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THE ROYAL CITY.

Happenings in and About the City of New Westminster.

New Westminster, March 7.—Freeman's dry goods store has been the chief attraction of Columbia street for several days past. The bargains offered must be genuine ones, or the stream of customers would have eased off considerably by this time. But the cry is still they come, and with every prospect of continuing to do so. Bargains in chenille curtains, bargains in dress goods, bargains in kid gloves, in fact bargains in everything. The stock is all new stuff and the reductions range up to 50 per cent. off ordinary prices. Under such circumstances it was only to be expected that purchasers from all parts of the city and district would flock to the establishment, which is effecting a general clearance sale, and one that is to be continued until everything is sold. The latest inducement held out by the assignee is that the tram fare will be returned to Vancouver purchaser's who spend $10 in the store.

H. Collins, of Vancouver is named as the successful tenderer for the purchase of Shadwell & Co.'s drapery stock, which is now being taken over prior to being offered for retail sale.

A team from Beulah Rebekah Lodge No. 5 will go over to Vancouver next Tuesday night to do the work at the institution of a new Rebekah lodge in the Terminal City. A large contingent of members of the Westminster Rebekah lodges will probably accompany them.

A young man met with an accident yesterday which resulted in his leg being broken. He was engaged in putting a shingle bolt on to a nearly-loaded wagon when the bolt slipped, striking him on the head and shoulder, knocking him down and then falling on to his leg. He was taken to his residence on Sixth avenue where Dr. Cocper attended to his injuries.

The Western Fisheries & Trading Company have received from E. Dillingham, C. P. R., agent in connection with the Rome Watertown & Ogensburg Railroad ,a copy of the report of the Board of the U. S. General Appraisers, embodying the opinion of G. A. Lust, upon the issue raised by Mr. Dillingham: "In the matter of the protest of E. Dillingham against the decision of the Collector of Customs at Ogdensburg, N. Y., as to the rate and amount of duties chargeable on certain merchandize, salmon, imported per railroad, entered Sept. 15th, 1894." The opinion states: (1) That E. Dillingham imported into the port of Ogdensburg, September 15, 1894, certain fish, on which duty was assessed at one-half of one cent per pound, the rate provided in paragraph 210, Act of August 28, 1894, for salt water fish, frozen or packed in ice. The importer claims that the same are entitled to free entry under the provisions of paragraph 481 of said act, as fish frozen of packed in ice fresh. (2.) That said fish are salmon which were caught in fresh waters of the Fraser river of British Columbia and packed in ice fresh. (3.) That the species of salmon to which these fish belong are migratory fish, spawned in fresh water, where they remain for one or two years, when they migrate to salt water, where they grow to maturity and later return to spawning beds in fresh waters. They are caught in salt, brackish and fresh waters and are not distinctively salt water fish. Paragraph 210 provides for salt water fish, but, as salmon are not distinctively salt water fish, and, it appearing that these are fish frozen or packed in ice fresh, we hold that they are entitled to free entry under the provisions of paragraph 481, and sustain the protest."

The women's hospital will on Friday 15th inst., have the benefit of the efforts of the Royal Templars, of Temperance to add to its funds. On the evening of date named a varied entertainment, the programme to consist chiefly of vocal and instrumental music, will be given in St. Leonard's hall. From among the many friends of the Templars and of the W. C. T. U., supporters a good audience should be obtained without difficulty. It is earnestly desired that the general public will also attend in numbers, so as to render in a substantial manner the financial aid the hospital committee are at present so very much in need of.

W. B. Townsend was in the city this morning, having completed the work of visiting all the farmers located between Stave river and the city. He states that he found all fully occupied in the work of tilling the land, but saw no evidence of distress anywhere. He commences the western portion of his division this afternoon.

New Westminster, March 8.—The members of the New Westminster Lacrosse Club are determined that the smoking concert to be given to-morrow night in St. Leonards hall under the auspices of the club shall be the most successful of its kind ever held in this city. All the best male talent available has been secured for the musical portion. As an additional attraction boxing bouts have been arranged, several members taking part in these. W. Belfast of Vancouver will also spar, one of the best amateurs trying his skill with him. Recitations and probably one or two ventriloquial numbers will be included in the programme. The concert given just at the close of last lacrosse season not having returned sufficient money to pay the club's liabilities, it is hoped that the proceeds of this week's entertainment will be large enough to ensure the club's entering upon the forthcoming season with a clear financial sheet.

