Weekly Colonist.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1885.

PROVINCIAL DEFENCES.

When Gen. Laurie recommended that H. M. S. dockyard should be removed to Port Moody, where the warships could lie in safety from the disturbing harrassments of a hostile fleet, there was a laugh all round at the mere idea of a British fleet selecting a position of perfect immunity from attack. It was pointed out that so far from the mission of a British navy being to hide its object was to seek; and the question was asked, supposing the dockyard removed to Port Moody how could our disabled warships after a brush with an enemy in the straits hope to pass the hostile batteries of San Juan Island and reach Burrard Inlet to refit? It is scarcely necessary to say that the weight of every naval commander who has visited this station has been cast against Gen. Laurie's proposition. Apart from the presumption of a land-lubber undertaking to dictate as to the naval defences of the country, the absurdity of the change was abundantly apparent to the most inexperienced in warfare. The proposition was a blow at the prestige of the royal navy, and it was promptly resented by those in command. The dockyard, in spite of the recommendation of General Laurie, will remain where it is; and active steps will soon be taken to place Esquimalt, the only coaling station on the North Pacific, in a condition of complete defence. Yesterday, in looking over the report of Gen. Middleton on the militia and defences we came upon a report from Col. Holmes, D. A. G. of this district upon the proper location for batteries and barracks. The Colonel's report favors Coal Harbor and English Bay, and Gen. Middleton, who admits that he is not personally acquainted with the situation, accepts the recommendation. We feel sure that the Dominion government and parliament will not fall into the same error. The places that require protection are Esquimalt and Victoria. Should they fall into the hands of an enemy the key to British power in the North Pacific would be lost. The coal measures would speedily pass into foreign hands and there would be an end to British supremacy in this part of the world. To leave the fine strategical point of Esquimalt and the capital of the province, where two-thirds of the wealth and population are assembled, unprotected and concentrate the land and sea forces at an inland town, so to speak, would be an act of folly so suicidal that even as inscrutable a government as Mr. Gladstone's would not be guilty of it. The proper location for an armed force is where it can be used in protecting British interests. To locate it in an out-of-the-way place where there is nothing to protect would be to defeat the object for which the Canadian army was created. If there is fighting to be done the soldiers, like the sailors, should be in the best position to do it.

THE FACTORY BILL.

The factory bill introduced by Dr. Bergin in the commons provides that no man shall be employed for more than 60 hours a week, or more than five hours on Saturdays; that no child under 10 years of age shall be employed; that no child under 14 shall be employed continuously for more than five and a half hours without an interval of at least one hour for a meal; that for persons under 18 years the period of employment shall begin a 6:30 in the morning and close at 6:30 in the evening, with the exception of Saturdays, which shall be half-days; that in factories where young people are employed, women shall be governed by the same regulations as apply to men; that in workshops where young people are employed, the period of work for women shall begin at 6:30 o'clock in the morning and end at 6 o'clock in the evening, except on Saturdays, when their work shall cease at 4 o'clock. All young persons shall be entitled to holidays on Christmas Day, Good Friday, Queen's Birthday and Dominion Day, and in addition shall have no fewer than eight half days beside in the year, to be selected by the master of the young persons with the approval of a doctor; no woman or young person shall be allowed to clean machinery while in motion; children are not to be employed unless they have a medical certificate stating their age and strength; inspectors are to be appointed whose duty shall be to see that the provisions of the law are respected. In case of an owner of a factory violating any of the provisions of the act he may be summoned before a police magistrate or justice of the peace and fined.

A SORRY TWAIN.

Our esteemed morning contemporary invites us again to call attention to its existence without the usual reference to advertising rates. It likes to be noticed, as did James Gordon Bennett, even though the notice took the form of a cowhiding. As a rule our esteemed contemporary has nothing to say about anything, yet it grievously complains that even the Times has supplanted it as an "opposition" paper. Imagine the status of a newspaper which the Times could supplant! The two remind us of a couple of ragpickers disputing over a "find" of cast-off garments. To our morning contemporary the day is like night, for its ordinary existence appears to be a long slumber. It has no views, no news, no reports, no telegrams, no anything. The general belief is that it has no subscribers—not even a 5 cent bawling circulation—and that it only issues sheets, covered with imperfect print, from the dull force of habit. Occasionally, as in the present instance, our morning contemporary wakes for a minute, prints a random quotation, and then turns over and goes to sleep again, muttering "please notice me again." The blundering and blustering of our juvenile evening contemporary is better than this, though any reasonable argumentation on public affairs is not possible with either of the sorry twain. The one knows nothing about treaties or trade, and the other is in much the same fix as to the commonest provincial, topographical, historical and political facts.

NAVIGATION.

The house yesterday, at the instance of Mr. Drake, passed a resolution which directs attention to the unfair discrimination between American and Canadian vessels towing and plying in these waters. The operation of the existing laws is very unjust to Canadian vessels, and it is hoped that through the action of the house yesterday relief will be provided.

THE COLONIES.

