

## Provincial News.

## NEW WESTMINSTER.

Capt. Jas. Robinson, of the Dominion government steamer Sampson, is laid up by illness, and Capt. Frank Odlin is temporarily filling his place.

Mr. C. A. Gardner, of the steamer Tanager, left Vancouver by the City of Seattle last night for Telegraph Creek to make a report to the C.P.R. of the state of the ice in the Stikine river, etc.

The Dominion Fisheries Department has just seized another ton of sturgeon which was caught with illegal gear near Sumas.

The post office will in future be lighted by electric light.

Mr. Benson's big steam dredge was brought up to the city yesterday, and is now being put to work along the Royal City Mills.

At 10:30 o'clock yesterday morning quite a crowd of ladies, as well as a few gentlemen, gathered in St. Andrew's Presbyterian church to witness the interesting ceremony of uniting in marriage two well known inhabitants of the Royal City. Miss Constance Victoria Clute, third daughter of Mr. J. S. Clute, inspector of customs, and Mr. S. J. Thompson, the Rev. Mr. Vert, assisted by the Rev. T. Scouler. Mr. Andy Morrison, M.P., acted as best man, and Miss Annie Clute was bridesmaid. The happy couple left the church amidst a shower of rice, and proceeded to Vancouver, en route for Monterey, Cal., at which place they will spend their honeymoon. Quite a large number of useful and handsome presents were presented to the bride and bridegroom, both of whom are highly popular in this city.

Rather a serious burglary took place in this city on Thursday night. The store belonging to T. J. Trapp was entered some time during the night and goods, principally knives and razors, valued at between \$300 and \$400 taken. The robbers entered the premises at the rear of the store and effected an entrance without much difficulty, and evidently without much noise, as they were able to extract their booty without the constable on the beat hearing them.

During the past month 11 births, 11 deaths and 7 marriages were registered at the local office.

After the council meeting on Thursday evening Mayor Shiles invited the aldermen to the Colonial Hotel, where the annual banquet was held. An enjoyable time was spent, though owing to the worshipful's poor health, the proceedings were brought to a close at an early hour.

## NELSON.

Nelson, Dec. 31.—The ore shipments of 1897 were as follows, but do not include this week, as the returns are not yet in: Slocan via Kestel, 35,000 tons; Slocan via Nakusp, 5,124 tons; Rossland via Northport, 9,345 tons; Rossland via Nelson, 52 tons; Ainsworth, via Nelson, 119 tons. Total 49,710 tons.

The value of the ore shipped through Nelson in 1897 was \$3,149,325.97. The value of the Nakusp shipments was \$548,484.62. Total value, \$3,697,810.59. The average value of ore was \$74.28 per ton. This does not include about half a million dollars worth of ore that went via Revelstoke over the C.P.R. The returns of which are not made to Nelson. The shipments of matte consisted of 3,333 tons, of a total value of \$4,416,692.97, making a total of ore and matte shipped of \$8,114,503.56.

The following is a recapitulation by months: January, 4,543 tons, \$675,500; February, 5,201 tons, \$582,853; March, 5,822 tons, \$667,881; April, 3,764 tons, \$433,234; May, 2,995 tons, \$397,797; June, 3,464 tons, \$483,855; July, 4,139 tons, \$543,832; August, 4,070 tons, \$576,189; September, 4,694 tons, \$714,225; October, 3,290 tons, \$571,146; November, 5,273 tons, \$824,982; December, 4,015 tons, \$753,752.

Ore shipments this week were as follows: Matte, 120 tons. Total value of ore and matte exported for the week, \$22,051.

Probably what is one of the richest strikes yet in the history of Yule, has been made on the Big Patch group, the property of Duncan Darrow and Chas. French, situated about 10 miles up Porcupine creek. Specimens brought down Tuesday showed large chunks of free gold and were undoubtedly assays in the thousands. There is about four feet of this rich pay streak in a ledge of no less than 26 feet wide. Assays taken from the surface, but not from the rich streak, ran as high as \$108 in gold.

