

CANADIAN NEWS.

News of Eastern Canada in Short Paragraphs. It is found that John Hope, of Bow...

Collins, for the past 45 years well-known resident of South Zorra, the other day, aged 78...

Dr. Duncan, Medical Health Officer, to Council. SOME IMPORTANT RECOMMENDATIONS Water Supply and Sewerage-Sanitation of Chinatown-The Chinese Laundries...

Defective Lottery Law. Orleans, Jan. 10.—It was decided by the attorneys of the anti-lottery league that the act passed by the legislature prohibiting lotteries in this state is defective...

General News. London, Jan. 8.—The Times announces the marriage of Viscount de Erl...

Philadelphia, Jan. 8.—Harry Furber, the Englishman who has been engaged in this city for Rhodes' Boston company, take place...

ON SANITARY MATTERS.

Report of Dr. Duncan, Medical Health Officer, to Council.

SOME IMPORTANT RECOMMENDATIONS

Water Supply and Sewerage-Sanitation of Chinatown-The Chinese Laundries set in Gardens.

Victoria, B.C., Dec. 13th, 1893.

To His Worship the Mayor and Aldermen.

Gentlemen,—Since my last report I have had opportunities which at that time I did not possess, my appointment having been but a recent one, of informing myself of the actual sanitary condition of the city by practical acquaintance with it.

In the first place, let me draw your attention to the fact that the water supply at this direction is the price of freedom from disease. We cannot be too exacting upon this class of alien residents. Since I came into office I have been called upon to deal with thirteen cases of small-pox, principally among Chinese...

Another source of danger lies in the fact that the Chinese are in the habit of gathering sewage matter from house to house, transferring it to enrich their gardens, such as vegetables produced being sold to our citizens. In some cases the soil must be impregnated with the germs of disease, typhoid particularly.

To overcome this special danger a sewer should be laid through Cormorant to Miss Virginia Boyce of Gellisham, and the holders compelled not only to alter their houses in accordance with sanitary methods, but at once connect them with this outlet.

Under existing conditions and with the small staff it has been impossible to permit of any sanitary inspectors, and effectively, I would therefore suggest that, as in the case of many cities, the police be instructed to assist in this work more than they have hitherto done.

The citizens of Victoria are to be congratulated on this important departure, and I feel sure will appreciate the action of the mayor and council in this matter. The design of the buildings, which is that of Mr. Ridgway-Wilson, before it was carried into effect, approved of at a meeting of the medical men of the city, provision having been made for the most perfect sewerage and ventilation. An additional wooden building was erected for Chinamen and Indians.

CIVIC NOMINATIONS.

Hon. Robt. Beaven and John Teague Nominated for Mayor.

TRUSTEES ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION

Ald. Mann and Harris and J. Keith were elected for South Ward by Acclamation—Five Candidates Each for North and Central Wards.

The nominations for mayor, aldermen and school trustees took place today. For mayor there were only two candidates, Hon. Robert Beaven, the present chief magistrate, and John Teague. In South ward there were three candidates for aldermen, H. A. Mann, D. R. Harris and James Keith Wilson. They were therefore elected by acclamation. There are five candidates for Centre ward and five for North ward. Only three school trustees were to be elected, the other three having been elected for two years. There being three candidates for trustees, Wm. Marchant, J. S. Yates and Caleb Bishop, they were declared elected by acclamation. On account of an error in the school ward, which made the clause read that to become a voter for school trustees a ratepayer would have to pay the school tax for the present year, the candidates had some difficulty in obtaining proposals, and in connection with this I made an official visit to the milk ranches to inspect the food and water supply and the stabling conditions of the cattle. I found that several of the ranches obtained their water supply from the creeks and ditches. This is a serious stoppage and the supply taken from the city or from wells.

A careful inspection of laundries has been made, and it was found that over 90 per cent. of the wash-basins were in a disgraceful condition. I would suggest that the municipal by-law be amended that none could carry on the laundry business without having their wash-houses constructed in a manner satisfactory to the plumbing and sanitary inspectors.

I have in several occasions dwelt on the necessity of proper attention being paid to the drainage and sewerage of the city. We cannot in the interest of the public health or of commerce afford to remain at a standstill. Ours is a tourist city. Its beautiful location and surroundings draw yearly a large number of this class of people among us. It is on the highroad to the Orient, Australia and Alaska, and these different lines bring us large numbers of the best class of tourists, people of wealth. We should therefore endeavor to make our city as beautiful and healthful as possible. All our business streets from Wharf up should be sewered, supplied with pipes and then paved, and the cab stand removed to some more suitable place.

In the matter of sewers I would say that since the separate system has been adopted it should be strictly adhered to, the pipes should be extended as soon as possible and no connections allowed with surface drains, whose object is an entirely different one. People along the line of public sewers should at once connect with them.

I would draw your attention to the fact that should the Cook street three-foot surface drain be allowed to empty into the 15-inch sewer pipe as at present, a very dangerous nuisance to public health will inevitably result, for an overflow will take place and fecal decomposing matter will spread over the surrounding low lands, producing vice and dangerous odors.

