Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH, 1887.

From the Daily Colonist, September 1, 1887.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

Hose Reel Contest.

Vancouver won the hose reel contest with New Westminster.

Sir Arthur Blackwood's Address.

This afternoon at four o'clock Sir Arthur Blackwood will deliver an address in The Victoria.

The Pallium.

Cardinal Gibbons will confer the pallium on Archbishop Gross at Portland on October 9th.

Mine Accident.

On Wednesday Messrs. John Drake and Miles Foster, while working in their stall in No. 1 shaft of the Vancouver coal company, Nanaimo, were injured by a fall of rock. The injuries were not severe.

Foul Bay Farm.

It is said that Mr. Kiddie, who arrived from the east a few days ago, is negotiating for the sale of Foul Bay to the Dominion government as a home for the Songeesh Indians, whose late reserve has been acquired for railway purposes.

Customs Returns.

The following are the returns of the Nanaimo custom house for the month of August:

Import duty	$3,057 27
Sick M. duty	117 36
Petroleum inspection	37 00
Miscellaneous	2 50
Total	$3,224 63

Senator Dickey.

This gentleman was credited by the *Post-Intelligencer*, of Seattle, with the statement that "Victoria had had her day" and must now yield the palm to Vancouver. The senator denies having made the absurd statement or anything that led to it. There is reason to believe that he entertains a contrary opinion.

Banff Anthracite Coal.

Col. Stevens, U. S. consul, who returned Thursday evening from a tour on the mainland, while at Banff visited the coal mines at Anthracite. He feels quite certain that they will soon reach coal that will equal the famous anthracite of Lehigh Valley, Pa. About sixty-five cars are at Port Moody awaiting shipment to San Francisco.

Kapla Recaptured.

News of the recapture of Kapla, the alleged Kootenay murderer, who was taken from the gaol at Wild Horse creek by Chief Isadore and his braves some months ago, was received by the government yesterday. It is presumed that Kapla will have his trial at once, and thus the way will be cleared for an adjustment of the Indian land disputes; for which purpose, we understand, a commission will very shortly proceed thither.

A Rumor.

It is rumored in circles where false reports are scarce that the Rev. Father McGucken will succeed the Right Rev. Bishop Seghers as Bishop of Vancouver Island and Alaska. Father McGucken has been for many years a zealous missionary priest among the Indians of this province and he deserves promotion.—*Guardian.*

Outgoing Passengers.

Following are the passengers per steamer Mexico for San Francisco: Miss Benson, T. R. Merritt and wife, Chas. Kent and wife, Geo. Hadden and wife, Mrs. H. Dambrauer and child, Mr. and Mrs. F. F. Finlay, Mrs. Bunster, M. H. Galbraith and wife, Rev. D. H. Reed, Mrs. Rison and daughter, G. W. Martin, Geo. S. Martin, R. Goldstein, Wm. Hamilton and wife, John Harris, J. T. Harley Mrs. Porteous, Tudor Tiedeman, Walter Bridge, Mrs. A. Allen.

The Steamer Yosemite.

Last evening the Rithet towed the Yosemite from her position on the beach to the dock, where the new rudder will be placed in her. This article weighs about two tons, and is made of oak and Douglas fir, heavily riveted and bound with iron and thickly coppered. The main portion is 7 ft. 3 in. in length by 8 ft. in width and is 15 feet in the stalk. It is expected she will be ready for service on Monday. During the time she has been laid up she has been generally improved, and will be in a better condition than ever.

Theatrical Attractions.

Manager Howe, of Portland, is evidently determined not to get left this season. He has already booked the following splendid attractions: Louis Harrison's "Skipped by the Light of the Moon," "Harbor Lights," "Alvin Joslyn," Margaret Mather, Emerson's Minstrel's (the only "Billy"), Milton Nobles, Horace Lewis' spectacular "Monte Cristo," "She" with the original scenery, Baird's Minstrels, Joe Grismer and Phoebe Davis, Langtry, Frederick Warde, Gus Williams M. B. Curtis, Rhea, and last but not least, Booth and Barrett. Most of these companies will probably visit Victoria. If "Joe" doesn't bring Booth and Barrett on we'll show our teeth.

Pot Hunter's Depredations.

One of the numerous pothunters who are risking their lives by carrying a gun yesterday morning invaded Mr. J. P. Houlihan's orchard on the Richmond road, and mistaking one of his turkeys for a pheasant, shot it. The bird at the time was sitting on a nest of eggs. Mr. Houlihan heard the shot from his yard, and seeing the smoke ran towards it and saw two young men running away. He followed them, but did not succeed in getting near enough to recognize them. Mr. Houlihan feels very much aggrieved over the act, and promises a hot reception to any other pothunters who trespass on his grounds.

The Olympian.

