NEWS OF THE PROVINCE.

Vancouver's Ratepayers' Association—Poultry and Pet Stock—Seizure of a Smuggler's Sloop.

Kootenay Coal Mines—Ore Shipments—Strike on the Morning Star Claim.

(Special to the COLONIST.)

VANCOUVER.

VANCOUVER, Dec. 10.—The premises of J. Campbell, Cambie street, were entered by burglars. The midnight marauders were, however, frightened away before securing anything.

A Chinaman has been granted an express license, and the expressmen of the city were so indignant that they induced the license inspector to get the Mongolian to give it up. This he did, but matters are not improved, as the Chinese expressman continued to do business, saying, when accosted, "They no take my monee for license; me no care, me do business all samee." And the Chinaman is right, as, according to the city solicitor, the council cannot discriminate.

The Trades and Labor Council have sent a letter to the council opposing the granting of foreshore privileges to private parties.

The Trades and Labor Council and the Naturalists have united in urging the council to abolish property qualification for mayor and aldermen, lower the rate of taxation on improvements, and in opposing poll tax.

Revs. H. G. F. Clinton and W. W. Baer presented themselves personally before the council last night and asked them to build a shelter for the poor this winter; have a stone yard to test suspected cases of unworthiness, and sell tickets at ten cents each to the charitably disposed to give to applicants for relief, which would entitle them to bed and a simple meal. The scheme was opposed by the aldermen. Some thought tramps should be starved out of the city. The matter was referred to the health committee.

Ald. Gallagher informed the public in open council that (in the coming elections presumably) he was going to "nail His Worship to the cross, and the City Solicitor too."

The city is about to advertise for a market clerk.

The property owners' association met to-night and elected its committee. G. B. Harris was elected president.

The ratepayers' association held their annual meeting to-night in the market hall. Electing officers was proceeding at a late hour. There were exciting talks on municipal matters during the meeting.

VANCOUVER, Dec. 11.—The ratepayers' association has elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, Dr. Carroll; vice-president, W. J. Bowser; secretary, Wm. Prentice; treasurer, Henry Collins (mayor). Large working committees were elected for every ward.

The by-law preventing papers from being thrown on the street is to be enforced. This means that no more "dodgers" may be promiscuously distributed.

The poultry and pet stock exhibition this year promises to be a great success. Cash and goods to the value of nearly $200 has been alone promised to Vice-President Dowler. The city hall has been granted free to the association, and all railroads have offered reduced rates to those from a distance contemplating attendance.

NANAIMO.

NANAIMO, Dec. 11.—The examination for the purpose of grading classes in all the schools of the city is in progress. The Board of School Trustees will afterwards decide whether or not to have mixed schools.

Customs Officer Good, who went up to Cowichan Gap in the tug Esperanza on a second official visit to the Crocker brothers' premises, seized a large Columbia river boat, hitherto used to convey contraband articles from New Whatcom to this side.

FORT STEELE.

(From the Prospector.)

One of the various resources of East Kootenay waiting for development is the petroleum found in the Flathead valley in the southeastern portion of this district, a section of country but little known, and separated from the remainder of the district by a high range of mountains.

The contract to run a tunnel on the Dibble group of mines, was let to Messrs. Scott, Brander and Dale. The contract calls for a tunnel 200 feet in length. It is the intention to strike the main lead on the Last Chance at a depth of 150 feet.

There are at present many parties prospecting for the old channels of various creeks in this locality. Every year thousands of dollars worth of gold dust are handled at Fort Steele.

The inhabitants of Fort Steele are looking forward to a large influx of capital in the spring owing to the fact that a number of claims are under bond, and there are several parties seeking to bond other claims.

On the east fork of Wild Horse Creek about two miles from the forks are three large properties, one called the Sweepstakes, located by Charles Elwood, the Maud S, located by H. L. Amme, and the Nancy Hanks, located by A. B. Grace. These three claims have the largest vein of mineral discovered in this district. The vein is over 400 feet in width and can be traced for a distance of 4,000 feet. The ore is iron sulphurets.

