NEW COMMANDER OF IMPERIAL TROOPS

SOMETHING ABOUT HIS PAST SERVICES

Sir Charles Parsons Has Had a Very Active Career—His New Chief of Staff.

A dispatch was received from Halifax the other day noting the appointment of Col. Sir C. Parsons to the command of the Imperial forces in Canada. Lieut.-Col. L. E. B. Booth, of Barbadoes, is to be the new chief staff officer.

Col. V. R. Biscoe, who has been in temporary command of the forces since Lord William Seymour resigned on July 9th, 1900, attains the age of 57 on the 17th prox., and will be placed on retired pay.

Col. Collard, A. S. C., D. A. A. G. B., is to go home and his post will not be filled. As will be remembered Col. Collard was here in company with Col. Biscoe on a visit of inspection last spring. Subsequently he went to Hongkong as D. A. G., and, it is understood, it was on his recommendation that the Imperial authorities entered into an arrangement with the C. P. R. by which Imperial troops in the Orient are to go home over the C. P. R. route, in preference to that by way of Suez and the Mediterranean. As an experiment the Royal Horse Artillery came this way, stopping at Victoria a short time, and it was found that this route was so much superior to the other that the above mentioned arrangement between the war office and the transportation company was made. Major Semini, D. A. A. G., becomes D. A. Q. M. G., with the title of deputy assistant adjutant and quartermaster-general.

Sir Charles Parsons, the new commander, is five years younger than his chief staff officer, and is also younger than Lieut.-Col. Rigg, the commander of the C. R. A., Canada. The latter was at one time senior to Sir Charles Parsons. It will be observed by the appended record that Sir Charles never attained a higher rank regimentally than that of major in the Royal Artillery.

According to the Broad Arrow it is not the intention of the war office to appoint a lieut.-general to the command at Halifax, and the appointment is to be held by a colonel on the staff, who may be given the local rank of major-general. Under the new order it seems quite possible that the G. O. C., the Canadian militia, will be the senior officer.

Halifax has long been a lieut.-general's command, and it is a big jump down to that of a colonel on the staff.

Sir C. Parsons.

The new commander has certainly had a very distinguished career, as the following record shows:

Colonel Sir Charles Sim Brenridge Parsons, K. C. M. G., Royal Artillery; born May 9th, 1855; joined the Royal Artillery as a lieutenant from the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, on August 10th, 1875; passed Staff College; brevet 7th, 1887; brevet major October 14th, 1883; regimental major September 11th, 1891; brevet lieut.-colonel November 18th, 1896; brevet colonel November 16th, 1898.

Staff Service.

Employed with Egyptian army January 3rd, 1883, to April 29th, 1884.

Aide-de-camp to governor and commander-in-chief, Malta, June 13th, 1884, to July, 1885.

Aide-de-camp to general officer commanding Eastern district, December 31st, 1887, to December 31st, 1888.

Aide-de-camp to general officer commanding, Aldershot, January 1st, 1889, to March 31st, 1892.

Employed with Egyptian army, May 3rd, 1892, to February 17th, 1899 (governor of the Red Sea Littoral and commandant, Suakin).

Assistant adjutant-general Woolwich district, March 10th, 1899, to November 12th, 1899.

Colonel on the staff commanding Royal Artillery, Curragh district, November 13th, 1899, to January 15th, 1900.

Colonel on the staff for Royal Artillery, South Africa, January 16th, 1900, to February 13th, 1900.

Colonel on the staff (assistant inspector-general, lines of communication), South Africa, February 14th, 1900, to November 27th, 1901.

War Services.

South African war, 1877-81, Kaffir campaign. Served in the operations against the Gaikas, and commanded two guns at action of Intaba Ka'Udoda, Zulu campaign; battles of Isandhlwana and Ulundi; also as acting D. A. A. and Q. M. G. from April 27th to May 27th, 1880. Dispatches, London Gazette, August 21st, 1879; medal with clasp. Transvaal campaign, actions at Laing's Nek at Ingogo (severely wounded and horse shot). Dispatches, London Gazette, March 10th and 21st, 1881. Egyptain expedition, 1882, actions at Mahsameh and Kassassin (horse shot) and battle of Tel-el-Kebir. Dispatches, London Gazette, November 2nd, 1882; medal with clasp, bronze star, fifth class Medjidie, brevet of major. Expedition to Dongola, 1896, commanded Egyptain artillery operations of September 10th. Dispatches, London Gazette, November 3rd, 1896; brevet of lieut-colonel, Egyptian medal with clasp.

