skating. There were five entries sland, Feb. 19.—It has been offigiven out that during the about the Hon. C. H. Mackintosh, no authorised to make any purchase eral ground for the British Amer-

orporation, sland defeated Sandon in the hocinals by 11 goals to 1. Sandon imtwo Eastern players. The chamof British Columbia goes with

Wells won the long-distance championship of British Colto-day, defeating Lyons and ia to-day, defeating L pbell. Lyons was second.

REVELSTOKE. a. J. I. Tarte, Dominion minister of i. J. 1. Tarte, Dominion minister of works, writes as follows, under Ottawa, February 10th, to a citizen I just wired you as follows: "Progovernment having declined to Revelstoke protection item \$10,500 was dropped from es last year. We then cannot do ing. It seems to me that there is ng more to be said in this matter. incial government had it in their to take advantage of the \$10,500 the estimates of 1896. They deto do so, although the importance g action in the matter was repreto them. I may add that the proof shores falls within the jurisdicof provincial and municipal authori-

BARKERVILLE.

exander Sharpe, a well known Cari-miner, has been killed by a snow-at his claim on Cunningham Creek. to the heavy snowfall the roads en Quesnele and Barkerville have rendered almost impassable. The stages are being greatly delayed freight teams will, says a report y attempt to go over the roads benext May, when they can go into the al of Cariboo on wheels.

DONALD.

Proctor, for some time C.P.R. surere, has gone to reside at Kamaddress and a gold watch and He also, before departing, comthe skin grafting operation on the Daniels, who was badly burned revy. In all 52 pieces, taken from directions. it citizens of Donald, were grafted Only one graft failed, and that igh the child moving it.

INDIGNATION MEETING

utions Passed at a Meeting of Father Ruthven's Supporters. meeting held in the A.O.U.W. Hall

result of the recent arrest and imment of Father Ruthven, the followsolutions and preambles were unaniadopted.

reas the fundamental principles society are free speech and liberty ight and action; whereas the purity laws and religions depend upon their ritieism, by the proposition. by the people; whereas is omains all sects enjoy equal h domains all sects enjoy equal whereas the exponents of infi-different isms are and have been d free and uninterrupted speech as at this present time two evanger is at this present time two evangers holding nightly meetings unmissive holding nightly meetings unmissive whereas any meeting in the interthe people is lawful and right if the is not broken; whereas at any meeting in the interthe whereas at any meeting in the interthe whereas at any meeting on the case has not been broken or even disciplined in the case of the g; whereas scandalous reports were ted through the eastern press of the sneess of the citizens on returning ated through the eastern press of the senses of the citizens on returning a meeting held by Father Ruthven eaking the windows of the R. C. church insulting the resident priest, Father aye; whereas the suppression of freeth has been the cause of the death of four most respected citizens, and conent affliction of his family; whereas the sof this city have not given any evictor enighten the public on the Ruthto enlighten the public on the Ruthease during its recent progress in the ty court, presided over by the chief e; whereas the report of the judgment by the chief justice in the county, as given in the Daily Times of Feb. and the Daily Colonist of the 18th, is incorrect according to the evidence in court; whereas the papers have given the condemnatory statements by the plaintiffs and have withheld made by the defendant, all of which of a personal character and foreign in case at issue; whereas it was pubstated by the counsel for the plaintiff if they could only have got Ruthyen the case at issue; whereas it is tated by the counsel for the plaintiff if they could only have got Ruthven erjure himself they would fix him;" eas, according to evidence, the object e trial was not so much to secure the charton of the \$70 as to blacken the charton.

fore be it resolved that this mass here assembled do unanimously the above resolutions in their enand do hereby express confidence in M. Ruthven for the fearless manner the herefurned to this city after his M. Ruthven for the fearless manner h he returned to this city after his er had been assalled through the and for the manly front maintained the common foe of free speech and Be it further resolved, that copies resolution be presented to Father n, to the minister of justice of the on of Canada, to the speaker of the egislature, to the house of commons ada, to the Dominion senate, to the of this and other cities.
R. C. DOUGLAS, Dominion senate, to the

J. B. BALLENTINE, President.

ANOTHER VICTIM.

of the Genest Brothers, of Mont-real, Was on the Clara Nevada. letter received here yesterday ght the information that one of the those who lost their lives on the Nevada disaster. The letter was seed to Mr. A. J. Genest, who d through here a few days ago on vay home from Dawson, and ed at the Driard hotel, the bearer ng that it was from Mr. Genest way, telling A. J. Genest of t h of their brother. Mr. Hartnagle raphed the news to Mere Mr. A. J. Genest now is. news to Montreal

False kepresentation.