The coal fields in the East Kootenay district, in what is known as the Crow's Nest pass, lie in a southeasterly direction from Fort Steele, a distance to the nearest available coal of about 60 miles. These coal fields in the near future will have a world-wide reputation, as the quality and quantity to be extracted are without doubt the best coal fields in America undeveloped. The coals in this field differ. The lower seams are anthracitic, whilst the upper seams are the bituminous coals. In between, both above and below the bituminous coals, are a number of seams of coal somewhat similar to cannel coal, but superior to any cannel known. These coals have been analysed and tested by different parties, amongst them Prof. Hoffman, government assayer at Ottawa, for the geological department. The results prove that these coals would lose nothing by comparing them with the best coals of the same variety in Pennsylvania.

The Invicta Gold Mines, Limited, is the title of the English company engaged in hydraulic mining on Wild Horse creek. The property consists of about a mile and a quarter of hill diggings on the northwest side of the creek, also extensive claims on the southeast side of the creek. The gold is coarse, and nuggets of eight and nine dollars are common. The largest piece taken out during the past season weighed about eight and one half ounces, valued at $150. The placer diggings in Wild Horse were discovered in 1864, and have been worked incessantly both by whites and Chinese, and altogether it is estimated that $17,000,000 has been the result of this vast amount of labor. The mining season generally opens in March and work can be carried on until the last of November. The estimated amount of gold taken out each season of late years has been about $50,000. During the coming season $100,000 would not be a surprise to the owners.

GALIANO.

GALIANO, Dec. 9.—William Robson, proprietor of the Mayne Island hotel and formerly justice of the peace for the island district, will be given a hearing to-day before Justices of the Peace R. Grubb, W. Grimmer and R. Grey for contravention of the Sunday liquor law. For a long time past it has been known that liquor was being sold during prohibited hours, but no action was taken until last Sunday, when a disturbance on the public wharf caused the matter to be inquired into.

The Christmas school examination of the Galiano and Pender schools will take place on Thursday, the 19th inst., and on Mayne Island the following day. A Christmas tree has been provided and largely contributed to by friends, for each school.

REVELSTOKE.

REVELSTOKE, Dec. 10.—A bad accident occurred at Welch's camp this afternoon, in which four men were injured. The men were tamping a blast when it exploded with the above results. It is feared one of the injured men is fatally hurt. The names have not as yet been learned.

KASLO.

(From the Claim.)

Two hundred sacks of ore are now ready for shipment at the Gibson on the south fork of Kaslo river. It will be rawhided out immediately.

The Slocan country is sending out daily, over the K. & S. road, 50 tons of high grade ore, and yet shipping has only just begun. It is estimated that the daily shipments during the winter will exceed 150 tons.

A shipment of Rambler ore en route to Great Falls is tied up in the warehouse here by injunction served by the defendant Cariboo people in the litigation involving the two claims. The case is now pending in the Supreme court.

Mining men of more or less ability and reputation, who have recently visited the Ruth near Sandon, declare that property to be a gem of the first water, a regular bonanza.

Last week Robert F. Green purchased the entire interest of his partner, J. F. Kennedy, in the Mineral claim Big Five, near the Lucky Jim, thus acquiring the sole ownership. He then sold a half interest to J. C. Eaton, of Whitewater fame.

ROSSLAND.

(From the Rossland Miner.)

A big strike of concentrating ore is reported from the Lucky Jim at Bear Lake. The mouth of the main tunnel is only a few hundred feet from the railroad.

The Noble Five finds employment for twenty-two men on No. 3 and No. 4 levels. Ore is coming out steadily and the property's output may safely be set down at 300 tons.

Eight men are working at the Last Chance and preparations are being made to stope out ore from the main tunnel. The ore chute on which the latter was started has proved to be 150 feet long.

The Return claim, situate on Payne mountain adjoining the Sapphire, has been sold by J. Pilon to M. C. Monagon and John Sheridan for $500, $200 cash and balance on April 1, 1896.

The Wellington and Whitewater mines on the Kaslo slope will enter the list of shippers to a considerable extent this winter. It is said that each will ship between 400 and 500 tons. Properties on the South Fork of Kaslo creek will also be heard from in the same way.

The Cliff was not sold after all. The truth is, there never was anything but an option on the Cliff, with $1,000 forfeit.