Nile Expedition, 1897.

Nile expedition, 1898, capture of Cedaref and subsequent engagements. In command of the force. Dispatches, London Gazette, December 9th, 1898; brevet of colonel, clasp to Egyptian medal, K. C. M. G.

South African war, 1899-1901, on staff; deputy military governor of northern Cape Colony and commandant West Kimberley district. Also acted as assistant inspector-general southern section lines of communication, and in command of the eastern and western districts. Dispatches, London Gazette, September 10th, 1901.

New Chief Staff Officer.

Lieut.-Colonel Lionel Edward Blakeney Booth was born on December 21st, 1850. He joined the 104th Foot, from the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, as a sub-lieut. on January 10th, 1872. Promoted lieutenant July 21st, 1875, and transferred to the West Riding Regiment; captain, September 6th, 1882; brevet major September 6th, 1882; regimental major August 20th, 1890; lieut.-colonel (half pay), December 14th, 1898.

Staff Service.

Aide-de-camp to Major-General Bengal, August 6th, 1889, to September 14th, 1890. D. A. A. G., Barbadoes, January 11th, 1899, to date.

War Service.

Afghan war, 1878-9, as assistant superintendent of transport to Kabul field force, and present at action of Charasiah and occupation of Kabul, actions of 13th, 14th and 23rd December, and defence of Sherpur; also in march from Kabul to the relief of Kandahar, and battle of September 1st.

Dispatches, London Gazette, January 16th, and December 3rd, 1880. Brevet of major Egyptian expedition, 1882; battle of Tel-el-Kebir, medal with clasp, bronze star.

FARMER DROWNED.

Arthur Hibbert Lost Life Attempting to Drive Through Flooded District.

Winnipeg, April 1.—The waters of the Assiniboine and Red rivers overflowed the lower part of the city to-day, completely submerging the flats. Unless the ice breaks and permits a free passage of the water the city will experience the worst flood in its history before to-morrow. Efforts are being made by the city authorities to break the ice jams, which seriously threaten several bridges.

News from Selkirk this morning is that the flats are now under water, and the big fish companies men are compelled to move out with all their plant.

The situation at Portage la Prairie is still most serious. The lower part of the town is flooded, several houses have been swept away.

At Glenboro, 150 miles southwest of this city, Arthur Hibbert and Harry Egan, young farmers, attempted to drive through the flooded districts last night, and Hibbert was drowned. Egan escaped after a long struggle. The horse and rig were lost.

DEATH OF P. GRANT.

Was Collector of Customs at New Westminster Since 1896.

New Westminster, April 2.—Peter Grant, collector since October, 1896, died suddenly at his farm near Sapperton early this morning. He had suffered at times severely from rheumatism, the fatal attack of which was quite unexpected. He will be buried on Friday afternoon with full Masonic honors.

Deceased was aged 58 years, a native of Hawkesbury, N. S., and unmarried. When young Mr. Grant was a railway telegraph operator, coming here with Sir J. Trutch during the railway construction. He entered the customs twenty years ago, and succeeded Inspector Clute as collector six years ago.

FREIGHT RATES.

White Pass Company Does Not Fear Competition By All-Water Route.

Vancouver, April 1.—When told of the $70 through freight rate to Dawson made by companies operating via St. Michael, A. B. Newell, general manager of the White Pass line, who arrived from the North last night, said that the railway company did not fear competition by all-water route, and intimated that it would probably meet any rate quoted on the lower river, if that were necessary to get the business.

COPYRIGHT QUESTION.

Hon. C. Fitzpatrick's Reply to a Deputation of Publishers.

Ottawa, April 2.—A delegation of publishers, supported by the boards of trade of the Dominion, waited on the Minister of Justice and Agriculture today in reference to copyright. Hon. Mr. Fitzpatrick intimated that he would adhere to the satisfactory policy of Sir John Thompson and Hon. David Mills on the copyright question.