The Tacoma *Ledger* says: The Olympian has just ended her ninth trip from Tacoma to Alaska during the summer. Captain Carroll left with his vessel last evening, soon after his arrival, for down Sound. In a day or two he will take the steamer to Portland. The boat is owned by the Oregon Railway & Navigation company and was chartered for the season by the Pacific Coast Steamship company, and according to the terms of the charter, the latter company must deliver the ship in Portland, when the terms of the charter will be complied with and the contract ended. Just what will be done with the steamer is unknown except to the Union Pacific officials. Nothing is known here as to the reports by various papers that the Olympian will run on the Sound in place of the steamer Geo. E. Starr or North Pacific. The report that the North Pacific and Starr will undergo repairs is unfounded. These two steamers are said to be in splendid condition, and they can generally be depended upon as being on time as often as a railroad train.

Sudden Death.

H. Edney, who registered at the Regina Hotel, Vancouver, as from Port Townsend, died suddenly on Friday. Shortly after dinner the barkeeper of the hotel went upstairs to attend to the rooms, and, on going into Edney's room, saw him stretched on the bed; marks of vomiting were all over the floor, and at first the barkeeper thought the man was asleep, but a closer inspection showed him to be dead. Officer Haywood searched the person of the deceased. He found $23.50 in cash, $15 of which was in Canadian bills and the balance in American and foreign silver, besides a razor, tooth brush, two combs and a baggage check. In another pocket he found three membership tickets for the Great Western Lodge of Bridport, England, I. O. O. F. Manchester Unity, for the years 1882, 1883 and 1886. No other papers or letters were found on his person, nor had he a pocket book, the money being loose in his vest pocket. The body was that of a man about 21 or 22 years of age, about 5 ft. 7 in. height, weight about 135 lbs., hair dark brown, small moustache, large blue eyes. He is supposed to have friends residing in or near Port Townsend.

A Handsome Block.

Hon. Mr. Hamley has ordered plans to be prepared for a handsome brick block on the site of the late fire on Fort street. The block will contain three stores, with offices above.

Heavy Freights.

The Mexico, which went to San Francisco yesterday, took a large number of cases of salmon and other freight which amounted in all to nearly 300 tons. The passenger list was unusually large.

The Custom House.

Notwithstanding the various changes in the custom house the Hon. W. Hamley will still continue to act as collector, having general control of all the departments, Mr. George Fry continuing to act as surveyor of customs.

Salmon on the Fraser.

Mr. B. Young arrived down from Fraser river yesterday afternoon on the Rithet. He reports the salmon running lightly, the canneries securing about fifty cases per day. Ben expects a good run in about two weeks' time.

FROM THE NORTH.

Arrival of the Sardonyx—Skeena Cannery Men Well Satisfied.

The steamer Sardonyx, Capt. Meyers, arrived about 8 o'clock last evening after a long trip, of which six days were spent in going from Skeena to Gold Harbor, or Mitchell Harbor, as it is called. The trip to the west coast of Queen Charlotte's Island was very rough, especially when Cape St. James was rounded, when the steamer got into a gale. Time was lost on account of the fog, and the west coast not being surveyed she could not make a landing at the time of expectation, and had to put out to sea. She reached Gold Harbor on August 28th and found it to be a well sheltered harbor. In landing the three men—James McCloy, James Dempster and Dan Morrison—who remain to prospect the old ledge for the purpose of endeavoring to secure the golden quartz, the steamer came within 50 feet of the old working. The latter can easily be seen from the steamer. It is about fifteen feet long, and five feet deep and out of this narrow space, the ore taken carried in gold $180,000. If the ore is again struck the prospectors will have a veritable bonanza. Sufficient supplies of eatables powder, etc., to last all winter was landed, together with lumber enough to build a house. Gold harbor is about twelve miles from an Indian village, and for canoes there is a short and protected inside passage to Skidegate 28 miles in length. The mine is the one worked by the H. B. Co. in 1852, and was the scene of the first gold excitement in British Columbia. Should the ledge again be found, its working will be an easy matter, it is so convenient to the water.

At Skidegate four other prospectors were landed. They went inland, and will look for quartz.

The steamer brought 12,760 cases, as follows: Skeena Packing Co., 5,282; British American Packing Co., 5,466; Inverness Canning Co., 2,012.

A San Francisco schooner was reported by the Indians to be dealing in black cod on the west coast, but there were no signs of her. Black cod are plentiful around Skidegate also. The Indian villages are well supplied with curios, made out of slate, some being shipped to Victoria.

The Skeena cannery men are well satisfied with the catch this year, which was as follows: Skeena Packing Co., 14,000 cases; B. A. P. Co., 13,000 cases; Balmoral, 8,500 cases; Inverness, 12,000 cases; Windsor, 12,000.

The Sardonyx brought down about 550 tons of freight and a large number of Chinese and Indians. The passage down was made in two days. She would have made a quick trip had it not been for the long run around Queen Charlotte's Island. The weather was unpleasant on account of rain. The steamer Ancon was met in Queen Charlotte's Sound.

PERSONAL.

Mrs. A. Allan left on the Mexico for a visit to California.