Ontario Lady Compels a Merchant to Pay for Damages.

lady writing from an Ontario town "A month ago I visited one of our stores and asked for three packages mond Dye , Navy Blue, for dyeing The merchant informed ool goods. hat he was out of Navy Blue in the nd Dyes, and talked me into buydye of another make, at the same guaranteeing them to do as good as I could get from the Diamond friend was with me at the time eard the whole conversation. I took range dyes home, used them accorddirections, and was sadly disaped with the results. The color was ng but a Navy; in truth, my mato the merchant and told him his were a fraud. He offered to give re of the same dyes or my money refused both offers, and after threatened law proceedings he it best to pay for the materials This merchant will never again chance to sell me any m shall go where I can get the I have had my last lesson with

OLD-TIMER'S VIEWS

Major Walsh and His Men Saved Many Returning Miners From Starvation.

Mr. E. M. Sullivan Presents a Few Arguments Against the Royalty on the Output.

Need of a Bank to Buy and Send Out Gold-Agricultural Possibilities.

Among the recent arrivals from Daw-on City was Mr. E. M. Sullivan, than one nobody is better posted on the nobody is better posted on the country, Mr. Sullivan having any years in that part of the long conversation last evenspoke of the changes that had ver the country within a year. he river, where, a few years ago er would not meet anyone for time, he is now almost con

octing those who have come out dawson this winter Mr. Sullivan had the assistance they have rerom Major Walsh, the admin his officers and men. Many of en went into the mines last fall trip, and being unable to obtain supply in Dawson, were forced are their steps. Some of them frozen over, carrying provisions gh to last them perhaps ten days, eas they had a trip at that time of ear of from 60 to 70 days. Had it been for Major Walsh and his men these poorly provisioned pros-must have starved. They were ed and passed from one police sta-

the next.

the miners would have liked to about to start for Dawson, and it is sup-posed that he has reached there by this as the miners are anxious to

mining regulations.
"Yukon district is certainly very rich in gold, and there may be some rich claims that would pay for the labor done on them and the royalty," said Mr. Sullivan, "but there are other claims that would have to be sold to pay the royalty. The miners are willing to pay oyalty. The miners are willing to pay tax, but it should be levied on the net profit and not on the gross output. It is true that \$2,500 is exempted, but it is \$2,500 of the gross output, which would make little difference if the mine is not paying. There are many claims that it costs from \$20,000 to \$50,000 a year to work, and others on which from \$5,000

lukon is destined to be one of the greatand the tax of ten per cent.
"A matter that should receive immediate attention is the establishment of a in the city.

ate attention is the establishment of a Canadian bank. For some years the country has been practically in the hands of two companies, the Alaska Commercial Company, and the North American Trading & Transportation Company. These companies allow the miners an average of \$15.25 an ounce for their gold, which is worth \$17, and then charge them 6 per cent. for drafts on San Francisco or Chicago. It is to be hoped that the government will remedy this great evil by arranging for the establishment of a Canadian bank at e establishment of a Canadian bank at that the miners can get full value for their gold, and have it shipped out of the country at a reasonable cost

"Mining is not the only industry that can be carried on profitably in the Yuvalley. There is room for hundreds farm along the river between Fort grass hills on all sides. the banks of the river the loam is fine and black and vegetables and feed enough to supply even the big demand that is bound to arise in the Yukon valcould be raised here."

Like all others who have come out, Mr. Sullivan says there is no fear of starvation, although the Indians may be a little short, as last fall they were unable to purchase their usual supply of provisions from the stores. The white miners, however, have sufficient to last them until June, by which time lots of goods will reach Dawson, as there is already a large supply at the foot of Lake Labarge, ready to go down with the first water. In Dawson the winter has been a camparatively mild one, the thermo meter registering on an average of 5 be-low zero between the first of November and the 1st of January, whereas it usually averages about 30 below.

THE MAINE'S WOUNDED. Smarting Over the Delay of the Government

in Taking Action. acksonville, Fla., Feb. 21.—A special to Times-Union and Citizen from Key West Sailors of the battleship Maine suffering rom wounds in the Key West hospital, re smarting over the delay of the govern-ment in punishing what they term a Span-sh outrage their minds there is no doubt as to neir minds there is no doubt as to ause of the explosion, and they ex-the delay in taking summary action ying that the president is morally at the there was no accident, and ug to deceive the Spaniards with a g of security, is using the short time ke the necessary preparations to en-ultimatum.

o action is taken, they say, notifal

chor and proceed to a spot marked by a broy. We were reviled on the streets of Havana, sneered at until our blood boiled, and found out for our own safety that it was necessary for us to make our visits to the city in force. No man dared to go alone. There was no knowing what might happen to him.

"The explosion itself is the best evidence that it was a mine or tornedo. There were

"The explosion itself is the best evidence that it was a mine or torpedo. There were two sharp and distinct reports. The first was like a peal of thunder close at hand, and then darkness and chaos, made more horrible by the screams of dying men, the fierce shouts of those fighting for egress and the moans of those hemmed in to die by fire or by drowning. The Spanish warship was lying close at hand and Moro Castle was not a shot away. Both have searchlights, but none were turned upon us to help the work of rescue, and because of the darkness many brave men who could have been rescued went down to Davy Jones."