Much interest is being shown in the Texas Lake Ice Company's Cold Storage Works, now in actual operation on Front street. A carload of halibut was yesterday placed in one of the freezing rooms and was quickly frozen firm, the temperature of the room being maintained at a point or two below zero. Visitors are numerous and the contractors are busily employed completing the building so as to have everything in readiness for the trade of the fishing season, now being entered upon.

A number of men from the penitentiary are doing a very useful piece of work at Sapperton. They are erecting a substantial dry stone retaining wall along the street line between the warden's residence and the guard houses. Two good results will be attained by the execution of this work—the pathway will be put back six or eight feet, thereby giving an additional width of road, and the embankment will be secured from periodical washings away by either storm waters running off the road or freshets coming down the Brunette creek.

The local corps of the Salvation Army recently celebrated with much rejoicing the seventh anniversary of the organized commencement of their work in this city. Much enthusiasm was displayed and these indefatigable workers are entering upon the labors of another year with renewed zeal.

The proposed addition to the Asylum, tenders for the erection of which are returnable on Wednesday, the 13th inst., comprise a tower and a residence for the medical superintendent. The additions will be made to the front of the central part of the existing building. The ground floor of the new portion will be occupied in the centre by a public entrance hall, giving access to the main building on the west side by a private entrance to the superintendent's residence, and the east side by a kitchen and pantry. The first floor will be taken up by the landing at the head of the main private staircase, parlor, dining room, pantry, etc. On the second floor there will be three bedrooms and bathroom, and two more bedrooms will be located in the attic. It will probably be a distinct advantage to the institution to have the medical superintendent resident within the walls of the building, although that official and his family will lose the privacy and many other advantages enjoyed by them under existing conditions. These latter must, of course, give way before the interests and welfare of the unfortunate inmates of the asylum.

New Westminster, Mar. 9.—At Friday morning's market the attendance was good, but in some lines supplies were below the average. There was no carcass beef or mutton offering, the small supply of these meats in being required for retail sale. There was very little sale for pork, so the quantity in was somewhat in excess of the demand. Butter was very short, but eggs were plentiful, with prices lower for bulk lots. Poultry was represented by a few turkeys and sufficient fowls to meet enquiries, rates for the latter having hardened a little consequent upon the scarcity of fowls in the local market. Table vegetables were as usual, whilst feed roots were slack in sale. Hay, grain and potatoes were unchanged.

C. W. Riley, of the Cascade Poultry farm, Vancouver, had a few of his pure bred fowls on sale at the market this morning. Like most other advertisers he is evidently on the alert to bring his stock prominently before the public in any way that gives promise of business resulting from it.

The three-masted schooner Falcon, 196 tons, Capt. Carleton, having completed loading lumber at the Brunette saw mills, cleared at the customs for Oakland, Cal. Her cargo consists of 280,000 feet of fir lumber and 100,000 laths, the whole valued at $2,085. She was towed to sea by the steamer Velos.

The bark Leahi is at present at the Brunette saw mill company's wharf taking in a large cargo of lumber for a California port. The Brunette company have been advised that the barkentine C. C. Funk and the Olga have sailed from Sydney ports under charter to load lumber fo rCalifornia at the Brunette mills. The former left here on the 24th of January taking with her nearly 600,000 feet of lumber and 150,000 laths. The date of arrival of these two vessels will of course be determined mainly by the weather they experience at sea, but with favorable winds they should arrive some time during the next fortnight.

Three more prisoners have arrived to serve their respective terms of imprisonment in the penitentiary. Peter Nelson and John Simpson were convicted the 21st of February for housebreaking, the former receiving a sentence of three years and the latter of five years, it will be remembered that an additional three years, making eight years in all, was added in Simpson's case for his improper behavior towards the judge, after his first sentence had been given. James Coleman, who on March 2nd was sentenced for three years also for housebreaking, is the third man. All three were convicted at Victoria and sentenced by His Honor Judge Crease.

