General Lord Roberts' Stirring Career.

Thrilling Events in British Military History Recalled by Review of His Services in the Field—The Soldiers' Friend and Hero.

Chas. Lowe, M.A., in Edinburgh Scotsman.

Of all the brilliant soldiers who have helped to found and consolidate our Empire the East—that empire which dwarfs the conquests of Alexander and of Caesar—none have acquired a higher niche in the temple of military fame than the illustrious warrior known to the British peerage as Lord Roberts of Kandahar, and to the British private as "Little Bobs." Of Irish extraction, with a dash of French Huguenot blood in his veins, Frederick Sleigh Roberts was born in 1830 at Cawnpore, which he was afterwards to enter as one of the heroes of an avenging host. His father, Sir Abraham Roberts, had attained the age of 90, and became the "Patriarch of Indian generals."

After spending his boyhood, like all Indian-born British children, in England—at Clifton, Eaton, Sandhurst and Addiscombe (the "John" Company's military seminary), young Roberts came out ninth in a batch of fifty cadets, and was at once posted to a lieutenancy in the Bombay artillery. At Addiscombe he had sufeded so much from heart complaint that reviving sherry had to be kept at his bedside. But if his heart was functionally weak, it was full of the finest courage, though it very nearly sank on his way through the Red sea out to India.

"I don't know," he said, "how we shall ever be able to fight in India if it is as hot as this." But what was the heat of the Red sea to the torrid sun-flames, intensified by the Sepoy shell-fire of Delhi, which were now beginning to flame up? In May, 1857, news of the Muting at Meerut and the seizure of Delhi reached Peshawur, where Lieut. Roberts was acting as D. A. Q. G. of the division commanded by Major-General Reed; and presently before Delhi, the headquarters of the rebellion, there appeared the immortal "Field Force," into which Roberts, after urgent entreaty, had been able to exchange from the Punjab Movable Column.

It was now that his career of glory began—a career that was repeatedly all but cut short by the bullets, shells, and sabres of the Sepoys. Wherever blows were rife, Lieut. Roberts was to be found rejoicing in the rupture of the fray. He was close to Neville Chamberlain when the latter's arm was shattered by grape shot; while "a bullet lodged in the cap-pouch of Roberts, making a severe bruise close to the spine, and had it not been for the cap-pouch he must have been killed."

But wounds he soon recovered from, and cholera he defied. When the seige train at last came up, Roberts got himself attached to one of the batteries, and was indefatigable in directing its fire. He had several hairbreadth escapes; but, like Cutts, the "Salamander" at the seige of Namur, he seemed to bear a charmed life. When the assault was delivered, Roberts had his horse shot. During the final operations he had been employed more as an "eye" than as an "arm" of the beseiging force—in reconnoitring the streets and defences of Delhi; and the quality of his services in this respect may be judged from the effect that the information he placed at the disposal of his chief enabled the latter to take a bastion in reverse, as well as to capture a position in the centre of the city without the loss of a single man.

From the siege of Delhi young Roberts, till acting as staff officer, passed with Greathead's Movable Column to his own birthplace, blood-stained Cawnpore—distinguishing himself repeatedly on the march. In the action of Bolundshur, he attached himself, though a gunner, to the 9th Lancers, and while passing through a gateway a Sepoy took deliberate aim at him and fired, though the bullet only killed his charger. On another occasion the troops he accompanied performed "the almost unparalleled achievement of fighting an action and marching 66 miles in 40 hours, nine miles of which the cavalry did at a trot through high crops or over ploughed fields"—a fine piece of training this for the man who was afterwards to cut this record in his march from Kabul to Kandahar.

HEROIC DEEDS.

Receiving at Cawnpore an accession of strength from the 93rd Highlanders, the avenging column started for the relief of Lucknow, on which Sir Colin Campbell and his Highlanders were now also converging from Calcutta. The march was terribly toilsome and perilous. "I was sent," wrote Lieut. Roberts, "by Sir Hope Grant to select the ground for a new camp. . . While we were waiting and talking to what appeared to be pilgrims, we were shot at, and looking around saw a considerable number of the enemy between us and our force. . . . We put spurs to our horses, but had a narrow escape. My horse, while crossing a river, was slightly wounded and fell, and in doing so my sword fell from my hand and cut my left thumb badly."

As Q. M. G. of Hope Grant's column, Roberts reconnoitred the road, and had the honor of leading the army in the advance from the Adumbagh to Dilkooshn which initiated the operations resulting in the relief of the beleaguered garrison. But it was at the Mess House that Roberts surpassed all his previous feats of cool bravery, and his own very modest and self-effacing account of the incident is this: "I took up the flag of the 2nd Punjab Infantry, by Sir Colin Campbell's orders, and placed it on the Mess House, to show Outram and Havelock where we were. The enemy knocked the flagstaff down three times, breaking the pole once." But it was just as often put up again by the dauntless Roberts, who stuck to his object amid a hail of bullets.