George Pfunder has struck it on the Morning Star, a claim lying above Blue's sawmill. He obtained an option on the claim Wednesday, closed the deal Thursday, and Thursday afternoon opened up five feet of rich ore. It is quartz ore carrying copper pyrites, no iron being in sight. The ledge is nearly twenty feet wide and runs east and west. Its west end lies up against Red Mountain, which seems to be the common centre from which most of the mineral veins of this district proceed. The further development of the Morning Star will be watched with interest.

(From the Prospector.)

David Stussi is showing some fine samples of ore taken from the Gopher.

The Cliff deal is off. Work on that property will commence again next Monday under the old management.

Miners are asking $3.50 a day for shaft work, and the question has arisen as to what is a shaft and what a mere prospect hole.

NELSON.

(From the Tribune.)

Only two resident householders in Kaslo have availed themselves of the right of registration as voters at the ensuing election.

Fifteen tons of 150-ounce and 35 tons of 80-ounce ore from No. 1 mine have been extracted since the 11th of last month. Besides this there is 150 tons of concentrating material which will run five tons into one and average 100 ounces per ton. The management expects to realize a profit of $1,000 for the company the first month, and thereafter much more, as considerable dead work had to be done the past month.

Four hundred and eighty-seven tons of ore and bullion, valued at $43,150, were shipped from Southern Kootenay last week.

H. Pim, agent of the Canadian General Electric Company of Toronto, has been visiting the Slocan with a view of examining the facilities for, and estimating the coast of, installing an electric plant in Washington basin.

A small force of men have been at work for the past week on the No. 27, a 100-foot fraction between the Trinket and Jeanette, getting ready to take out ore from a large body of galena said to run through the ground.

The Fern gold claim, twelve miles south of Nelson on Hall creek, is to be worked practically from this time on. Six men are now driving two tunnels, and Frank Fletcher has returned from Portland, Oregon, where he purchased a 2-stamp mill.

There are 3,000 tons of ore on the dumps of the Le Roi mine awaiting shipment to the smelter at Trial. A piece of ore taken from the bottom of the shaft assayed $200 in gold. The shaft is seven feet across and all in ore.

This week the Hall Mines, Limited, purchased the Iron Hand, a claim on the Kaslo & Slocan railway, about fifteen miles from Kaslo, for $1,500. The Iron Hand ledge is about 50 feet wide, the ore carrying the right percentage of iron to smelt in combination with the Silver King ore.

W. A. McClelland, of Pilot Bay, who is interested with A. A. McKinnon in the Maggie claim, on the same ledge as the Highland but situate south of that property, has had tests of the ore made at Pilot Bay, which shows sufficient value to be profitable to work, and the owners propose to begin extracting shipping ore from a 5-foot showing.

Harry Abbott, general superintendent of the Pacific division of the Canadian Pacific railway, has bonded the Legal Tender mineral claim from Messrs. Freeman, Pease, and Wilson, for $30,000. The claim is situated in Slocan district, and joins the Noble Five of the famous group of the same name on the northwest.

THE POWERS INSIST.

Abdul Hamid Believes the Understanding of the Powers Will Fail.

Wholesale Conspiracy Looking to Deposition of the Sultan—Fire at the Palace.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 10.—The surprise in the Eastern situation, consequent on the flight of Said Pasha, followed by the landing of British bluejackets, delayed considerably the settlement of the dispute between the powers and the Sultan as to the admission of extra guardships into the Bosphorus has about worn itself out, and matters are now assuming the usual aspect.

At the interview which the Russian ambassador, M. de Nelidoff, had with the Sultan yesterday, it is said that he gave the latter a message from the Czar insisting upon the prompt granting of permission for the passage of the extra guardships through the Dardanelles. Such statements have frequently been made before, and people here are beginning to believe that the powers have about exhausted their stock of threats and that the time for action has arrived. However, the Sultan and his advisers are congratulating themselves in Yildiz Kiosk upon the success of their policy of delay, and place implicit trust in the eventual disruption of the reported European accord.

One fact which has leaked out is that after all Great Britain has actually two guardships in the Bosphorus, the Cockatrice, a six hundred ton vessel, carrying two guns, and the Imogene, the British ambassador's yacht, only four hundred and sixty tons. But it is understood the Sultan has been making this a strong point in his argument against the admission of an extra guardship for Great Britain, and it is alleged that the Imogene will be sent away when the permission is granted, and that the Dryad or some other effective gunboat will take her place.