There was a numerous attendance at the City Hall last night, when D. A. G. Lieut.-Col. Peters addressed those present upon military matters, making particular reference to the re-organization of No. 4 Company, B. C. B. G. A. J. A. Forin, captain-elect of the company, also made a few appropriate remarks. A number of men were afterwards enrolled and sworn in. Much enthusiasm was manifested, and there is no doubt the company will shortly be fully organized and hard at work in the direction of promoting and maintaining efficiency.

The school board held their ordinary meeting on Thursday night. The secretary was instructed to advertise for applications for an assistant teacher for the Central school, such applications to be in before the 22nd inst. D. Robson was appointed returning officer to conduct the election of two additional trustees, the act providing for the increase of from six to seven in the number of members of the board and requiring the new trustee to be elected before the 1st inst. The other business transacted at the meeting was chiefly connected with the receipts of teachers' reports and other routine matters. An adjournment was made until Friday, the 22nd inst.

The following is an extract from a newspaper circulating near the the Fraser river: "H. Murk, who had the misfortune to lose a portion of his ear yesterday in an encounter with a brother barber, is progressing favorably." Apropos of this Chehalis says that he does not think he will attend any of the election meetings which are on the tapis, because when the alderman who found out that he wasn't an alderman sings that pathetic ode to the aldermanic chair Thou Art So Near and Yet So Far, some of the indicted taxpayers will be sure to say "'ear 'ear!" and this might sound rather personal, at least to himself. Besides he can't suffer a city where such doggerel as this is manufactured:

Pat-a-cake, pat-a-cake barbers' man;
Get your scissors as best you can
Hit him, and kick him and bite him too;
And paint his face both black and blue.

Pat-a-cake, pat-a-cake barber, too,
Get some one to hold him, so that you
My scrap him and punch him and give him the stick,
Then fire him into the street double quick.

Altogether the atmosphere is rather too murky for an enterprising young man, so perhaps he will get up and go ere long.

The chief of Westminster's fire department lately went to the lunatic asylum in his official capacity, and as a vision of confusion he handed in with his report to the city council that the interior of the building is well supplied with two-inch pipes and one and a half inch hose, but having only a one and a half inch connection with the water main, he goes on to say: "When using the hose if a tap is opened in any other part of the building it takes the service from the hose, thus rendering it of no use, or if they attempt to use two lines at the same time, the same happens." And yet people think that no lunatics—official or otherwise—are at large in the province. Fortunately there is a good out-door water supply and more fortunately still no fire has yet occurred in the building. But what if one did occur? It is stated that the attention of the Deputy Commissioner was called to the matter some time ago, but without result.

Is public spirit dead in this city or not? At every much frequented street corner statements may be heard that at least one occupant—probably more than one—of a seat in the city council is a naturalized American citizen, although born in British territory, and consequently not qualified to sit in the council under the circumstances. Further, it is freely asserted that one other does not possess the requisite property qualification. And yet the citizens as a whole are content to let matters drift rather than take steps to fully prove or disprove the allegations. "Is civilization a failure, or is the Caucasian played out?"

NEW WESTMINSTER COMMENTS.

The civic night school was opened in due form last Monday night and "Brother" Buckland, as the mayor so fraternally addressed him, was the first pupil. But when school was over he admitted that he did not like the lessons. The fact he had made up his mind not to play any more with those fellows who looked on from the other side of the school room and laughed at him. Next time they get on to their big board to see how it works he won't help them a bit. He did intend to sit in the chair which is at the top end of it, but now he won't even sit at the bottom. They may get that old 'lady' to keep them put her son-in-law up there if they like, but as for himself his name is Walker.

* * *

Doubtless you meant well, captain, but you might just as well try to bridge the Fraser without the approval of the citizens committee, as attempt to beard a legal lion in his den, or within the sacred precincts of a temple of justice. An alderman can sometimes bring down the house when he announces his intention to kick over the traces and capsize the citizens bridge apple-cart, but generally he falls and the apple-cart trips him up instead, with baneful results. So, Captain, make a virtue of necessity and give your legal creditor best. But whatever you may think, don't again think out aloud, unless you are in a 40-acre meadow with all the gates shut. As the judge informed you, the citizens listened to your fervent oratory for amusement, but when you suggest the penitentiary instead of the taxing master's office, tis time to be serious and when the court gets serious experienced mariners take in all sail and run before the wind. And, just a whisper, take in a reef or two when talking on the sheets, lest action for slander is an ugly rock to run on to.