On another occasion, at Lucknow, "while following up the retreating enemy, with the ardor of a fox-hunter, Roberts saw two Sepoys marching off with a standard. Putting spurs to his horse, he overtook them just as they were about to enter a village, and made for them sword in hand. They immediately turned at bay, and presented their muskets at him. It was a critical moment, as one of them pulled the trigger, but the cap snapped almost in Robert's face, and the next moment he had laid the Sepoy carrying the standard at his feet, with a tremendous cut across the head, seizing the trophy as it fell from his lifeless grasp. Meanwhile his companion made off to the village." But a finer exploit of the same kind ensued. "Following the rebels Roberts came up with a group consisting of a Sikh Sowar and a rebel Sepoy, standing at bay, with musket and bayonet. Roberts, not counting the odds, rode straight at the Sepoy, and with one fierce slash across the face killed him on the spot." These two acts of personal prowess gained for him the much coveted Victoria Cross—a fact, the record of which Lord Roberts himself modestly relegates to the obscure position of a footnote in his charming reminiscences of "Forty-one Years in India."

"Roberts," wrote Admiral Oliver Jones, "is as good as he is brave. He is one of those rare men who, to uncommon bravery and daring in the field and unflinching discharge of duty in the camp, adds the charm of cheering and unaffected kindness and hospitality in the tent, and his acquaintance and friendship are high prizes to those who obtain them." He was ever to the front as usual, in all the operations against and around Lucknow; and when at last the fortress was relieved and the backbone of the rebellion broken, his health, never robust, gave way for the lack of stirring action to sustain it, and he was invalided home, handing over his duties to Capt. Garnet Wolseley, his compeer in fame.

After a year's rest in England Roberts returned to India and was recommended by Lord Clyde to the viceroy, Lord Canning to take charge of his camp. Those camp-martial duties Roberts had to interrupt in 1863 when he was told off to take part in the Umbeyla campaign in the far North west, where he had gained his first experience of Indian warfare.

Restored to his administrative work in the Queen's department he next compiled a masterly "Route Book," for the Bengal presidency; for the peace duties of a staff officer are quite as important as his functions in war. It was a cruel dispensation which condemned a "fighting devil" like Roberts to the drudgery of a bureau, but he was a singular compound of a Moltke, and could adapt himself to desk work or field work as occasion demanded.

For the latter an opportunity again occurred when Gen. Napier, as Dizzy finely phrased it, was sent "with the artillery of Europe borne by the elephants of Asia, across the mountains of Rasselas in Abyssinia" to show King Theodore that there was no place in all the wide world to which the punitive arm of England could not reach. Donald Stewart, afterwards his fellow-champion in Afghanistan, who commanded a brigade of this expeditionary army, wanted a Q. M. G., and who could better fill this post than Major Roberts? His services at the landing place on the Red sea were too urgently required to permit of his going inland. But whether at the front or the rear, Roberts never failed to bear away the bell of energy and successful activity, and at the close of the campaign he was sent to London with the despatches which contained an ardent eulogy of his own merits.

IN "LITTLE WARS."

It had fretted the heart of the ardent Roberts that he had not been able to go to the front in Abyssinia and share in any fighting that befell; but now he had not long to wait for one of those "little wars," which are to Indian soldiers what the grand autumn manoeuvres are to Continental armies. Having organized, he was appointed senior staff officer of the expedition, which about the time that France and Germany were stripping for a fall, was sent to chastise and subjugate the trubulent Looshai tribes on the southeasteern confines of our Indian empire towards Burmah. But staff service, pure and simple, would not content him, and we find him "leading the advance against a stockade," in a very difficult and dangerous country.

The taking of Talkoom, which ended the campaign, was mainly due to the fact that the attacking column was led in person by Roberts—the first time he had commanded in action. "Lieutenant-Colonel Roberts' untiring energy and sagacity," wrote the commanding general, "are beyond all praise. He works without guides, even without map or geography, and thwarted the Looshais, whose game was to delay our progress. He never seemed at a loss."

A year or two later Roberts was made Q. M. G. in India, and on his shoulders rested most of the responsibility for the preparation of the camps and durbars necessitated as well by the Prince of Wales' visit to India 1875-1876) as by the proclamation of the Queen as Kaiser-I-Hind. Nor was he less useful and energetic in the field of fighting than in the field of famine (1873-1874), where this was how he appeared to Archibald Forbes, the brilliant war correspondent:

"Short and slight, square, however, of shoulder, and of a distinctly military carriage, his whole aspect denoting alertness and a wiry endurance. He had the air of quiet command one sometimes discerns in men who have seen much service when as yet they had not attained high leadership. His face was almost ascetic in its attenuation, hollow temples indented and narrow, the lofty forehead that rose above the keen, quick eyes; the lower section of the face was long, gaunt and sallow, ending in a chin every line and contour of which betokened force and resolution."