The duel in the dark was a favorite with duelists. Two men were locked in a dark room and crawled stealthily from corner to corner, until some false step made one of them the target for bullet or blade.

Life is a duel in the dark with disease. One false step, one mistake, and the attack comes swift and sudden. The mistake which commonly opens the way for an attack by disease is neglect of the symptoms of stomach trouble. When eating is followed by undue fullness, belchings, sour or bitter risings, etc., disease is attacking the stomach.

The best way to frustrate such an attack is to use Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It cures diseases of the stomach and other organs of digestion and nutrition, and makes the body strong and healthy.

"I was suffering very much with my head and stomach," writes Mrs. W. C. Gill, of Weldon, Shelby Co., Ala., "head was so dizzy when I would raise up in bed would fall right back. Could eat but very little, in fact scarcely anything, there seemed to be a heavy weight in my stomach so I could not rest; I had to belch very often and would vomit up nearly everything I ate. I was in a bad condition. I took four bottles of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery and five of his 'Favorite Prescription' and am now well and hearty. I feel like a new woman and give Dr. Pierce's medicines credit for it all. I had taken medicine from physicians without any benefit as I could see."

Dr. Pierce's Medical Adviser is sent *free* on receipt of stamps to pay expense of customs and mailing *only*. Send 31 one-cent stamps for the paper covered book, or 50 stamps for the cloth-bound. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

FOR MANUFACTURE OF SMALL ARMS

WORKS ARE TO BE STARTED AT QUEBEC

Canadian Trade Relations—The Voting on the Referendum of Manitoba Liquor Act.

Quebec, April 2.—The Federal government has decided to establish almost immediately at Quebec a small arms' factory and a Canadian Enfield factory, which will employ from 250 to 300 men.

Will Purchase Railway.

St. John, N. B., April 2.—A company is being formed to purchase the Canada Eastern railway, which runs between Fredricton and the Miramichi district.

Gutted By Fire.

Woodstock, April 2.—Fire broke out in the Elgin house here, and before it was got under control the flames had completely gutted the building, which was one of the oldest landmarks in Woodstock, being erected in 1845.

Memorial Association.

Belleville, Ont., April 2.—The officers of the 15th Regiment met last night and decided to form a local branch of the Canadian South African Memorial Association.

Summer School.

Toronto, April 2.—With a view to giving teachers elementary instructions in certain departments a summer school under the direction of the minister education will be held at the Normal school here, beginning on July 3rd.

C. P. R. Improvements.

Sir William C. Van Horne, who is in the city to attend the meeting of the Northwest Land Company, in reply to a question as to when the C. P. R. would begin the expenditure of the $20,000,000 which has been authorized, replied: "That money may not be spent for years. It is always necessary to have something in the pantry."

Demand For White Pine.

D. G. Cooper, of Collingwood, says the lumber cut next season will be the largest in the history of Georgian Bay mills. The demand for white pine lumber is exceptionally good, and large orders have been received from the United States.

Thefts From Letters.

Numerous complaints of money disappearing from registered letters have been made to the post office department during the last two months. These cases, when traced, all seemed to lead back to the same place, the branch post office at the corner of Wellesley and Bleeker streets. A trap was laid, marked money was utilized as the bait, and a son of Mr. Charles Hendry, who runs the branch, was the individual who bit and was caught.

Trade Relations.

Montreal, April 2.—A special general meeting of the board of trade will be held shortly to consider Canadian trade relations with other countries.

Voting To-Day.

Winnipeg, April 2.—The weather today is all that could be desired for holding a large vote on the referendum of the Liquor Act. In Winnipeg the only appearance of anything unusual going on is the fact that the saloons are all closed tight. Both sides are reported to be working hard, and as the polls do not close until 8 o'clock in the city a large vote will likely be recorded.

Horses Burned.

Edmonton, N. W. T., April 2.—Bishop & Molloy's delivery stable, occupied by Williamson & Patton, and 18 horses, were destroyed by fire last night. The loss, estimated at $6,000, is partly insured.

Imperial Grand Master.

Ottawa, April 2.—It is expected Lord Erne, Imperial grand master of the Orange order, is expected to visit Canada this year on a tour round the world coming from Australia.

New Elevator.