A. MacPherson, wife and child, returned from the mainland last night.

Lord Herschell was at the Glacier hotel yesterday and will arrive on Monday night.

W. Gordon, of the Hamilton Powder Co., returned last night, after a month's absence on the mainland.

T. C. Sorby, G. Robertson, W. L. Cusack, Simon Leiser and Capt. Urquhart came down on the Louise last night.

W. A. Russell, inspector of steamboats, and Judge Graham were passengers by the Sardonyx last evening from the north.

T. R. Merritt and wife, Rev. D. H. Reed, and Tudor Tiedeman were passengers by the Mexico yesterday for San Francisco.

S. G. Fulton, assistant general freight agent of the Northern Pacific, with headquarters at Portland, arrived yesterday on the Sound steamer, and is at the Driard.

G. G. Chandler, the newly appointed traveling freight and passenger agent of the Northern Pacific for Puget Sound district, including British Columbia, arrived yesterday from the Sound.

J. L. Pearson, an active partner in the well-known firm of Adolph Boissevain & Co., of Amsterdam, is coming to Canada. Mr. Pearson will come over the whole line, and the result of his observations will be awaited with interest by the many Dutch followers of his firm in Canadian Pacific investments.

LOCAL BRIEFS.

It looks bad to see a policeman's dog sitting patiently on the doorstep of a saloon.

The Louise brought down 1500 packages Chinese merchandise ex steamship Abyssinia.

The Maude arrived from the west coast yesterday morning, bringing up a consignment of oil.

A horse belonging to Mr. Deasy, expressman, fell down dead opposite the Windsor hotel last evening.

The total shipments of coal from the port of Nanaimo for the month ending 31st August amounted to 27,102 tons, chiefly from the Wellington mines.

An interesting account of the trip of W. Halpenny to San Juan river is unavoidably left over this issue.

The Rithet yesterday brought down 2,000 cases of salmon, which she discharged into the bark Titania.

The Pathfinder, which arrived in port yesterday, is engaged for the purpose of prospecting the west coast for fish, by the Dominion government.

Messrs. Trow and Patterson yesterday visited Esquimalt dock and took a long drive in company with Mr. Shakespeare. They were delighted. In the evening they visited some of the Chinese dens, and are pleased that they have been able to see for themselves the undesirability of Chinese population.

MARINE.

The Wellington passed up last night to Departure bay.

The Sardonyx arrived from the north last evening and is at the outer wharf.

Bark Bundaleer is under the shutes taking on a cargo of coal for San Francisco.

Ship Lindisfarne is under the shutes of the Vancouver Coal company taking on a cargo of Nanaimo coal.

Steamship Empire, Capt. Butler, sailed on Friday with 935 tons of East Wellington coal for San Francisco.

THE EFFECT.

TO THE EDITOR:—If the Abyssinia had gone ashore while an uncertificated pilot was in charge, would the insurance have been affected? Bix.

[Not a dollar could have been collected from the underwriters on either ship or cargo.—ED.]

T. N. HIBBEN & Co. are *sole agents* for Macmunns views of Victoria and the C. P. R.

THE PATHFINDER ARRIVES

Having on Board 2,377 Seal Skins—Season's Total Catch 2,814.

Stormy Weather During the Season—Remarkable Individual Daily Record—The Schooner Saw Nothing of the Cutters.

The schooner Pathfinder, owned by Carne & Munsie and commanded by Capt. O'Leary, arrived yesterday afternoon off Race Rocks, where she was becalmed. From Jos. Dupont, one of the hunters, who rowed from the schooner in a ship's boat, it is learned that the schooner has on board 2,377 skins for the Behring's sea catch. The catch off the west coast in the early part of the season was 437, which brings the total catch for the season up to the handsome figure of 2,814. The weather experienced in Behring's sea was in great contrast to the pleasant weather last year, it being very boisterous, there only being an occasional day when it was safe for the boats to venture out. However, they were at all times in the midst of the seals, and when the weather was favorable a good day's hunting always resulted. There were six hunters on board the Pathfinder and one day they captured 247 seals, the biggest individual daily record being made by Jos. Dupont, he bagging 57. The schooner entered Behring's sea on the 28th of June, having spoken the Dolphin before entering. The only schooner seen in Behring's sea was the Mary Taylor. When taking in water at a point on the Shumagin islands, they were informed that the steamer Bear had called there previously and the captain stated it was the intention to seize every vessel they could lay hold of. However, the Pathfinder saw nothing of the piratical Americans during the trip, and heard nothing of the seizures of the others until they arrived at Victoria yesterday.

The owners, captain and crew are to be congratulated on their success in evading capture and in securing such a good season's catch of seals. Her total season's catch represents about $20,000.