At the present time the city is in great need of a public morgue. Post-mortem examinations are now held on the premises of the various undertakers, which, as you are aware, are situated in the centre of the city, certainly not choice spots for the examination for identification of others, as has been advanced in the composition. Residents in the immediate neighborhood have made complaints to the sanitary department about nuisances arising therefrom and investigations in each case has proven such to exist. There being no public morgue, the department has had no power to act in the matter. I hope your honorable body will give this matter your careful consideration.

I have the honor to be, gentlemen, Your obedient servant, GEORGE H. DUNCAN, Medical Health Officer.

As an Internal Machine by Matt. Chicago, Jan. 7.—Postoffice Inspector Stuart is trying to find the person who sent an infernal machine to C. W. Leggett of Gage, Mich. The machine, which is now being examined by government officials, was received by Leggett on Dec. 22. It was enclosed in a small box, and as he removed the lid there was an explosion and Mr. Leggett's right hand was so badly burned that he will not be able to use it for some time. Leggett took the box to the postmaster at Gage, from whom he had received it, and the postmaster, E. J. Jones, mailed it to the postoffice inspector. The package was opened by Inspector Stuart yesterday afternoon. In the package was a paper tube of heavy cardboard four inches high and two and one-half inches in diameter. The top, on which a lid had been fitted closely, had been partly blown away and was blown back by powder. In the lower portion of the box there was a half as big as a baseball made of string, which had been dipped in paste and tightly wrapped. Sticking to the sides of this ball in a dozen places were projectiles, such as are used in magazine rifles. The rifle balls were embedded tightly in the string and the paste which had become as hard as wood. It was evident that the explosion which injured Leggett was merely the flash of powder intended to fire the ball, and that the real infernal machine had not exploded at all.

There is probably dynamite or some other dangerous explosive in the centre of the sphere," said Inspector Stuart, which would have sent those rifle balls flying in every direction. Leggett is probably a lucky man, for if the infernal machine itself had exploded he would have been torn to pieces.

The Michigan postmaster evidently thought that the machine had done its work, but if he had known the real nature of the thing he probably would not have sent it to me through the mails.

The inspector will submit the machine to some expert in explosives for examination, and will also investigate the Michigan end of the affair.

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TWO HEROES

A TALE OF THE NORTHWEST

BY ALICK BEGG.

Six hundred Indians were camped outside the walls of the fort threatening to attack and destroy it. Inside were twenty white men, brave and well mounted, under command of Lieut. D. In addition to these there were the regular occupants of the fort, including the Hudson's Bay Company's officer, his family and employees, the latter being unmarried men.

The Indians had risen in revolt, and after destroying several houses and the mission church, were now bent on the destruction of the fort. A couple of priests had been killed, the mission, and the regulars declared that they would not be satisfied until they had driven every soldier out of the country. Lieut. D's position was an extremely perilous one, because the Indians threatened to surround the fort, which was a mere stockade, strongly built, it is true, but not proof against the flames which the besieging savages were preparing to direct against it. There was every confidence in the minds of the lieutenant and his men that the Indians in their next reinforcements arrived, but they felt that they could not fight against fire.

At this stage the Indians expressed a desire to treat with the Hudson's Bay Company's officer, who stated his willingness to go out and meet them, but Lieut. D would not consent to this unless he was accompanied by two of the troopers. According Mr. L. (for such I shall call the H. B. C. officer) sailed forth with a mounted soldier on each side of him, but the Indians would not allow him to approach them unless the troopers were sent back to the fort.

"We want to speak to you alone," they shouted to Mr. L. "and these men must go back. You are our friend and they are our enemies. We are the children of the Hudson's Bay Company; let the white warriors go back."

Mr. L. then told the soldiers to return, and proceeded alone to meet the chiefs. He was received by several of the chiefs, who told him that the white soldiers must be sent out of the fort, and promised in that case to leave it in peace. They assured Mr. L. that they had no quarrel with him or his company, but if the soldiers remained they would destroy everything in the fort, including himself and his family.

Mr. L. then returned within the stockade and strongly advised Lieut. D to escape with his men and leave his hands and his life to the fate of the Indians, however, of his belief that the Indians would not harm them. But the lieutenant protested against his course, and upon calling a council of his men they fully agreed with him and declared in favor of remaining at their post.

Then something strange occurred. But before relating it I must go back to the night preceding the council and tell what then took place. The men were resting with their arms ready for any emergency and prepared to resist an attack at a moment's notice. Lying close to each other were two comrades engaged in a whispered conversation, and this was what they said:

"Well, I think it is only one way to do it that I can think of. It means running away sure, but it's the only scheme I can get through my head."

"What is it?" asked Cohn, eagerly. "You know the snow down at the river bank of the fort?" answered Pierre. "Well, if the boys could get aboard it and shove off down current without the Indians knowing, I think it would work out all right."

"But," remarked Cohn, "how can the boys get aboard in the dark?" "Only one way," said Pierre. "Out with it," said Cohn. "You and I have got to do it, Jack."