The relations of England's colonies to the mother country have undergone considerable change of late; it is a new experience for the colonial office to have the colonies asserting themselves as they have recently done, and the result cannot but be beneficial to the dependencies which have outgrown the system of childish supervision formerly exercised over them. In the past the colonies were greatly neglected by the ruling powers at home and indifference from the English people at large. In spite of this they have grown and prospered to such an extent that, in two cases at least, they have forced the respect and interest of the world. Canada and Australia have passed the condition of mere dependencies, and, by reason of their commercial importance and the advanced state of their civilization, are worthy of the position of independent nations, and may at least claim an equal footing with any other portion of Her Majesty's dominion. The time has gone by when the fact of a man being a native of one of these colonies detracted to a certain extent from his social position in England. Canada and Australia, by persistent industry, have won for themselves the leading position among the most valuable of England's possessions, and as such they are now beginning to be recognized. The most patent proof of this is the great interest manifested in the scheme for imperial federation which, numbers among its promoters some of the most prominent men in England. One cannot help noticing in the various reports of speeches, etc., that it is the interest of England itself that is chiefly considered by those in favor of the scheme, while very little is said of what it would do for the colonies; but all things go to show that the importance of the colonies as outlets for English trade is fully appreciated, and the reciprocal benefits of the colonies to be gained by federation must be a matter for themselves to consider. Sir John Macdonald, when in England, seemed to favor the scheme; but his remarks on the subject since his return appear to indicate that he does not consider it a desirable thing for Canada at present. However, branches of the league are being formed in the east and the scheme will at least have the advantage of being thoroughly discussed. In the meantime the colonies are every day advancing on the road of progress. Australia and South Africa, by their emphatic remonstrances with the home government in regard to its lax policy in dealing with the unclaimed territories in their vicinity, have shown that they are conscious of their rights and importance, that they are capable of judging what is needed for the interest of the country, and that they share with Englishmen at home the distaste for too close quarters with any foreign power. Canada, while sharing with these colonies the characteristics of independence, energy and loyalty, has the advantage of closer proximity to other civilized countries, resulting in a more settled social organization and a higher standard of education and culture.

FEMALE SUFFRAGE.

The house, yesterday, by a vote of 14 to 9, threw out Mr. Drake's bill to admit women to the suffrage. This action is to be regretted because we believe the time has come when the ballot may be safely entrusted to the softer sex. To withhold from them that privilege is equivalent to saying that their judgments are not as good as those of the so-called "lords of creation." Some of the foremost minds of the day are women. We do not believe that politics will ever become a thoroughly respectable and honorable profession until females are permitted to have a voice in the selection of members of the house. Sir John Macdonald has said as much and it must not be forgotten that in the election bill introduced by him into the house of commons provision is made for female suffrage. If that provision should pass—of which there are grave doubts—women will vote for members of the house of commons at the next election.

THE SHORT CUT ACROSS THE NUBIAN DESERT.

"Metemneh," in the Soudan, is in a rocky defile, quite close to Shendy, on the Nile. It is at the farthest end of the trail across the desert, or "wilderness," which cuts off the great backward bend of the Nile, and was adopted as a route because of the long distance it saves and because the portion of the Nile it cuts off is more or less in possession of the Mahdi's followers. The distance by the river would be about four hundred miles, while the cut-off across the desert, from Korti (where the march began), to Shendy or "Metemneh," is but 180. The route is through a rocky and utterly barren country, without water, except what is furnished from a few wells, long distances apart.

Female Suffrage.

To the Editor.—Having noticed several petitions presented to the legislature this session in favor of women being enfranchised and thinking it possible such petitions may be regarded as the desire of the general community, and that some fine morning they may learn to their astonishment it has become the law of the land, I venture to submit that for our representatives to jump to the conclusion that because of these isolated petitions they are justified in making this addition to the suffrage would be a mistaken conception of duty.

The desire for female suffrage is by no means general; there has been no expression in its favor at public meetings, or through communications to the press; it represents only the wishes of a minority and is pretty much confined to Blue Ribbon societies, and other advocates of temperance, who think by the influence of the woman's vote to bring about a prohibitory liquor law. That is about the beginning, the middle and the end of this movement in favor of female suffrage. Naturally this will be denied, its advocates contending it is by no means of this limited character, but has the enlarged object of introducing the ameliorating influence of women's vote in the choice of representatives. Be that as it may, the introduction of women to the polls is a matter that demands the most mature deliberation before so bold an experiment be carried into effect. It is no trifling matter and its adoption may create acrimonies where before there was peace. The contentions of elections have a masculine character ill harmonizing with women mixing up in them. Her indirect influence or her *absence* will lead to more good than her direct influence by her *presence*. The position of women amongst the British race has ever been held in high esteem. The British home of which she has been the Guardian Angel and which, through her, for domestic happiness has never been surpassed, has by many been regarded as the fountain-head from whence have proceeded those excellencies that make up the national character; it would be unwise to jeopardise this position by making her a politician. Men and women have their respective vocations, and those who think before they act will know where to draw the line.