MORE TESTIMONY

The Oft-Repeated Tale of Victoria's Advantages Further Corroborated.

Prospective Yukoners Speak in Terms of Praise of Local Outfitting Houses.

but should have outfitted at some point tions for county and district councils in the States, and the result, comparing would be biennial, and all would retire in the States, and the result, comparing the prices I obtained in Seattle, with those I have paid here would have been a loss of from \$100 to \$150, and I should not have obtained goods of the quality I

have now packed ready for my trip."

This continued testimony to Victoria's This continued testimony to Victoria's advantages as an outfitting point threating much good where he was forced to be become wearisome, and it is now only possible to make mention of the most striking examples furnished by those who are through the Sound cities and come much information for the government pass through the Sound cities and come and grasp the situation himself. His proclamation forbidding any men to go in without a proper supply of provisions has met with the approval of all the miners now in the country. When Mr. Sullivan passed Big Salmon the Major was about to start for Dawson, and it is supposed to victoria for their outfits. The hotel registers tell the rest plainly enough. To-day again the names enrolled upon the Dominion, Queens, Wilson, Occidental and other hotels include men from all parts of the States; 32 at the Oneon's that he has reached there by this His arrival will be hailed with every other house bear testimony to the fact that Victoria is becoming recognized arn what he intends to do in regard as the proper place from which to start for the north. And although it is impossible to particularize, it is well within the truth to say that '99 per cent, of the parties arriving here are purchasing in the city every article they need for the

trip.
At the Victoria is a party of Chicagoans who, hearing before their departure
from that city of Victoria's advantages,
having been recommended to come direct
here by Mr. H. E. Miller, who knows
thoroughly the needs of those who are
going into the Yukon country and Victoria's advantages in supplying them.

The San Francisco boat which arrived work and others on which from \$5,000 last evening brought a large contingent to \$20,000 are spent before a dollar is of Californians, who will outfit here, and taken out. Not many industries in Can-a run around the principal general stores. ada could stand the tax of ten per cent. will convince anyone needing such proof that it is proposed to levy on the output of the Yukon mines. If the government took ten per cent. of the farmers' crops of the Yukon mines. If the government took ten per cent. of the farmers' crops just completed outfits for a party of Calibratic Mr. John Redmond, the Parnellite or ten per cent. of the coal mined, regardless of its cost, or ten per cent. of tralians and a number of local Yukoners, some points of the measure. If it worked the earnings of the C.P.R. I wonder it and the compliments paid the firm by successfully it would be an unanswerable nan, McWilliams, McPhail, Stacey st mining countries in the world with its already well developed placer mines and the rich quartz ledges that have been recently discovered, but it cannot than ever convinced of the justness of their claim to rank amongst the most competent of the many outfitting houses

city is the expressed determination awson, with competent assayers, so the part of all the merchants to the ef fect that "what we have we'll hold."
Particular care is taken to see that
everything supplied is of the best quality, so that no cause for complaint shall exist on the part of those who trust im-plicity to the outfitter. This policy, adof farms along the river between Fort of farms along the river between Fort Sekirk and Little Salmon, where hay, grain, potatoes and other vegetables could be grown to supply the mining camps further down the river. Also where the Dalton trail strikes the Yukon river there is a fine valley from one to river there is a fine valley from one to the satisfaction they had received in Victoria. This is in striking the river there is a fine valley from one to the satisfaction they had received in Victoria. contrast to the experience of a party of the men who went up north last August having purchased their goods in Seattle, and who came down last week with the intention of renewing their outfits. They had a complaint, and a serious one, to make about some of the lines they purchased in Seattle, and one of the made a special trip over to Seattle to register the joint "kick" of the party, only to find on his arrival there that the firm from whom they had purchased was "mushroom" concern which mained open only sufficiently long to enable them to take advantage of the temporary rush and had then disappeared as an outfitting firm from the location which they had so boastfully asserted ey "came to stay."

TIMBER REGULATIO.S. Mr. Willison, the Crown Timber Agent,

Makes a Statement.

Makes a Statement.

Mr. J. W. Willison, crown timber agent for the Yukon country, will go north on the Danube. In conversation he said.