Port Arthur, April 2.—It is reported that the Canadian Northern Railway Company is going to build here at once a steel storage elevator of a capacity of one and a half million bushels.

NEW WESTMINSTER NOTES.

New Westminster, April 3.—The consecration of Holy Trinity cathedral was performed this morning by Bishop Dart, assisted by Archdeacons Small and Pentreath, and a large representation of the clergy of the diocese.

Capt. Young, of the steamer Ramona, died at noon to-day after a week's illness from pneumonia. He was a prominent member of the Royal Templars and King Solomon Lodge of Masons.

A FAMILY TRAGEDY.

Young Man Shot and Killed His Brother-in-Law.

Nashville, Tenn., April 3.—Rufus Steelman, son of a wealthy citizen of Lincoln county, shot and killed his brother-in-law, Frank Warren. Warren and his wife had a quarrel on Saturday. Mrs. Warren went to her parents' home, when a dispute arose over the disposition of the children, and Warren armed himself with a revolver and shotgun and threatened to kill every member of the Steelman family. Young Steelman and his father, J. W. Steelman, saw Warren coming up the road on a horse with a shotgun across his saddle. Warren rode up to the door, and dropping the reins raised his gun in shooting position. Rufe Steelman immediately drew a revolver, fired, and Warren fell dead from his horse.

St. Petersburg, April 1.—While the Mirgorod regiment was parading on the barracks square at Kieff yesterday, Capt. Sofronoff shot and killed Lieut. Grodski for maligning the former's family.

SALMON FOR ENGLAND.

Report That Shipments Will Hereafter Be Made by Steamer.

Vancouver, April 2.—Prominent salmon canners announced to-day that arrangements have practically been completed whereby salmon shipments will hereafter be made not by sailing ship to England, but by steamer. Vessels of the Allan, Mutual and Glen line will call here regularly and will carry all shipments of salmon. This action will be all the more certain if anything happens to the Red Rock, signs of disaster to which have already been reported. Salmon will be held here until there is sale for it in the old country, and stock carried in Liverpool will consequently be much smaller.

The Indian, Johnnie Tackum, was committed for trial to-day on the charge of the murder of Logger Hussey.

Chas. Hatch, proprietor of a large furniture house here, formerly partner with Jacob Sehl, of Victoria, died today, the result of an accidental fall down stairs.

BILLS LAID OVER.

Ottawa, April 2.—Three important bills were laid over until next session at the meeting of the railway committee to-day. One was the Minister of Justice's telegraph and telephone bill, and another was W. F. MacLean's bill on the same subject. Mr. Maclean made a fight to go on, but the municipalities were against him and in favor of the delay suggested by Hon. C. Fitzpatrick. On a vote of 50 to 42 the Lancaster cattle guards for railways bill was also laid over to next session.

WHY TRANSVAALERS NOW SEEK PEACE

THEY ARE FEELING PRESSURE OF TROOPS

Steyn Has Not Shown Any Disposition to Give Up Fight—Natal Operations.

(Associated Press.)

Kroenstadt, Orange River Colony, April 1. The Transvaal delegates are still here. It is believed that General Dewet is influencing President Steyn not to meet Acting President Schalkburger.

Steyn Determined.

Pretoria, April 2.—Communications have passed between President Steyn and the Transvaal mission at Kromstadt, but nothing is yet known of the result. The majority of the military men and civilians here expect more from the continual pressure of the troops than from the present negotiations. It is pointed out that once before when hard pressed the Transvaalers showed a desire for peace but this was promptly overridden by President Steyn.

Nothing in the present situation so far as known indicates that President Steyn is less irreconcilable than previously. Indeed the known facts seem to point to a greater determination to continue the struggle.

Traffic Suspended.

Durban, Natal, April 3.—General traffic is closed throughout the whole country north of the Tugela river. The region is stoutly protected by lines of blockhouses extending from Ladysmith. Permits are required to enable people to proceed beyond Colenso. The town guards at Ladysmith, Dundee and Newcastle are under arms, and have been recruited to their full strength.

Canadian Casualties.

(Special to the Times.)