* * *

Not being well versed in the sportive tendencies of some of the gentlemen of the long robe practising in this city the acting judge doubtless thought that this, too, was for "amusement and yer honor the court" so he was not disposed to view it as a grave departure even if it were a speech one. Learned friend No. 1, suaviter in modo, intimated that it is customary here for the judge to initial for counsel's fees when signing judgment by default. It was not No. 2's business anyway, since he did not appear for the other side, but true to the instincts of the profession he promptly volunteered a negative contention. This angered the man with the "suit on" so much that he made for the Woods instanter. But before reaching these he yielded to second thoughts and returned to make sure of those costs. And the dear, indulgent judge thought that as it was only in chambers and not in open court, that the forfeiture of a box of Steward May's choice Manuel Garcias would be a sufficient penalty for the affront to the dignity of the court. Perhaps, all things considered, it is best that this serio-comic incident should end in smoke.

* * *

About those American potatoes. The importers are said to have got them in to supply orders for seed purposes. And, too, it is frequently hinted that the keeping and cooking qualities of many of the low-land tubers are not their chief recommendations. Whether these things be so or not, it is rough on the many Fraser Valley settlers who have difficulty in disposing of their potatoes when a few score tons are brought in from the other side. But all is fair in love and war, so if you settlers will sell direct or through the market clerk, the merchant is bound to look after No. 1 and so make a profit one way or another. All the same, it is rough on struggling settlers.

* * *

One can have too much of a good thing even though that could be the Fraser river bridge controversy. So one would think should he or she happen to call for correspondence when the assistants are not in the office and the chief is too much engrossed in discussing bridge matters to have an ear for anything else. Still an arrangement might be made whereby somebody might be on hand during the all-engrossing bridge discussions to prevent stray callers from being compelled to unwillingly listen to bridge oratory, or go away uncertain whether there are any letters for them or not. If these trifling occurrences happen only once in a while, and that a long while, they are none the less annoying.

* * *

The atmosphere of the police court during the several hearings of the Sing Lee robbery case was decidedly heavy, the prevailing odor being a combination of opium, shack, etc., particularly the etc. The disinfectant so freely used was therefore very necessary. Some people are never satisfied, however, so they suggest that a fresh supply, for use this time in Clarkson street, should be obtained. The legal firm who are kicking about the state of the open drain don't seem to appreciate having to take up their residence at St. Mary's hospital for a while. Perhaps after the city bonds are sold and the aldermanic disqualification tangle is unravelled, it will be somebody's business to use a little coal tar to sweeten that drain a bit. Those immediately concerned may live in hope, even though perchance they eventually die in despair.

PERCY VERENS.

A HOT FIRE.

Portion of the Vancouver Furniture and Trading Company's Buildings Destroyed.

At about 8:30 o'clock on Thursday evening a fire alarm from the corner of Granville and Drake streets brought out the brigade with a rush. Some of the hottest fires that it has been called on to tackle have been announced from that box and last night added another of the same kind to the list. The fire turned out to be in one of the large buildings at the foot of Granville street, on the west side. These buildings were put up for and were occupied temporarily by the Vancouver Furniture Manufacturing and Trading Company. They include a large building on the street which was used as a ware room, shop and general store and several buildings not on the street but extending between Beach avenue and False creek, which were used for various purposes. The largest, a very extensive structure, was employed as a factory. It had lain idle for a long time until recently a portion of it was rented by the Pacific Casket and Furniture Co., four of whose hands were at work in the building until 6 o'clock that evening.

The fire had a good start by the time the alarm was turned in and to add to this handicap the water pressure was not very strong. The firemen worked hard in spite of these drawbacks and succeeded in confining the blaze to the factory in which it started. Much credit is given them by all who attended the fire for the good work done. Had it not been for the strenuous and well directed efforts of the laddies all the other buildings of the company, the adjacent boat houses and a portion of the C. P. R. bridge would also have gone up in smoke. Rumor blames some small boys and a bonfire for starting the conflagration.

