

FREQUENT OBJECTIONS.

The Work of Counsel Before the Claims Commission Becomes More Animated.

Captain Byers Tells How the "Pathfinder" Carried Off Her Prize Crew.

The meeting of the Behring sea claims commission yesterday was decidedly livelier than any preceding session, objections being taken again and again to questions put by one side or the other, and argument sharp and pointed following. A ruling was given in the morning on a subject which has several times been a question of difference between counsel for Great Britain and the United States. This was as to the proportion of seal secured out of those shot by the hunters. Mr. Bodwell had asked this of Captain Miner and Judge Putnam, speaking for the commissioners, said that they had decided to restrict the evidence of witnesses on this point to their own practical experience. The number of witnesses, too, must be limited—six would be enough—except in the case of unforeseen contingencies. As an alternative, the commissioners were of opinion, if it was agreeable to counsel, that any references in the published reports of the Behring sea case at Paris covering this matter were open to either side to put in.

Hon. Mr. Dickinson, after consultation with Hon. Mr. Byers, replied that counsel were agreed six witnesses would be enough.

Captain Miner being further cross-examined by Sir Charles H. Tupper, said that he had the schooner Penelope hauled up in Victoria for painting in 1886, and found no difference between the cost of such work here and in San Francisco. The witness in the course of his examination also said that schooners were brought round from the East in 1886 and 1887, notwithstanding they could be bought more cheaply in San Francisco, and that there were several vessels suitable for sealing on the market in November and December in 1886 and 1887. Such vessels were offered in 1887 and found no buyers, though he could not name the men who bought them. He had never seen the Caroleña affair, but if he had been able to compare her with vessels of similar size that he had known he might have had his opinion altered as to her value.

A somewhat lively discussion arose over the next question put by Sir Charles to the witness, as to what proportion of the seals he shot that he had secured.

Mr. Justice Putnam here remarked that the ruling made in the morning would be voided if counsel were allowed to open up that question on cross-examination.

Sir Charles Tupper certainly claimed a right to ask the question, as the same matter had come up in the examination in chief of the witness. He submitted that this view was supported by what Mr. Justice Putnam had said.

Mr. Justice King observed that the preceding evening, as he remembered it, some questions had been asked of the witness on this point by the United States counsel, and if the notes showed such was the case, he did not think Sir Charles should be debarred from cross-examining upon the same subject.

Hon. Mr. Dickinson argued that the questions asked of the witness by the United States had been only preliminary on the subject, and he would suggest that to meet the difficulty they should be stricken out of the notes altogether.

Sir Charles Tupper was quite agreeable to this, if all the examination of the last witness as to seal life and hunting were stricken out. He failed, however, to see how part of that evidence should stand and part be struck out.

He then stated that even if the witness' testimony was taken on the question of the proportion of seal he secured out of those he shot, that as there might be six witnesses on the subject according to the ruling, the witness might make one of the six.

Mr. Justice Putnam thought the British side should prove the matter by their own witnesses, whereas Sir Charles inquired with surprise:

"Surely we are not debarred from proving a point by a hostile witness?"

A short discussion followed as to the difference in practice of cross-examination in the two countries, and finally the witness "stood down" temporarily, until counsel on both sides could have a consultation to see if they could agree on what was to be struck from the notes as when retained.

Mr. E. Crow Baker, secretary of the Pilot Board, stated that the board at one time had owned the Caroleña, having sold her when they purchased another vessel.

Mr. William Munroe, called by the United States, was asked by Hon. Mr. Dickinson if he knew Michael Serrault, of Alberni. Serrault had come down from the West Coast on Tuesday and had spent last night at Munroe's house. He did not know that the United States side had a subpoena out for Serrault, who had come from the West Coast at witness' request. Witness and Serrault were at the steamer Tees' wharf last night. The witness examined some down with Capt. Irving and had found Serrault there. Serrault had gone there to see Capt. Roberts on business. The witness had not waited until the Tees sailed, but had taken Serrault home with him. In a hack as the man was not well. He had found Serrault drinking in a saloon with Alexander McLean and had taken him away as he did not want him in McLean's company. Serrault had not left town and Munroe was quite willing to produce him as a witness.

To Hon. Mr. Peters witness remarked that he had let Serrault at his house. Witness had been down at the Tees before the vessel sailed for the West Coast, as he had interests there.