LATER.—About five o'clock the Pathfinder arrived in the harbor in tow of four of the ship's boats, and anchored in James bay. Capt. O'Leary said that after sailing from the west coast, they hunted on the way up and called at the Shumagin islands on the 20th June for water. After leaving this point they did not touch at any other, and the only vessel they saw was the Mary Taylor now in port. Left Behring's sea on the 17th August, and came through the Unimak pass on the 18th. Had a good breeze all the way down, but was becalmed in the straits one day. The captain did not hear of any seizures until his arrival in Victoria and regards himself as a fortunate individual.

THE BIG BEND DISTRICT.

Interesting Account of a Trip into the Mining Camps—Latest News from the Mines.

Mr. W. Gordon, of the Hamilton Powder Co., arrived last night from the mainland. He has kindly furnished THE COLONIST with the following account of his trip into and the latest news from the Big Bend country:

I left Revelstoke in company with Messrs. McLean and McDonald, who were bound for French creek, on the 17th August, a mule transporting some goods and provisions for the trip. Very shortly after leaving Revelstoke the trail is struck and continues for three or four miles through a natural park, when the first of a series of mountains commence. The ascent is both difficult and laborious, the pathway going zig-zag up the side of the hills until a level is obtained, the descent being equally steep on the far side. This is repeated with but few intermissions for many miles. A halt is generally made about noon for a rest and a meal. Our party camped the first night at what is called the 15-Mile House. The next morning at five we were ready for the road, reaching

CARNE'S CREEK

about midday, thirty miles from our starting point. We were hospitably received by Mr. Cameron, of Cariboo fame, and stayed at his comfortable log cabin for an hour or two and then resumed our journey, camping for the night at a spot well-known to travellers on this route, called Strawberry Flat. Some difficulty was encountered from bush fires, the trail in many places being on fire, and fallen timber retarding our progress.

Game seemed to be abundant, grouse, quail and foolhens starting up every few yards, and some time that we were able to knock down several with sticks, and found them, when cooked, very delicious in flavor. Bear tracks were also numerous. Our next halting place was Downie creek, twenty miles from Carne's and fifty from Revelstoke. The last camping ground was a few miles beyond Downie creek, or fifteen miles from McCullough. We obtained a good view of Death Rapids, not far from La Porte, the site of an old H. B. Co. station in early days. The remains of the storehouse and one or two cabins can still be seen.

We reached Goldstream or

M'CULLOUGH CREEK

at noon on the 20th, having covered the ground, seventy miles, in three and a half days. Here our party broke up, Messrs. McLean and McDonald proceeding five miles further on to French creek, while I remained the guest of the Messrs. Gray Bros. who are opening the Ophir Bed Rock Flume Co. Here I met Mr. E. M. Johnson, who seemed quite at home in his mountain retreat. After a substantial meal we all repaired to the workings of the company and I enjoyed the pleasure of seeing gold in its natural state removed from the ground. Thirty or forty dollars in most inviting looking nuggets were soon picked up by those willing to search. I understand Mr. Johnson collected himself sixty or seventy dollars in a few hours. What I picked up averaged in value from 25 cents to $5. Being unable to accompany Mr. Johnson back to Revelstoke he left the next morning on horseback and surprised everybody by covering the ground in about one and one-half days. He left on Sunday at 5 a. m. and reached Revelstoke on Monday in time to catch the 5:35 train going west. I allude to this fact as I notice it is claimed to be the fastest time on record, which it undoubtedly was until I made the entire distance on foot in 24½ hours and carrying blankets and grub for 15 miles out of the 70.

The following may be of interest: The Messrs. Gray Bro.'s have a force of eight men three of which are detailed for night shift in cleaning the flumes. They purpose, if everything progresses favorably, to clean up this flume in November when a very large quantity of gold will undoubtedly reward their labor for the past year. It is certainly the

RICHEST CLAIM BY ALL ODDS

in British Columbia to-day. The Gray Bros. own one and one-half miles of this valuable property, besides 160 acres already laid out as a town site. They are hard workers and men of keen experience. The mine is worked by hydraulic giant and winch and the rapid manner in which hundreds of tons of huge boulders are daily hoisted from the creek and put on to tram cars would make any corporation envious.

Above McCollough creek is the Bald Head Co. who have a tunnel in the diggings 1200 feet; at present closed down.

Above is the Blue Bell Co., also closed down.

Further on is the Erickson Co. who have a tunnel about 100 feet. Beyond this is the Seekirk Co. with a tunnel of 600 or 700 feet.

The Bald Head Co., Blue Bell Co., and Erickson Co. have amalgamated.

Following are the different claims on

FRENCH CREEK:

The Victoria Co., in Gold Hill, composed of Messrs. Glover, Watson and Fitch. They have a tunnel of 160 feet and report taking out good pay. The houses of the company are good.

Above this comes the Oriental, McMillan & Bell, who are putting in a wingdam on the creek.

Then comes the French Creek Tunnel Co., Messrs. Loucks and others. Here they have spent upwards of $16,000, possessing hoisting gear, shaft, etc.