"I am with you," said Cohn, "but I don't quite catch on to your plan." "Don't you see," replied Pierre, "if you and I ride out of the fort and go different ways the Indians will be after us. They'll think we're going for reinforcements, and there'll be no big chase. I'll do the quick exit on the river bank, and desperate chances, but our horses are good and we're the only two who know how to play the Indians. What do you think of the scheme?"

"It will work, Pierre; it will work, if only the lieutenant agrees to it. Say we put it to him in the morning." Then these two brave fellows worked out their plan in detail, and it was this: They were willing to take their lives in their hands and ride out of the fort to attract the attention of the Indians while Lieut. D and his men slipped out and embarked upon the snows. They did not conceal from each other the risk they were taking, but they discussed a plan of action which would give them a good chance to escape capture. Neither faltered in his determination to take the risk.

They knew that nearly the whole band of Indians would be after them, and if they were taken it meant a long and desperate death-torture—but they also knew that it would leave the door of escape open long enough for their comrades to get away from the fort. Then came the question—what one would take the direction down stream, for both knew that the who rode that way would have the best chance of escaping from his pursuers.

So they agreed to toss for place, and in the dim light these two men cast lots between them for life or death. That was what it meant—that is how it turned out. Pierre won, and then he said to Cohn, "Take my horse, Jack. He is longer-lived than yours. It will be a long chase with you on one with me. I'll sooner take your place, Jack," he added, sadly, for they loved each other

as brothers, and Pierre knew from experience the risk his friend would run. But Cohn would not consent to an exchange of horses and expressed his ability to outrun the Indians. So the heroic compact was concluded, and it only remained to obtain the lieutenant's consent and approval.

Then the next day the strange thing already referred to occurred. When the soldiers declared in favor of remaining in the fort and fighting it out Jack Cohn spoke up. "Lieutenant," he said, "I hate the idea of running away as much as any of the boys. But it's got to be done. It will be clean murder if we stay. The odds are too much for us, because they won't fight fair. They'll burn us out, sure."

This speech of Jack's was the strange thing that occurred, because he was known to be one of the bravest men on the force, but Lieut. D quickly perceived that there was something behind the words spoken which had yet to be disclosed. "Well," Cohn spoke, "I have consented to abandon the fort, how are we to get away? It seems to me we will be worse off outside than inside the walls."

"Yes, sir," said Jack; "but Pierre and I have talked it over, and we propose to go out and give the odds to the Indians, and the boys get away. If you can get aboard the snow at the river bank and push off I guess we can keep the Indians engaged long enough for you to get well down the river. Mr. L. and his people are all right. The odds won't hurt them."

"And what is to become of you and Pierre?" "Oh, I guess we are able to take care of ourself at least we are willing to chance it."

It was said quite coolly, but Lieut. D understood at once the heroism of the men in making the offer. No one understood better the terrible risk they would run, but he also saw in it a chance to save eighteen lives by the possible loss of two. There was also a hope that the brave volunteers would succeed in escaping death.

So in a few feeling words, in which he thanked them for their devotion, he praised their courage, he accepted their offer. When, however, the full extent of the sacrifice these two brave fellows were prepared to make became apparent to their comrades there was a strong disposition on their part to refuse to agree to it. Finally all objections were overruled and preparations were made to carry out Jack's and Pierre's plan. In the first place, Mr. L.'s family and men left the fort, and camped near the Indians to give instructions from Lieut. D to impress upon the latter that he and his men were resolved to fight it out. Then all the spare ammunition and weapons were collected, ready to be dumped into the river out of reach of the Indians at the moment the soldiers boarded the snow.

At last the critical moment arrived, at a time when the Indians were engaged in their camp and unprepared for an immediate chase. Quick as the gate of the fort was thrown open and Jack and Pierre flew out at full gallop, each taking a separate direction. Then a shout arose from the Indians, who rushed for their horses and were soon in hot pursuit. One party dashed after Jack, while another pursued Pierre. For a few moments the soldiers in the fort watched the course of their comrades before taking advantage of the opportunity to escape. Then silently they stole out of the fort and down to the river when the snows lay. The extra ammunition and guns were thrown into the river and the rude craft shoved off and poled into the stream, where the current caught it and sent it at a rapid rate down the river.

"Every minute brought Lieut. D and his men nearer to safety, but when they saw it with Jack and Pierre? When the snow was well down the river and rounding a point a splash was heard, and then Pierre's head appeared above the water as he swam eagerly towards the boat. As the came near he cried faintly, "I was shot through, boys; help to pull me in."

In a moment one of the men had plunged into the river and was supporting Pierre, while willing hands were ready to lift him tenderly into the snow. Pierre was badly wounded and faint from loss of blood, but he had strength enough to tell how after being shot he had managed to reach a spot where the line of woods ran close to the edge of the river, where he was dismounted, cast down, and lay motionless in the snow. "Don't you see," replied Pierre, "if you and I ride out of the fort and go different ways the Indians will be after us. They'll think we're going for reinforcements, and there'll be no big chase. I'll do the quick exit on the river bank, and desperate chances, but our horses are good and we're the only two who know how to play the Indians. What do you think of the scheme?"

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