W. K. B.

Cathcart v. Carlow.

To the Editor.—In this morning's issue you assert that Mr. Mills showed that my geese got mixed up with Carlow's, which is not the case. Mr. Mills proved nothing and did not call one witness although he claimed the geese as the defendant's and stated he had several witnesses who could prove they were; but Mr. Johnson thought differently and said that I had clearly proved they were my geese and ordered them to be returned to me, but thought there was hardly sufficient evidence to show Carlow intended to steal them. Now, Mr. Editor, as you ask the question, "Would it not be better in future to issue a summons instead of a warrant in cases of this kind, when the defendant is a respectable man and a householder?" I will answer that perhaps in most cases it would, but in this particular case I was justified in taking the proceedings I did, as the following will show. When I found Mr. Carlow had my geese I went to him and asked him to liberate them as he had before, this being the second time he had corraled the same geese. He would not and claimed them as his. My wife then went to him and got the same answer. I then went again with a constable and Carlow still claimed them as his own. I then obtained a search warrant. In court Carlow, through his solicitor still claimed the geese as his and did not show, as you say, or suggest that they got mixed up with his flock, nor did he show or can he show that he has a flock of geese. If, as you were informed, they strayed into his premises why did he clip their wings and refuse to liberate them?

Henry Cathcart.

Burglarly.

On Monday evening Mr. R. B. Eenouf and wife, who reside on Quadra street, were absent at the Sunday school treat at Christ Church. On returning to their house at nine o'clock they found a bedroom window open, and on going into the house it was discovered that all the blankets and sheets from the different beds had been stolen in their absence, together with a number of small articles, a total amount of about $75. The thieves did not touch anything else, although there were valuables and money in the bureau drawers. The matter is now in the hands of the police.

Eastern Canada Mail.

(Per Northern Pacific Railway.)

Winnipeg, Feb. 4.—Mrs. Acton Burrows, wife of the deputy minister of agriculture of Manitoba, died last evening after a prolonged illness.

Toronto, Feb. 8.—Two men have been arrested for the murder of the young man at Thornhill. They give their names as John G. Wesley and James Stewart. The latter it was who fired the fatal shot. Both, it is said, are well-known burglars, and it was while in the act of robbery that they were surprised by their victim. The prisoners were lodged in the Toronto jail this afternoon.

The Gala Reporter relates a sad termination of a family history in Waterloo. Mary Patterson, the last member of a once rich and greately respected family, did in the poor-house there the other day.

Montreal, Feb. 4.—A far greater number of serious accidents happened at the various toboggan slides during the carnival than have so far been published in the local press. An American visitor who received dangerous injuries at the Tuque Bleue slide by coming in collision with a sleigh at the foot of the run has since died, and his body has been taken to his home.

A young lady from Boston, who came here with her aunt, met with such serious wounds at one of the mountain slides in a similar way to that of the deceased American gentleman that she has been confined to bed with two docters attending her since. The sufferer's face is greatly disfigured and her head and body are terribly bruised.

Yarwood the absconding cashier of the Merchant's Bank at Belleville, arrived in that city yesterday. He has made a confession, declaring that his fellow-clerk Scott, who accompanied him in his flight, was the cause of his downfall.

Halifax, Feb. 3.—A Charlottetown despatch states that the condition of the men rescued from the ice boats is much worse than reportee. Mr. Giddon of Boston, and Morrison, the traveller for a Halifax wholesale house, who lost both hands and feet. Two of the boatmen named Trenholm and Allan of New Brunswick, will die. Eight or ten others will lose a portion of their limbs. Millet will lose one hand, foot, and his ears.

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 11.—There is going to be a row in the Senate all about a picture. The recent President of the Senate, Sir D. Macpherson got a painting taken of himself, as is the custom, for the purpose of hanging up with other speakers in the corridors of the Senate chamber. The legislature allowed $400 for this, but Sir David paying the difference out of his own pocket, obtained a picture three times the size of the others for $2,000, going to England to sit to an artist. Senator Alexander is now on the was path after Sir David. He has placed a notation on the order paper to the effect that to the enormety of the size of the picture and its ununiformity with the others, he will move for its removal as it tends to bring public derisions upon the branch of the Legislature.

Halifax, Feb. 4.—The description of Cunningham, the man arrested in London on a charge of implication in the explosion at the tower of London, published in the dispatches, has led many persons to believe that he is Brecken, one of the dynamiters arrested last year. As his action in court are similar and the description tallies with his, the provincial secretary has cabled his photograph.

A CHILD'S REVELATION.

Singular Discovery of Long Hidden Treasure by a Dream.