About 40 feet beyond is the May Co., Messrs. McLean, McLeod and John A. Cameron. On this they have a shaft down some 40 feet, and a pump and suitable machinery is expected daily from Victoria.

The now celebrated quartz ledge above McCullough creek, known as the "Barrett Ledge," started up this week. The principal partners are Tom Barrett, Wm. Tinline and Tom Ardell. The former is a well-known Cariboo and Cassiar miner, and considered a high authority on quartz mining.

SMITH CREEK.

as a placer diggings, is worthy of notice. It is about eight miles from McCullough, on the opposite side of the Columbia, and possesses four claims at present. Messrs. McVitty and a party of six have a flume 200 feet and sinking shaft down 30 feet. It is paying about $2.50 per day to the man.

Above McVitty comes Alf. Hinds and others. They have been working about two months; nothing of importance done.

Beyond is the clearing of Messrs. Haskins, Ardell, Gus Lund and Allan, who have put in a wing-dam and are taking out $2.50 to $3.00 per day.

Beyond is the Holden claim, two interests, Sol. Holden and Newlove. These parties have recorded 200 feet; operations uncertain.

The gold taken from Smith creek is of a very fine quality, running generally finer than that of McCullough or French creeks.

A POOR TRAIL.

Upwards of 45 men are now employed in the Big Bend country, and as they are under very heavy expense in transporting supplies of all kinds to their several camps, I would call attention to the state of the trail from Revelstoke to Carne's creek in particular, which is in very poor condition for either pedestrians or pack trains, being greatly obstructed by fallen limbs. Fires are frequent, and in some places dangerous. From Carne's creek to McCullough the trail is in fair order. It would be a great boon to the forty or fifty men at present engaged in the Big Bend country if the trail from Revelstoke to Carne's creek could be kept open. During the last trip made by Dunn's pack train nearly a day was lost in chopping away trees that were falling in large numbers.

NOTES.

Mr. (Cariboo) Cameron has not yet got fairly to work, it being difficult to obtain men, but he anticipates good results before the season closes.

Dr. Strather reports his claim doing well.

There is nothing doing on Downie creek.

The first snow fell on the hills above McCullough creek on Sunday, the 28th August.

WHO IS "PHILIP SABIN?"

Belief That a Great Crime Has Been Prevented by a Timely Discovery—A Remarkable Story.

The minds of a leading insurance firm in this city and that of the representative of a great American life insurance company are on the rack. They are desirous of ascertaining where a person, who is said to have signed himself "Philip Sabin," and gave his residence as Comox, is to be found. Inquiries made at his reputed place of abode met with the response that there was no such person there or thereabouts; and examination of the city hotel registers show that within the past year no person bearing that name has put up at any of these hostelries. The list of voters and the provincial directory are alike innocent of the name. The records of the land office are dumb, and the pursers of the coast steamers declare that no person of the name has ever traveled with them. And yet, in spite of all evidence to the contrary, there is on file in the leading insurance office referred to a document purporting to have been signed by one "Philip Sabin," in an application for a life insurance policy in the sum of $3,000. What purports to be a very full description of the applicant is given as well as the name of his alleged wife, "Josephine," to whom

THE MONEY

in case of his death is to be paid. Accompanying the document is what purports to be the medical certificate that he has examined "Philip Sabin," and found him to be a good risk. The blanks are all nicely filled up. The applicant is described as of abstemious habits, his dissipation extending to only a drink or two a month; his mother lived to a good old age and then dropped off from decay, and his father was "killed." All his relatives are stated to have been so healthy that the wonder is they died at all. So far, so good; but as the pen of the alleged physician filled in the blanks two most remarkable discrepancies occurred. The measure of his chest would answer for Mons. Redon of the Driard, while in the very next line his abdominal girth is given as greater than that of his worship the mayor; further on the specific gravity of the fluid expelled by the alleged "Philip Sabin" is set down in figures which indicate that the applicant is in the last stages of Bright's disease of the kidneys. The next and most remarkable circumstance associated with the medical certificate is the signature of the examining surgeon. Neither the initials nor the handwriting resemble in the slightest those of the company's local surgeon. The surname is all right; but the initials are those of the doctor's brother who has not been in the province for the past three years. Moreover, the gentleman whose name is given as the examiner is not a medical man; he is a civil engineer. On the receipt of the application and the accompanying certificate at the San Francisco office they were referred to the company's medical man, who immediately detected the discrepancies. It was next ascertained that the signature of the doctor was

A RANK FORGERY.

A representative of the company immediately started for Victoria. In a little time he found that a trusted clerk in the employ of the local firm had brought to the office the application, alleging that he met "Philip Sabin" at the Oriental Hotel one evening, and had there and then received his application; that he accompanied him to Dr. ——, who then and there examined him and filled in the blanks. The physician when applied to denied that any man of that name or description had ever passed under his hands, and repudiated all knowledge of a certificate which none but a most abandoned quack or idiotic empiric could have filled up. It is scarcely necessary to say that the services of the "trusted clerk" will be no longer required by the firm unless he can produce "Philip Sabin" and explain away the astounding discrepancies in the medical certificate and the substitution of the name of a civil engineer for that of an eminent local physician.