The Pacific Casket Co. put their loss at $4,000, on which there is an insurance of $1,500 in the Scottish National and $1,500 in the Phoenix of London. These insurances are of recent date and the company is more lucky than the Vancouver Furniture Manufacturing & Trading Co., owners of the building and the machinery. In this Webster & Edmonds are the principal owners. The insurance companies considered the risk a dangerous one and raised the premiums, and the policies were on that account not renewed. The total loss on the building and machinery will therefore be about $25,000.

Investigation and enquiry made to-day point pretty conclusively to the fact that the fire started in the polishing room of the casket company. This is in the second story, and the boys and their bonfire are not likely responsible.

THE CLOSING LECTURE.

On Tuesday evening Principal Hill-Tout brought his series of interesting lectures on English Literature to a close. He devoted most of the time to selected readings from a few of the 19th century poets, among which were Tennyson's magnificent and impressive Ode to the death of the Duke of Wellington, the Death of Minnehaha from Longfellow, and the closing canto of Evangeline from the same poet. These were followed by Macaulay's Horatius, from the stirring lays of ancient Rome, but the piece of the evening was Sir Edwin Arnold's famous epic, The Light of Asia, of which exquisite poem he gave an outline, rendering it in a way that emphasized its beauties. He brought home its sweetness and wonderful pathos to the hearts of his audience. Mr. Hill-Tout is a gifted and sympathetic reader, and there were not one first life taken in every experience a genuine pleasure from his readings. For nearly two hours he sustained without flagging the interest and attention of his audience, and the only regret that was heard was that he had not gone on longer. The hearty thanks of the audience was accorded him at the close and the hope expressed by many that this course of lectures would not be the last they should get from him. If the expressed appreciation of his audience counts for anything, Principal Hill-Tout may feel satisfied that his efforts to interest the public in their national tongue and literature have not been in vain.

BECOMING DESPERATE.

There are prospects of bloodshed on Valdez island, all over some pigs. Hogs have been the cause of a great deal of trouble in this world ever since that famous trip of a herd of them down the side of a hill into the sea. The trouble on Valdez island is due to the fact that some of the settlers want the pigs to run at large and others do not. The anti-runners say that besides the damage that the pigs will do they are apt to become ferocious and a menace to human life if allowed unrestricted freedom. The men who want to make the whole island a pig pasture scoff at this idea and claim that a free runway is the only thing that will make pork raising on the island profitable. Matters became so warm the other day that one settler took his rifle and went over and asked another one to come out and fight a duel with him. The challenged one thought that discretion was the better part of valor and did not come out—but the end is not yet.

To have perfect health you must have pure blood, and the best way to have pure blood is to take Hood's Sarsaparilla.

The Montreal stock market was depressed yesterday, owing to a clear drop of four points in C. P. R. stock from the closing figures of the day before.

NEW BRUNSWICKERS OUT WEST.

Vancouver Enjoys a Goodly Share of These Enterprising and Industrious People.

A correspondent of the St. John Sun, writing from Hopewell Hill under date of the 23rd ult., writes as follows:

The Sun correspondent recently came into possession of the following information, which may be of interest to some, regarding the whereabouts and doings of many Albert county people, more especially natives of Hopewell and Hillsboro, who are now located in Canada's great Pacific Province, and in a few of the adjacent towns of the neighboring state of Washington. Capt. J. Percy Hamilton, son of Capt. T. R. Hamilton, of Hopewell, who went to British Columbia some eight years ago, has charge of a tugboat in Pacific waters, and owns a place at Mount Pleasant, Vancouver. His brother, John B. Hamilton, is mate of a steamer in the coal carrying trade, between Vancouver and Nanaimo. Capt. Arthur Edgett, formerly of Hillsboro, is also in Vancouver in charge of a tugboat. His sons, Harry and Frank Edgett, are proprietors of a prosperous grocery business in the same town. Capt. Holmes Newcomb, merchant, of Riverside, is captain of the steamer Cutch, a passenger boat that runs between Vancouver and Nanaimo. His brother, John Newcomb, is mate of the Cutch and a younger brother is a printer at Nanaimo, where their mother resides. Capt. Harvey Copp, formerly of this county, is engaged in the stevedore business at Vancouver. Frank Gross, son of Mrs. Mary Gross, formerly of Hillsboro, is conducting a large trucking and express business in the same city. Frank Calhoun and Stanley, son of Allen Robinson, of Hopwell, is in Mr. Gross' employ. Howe Carlisle, a well-known former resident of Hillsboro, is