## VANCOUVER.

Vancouver, Dec. 30.—Three Australians, Ross, Wedner and Petrie, left by the City of Seattle last night for Skagway. They took with them the biggest personal outfit that has yet left here, comprising 7,900 pounds. The outfit is to last two years. These Australians are well-to-do, being worth \$100,000 between them.

Champion & White's coal office was broken into by burglars and the safe completely wrecked in an attempt to get inside of it. The combination, however, defied their efforts. There was no booty secured, but Vancouver has been again made aware that there are desperate criminals in the city, only kept within bounds by the constant vigilance of the police.

## METOCHOSIN.

The residents of Metochosin celebrated Christmas by a treat to the young people in the form of a Christmas tree and other festivities. Some fifty children mustered to meet Santa Claus in the person of Mr. W. Hayward, and a committee of ladies provided numerous gifts. The adult members of the community had a pleasant evening with dancing, cards and other amusements of the morning. Altogether, there was a regular social gathering of the old-fashioned style. The district of Metochosin is said to be the oldest settled portion of Vancouver Island, and although things do not seem to have prospered there so well as in other parts of the island, the people are nevertheless leading happy lives.

My little book, "THREE CLASSES OF MEN," free, sealed, upon request. It gives a full and complete exposure of the three classes of men (young or old) without medicines. Over 5,000 cured last year by my wonderful working Electric Body Belt and Supporting Suspensory. Soothing currents through the weakened parts all night. Cures' drains in thirty days of early back in one week. Dissolves the clogged blood, develops parts and cures.

## THE WARSHIPS IN ORIENTAL WATERS

## List Showing the Naval Strength of the Various Powers on the China and Japan Stations.

## Great Britain's Immense Fleet—The United States Very Poorly Represented.

The Hongkong Telegraph, in its issue of July 24th last, published the following list of men of war on the China and Japan Station. Recent events in the Orient have aroused such interest regarding the relative naval strength of the various powers in those waters that it is thought opportune to reproduce the list in its entirety:

## THE RUSSIAN SQUADRON.

Admiral Korniloff, Russian armored cruiser, 5,000 tons, twin screw, 36 guns, 9,500 h.p., Captain Elitchinoff, at Nagasaki.

Admiral Nakhamoff, Russian armored cruiser, 5,000 tons, twin screw, 36 guns, 9,500 h.p., Captain Kashehinoff, at Vladivostok.

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tons, 38 guns, 9,000 i.h.p., en route Singapore.

Pluvier, French dispatch boat, 545 tons, 4 guns, 500 h.p., Comdr. Vidal, at Bangkok.

Surprise, French gunboat, 627 tons, 10 guns, 800 i.h.p., en route Singapore.

Triomphante, French armored cruiser, 4,700 tons, 24 guns, 2,400 h.p., Capt. B. de Broville, at Saigon.

Viper, French gunboat, 463 tons, 6 guns, 441 h.p., Comdr. Constalle, at Bangkok.

## The German Squadron.

Arcona, German cruiser, 2,370 tons, 20 guns, 2,400 h.p., Captain Becker, at Chefoo.

Comoran, German cruiser, 1,630 tons, 14 guns, 2,700 h.p., Com. Brusaletti, at Nagasaki.

Frene, German cruiser, 4,400 tons, 22 guns, 8,000 h.p., Capt. du Bois, at Nagasaki.

Kaiser, German flagship, 7,676 tons, 29 guns, 8,000 h.p., Captain Zey, at Nagasaki.

Princess Wilhelm, German cruiser, 4,400 tons, 22 guns, 8,000 h.p., Captain Thelle, at Chefoo.

Wolf, German gunboat, 489 tons, 6 guns, Selected for Service.

Flagship of Vice-Admiral Tirpitz.

The American Squadron.