Combining the experience of a soldier with the sagacity of a statesman, Roberts made a deep impression on the viceroy, Lord Lytton, who gave him an appointment which was virtually that of warden of the marches on the northwest frontier; and when it became necessary to force the Ameer of Afghanistan, Sherc Ali, to receive a British mission at Kabul, Major-General Roberts got the command of the centre, or Kuram Valley column (about 5,500 men) of the force which was to advance on the defiant despot's capital by three separate routes.

Crossing the frontier (November '78), Roberts hastened forward only to find his path barred by a superior force of Afghans on the Plewar Kotal. Making a circuitous night march, and developing his attack at dawn, he launched the 72nd Highlanders (Ross-shire Buffs) and the little Ghoorkas on the first stockade of the Afghans, which was carried without a pause save to bayonet the defenders, and stockade after stockade was thus stormed in rapid succession. After several hours fighting the Plewar Kotal was finally carried with a British loss of 21 killed and 72 wounded. As far as Roberts was concerned the fighting was now over, and the spring brought to the British camp Yakoub Khan, who had meanwhile succeeded to his father, Shere Ali, and who hastened to sign the treaty of Gundamuk, which virtually deprived Afghanistan of its previous character as a "buffer state," and made it a feudatory of the British crown. At a banquet given in his honor on his return to India, Roberts—now a K. C. B.—was referred to by the viceroy as "the hero of the Afghan war."

HOW HE EARNED HIS PEERAGE.

But a greater was of the kind was still to come. For scarcely had the ink on the Treaty of Gundamuk become dry when that instrument was "torn into bloody shreds" by the murder of Sir Louis Cavagnari and all the members of his mission at Kabul. Whatever the rights and wrongs of our Afghan policy, the massacre of our mission loudly called for retribution. And the work of avenging so foul and treacherous an outrage was entrusted to Sir Frederick Roberts, whose appointment to the task was again hailed with general acclamation—especially by the private soldiers, whose personal devotion to "Little Bobs" was so intense that they would have cheer-only followed him to the infernal regions.

Roberts' objective was again Kabul, which which was soon reached with his little army, after clearing the way by fighting a victorious action at Charasiah. In front of Kabul Roberts spent some considerable time with varying military fortune, being meanwhile joined by Sir Donald Stewart from Kandahar; and the army was actually on the eve of returning to India when news came from Kabul by wire, via Simla, of the British disaster at Maidwand—a reverse more severe than any that had befallen the British army since the Chillianwallah. In the face of this disaster Roberts was quick to resolve that he must relieve Kandahar, back to which from Maidwand broken regiments had streamed.

The marching out strength of his relieving force, including a splendid Highland brigade of the "Gay Gordons" and the Rossshire Buffs, was about 10,000—just the number whom Xenophone led back from the plains of Cunaxa to the banks of the Euxine. On the 9th August, 1879, the immortal column began its march of 303 miles, and it had covered the distance in 20 days, including one of rest, which gave an average of over 15 miles per day.

On 1st September—the anniversary of Sedan—Roberts gave battle to and utterly defeated Ayoob. After a brief rest he rode to the various regiments in succession, beginning with the Gordons, whose list of casualties was the longest, to thank them for the successes they had achieved for him; and he was everywhere received with deafening cheers—cheers which were repeated, so to speak, when, after the war was over, Roberts came to England and received the thanks of both houses of parliament, a peerage from the Queen and other honors innumerable.

When, a few years later, Mandalay was captured and King Thebaw deposed from the throne of Burmah, Roberts took command, and soon, as usual, brought the operations to a successful issue. Again when the cry went up to wipe out the reverse of Majuba, Roberts was selected as the avenging angel, and lucky it was for the Boers that peace had been concluded before the conqueror of Kandahar had time to reach their plains.

In 1885 Lord Roberts exchanged the command of the Madras army for the post of commander-in-chief in India; and no sooner had he thus succeeded to his old Abyssinian and Afghan comrade-in-arms than he addressed himself with all the indomitable energy of his nature to the work of army reform, as well as of perfecting the defences of the Empire—especially on the northwest frontier, establishing a series of fortified positions which, if not impregnable, at least rendered an invasion from the north (Russia) hopelessly arduous.

In his dealings with the British and native armies he touched only to improve. Like Lord Napier of Magdala, too, Roberts has been par excellence, the soldier's friend, so that Tommy Atkins has conceived for him almost idolatrous affection for the chief, referred to in every barrack room as "Bobs, God bless him!" Never was the departure of an Indian official more mourned and regretted, as well by the English as the native population. As representing the latter at a valedictory banquet, the Maharajah, Sir Pertab Singh, said he "but echoes the wish of all the princes and people in India, they they may soon see Lord Roberts return as viceroy." "No commander-in-chief in any country," said the Maharajah of Kapurthala at a banquet (with sword of honor) given by the city of London, "has ever attained the popularity which Lord Roberts possesses among the people of all classes."