IN THE CHIEF

of the fire department of Vancouver city. Mr. Carlisle was recently married to a daughter of Alex. McRae, formerly of Pt. Wolf, A. Co., who is now located at Seattle, Wash. Capt. Veal, well-known in St. John, and for a considerable time a resident of Hopewell Cape, is now in the steam service in the Pacific, with headquarters at Vancouver. Chas. Carnwath, son of the late squire James Carnwath, of Riverside, has been in the west for several years, and now has charge of the lumber yard of Leamy & Kyle, Vancouver. Mr. Carnwath is a graduate of the New Brunswick Normal school and the St. John Business College. Thos. E. Bray, formerly of Surrey, Hillsboro, where he was widely known as a merchant and postmaster, is doing well in Vancouver and is well satisfied with his new home on the sunny slopes of the Pacific. His son, E. C. Bray, has a good position on the C. P. R. car accountant's office. Wesley Peck, formerly of Hopewell Hill, is located in New Westminster with his family. His son, Hilburton Peck, is foreman in a wood-working establishment at Port Moody, and a younger son, Gilus, is employed in a jewelry store at Westminster. Samuel J. Calhoun, for many years a resident of this village and a former councillor for the municipality of Albert, is living at Vernon, on the Fraser. His eldest daughter is a music teacher in New Westminster, and his second daughter, Miss Flora E. Calhoun, who was a graduate of the shorthand department of the St. John Business College, is said to be one of the

MOST EXPERT STENOGRAPHERS

in British Columbia. Their friends here regret to learn of the very dangerous illness of Mr. Calhoun's youngest daughter, Mabel, a teacher in the academy in New Westminster, and a young lady of unusual ability. Solomon Pearson, a brother of Thos. Pearson, of Germantown Lake, has a fine ranch on Lulu Island, for which he was recently offered $8,000. John Calhoun, brother of S. J. Calhoun, above mentioned; Warren Oliver, formerly a well-known merchant of Albert; and Capt. Sam Steeves, with their families, are engaged in farming at Ladner's Landing. Gilbert Brewster, son of the collector of customs at Harvey, this county, is manager of a large canning establishment at Victoria. Bliss Carlisle, formerly of Hillsboro, is a stevedore at Vancouver, and Cutman Cutten, brother of Mrs. R. C. Bacon of this place, has a position in connection with a large hotel in the same city. George Wood, lately of Albert, who went west a short time ago, is also located at Vancouver. Edward E. Rhoda, formerly of this village, is mate on a steamer, of which his cousin, Capt. J. P. Hamilton, is master. Robert Moffatt, A. Co., is at Vancouver, where he is engaged in the book business. His son is a gas-fitter. Manoah Steeves is living on Lulu Island. His son, Herbert Steeves, is the foreman of the new city of Steveston. Wm. Steeves, formerly of Cloverdale, drives a stage between Vancouver and Lulu Island. Everett Steeves, of Salem, is located at Chilliwack. Wetmore Stuart and Whitfield Stuart, formerly of Rosevale, A. Co., are running a ranch at Dewdney, on the Fraser river. Geo. Baisley is located at Vancouver, and Elias Peck, a former resident of Mountville, at Port Moody. Daniel Cleveland and Nathan Cleveland, with their families, are living at Vancouver. Isaac Brewster, brother of P. W. F. Brewster, of Albert, is a telegraph operator at Revelstoke. Albert J. Peck, who went west from Hopewell one year ago, is connected with the B. C. express at Ashcroft; and Charles Brown, formerly of the I. C. R., is a well-known engine driver at Kamloops.

AMONG THE RESIDENTS

of La Conner are Fletcher Stiles, Joseph Smith, Harvey Smith, Judah Wells and family, James Calhoun and family, formerly of Hopewell Hill; Carter and Trueman Smith of Harvey; John Peck, Harris Peck and Samuel Peck of Lower Cape, A. Cpe Clark Foster of Alma; Frank Gallacher, a former resident of the Hill; Dr. Calhoun, Daniel Marshall and Wm. and Neil Calkins. In Seattle we find L. M. Wood, formerly publisher of the Albert County Free Press. Those immediately concerned may live in hope, even though perchance they eventually die in despair.