The uses that would have been made of the policy, had it been passed by the lynx-eyed officials, are conjectural; but there is little reason to doubt that a great crime was contemplated. Some one who stood in "Philip Sabin's" shoes would have suddenly disappeared, a body would have been procured somewhere and somehow to represent his; the claim would have been filed by the agonized "widow Sabin" and the money when obtained would have been divided by the confederates—for there must have been more than one person concerned in the diabolical plot to fleece the insurance company.

WHAT SOME PEOPLE SAY.

That the Hon. Peter Mitchell is managing director of the Montreal *Herald*. The night his office was burned out a reporter of the *Witness* approached him at the Windsor, asking as to the insurance. He was told gruffly: "I have no time to talk about such matters. I have my business to think about." What would Mr. Mitchell say of a man who treated one of his staff in so discourteous a manner when seeking valuable information? There are gentlemen—and gentlemen, and the sweet sage reporter soon sizes them up.

OUR MARKSMEN.

How the Boys Fared at Ottawa in the D. R. A.

The Ministers Instructed to Return Speedily to the Capital to Consider the Fishery Question—Prof. Saunders Coming West.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

OTTAWA, Sept. 3.—The matches of the Dominion Rifle Association are finished. Of the team Gunner Beckwith won the second prize in the five hundred yards series with thirty-four points, also the sixteenth in the nine hundred yards series with 25. Gunner Sargison won prizes in the Manufacturer's match and the five and nine hundred yards series. Sergeant Newbury won the eleventh prize in the nine hundred yards series with 27 points. In the skirmishing matches fourteen teams entered, British Columbia taking the fourth and sixth places. Unfavorable weather for good shooting has prevailed during the whole meeting, many old reliable shots going to pieces. The ammunition used was of Canadian manufacture and is not perfect. The shooting generally has been much below the standard of former meetings.

Prof. Saunders, director of the experimental farms, leaves for British Columbia next week to select a site for a branch farm.

It is understood that the Ministers in the northwest have been instructed to return here quickly to consider the imperial dispatches on the fisheries question expected next week. The feeling is strong for the Hon. Mr. Thompson as the Canadian commissioner. Sir Lionel Sackville West, the British ambassador at Washington will be Joseph Chamberlain's colleague. The commission meets at Washington, in November. British Columbia should urge the government here to include the Behring's sea matter in the reference to the commission.

CABLE NEWS.

Off to Clare.

DUBLIN, Sept. 3.—Messrs. Dillon, Wm. O'Brien, Philip Stanhope and Tanner, all members of parliament and the lord mayor of Dublin left the city to-day for Ballycotee, where an address is to be presented to Mr. Stanhope.

The Kaiser Well.

BERLIN, Sept. 3.—The Emperor rose at the usual hour this morning; his health is good and he shows no effect of his recent accident.

That False Arrest.

LONDON, Sept. 3.—In accordance with the advice of the Government the chief constable of Hants has sent a letter of apology and £50 to Madame Drouin, who was falsely arrested for having in her baggage an explosive substance which turned out to be modelling clay. Madame Drouin has not recovered from the shock she received from the arrest and remains an invalid at Cowes. She has declined the offer of damages and leaves the matter with the French ambassador.

Chamberlain's Appointment.

The appointment of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain to the fisheries commissionership appears to be satisfactory to the whole nation, and his acceptance of the position is eagerly looked for. He is believed to be the best man that could have been chosen for the place. The utmost confidence is felt in his ability and judgment. His intimate friends think that on his return from America the acquaintance he will have made with the American and Canadian forms of state and provincial governments will lead him to modify his objections to home rule so that he will be able to make a compromise with Mr. Gladstone, and returning to the liberal fold, become chancellor of the exchequer in a Gladstone government.

The Political Outlook.

When the present session of parliament will come to an end is as uncertain as ever. All depends on the course of Irish affairs. If the proposition of meetings in Ireland is enforced the Irish members will fight in the house of commons for the rights of their constituents and keep the house sitting as long as possible. The contest, so far, has not developed any remarkable powers on either side. The agitation in Ireland over the proclamation of the league and the prohibition of meetings of the league is hourly increasing. It was expected that fully forty thousand men and women would assemble on the hillside of Ballycotee to-morrow, but it is now believed that only a small body will meet in the prescribed district in order to test the legality of the proclamation and the right of the government to interfere with peaceable gatherings, and the great mass will be addressed outside.

Trades Union Congress.

The trades union congress will meet at Swansea next Monday. Two important questions will come before the congress, viz: Whether international trades unionism shall be sanctioned, and whether the state should pass an eight-hour bill. The first question will probably be decided in the negative by a large majority, and the second be carried unanimously.

Mrs. Potter Weary.

