truly,

S. D. POPE,
Secretary, Council of Public Instruction.

TRUSTEES SAUNDERS and MCCONNAN moved that the same course be followed as in dealing with the last communication.

TRUSTEES RICHARDS and MORROW, in amendment, moved that the Council of Public Instruction be informed that the same facts as secured by the Board could be obtained by the Council from the same source. If they would call the teachers who had given their evidence to the Board, they, no doubt, would give all the information desired.

TRUSTEE MCLAUGHLIN remarked that, for some time, the Board had been trying to get the Council of Public Instruction to hold this very investigation mentioned. They were perfectly at liberty to call the same teachers who had given information to the Board.

TRUSTEE MCCONNAN—We began about four months ago to try and get hold of things we have no right to—with which we are, by the laws governing us, not allowed to interfere. This having been our course, we are now asked to write the Minister of Education in just about as discourteous a way as could possibly be imagined. The Board should support the original motion. Either the evidence should be given as asked, or the matter should be dropped. We will only cause more trouble for ourselves and all interested in the schools if we take such action as that suggested in the amendment. Of late, matters have been brought here, cut and dried beforehand, in caucus; and brought to the Board only for ratification. He regretted that a few of the Trustees, finding themselves in a majority, had of late been making a practice of determining Board matters among themselves and then pressing their wishes through against the argument and will of their associates. Surely this was not the way to advance the interests of education. Since the present Board had come into existence they had not devoted two solid hours to the business which they were appointed to manage. It was an unpleasant thing to be forced to confess; but it was the truth.

The Chairman, coming back to the question under consideration, said that at the commencement of office the Board had taken a great deal of trouble to secure evidence upon the subject touched on in the communication. The witnesses had been carefully examined, and it was upon their statements that the trustees had been urging the government to take action. Now those very statements were asked for in order that action might be taken. Would it be proper to refuse the evidence, or should it be at once transmitted to the council of public instruction?

TRUSTEE MCLAUGHLIN suggested that the council of public instruction might be able to get fuller or more complete statements from the witnesses if they examined them themselves.

THE CHAIRMAN—I don't like either resolution; we intimated that we were in possession of unimpeachable evidence, and now fail to produce it.

The vote on the amendment being called, trustees Richards, Morrow and McLaughlin were recorded among the ayes, while trustees McKay, Saunders and McConnan said nay. The casting vote was given for the amendment.

SECRETARY ERSKINE RESIGNS.

From Mr. R. Erskine, late secretary, the following letter was next received and read:

VICTORIA, Oct. 31st, 1891.

To the Chairman and Members of the Victoria City School Board:

GENTLEMEN—I hereby respectfully tender my resignation as your secretary, to take effect at once. My reasons for doing so are that my increasing business requires more of my time than I have been able to devote to it; and besides, I cannot longer retain the position while proper deference is not paid to the office, but that insult and injury in turn seem to be published to the world that the secretary took it in his head to "boss" proceedings, a statement as much uncalled for, as it is far from the fact.

I have been accustomed for years past to see the business of the trustees conducted in a business-like way, through the proper official channels, but it seems that a number of the present Board are disposed to conduct the affairs of the schools in a manner which, to my mind, can only end in disorganization and ruin. I feel, therefore, that I cannot act any longer as your secretary with credit or satisfaction to myself, and must beg for the acceptance of my resignation.

I have the honor to be, etc.,
R. ERSKINE.

TRUSTEE MCLAUGHLIN thought that Mr. Erskine went a little too far in the concluding paragraphs of his letter. How was he aware that the trustee referred to had made use of the language imputed to him? That gentleman (Mr. Jessop) was not present, so he would say for him, that he had denied flatly having made the statements concerning Mr. Erskine, which he was reported to have made.

TRUSTEE RICHARDS, in the absence of Mr. Jessop, said he was in a position to state, on the authority of Mr. Jessop himself, that the statements published in the COLONIST of October 31st and credited to him, were never uttered and were absolutely untrue. "For myself," continued Ald. Richards, I am in the same position as Mr. Jessop. I did not make use of the language put in my mouth, nor suggest the statements given as mine in the paper referred to."