If reports are to be believed the message delivered to the Sultan by M. de Nelidoff was the final effort of the embassies to induce the Sultan to yield to the powers in the matter of extra guardships, and it is said that if he does not do so the guardships will be ordered to the Dardanelles, supported by the foreign squadrons. Another point raised by the Sultan is that Sir Philip Currie, British ambassador, erred in ordering the landing of the bluejackets for the protection of the embassy, which is situated at Therapis about seven miles from Constantinople proper. It is also stated that Abdul Hamid insists upon the re-embarkment of the bluejackets before he will continue negotiations with the British ambassador for the issuance of the permit. It is understood that the bluejackets are to be sent back to the guardships now that Said Pasha has returned to his home and all danger of an attack upon the British embassy if it ever existed, has passed away.

As an offset to the statement that quiet prevails here, rumors, which apparently have a solid foundation are current of a wholesale conspiracy here which may have as an ultimate object the deposition of the Sultan. That the conspiracy is of the most important nature may be judged from the fact that the Sultan's aide-de-camp, Hasan D'Jemi Pasha, who is believed to have led the disaffected branch of the imperial guards into the palace and seized the person of the Sultan, is now a fugitive.

Considerable alarm was created here to-day by a report that the fire which yesterday evening destroyed the palace which the Sultan devotes to the accommodation of imperial guests was of incendiary origin, intended as a signal to provoke a fresh outbreak upon the part of the Armenians; but there seems to be no good reason to believe that the fire was anything but accidental.

SCROFULOUS SYMPTOMS.

Are tumors, abscesses, sore eyes, eruptions and obstinate skin diseases Burdock Blood Bitters cures all blood diseases, from a common pimple to the worst scrofulous sore. In all cases of this nature where the skin is broken, and sores or ulcers exist, the outward application of B.B.B., diluted with water if necessary, and applied on soft linen cloths is recommended to insure a perfect cure.

MURDERER HAYWARD.

The Slayer of Miss Ging Pays the Penalty of His Crime.

The Coolest Man Upon the Scaffold—His Latest Utterances—A Scene.

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 11.—Harry Hayward, the murderer of Miss Ging, was hanged at five minutes past two this morning. He passed a wild time on his second last night on earth. He got up and shouted to the death watch that Jesus Christ was in one corner of his cell and Satan in the other. He raved frightfully, and then began to throw imaginary intruders out of his cell. It was daylight before he quieted down, Carpenters were hard at work on the gallows, and the clatter of hammers easily penetrated Harry's cell. At the first sound he said to his watch, with that horrid, mirthless laugh of his, "They're off."

However, this morning he went to the gallows with a laugh on his lips, and went down with the trap just as he uttered the words lightly: "Let her go McGarden." The condemned man took his last supper shortly after 10 o'clock surrounded by deputies and the death watchers.

At 2 o'clock Hayward listened to the reading of the death warrant. Soon after Sheriff Holborg entered. The condemned man said earnestly: "I want to ask you a last favor, please let me pull the trap? It will save you a lifelong anxiety and will give me eternal satisfaction." The sheriff replied: "I cannot do it Harry. I know my duty." Not a man of the little knot of privileged spectators who had kept the long vigil in the big gray room but whose heart thumped more loudly than the one which was soon to cease its beating. Not a face but turned more ghastly than his in the gruesome light.

It was a scene never to be forgotten, when at last, after what had seemed endless hours of waiting, the death march appeared at the door. Meanwhile the prisoner had been made ready in the cell room, the black silk robe had been put on and the black cap adjusted. Suddenly the door was thrown open and the sound of a yell floated in from the cell room in which the prisoner's comrades were taking their last farewell, then three cheers for Sheriff Holmberg, led by Hayward himself, ending with "He's all right."

As its echoes died away the sheriff appeared, followed by the prisoner between Deputies Bright and Anderson, and Deputy McGarden bringing up the rear. Harry Hayward entered with the same easy stride as when he was a swagger youth in society. "Good evening, gentlemen," said he, in clear' even tones, as he bowed his way into the room, wearing his sombre garb jauntily. As he stood upon the trap the deputies looked more like frightened children hanging to a parent than officers of the law.

