Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH, 1888.

THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

At the last Presidential election the Democrats carried Alabama (10), Arkansas (7), Delaware (3), Florida (4), Georgia (12), Kentucky (13), Louisiana (8), Maryland (8), Mississippi (9), Missouri (16), North Carolina (11), South Carolina (9), Tennessee (12), Texas (13), Virginia (12), West Virginia (6), these being Southern States. Of the Northern States they carried New York (36), Indiana (15), New Jersey (9), Connecticut (6)—that is, 153 Electoral Southern votes, and 66 Northern States' votes. The whole number of electoral votes secured by the Democrats reached 219, being 18 more than necessary out of the total of 401. On the other hand the Republicans hope to reverse New York, and the Democrats, without New York, would be in a ticklish position, although it is quite on the cards that Illinois (22), Michigan 13), Minnesota (7), Ohio (23), Wisconsin (11), may some of them be considered extremely doubtful for the Republican cause next November. As electoral votes cannot be divided into portions, but the whole must go one way or the other, unless the Democrats carry Illinois or Ohio, should they lose New York, the game would be up. It would be difficult to figure out any combination by which either party might secure the precise number of votes necessary for success. The largest factor in the Democratic problem, that is, the Southern vote, may naturally be assumed as already disposed of, and forty-eight more must be secured to give the majority. Of this New York counts 36, or within twelve of the number. New Jersey and Connecticut, with a joint vote of 15, would give three more than necessary, and allow Indiana to the Republicans, or on the other hand, New Jersey and Connecticut might go to the Republicans and with New York and Indiana, the Democrats would be safe. The majorities were small in all the Northern States carried by the Democrats in 1884, but the new issues are such that remarkable changes may take place.

MERCIER'S DOOM.

It seems day by day to be assured that the political situation in the Province of Quebec is very rapidly approaching a crisis. Premier Mercier's recent speech at the Isle of Orleans, the gist of which has already appeared in THE COLONIST, in which he again emphatically declared that his Government was a National and not a Liberal one, and in which he practically hurled defiance at the Rouges, has raised a storm of indignation amongst the straight Liberals, who are becoming day by day more alarmed and disgusted at the growing influence of the Castors. The wily little Premier's latest utterance has roused them to almost open revolt. A meeting of the chiefs of the straight Liberal faction was recently held in Montreal at the *La Patrie* newspaper office, whose proprietor, ex-Mayor Beaugrand, well and favorably known in Victoria, is one of the chief malcontents. The meeting would seem to have been a small one, but made up what it lacked in numbers by its influence. While purely informal as well as private in its nature, open defiance was the watchword. Amongst those present were such leading Liberals as ex-Mayor Beaugrand, and Messrs. R. Laflamme, ex-Minister of Justice for the Dominion; C. A. Geoffrion, Q. C., and L. O. David, M. P. P., a close friend of the local Premier's; Arthur Boyer, the Liberal M.P.P. for Jacques Cartier; Edouard Lareau, M.P.P. for Rouville; Senator Thibaudeau, one of the Liberal party's chief organizers; M. Beigue, Q. C.; P.M. Sauvalle, editor of *La Patrie*, and others. From these names it will be seen that the gathering was one of considerable importance. The conference lasted three hours and Premier Mercier's attitude towards the straight Liberals was denounced in the strongest terms, and it was determined to demand satisfaction. It was also suggested that an effort should be made at as early a date as possible to revive the old Reform Association of the days of Messrs. Dorion, Holton, and Mackenzie, and make it the nucleus of a straight Liberal or Rouge party. The National Conservatives came in for the strongest condemnation, and the hope was expressed that a strong effort should again be made to gain the ascendancy of truly Liberal principles. As an outcome of this preliminary meeting, a large public meeting will likely be held at an early date for the purpose of formulating some decisive policy. Such are the salient features of the day's gathering, and what does it signify? By some it is regarded as indicative of a coming storm, by others it is ridiculed as the mere ebullitions of a lot of soreheads. Most people, conversant with Quebec politics, know how Premier Mercier, by the adventitious coalition of the Liberals and National Conservatives, managed to jump into power; how by conciliating as far as possible these two diametrically opposite factions he has succeeded so far in retaining the reins of office; and how the Ultramontane or National Conservative faction, by its increasing aggressiveness, has gradually gained the mastery, and now threatens to drive the Liberals into open revolt. Judged in the light of these events, the latest move on the part of the straight Liberals is perhaps the most important political event since the famous coalition of October, 1885. If the Liberal managers are in earnest, and there is no reason to believe that they are not, an open rupture at no very distant day between the two factions, composing what Premier Mercier styles in his grandiloquent language the National Party, seems imminent. Such a rupture would prove a very considerable embarrassment to the local Premier. What would it lead to? That is a question that is not so easy of solution. There are many still in the Province of Quebec, especially amongst the younger generation, who are looking with longing eyes towards the formation of another Rouge party on the ruins of that which ceased to exist in October, 1885. The hope is a natural, but well-nigh futile one. Even the Liberals themselves have to admit that under the present conditions no distinctly Rouge party could gain power in the Province of Quebec. The Church would nip it in the bud. Here it is that the National Conservatives, or Ultramontanes, have the advantage. They have the Church at their back, and if driven to the last extremity, Premier Mercier could dissolve and appeal to the province on the religious issue, in which event it is unnecessary to say he would sweep the constituencies. The only hope therefore, it would seem, for the Liberals is a coalition with the Conservatives. Should the straight Liberal members of the Legislature, failing to obtain satisfaction, secede from the so-called National party and join forces with the Conservatives, something might be done towards getting the upper hand of the Ultramontane faction. The coalition would, to say the least, be an exceedingly threatening one. What would Premier Mercier do in the face of such an eventuality? His course would be exceedingly simple. Premier Mercier is a most obliging politician. He has been a Conservative, a Liberal, a Radical and is now a Nationalist. What could be easier for him than to take advantage of the opportunity, and placing himself at the head of the allied forces of Liberals and Conservatives, with the delightful *esprit* of comedy, for which he is so justly famous, politely turn round and bow his adieu to his former dear and patriotic friends of the Ultramontane camp. There is more than mere rumour in the possibility of such a contingency. Indeed it is said it is being seriously considered. One thing is certain. The straight Liberals are disgusted with the latest utterances of Premier Mercier, and unless he succeeds in smoothing them down there is no saying to what length they may go to obtain satisfaction. Mr. Taillon's turn may come sooner than most people expect. It is said that "all things come to him who waits." The leader of the Opposition has been patient in his waiting, and it looks very much as if he was in sight of his reward.