TRUSTEE MCCONNAN could see nothing to do in the matter before the Board but to accept the resignation of Mr. Erskine, who, so far as he was aware, had always proved himself a painstaking, faithful and efficient secretary. He moved, accordingly, the resolution conveying the regret of the Board at losing the assistance of Mr. Erskine, while accepting his resignation.

TRUSTEE SAUNDERS seconded the resolution, which passed without opposition, a subsequent motion authorizing the payment of $100 to the late secretary in recognition of his services.

TRUSTEE MCLAUGHLIN asked that the copy of the letter addressed by the Secretary to the Principal of the Boys' School, by the request of the chairman, be read. The request was complied with, the letter was read, and on motion tabled.

Henry Goward's letter, offering his services as secretary to the board, was also shelved.

Two memo's of expense, one a bill for coal delivered at the Central School, the other an announcement that the premium on an insurance policy had expired, were read in due form, and the motion was made by TRUSTEE RICHARDS to refer them to the Finance committee, with power to act.

TRUSTEE MCCONNAN said that he preferred to see the accounts examined and passed by the whole board, and introduced an amendment having this object in view.

THE CHAIRMAN called for "ayes" and "nays" on the motion, and no "ayes" responded. The "nays" were heard and the Chairman accordingly declared the motion, referring the accounts to Committee, lost.

TRUSTEE RICHARDS protested that he did not hear the question put.

THE CHAIRMAN—If you like I'll call for a show of hands, if you dispute my ruling.

TRUSTEE RICHARDS—I don't dispute your ruling, but I certainly did not hear any question put. Of course I don't say it wasn't put.

THE CHAIRMAN—Then you should keep your mouth shut.

TRUSTEE RICHARDS—Well, I must say that is language unbecoming and uncalled for from the Chair.

THE CHAIRMAN—Perhaps, it is more forcible than elegant, but it's not uncalled for.

TRUSTEE MCCONNAN—I move that the coal bill be passed for payment.

No objection was offered, and the coal bill will be paid. There was a long debate over the insurance matter, and it was finally disposed of by the Board deciding to renew the policy in question, on the three-year basis.

TRUSTEES RICHARDS and MORROW moved that, inasmuch as the wishes of the Board, as expressed in resolution of October 24th, have not been carried out by the principal of the Boys' school, Mr. Netherby be instructed to proceed at once to carry out those instructions.

TRUSTEES MCCONNAN AND SAUNDERS, in amendment, moved that, inasmuch as the resolution of October 24th was not in accordance with the rules and regulations governing the schools or with the School Act, the instructions contained therein be cancelled.

The vote being called, Trustees McKay, Saunders, and McConnan voted for the amendment, and Trustees Richards, Morrow and McLaughlin against. The ruling of the chair was in favor of the amendment.

A VOTE OF CENSURE.

Trustees McLaughlin and Morrow presented the following resolution, which was duly read:

That whereas by a resolution adopted by this Board on the 21st of October last, certain changes were ordered to be made in the Boys' Public school; and whereas the Council of Public Instruction, by letter to this Board, declined to recognize the changes suggested by the Board:

And whereas the chairman of this Board, without consulting the wishes of the Board, instructed the secretary to communicate with the principal of the Boys' school requesting him to defer carrying out the wishes of the Board, as expressed by resolution:

And whereas it was the duty of the chairman, prior to giving any instruction contrary to that resolution, to call a special meeting of the Board for the consideration of the above named letter from the Council of Public Instruction:

And whereas by a further resolution of the Board, regarding truancy, the secretary was directed to furnish the Superintendent of Education with a copy of same, drawing the attention of the Department of Education to the fact that truancy existed in the schools:

And whereas the chairman of this Board instructed the secretary to name certain individuals personally as guilty of truancy, and that no proper discipline existed in a certain class, contrary to the resolution:

And whereas the chairman of this Board, in both instances, arrogated to himself the powers of the whole Board:

Be it therefore resolved that this Board has not that confidence in the chair which the best interests of education demand.