Harry Hayward might have posed for a figure of justice defending the weak instead of a murderer going to his doom. Being asked if he had anything to say he replied in a careless, drawling tone: "Well, yes." "Well to you all," he began, "there's been a good deal of wonder and curiosity at my action, and some of you think that I am a very devil," with a peculiar drawling accent on the first syllable of that word; "and if you all knew all my life you would think so all the more. I have dictated a statement to-day on all my life to Edward Goodsell and Mr. J. T. Mannix, a stenographer.

"Where's Uline?" he went on, somewhat disconnectedly. "Uline here? I promised to take his dog with me under my arm and make him a record. I certainly had something to say to Mannix, because I have always entertained the kindest feelings for him. Joe, remind me what it was; you know I have been having trouble with my memory lately."

"Say nothing more in that line," came in low, distinct tones from Mannix. "You're about to meet your God, and should express here forgivenness for your brother, as you did so nobly today, with thoughts of your mother and father before you; you should act as you have done during the last forty-eight hours, meeting death manfully, forgiving all those toward whom you have borne any ill-will up to this time."

"Forgive him," said Harry as Mannix finished. He has done me no wrong; I have done him moral wrong. Father Cleary, Father Timothy and Father Christy have taken great interest in me; I have the greatest respect for each of them. For John Day Smith, my lawyer, also. He is a good man; a Christian as well as a lawyer. I have promised him to say something here to-night which I should probably not have said of my own accord."

With an effort Hayward turned his eyes upward and repeated in a strident, meaningless voice, "Oh, God, for Christ's sake, forgive me all my sins." Satisfied, apparently, that all had been done that he had intended, he half turned his head and said: "Guess that's all. Now, McGarden, let her go." As the noose settled down over his head he said: "Let's see, where does the knot go? Under the right ear? No, it's the left, isn't it? Please pull it tight. That's good. Keep your courage up, gentlemen."

The prisoner's face was purple as the noose tightened and the visor of the black cap was turned down. It was Hayward's last glimpse of earth. "Pull her tight. I'll stand pat," he said. Like a shot the body dropped through the open trap. There was not a tremor or struggle, and the spectators waited breathlessly, while the doctor listened to to the fluttering heart. Thirteen long minutes passed. Dr. Burton stepped back and the spectators began to file out. The deputy loosened the strap that bound the hands; they fell inert at the side of the body; Harry Hayward was dead, his neck was broken. The final act in the great tragedy of life and death had been played, and the curtain had been rung down on the career of the chief actors. The coolest man at the execution was Harry Hayward.

Hagyard's Pectoral Balsam cures coughs, colds, asthma, bronchitis, sore throat and all diseases of the throat, lungs and chest.

INTERESTED IN B. C. MINES.

VANCOUVER, Dec. 10.—(Special)—Julius M. Price, of the Illustrated London News, arrived in Vancouver to-day by the steamer Miowera. Mr. Price has been connected with the London News for eleven years, and has taken several trips around the world in the interests of his paper. He was with the Transvaal expedition in 1885, and in 1890 was one of the Wiggins expedition. The travellers went right across Siberia, their mission being to establish a trade route between England and Siberia by the Kara sea. They were successful in sending an English cargo to Siberia. "I went through the heart of Siberia" continued Mr. Price, "in the middle of winter and visited all the prisons en route. I crossed the Gobi desert by camel and went thence through North China to Pekin. I wrote a book entitled 'From the Arctic Ocean to the Yellow Sea,' describing that trip. The book had a great run in England and was kindly criticized by the Canadian press. My last trip taken in the interests of my paper was to the gold fields of Western Australia. After fulfilling my mission I thought I should like to return by the Canadian route. I can only give you my opinion, and speak in general terms of the West Australia gold fields. I think the gold fields of Western Australia are quite as rich, if not richer, than the gold fields of South Africa."

Mr. Price pleaded ignorance of the vast amount of the mineral wealth of British Columbia, and when he drifted into the offices of Messrs. Pellew Harvey, Buxton and other metallurgists expressed great surprise. He is said to be able to influence a considerable amount of English capital, and is taking back several propositions. He will, he says, return to British Columbia in the spring. Mr. Price takes back with him several photos of hydraulic mining in British Columbia for reproduction in the Illustrated London News.