But India's loss is her commander-in-chief was Ireland's gain, as it will probably be England's when Lord Wolseley retires from the Horse Guards—England, whose most conspicuous and loudly cheered subject in the Diamond Jubilee procession of the Queen was "Little Bobs" on the snow white palfrey which had carried him on his ever-memorable march from Kabul to Kandahar.

WOUNDS THAT WON WIVES.

Part That the Bullet Has Played in Love Affairs.

Not long ago a young fellow of good family thought to assuage the pangs of disappointed love by the active duties of a soldier's life. He enlisted: his regiment was ordered to South Africa, and was among those that opposed the Boers at Glencoe. Not many hours later the young lady who had been the cause of his leaving home read his name among the list of wounded, and was so horrified at the result of her rejection of her lover that, smitten with remorse, she at once telegraphed her regret and accepted him for her husband. Let us hope that such a pretty romance will reach a happy consummation.

A young artisan proposed to the daughter of a well-to-do Birmingham tradesman, and was contumeliously shown the door by her parents. In a fit of despair he joined the army and served through the Afghan campaign, where he was so badly wounded as to necessitate a re-entry into civil life. Unable, on account of his injury, to follow his old occupation, he obtained the post of attendant on an invalid gentleman, who, on his decease, left him sufficient money to buy a share in the business of the very man who some time before had refused him the hand of his daughter, but who now was only too glad to reconsider his determination.

During an engagement in the Franco German war, a Frenchman, named Pinet, was left for dead upon the field, where he was found later by the Germans, who having, that his life might be saved, amputated both legs, bore him away prisoned into the Fatherland. Here he attracted the notice of a rich widow, who mourned the memory of a husband whose valor against the Austrians a few years previously had entailed a similar mutilation. Sentiment begat love, and when the war was ended Pinet became the widow's second choice.

A certain non-commissioned officer, whose slim proportions had evoked the contempt of her whom he would have fain called wife, received such a severe wound during the Egyptian campaign that active service saw him no more. But it is an ill wind that blows no one any good, for the sedentary life that he was now obliged to lead was so conducive to the formation of adipose tissue that he rapidly found favor in the lady's sight, and within the year became a happy bridegroom.

A certain officer much courted by society, a perfect paragon for good looks and valor, but of very limited means, sighed after the daughter of a noble house, to whom, however, he never dared breathe his love. About this time war with Russia broke out, and our hero went with his regiment to the Crimea, where he received a terrible wound that meant life-disfigurement.

On his return the lady, whom he had loved in secret, sought him out, and said that, although she had long known his feelings towards herself, only his honorable misfortune could have wrung from her the confession that they were reciprocated. The marriage, which was soon after celebrated, was fraught with every happiness.

A laughable episode occurred during the late war between America and Spain. Miss Anna Botchen, whose heartless conduct had driven her lover, Silas K. Beel, to volunteer for active service, was horrified to see his name among the wounded. She at once wrote him a letter full of contrition and sorrow, promising him marriage immediately on his return. Soon came an answer from her lover, saying that it was not he but another Silas B. Beel who had been wounded. Angered that she had thus been tricked, as she termed it, into effusively displaying her feelings, she sought out the Simon Pure, whom she not only nursed back into convalescence, but, despite her lover's entreaties, ultimately took for her husband.—Tit-Bits.

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WEILER BROS, . Victoria, B. C.

Schooner Cox in a Blow.

Returns to Port With Fore-topmast Gear Carried Away as Result of Storm.

Scarcity of Sailing Vessels on Sound--City of London Due From the Orient.

The boisterous weather prevailing off Cape Flattery at this season of the year is interfering to some extent with the sealing schooners in their coast operations. The Sadie Turpel was the first to meet with a mishap while wrestling with a howling gale off stormy Flattery a few days ago and yesterday morning the Carlotta G. Cox, Capt. Le Blanc, returned to port in a hardly desirable condition. When about 15 miles southwest of the Cape on Friday last the Cox was struck by a squall which carried away her fore-topmast gear, necessitating her return to port for repairs. The damage will be made good at once and the schooner leave again in a few days.

A SCARCITY OF VESSELS.

Sound Shippers Complain of the Lack of Sufficient Tonnage.

Tacoma shippers complain of a lack of vessels to handle the export trade from that port. The Ledger says: "It is estimated that there are twelve full cargoes on hand at the Tacoma elevators, yet there is not a grain ship in the harbor now that can take a cargo. The lumber situation is but little better, owing to the big demand for ships in the trade with the Orient, Hawaii, South Africa, Australia and Europe. The Russian government is trying to place an order for nine million feet of lumber for delivery at Vladivostock next spring, and the Chinese imperial railways are after ten million feet, but one mill dare not take the orders, because of the scarcity of tonnage and the high charter rates.