"As for my assistant and myself, we intend to make as quick a trip as possible with the aid of the Mounted Police. The present intention is that we get to Lake Bennett as soon as possible and put the timber laws in operation. Neither we nor the government know much about the resources of the country, and it is our business to find out something about them. We will probably establish one office, where Mr. Macfarlane will be stationed, in the lake district, and I may go further inland; anyhow, we will investigate first. We will assist in any way we can the companies who have licenses and operate mills in the timber districts, but some of these other receiver taking in mills will find themselves who have includes and of these other people taking in mills will find themselves in a sad predicament. The government has received tenders for the timber rights on certain lands, and it would be manifestly unfair for other mill operators to be allowed to make the property of the proper no action is taken, they say, notical and among them will again pace the deck, an American man-or-war; but if busical and american man-or-war; but if busical section is seen to take a strong force to them from hurrying to the front, anded though they be, to take a hand what they look upon as a personal venue.

We were warned not to go to Havana," said to-day, "being told that danger lited us there. When we got there, we again told, and it was current rumor to the harbor bottom was honeycombed himnes. We first chose our anchorage hested there for several hours, but the bor master compelled us to weigh another than the service of the service of

The Irish Local Government Bill Introduced Into the Imperial House of Commons.

It Pleases All Parties and Eventually Passes Its First Reading.

London, Feb. 21.-The House of Commons was crowded to-day when the Chief Secretary for Ireland, Mr. Gerald Bal-four, introduced the Irish Local Government bill. In so doing, he said that he thought it possible that the new order of things would at first seem to be a failure, but he believed that it would work through failure to the success which would be the beginning of better and brighter days for Ireland. The govern-ment, Mr. Balfour continued, proposed that the local administration be distribated between county councils, and boards of guardians, the election of which would be by parliamentary franchise, with the addition of peers and women. The qualifications and disqualifications for election as councillors would be the same as in England, except that min ting those who have come out two this winter Mr. Sullivan at the assistance they have remon Major Walsh, the adminibility of the sample of the mines last fall the new tinto the mines last fall the new tinto the mines last them the and the tenough provisions to last them supply in Dawson, were forced to their steps. Some of them mipelled to start before the river are over, carrying provisions to last them perhaps ten days, they had a trip at that time of they had a trip at that time of the suspension of the continued: "Why? because had it not been for that regulation would be disqualified from sitting in the county or district to obtain a has made it imperative for intending miners in the Yukon district to obtain a license in Victoria before they can prospect in Canadian territory," said a gentleman from California to a Times reporter to day. Asked his reason for expressing satisfaction with a regulation which it has been stated was a hardship upon Americans, he continued: "Why? because had it not been for that regulation would take over the duties of grand yould not include criminal jurisdiction or questions of compensation for malitication would be disqualified from sitting in the county or district to obtain a license in Victoria agentleman from California to a Times reporter to day. Asked his reason for expressing to day. Asked his reason for expressing to a trip at the time of the man from California to a Times reporter explained, the boundaries of the counties, would be modified, and the county or district to obtain a has made it imperative for intending in accordance with precedent. For the miners in the Yukon district to obtain a has made it imperative to obtai isters of religion would be disqualified

> would control the expenditure. They would also be responsible for dealing with exceptional distress, and would decide when the requests of boards of guardians for outdoor relief should be granted. Dublin, Belfast, Cork, Limerick, Londonderry and Waterford would have constituted independent county councils. The county would be responsible for half the extra expenditures.
>
> Mr. Balfour also pointed out that the bill provided that the occupier was liable to both the county case and near rate. to both the county cess and poor rate. whether in a town or rural district, which would involve the re-adjustment of rents. an equal sum to be granted from the Imperial exchequer, as an agricultural grant. Mr. Balfour said he thought that the bill was based upon broad democratic lines, adding that if extravagances occurred, those responsible for them would bear the burden, while they would reap the

together. The county councils would be the sole rate-collecting authorities, and

benefits of any economy. The Right Hon. John Morley, the for-mer chief secretary for Ireland in the late Liberal administration, welcomed the bill as being a "genuine democratic

Mr. John Dillon, the chairman of the Irish parliamentary party, said that he thought that the measure was an immense advance over the bill of 1888, and fulfilled the promises of the government, but he claimed that it was not equal to the Erglish and Scotch measures. He pointed out that the control of the police was not given to the councils. Nevertheless, he added the bill would do much good, and his party would endeavor to execute it in good faith.

an opportunity for all classes of Irishmen

to unite in a common cause. Mr. Timothy Healy, the Irish Nationalist member for North Louth, praised the bill, but Mr. Michael Davitt, the Irish Nationalist, threatened opposition to the part of the bill promising relief to the landlords in the shape of an agricultural grant The Irish Local Government bill event-

ually passed its first reading.

LANDS AND WORKS. Annual Report of the Chief Commission-

er Presented to the Legislature.