HAWAIIAN PRISONERS.

Seven of the Men Under Sentence for Treason Released on Thanksgiving Day.

They Showed Contrition and Promised to Continue Peaceable and Law-Abiding Citizens.

HONOLULU, Dec. 2.—(Special)—On the 26th ult., the Council of State held a meeting in relation to the pardoning of the political prisoners. A number of petitions had come in from friends, outside persons, and the prisoners themselves. The government decided that if pardons were in future to be granted they should be advanced after a show of contrition on the part of the prisoners themselves. There were fifteen prisoners left. The proper petitions had come from eleven of them.

The President first read two petitions from Hawaiians on the matter. Both were signed by a number of natives. A petition from foreigners, signed by a large number of names representing all shades of political opinion was read. Personal letters from C. T. Gulick, W. H. Rickard, John F. Bowler and Major Seward to the council were read. They all admitted complicity in the late uprising and expressed repentance. Mr. Rickard stated that he went into the uprising without the knowledge of his family. All pray for clemency and promise to, ever after now, remain law-abiding citizens.

All these letters and petitions were considered by the council, but favorable action was taken in the cases of two white men only—W. H. Rickard and Thomas Walker—five natives were also pardoned. The men were released on Thanksgiving day. But eight political prisoners now remain in jail.

TRUE CHOLERA.

HONOLULU, Dec. 10.—Stuart Eldridge, M.D., imperial health officer, Yokohama, member imperial board of health and sanitary inspector of the United States government at Yokohama, has a long letter in the Hawaiian Gazette, in which he states that the recent outbreak there was true cholera brought by the Belgic.

Miss Kate Field had a severe experience in visiting the leper settlement in company with the board of health and guests. The steamer landed them early, but in the afternoon was unable to take them off on account of an unusual sea. The captain had been nearly drowned. Next morning the party crossed the island, twelve miles, the steamer going round fifty miles to meet them. They climbed a 2,000 feet precipice. Through anxiety at their prolonged absence, the steamer Mikahala was sent in search of them. The two boats reached Honolulu in company on Sunday evening.

The government has concluded to have the methods of the persons engaged in securing Chinese laborers in China investigated, owing to the reports circulated by the last batch of laborers that they were misled into going to Hawaii.

It is stated that Col. Spalding has received encouragement from the capitalists in the East regarding his cable scheme.

THE WISDOM OF GRAY HAIRS.

Rev. John Scott, D.D., of Hamilton, Ont., a Well-known Retired Presbyterian Minister, Has Used Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder, and Testifies of its Benefits.

The cautious conversation that is characteristic of Presbyterians, and especially of those who have seen years of service in the church, gives weight and influence to any recommendation that they may make on almost any matter. When we find a clergyman of the years of the Rev. John Scott, D. D., of Hamilton, one of the church's most esteemed ministers, speaking favourably of a proprietary medicine, we may rest assured that it possesses genuine merit. Mr. Scott tells of the benefits that have come to him from the use of this medicine, because he is able to speak from an experimental knowledge, having used the medicine himself. Of its benefits he has testified over his own signature.

One short puff of the breath through the blower supplied with each bottle of Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder, diffuses this powder over the surface of the nasal passages. Painless and delightful to use, it relieves in ten minutes and permanently cures Catarrh, Hay Fever, Colds, Headache, Sore Throat, Tonsilitis and Deafness. 60 cents. Sold by Dean & Hiscocks and Hall & Co.

OUR OTTAWA SPECIAL.

Reported Resignation of Hon. Clarke Wallace—Speculation as to the Future.

A Protestant Party Spoken of—Tulameen Mining Co.'s Dividend Ten Per Cent.

(From Our Own Correspondent.

OTTAWA, Dec. 10.—The statement is again made by the newspapers that Sir Charles Tupper is coming to Canada for the purpose of assuming the premiership. Several days ago your correspondent intimated on the highest authority that no political significance was to be attached to the high commissioner's visit. He is coming out at Sir Mackenzie Bowell's request to consult the government in reference to the Pacific cable and the fast line service. When the Premier was spoken to this afternoon he simply confirmed his previous statement.