Ottawa, April 3.—The total number of Canadians who have died in South Africa since the commencement of war is 200. It would appear from details that the first contingent suffered a heavier loss from death than any of the other contingents. The first Canadian contingent of infantry lost 68 men from wounds and disease, the second contingent, consisting of mounted rifles, dragoons and artillery, 47; Strathcona Horse, 30; Canadian Scouts, 10; South African Constabulary, 45; Second Regiment Canadian Mounted Rifles and Canadians in various other corps in South Africa, 6; total, 206.

It is understood that the militia department will offer the services of about half a dozen dental surgeons to the Imperial war office.

NARROW ESCAPE.

Sir John Bourinot Took Poison in Mistake for Medicine.

Ottawa, April 3.—Sir John Bourinot took a dose of iodine last evening instead of cascara. Medical aid was speedily summoned, and Sir John's life was saved. He had a narrow escape. The medicine bottles got mixed.

G. Riley, M. P., and Mrs. Riley, have returned from St. Catharines, where they have been for the past ten days spending the Easter holidays.

In the House yesterday, Mr. Power, Quebec, was introduced by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Hon. C. Fitzpatrick.

MINING ACCIDENT.

Six Men Killed in Lancashire—Miners Entombed in a Dunfermline Pit.

London, April 3.—Six men were killed as the result of an explosion of fire damp last night in a colliery at Wigan, Lancashire.

A number of men were entombed at Dunfermline, Scotland, this morning owing to a similar accident.

CATARRH FOR TWENTY YEARS AND CURED IN A FEW DAYS.—Hon. George James, of Scranton, Pa., says: "I have been a martyr to Catarrh for twenty years, constant hawking dropping in the throat and pain in the head, very offensive breath. I tried Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder. The first application gave instant relief. After using a few bottles I was cured. 50 cents. Sold by Jackson & Co. and Hall & Co.—1.

PROHIBITION HAS BEEN DEFEATED

OPPOSITION WILL HAVE A MAJORITY

Full Returns Are Not Yet All In—The Floods in Manitoba.

Winnipeg, April 2.—Returns of the referendum vote taken throughout Manitoba to-day are not yet completed, but sufficient has been learned to make it evident that the prohibitory liquor act has been defeated. It required 62 per cent. of the total vote polled, and it now looks as if the opposition would have the majority. The figures received so far show a majority of over 5,000 against the act, and of that number 3,367 are in Winnipeg. The places yet to hear from are largely in the rural districts, and it is expected that these will go temperance and pull down the outside majority, so that the Winnipeg majority will likely be the deciding factor. In the city the vote stood: For the act, 2,450; against the act, 5,817; majority, 3,367. St. Boniface town gave over 500 against prohibition. The French settlements will give similar returns when heard from. Brandon, Portage la Prairie, Minnedosa, Morden, Selkirk, Gladstone, Carberry and all the more populous districts declared against prohibition by large majorities. The weather was most favorable for voting in the city, but the roads are in bad condition for the rural vote.

Winnipeg, April 3.—The Free Press in a summary of yesterday's vote says: "The test of the Manitoba Liquor Act by the referendum was held yesterday with the result that the measure failed to meet with the approval of the electors at the polls. The returns available last night showed that a total of 27,221 votes had been polled, and of these 16,600 were against bringing the act into force and 10,621 were in its favor. There was therefore a negative majority of 5,979. The result was rather a surprise to many, who thought that the prohibition vote would equal if not exceed the vote against the act, although nobody expected that it would be sufficient to carry the measure. A great many country polls still remain to be heard from, however, and although these may cut down the adverse majority to some extent they will not affect the main result. They will also have the effect of considerably swelling the total vote cast, so that it will be far beyond the vote cast at the plebescites taken in 1892 and 1898."

The Morning Telegram says: "The total vote cast yesterday, for which returns were made last evening, amounted to 25,513. The votes for the act were 9,830 and against it 15,683, making the majority against as far as the returns went, 5,853. The total number of votes cast at points outside Winnipeg, for which returns were received last night, was 17,129, of which 7,355 were cast for and 9,749 against, making the majority against the adoption of the Liquor Act outside the city, 439. This, of course, is far from a complete record of the votes cast. The total vote cast in Winnipeg was 8,384, of which 2,450 were in favor of the Liquor Act, and 5,734 against, making the majority in the city against the act 3,484."