The following incident is related in a recent letter from Philadelphia to a well-known gentleman of this city, and is given on the authority of a Quaker merchant in whose family it occurred. The gentleman has been for many years engaged in the ship chandlery business on Water street, near Walnut, Philadelphia. He is in good circumstances and the head of a family, consisting of his wife and their three children. Mattie, the little eight-year-old daughter, recently at the breakfast table commenced to tell about a number of "fine things"—watches, rings and gold coins, which she had seen during the night. Her mother said, "Mattie, you have been dreaming;" and so the matter passed off. This was Thursday. On Friday morning she again seemed much excited and said: "Oh! if you could only see the fine rings and gold watch all covered with bright stones, just like your mamma has in her rings." Her brother laughingly said: "Well, Mattie, you dream that over for the third time and keep tight hold of anything you get in your hands." Singular to relate the child told the same story again Saturday morning, saying, "I got them out of a big rusty iron thing standing on the pavement." Saturday being a holiday for the school children, and the mother having to go to the father's store, took Mattie along with her. Child-like she ran to the back part of the store fronting on Wall street, to see the steamboats and vessels passing up and down. All at once she ran back excitedly to the office exclaiming:

"Oh, papa, come quick! I see the very same big, high iron thing where I got all my nice things out of." To humor her, both father and mother accompanied the child to the narrow sidewalk fronting on Water street, where old Philadelphians will remember there are a number of iron cannon planted, muzzle up, at certain distances on the curb to keep heavy teams from encroaching on the sidewalk. The child went directly to the one on the corner next to a lamp-post, saying: "That is the place, only that lamp was lit when I picked them out." Her father got one of his men with a marlinspike to dig out the hard black dirt in the mouth of the cannon, and after digging down about half way, Mr. Moore thought he saw something sparkle. He then went to work carefully himself, pulling out pieces of old stained washleather, beneath which was found a varied assortment of valuable diamond rings, one gold watch studded with diamonds, and three rolls of $5 gold pieces, wrapped in paper and tied with thin wire. Upon examination each roll was found to contain $100. All the coins were of the same date, and although now discolored, had apparently just come from the Mint when placed there. The date of each was 1842. After securing all there was there, he went quietly to work to ascertain, if possible, to whom they belonged. About that date there were several large jewelry firms raided; among the rest Baily & Kitchen on Chestnut street. The diamonds and gold were all right, but the timepiece was not in good running order, although in a good state of preservation.

The Management of Diphtheria.

There are many cases in which at first a skilled physician cannot say positively whether it is contagious diphtheria or a simple nonspecific inflammation which he has to deal, and this uncertainty may continue for a considerable time. If Dr. Jacobi's views are correct, and he is certainly very high authority on this subject, diphtheria may exist, especially in the adult in a chronic form, not greatly disturbing the health, or at all events not preventing the person so affected from the going about and performing his or her usual duties, and yet making the secretions from such person capable of conveying the disease.

The precautions to be taken in the management of a well-marked case of diphtheria are, or should, generally known; they have been published as circulars by many health boads, and through the seculare and medical press, and may be summed up as follows:—Isolate the patient in an airy room having the least possible amount of furniture, especially that which is upholstered, and having no carpet or curtains. Disinfect all excretions and secretions, and especially from the throat nose and mouth, and all the articles soiled by them, promptly, while they yet moist, and thoroughly. Use clean, soft rags for receiving the discharge from the nose and mouth, and burn them as fast as soiled. If other articles are soiled, use solutions of chloride of zinc or bi-chloride of mercury, under the instructions of the physician. Be especially careful as regards toys, pencils, or other articles may be given the child for its amusement, of the articles used in giving it food or drink, and of the remnants of such food or drink. Everything that has touched the patient's lips, or that has been touched by anything that has touched the patient's lips, is dangerous.

When convalescence has set in do not yield too soon to the importunities of the patient to be allowed to see his friends or to go out, nor to your own feeling of weariness at the long-continued confinement. Above all things do not, under the excuse of giving change of air and scene, send him off to some other place to complete his recovery; you might send dynamite with scarcely more risk. Do not send the child back to school in less than six weeks after you are satisfied and he is entirely well is a very good rule

If the little life is not strong enough to withstand the attack, and is cut short, do not in your grief forget the danger to other lives which the house and its contents may yet cause. Do not allow sympathizing friends of the playmate to enter; do not have any funeral ceremonies in the house; treat the sick room and its contents as being dangerously infected.

In mild and doubtful cases follow the plan above indicated as nearly as you can, and be sure that you care and patience will be needed if you with to obtain security for other members of the family and for friends.—Sanitary Engineer.

English Mail.

(Per Northern Pacific Railway.)

The Prince of Wales has expended $1,000,000 on his Sandringham property, exclusive of the purchase money.

All the children born in Formosa before the mother has reached the age of thirty-seven are not permitted to live.

Last year the British drank a lake one mile long, one mile wide and fifty-three feet deep. It is needless to remark that the lake was not composed of water.

The lately-deceased Bishop of London, Right Rev. John Jackson, was the author of a pamphlet of wide circulation, entitled "The Sinfulness of Little Sins."

Miss Fortescue goes on making friends. She has settled $30,000 of the $50,000 she got from Lord Garmoyle on her mother, and is receiving therefore unlimited praise.