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Investigation and enquiry made to-day point pretty conclusively to the fact that the fire started in the polishing room of the casket company. This is in the second story, and the boys and their bonfire are not likely responsible.

THE CLOSING LECTURE.

On Tuesday evening Principal Hill-Tout brought his series of interesting lectures on English Literature to a close. He devoted most of the time to selected readings from a few of the 19th century poets, among which were Tennyson's magnificent and impressive Ode to the death of the Duke of Wellington, the Death of Minnehaha from Longfellow, and the closing canto of Evangeline from the same poet. These were followed by Macaulay's Horatius, from the stirring lays of ancient Rome, but the piece of the evening was Sir Edwin Arnold's famous epic, The Light of Asia, of which exquisite poem he gave an outline, rendering it in a way that emphasized its beauties. He brought home its sweetness and wonderful pathos to the hearts of his audience. Mr. Hill-Tout is a gifted and sympathetic reader, and there were not one first life taken in every experience a genuine pleasure from his readings. For nearly two hours he sustained without flagging the interest and attention of his audience, and the only regret that was heard was that he had not gone on longer. The hearty thanks of the audience was accorded him at the close and the hope expressed by many that this course of lectures would not be the last they should get from him. If the expressed appreciation of his audience counts for anything, Principal Hill-Tout may feel satisfied that his efforts to interest the public in their national tongue and literature have not been in vain.

BECOMING DESPERATE.

There are prospects of bloodshed on Valdez island, all over some pigs. Hogs have been the cause of a great deal of trouble in this world ever since that famous trip of a herd of them down the side of a hill into the sea. The trouble on Valdez island is due to the fact that some of the settlers want the pigs to run at large and others do not. The anti-runners say that besides the damage that the pigs will do they are apt to become ferocious and a menace to human life if allowed unrestricted freedom. The men who want to make the whole island a pig pasture scoff at this idea and claim that a free runway is the only thing that will make pork raising on the island profitable. Matters became so warm the other day that one settler took his rifle and went over and asked another one to come out and fight a duel with him. The challenged one thought that discretion was the better part of valor and did not come out—but the end is not yet.

To have perfect health you must have pure blood, and the best way to have pure blood is to take Hood's Sarsaparilla.

The Montreal stock market was depressed yesterday, owing to a clear drop of four points in C. P. R. stock from the closing figures of the day before.

VANCOUVER'S HEIRESS.

There Is no Trace of Beautiful Helen St. Vincent.