Boston, U. S. cruiser, 3,180 tons, 18 guns, 4,630 h.p., Captain F. Wildes, at Kobe.

Albatross, U. S. cruiser, 1,770 tons, 16 guns, 1,000 h.p., Capt. MacKenzie, at Shanghai.

Monocacy, U. S. gun vessel, 1,807 tons, 10 guns, 850 h.p., Capt. Farenholt, at Yangtsie Ports.

Barman, U. S. flagship, 5,800 tons, 34 guns, 33,500 h.p., Capt. J. J. Read, at Yokohama.

Petrel, U. S. gunboat, 800 tons, 11 guns, 900 h.p., Capt. Emory, at Yokohama.

Yokote, U. S. cruiser, 1,700 tons, 16 guns, 3,405 h.p., Comdr. Stockton, at Nagasaki.

Flagship of Rear-Admiral McNair.

The Spanish Squadron.

Argos, Spanish gunboat, 508 tons, 600 h.p., 2 guns, Comdr. R. Cabezas, at Manila.

Castilla, Spanish cruiser, 3,260 tons, 2,690 h.p., 22 guns, Comdr. A. Martin, at Manila.

Cebu, Spanish troopship, 532 tons, 600 h.p., 2 guns, Lieut. A. Barreras, at Manila.

Don Antonio de Ulloa, Spanish cruiser, 1,160 tons, 1,523 h.p., 13 guns, Comdr. E. Robiou, at Manila.

Don Juan de Austria, Spanish cruiser, 1,156 tons, 1,500 h.p., 13 guns, Comdr. J. de la Concha, at Manila.

Elcano, Spanish gunboat, 590 tons, 600 h.p., 7 guns, Lieut. Comdr. F. Escudé, at Manila.

General Alava, Spanish troopship, 520 tons, 600 h.p., 6 guns, Lieut. Comdr. R. Benavente, at Manila.

Isa de Luzon, Spanish protected cruiser, 1,048 tons, 2,200 h.p., 10 guns, Comdr. R. Benavente, at Manila.

Isa de Cuba, Spanish protected cruiser, 1,048 tons, 2,000 h.p., 10 guns, Comdr. R. Benavente, at Manila.

Reina Cristina, Spanish cruiser, 3,520 tons, 5,972 h.p., 21 guns, Captain L. C. Barzan, en route Manila.

Velasco, Spanish cruiser, 1,252 tons, 1,600 h.p., 7 guns, Comdr. F. Reboul, at Manila.

There are also twenty-four small river gunboats.

Miscellaneous.

Bengo, Portuguese gunboat, 462 tons, 3 guns, 400 h.p., Lieut. Com. Jose des Reis, at Macao.

Panther, Austrian torpedo cruiser, 1,530 tons, 12 guns, 5,940 h.p., Comdr. Koppel, at Nagasaki.

BRITISH FLEET ON THE CHINA

STATION.

Alacrity, dispatch vessel, 1,700 tons, 10 6pd. q. guns, 3,000 i.h.p., Command. Smith Dorrien, Hakodate.

Algerine, sloop, 1,050 tons, 6 guns, 1,100 i.h.p., Com. Ewen F. Dornville, Shanghai.

Archer, third class cruiser, 1,770 tons, 6 guns, 3,500 i.h.p., Commander C. E. Kingsmill, Hakodate.

Centurion, first class battleship, 10,500 tons, 14 guns, 13,000 i.h.p., Captain S. H. B. Logan, Hakodate.

Daphne, sloop, 1,140 tons, 8 guns, 2,000 i.h.p., Commander A. A. C. Galloway, Nagasaki.

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East, coast defence gunboat, 263 tons, 3 guns, 200 i.h.p., Lt. Com. H. P. Barton, Shanghai.

Firebrand, 3rd class gunboat, 455 tons, 4 guns, 360 i.h.p., in reserve, Hongkong.