The annual report of the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, for the year ending December 31st, 1897, had been issued. The report shows that there were only 462 pre-emption records issued as against 486 for the previous year, but the certificates of improvements issued numbered 204 for 1897 as against 144 for the year 1896. There was a notice able increase in the number of certificates of purchase issued, being 977 as against 694, over 50 per cent. of which were credited to Kootenay. The total acreage deeded for the year was 609,597 acres, as against 36,821. So that it may be assumed that considerable of the land deeded this year went to railway com-panies as subsidies. The acreage of crown lands deeded during the past year is 50 per cent. greater than that of any year since 1884. During the year 1892 the acreage deeded was 300,878 acres, and during 1896 the acreage was but 36,821 acres. The coal prospecting licenses issued during the year numbered 10, but no acreage was issued under any coal licenses for the year. No coal acreage has been granted since 1895, when the acreage amounted to 14,461. The report of the timber inspector shows that during the year, the timber and cordwood cut, exclusive of that ent upon Dominion or the E. & N. Railway lands, was: On crown lands, 61,961,647 feet; on timber leaseholds, 39,014,010 feet; on private property, 4,963,740 feet which was not subject to royalty. The royalty payable upon timber cut was set at \$50,427,82, and the estimated amount at \$50.487.82, and the estimated amount allowed for rebate on exportation was \$17,358.57, leaving a net revenue of \$33,129.25. To this should be added the royalty collected on cordwood of \$12,-354.40, making a total net royalty of \$45.483.65. The revenue accruing for timber leases in 1897 was \$46,931.29, ogether with special and general licenses aggregating \$4.880.00. The total net

evenue derivable from all timber sources was set at \$97.294.94. THE ONTARIO CAMPAIGN. Thirteen Constituencies In Which There

Will Be Hot Contests. Toronto, Feb. 23 .- There are thirteen constituencies in which there will be contests with three or more candidates in the field, namely, Glengarry, South Grey, East Lambton, North Oxford, South Renfrew, Stormont, East Wellington, South Perth, North Bruce, Centre Grey, London and Prince Edward, The Conservatives are without a straight party candidate in Centre Bruce, West Lambton and West Wellington, the Liberals are without straight party candidates in Parry Sound, Dufferin, Frontenac and West Simcoe. In Parry

Sound W. R. Beatty is ranked by Conservatives as a Conservative and by Liberals as an independent. He was a member of the last legislature, and while ne was elected as a Conservative, he

whichever candidate succeeds will probably support whichever party succeeds.

The World says of the Ontario electors, "Indianation of the Probably support whichever party succeeds. tions: "Judging from the reports received from all parts of the province the defeat of the present administration seems inevitable. The present outlook is that the Conservatives will carry the four Torontos, the two Ottawas, one, if not both the Hamiltons, Kingston, Brock-ville and London. In Essex peninsula two or three seats are to be redeemed. All the Middlesexes, including Hon, G. W. Ross's seat, are booked as Tory. Niagara peninsula with Haldimand and agara peninsula, with Haldimand and Monk, are looked upon as "wins." The capitulation of the Greycastles are lookfor in mid-western and northern Ontario, and to crown all, Whitney's stronghold is secure beyond a doubt with a big majority for the opposition leader

THE ALASKAN FLEET

The Thistle Delayed for Inspection-The Danube to Sail for the North This Evening.

The Steamer Umatilla Brings a Host of Klondikers from Frisco Last Night.

The steamer Thistle will not sail for Alaskan ports until this evening, being delayed for inspection. Captains Co.lister and Thompson inspected her hull and boiler this morning and at the instance of the latter official some small repairs carpenters, too, took the opportunity to finish the building of new berths for the passengers and kennels for the dogs. Since her last trip rows of kennels have been built for canine passengers around the upper deck. The following took passage: Robert Chadwick, Alex, Campbell, W. Ellison, A. Rectell, J. Keating, R. S. Ross, C. Sinclair, J. S. Hickford, C. A. Union, W. L. Detrick, G. Quarrie, John Carrigan, Olaf Olesen, George Anderson, Nels Hausen, Hans Hansen, Cornelius Grumberg, C. Clausen, R. Mahner, C. A. Lindsay, Alex. Simpson, A. Beaumont, J. Bronard, A. Bronard, Curran, G. Wake, H. Paull, Hon, S. Tollemache, Leslie, Jones, A. B. Cotton and R. Menaugh, The latter with Messrs. Olaf Olesen and J. Keating and Messrs. Olaf Olesen and J. Reading and six others, are bound to Dawson, via Skagway. They have in view, besides mining and dredging for Klondike gold, the blishment of an electric light the establishment of an electric light and power plant. Mr. R. Menaugh, who has been for eight years past electrician of the Electric Light Company, will be the chief electrician. The above list of passengers will be swelled on list of passengers will be swe the arrival of the steamer at Vancouver and Nanaimo to about 100. She will carry but little freight besides the baggage of her passengers.