THE CHAIRMAN—I understand that that resolution has been considered in caucus for a week or so. I am prepared to defend my actions here or elsewhere, at any time.

TRUSTEE MCCONNAN—I suppose this document is the effect of caucus work, of which we have heard so much recently. I move that the resolution lie on the table till the next regular meeting. It is too elaborate a document to discuss off-hand.

The CHAIRMAN agreed that this would be advisable, and explained his course in connection with the letter addressed to Principal Netherby by the late secretary. Said he, "If we approve of securing changes in the School Act, we certainly are going the wrong way about it—by breaking the law giving us the little authority we now possess. When notification was received that by carrying out our resolution we would be breaking the law, I did request the secretary to write Mr. Netherby *suggesting* that it would be well to hold the matter in abeyance until the wishes of the Board could be made known. I considered that was the only right and proper course to pursue, and I am prepared to defend my course, before you, the City Council, or the ratepayers. You can proceed now, or defer the matter until the regular meeting, as you wish.

The motion to take the latter course resulting in another tie—three to three—the chairman gave his vote for the adjournment.

The Board then adjourned.

BEFORE THE COUNCIL.

The Promoters of the V., S. & N. W. R. R. Present a New Proposition.

The city council met in special session, last evening, in committee room No. 1, to hear Hon. Amos DeCosmos and other representatives of the Victoria, Saanich and New West'r railway upon the proposition referred to in their communication considered at the last regular meeting of the aldermanic board. Mayor Grant presided, and the full council was present, while the railway delegation included Hon. Mr. DeCosmos, Dr. Milne, M.P.P., Richard Hall, T. Norquay, J. H. Brownlee and John Keen, C. E.

Hon. Mr. DeCosmos addressed the meeting at some length, defining and explaining the fresh proposition, which is to replace all offers and arrangements previously put forward. In the event of its being accepted, the guarantee will be given that work shall commence at once and the road shall be in operation within two years.

The new proposition is outlined in the following extract from a draft of by-law submitted by Mr. DeCosmos and his associates:

1. The said company, if it desires to borrow money for the purposes of constructing the proposed railway and obtaining the benefit of the aid intended to be hereby granted, shall, as the work of construction proceeds, before resorting to any other means of securing the repayment of borrowed money, first issue debentures to the amount of $50,000, payable in 25 years from date, having interest coupons attached for the payment of the interest half-yearly, at the rate of four per cent per annum.

2. The said debentures shall be secured by a mortgage deed, to which the Corporation shall be a party, providing for the repayment of the principal sum of $500,000, and the interest thereon at the rate aforesaid until the said principal sum shall be fully paid by the company.

3. The debentures so to be issued as aforesaid, and the mortgage deed securing them shall be a first preferential claim or charge upon the whole of the property, assets, rents, and revenues of the company, save and except the ferry and the tolls to be derived therefrom.

4. The Corporation of the City of Victoria shall guarantee to the debenture holders hereinbefore mentioned the payment of the said sum of $500,000, and the interest thereon as aforesaid, and for that purpose the debentures so to be issued as aforesaid, shall be endorsed as follows:

* * * * * * *

7. In the event of the Parliament of Canada granting any subsidy, in aid of the construction of said railway, the said company shall do all acts and things necessary to enable the Corporation of Victoria to receive such subsidy from the Dominion Government.

8. In case in any one or more years the Corporation of the City of Victoria shall not be required to pay the interest guaranteed by the said debentures, then the money so raised as aforesaid, in the year when it shall not be required for the payment of interest, shall be applied to the general purposes of the Corporation.

9. If on the maturity of the said debentures the said company are able to meet their obligation without the city being compelled to lift its guarantee, the sinking fund shall be applied as usual in the purchase of any outstanding debentures of the Corporation of the City of Victoria.