CITY OF LONDON DUE.

New Freighter of the N. P. Line Expected from Oriental Ports.

The big steam freighter of the Northern Pacific line is expected hourly to arrive from Oriental ports, being now out 16 days. Capt. Roe, of the City of Dublin, which was here a few days ago, says the City of London is a fairly fast traveller, so she will probably be showing up pretty soon. There is a large quantity of freight awaiting her at Tacoma, so she will have a full cargo on the return trip. A portion of her outward freight will consist of flour from the Puget Sound flouring mills.

BETTER AUSTRALIAN SERVICE.

Bid Called for Faster Service from San Francisco to Sydney.

A Washington despatch says the United States postal authorities have signed a call for bids for furnishing improved mail service between San Francisco and Sydney, N.S.W., for an optional term of either five or ten years, beginning November 1, 1900, under the subsidy act of 1891. The chief significance of the action is the substitution of vessels of American register in the Pacific service, the enlargement of the service to seventeen outward trips per year instead of fourteen and an expected saving of four days in the passage, thus, in connection with expedited railway mail service, making the shortest route possible between Sydney, New York and London. Bids, which are to be received until March 31 next, must provide for steamers of the second class, of not less than 5,00 tons nor less than sixteen knots speed, and stops are to be made at Honolulu, Hawaii, Apai, Samoa, and such other points as the postmaster-general may select.

OCEAN LOG RAFTING.

San Francisco Company Commence Operating from British Columbia Ports.

It is understood that the Robertson Log Raft Company ,which built a raft at Puget Sound last summer and succeeded in towing it to this port, will move to British Columbia in case congress forbids log rafting on this Coast and undertake to send some big rafts to China and Japan, says the San Francisco Chronicle. In speaking of the matter a northern lumberman is quoted as saying in an exchange: "Should they engage in such an undertaking the risk and danger will be greatly increased. In the opinion of marine men with whom I have talked, it would be a hazardous undertaking, even in calm weather, for the entire voyage. But in rough weather a raft the size it would probably be built, floating about in the open sea where thousands of vessels are piloting their way in darkness and storm, would be a positive menace to life and property. It is not at all improbable that the matter will be taken up with the Canadian government from this side, and if log rafting is to be broken up in the United States ports an effort will be made to have the same thing done in Canada."

THE HALL MINES REPORT.

Working Property Reports to English Shareholders Blighting Influence of Eight Hour Law.

From the B. C. Review, London, Dec. 9.

To those who have followed our remarks as occasion offered, concerning the operations of this company, no surprise will be felt that dividends are to be postponed this year, but to many of the shareholders the annual report will, we are afraid, be a keen disappointment. No doubt there are questions regarding the company which those attending the meeting on Thursday should press for explanation, but this much can be said in extenuation of the poor results, the directors have been handicapped; first, by the protracted length of the winter, and, secondly, by the disorganization of the labor market consequent upon the new law constituting a miner's day. These undoubtedly are two points which it is essential should be borne in mind, as they have been most important factors in retarding and limiting the progress of development. The point of fact, the Hall Mines have done better during the past year than in the previous period, the gross profit to the end of September last being £28,800; which, if practically identical with the profit of a year ago, would have been greater had it not been for the drawbacks mentioned. The present available balance is £30,000, compared with £29,000 a year ago. Only half of the amount offered in debentures was subscribed, and while the interest thereon as now deducted from revenue is less than if the required amount had been raised, it is a fair assumption that the company might have done better had it had the full £50,000 to employ. With the exception of £9,000 which is carried over, the above profits have been applied as follows: £3,397 written off for depreciation, £10,277 for cost of development work prior to October 1, 1898, and £3,470, the amount expended on the True Blue and other copper claims, the results from which have failed to bear out the expectations of the superintendent and which have therefore been abandoned. The directors report that work at both the mine and smelter has necessarily been of an intermittent character, and consequently it has been impossible to carry out the plans sketched out by Mr. Hardman as closely as the board intended to have done. Only a comparatively small amount of ore was taken from below the main tunnel No. 5, and further the superintendent's anticipates a reduction in output from the Kootenay Bonanza were far from realized, the amount actually taken out having been restricted, in consequence of the protracted winter preventing surface mining, to 3,000 tons, which, however, materially aided in the carrying on of development work in other parts of the mine. "Having regard to these unforeseen contingencies, and especially the complications in the labor market, which have caused the closing of so many mines in the district, the board are of opinion that it is a matter for congratulation that work has been kept going on, although in so restricted a measure, and that the result of the year's working as a whole is by no means unsatisfactory.'" As lead smelting promises to be an important branch of the company's business in the near future, and the board have had alterations made in the large smelter which will admit of its being used for that purpose, as well as the smaller one if required, it is reasonable to expect when the mines in the district resume work that a large and profitable smelting business in this direction will be done by the works. As the Nelson Coke and Gas Company required additional land, and offered the company, as an inducement to sell, to supply it with cheaper coke, the board decided to sell them a block of land containing about two acres for $5,000. A portion of this sum, subject to the consent of the trustees for the debenture holders, will be invested in the purchase of adjoining land from the C. P. R. which is now held under lease from that company, with an option of buying at the rate of $500 per acre, within a prescribed period, and which, in the opinion of the board, it is now desirable to acquire the freehold of as soon as practicable. That seems to be a wise decision. The board have not lost sight of the desirability of opening up the Koh-i-noor, Daylight and other claims on Toad Mountain, but without more capital at command that work must perforce remain in abeyance until the development of the Silver King to the tenth level has been accomplished.