Woman Drowned.

The water in the Red and Assiniboine rivers continues to rise slowly and tonight shows a measurement of over 18 feet 6 inches. The report of destruction to bridges west of here has caused considerable inconvenience, and some fears are entertained for the local bridges. Mrs. Wilson, of Deloraine, was drowned in Souris river at Melita to-day. She was visiting her son, the caretaker of the school. The body has not yet been recovered. Water is receding on the Portage plains.

Settlers.

Halifax, April 2.—The Allan line steamer Sardinian arrived from Glasgow last evening with 420 passengers. Three hundred of them are for Canadian points in the West.

Six Years.

Toronto, April 2.—Charles A. Hendry, assistant in the branch post office, was today sentenced to six years in Kingston penitentiary for stealing $3 from a registered letter. Other charges were also proved, and the punishment was included in the same sentence.

To Represent Quebec.

Quebec, April 2.—Hon. S. M. Parent has accepted the invitation of the Imperial government to premiers of provinces to attend the coronation of King Edward. He will leave for Europe about the middle of June next.

Heavy Fines.

Quebec, April 3.—In the police court this morning Judge Angers fined a poacher $100 and costs for killing a moose, and two others $113 and costs for killing four beaver out of season.

Hanged Herself.

Milverton, Ont., April 3.—Miss Elizabeth Chalmers, residing on South Boundary Elm, committed suicide last night by hanging herself in her room with shawl straps. No cause can be assigned. She was 37.

Explosion.

Halifax, N. S., April 3.—Five men were burned, one of them fatally, at an early hour this morning by the explosion of a barrel of kerosene in a store room at the dry dock. One of the men dropped a burning match into the barrel of oil.

Married at Toronto.

Toronto, April 3.—Miss Eunice, daughter of W. S. Stout, general manager of the Dominion Express Company, was married yesterday to Herbert Brannon.

Killed in Sawmill.

St. Raymond, Que., April 3.—Ferdinand Demers was killed in his father's sawmill here yesterday. He was caught in the shafting.

Thrown From Horse.

London, Ont., April 3.—Mayor Beck was thrown from his horse while riding yesterday afternoon and badly bruised.

THE JAPAN FLEET ARRIVED SAFELY

THE FIVE SCHOONERS REACH BONIN ISLAND

Made Good Passages Crossing From Victoria—Vessels Engaged to Carry B. C. Props.

Eeach of the five schooners which composed the fleet crossing to the Japan coast last winter have arrived at Bonin Island safely, where they will immediately start in operation. They experienced fairly good weather in crossing the Pacific, and report no mishaps. The fleet is made up of the Geneva, Director, Florence M. Smith, Dora Sieward and Triumph. Each arrived within four and five days of each other.

After looking for seal along the Japan coast they will proceed north to the Copper Island coast, as has been the custom with the Japan fleet in years past. Their numbers will be greatly augmented by the fleet which will hunt out of Japan ports, which every year is becoming larger and more important and more skilled.

Many of these schooners last year trespassed on Russian territory, and were seized and their crews imprisoned. The result of this international violation of treaty regulations will be to put the Russian authorities on the alert for poachers this year, and with the augmented forces at Vladivostock, they will be in a better position than ever to guard against any encroachment on the rookeries along the Asiatic coast, whither in recent years, according to reports from Victoria sealers, seals have been migrating in great numbers.

On this Coast the sealing season expires with the last of this month, and from the first of May to August, when the Behring Sea will be open to pelagic hunting, there will be no more sealing on this coast.

Up till this month the schooners on this Coast have experienced the worst of weather, and unless meeting with success this month the spring sealing season will be a failure. All vessels, however, are expecting to make up for what time has been lost. The catches so far cannot therefore be taken as a criterion of the season's returns.

A favorable wind from the southwest to-day will bring to hundreds of Victorians news regarding the search for the Cocos Island treasure.

Last evening, just as the sun went down, the brigantine Blakeley, Capt. C. Hackett, which left here to search for the treasure hidden away on the little island down near the equator, put in her appearance in the Straits. This morning she was still off the Washington coast and well over towards the American side. The wind prevailing in the Straits was adverse to her sailing up, and she passed the night beating around within a radius of a few miles. She did not signal any of the stations ashore, and the result of her expedition therefore still remains a secret. The news of her arrival will therefore be awaited with anxiety.