The MAYOR thought that the proposition submitted was a plain and straightforward one.

ALD. RENOUF was satisfied with the principle, but wanted time to look into details.

ALD. COUGHLAN (favored a special) and direct rate, if the necessary power could be obtained.

Each point was duly replied to, and the Council, prior to adjournment, passed a resolution, endorsing the proposition and referring it to the Finance committee and city barristers, to be by them placed in shape for presentation to the ratepayers, in the form of a by-law.

THE GRAND JURY SYSTEM.

An exchange observes: "Three of the judges in the Northwest Territories declare against the grand jury system. Grand juries have never yet been introduced into that part of Canada, and Mr. Justice Richardson says that he is 'strongly impressed with the opinion that the introduction of that system would be not only undesirable, but a misfortune.' No one has ever heard of a miscarriage of justice in the Northwest due to the absence of the grand jury system or to the fact that public prosecutors are given control of criminal cases."

THE DOGS OF WAR.

H. M. S Champion Returns From Chili With Full News of the Revolution.

Terrible Scenes At The Fall of Valparaiso.—Horrible Details of the Civil War.

H. M. S. Champion, which has been absent from North Pacific waters for over a year, reached Esquimalt yesterday. She came up under sail the greater portion of the way from Acapulco, and, from the time she left here until she returned, all went well. But the exciting scenes the vessel has passed through, and the many deeds of "derring-do," bloodshed and riot that her officers and crew have witnessed, are thrilling and interesting to hear of. The Champion bears the distinction of being the only foreign war vessel that was in Chili at the beginning of the revolution, and saw also the concluding acts of that destructive drama. A representative of the COLONIST was in conversation with several officers on board the ship last night, and the substance of their narrative is given below:—

The world has been pretty thoroughly supplied by the New York Herald with every detail of much importance concerning the revolution, and of course all we can give you that will not bear the imprint of stale news is composed of minor matters and technical details. Many of these, however, are extremely interesting. Do you know that the Chilians are the most superstitious people on earth? Well, they are, and you may not believe it when we tell you that every important engagement fought in which the Congressionalists took the initiative was intentionally entered into on the seventh day of a month, or a date containing a multiple of seven. The battle of Pozo El Monte was fought on the 7th of May. The taking of Iquiqui occurred on the 14th of June, the battle of Concon was fought on the 21st of August, and the final and decisive battle of Placilla on the 28th August. General Canto told us himself, after the war was over, that he had won every one of his eleven victories through this superstition, and he actually delayed entering into the battle of Concon on the 20th August, though all was ready on that day, but waited till the 21st because of this superstition.

The Congressionalists, from the start of the war, were fired with enthusiasm for their cause. They were drilled to perfection, and trained night and day in the use of their arms. Canto is a brave general. Montt a magnificent specimen of plucky, fearless manhood, but the man of all other men with whose name Chili rings to day is Colonel Korner. He was the leading spirit of the war, and it was his brilliant planning and bold, quick mind that placed the Congressionalists where they are to-day. Chilians, excitable people as they are, look on him as their saviour, and have already heaped numerous honors on him. The day after the last battle, when the victorious troops marched into Valparaiso and subsequently entered Santiago, we had the honor of receiving Montt, Korner, and Canto, as well as several notables among the Congressionalists, and they were like children. Canto especially was wild with joy, and we could see that if ever a good cause had triumphed in this world owing to the sincerity and determination of its devotees, this Chilian Congressional cause was that one. Montt, on the day of the last battle, came aboard and told our commander that we could go ashore and take whatever steps we thought fit for the preservation of the life and property of Englishmen there. So we sent off a strong detachment of marines and bluejackets, and they climbed the heights where the foreign residents live, and formed a strong cordon about the place. None of us will ever forget that night after the battle of Placilla. Looking down from the heights on to the plains below, we could see eleven enormous fires burning, and by their fitful light thousands of men were discernable, firing indiscriminately at one another, looting houses, robbing dead bodies, and searching the field for ammunition; while above all rose the cries of the wounded, mingled with the constant rattle of musketry and roar of larger guns. This was kept up from sundown to sunrise, and was terrible to listen to. Thousands of banditti and roughs had seized rifles and swords, and we saw men shot down right and left, their bodies afterwards stripped of everything of value, and the robbers of the dead, intoxicated with blood and liquor, making the night hideous with demoniacal shrieks and cries. Of course, we could do nothing but stand on the defence. Our ship was two miles away, and several times the mob came dangerously close to our men, who were at fever heat, and only needed a nod to be up and at them. But luckily there was no conflict.