THE LAST RITES.

Large Attendance at the Funerals Which Ocurred Yesterday Afternoon.

The funeral of the late Felix Leslouis took place yesterday afternoon from the residence of Mr. A. Bord and the Roman Catholic cathedral, the Rev. Father Allthoff officiating there and at Ross Bay cemetery. The following gentlemen acted as pall bearers: Messrs. A.E. McDonald, John McTiernan, T. M. Brayshaw, C. A. Lombard, J. Colgdarippe, A. Casanava. There were many old time friends of the deceased present.

The funeral of the late William John Craigie took place yesterday from his mother's residence, Yates street, where services were held by the Rev. Dr. Campbell, the following gentlemen serving as pallbearers: Messrs. A. L. Proctor, R. Johnson, F. Hurd, F. Savage, W. Mould, W. Scott. At the final resting place at Ross Bay the impressive ritual of the Foresters was read by Sub Chief Ranger A. E. Greenwood in the presence of a large number of members of the order and sympathizing friends.

Twenty-One Lost From Collier.

British Ship Stranded on Virginia Coast and Life Boats Swamped.

Captain and Eight Men Who Stayed by Vessel Rescued at Great Peril.

By Associated Press.

Cape Henry, Va., Dec. 24.—The weather bureau officials at Hatteras, N. C., report that the British steamship Norfolk, for coal, stranded on Ocracoke beach, six miles south of the Hatteras weather bureau office, at 4 o'clock this morning.

The steamship carried a crew of 30 men, of whom 21 took to the boats soon after she stranded. The boats were wrecked in the heavy seas, and the entire 21 were drowned. Capt. Barnes and the remaining eight men were taken from the ship to-day by the crew of the life-saving station. The rescue was effected with difficulty owing to the heavy sea, the landing taking up almost the entire day.

THE HOME OF THE HOLLY.

More Famed in England Than in Other Countries and Known Among the Druids.

Holly is in every way a beautiful, charming unique plant, and certainly one of the most notably fine evergreen that come yearly to cheer Christmas, perhaps the most glorious of them all. Although it does not grow large in this country, it makes immense hedges and splendid trees in England. Famous hedges are on record that were stout walls of holly twenty feet high and thick in proportion, mocking equally the weather, beasts, or men trying to break through it, glittering with its green and varnished leaves and brilliant all over with its natural coral. Many holly trees in England and Scotland attain a stature of forty-feet, and verging on fifty, with trunks three or four feet in diameter, with such a spread of branches that Pliny says the one tree looked like a small wood; and he refers to a holly in Rome that had a brass plate affixed to it, attesting that it was then at Rome itself, or over 800 years, and three others he mentions credited with 1,200 years, and still standing in Pliny's time.

The plant is as hardy as it always is, majestic in manner and size, if such an expression may be used of a tree. It will grow in almost any kind of situation or soil in which it can fix a root. Cold sputty clay land, and till, poor, hot, sandy, gravelly, rocky ground, spongy soil, or boggy, to all it takes kindly, as if saying, spoil me of life who can; and it can dispense with a considerable share of light on occasion, thriving well under the drippings and shadows of large trees, where some other evergreens barely survive at all. As for its appearance, common as it is, it is never common, and more than men are common because they are multitudinous; for one almost may say that every spray and notably characteristic, owing to its capriciously twisting leaves; and as for the look of the plant as a whole, it plays, so to speak, a character part in the theater of the vegetable creation, and an exquisite as well as original part, with which however in spring out put from the Kootenay Bonanza were the new branches, its charming winter fruit of coral berries shining from the unique and glistening foliage which no insect attacks, inflexible, angular, spiny, and wilful leaves having a decided character not easily described, but including a dash of imperturbable humor.