Grafton, 1st class cruiser, 7,330 tons, 12 guns, 13,483 i.h.p., Captain Edward P. Jones, Hakodate.

Handy, twin screw, torpedo boat destroyer, 200 tons, 6 guns, 4,000 i.h.p., Lieut. Comdr. Alex. Gillespie, Hakodate.

Hart, twin screw, torpedo boat destroyer, 280 tons, 6 guns, 4,000 i.h.p., Lieut. Comdr. Hastings F. Shakespear, Hakodate.

Humber, store ship, 1,640 tons, 800 i.h.p., Hongkong.

Immortalite, 1st class cruiser, 5,600 tons, 12 guns, 8,500 i.h.p., Captain Ed. Chichester, Hakodate.

Iphigenia, 2nd class cruiser, 3,600 tons, 8 guns, 7,000 i.h.p., Capt. H. N. Dudding, Singapore.

Limnet, gun vessel, 756 tons, 2 heavy guns, 4 6-pounders, 370 i.h.p., Commander R. C. Sparkes, Behring Sea.

Narcissus, 1st class cruiser, 5,600 tons, 12 guns, 8,500 i.h.p., Capt. W. C. C. Forsyth, Hakodate.

Penelope, 1st class gunboat, 755 tons, 6 guns, 1,200 i.h.p., Lieut. Comdr. P. S. St. John, Hakodate.

Phoenix, sloop, 1,050 tons, 6 guns, 1,100 i.h.p., Capt. R. P. Cochran, Tanager.

Pigmy, 1st class gunboat, 755 tons, 6 guns, 1,200 i.h.p., Lieut. Comdr. C. J. J. Dornier, Bangkok.

Pique, 2nd class cruiser, 3,600 tons, 8 guns, 9,000 i.h.p., Acting Comdr. J. J. Graham, Hongkong.

Flower, 1st class gunboat, 755 tons, 6 guns, 1,200 i.h.p., Lieut. Comdr. S. V. Y. De Horsey, Singapore.

A peculiar accident happened recently to the engine on passenger train No. 1 at Montreal Junction. The engine was proceeding along through the darkness the engineer and fireman were startled by a crash from front, and then the headlight went out. They thought at first that a stone had been hurled into it, but an investigation showed that a big crow had flown straight into the light, shattering the glass lens and breaking the mechanism. A wildly staged condition was hanging up in the roundhouse the next morning. Ohio News.

## THE CHILDREN OF THE POOR.

O winter wind, indulgent blow,  
O sun be warm and bright,  
Then kindly stars, keep watch below  
Through all the lonely night.  
Let not the children of the poor  
Of suffering, O fate!  
These little children of the poor  
Within the city gate.

They are thy helpless ones who feel  
The wickedness of man,  
Who dwell beneath the iron heel  
Of thy industrial plan;  
Be merciful and move the heart  
Of love and charity,  
Till tears in eyes long dry shall start  
Their wretchedness to see.

Give them each day their daily bread,  
Beside for their play,  
Round which a soft good-night is said  
At close of darkest day,  
And if, perchance, the home be bare  
Of all save want and sin,  
Grant, grant the faithless scornful prayer—  
That joy may enter in.

O wealth, O fame, ye are not vain,  
While innocence still lies  
Upon a bed of burning pain,  
With hunger in its eyes,  
Blessed, blessed heart!  
Proud wisdom to be kind,  
These little children of the poor  
Bath and the Christ defend!

For peace are courts and camps maintained,  
For pride asylums rise,  
Humanity's great heart is gained  
When human freedom dies,  
And, not here the poor are found,  
At close of a noble day,  
Rather in rags they wander round  
Unconscious by love's gate.

CHARLES W. STEVENSON.

WHAT CANADA MISSED.

Forty Thousand Old-Fashioned Rifles  
Were to Be Sent Here.

Not every member of the Canadian militia is aware of the fact that at one time, not so long past, Canada was on the point of receiving, as its armament, 40,000 single-loading weapons, with Martini action and 130 barrel, instead of the new service magazine rifle it now has.