KOOTENAY LAKE AND TOAD MOUNTAIN MINES.

The report of the Gold Commissioner of West Kootenay District, which has occupied three numbers of our recent issues, is worthy of more than passing notice. A careful perusal of it shows that Mr. Sproat has made a very elaborate examination of the mines, and has spent much time and labor in preparing his report. It is also evident that he has availed himself of the experience and personal knowledge of some very intelligent mining engineers, who have had more extended opportunities of examining the geological formation of that section than it was possible for him to do. To mining men, who are familiar with similar formations in other regions, the description of the country rock and the various ore belts is of great value. Those acquainted with Leadville and Aspen in Colorado, and with the Eureka district in Nevada, made famous by the Richmond and Eureka consolidated mines, will see at once the almost perfect similarity to those sections which exists in this new region. This similarity will give to scientific and practical men a strong proof of the great extent and permanence of the mines. The granite of Toad Mountain forming "contacts" with limestone, and the mica schist of Hot Springs Camp, also traversed by belts of similar limestone, are both evidences of rich and lasting lodes.

The Toad Mountain ores are evidently of a very high grade, much resembling some of the famous Montana mines near Butte City and Helena. Gray copper, mixed with galena, is the characteristic of this class of mines. Usually veins of these rich metals are narrow, varying from a few inches up to four or five feet in width. In Toad Mountain the principal mine, the Silver King, shows a width of 20 and 30 feet. It is this circumstance which makes it phenomenal, more than the richness of the assays, which are rarely lower than 50 ounces of silver to the ton, and extend up into the thousands. Shipments of carloads of this ore are now being made, which average $200 and $300 in value. This camp is an extended one, and singularly the mines in the extreme eastern and extreme western ends have thus far proved the richest. Further development may prove that the intermediate locations are not inferior. It is evident that a larger number of men will find room for employment in this camp. Continuous veins for a distance of three or four miles ought to give work to 5,000 miners, and it is probable that the extreme width of the ore belt may be found to be much greater than now appears. Another feature of this camp is the existence of gold in the galena and copper ores, and also of lodes of free milling gold ores in the immediate proximity. Smelting men prize silver ores which carry a fair amount of gold. It enriches the bullion which is extracted, and thus reduces the proportional expense of freight upon the bullion to the refiners.