"The first woman in Italy to become the brother of Hippocrates" is Doctor Giuseppina Catani, who lately passed a brilliant examination in medicine at the University of Bologna.

Of the samples of London milk examined in 1884, 20 per cent. were adultrated. The public analysts calculated that the people pay about $400,000 for water sold under the name of milk.

Lord Lonsdale is now trying to have Lady Stradbroke yates punished, on the ground that she is the real author of the libel for which Edmond Yates is languishing in a luxuriously-furnished dungeon.

The British Medical Temperance Association offer one hundred guinies for the best essay on the physical and moral advantages of total abstinence, to be written by the medical students of the United Kingdom.

A college in France at a recent Elysian levee in Paris was headed by a rival of Sir Moses Montefiore, M. Chevreul, Dean of that body who will be one hundred years old next August. He fills the chair of chemistry and is at the head of the chemical department of the Gobelins.

A curious incident occurred at the funeral of the late Mr. Overend, at Retford, in England, the other day. He had been for years in the habit of feeding the rooks in a large cluster of trees near his own door, and while the funeral was going on one of them flew from rookery and perched itself on the bough of a tree close to the grave and reverently remained there till it was over.

Secretary Lincoln's Story.—There were five or six Congressmen in the lobby of Willard's Hotel, writes a Washington gosiper. One of them, a New Yorker, he told a story which he said Judge Folger told him. Here it is: "We were at the Cabinet meeting," said Judge Folger, "when the President explained a certain measure which desired advice upon. Then he added. 'Now gentlemen, I would like your full and free opinions.' Secretary Lincoln, who is a chip of the old block, said: 'Mr. President that reminds me. There was once a very wealthy pork-packer in Chicago who was informed that art was the correct thing. He bought a whole collection. Then he brought in a friend and said to him: "I know that your a judge of art. Now I want your full and free opinion of these pictures. Don't be afraid to say what you think. I want your honest opinion. I paid a pile of money for those pictures, and I think they are the finest lot that were ever brought to Chicago. Now, give me your candid opinion. That fellow Smith looked at them yesterday, and when I asked him for his opinion he had the cheek to tell me they were daubs, and I kicked the scoundrel down-stairs." The President smiled" said Secretary Folger, "and the meeting adjourned without giving a single opionion upon the question which we met to consider."

LIEUT. MISLINGBURY'S DIARY.

Greely's Conduct Criticised in Severe Terms—Greely's Explanation.

Washington, Feb. 10.—The diary of Lieutenant Kislingbury of the Greely party is made public. Following are extracts: "Lieutenant Greely's conduct lately—threatening to shoot Cross without the slightest reason the other day and swearing to the men on other occasions without reason; his silly actions lately in controlling the launch when there are better men who can do it; his carrying a pistol, a small, self-cocking arrangement—is too ridiculous. Confound the man! why can't he be sensible and do things right?" "The arrest of Dr. Pavy was a put up job, as will be proved when this farce is investigated." "Sleeping bags covered with snow and no tents. Lieut. G. on the launch alongside the boiler, covered with canvas and comfortable."

Referring to Greely again, he writes: "In fact he does nothing right, and our reaching this place is due only to good fortune, and the hard work and good management of the men."

After learning of the wreck of the Proteus, Kislingbury says: "God bless my friend Garlington for his efforts, as also our government. I was struck favorably when reading Garlington's last record, telling us of the wreck. In closing he showed such indifference for their own critical condition and misfortunes, and said he would do everything that man could do for us. I was affected nearly to tears, and my voice nearly failed me while reading aloud."

The last entry is an account of how Greely asked Kislingbury's forgiveness of his treatment of him, and only a few days later flew into a passion, and in a loud and insulting manner called the latter a liar.

GREELY'S EXPLANATION.

Lieutenant Greely says to-night that the pistol mentioned in Kislingbury's diary belonged to Lieutenant Lockwood, and he (Greely) carried it as a favor to that officer. He also declares that he is not a profane man, but did use very emphatic language when the launch grounded on a falling tide. It is true he called Kislingbury a liar, but subsequently apologized, and before the death of the latter they became reconciled.

Disgraceful Scene in a Funeral Procession.

The funeral of Owen Geoghegan, the notorious pugilist who recently died in New York, was accompanied with some remarkrably disgraceful proceedings. The roughs took possession of the funeral and sat near the coffin with the sisters of the dead man, telling stories.

One anecdote led to another until they were interrupted by the shrill voice of a woman exclaiming: "There, you've seen your father in spite of them." A little girl, dressed all in black, with a little bonnet covered with black crape, hand entered the room in which the body lay, accompanied by a woman who remained at the door. A heavy black veil covered the child's face, and no one noticed her. She walked up to the coffin, and, throwing aside her veil, kissed the dead man on the forehead and lips, and then began to cry. It was the pugilist's reputed child, the daughter of a woman who claims to have been married to him, but whom the sisters did not recognize. The little girl had not been allowed to see Geoghegan the day before.