Mrs. James Brown Potter to-night concluded her first season at the Gaiety. She has done much hard work, and rest has been ordered.

The Queen's Cup.

The forthcoming yacht race for the Queen's cup in New York harbor is attracting great attention in yachting and sporting circles. There is much excitement over the event. Betting runs high and at present is in favor of the Thistle, but intelligence about the Volunteer is eagerly sought for. Her recent performances have been carefully watched, and her points are canvassed with as much minuteness as if she was a British yacht about to sail a match in English waters. The more she is heard of, the more cautious the betting men become, and it would not be surprising to find she being about even on the day before the race. The Americans are doing their patriotic best to support the Volunteer and feel great confidence in her success.

Meeting of the Emperors Denied.

BERLIN, Sept. 5.—The *Gazette*, official organ, says: Reports of the meeting between the Emperor and the Czar emanate from French and Austrian sources. Nothing is known of it in Berlin.

The Sealing Seizures.

LONDON, Sept. 5. In the house of commons to-day Sir J. Ferguson, in reply to Mr. Tanner, said that the government was not aware of any seizure of Canadian fishing vessels by the U. S. cruisers in Alaskan waters since Aug. 17th. They knew of the seizures on the 1st, 2nd, 9th and 12th of August, and were in communication with the Washington government on the subject.

CONDENSED DISPATCHES.

King Otto is as crazy as the late Ludwig and has to be restrained.

Jay Gould is after Mackay's cable, and rumor says he has captured it.

Governor Bartlett says he hopes to be able to attend to business in a few days.

Garrett has mortgaged the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, and Gould will scoop that in, too.

Lieut. Dorr, U. S. A., and Mrs. Totten, wife of Lieut. Totten, have eloped and gone to South America.

There has been an alarming outbreak of trichinosis in Brunswick, Germany. Sixty persons have been afflicted, of whom seven have died.

There has been a collision at Antwerp between the British steamer Salisbury, from Philadelphia, and the British steamer John Adamson, both vessels being badly damaged.

Henry Taylor, ex-president of the Bank of London and president of the Ontario Investment Association, was arrested on Friday. The cause of the arrest has not been made public.

The latest from the Tonto Basin, Arizona, says that William J. Mulvenon, sheriff of Yavapai county, was killed and six of his posse were wounded. Eleven outlaws were engaged in the fight. Ten of them were killed and one wounded.

Capt. Elliott Moore, of Santa Barbara, and Mrs. Marion Lovely were married at San Francisco. Moore is 66 years of age, the bride 48. The old gentleman had previously been married five times and his present wife had been married three times.

Gladstone has written a reply to the Duke of Argyle's recent attack, in which he says: "The Duke of Argyle is an old friend, whose attacks I prefer bearing silently. I do not excuse tyranny, but I wish to have the national league dealt with legally, and not by the arbitrary decision of the viceroy or chief secretary for Ireland."

Secretary Bayard says that there was great reason to hope that a fair and final settlement would be reached of the differences which had always existed between this country and Great Britain over the fisheries question since 1818, a final settlement of which had never been reached. The Secretary said that Mr. Chamberlain would find the United States ready to do her part toward securing good feeling between the two countries.

The voters of money for the Irish government are still under debate in the house of commons. The Parnellites on Friday discussed the administration of law in Ireland until Mr. Smith, government leader, appealed to the chairman to stop the debate. The chairman claimed his had no power and could only appeal to the members themselves.

The Russians have left Kerki and proceeded in the direction of Merk. Kerki has been regarrisoned by troops from Ooraheuj. The natives report that Gholam Hikander has temporarily withdrawn his forces, which are unable to cope with the large force of insurgents in the field.

Lawrason's banking house at St. George was entered by burglars and several watches and other articles stolen. They could not blow the safe open.

Several actions for damages by victims of the St. Thomas horror have been begun. S. France wants $15,000 for the death of his wife; and two others ask $2,000 and $5,000 each for injuries received.

Three directors of the Bank of London are at Toronto with the object, it is supposed, of reopening negotiations for amalgamation with the Bank of Toronto. It is stated the Bank of Toronto loaned ex-Pres. Taylor $100,000 on Ontario Investment Association stock, which accounted for the interest taken by that bank in the Bank of London.

SAN JUAN VALLEY.

A Large Area for Settlement if a River Jamb is Removed.