The duties of the Dominion inspector of boilers and inspector of hulls have, with the vastly increased shipping in British Columbia waters, become so onerous that to secure the safety of those travelling by the steamers leaving Van-conver and Victoria the staff of officers member for North Armagh, said that a E. Adams, chairman of the board of majority of the landlords recognized the steamboat inspection for the Dominion, is necessity of the measure, which offered now in the city to hold examinations of steamboat inspection for the Dominion, is candidates for assistant boiler and hull inspectors' positions. For the former position only those qualified to act as first-class engineers are eligible, and each candidate must present credentials as to sobriety and character. For assistant hull inspector a thorough knowledge of the construction of vessels, and high testimenials as to trustworthiness must be possessed by the candidates. The examnations will be held forthwith in the office of the inspector here, and successful candidates will be appointed to various stations by Mr. Adams.

Steamer Umatilla arrived from San Francisco last night bringing a host of prospective miners bound to Klondike. She had 102 booked direct to Alaskan points, besides about fifty who intend remaining in this city a short time to make their preparations for the journey, the majority of those booked direct will also remain here and purchase their supplies and outfits before the Cottage City the next vessel of the Pacific Coast S.S. Co. sails northward. The Umatilla brought 97 tons of freight for local mer-chants. The steamer Walla Walla, the southbound liner, will have few passen-gers to San Francisco from this city. Those booked up to this afternoon being T. E. L. Taylor, T. Kellecher, Miss Hib-Nelson, William Gutch, Mrs. R. J. Haughton.

All day long the winch of the Danube has been at work and her crew busy swinging sleds, outfits and other freight into the hold, which this evening will be completely filled. The Danube will have a large number of passengers, her accommodation having been taken up for about a week back. She will sail northward this evening. The steamer Tees will fol-low to-morrow evening, laden to the guards and with a full complement of passengers She will take up twenty-six Northwest Mounted Police, from Vancouver. On Friday evening the steamer Princess Louise will sail carrying the verflow from the Tees and The Tees will call at British Columbia way ports on her way north.

A letter received from the captain of the steamer Maude, at the scene of the wreck of the Corona, states that they expected to float the vessel in four days, the damage not being so great as at first reported.

The steamer Cottage City, of the Pacific Coast S.S. Co., will sail for Dyea, Skagway, Juneau, and Wrangel to-morrow evening. She will be followed by the Victorian on Saturday evening, and Australia on Sunday.

THE ZOLA TRIAL

Increased Excitement To-day in the Precincts of the Palace of Justice.

Paris, Feb. 23.-There was increased excitement to-day in the precincts of the palace of justice, and the audience within the assize court, where M. Zola and Perrieux have been on trial since Februry 7th was restless and loudly discussed the features of the cases. M. Laborie, counsel for Zola, resumed his argument for the defence, when the proceedings opened. He will probably terminate at 4 p.m., when M. Clemenceau, counsel for

Severest Storm of the Season Still Raging-Trains Blocked and Business Suspended.

F. Perry, M. P., Dying-C. C. Eldridge Appointed Appraiser at Vancouver.

Ottawa, Feb. 23.-The biggest storm of the season is still raging here. Trains are still blocked and business in the city is largely kept back by the snow. By persistent efforts the street car service is maintained. In the storm of yesterday the pier at Oakville, Ont., was swept away, and damage done to the extent of \$5,000. The minister of public works is investigating and will call for repairs. S. F. Perry, M.P., of Prince Edward Island, is on the point of death this afteroon, and is not expected to last out the

Wm. Holtby, foreman in the car shop the Canada Atlantic railway, was killed while engaged on a snow plough clearing the track near Coteau Junction. He was a prominent Mason and ran for alderman two years ago, here:

C. C. Eldridge has been appointed ap-

praiser at Vancouver.

The department of customs has decided not to enforce the clause prohibiting the carriage of Canadian goods in the carriage of Canadian goods in American vessels going by St. Michael's and Yukon, but it will be enforced against Dyea and Skagway. This is for this season only and is done in the interest of Canadian trade, there being

scarcity of British vessels. Yesterday the premier read corres-ondence and made a statement concernng Hamilton Smith's offer to build the Yukon railway. The correspondence emwere made. The engineers, with the exception of the chief, who, in consequence of a misanderstanding with the ship's officers, resigned, were hard at work this afternoon rigging a small pump to secure pump pressure on the safety valve, and making other changes. The carpenters, too, took the opportunity to braces a letter from Smith to Premier At that meeting Mr. Smith was asked the name of the Montreal friend by whom he sent his offer to Mr. Sifton. He named Sir Wm. Van Horne. Afterwards Mr. Sifton stated that no offer had been received through Van Horne. Sir Wilfrid Laurier concluded by reading a letter from Van Horne, in which the latter said he had not made any offer to Sifton for the construction of this railway, and that he was not authorized by Mr. Smith's company to do so. This ended the statement read by Premier Laurier. Major Cook, Prince of Wales Rifles, Montreal, will have command of this year's Bisley team. Capt. Smith, St. John Rifles, will be adjutant.