The Blakeley left here in January last. There are aboard, in addition to captain and crew, Justin Gilbert, one of the promoters of the scheme, and Mr. Enyeart, whose gold-finding instruments it was hoped would locate the treasure. There are $17,000,000 in the treasure that was sought, and should the Blakeley have been successful there are over 650 Victorians who will have made their fortunes, for there are that many stockholders in the company. The Blakeley was not expected back before the first of May. Since she left there have been several reports to the effect that she had been sighted and that she had found the treasure, but none of these could ever be authenticated.

THE COAL TRADE.

The following is the report of the San Francisco Coal Market for the week ending March 29th, issued by J. W. Harrison, the coal and metal broker:

During the week there have been the following coal deliveries: Two from British Columbia, 11,207 tons; two from Washington, 3,732 tons; two from Australia, 6,650 tons; total, 21,409 tons. Business in the fuel line is fairly brisk, as is best proven by the small quantity on hand in yards. The deliveries this week have been light, and have been all cared for from ship's side, but little going into yard. Prices remain unchanged, being well sustained for household grades, and low figures for steam uses. Australian and English products are being offered abnormally low, considering the outward grain rates that vessels are receiving. This cannot continue, some change must be made, as 10s. per ton inward on coal and 22s. 6d. outward on grain means no profit to the carriers; in fact it is dubious if non-bountied vessels can make both ends meet. Yet in the face of these conditions, it is difficult to sell foreign coals at covering rates. Fuel oil has been the disturbing factor in producing these results, as all large consumers of steam fuel are calculating on low-priced steam energy. The output from our coast collieries is offered at a very small margin of profit, to enable them to hold the few steam consumers that are yet using coal. Still, if it is a question of the greatest benefit to the greater number, California is now in a position to profitably produce numberless articles heretofore shipped from eastern states.

Among the names on the Dominion hotel register are those of Mr. and Mrs. David Marshbank, who were married yesterday, and are spending their honeymoon here.

AGRICULTURE.

"We all know that it is very desirable to have a fertile soil in which to grow crops," says F. P. Peck, of Michigan, "for success in farming depends largely on the fertility of the land. Everyone knows of many once fertile farms which are not now producing half what they should—scarcely enough to pay for the labor necessary to produce a crop. It is more profitable to farm so as to maintain or improve the soil than it is to rob the soil of its fertility, and in the end bring ruin to the owner of the farm."

How is this to be done? I believe our greatest loss of fertility is the loss of humus. A soil without humus will not carry a crop successfully through a drouth. A clay soil devoid of humus will be lumpy and hard, and will not retain moisture for very long. We all know the effect on the crop, and the great amount of labor required to prepare such a piece of ground for a crop. Hence our aim should be to farm so as to produce and leave as much humus in the ground as possible. This is best accomplished by a rotation of crops, and one crop in the rotation should be clover, which is our greatest soil renovator. We should aim to feed everything, or nearly everything, produced on the farm, and if we add a little bran or concentrated feed to the ration of each animal, and carefully save and apply all the manure, it is easy to see that we shall maintain, and probably add to, the fertility of the soil.

Many advocate the plowing under of green crops, but unless a farm is very much run down I would not practice this, unless it be to bury a second crop of clover, or a clover crop sowed to protect the ground during the winter. A cover crop should always be sowed whenever a piece of ground remains idle during the fall and winter. Many times we have a piece of stubble which we intend to plant to corn or potatoes. On this we can grow a crop of rye or peas and barley, either of which will make a large growth and can be plowed under in time to plant to corn. This adds largely to the humus of the soil, and will tend to carry the crop through a drouth without injury.

As I said, it should be our aim to feed all, or nearly all, we raise on our farms for the purpose of keeping up the fertility of the farm, and I believe it to be more profitable to sell our produce in the form of butter, beef, pork, etc., than to sell it in the rough. I believe our produce fed to good stock will bring us more than twice what it will sell for on the market. For example, I can feed a cow for 12½c. per day, and have her bring in 25c. per day or more for butter alone, and I believe the same to be true with all other kinds of stock.