Its appearance earned it, from ancient times, the distinction of being regarded as typical of the mission of Jesus, the prickle of the leaf, the bitterness of the bark, and the blood red berry being conceived to be images of his sufferings. It is on record that the early Christians at Rome adorned their houses with holly at Christmas; but so did the Druids dress with it their dwellings during winter in some kind of recognition of the sylvan spirits, and likely from this custom it came directly into our Christmas decorations. It has sacred uses among the Parsees, who have a legend, moreover, that the sun never throws any shadow from the holly.

In folklore it bears a part curious for its masculine quality, appearing indeed in the carols as a merry-men-evergreen, "bearing the crown," "fierce and jolly"—so the carols say—in contrast with the ivy which is a maiden evergreen; though in some carol love the holly is made to do homage to the ivy as the stronger. But in general the holly stands for strength, prudence, foresight, coolness, in the symbolisms of folklore, which explains its presence in the refrain of Amiens' song in "As You Like It."—

Heigh ho! sing heigh ho! unto the green Holly;
Most friendship is feigning, most loving mere folly:
Then heigh ho! the Holly! This life is most jolly!

It is curious in connection with this masculine and defiant tone attaching to the holly in the people fancies, that being used for divination in romance, touching marriage hopes, nevertheless only certain leaves, high on the plant, which are devoid of prickles, are used, and, curiously these are called the "she holly." These must be gathered on Friday at midnight in a three-cornered handkerchief. From the setting out in search of them till the next day at dawn not a word must be spoken—so much as a chance syllable utterly breaks the charm and turns all the enterprise to nothing. Being brought home, nine leaves must be chosen, tied up in the handkerchief with nine knots, and so placed under the pillow. Then will the happy dreamer behold in vision the future husband or wife.

Only those special leaves called the she holly can be used, for it is curious that in folklore only the feminine is the divining element. Ivy, which has the female role, is in particular the plant of soothsaying virtue, and when the Holly is to be used for divining the use is confined to certain leaves that present some excuse for a feminine name. Women rule in the supernatural. How to consider the fact may be difficult, how to deal with it may be still more difficult; but certainly it is curious to find it so ingeniously reproduced in the folklore of our most splendid Christmas evergreen.

General Debility and a "run-down" state calls for a general tonic to the system. Such is The D. & L. Emulsion. Builds you up, increases your weight, gives health. Made by Davis & Lawrence Co., Ltd.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

CURE Sick Headache and relieve all the troubles incident to a bilious state of the system, such as Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Distress after eating, Pain in the Side, &c. While their most remarkable success has been shown in curing

SICK Headache, yet Carter's Little Liver Pills are equally valuable in Constipation, curing and preventing this annoying complaint, while they correct all disorders of the stomach, stimulate liver and regulate the bowels. Even if they only cured

HEAD Ache they would be almost priceless to those who suffer from this distressing complaint; but fortunately their goodness does not end here, and those who once try them will find these little pills valuable in so many ways that they will not be willing to do without them. But after all sick head

ACHE Is the bane of so many lives that here is where we make our great boast. Our pills cure it while others do not.

Carter's Little Liver Pills are very small and very easy to take. One or two pills make a dose. They are strictly vegetable and do not gripe or purge, but by their gentle action please all who use them. In vials at 25 cents; five for $1. Sold by druggists everywhere, or sent by mail.

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Small Pill. Small Dose. Small Price.

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Machinery and Brewery Fittings

DEALER IN Malt, Hops And all... Brewers' Supplies.

Crown Brand Pressed Hops for Bakers' and Grocers' Use.

Correspondence Solicited.

NOTICE.

Thirty days after date we intend to apply to the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to lease the following described tract of land on Norcher Island, Coast district, for 21 years for cannery purposes:

Commencing at a post marked D.S.M. opposite Grace Island, thence west 20 chains, thence south 40 chains, thence east 20 chains, thence north following shore line to point of commencement, containing 80 acres more or less.

D. S. MORRISON,
SAMUEL JACKSON,
A. G. HARRIS.

Victoria, B.C., December 5th, 1899.

Notice is hereby given that application will be made to the legislative assembly of the Province of British Columbia, at its next session, for an act to incorporate a company with the following powers:

To carry on every description of commercial and financial business; to organize and promote joint stock companies and to take shares or other interest in such companies; to direct and manage the business and undertakings of such companies, and to make and carry into effect arrangements for the amalgamation of any company or individual carrying on similar undertakings; to borrow money for the purposes of the company, and to pledge or mortgage any of the company's assets for that purpose; to purchase and acquire all kinds of personal effects, and to act generally as bailees of all kinds of securities and personal property; to receive money upon deposit; to act as trustees for individuals, estates, companies, corporations and governments; to acquire privileges, franchises and concessions by grant, purchase or otherwise from any corporations or government; to guarantee by bond or otherwise, any securities or debentures of any corporation or government; to lend money upon the security of and to purchase and sell real estate; to lend and invest money upon security; to negotiate loans for individuals, corporations and governments; to deal in moneys and securities; to act as agents for individuals, companies, corporations and governments, and to acquire powers necessary, conducive or incidental to carry out any of the above objects.