Judge Malhiot to-day gave judgment that the Sons of England society was not under the Dominion insurance act and quashing a contrary judgment of the Hull magistrates.

Considerable speculation was indulgin to-day relative to Hon. Clark Wallace's course now that the decision of the Manitoba government on the school question is announced. Mr. Wallace left suddenly for the West last night, and it is understood will be at home at Woodbridge to-night. The Premier was asked this evening if there had been any change with reference to Mr. Wallace's position, and he said there was nothing new.

Inspector McNab has forwarded specimens of what is believed to be a new variety of salmon discovered in British Columbia waters. Professor Prince will report on them.

An order-in-council promoting Captain Evans to be Major in the Royal Canadian Dragoons has been passed. The next Militia General Order will announce his promotion to the command of B squadron, Winnipeg.

Mr. G. G. Foster, counsel for Shortis, the Valleyfield murderer, accompanied by Mrs. Shortis, is again in the city on behalf of the criminal. The fate of Shortis will be decided probably at a council meeting on Friday.

Polling in West Huron will take place on January 14.

OTTAWA, Dec. 11.—The Capital shares with the rest of the Dominion excitement over the reported resignation of Mr. Wallace. It is the one theme of conversation in the public resorts here to-night. The wonder, however, is that the resignation was not handed in months ago. The Premier went to Belleville this afternoon on private business, but before his departure was again questioned respecting the prevailing rumors about Mr. Wallace, and while stating that he had not received a formal document from him the inference was freely drawn that the Premier was expecting it. Indeed it is said that during the day Sir Mackenzie Bowell had received a telegram from Mr. Wallace stating that his resignation was on its way to Ottawa. That the Controller should have stepped out just now is regarded by some as unfortunate, in view of the polling in North Ontario tomorrow, but the majority of those with whom your correspondent has conversed inclined to the belief that it will not materially affect the result of the election.

Attention is drawn by the action of Mr. Wallace to the anomalous position he has been occupying as controller for months past. Students of the constitution agree that his position since July has been an untenable one. In February last he consulted Dr. Bourinot as to the degree of responsibility attaching to him for ministerial action, and it is learned that the Clerk of the House prepared an elaborate opinion setting forth exactly the position in which controllers were placed. Summed up in a few words Dr. Bourinot's opinion was as follows:

The controllers are not members of the cabinet, which alone is responsible for the policy of the government on every public question. Once the policy of the government has been declared it is the duty of the controllers, who are members of the government but not of the cabinet, to support like all public officers that policy and neither directly nor indirectly to place any obstacles in the way of that policy being carried out. If the controllers have any objections to the government policy it is their duty immediately to place their resignations in the hands of the head of their department, the minister of trade and commerce.

It will be remembered that on July 8 last the Premier and Mr. Foster specifically declared the policy of the government on the Manitoba school question, and four days later at an Orange demonstration in this city Mr. Wallace placed himself on record as opposed to remedial legislation. Having made such a declaration it is contended that he should immediately have stepped out of the government. Instead of that he held on, and on July 31 at Halifax the Grand Sovereign emphasized his position on the school question. It may be that he had hopes of Manitoba settling this question, and that as Mr. Greenway's declaration of Monday last showed that this was now impossible, the Controller has stepped out at the earliest moment after these specific declarations have been received. There is no denying, however, that Clarke Wallace would, from his own point of view, have been a far stronger man in Ontario to-day had he resigned months ago.

It is reported to-night that Mr. Fred. Clarke and Clarke Wallace have coalesced and will unite to form a Protestant party. It is said that Mr. Clarke will run in Cardwell as an independent, and Willoughby will be withdrawn.

It is reported that Mr. Tisdale will succeed Mr. Wallace. Another report has it that the departments of trade and customs will be united.

The annual meeting of the Tulameen mining company was held here to-day, and a dividend of 10 per cent. declared for practically a month's work.

It is often a mystery how a cold has been "caught." The fact is, however, that when the blood is poor and the system depressed, one becomes peculiarly liable to diseases. When the appetite or the strength fails, Ayer's Sarsaparilla should be taken without delay.