The following is an account of a trip to San Juan river valley furnished by W. Halpenny, government guide:

I have the pleasure to give to intending settlers some information of which I have recently become the possessor. About the 22nd of last month the local government entrusted me with the task of an exploratory trip down the west coast, for the purpose of prospecting for farming lands, and to report upon the same as soon as possible. On the above date, I left in company with Messrs. C. Todd and W. A. Huson. We went down the coast in a canoe and had to pull ourselves along against both wind and tide. On the third night at ten o'clock we reached the mouth of the San Juan river, where my attention was drawn to the extensiveness of the farming facilities of the San Juan river valley. I had slightly noticed the valley on two or three occasions, but did not look much into it, owing to the fact that I was prospecting for mineral at the time. But on this last occasion I made it my special business to make an approximate calculation of the length and breadth of the valley. I am convinced, and in this I am supported by my companion, that for six miles up the river and four miles in width there is good farming land. Now this area of valley, six by four miles, ought to give one hundred and sixty acres each to 96 settlers, less what the river takes out of it. I must not omit to say that this beautiful valley of the San Juan is rather heavily timbered, but the greater portion of it is heavy alder and soft maple. The foliage of this timber is what goes to make the soil beneath their wide spreading branches so black and rich. The underbrush and lower herbage grows in most wonderful luxuriance, and I have no hesitation in saying that if the above valley became partially settled that many more settlers could find suitable places further up the San Juan river. The only drawback to the immediate settling of this valley is a jamb of float wood two and a half miles up the river. The jamb is injurious to the progress of settlement because it floods a portion of the best of the agricultural land for a few days in the high water season. The jamb is also an impediment to lumbermen floating logs down the river to its mouth until the jamb is removed from one side or the other. It could be easier opened on the right-hand side than the other; but in any case it will cost $2,000 or more to clear it out. This accomplished, it would be no trouble to run a little stern-wheel steamer, of 20 or 40 tons, to where the head of the settlement might reach. We took Indians and their canoes four and one-half miles above the jamb, but not without a twenty rods' portage of the canoe and our stuff, which was no fun for us; neither would it have been for new settlers. Another important advantage that would be gained would be that the salmon could run up the river at all seasons, and this would allow of a cannery being started. So, in conclusion, I will say that the sooner the jamb is removed from the river the sooner will the buzz of saws be heard above the surf that beats upon the shores of San Juan bay.

I will add that the above mentioned valley is all government land. As the new settlers always ask for government lands, they can find them in the San Juan river valley, only sixty miles from Victoria.

Before closing there is another very important matter that would be accomplished by the immediate settlement of the valley that I will mention. It would have quite a helping influence on the sister settlement at Alberni. It is well known to people in Victoria that Alberni settlers have suffered much in the last three years from the lack of steamboat communication. They have not prospered as they otherwise would. Just think of only one boat on an average every two months in the year. The settlers at Alberni number 130, yet the boats do not go there any oftener. The addition of a settlement at San Juan river would necessitate the running of a steamer over halfway to Alberni, and between the two they would furnish trade for a steamer at least twice a month. It will be useless, however, for anyone to think of settling in the San Juan valley until the jamb is removed, and thus allow the water to move in the natural bed of the river. Nothing short of the removal of the jamb will prepare the beautiful and fertile valley of San Juan for farming purposes.

WM. HALPENNY,
Government Guide.

THE LATE ARCHBISHOP SEGHERS.

His Remains Will Be Conveyed to Victoria by the Cutter "Bear."

Col. Stevens, U. S. consul, has received from the department of state a favorable reply to his request made in behalf of the many friends of the late Archbishop Seghers, for conveyance on the revenue cutter Bear from Sitka to Victoria, of the remains of his grace, the Honorable the Secretary of the Treasury having sent instructions in compliance with Col. Stevens' request to the commander of the cutter, to be transmitted by the consul. It is probable that the Bear may arrive here about the middle of next month.

The favorite reticule is the Marguerite pocket.

FEARFUL HOLOCAUST.

The Theatre Royal, Exeter, Destroyed by Fire.

Over 130 Corpses Recovered so Far From the Debris.

A Frantic Rush and Struggle for Life—Men and Women Fling Themselves Forty Feet to the Street Below—Pitiful Scenes in the Streets.

(Special to THE COLONIST.)

LONDON, Sept. 5.—The Theatre Royal in Exeter was destroyed by fire to-night, causing great loss of life. Seventy bodies have been recovered thus far. The "Romany Rye" was being played, and the play was nearly finished when, at 10:30, the curtain was suddenly dropped in front of Mr. Graham, one of the actors, who was speaking at the time. The audience, looking upon it as a good joke on the actor, began to laugh, but a moment later a fire alarm rang out, and almost instantly, as it seemed, the flames

BURST THROUGH THE CURTAIN.

The house was full from pit to stalls and a dreadful panic ensued. The fire originated in the flies and puffed through the curtain out over the stalls. The shrieks of the women and children and the shouts of the men were fearful. Those in the pit, lower boxes and stalls escaped with their lives, but the gallery had but one exit, which soon became choked with a struggling mass of humanity and men and women flung themselves from the side balcony into the street, forty feet below. A number from the upper house reached a flat roof over the portico. Great throngs had by this time gathered in the streets in front of the building, and willing hands reared ladders to the lead roof and rescued those who had escaped to that point. Five minutes after the alarm was sounded the brigade was on the spot and at work, but the flames had gained such headway that their efforts were of little avail. Twelve corpses were taken from the gallery leading to the stairway at the first, and where