To Hon. Mr. Dickinson witness said he knew Patrick Hickey, but did not remember seeing him during the past few days. He had not asked Hickey to go away, or told him that the United States had a subpoena for him.

Hon. Mr. Dickinson put in the registry papers of the San Diego filed at San Francisco, showing A. J. Bechtel to be

THE CHARTS TO BLAME.

Still Another of Uncle Sam's New Navy the Victim of a Misadventure.

Business Active for the Canadian-Australian Liners—Arrivals From Sea.

A private letter from Seoul, Korea, received here by the R. M. S. Empress of India, states that the United States cruiser Boston is seriously strained, and may be obliged to come home as quickly as possible for repair. On the 5th of last month she ran aground on a sand-spit in Flying Fish channel, twelve miles from Chemulpo, hanging there until the following morning, when at the most favorable stage of the tide she was released with her own power. It was at first thought she had sustained no injury, but a few days later it was noticed that she was "weeping" freely amidships taking in water through the plate seams at the bow. It was generally feared that the entire framework had been sprung. A member of her engine room staff, writing to a naval friend here, says it was most fortunate for the ship that the mist occurred when the plate seams at the bow were open, for a few days later, for otherwise the fine cruiser would undoubtedly have hung on the bar until her back broke. No court martial has yet been held to fix responsibility for the accident, but it undoubtedly will be soon. In the meantime the circumstance is being made the most of as an example of the danger attendant upon all attempts to navigate Korean waters without the assistance of skilled native pilots. The charts are almost all defective and none have been brought up to date by recent surveys, and are no guide to the dangers of the position which the Boston found herself in. The treacherous bar, which runs northward from Marelles island, is in fact not marked at all on several approved charts, although it has proved fatal to numerous small craft and not a few pretensions merchantmen.

"THE MARLBOROUGH HILL." Reinsurance was just being obtained on the British bark Marlborough Hill, a Victoria from Indramayo, Java, when the vessel arrived at Royal Roads yesterday morning. Fears were beginning to be entertained that something unusual had happened the bark accounting for her delayed arrival, but since the vessel arrived in safety, it is clear that no disaster had occurred aboard. The Marlborough Hill had been delayed by rough weather, but came through all unblemished. She is in ballast, and is here to the order of Wood, Ward & Co., Ltd. Her second arrival from sea, yesterday, was the British ship Sierra Bianca, Captain Spencer, which comes from Cardiff with 2,100 tons of coal for the navy. Her voyage was made in the remarkably fast time of 133 days. She was favored with good weather most of the way, encountering the roughest elements of the tropics. She was towed in from sea by the Wanderer, of Port Townsend, while Rowland, of the same port, brought the Marlborough Hill to her anchorage.

"BUSINESS STEADILY GROWING." From present prospects it seems that the advent of the new steamship on the West Coast will be a most beneficial one, for without an increased service it would be difficult to imagine how business could be handled in future. A dispatch to the Colonist from Montreal last evening says: "The Lake of the Woods and the St. Lawrence, the fire room on the Canadian-Australian line of steamers for four to go to Australia, during the five months ending with April. The company has also engaged 500 tons on each of the Hongkong steamers, which will be ready for service in months ending March. These latter shipments are to be re-shipped at Hongkong for Sydney and Queensland ports."

"MARINE NOTES." The steamer City of Puebla, due this evening from San Francisco, has on board the following passengers for this city: F. Spengler, Miss S. Springer, Mr. R. Angus and wife, A. H. Bradley, Ernest Tee, Miss M. Baumbury, A. Adams, and Mrs. J. Bailey. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha, had, when the Empress of China left Yokohama, decided to send an extra steamer direct to Seattle. The British steamer Agapanthus had been chartered, and was to have sailed on December 5, making no call at Honolulu.

"THE STRATHNEVIS' SALVAGE." "Important admiralty cases constituted the bulk of the business in the United States circuit court yesterday," says Wednesday's P. M. Home district. Two were confined to papers, and not to trials, two of them, at least, were conspicuous as among the most important of their kind ever brought in the courts of the Ninth district. All Monday there were proceedings leading up to the settlement of the salvage claims against the Northern Pacific steamship Strathnevis, by the owners, officers and crews of the steamships Miowera, of the Canadian Pacific line, and the Mineola, a tramp freight steamship. One of the features of the case was the legal talent employed in representing the parties to the libel, among the best known attorneys in the Northwest being engaged to argue the claims of the contending vessels. The settlement of the claims was arranged Monday evening, and the formal release of the bonds, amounting in the two separate actions for salvage to \$175,000, will be made today. The agreement contemplated a payment of \$20,000 to the Mineola and \$27,000 to the Miowera. The costs of the litigation amount to about \$5,000, making in all the tidy sum of \$52,000, for which Attorney Ashton gave checks on Tacoma for \$20,000, and the clerk of the Federal court, went to Tacoma yesterday for the money.