INVESTIGATING IN PRIVATE.

Proceedings of the Maine Board of Inquiry Not To Be Given Out. Havana, Feb. 22.-The board of inquiry into the Maine disaster met on the lighthouse tender Mangrove yesterwith Captains Sampson and wick and Lieutenant Commanders Petter and Marix present: Captain Sampson presided and Lieument Commander Marix, a recent executive officer of the Maine, acted as recorde".

Capt. Sigsbee, the commander of the
Maine was the first witness. He was

put under examination, being the only itness heard.
The board will make a careful personexamination of the wreck, near which the Mangrove is anchored. Captain' Sampson received the Associated Press correspondent shortly after the session of the board. He said in the course of air interview:

"I would be glad to give the Associated Press news, but owing to the delicate situation the board has decided to make nothing whatever public. I do not know what testimony may develop or when, and it is only fair to the Spanish govern-nent not to tell the public the testimony intil all has been received and the find-

ngs have been considered.

You may say that this rule is abso-. Due care will be taken for the rigid nforcement of it, and all stories purorting to come from the court should be et down as false. I have no idea as to how long the court will remain here. No nembers themselves do not know. I shall give the Associated Press such news of e procedings as is proper." Consul General Lee and members of he United States court of inquiry on the loss of the battleship Maine called this morning upon Captain General Blanco, and Admiral Manterola. When these coremones were ended the court returned to the United States lighthouse tender Mangrove and resumed its sessions.

It is believed that a number of bodies will be recovered from the forward part of the Maine to-day. The majority of the bodies' left are understood to be those of the seamen and many of them are said to have been mutilated in the struggle for life. which, the divers say, must have been fearful.

It is announced that 1,000 Spanish egular troops arrived at Santiago de Cuba Saturday. The military commander of Guanaba-ca has ordered a suspension of the pubfestivities as a mark of respect to the Maine's dead.

THE YUKON RAILWAY. Talk With Mr. William Mackenzie, One of the Contractors.

When you are through with the present contract I suppose you will be the richest men on this continent?" Mr. William Mackenzie who, in con-junction with Mr. Mann, is to build the ew road to the Yukon, laughed pleasantly at the notion this morning, encountered at the Windsor hotel. "Well, but think of three million and a half acres of gold bearing lands?" "Yes, but who has proved that they are gold-bearing lands?"

"Have you not heard what the oppon-nts of the contract have said in the couse, what has been sald in the senate, about the enormous possibilities of the ntract?"

"Oh, indeed, yes, but nobody has dething. The more valuable they prove to be the better it will be for everybody the contractors, the miners and the country as a whole."

Will the handing over so much the public lands not militate against the nterests of the miners?" "No obstruction whatever will be put the way of the miners because of any "Well, now, Mr. Mackenzie, as to the rinciple involved of giving away the principle involved of giving away the public lands to contractors, you have heard, of course, of the opposition which has been aroused on this point both in the house and the senate?"

"Is this a new principle? Has it not, on the contrary been in operation in this country, for the last twenty-five

btenrs? And the lands that were given away were known at the time to be Later—M. Zola was found guilty on all counts and sentenced to one year's imprisonment and was fined 3,000 francs. valuable lards. The case is very differ.

"And about the proposed blocking action at Washington?" "There is nothing in that," was the niling answer. "We are proceeding smiling answer. "We are proceeding with our work, as if no opposition exist-We have engaged men and machinery; I am here in connection with freight rates and we are ready to commence upon the making of the sleigh road. There is no drawing back on the part of the government; we are proceding to carry out our contract." Montreal Daily Witness.

MR. M'NICOLL EXPLAINS.

Montreal, Feb. 23.—With regard to the report that the C.P.R. would be expelled from the immigrant clearing house at New York, Mr. McNicoll, the passenger traffic

York, Mr. McNicoll, the passenger traffic manager, says:

"This action simply places me where I was before I became a member of the immigration bureau, which I never really had the least desire to connect myself with, but which I was prevailed upon to join. Our object never was to build up the port of New York. We have been laboring and spending money to build up the St. Lawrence river route. This so-called expulsion does not affect us in any material degree. We will simply do our immigration business independently now, that's all. Instead of having business apportfoned, we shall do our own business, as we did before we had any such connections. There is nothing in this."

The Grand Trunk and American lines are still unable to quote rates in competition with the Caradian Business.

are still unable to quote rates in competition with the Canadian Pacific cut. They are

ARE STILL IN DOUBT

American Naval Authorities Not Yet Decided What Caused the Maine Explosion.

Situation in Havana More Grave Than It Was a Werk Ago.