The constant stream of men dressed in their best and with sober faces passing up and down the staircase caused a crowd to gather despite the bitter wind, and the additional attraction was added of a hearse surmounted by eight immense black and white plumes, and drawn by four coal-black horses.

It was not until 3 o'clock that the coffin was brought down stairs. It had been arranged that the dead man's sisters should ride behind the hearse with their husbands in the carriage following. As the hearse left the door a hack, drawn by two white horses, galloped up and dropped in close behind it. The brothers-in-law protested and the sisters cried, but it was of no use. The coachman was an unusual one, with a hard look and a black moustache, and had evidently been chosen specially for the occasion. He glowered in triumph at everybody, and a hard looking crowd without collars or cravats, surrounded and cheered him. The carriage contained Geoghegan's reputed widow, her daughter and two other young women. The sister's carriage finally took third place in the line, the police having refused to interfere in so delicate a matter, and the procession of twenty carriages started off that way, but urged from within the sisters' coachman did his best to take precedence of the coachman driving the widow. After bumping together innumerable times the wheels of the rival carriages became locked and the hurrying hearse went half a block ahead.

The carriages were soon free again and then began a neck-and-neck race over the icy streets. Both teams were equally poor, and it would probably have been a tie, but unfortunately a big yellow-bearded policeman, who didn't understand the situation, flourished his club at the carriage nearest him, which happened to be the widow's and forced the coachman to hold up. Then the sisters took the lead once more and they held it to the ferry. On the other side of the river the contest began again. The police had not been notified of the arrival of a funeral, ane no police were there. The widow's coachman is the circumstances showed himself equal to his job. Suddenly rushing to the front, he ran his carriage wheels into the legs of the rival team, almost throwing the horses th the ground, and once more he secured the first place. He kept it undsputed all the way to Calvary Cemetirey.

Does Mr. Cleveland Eat With His Knife?

New York Tribune.

Washington, (D. C.), Jan. 31.—Is the next administration to be one of the knives or of forks? is a question now pending at the national capital

It was at a dinner party given recently to the President-elect that the Democratic lady who reports the fact was horrified to see the cold steel disappear, within—but why dwell on the picture? Of course, woman confided the dreadful discovery to another woman.

"To think of it!" exclaimed the latter.

"It's perfectly awful! I've always been a Democrat, and have just prayed for a Democratic President, but I didn't think it would come to this pass. And the worst of it is, Cleveland is not young. His habits are fixed, and there will be no use trying to put a fork in his hand! It's a hopeless case; and then the termendous contrast, you know, following on Mr. Arthur's elegant manner and perfectly appointed entertainments. "Oh," she groaned, "have we waited twenty-five yeaas for a President who eats with his knife?"

LOCATION OF BATTERIES."

Col. Holmes Recommends an Inland Position.

[Extract from Gen. Middleton's Report on Militia and Defences.]

It has already been decided that another artillery school of instruction shall be formed in British Columbia, and I would beg to urge the necessity of this being carried out as soon as possible.

The expected completion of the Canadian Pacific railway at the end of this next year renders this more necessary than ever. Should England unhappily be engaged in hostilities which would necessitate the despatch of troops to her Eastern possessions, and the passage of the Suez canal be debarred her, the Canadian Pacific Railway would become her line of communication.

From the remarks that fell from you (Hon. Mr. Caron) in a speech delivered by you at Toronto, 18th December last, I understand that troops will be able to be conveyed from Halifax to Vancouver in five and a half days, artillery, ordnance, stores, etc., in about eight days, and probably, when the last steamer system is established, infantry alone will be able to be transported to Yokohama in twenty-seven days, or to Hong-Kong in thirty days.

EXTENSION IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The western terminus would thus become a most important strategic point. This terminus, I believe, it is now decided to fix at a spot in Burrard Inlet, called Coal Harbour, near Brockton point, where I believe, most suitable positions can be found, not only for a barrack, but also for the headquarters of the district, as an admirable position for batteries can be found in the vicinity, completely defending this inlet, which runs up to Port Moody. This selection of a spot for barracks, etc., is not formed from personal knowledge of the locality, but from a report, and the study of a carefully drawn map, furnished by Lieut.-Col. Holmes, D. A. G., No. 11 district.

I might add that there are four reserves on the south side of the Burrard's Inlet, two of which would be required at once, one of them containing the spot I have alluded to as suitable for a barracks, etc., and it would appear advisable to have their boundaries at once properly surveyed and laid down, which could be easily done now, as I am informed that the Dominion government have a party of surveyors at work on the Inlet at the present moment.

The advantages arising apparently from the selection of ground near Coal Harbor as a site of a barracks for the Artillery School of Instruction, and for headquarters, are as follows: Good water is obtainable by digging a few feet, timber is in abundance on the reserve, a wharf could be easily and cheaply built, as the deep water comes up close to the north side; there is ample room for artillery and rifle ranges, brigade camps, etc.