Everybody who knows anything of the subject, and we saw the whole manœuvre, is very bitter against the U.S.S. Baltimore for her action in making herself a spy on the Congressionalists. They landed at Quinteros from their ships and marched up to Concon. At the time we were lying alongside the Baltimore in Valparaiso harbor. The American ship steamed round the point to Quinteros, watched the whole of the landing of troops and then deliberately turned back and made for the government wharf in Valparaiso. They were at once boarded by the government officials, and that evening the papers came out with flaming headlines, stating that owing to the kindness of the American officers the Government were in possession of the fact that the revolutionists were marching on Concon. It was an unaccountable act, and, coming as it did from a flagship of a nation priding itself on justice and fair dealing, it was simply astounding.

At one time during the progress of the war we sent a pinnace off to the shore with our ensign flying aft containing about twenty men. As soon as they got within fifty yards of land, the Government soldiers opened a heavy fire on them, mistaking the boat for one belonging to the Almirante Cochrane. It was a miracle that nobody was hit; dozens of bullets fell flattened on the deck. Immediately this occurrence was noticed on board our ship, a larger pinnace, with the first lieutenant in command, was despatched to the shore with two of the biggest Union Jacks we could muster flying over her. Our decks were cleared for action, but soon the officials were alongside with the most humble apologies for their mistake, and the affair blew over.

We reached Valparaiso, after having steamed to Iquiqui, the day after the Blanco Encalada was sunk, and our divers immediately went and investigated the damage. The torpedo which did the mischief was one containing 60 pounds of gun cotton. It struck the vessel right beneath the engines, under the armour, and knocked an immense hole, 16 feet by 11, in her bottom. Our divers were the only ones who examined the Blanco, and our official report on the matter was the only one prepared. In fact, all through the war we have prepared extensive and exhaustive reports of everything of interest. Battles have been described by us, battlefields examined, naval conflicts reported to the minutest detail and every incident of the war from which any lesson of modern fighting can be drawn has been chronicled fully for the information of our government.

Everybody on board has taken the greatest interest in the war, and our men have relics innumerable in the shape of rifles, cannon balls, &c., to take home with them. We have had an exciting time, but are thoroughly glad to get back to Victoria, and are really tired of talking about all this Chilian business."

The most important event of the whole trip of the Champion was not given to the reporter by the officers; but from other sources it has been learnt that three months ago the British ship St. Mary's Bay was leaving Valparaiso for Northern ports, to load nitrate, when the Chilian Government stepped in and, seizing her papers, ordered her to stay in harbor, or run the risk of being fired on. They did this because the Northern ports had just passed into the hands of the insurgents. However, the St. Mary's Bay slipped her anchor one night and got outside the territorial limit before her escape was discovered. Then the Government chased her with an ironclad and brought her back. At once the captain of the Champion saw that, however illegal her escape, seizing her on the high seas was far more so, and forthwith got steam up, had decks cleared for action and the man-of-war moved majestically alongside the government ironclad. The British commander ordered her to leave the St. Mary Bay immediately, and, when this had been done, took her in tow and led her out to sea again under the frowning batteries that they expected every moment would open fire. It was a ticklish time, and a rifle shot would have been sufficient to start an engagement. On returning to port after taking the sailing ship to sea. Seeing that things still looked very threatening, word was sent from the Champion that if a single shot was fired at her she would proceed to shell the city. The threat had the desired effect.