New York, Feb. 23 .- A dispatch to the World from .Havana says:
'The situation in Havana is more grave

The situation in Havana is more grave than it was a week ago. Although the omeers of the naval board of inquery preserve an impenetrable reserve, it is learned that some of the best naval experts now believe the explosion to have been the result of treachery. They do not believe that spanish officers took part in the conspiracy. From evidence now in their possession they believe that the Spanish government, Gen. Blanco and all the military subordinates were guiltiess, alike of a knowledge of or participating in the crime. The explosion is believed to have been the work of a fanatic.

fanatic. Consul-General Lee has informally advised Americans not necessarily detained here to leave for home at once. Many families will sall by the steamer Olive to-morrow. will sail by the steamer Olive to-morrow. This is an indication that those on the ground realize the possibility of trouble arising suddenly and their inability to protect the women and children if outbreaks oc-

cur.

Madrid, Feb. 23.—As the question of the purchase of Cuba is again pushed at Washington, it may be of use to state, on the highest authority, that Spain will never, no matter what government is in power, consider any such suggestion or any compromise in Cuba beyond the broad measure of autonomy drafted by the Liberal government. This is an absolute, irrevocable decision. The people who suggest anything else are wasting time and arousing unfounded hopes.

New York, Feb. 23.—A dispatch to the New York, Feb. 23.—A dispatch to the Herald from Havana says:

The further the inquiry into the causes which lead to the Maine disaster proceed, the more remote appears the chances that any evidence will be discovered to show that the disaster was due to accident. The divers when they nenetrated into the fordivers, when they penetrated into the for-ward part of the wreck, found that the whole forward part of the ship, from a point fust about the forward turner, had been twisted fifteen or twenty degrees to starboard. That part of the vessel was a wilderness of debris and curled and twisted plates. The sharp, jagged edges of some plates added danger to the direculties of the divers, getting the life lines into a tangle and fraying the cords. In one instance they almost cut through the rubber tabe which supplied the divers with fresh air. table which supplied the divers with fresh air.

One important discovery made was the position of the bodies found in the wreck, one hundred of which were floating about in the form compartments. A full score of

one hundred of which were floating about in the torn compartments. A full score of these were examined by my informant. All of these bodies were in hammocks, and all had the arms curved upwards. It looked as if the men had been startled by some sudden shock of danger and were in the act of reaching up for the hammock hooks to swing themselves on deck when death came. This seems to confirm what has already been said about there having been two explosions, the first startling the men into the act of rising from their hammocks and the other dashing the life out of them while they were in that position. while they were in that position.

Before the explosion the ten-inch magazine was located on the starboard side forward and beneath the forward turret. What is left of the magazine seems to have been driven towards the port bow in a diagonal and forward direction. driven towards the port bow in a diagonal and forward direction. The six-inch magazine, which is located on the port side of the ship forward, was hurled in a direction directly opposite that of the ten-inch magazine. One of the copper cylindrical tanks for the six-inch magazine was found by the divers in the wreck of that structure. It contained no powder charge. The ten-inch magazine has not been closely examined at this writing, but such inspection of it as was made leads to the belief that the big pile of twisted wreckage that lies about the top of it is composed of unexploded ten-inch charges.

The theory of two explosions is borne out

ploded ten-inch charges.

The theory of two explosions is borne out by the testimony of Senor Antonio Cabellero, a tobacco dealer, of Havana. Senor Caballero was crossing on the ferry boat at the time of the disaster. He was familiar with the Maine, having paid several visits to that craft and was reinting out. miliar with the Maine, having paid several visits to that craft, and was pointing out to a group of friends on the ferry boat her peculiarities. There came at that instant, he says, a dull report from the forward part of the ship, an upheaval of a geyser of water about the boat, followed almost instantly by a terrible roar and a blinding flash of light. He is positive about the first explosion, and says it was noticed by his companions. This statement of his came to the ears of the court of inquiry; and last night an officer was sent to Senor Caballero to ask him if he would appear as a witness before the court. He announced witness before the court. He

his willingness to do so. THE DREYFUS MYSTERY. Plausible Explanation Given by the Lon-

don Daily Telegraph. London, Feb. 21.-The Daily Tele graph publishes an alleged explanation of the Dreyfus mystery. According to this explanation a secret compact existed between Russia and Germany before the Franco-Russian alliance was arranged. Under its terms Russia undertook to supply Germany with all the information obtainable by spies or otherwise regarding French military affairs, Germany supplying Russia in return with information concerning another power, presumably Austria-Hungary. Dreyfus discovered and traded upon this compact. Whether the Bordereau

letter was written by him or not, it was merely the ostensible basis of the indictment against him. The real secret document referred to is a compact, the re-velation of which would have imperilled the Russian alliance. The same motives of secrecy, says the Daily Telegraph's informant, will com-pel the different governments to deny the truth of this explanation, which is

"The philanthropist," said the cornfed Philosopher, "is often a man with much charity for everybody and none for anybody."—Indianapolis Journal.

nevertheless correct.