"You Can Be Well." When your blood is pure, rich and nourishing for nerves and muscles. The blood is the vital fluid, and when it is poor, thin and impure you must either suffer from nervous debility, or you will easily fall a victim to sudden changes, exposure, or overwork. Keep your blood pure with Woods' Sassafras and will.

"Hood's Pills are the best after-dinner pills; assist digestion, cure headache. 25 cents."

"Windsor Salt." Purest and Best for Table and Dairy. No adulteration. Never cakes. If sick headache is misery, what are Carter's Little Liver Pills if they will positively cure it? People who have used them speak of their worth. They are small and easy to take.

TOWN OF GRAND FORKS

Centre of One of the Most Promising Mining and Agricultural Sections.

Requirements of a Visitor to a B. C. Mining District—Speaker Higgins.

GRAND FORKS, Dec. 12.—(Special)—I landed at the little wayside town of Marcus, on the American side of the line, from a Nelson & Fort Shephard train, on a cold and dreary afternoon ten days ago. The snow lay deep on the ground and the mercury registered zero on the station thermometer. Marcus is sparsely inhabited, and there is a run-to-seed look about the houses, which seem to have grown (like a cucumber vine) in a hurry, and spread over the ground in long, rambling rows, as if in search of some hole where they might go to sleep and forget the world. I stayed over night at the hotel, and was regaled until bed time with marvelous tales of wonderful discoveries of gold bearing quartz in the adjacent hills and mountains. Every man and woman carries in his or her pockets specimens of the latest "am over-pond" gold, and the pockets are made to yield from their deepest recesses the glittering evidences of the richness of the ledges.

Quartz forms the principal—the only—topic of conversation everywhere. I ventured into a mine of young matrons, who were warming themselves at a hot wood-fire, and tried to lead them gently from quartz to babies; but it was no use. Babies do not count for much at Marcus, where all men and women are much more than able to interlard their words with the learned and technical phrases in common use here, whether he understands their meaning or not.

I left Marcus at 2:30 the following afternoon on a sleigh drawn by two horses. I was fortunate to have for my companion Judge Spinks, of the County court, who was on circuit and who proved most pleasant and genial company. He talked freely to the comfort of the passengers, and the otherwise wearisome journey. At night we partook of an excellent supper at "Hall's," a way-side inn on the Colville reservation, and enjoyed a comfortable bed. The parties without this early march will, and are all original locators of the Hall mines, who now court their wealth by the millions.

Bright and early in the morning we continued our journey. The sleighing was excellent, and as we dashed along over the frozen snow, commenced in and bracing winter air, Mr. Trux, our driver, pointed out various objects of interest. We crossed Kettle river twice on the ice; a by no means perilous passage, as the water was low and the ice one in three. The rebels were armed mostly with sharpened bamboo and broad knives—the former being rather a formidable weapon, as strong and as hard as steel. Now that the Spaniards have so long delayed active operations, supplies of all kinds of weapons may have come to the rebels overland, as the rest of the coast is practically unguarded. One steamer belonging to the Spanish government has been captured by the rebels, and is now in their hands. The native crew manning up the river, and retired with the boat.

CONSUMPTION CURED. An old physician, retired from practice, having had in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellow-men. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge, to all who desire it, this receipt in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. Noves, 820 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

VICTORIA. BEST FAMILY FLOUR, XXX Brand. SUPERFINE FLOUR, WHOLE WHEAT MEAL, Recommended by the Medical Profession. GRAHAM FLOUR, SELF-RAISING FLOUR, Prepared on Scientific Chemical Principles, and no deleterious substances used in its manufacture. No Baking Powder, Yeast or Salt required.

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Victoria Mineral Claim.

Situate on the right bank of Mineral Creek, and about one mile from China Creek.

Take notice that I, Henry Saunders, acting as Secretary of Consolidated Alberni Gold Mining Company, Limited Liability, Free Miner's Certificate No. 69,086, intend, 60 days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements. Dated this 14th day of October, 1896. HENRY SAUNDERS.