This incident, as well as a large number of other matters, was cabled to the Admiralty office immediately on the Champion's arrival here, yesterday, and may cause some international complication.

Before leaving Chili, the whole of the officers of the ship were entertained at a magnificent banquet, given in their honor, at Santiago, as a mark of appreciation by the Congressional leaders of the impartial and honorable manner in which they had behaved throughout the war.

A TRAGEDY OF FUSIYAMA.

Terrible Fate of a Party of Tourists on the Sacred Mountain of Japan.

A Grave in Everlasting Snow—Arrival of the Sussex From Asiatic Ports.

At 2 o'clock, yesterday morning, the Ss. Sussex reached the Outer wharf from China and Japan, with 70 Chinese and Japanese passengers, and 1,400 tons of freight, 220 tons of which are for this port. Owing to the wet weather of the entire day, there was no discharging of cargo, nor will there be any until the rain ceases. The Sussex in coming across the Pacific from Yokohama experienced some of the heaviest gales she has ever passed through, but owing to her qualities as an excellent sea boat and the careful manner in which she was handled, very little damage was done. Parts of her engines were, of course, loosened and knocked about, but with all hands hard at work for several hours, yesterday, things in the engine room were easily put in order.

When at Yokohama, on their way across from Hongkong, the officers of the Sussex heard of the remarkable experiences that a party of young English and American tourists had passed through in a foolhardy attempt to climb to the summit of Fusiyama, the sacred mountain of Japan. Five English naval officers on leave fell in with three Americans, all brothers, named Castleton, from Philadelphia, and together they formed a plan to climb to the summit of the mountain, taking with them rockets and a few other fireworks which they intended to explode when they reached it. After having secured two native guides, whom they found, after having climbed for two days, to know no more about mountaineering than they did of algebra, they started on their journey from among a group of astounded natives of the village of Katusho, on the west side of the mountain. The guides, at the end of two days, signified their intention to commit suicide if the party didn't turn back, and on finding that their threat had not the desired effect, they calmly walked in front of the tourists, and each, with a stroke of the sharp "kolo" that a Japanese is never without, disembowelled himself before their horrified eyes. Both died instantly, and the youngest of the Castleton brothers, a boy of eighteen, immediately pulled out a revolver and blew out his own brains. Saddened and sickened by this fearful scene the rest of the party turned back and descended the mountain, taking with them young Castleton's body. They were forced, however, to leave it behind after the first day, and, after Lieutenant Burgoyne, R.N., had repeated the burial service of the English church, they threw it into a glacier crack several hundred feet deep and left it there, in the strangest grave man ever had. After two more days of very hard work the party again reached level country.

CAPITAL NOTES.

(From Our Own Correspondent).

OTTAWA, Nov. 3.—Horace Talbot and Ernest Dionne, formerly clerks in the public works department, and A. C. Larose, dry goods merchant, were arrested to-day, charged with conspiracy to defraud the government in 1885. This is a case wherein the clerks got dry goods on their own account and charged them to the department. Larose was bailed, the others being held in custody. The case comes up to-morrow, and after that the Connolly-McGreevy case.

The Supreme court, to-day, gave judgment dismissing the appeals in the Shelburne, Lunenburg, and Inverness election cases, with costs. The members sustained in their seats are Ministerialists.

The Czar of Russia.

THE CZAR of Russia probably has his own troubles as well as we commoner mortals. Where we have the advantage in such troubles as dyspepsia, biliousness, constipation, bad blood and the like is in being able to procure easily a perfect remedy in Burdock Blood Bitters, nature's grand restorative tonic and purifier.

CABLE NEWS.

Banks Cheated Extensively by Cheque Raising—Decision of Importance to the Press.

The Pope Consulting With the Jesuits—Moutt to be Nominated for Chili's President.

Extensive Raising of Cheques.