The Hot Springs Camp upon Kootenay Lake, about thirty miles distant from Toad mountain, seems from Mr. Sproat's report to be an equally or more important camp. Here the number of well-defined veins of lead ores which have been fairly tested is very great. Galena carrying from 30 to 100 ounces of silver per ton and 60 to 70 per cent. of lead exists in great quantities. Each mine upon which one or two hundred dollars of work has been done shows a pile of shipping ore, from ten to sixty or seventy tons, which has been selected by the miners as it was extracted from the mine. But the most important fact in connection with this camp is the discovery of rich carbonates in nearly all the lodes. It is evidently destined to be a "carbonate" camp. Those who have mined in Leadville or Eureka Districts know what this means—the existence of large ore bodies which it takes years to exhaust and which produce in some instances millions of dollars from each deposit. The carbonate ores are much more easily smelted than galena because they are free from sulphur, and therefore need little or no fluxes to form a slag which will dispose of this obnoxious constituent of sulphide ores. Another feature of the lead carbonates in this camp is their high grade in silver. Usually carbonates found in conjunction with galena produce a less amount of silver per ton than the galena. Here the contrary rule prevails. Carbonates are found assaying in large quantities from 60 to 190 ounces per ton, and one instance is mentioned where a small shipment yielded at the smelter 289 ounces of silver per ton. In the Hot Springs Camp we have heard an estimate made that each 100 feet of depth excavated upon the lodes already owned and prospected will yield half a million tons of good and merchantable ore. The Hendryx camp is briefly described, but the short description shows that the body of ore is practically inexhaustible. Several hundred tons will be shipped out to American railroads during the present season.

In conclusion Mr. Sproat refers to the isolated situation of the district. Without the completion of a railway, either connecting Kootenay Lake with the Columbia River (which the Ainsworth scheme proposed to do) or running from the northern end of Kootenay Lake *via* the Lardo River to Revelstoke (as contemplated by the Moberly road), the entire district will remain disconnected from and "useless to the Province." Ores will be shipped by Bonner's ferry to the Northern Pacific railway and thence to American smelters, while our own smelting industries languish for these very ores. It is certainly to be hoped that one or the other of these railways will be constructed. The commencement of a railroad would awaken immediate activity in the whole district. Miners from Montana and Idaho, would come in by hundreds and thousands. The mildness of the winters; the long stretches of navigation and consequent cheapness of travel and low rates of freight; the beautiful character of the lake itself; the existence of favorable town sites, and the permanent character of the mines, would cause towns, rivalling Butte and Helena, to spring into existence like magic. We again repeat that we think the thanks of the community are due to Mr. Sproat for his well digested, correct and ably written description of a region which will soon be well known among the mining camps of the Pacific coast.

INEBRIETY A DISEASE.

Dr. Isaac de Touche, honorary surgeon of the Dunedin hospital, New Zealand, has contributed an interesting article to the Hartford *Journal of Inebriety* on the duty of the State with regard to inebriates. After laying down that it is the duty of the State to take cognizance of diseases and to pass laws that will lessen their prevalence or diminish their effects, Dr. de Touche says: "To medical men, especially to those who have devoted themselves to the study of the diseases of the nervous system, it is unnecessary to prove that inebriety is a disease, just as epilepsy, hysteria, etc., are diseases. But this is far from being understood by the general public, whose ignorance of its true nature is reflected in the laws passed for the punishment of the habitual drunkards." Dr. de Touche asserts that hereditary predisposition is the chief cause of inebriety, but the tendency may be either congenital or acquired. Persons afflicted with inebriety are frequently of a highly susceptible nervous organization and belong to that class which, if not afflicted in this manner, would be the subjects of other forms of nervous weakness. If women, says the doctor, they would probably suffer from hysteria and some of the many forms of neuralgia. If men, they might suffer from hypochondria. "I see nothing to despise in the inebriate," continues the New Zealand physician. "I look upon him as a man suffering from a disease of the nervous system with which he may have nothing to do, whose will is insufficient at certain times in consequence of this disease and I consider that he ought to be treated with the utmost kindness and firmness. The fast pace at which we live, the competition which begins in the school rooms and continues in business and professional pursuits, the necessity of making a certain income in order to keep pace with the luxurious wants of the age, the greed of speculation, the strain of study too often encroaching on the hours which should be devoted to sleep—all these tend to the production of unstable equilibrium of the nervous system and result in hypochondriasis, insomnia, or drink-mania." For these reasons Dr. de Zouche contends that the patient should for the time be deprived of alcohol and liberty of action, something almost impossible to do in a private house, and hence the necessity of a special hospital. The only hope of cure lies in total abstinence, and the prospects of a cure depend on (1) the nervous temperament; (2) the degree to which the nervous system has been implicated; (3) the time which has elapsed since the attacks of inebriety began, and (4) on the system of treatment. No cure, in Dr. Zouche's opinion, should be considered hopeless. To send inebriates to prison is to punish as a crime what is really a disease. Curative, not penal treatment is required. He would have hospitals for inebriates either supported by the state, or under state cotnrol. Patients should be committed for a year, the period of detention only to be lessened on the recommendation of the medical officer; and the patient should be obliged to do at least sufficient work to cover the expenses of his living. Nothing tends to restore healthy nerve action so much as healthy occupation. Dr. de Zouche truly remarks, "the community pays far more heavily for the present system, or want of system, than it would do if special hospitals were established. The public would be saved the expense of maintaining inebriates in prison; the special hospitals would be self-supporting." The conclusions arrived at by Dr. de Zouche are:

1. That inebriety is, in the great majority of cases, a physical disease.

2. That inebriety is curable in a large number of cases.

3. That the commital of inebriate patients to prison is unjust, and morally and physically injurious to them.

4. That patients affected with inebriety can only be treated with any measure of success in special hospitals or retreats, where precautions against their obtaining alcohol could be thoroughly carried out.

5. That it is the duty of the state either to establish or license retreats for inebriates, or to do both.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

A RUMOR has been going the rounds of the papers to the effect that supplementary evidence had been furnished the government which showed the innocence of Millman, who was hanged at Charlottetown, P.E.I., for the murder of his sweetheart, Mary Tuplin. It has been learned at the Department of Justice that the finding of the jury has never been questioned; that Millman did not deny his guilt on the scaffold, and that no papers or evidence in the matter have been submitted to the government regarding the case since the execution.

REV. C. G. JOHNSON, colored proprietor of the *British American*, a Hamilton newspaper, has entered a five thousand dollar action against the proprietor of the Queen's Hotel, Toronto, for refusing to accomodate him. We hope he will win. The color of a man's skin is no reason why he should not receive gentlemanly treatment. We don't want the color line drawn in Canada. This is a free country.

A LETTER published in an English newspaper—and reprinted by THE COLONIST—gives a very glowing account of British Columbia in regard to its climate and resources. The writer, however, strongly condemns the hoodlumism of Vancouver and Victoria, which he says must ruin the moral health of young people, and the defective drainage and imperfect sanitary arrangements, which he says must cause physical ruin to hundreds, of both old and young. If the indictment is true, the sooner these towns remedy the evils complained of the quicker will be their development in regard to prosperity and population.—Toronto *Mail*.

We think our contemporary is slightly in error. Reference was made in the article more especially to Vancouver. Victoria is happily comparatively free from "hoodlumism." The *Mail's* conclusion is, however, a very logical one. The "wild and woolly west" is not half as bad as it's painted. Sensational "specials" have done much to misrepresent its moral tone. "Toronto the good" is itself not free from ruffianism.

PRESS COMMENTS.

(Montreal Witness.)

Life away on the Northwest coast of Canada, as pictured by the correspondent of the *Witness* with the Skeena expedition, is neither ideally perfect nor wholly intolerable. Port Essington is so far north that twilight lasts throughout the night, and the snow never melts upon the tops of not very high mountains. The scenery is magnificent and varied, and the tourist would find cool weather at all seasons with lots of sport both with rod and gun. It is clear, however, that he would have a great deal of rainy weather, just such as people all over Canada have enjoyed or suffered during the last two or three weeks. Some of the local dishes described by our correspondent he would, no doubt, enjoy, at least while in preparation. The sanitary conditions of Port Essington seem to be too much on a par with the lanes of Montreal in April to be pleasant. The Government should at once compel the cannery owners to dispose of their refuse in such a way as to prevent nusiances which will result some day in an epidemic which will decimate the Indian settlement. Such epidemics are peculiarly fatal to Indians who literally perish during them like flies in fall.

THE SHOOTING SEASON.

TO THE EDITOR:—At the beginning of the shooting season, and when, as usual, a number of the various town employees will be preparing to disperse over the country for shooting please allow attention to be drawn to the "Trespass Act" which defines *entering enclosed land* as constituting *ipso facto* an offence liable to fine or imprisonment, and such law is abundantly needed to protect land owners from the varied tribe of trespassers, many of whom, judging from their pretty coats and accoutrements should have more manners, any less meanness than to intrude on any private property uninvited, or apart from and written law should at least, from common sense, understand that an owner wants the game on his land for himself or his friends, and that when shooting parties are desired they will in accordance with custom be invited.

COUNTRY GENTLEMAN.