The World a few weeks ago published an article from a Chicago paper relative to a beautiful young lady named Helen St. Vincent, an heiress, stated to belong to this city, who has disappeared. Many eastern journals have contained articles on the subject and affirm that some of her people are residing here yet. In the Chicago Times the following letter, signed by W. F. Talbert, appears, which gives further details: What is the mystery surrounding Helen St. Vincent? Why do we hear her name everywhere, read of her in the papers, and yet learn nothing of her more than mere rumor suggests? I happen to have rooming in my house a correspondent for a New York paper. He used to be a most companionable fellow at whist and our home circle was often enlivened by his conversation. Several weeks ago he became interested in this young lady, whose strange disappearance has occasioned so much comment, and he is a changed man. He seems to be discovering the whereabouts of Miss St. Vincent has taken entire possession of him. He can think of nothing else morning, noon, and night. He is certainly having a most peculiar experience. His mail is loaded down with letters from every quarter of the globe suggesting possible places where the young lady might be secreted. He is advised to search convents, insane asylums, orphanages and nunneries, to drag Lake Michigan, to explore the woods of Northern Wisconsin, and to do a thousand other things improbable, impossible, unreasonable. Now I happen to know that all these suggestions are preposterous in the light of a knowledge of the young lady herself. W. P. Flanders, who formerly lived on Michigan avenue, in this city, was an old friend of the St. Vincent family. It was at his house Miss St. Vincent made her home during the World's Fair, and from him I learned while he was here some two weeks ago that Miss St. Vincent and all her family were rock-rooted Presbyterians. The letter signed Edmund Powers, which appeared in a Chicago morning paper some time ago, he also pronounces a fraud. Mr. Powers, he says, is an honest, high-minded gentleman, who would not stoop to the writing of such an epistle unless he had gone crazy. In that letter Mr. Powers was represented as being a farmer living near the father and under suspicion of the relatives and friends of Miss St. Vincent, while it is absolutely certain that not more than two months ago the elder St. Vincent and Mr. Powers were together in this city on the best of terms, and nothing has happened since, so far as I can learn, to alienate them. All these facts I have learned from my friend Mr. Flanders, and the newspaper correspondent, Henry Butler, who, as I have said, has worked untiringly on the case. This does away with the convent idea. Then she was a woman with a wonderfully well-balanced mind, a student of men and books, with a well-defined idea of right and wrong; she would be the last person in the world to make an alliance, or allow herself to be led into the shadow of shame. As Mr. W. P. Flanders told me with strong emphasis, and he is not a man to be easily misled in the character of anyone. On the other hand, we know that she positively disappeared in the month of September, 1893, and all efforts of her father and his friends to find even a trace have been futile. There are large estates in the family, and she was rightful heir to such a sum of money as precludes the possibility of theft that way. My friend the correspondent informs me that there has been absolutely no communication between her relatives and the police of this city, which argues that they do not consider that the tracks lead the St. Vincent. The name crops up everywhere. I ask my acquaintances if they knew the young lady, and they say: "Yes, I met her once at a reception," or "In the woman's building," or "At a dinner at the Auditorium," and then they look wise and change the subject. It is becoming positively unbearable. Cannot something be done to clear up the mystery put an end to it altogether? There must be some means whereby anyone can be found if there is interest enough in the search. Surely the fate of a beautiful, cultured lady known to thousands in this and other cities of the country cannot long remain in doubt, if the proper steps are taken in the matter. Why are the police ignored? Why have no detective agency in this city the name of Helen St. Vincent on its books. Why does her father, who pretends to have such a deep love for his daughter, and to be so anxious for her discovery, hide away from reporters? Why do her immediate relatives refuse to employ practical methods in finding her, then the public authorities should act. Let the matter be investigated.

STREET RAILWAYS.

There is a lesson for Americans and Canadians in an article in the last issue of the Review of Reviews on the electric street railways of Budapest. If there is one modern improvement in which we comfortably assume that America leads the world, it is the adaption of electric power to surface transit in cities; and if there is one place more than another to which we should think it little worth while to look for suggestions, it would be by the ancient capital of Hungary. Yet the facts stated in this article are such as should make the people of American cities ashamed of themselves, when they see how far behind we are in this important bureau of public service. The city of Budapest, containing a million inhabitants, and therefore presents all the problems of a metropolis. It refused to permit the introduction of the trolley system, as well as of a system in which one of the rails should be charged with electricity and used as a conductor. The result was that the street railway company desiring a franchise was compelled to resort to a better, though more expensive system. There is an underground conduit below one of the rails, about 15 by 12 inches. In this is carried an insulated wire conveying the current; and connection is made with the motor through a slot in the rail itself. There is thus neither any apparatus above the ground than can obstruct the streets or endanger life, nor anything on the ground with which contact can possibly be dangerous. The cars have all modern improvements; are vestibuled to protect the motormen from the weather, and are provided with fenders that prevent entirely injury to life and limb. The system is under strict municipal supervision, and its accounts are open to public inspection. Although this costly system is used—and it is found adequate in all kinds of weather—and all these improvements are insisted upon, the stockholders of the company received last year a dividend of 8 per cent. after a large rental had been paid to the city for the use of the streets, besides providing for a reserve fund. As it is admitted universally that street railway travel is not as remunerative in a European as in an American city, it follows that better results might be obtained in our cities. What most American municipalities actually do is unnecessary in any in comparison with the Budapest system; while the constant cry of all the companies is that the business is a losing one, and that there are either no dividends at all or else that they are less than a reasonable figure. Perhaps there is a good deal in the pungent explanation furnished by the editor of the Review of Reviews: There is no conceivable reason why, in return for the performance of so simple a public service as transit in the streets, the community should be obliged to pay interest upon $10,000,000 or $20,000,000 for every $1,000,000 that has been actually invested by the company. Almost nowhere else except in the United States is this speculative stock lottery permitted in connection with a municipal service.

A Toronto lady says: "I have tried a great many remedies, but never found one to give me so much relief as ESelay's Liver Lozenges. I would not be without them." They are sold at 25c a box at druggists.

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