This armament of 40,000 303 single-loaders the Imperial authorities have still on their hands, somewhat to their disgust, and they are extremely anxious to get rid of them. The Australian infantry are anxious to receive a new weapon, and it is said that an attempt has been made to foist this rejected weapon on the Australians.

The matter has raised quite a discussion in military circles in England, and in Canada it plays an interesting part. We have had a very narrow escape from receiving these single-loaders, for they were actually made and the excuse given for the sending of them was to be "that it was feared the men would allow their magazine rifles to rust."

The Army and Navy Gazette in an admirable article, handles the matter without gloves. "Putting aside," it says, "this undeserved slur on the 40,000 active Canadian militia, the supposition is sheer nonsense, the barrels are the same, the rifling the same, the ammunition the same; if anything the magazine rifle is easier to clean than the Martini-rifle of similar bore, since when the bolt is removed a straight 'push through' can be obtained when necessary from the breech as well as the muzzle end."

"The late head of the Canadian militia pay department, Herbert O'Meara, says: 'The rifle the Canadian militia now have is the Lee-Enfield service magazine rifle. The Martini-Metford, after exhaustive trial, was discarded as too heavy, the barrel being the old .45 converted into the .303 by a steel tube. From this it would seem that the heavy single-loaders rejected by the Canadian, and now being pressed on the Australians, seemingly to get rid of them, are converted guns too heavy for use.'

"It is due to the Grenadier Guards that the Canadians revolted at the single-loaders, and thus, we believe, these 40,000 rifles are now on hand. Prizes had been offered to the Canadian team under Col. Massey at Bisley to be shot for with the magazine service rifle, but they had none of these. Their camp neighbors, the Grenadiers, hearing of their difficulty, lent Col. Massey twenty magazines, and for the occasion gave them ammunition. In the hands of the crack team the rifles surpassed themselves, though not a member had ever fired one before. The team took some magazine rifles back to Canada to show to their comrades, hence the single-loaders remained in England and Canada purchased 40,000 service magazine rifles, which are at this moment in the hands of her troops."

"It is quite natural there should be a desire to dispose of the 40,000 single-loaders so awkwardly on hand from the action of the Grenadier Guards, but this is no reason why they should be dumped in Australia as a 'cheap line.' It is a signal instance of the advantage of sending every year, as Canada does, portions of her troops to mix at home rifle ranges with such troops as our Guards and their officers. We also hope every year to welcome the arrival of small but picked teams from Australia and New Zealand, to Bisley, where they can closely observe all that is up-to-date, and carry back their information to their comrades."

A number of the new English 15 prs. has lately been delivered to the Australian artillery. It is true that the number is small, but it is eminently a start in the right direction. "What about the infantry?" the Australian forces will naturally ask themselves, "as the magazine rifle has been deliberately chosen as the best weapon for the imperial forces (and the Canadian militia) why should it not be the best weapon for us?"

"But putting the natural feelings of the Australian infantry aside, is this proposed issue of single-loaders good policy on the part to the home government? The necessities for imperial service may call for assistance from Australia and New Zealand. As a matter of fact an Australian contingent has already fought side by side with the imperial forces in Egypt, and it is surely not the best way to ensure success when the empire's hour of need comes to give part of our forces a weapon which, as every man carries it, will feel as he goes into action, handicaps the soldier as compared with some of his comrades, and certainly puts him at a great disadvantage in meeting his opponent."—Montreal Gazette.

"Have you no mercy?" she wailed.  
"Just out of mercy," smiled the hardened villain. "Besides, at I showed it to you now these people in front would denounce me for not giving them their money's worth."—Philadelphia North American.

## FREE BOOK FOR WEAK MEN!



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**VARICOCELE.**  
Consult me free, or write for book.  
DR. SANDEN, 156 ST. JAMES ST.,  
MONTREAL, QUEBEC.