WILL HE BE ARRESTED?

TO THE EDITOR:—I am informed by parties who have means of knowing, that the notorious Edward Hodges, who, it will be remembered, escaped from the custody of the police some months ago, and is now in Seattle, has signified his intention of returning to Victoria. He says he has been told by officials connected with the police in this city that he has nothing to fear, and will not be arrested should he return. If true, this action on the part of our police authorities is certainly not to be commended.

MORALIST.

A CANADIAN THREAT.

England will be Asked to Place a Duty on Wheat from the United States.

MONTREAL, Aug. 27.—A movement has been set on foot to petition the Imperial Government, in the event of the United States declaring non-intercourse, to place a nominal duty on American wheat and other grains, while admitting the produce of Canada and other colonies free. This, it is claimed, will soon bring the United States to her knees, depriving her of her principal market, and it would not injure England, while benefitting Canada, it being contended that India, Canada and Russia could more than supply the demand, without increasing the price to consumers. A public meeting in support of this proposal will be called in a few days.

"IT'S D——D ROT."

That's What Van Horne Says on the Knighthood Question.

DULUTH, Minn., Aug. 25.—General Manager Van Horne of the Canadian Pacific road, who is here with Duluth, South Shore & Atlantic officials, was told by a reporter last night of the report that he was to be knighted for his services in developing Canadian business. He responded quickly, "O, the devil! It's all silly rot. It's nonsense to talk of knighting an American citizen. The Queen probably never heard of the Canadian Pacific or of me. It's d——d rot." This is all he could be induced to say except that he hadn't heard of the report before and that, while he'd feel complimented if there were such an offer, he couldn't be induced to consider accepting it for a moment.

From THE DAILY COLONIST, Sept. 1.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

A Vancouver Skipper.

It is stated that one of our erstwhile real estate agents of Cordova street has "skipped" to the happy country across the border leaving several anxious creditors.—Vancouver *Herald*.

The Trouble at Roslyn Mines.

Adjutant-General Ross G. O'Brien has notified Capt. Pike, of Goldendale, W.T., to hold his troops in readiness to march to Roslyn at a moment's notice, as information has been received that the dissatisfied miners anticipate creating a riot.

Sold His Farm.

Mr. Thos. Tugwell, for many years a resident of Sooke, sold his farm a few days since to Mr. Edward Gordon of the same district for $10,000. It is Mr. Tugwell's intention to settle in Victoria. He was popular in the district, and Sooke's loss will be Victoria's gain.

The Mexico's Passengers.

The following passengers for Victoria are on the steamer Mexico which sailed from San Francisco yesterday: J. Butler, H. R. Donald, Mrs. Haynes, Miss M. Doe, G. Constern, E.A. Pierre, R. Mills, wife and son, E. Williams, F. Smith, Kittie Brandon, Jennie Morse, Mrs. Chambers, Mrs. Ragazzoni, G. Freye and mother.

Customs Returns.

Collections at the port of Victoria, British Columbia, for the month ending 31st August, 1888, were:

Duties	$81,287 38
Miscellaneous	365 51
Chinese Immigration	485 00
	$82,137 89
Collections August, 1887	66,840 50
Increase	$15,297 39

Advance in Lead.

In four days' time there has been an advance in the price of lead from 4.37½ to 4.82½, and it will probably reach 5. The advance is probably owing to the failure of the Mills bill to pass during this session of Congress. Had this price prevailed sooner the Selkirk Mining Co. would have been the gainers by $1,500 on the ore they have shipped so far this season.

Valuable Real Estate.

In this morning's issue is printed the advertisement of Thos. Trounce, Esq., calling for tenders for a number of lots of real estate in various parts of the city. The property offered for sale includes some of the very finest sites in Victoria, and is very valuable, particularly the handsome residence and grounds on Menzies street, James Bay. The terms of sale are very liberal and should attract a large number of bidders.

Inspection.

The annual inspection of the three local batteries of volunteer artillery will take place about the end of this month (September), and Lt.-Col. Prior has ordered parades for Tuesday and Friday evenings of next week at 8 o'clock. Members absenting themselves from these parades should bear in mind the fact that they thereby subject themselves to the penalties of the Militia Act. But it is to be hoped that there will be no necessity to resort to harsh measures in order to compel the men to do their duty.

Matches Did It.