LONDON, Nov. 3.—Yesterday a stylishly dressed young man presented a cheque for £1,700 at the London and Westminster Bank. The paper seemed to be all right, and would have been cashed without question but for the fact that the person by whom it was signed chanced to have but £1,400 balance to his credit at the time. The cashier was thus led to scrutinize the cheque closely, and, suspecting that something was wrong, took it to the manager. It was decided to pay the £1,700, as everything was all right, then to shadow the recipient of the money; but when the cashier returned to the counter he found the dudish presenter of the cheque had disappeared, apparently frightened by the delay in cashing the paper. It turns out that the London and Westminster Bank had not been so fortunate on a previous occasion, and was victimized no longer ago than Friday, when a cheque for £2,136 13s. was cashed. It turned out that this cheque had been raised from £6 18s., having been drawn by Bookmaker Thompson in favor of James Johnson, and representing the latter's winnings on the Common in the Cambridgeshire races. Johnson was a pseudonym, but Thompson and the cashier gave such a good description of the man that the police were able to arrest him. The authorities are confident that they have evidence enough now to enable them to trace the other members of the gang, and that it will be broken up. The bankers have been spending money lavishly in efforts to catch the criminals. They declare that the alterations are so skilfully done that even the use of the microscope fails to detect the erasures.

Interesting Press Precedent.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Nov. 3.—In the case of Elizabeth K. Sherwood vs. the Chicago and West Michigan R.R., a decision has been handed down by the supreme court of Michigan. The newspapers published the fact that a verdict for $12,000 had been given in the first trial of the case, while the second trial was in progress, and the counsel for the defence moved to have the publishers committed for contempt. The court denied the motion, and the second trial ended in a verdict for the plaintiff for $15,000. The supreme court, in its decision affirming the verdict of the lower court, holds that the newspapers have a right to publish verdicts and judgments rendered in court, and declares that, no matter how prejudicial it might be to publish them at the time of the trial, no violation of the law is committed in so doing. The decision further states that the reading of such information by jurors does not render them incompetent.

Wanton Murder.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Nov. 3.—Five assassinations within 90 days is the record of Georgiana, a small town in Butter Co. Yesterday, the bodies of Tom Shepherd, aged 80, and his wife were found in bed. During the night both had been brained with an axe. No cause for the deed is known, but it is believed that the murder was committed because the aged couple were against the "Moonshiners," a desperate gang of whom operate in the vicinity.

Killed by a Deserted Husband.

KEEKSVILLE, N. Y., Nov. 3.—Charles Blisch, proprietor of the Eagle Hotel, in this city, was shot and almost instantly killed shortly after two o'clock, yesterday afternoon, by a man who says his name is H. Betts, and lives in Brooklyn. Betts gave himself up. The shooting occurred in the hotel office. Betts entered hurriedly and apparently laboring under great excitement. He walked up to Blisch, drew a revolver from his pocket and said angrily: "You have taken my wife from me, broken up my family and robbed me of $100,000." He then fired two shots at Blisch, both of which took effect. Blisch fell to the floor mortally wounded and died in a few minutes. It appears that Blisch knew Betts in Brooklyn, and, as the story goes, more than a year ago, Betts transferred $100,000 to his wife. He says that Blisch alienated his wife's affections, taking with her his children. It is surmised that part of the $100,000 which Betts transferred to his wife was given to Blisch and used in purchasing the Eagle Hotel. Blisch bought the hotel about ten months ago.

Roumania's Independence.

BERLIN, Nov. 3.—It is stated semi-officially that King Charles of Roumania has received satisfactory assurances as to the course of Germany in the event of the invasion of Roumania by Russia. While no alliance has been formed, Germany is pledged to assist Roumania in maintaining its independence.

The Russian Famine.

ST. PETERSBURG, Nov. 3.—In the province of Samara, the peasants are so reduced by starvation and want, that many of them are unable to reach the Government distributing points for supplying food. In one village 42 have perished, and the number of deaths in the province will exceed a thousand. The survivors, in most instances, are too weak to attend the burials, and officials are compelled to inter the remains. Samara is also visited by typhus fever.