Dated at Victoria, the 30th day of November, 1899.

BODWELL & DUFF,
Solicitors for the Applicants.

LAND REGISTRY ACT.

IN THE MATTER of the "Land Registry Act," and in the matter of the application of Marion Henrietta Baker, of the City of Victoria, Province of British Columbia, for a Certificate of Indefeasible Title to all that piece or parcel of land situate in the City of Victoria, and being Lot Sixty-five (65) and part of Lot Sixty-six (66), Yates Estate, forming part of Section Ten (10) Victoria District, and containing twelve acres (12) more or less.

NOTICE is hereby given that it is my intention to issue a Certificate of Indefeasible Title to the above lands to Marion Henrietta Baker on the 27th day of January, 1900, unless in the meantime a valid objection thereto be made to me in writing by some person having an estate or interest therein, or in some part thereof.

S. Y. WOOTTON,
Registrar General.

Land Registry Office, Victoria, B. C., 25th October, 1899.

B. C. STEAM DYE WORKS.

141 Yates St., Victoria.

Ladies' and Gents' garments and household furnishings cleaned. dyed or pressed equal to new.

Mrs. Gillihan, wife of Dr. Allen Francis Gillihan, resident physician of the French Hospital of San Francisco, arrived in this city Sunday morning. Mrs. Gillihan intends spending the winter with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Eli Harrison, sr.

(From Wednesday's D

Spring Rus To Cape

The Coast Transpo panies Actively for the Spring

Tees Arrives from Last of the Fleet Aw

The various transport operating from Victor ports and San Francisc vinced that there will b rush to Cape Nome in number of inquiries bei Eastern points being sim It is unofficially learned ers running direct to N toria are assured of full senger cargo when saili trips, about the 1st of rates being $100 first-cl class, $40 per ton for fre horses. Some of the re the local companies inte opinion that there will b city of steamers to ha The White Pass & Yuk pany expect to get a co of the Nome-bound traffi many will prefer to go Skagway, and from the down the Yukon to Nor Francisco it is learned th are being chartered, an will probably be as gre first of the Klondike ex J. S. Kimball Company the field. They are to p to Nome, Cape York, Po Safety Harbor, via St. vessels are the Aloha, Albion, Bessie K. and ocean steamer John S. latter is now nearing will make her maiden vo fields. She will carry and 1,500 tons of freigh April 25. The other ve every week or ten days Steam Whaling Compa Commercial Company, th Steamship Company and ploration Company are a for the rush, and during will be a dearth of vess ing trade in consequence is being organized at capital of $200,000 to place at Cape Nome, at vessels had great difficul their cargoes last season ing dock is to be co enough for two steamsh side. It will be anchored from shore. From the the shore a line of caisso to bedrock, and upon stretched a cable that wi tem of surf buckets betw shore. To prevent the w ing the caissons, piles a and then to make them be filled with rock. It the charge for landing about $5 per ton. The Company also proposes ing and floating warehou off shore their immense which has a capacity of will be towed to Nome a navigation.

RELEASING TRA

The scarcity of tonnag by some of the Sound be remedied to some ex leasing in a few days of of transports engaged States government in the ippine ports. All the charter are being return ers as fast as they arri cisco from Manila. Pos have been fitted to ca be retained in the serv port fleet will soon co owned by the governme carriers that are under are now twenty-seven t way from Manila. It twenty will sail again merce carriers after th of the chartered vesse from $500 to $1,000 a da

EGG ISLAND

D. G. S. Quadra is ex an inspection of condit land lighthouse, Queen on Saturday evening would under ordinary made in somewhat qu Capt. Walbran has i Capt. Gaudin, agent of fisheries department, w to proceed slowly on the he consider it advisable steamer Tees which arr ern ports yesterday noticed that Egg Island ating as usual when s is possible the trouble been a slight mishap operating the lights. D year the Quadra has ma Egg island, which is n isolated from civilizati inferred from the tenor referring to the matter.

THE SEALING

The sealing schoone Annie E. Paint sailed cruise yesterday. Th Favorite and Hatzic are away at an early ho Ainoka and Beatrice w time this week, leavin Zillah May, Carlotta G Turpel the only schoone intend going out this se former will clear for se of next week; but Turpel may be delayed order to effect necessar

SEALS DO NOT

Professor Clark Lea That Burning Holes Does Not Cause

Professor George O. to President Jordan of sity, has taken it upo reply to the charges of preferred against th branders by Collector A G., of this city.

"It is amusing," said in a published interview when the shoe begins mediately set up their Milne is exactly right The branding is done to and harass the Canadia is no suffering whatev