A rather amusing, though dangerous scene was witnessed by a reporter on Fort street, Thursday night. A young man was walking quietly down the street smoking a cigar, with evident satisfaction, when his ears caught the words, "Your coat is on fire!" He turned his head to see who was talking, when he noticed smoke issuing frow his pocket in a manner that would do credit to the funnel of a steamer. "Ouch! ouch!" exclaimed he, and with a bound he made for a pool of water close by and was about to cast himself in bodily when a strong hand grasped him, and taking that part of the coat which was now burning brightly, a gentleman rubbed it well, thus extinguishing the flames. The young fellow was profuse in his thanks, and taking off the coat found a large hole burnt in the lining and cloth. He deplored the accident, as he had just secured it from a leading tailor's establishment. Matches caused it. Moral! Don't carry loose matches.

Chee Kung Tong.

At nine o'clock last evening music of the most approved Celestial description reverberated through the streets from the heart of Chinatown. Cymbals clashed, the Chinese fiddle shrieked, and tom-toms rattled until the still air of the evening was rendered hideous with deafening noises. A reporter made an enquiry among the Chinese and was informed by a merchant that the Chee Kung Tong (Freemason) society were celebrating the anniversary of the birthday of their founder, and were also electing a new grand master. They were merely having a good time, he said. The society dates back nearly three hundred years ago, when the Tartars overran China and deposed its emperor, placing one of their own nationality on the throne instead. A society was soon after formed, the object of which was to restore the old dynasty, and not having succeeded, it remains in existence until this day.

SUPREME COURT.

[Before Sir M. B. Begbie, C. J.]

De Wolf *v.* Corbin and others.—This action commenced on Wednesday last before Sir Matt. B. Begbie and a special jury. The plaintiff, who is a mining agent, claimed $3,890.34 for moneys advanced on, and expenses incurred in relation to certain mines in the Kootenay district of British Columbia, and also commission on an attempted sale of the said mines. The jury after a prolonged absence returned a verdict for $3,898.02 in favor of the plaintiff and judgment was given accordingly. Mr. Theodore Davie, Q.C., for the plaintiff, and Mr. Charles Wilson for the defendant.

RICH QUARTZ MINES

Discovered on Texada Island—Inexhaustible Ledges of Copper, Silver and Iron Ore.

The Nanaimo *Free Press* reports that Messrs. Wm. Tree, Geo. Tippet, Alex. Easson and Richard Prouse returned on Thursday last from Texada Island, where they had discovered valuable ledges of silver, copper and iron ore. The discoverers brought with them several bags of specimens, rich and beautiful in appearance. The ledges are situated on the Nanaimo side of Texada Island, and a mile north of the Texada Iron Mine, now being worked by the Irondale Smelting Works Company, of Puget Sound. Several different ledges were discovered and prospected for a distance of over a mile, with every indication of extending for miles further; in fact the discoverers are of the opinion that the upper end of the island is a mass of minerals. The ledges will pay from the surface, and they are but a few yards from deep water, where large vessels can lay and take in cargoes of ore, at the lowest possible expense. The discoverers have already recorded ten claims of the size allowed by law.

Specimens of this ore have been sent to San Francisco for assay and the returns are of the most favorable character. Some of the ore was also sent to the government assay office, but no returns have yet been received.

Local experts pronounce the samples rich, one large piece being almost pure copper.

IMPORTANT ARREST.

Ex-Chief Woolery Follows a Young Forger to Victoria and Forces Him to Refund $8,500 of His Booty.

On Wednesday last Mr. James H. Woolery, ex-chief of the Seattle police, arrested a young forger in this city and recovered $8,500 of the booty. The capture was a piece of clever detective work very creditable to Mr. Woolery. Several weeks ago circulars were sent to the authorities in all the western cities stating that Arthur White, aged 19, was wanted in Denver, Colorado, where, as cashier of a bank, he had forged the name of his employer, C. M. Kittredge, to a draft for $10,000 on New York, which amount he had collected and then absconded. The circular gave a minute description of the forger and stated a suitable reward would be paid for his arrest. Early in the week a young fellow answering the description of the fugitive, passed through Seattle on his way to Victoria. Mr. Woolery at once telegraphed to Denver, and received instructions to arrest White. The detective started for Victoria, arriving here on Tuesday's boat. He learned that White was travelling under the name of Frank Richardson. Upon arrival here the officer made a tour of the various hotels, and on the register of one he found the name of Frank Richardson. Learning the number of Richardson's room he got the key from the office, and during Richardson's absence went through his baggage. In a valise he found $1,000 in currency which he took charge of, as well as some papers of a useful character in the prosecution of the case. In the evening when Richardson returned from a drive about the city, Mr. Woolery followed him to his room, and there charged him with being Arthur White, the Denver bank defaulter. At first the accused put on a bold front and denied ever having been in Denver, but Mr. Woolery laughed at him, and told him he was only making bad matters worse by adding the crime of lying to forgery and embezzlement.