The Pope and the Jesuits.

ROME, Nov. 3.—The sudden summons of the chief of the Jesuits to Rome is generally regarded as an indication that His Holiness is prepared to extend to that order something of its former preponderance in church affairs. The Pope has refused to approve the prosecution of the Archbishop of Aix, and France has in some degree retaliated by making friendly overtures to Italy. The exceptional duties on Italian products are to be rescinded by France, and the discussions as to the delimitation of frontier in Africa are to be resumed. The fact of the Pope calling upon the Jesuits at this time for advice is regarded by many as a reactionary policy.

The U. S. Charged With Duplicity.

LONDON, Nov. 2.—The Times' reporter at Valparaiso sends a long telegram describing how the United States supported Hippolyte of Haiti, in the overthrow of Legitime. It goes on to say that the policy of the United States toward Haiti is identical with that pursued in Chili. The dispatch refers to Egan's visit to Balmaceda, and says it suited the dictator's purposes to follow the example of Hippolyte and make verbal promises which he could deny later on, meantime securing the support of the United States. Egan and Blaine well knew that the Congressionalists would scorn such a treaty, which recognized that the navy of the United States must needs be prostituted to the defense of despotism against liberty. Civilized nations were supremely interested in knowing whether the Americans approved the use of a formidable navy in support of anarchical policy.

Extradition for Forgery.

LONDON, Nov. 2.—John McCormick, an employe of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company of New York, recently arrested in Edinburgh on a charge of forgery committed in America, will be arraigned tomorrow for extradition. The accused protests his innocence, and says that when he left New York a farewell banquet was given him by his fellow employes. He is supplied in jail with food by numerous American friends.

Defrauding the Austrian Revenue.

VIENNA, Nov. 3.—Several chiefs of departments of Baron Brunisek's extensive distillery at Lemberg are charged with conspiracy to defraud the revenues to the amount of 150,000 florins.

Melba and Her Husband.

LONDON, Nov. 2.—The action for divorce brought by Captain Charles Armstrong, against his wife, the celebrated soprano known by the stage name of Mme. Melba, is the absorbing topic of conversation. Madame Melba was married when but 18 years old, largely through her parents, to Capt. Armstrong. She is now 26 years of age, and claims to have been badly treated for several years. In order to protect his interests, Mme. Melba has made her son a ward in chancery, with Lord Rothschild and Earl DeGrey as trustees. It appears that Capt. Armstrong was seeking his wife when he was served with the papers in the suit for separation. Immediately he filed a petition for divorce. When in this city last June, Melba was almost penniless, her husband having taken from her what money she had, but she was placed in possession of funds by friends, who had every reason to believe that the Duc d'Orleans was merely one of her many harmless admirers. The correspondent of the United Press, understands that Madame Melba actually loves, and is loved by, this Frenchman. The couple have been waiting in hope that Capt. Armstrong would sooner or later be caught in an offence which would justify divorce. Sir Augustus Harris has offered Madame Melba $1,000 a night to sing next season, but she has declined to consider the proposition unless her appearances are confined to two unconsecutive nights a week. There is a strong syndicate behind the soprano. Manager Bertrand claims that Mme. Melba is fully up to Patti's recent work. It is believed the proposed American tour, at the rate of $4,000 per night, has been abandoned.

Hunting for Traitors.

MADRID, Nov. 3.—The queen regent has ordered a diligent search for persons suspected of having treasonable designs. The government is said to have received information that a plot is in progress for the overthrow of the monarchy and the establishment of a republic, the plot being shared in by persons of standing. The government is keeping a vigilant watch for any signs of open disaffection.

THE U. S. ELECTIONS.

Considerable Uncertainty as to Results—Flower, Democrat, Governor of New York by 20,000.

McKinley Elected in Ohio—Republican Gains in Massachusetts—Allen Elected Governor.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 3.