Ample facilities even exist at Granville for the furnishing of supplies, etc., and the town is sure to increase as soon as the railway comes into operation. The place is more centrally situated than Victoria, which place, moreover, together with the dry dock at Esquimalt, is always protected by a ship of war and a marine detachment quartered in the navy yard. This protection perhaps might be withdrawn by the Imperial government should our new battery and district headquarters be established there.

China.

A SERIOUS CATASTROPHE.

On December 22d an explosion took place at a powder magazine near Fatshan, in Quang-tung, which, according to Chinese reports, resulted in the death of some hundreds of persons. The victims included not only those connected with the establishment, but the passers-by in the thoroughfares adjacent. There happened also to be a passenger-boat passing on the stream opposite the powder mill at the time and it was blown to pieces, with all the passengers on board. The real number of lives lost will never be known, but there is good reason to believe there were hundreds of poor creatures killed.

In addition to the lamentable loss of life the explosion caused great loss to the Chinese government, as the Chinese say that thousands of piculs of gunpowder were destroyed.

REFUSING A PECULIAR LOAN.

The North China Daily News says: "The noble offer of the Rev. Chester Holcomb to the Imperial Chinese government has been rejected. The offer made was to lend money for twenty or thirty years to the amount of 20,000,000 taels at 5 per cent. interest only, but the lenders were for the term of time to construct and furnish, in fact, claimed the right to exploit all railways in China, so that the self-denying rate of interest might not be without its reward."

NOTES.

The war spirit is rampant in Peking.

The German officers at Tientsin are making drastic reforms. The whole force of Li and of the High Commissioner Hsiang Chung are to be drilled on the German system; all rifles but the Mauser are to be discarded, and no horse artillery or field guns are to be permitted.

At Taku all the Armstrong guns (mostly of old pattern and of high trajectory) have been condemned, and are to be replaced by Krupps. But as the new Armstrong, a coiled gun, has from 25 to 33 per cent. more efficiency than the Krupp, the Chinese will not have, after all, the best arm.

Japan.

Owing to the recent outbreak in Seoul, Corea, vigorous preparations for war are in progress in Japan, and offers of service and pecuniary assistance reach the government from all parts of the country. At the same time the opinion in well informed circles is that an amicable settlement will be discovered.

The wrestlers of Japan, to the number of 1,200, have petitioned the government to be allowed to serve with the land transport corps in the event of war with China.

A recent census gives the population of Japan as 37,442,906, of whom 18,690,159 are males.

A number of steel field pieces, recently forged at the arsenal, Osaka, have been been served out to the Imperial Guards.

Heavy snowfalls are reported from the provinces. In Echigo the snow is said to have reached a depth of over ten feet.

Corea.

The Japan Gazette says: "We stated in a paragraph respecting Corea that it the Chinese did not annex that country Russia would save them the trouble. The correspondent of the North China Daily News at Tientsin is evidently of the same opinion. He speaks of Russia's designs on Corea as well known and says that no one can dispute them; and he looks upon recent events as likely to hasten them, and talks of Port Lazareff as the future capital of Asiatic Russia. Although he points out that, once occupied, this port will dominate Japan and render the possession of Yesso, a Japanese territory, precarious, we are afraid that this country will have to make up its mind to the inevitable. Corea as an independent nation, is bound sooner or later to fall."

Spoiled Popular Delusions.—Science destroys some of the most cherished popular delusions. Catgut is derived from sheep; German silver was not invented in Germany, and it contains no silver; Cleopatra's needle was not erected by her, nor in her honor; Pompey's pillar had no historical connections with that personage; sealing wax does not contain a particle of wax; the tuberose is not a rose, but a polyanth; the strawberry is not a berry; Turkish baths did not originate in Turkey, and are not baths at all; whalebone is not bone and containg not any of its properties.

Eastern Canada Mail.

(Per Northern Pacific Railway.)

Toronto, Feb. 6.—Claudius V. Bowden, chief agent of the accident branch of the Citizens' Insurance Company, recently arrested on a charge of embezzlement and acquitted, is suing the company for $30,00 for malicious prosecution.

Walter Grant, grocer, is in financial difficulties. Liabilities, $10,000. He offers fifty cents on the dollar.

About eleven last night Constable John Armstrong arrested Little, a well-known horse thief, in a house on Albert street. On his way to the station, Little broke from Armstrong and bolted, hotly pursued by the latter, who gained upon him. Little, seeing this, suddenly wheeled round, took aim and fired, the bullet crashing into Armstrong's left shoulder. Armstrong fell and Little escaped. The wound is not considered dangerous, but last night the bullet could not be located by the doctors.

Ottawa, Feb. 5.—Captain Palliser, of the Royal Artillery brother of Sir William Palliser, so celebrated in connection with the Palliser gun, is at present in Ottawa in connection with a proposition to convert the artillery of Canada on the Palliser principle. One favorable feature of his proposition is that he purposes during the winter months to form our seamen and fishermen into clubs for the purpose of drilling them in the use of artillery, and in order to make this effective the men would have of course to be paid as the volunteers are when on service.