THE LAST CHANCE.

"But I am in British Columbia, and you claim to be an American officer," said Richardson; "how can you reconcile that?"

"Oh that's easy enough," was the reply. "I have evidence enough to put you in the chain gang here for five years for bringing stolen property into the province, and then forgery is an extraditable crime, and after you have served five years here, we will take you back to Denver and give you a few years there."

A GOOD YOUNG MAN.

Finding the game was up, Richardson confessed to being the party the detective was in search of. He said his employer, Mr. Kittredge, was one of the best men he ever met. He was honest and he believed everyone else to be honest. "But," said Richardson, "he got slipped up on me, I am not what you would call a fast young man, but I am what some people would call a goody-goody boy. I never drink, smoke or associate with fast women. I always attend church and Sunday-school, and people thought butter would not melt in my mouth, but I fooled them. The only thing I regret is that I took the money from such a good man."

WOOLERY'S REWARD.

White then turned over the money and certificates to the amount of $8,500 and drew a note for the balance, $1,500. Mr. Woolery telegraphed the facts to Mr. Kittredge, at Denver, and asked if he desired to prosecute White. The reply came back, "No, Telegraph me $7,000, keep the balance, and let the boy go." Mr. Woolery at once released the prisoner and will telegraph the $7,600 to its rightful owner. The notes from White will be sent by express, and according to instructions Mr. Woolery put $900 in his pocket, as the result of a very clever piece of detective work.

White is a fine looking young fellow, only 19 years of age, with a bright and pleasant countenance.

NEWS FROM ALASKA.

Arrival of the "Elder"—The Topham Party Heard From—Treadwell Mine Returns—Work on Various Mines.

The steamer Geo. W. Elder, Capt. Hunter, arrived at the ocean dock at 10 o'clock last night from Alaska, with 115 round-trip passengers and 35 secured at Alaskan points. Just before the vessel arrived at Victoria Capt. Hunter was presented with a testimonial signed by all the passengers, thanking him for his courtesy and kindness to them during the trip. The Captain is popular with all and his passengers but do him justice in giving expression to their appreciatian.

The following mining news is taken from our Alaskan exchanges:

Eighty thousand dollars in gold was the amount turned out from the Treadwell mine, on Douglas Island, during the month ending July 10th.

Ten stamps of the eighty in the Alaska Union mill, on Douglas Island, will be taken out and placed on the property of the company in the Basin. Nothing but the stamps will be removed, so that they can be replaced at any time and without much cost. The free milling ores in the company's mine will be run through the mill and the free gold caught on plates, while the concentrates and heavy galena ores will be shipped below for treatment.

The 5-stamp mill on the Lucky Chance lode, near Sitka, has been running for several weeks on, it is said, a most excellent rock, but up to the present no reports have reached this office as to the results. There are good prospects in that section, but so far none of them have been developed to a successful termination, owing, it is said, to bad management on the part of those having them in charge.

Work on the Bear's Nest group is being pushed ahead vigorously, and a force of men is worked day and night. The necessary buildings have been completed, and the machinery for running the drills is in excellent order. Mr. Benn, the president of the company, who has been here a short time inspecting the property, stated that it was the intention to have a 120-stamp mill in operation about next July.

The Takon Consolidated Mining company have completed the wagon road leading to their property, about one and a half miles from Juneau, and have been busy grading for the foundation for their stamp mill, which they expect to arrive on the Elder. The lumber for their mill is being placed on the ground as rapidly as possible, and other necessary labor is being executed under the management of superintendent J. W. Van Brocklin. This mill will be in operation this fall, and from all indications will be another gold producing factor in Alaska.

Harold W. Topham, Edwin H. Topham, William Williams, and Geo. Broke, the famous mountain climbers, who passed Juneau last month on their way to Mt. St. Elias, took passage on deGroff & Co.'s schooner Alpha for Yakutat. Arriving there safely they hired a fleet of canoes and took about 25 natives and four white men, two whom went from Juneau last spring—Finn and Pease—and proceeded to Icy bay, at which place they were to ascend a river as far as possible, then disembark and proceed on foot, carrying their supplies and camp equipages on their backs. They are bold and expert climbers, having the best modern apparatus and conveniences for lessening the fatigues and dangers incident upon such expeditions, but it is a thousand to one that they will not succeed in reaching the summit. The party are supplied with scientific apparatus for determining altitudes, distances, etc., and are artists with the pencil and brush, and whether they succeed in reaching the summit of the grand old mountain or not, we may be prepared for something interesting and instructive on their return.