Warspite Mineral Claim. Situate on the right bank of Mineral Creek, and about one mile from China Creek.

Take notice that I, Henry Saunders, acting as Secretary of Consolidated Alberni Gold Mining Company, Limited Liability, Free Miner's Certificate No. 69,086, intend, 60 days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements. Dated this 14th day of October, 1896. HENRY SAUNDERS.

Chicago Mineral Claim. Situate on the left bank of Mineral Creek, and about one mile from China Creek.

Take notice that I, Henry Saunders, acting as Secretary of Consolidated Alberni Gold Mining Company, Limited Liability, Free Miner's Certificate No. 69,086, intend, 60 days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements. Dated this 14th day of October, 1896. HENRY SAUNDERS.

Alberni Mineral Claim. Situate on the left bank of Mineral Creek, and about one mile from China Creek.

Take notice that I, Henry Saunders, acting as Secretary of Consolidated Alberni Gold Mining Company, Limited Liability, Free Miner's Certificate No. 69,086, intend, 60 days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements. Dated this 14th day of October, 1896. HENRY SAUNDERS.

Last Dollar Mineral Claim. Situated in the Alberni Mining District on Mineral Hill, and adjoining on the south of the Chicago Claim.

Take notice that I, E. J. Saunders, Free Miner's Certificate 69,073, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Gold Commissioner for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that adverse claims must be sent to the Gold Commissioner and action commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements. Dated this 7th day of October, 1896. E. J. SAUNDERS.

Ace of Spades Mineral Claim. Situated in the Alberni Mining District on Mineral Hill, and west of the Consolidated Gold Claim.

Take notice that I, E. J. Saunders, Free Miner's Certificate 69,073, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Gold Commissioner for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that adverse claims must be sent to the Gold Commissioner and action commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements. Dated this 7th day of October, 1896. E. J. SAUNDERS.

Minnie Mineral Claim. Situated in the Alberni Mining District on Mineral Hill, and adjoining on the west of the Ace of Spades Claim.

Take notice that I, E. J. Saunders, Free Miner's Certificate 69,073, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Gold Commissioner for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that adverse claims must be sent to the Gold Commissioner and action commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements. Dated this 7th day of October, 1896. E. J. SAUNDERS.

IN THE PHILIPPINES.

(From the China Mail.) It may be safely stated that the Spanish authorities are not making great progress in the suppression of the rebels. This report is based on a prolonged period of unsettled commercial conditions. We heard several days ago that the Spanish troops had suffered a severe reverse at the hands of the rebels, and that the Spanish loss was about 309. This report, however, is not confirmed, and the organization and discipline of the rebels are apparently astonishing the authorities. Some time ago a rumor was in circulation that the general who was second in command at Manila had disappeared, and all sorts of stories were in circulation. It is now stated that General Blanco sent this officer to Spain for the good of his health—on so-called sick leave. A large number of troops are said to have been ordered from home, and many of these are alleged to be on the way. To judge from the tactics of the rebels, it would appear they are led by some heads other than Indian. Dr. Rizal, whose movements were being watched, is now in the mountains of Manila, awaiting disposal.

A correspondent from Manila, who may be relied upon, writes that it seems almost impossible to obtain any information of the rebellion. The Spaniards, he reports, are now in a position to be on the way. The majority of them apparently are recruited, badly armed, and some of them without uniform. A small body of cavalry men arrived with the last batch, but without horses.

The correspondent continues to say: "The volunteers are the most useful looking lot of men I have seen here. They were banded at the beginning of the rebellion, and numbered about 1,500. They certainly march well, and are all armed with the best rifles. They are well dressed, but they say that is as far as they go, and that they cannot indulge in rifle practice, as they are so badly supplied with ammunition. I understand that over the frozen snow, commenced in and bracing winter air, Mr. Trux, our driver, pointed out various objects of interest. We crossed Kettle river twice on the ice; a by no means perilous passage, as the water was low and the ice one in three. The rebels were armed mostly with sharpened bamboo and broad knives—the former being rather a formidable weapon, as strong and as hard as steel. Now that the Spaniards have so long delayed active operations, supplies of all kinds of weapons may have come to the rebels overland, as the rest of the coast is practically unguarded. One steamer belonging to the Spanish government has been captured by the rebels, and is now in their hands. The native crew manning up the river, and retired with the boat.

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