Many advocate the use of commercial fertilizer. Of course, the basis of all our fertility is the amount of nitrogen, potash and phosphoric acid a soil contains. When we consider that an ordinary crop of wheat of 25 bushels per acre, removed about $8.75 worth of these elements from the soil, and a crop of corn nearly as much, we can readily see that when a soil is exhausted of these elements, it is quite expensive to replace them by using commercial fertilizers. Now, if we feed our crops on the farm, we can return about 80 per cent. of these elements to the soil in the manure, and at the same time get twice the market value of our produce. We can readily see that it is more profitable to farm so as to improve our soil than to sell our crops on the market, and at the same time be losing heavily in the fertility of the soil.

I would not advocate the feeding of wheat, but would sell it and purchase bran or cottonseed meal, which is worth more for feed than wheat, and has about double the manurial value. If I sold much wheat, I would use commercial fertilizers freely, for it is impossible to keep up the farm and sell grain without their use. If we grow all the forage crops we can and feed them on the farm, carefully save and return the manure, we need have but little fear about the fertility of the land.

F. W. HODSON,
Live Stock Commissioner.

CABLE STATION.

Over One Hundred Thousand Dollars to Be Expended on Fanning Island.

New York, April 3.—Fanning island, a little coral reef in the South Pacific, is to be the resting place for the sub-marine cable, which will run from British Columbia to Australia, according to the Tribune San Francisco special. On the island, which is 1,080 miles south of Hawaii, the English Cable Co. will establish its mid-ocean station, expending about $125,000 there for buildings and equipment. Besides the usual buildings, there will be a large reservoir for catching rain water. The walls of these buildings will be made of coral covered with cement.

HUDDA MULLAH AGAIN.

Allahabad, British India, April 3.—Hudda Mullah, the fanatic who has in the past endeavored to embroil Great Britain and Afghanistan, has started for Cabul, the capital of Afghanistan, with five thousand armed followers. It is feared that his arrival at Cabul will cause disturbances, as the widow of the late Ameer is opposed to him.

"MY STOMACH GAVE OUT ENTIRELY and I suffered untold agonies." This was the experience of Mr. D. G. Whidden, Postmaster, East Wentworth, N. S., after three attacks of La Grippe. Doctors and doses gave him no permanent relief, but Dr. Wm Stan's Pineapple Tablets had the permanent virtue that won him back to perfect health, pleasant and harmless, but powerful and quick. 35 cents. Sold by Jackson & Co. and Hall & Co.—180.

MINERAL ACT.

(Form F.)

CERTIFICATE OF IMPROVEMENTS.

NOTICE.

Rambler, Thorn, Rose, Jen, Puffing Billy and Pig Iron mineral claims, situate in the Victoria Mining Division of Renfrew District.

Where located: Gordon River, Port San Juan.

Take notice that I, H. E. Newton, F. M. C. No. B63570, and as agent for C. J. Newton, F. M. C. No. B63571, R. A. Newton, F. M. C. No. B63572, R. T. Godman, F. M. C. No. B63569, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claims.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements.

Dated this third day of April, A.D., 1902.

BIRTHS.

MALKIN—At Vancouver, on March 20th, the wife of W. H. Malkin, of a son.

MNARB—At Nelson, on March 28th, the wife of W. J. McNabb, of a son.

WOOD—On the 28th March, the wife of Andrew Wood, police officer, of a daughter.

MARRIED.

FOSTER-HEATHER—At New Westminster, on March 31st, by Rev. J. Calvert, F. Foster and Miss Mary J. Heather.

BONNER-JOLLY—At Vancouver, on March 31st, by Rev. L. N. Tucker, H. M. Bonner and Mrs. Anna M. W. Jolly.

MARCHBANK-STEELE—On the 2nd inst., at St. John's church, by Rev. Percival Jenns, David Marchbank, of Duncans, B. C., to Mary Steele, of Victoria, B. C.

HILL-MARK—At Vancouver, on March 31st, by Rev. R. G. MacBeth, Edward Hill, of Nanaimo, and Miss Jessie Mark, of Toronto.

DIED.

PETERSON—At Vancouver, on March 31st, Mrs. Ann Peterson, aged 43.

M'LEAN—At Vancouver, on April 1st, W. W. McLean.