Jack Dalton arrived on the Active at Sitka from Yakutat, and brought news that a skeleton of a white man had been found at Port Mandby a short distance from shore, where was his boat. The theory is that the man had been washed ashore in a storm, and from marks on the sand had crawled on his hands and knees to the piont where his remains were found. He evidently died from exhaustion or starvation, and his flesh devoured by wild beasts. Dalton buried the remains and covered the grave with the boat.

TO BE FORTIFIED.

San Juan's Strategic Position to be Utilized—A Position Which Commands the Straits.

Mr. W. J. L. Wharton, F.R.S., Hydrographer to the Royal Navy, is in the city in connection with the colonial defense system. He will leave on Monday morning for San Juan Bay in the Caroline to examine its strategic position with a view to the erection of forts and an examination into its capabilities as a Harbor of Refuge. It occupies a position opposite Cape Flattery, and affords safe anchorage for vessels of all classes. With a breakwater against the southwest winds it would unquestionably become one of the best harbors, in every sense of the word, on the coast. The construction of fortifications on the headlands of the harbor would command the entrance of the Straits. From land to land the distance from the harbor point to Cape Flattery is but 12 miles, and guns placed at San Juan Bay would easily command this stretch of water. There is no safe anchorage on the American side so that it will be readily seen it holds the entrance to the Straits of Juan de Fuca, controlling all Sound ports. The fact that good anchorage exists to any depths makes of the harbor one of refuge for all British vessels, the importance of which cannot be over-estimated. During the visit here of Mr. W. Smith, Deputy Minister of Marine, he, in company with Capt. Devereaux, will examine the harbor of San Juan with a view to the erection of a lighthouse and the proposed breakwater. He will report to the Dominion Government on his return. Mr. Wharton, Mr. Smith and Capt. Devereaux will meet at San Juan and critically examine the situation. The step about to be taken is a most important one, and is indicative of the strong feeling now prevalent in England in favor of a more efficient system of colonial defence. It is trusted the observations of the gentlemen mentioned will result in San Juan being fortified; its value as a strategic point can be seen at once by a glance at the map.

SUPREME COURT.

[Before Sir M. B. Begbie, C. J., and a Special Jury.]

Friday, Aug. 31.

Sayward *vs.* Findlay, Durham & Brodie. This was an interpleader issue brought by the plaintiff against the defendants, who had upon a judgment obtained by them against Peter Birrell, issued execution upon the plant of a cannery taken from Naas river to Rivers Inlet by the judgment debtor. It appeared that the plaintiff claimed a lien upon the plant for some $1,400 for freight of the same per the steamer Boscowitz, but the evidence of Birrell, who was a witness for the plaintiff, shewed that he had chartered the steamer for a certain period at a certain figure, during which time he had utilized the vessel in transferring the plant. There being no other evidence offered, or suggested, in confirmation of these facts, the learned judge held, that unless plaintiff was in a position to offer evidence of possession there was no lien, and accordingly directed the jury to find a verdict for the defendant.

Mr. Hett and Mr. Walls for the plaintiff; Mr. Drake, Q.C., for the execution creditors.

Porcupine Creek.

Through a typographical error the result obtained by Judge Vowell from eight pans of dirt was made to read $8.50, when it should have been $2.50, as stated to our reporter by Sheriff Redgrave.

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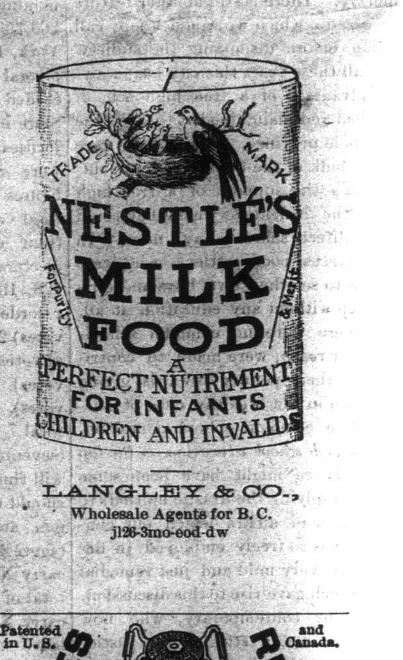

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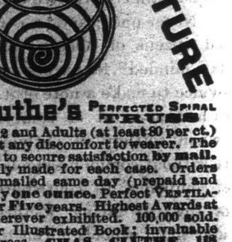

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