Sir John Macdonald said no immediate action would be taken respecting Imperil Federation.

Halifax, Feb. 5.—At the annual meeting of the Nova Scotia Sugar Refining Company it was stated that the loss on the year's operations was about $200,000. The dividend was according passed. The loss was caused by buying heavily early in the spring, when sugar was down, in expectation of a rise very shortly, but instead of doing so it depreciated. The coming year looks brighter, as the market is steadily advancing.

Windsor, Feb. 4.—Mr. Wilkinson, reeve of Amherstburg, died very suddenly on Tuesday afternoon, of hemorrhage of the lungs.

London, Feb. 6.—The stock of John E. Platt, druggist, was seized by the sheriff yesterday on an execution issued at the instance of his father.

Hamilton, Feb. 6.—The premises of the Edison Electric Light Company were damaged by fire to the extent of $5,000. Fully insured.

Rev. Mr. O'Connel, accused of insanity, is suing the churchwardens for a quarter's salary.

Belleville, Feb. 6.—A four-year-old daughter of David Babcock accidentally set fire to her clothes, and was burned to death.

The Caroline Bauer Scandal.

Prof. Max Muller writes thus in the Times concerning the memoirs of Caroline Bauer, to which we called attention recently:—

"So many questions have been addressed to me of late as to extraordinary charges brought against the late Baron Stockmar and friends in the posthumous memoirs of Miss Caroline Bauer, who calls herself his niece, that I should feel grateful if you would allow me, as the editor of the English translation of "Baron Stockmar's Memoirs," to declare my conviction that the contents of the memoirs left by that lady and edited by Mr. A. Wellmer are apocryphal, and worse than apocryphal. They appeared in Germany in 1880, and have lately been translated into English. At first the editor, a personal friend of Miss Bauer, seems to have believed in bona fides. He advanced her considerable sums of money during the closing years of her life, and she tried to repay him by making her literary executor, and leaving to him her manuscripts, full of confessions and revelations, to be published for his own benefit after her death. Soon, however, his eyes were opened, and he did the only thing which a man of honor under such circumstances could do—he himself publicly declared his old friend, Miss Bauer, to have been guilty of lying and falsehood, a swindler who, for years had piled lie on lie, fraud on fraud (*Lug auf Lug, Trug auf Trug*). After this these memoirs were disposed of so far as Germany was concerned, and it is but fair, therefore, that now the book has been published in England, English readers should know what they have to expect in these nauseous papers."

A German Navy.

Philadelphia Press.

According to the "Navy List" for 1885, the German navy is officed by 1 vice-admiral, 7 rear admirals, 71 captains, 92 lieutenants, 161 sub-lieutenants, 116 midshipmen and 118 cadets. The fleet consists of 24 ironclads, 8 cruising frigates, 9 corvette, 5 cruisers, 4 gunboats, 8 dispatch boats, 9 training ships 2 transports and 12 vessels for service in the ports, making all 81 ships. In addition to vessels doing duty upon the coast at home, there are 11 in foreign service, of which 2 are in the East, 3 in Australia, 1 each upon the coast of South America the Mediterranean, East Africa and the North Atlantic.

The Phosphate Trade in Canada.

(Toronto Mail.)

The phosphate trade is one of the most promising of the industries which have recently undergone great development in Canada. During the season now closed the shipments of the mineral to the United Kingdom aggregated 20,461 tons, as compared with 17,000 tons in 1883, 15,000 tons in 1882, 10,000 tons in 1881, and 7,500 tons in 1880. The steady and large increase in this export—a gain of nearly 13,000 tons in four years—is regarded as a very satisfactory feature in the trade of the port of Montreal.

A Legislative Pleasant.—When the Kansas Legislature assembled the other day the members suspended behind the speaker's desk a huge banner bearing this inscription:

Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow.	
Corn	195,870,650 bushels.
Wheat	45,000,631 bushels.
Cattle	1,958,955
Pests	821,714 acres.
Hay	7,107,359 tons.

—Chicago Herald.

The Maison Dorée, the well-known Paris restaurant, was the other day of a very exciting arrest. A well known count belonging to one of the best families in the gay capital and very popular in the American colony, was given in charge by the proprietor for making it a practise to order a good dinner and then leave without paying. Only two years ago this nobleman was a shining member of the beaux monde.

DELAYED DISPATCHES

EGYPT.

London, Feb. 15.—A telegram was received at the war office to-day from General Wolseley. He sends an account of the fall of Khartoum, as given by a native eye-witness to the entrance of the rebels into the town of Khartoum. The informant says it was entered by El Mahdi's forces at daybreak on the morning of January 23. General Gordon was killed by a volley from rebel riflemen while on his way from headquarters to the Austrian consulate. The Austrian consul was killed in his residence, and the Greek consul is held a prisoner by El Mahdi.

London, Feb. 15.—Five thousand men from the volunteer force in England have already offered their services to do garrison duty, or for active service in the Soudan, and