THE YUKON COUNTRY.

Interesting Letter From a Victorian Who Is Well Acquainted With the District.

With Improved Transportation Facilities There Is a Great Future for Mining.

TO THE EDITOR:—I arrived here from the Yukon Portage on November 26, after a very stormy passage. I noticed in your issue of the 16th an able speech by Mr. R. P. Rithet, in which he states that in whatever direction our province has been made accessible, whether by rail, water or wagon road, development has followed. Now, Mr. Editor, if you will allow me space I shall refer to the question of developing trade with that vast territory contiguous to and forming a part of this province and known as the Yukon District. There have recently been several new discoveries of rich diggings, especially on Miller, Birch and Glacier creeks, where coarse gold has been found in large paying quantities.

It is confidently expected that there will be a large addition to the population of that section during the coming season. The number of miners known to be working in the Yukon at present is from 900 to 1,000, exclusive of 25 families. I have been on the height of land during the past season between Lake Lindeman, Chilcoot summit, White pass, Windy arm and Skagua bay, and have interviewed a large number of miners and prospectors on their way in and out, all of whom expect the Yukon basin to be a great field for the prospector and miner. Some do not hesitate to say that, should easier access be afforded into that country through Northern British Columbia, over 40,000 will come in in the near future. Many people will no doubt say that this estimate is excessive; but when we come to look at the vast extent, and the facilities the interior will afford when proper roads and appliances are in full operation, my own opinion is that the population will amount to double the above number.

Now, sir, for a brief description of that extensive territory: We have over forty rivers emptying into the Yukon, and from what information I have accumulated, extending over a long number of years, I do not hesitate to say that there are over 9,000 miles of steamboat navigation on the Yukon, its tributaries and its lakes, and it appears that all these streams, besides a vast number of creeks and gulches—the latter paying very rich—carry gold. Indeed, the country far exceeds Cassiar in richness during its palmiest days and is twenty times as extensive. We have 65,000 miles of territory east of the Lewis river which is known to be rich in gold, and has only been traversed by a few straggling prospectors. Owing to provisions not being shipped into that particular section and no miners being located there at present, the few miners who were there have gone down to the new strikes on Miller and Birch creeks, the supplies for which come in by way of the mouth of the Yukon and do not get within 500 miles of the section referred to.

The upper Hoodalinka is a large stream emptying into Teslin lake, whose source is in the western slope of the Cassiar district, which is known to be rich in gold and has over a hundred miles of steamboat navigation. This lake empties into the lower Hoodalinka and thence passes into the Lewis river. The following is an extract from a letter to me by Mr. Charles Howser and party of seven:

"We prospected on Teslin lake and small streams tributary to it and found gold on all of them. We went up one large river and were twelve days poling up and four days coming down; but did not reach the head of it. We, however, estimated the distance to be 175 miles as far up as we went, and found gold all the way."

Mr. Grey, of Juneau, and Captain McCormack were on the same stream and estimated that they could make $10 per day and upwards with rockers. If the required road were constructed and bonding privileges were secured, it would practically bring the navigable headwaters of the Yukon river within six days, travel from Victoria, while lines of steamers would find remunerative employment in the carrying trade for a large portion of this district. Then you would once more see the good old days of Cariboo and Cassiar, and the miners coming down with their ready bullion to rusticate in Southern British Columbia during the winter.

The present facilities of access to the interior by way of Di-Yae, where all the traffic goes at present, are very expensive and are attended with absolute hardships. I would therefore give an emphatic warning against a great rush of men into that region until a road through Northern British Columbia is constructed, as there is a possibility of meeting with a similar disaster to that which happened the steamer Arctic, of the Alaska Commercial Company, in 1889, which was wrecked near the mouth of the Yukon river with supplies for the miners. While the miners were patiently waiting for the arrival of the supply boat an Indian messenger came up with the startling intelligence that no supplies would reach them that season, whereupon all work stopped there and then, and a short consultation took place among ninety-seven miners as to what action to take—stop and starve, or leave and try to reach the coast. They decided to take the small steamer "New Racket" and a barge and made their way through the drift ice to Mulatto, at which place the steamer was found to be cut through by ice. They were then obliged to resort to a long portage through slush and snow to St. Michael's, a barren island lying sixty miles to the northward of Aphoon, at the mouth of the Yukon, where the Alaska Commercial Co. has a trading post, at which point these miners were obliged to put in the winter.

It should be remembered that the Yukon trade is beginning to assume large proportions, as there will not be less than 2,000 tons of goods shipped into that country during the coming season, and in all probability there will be close on to $1,000,000 taken out next season. The outlay for the construction of a good practicable pack trail, which could be used for a sleigh road in the winter, or a wagon road at once, would only be a drop in the bucket compared with the large returns that would be made to Southern British Columbia in the shape of trade, and I firmly believe that immediately on the construction of such highway there would be ten times as many people as at present going into the mines.

WILLIAM MOORE, SR.

P. S.—I would desire to particularly emphasize my advice against a great rush into the country.

Juneau, Alaska, December 10.

DUBLIN, Dec. 26.—Seventeen hatches such as are used on ocean steamers have been found on the Donegal coast since the gale.

PORK GASTRONOMY.

The Royal Manner In Which Hams Are Served at Delmonico's.

Infinite are the ways in which the "swine of Jewish abomination" may be served to tickle the gentile palate. From the ham and spinach of the southern plantation to the ham of Delmonico's is the history of the rise and fall of pork gastronomy. It is doubtful if the æsthetic delight of the latter will ever compensate for the lingering flavor of Dinah's concoction.

Here is how Charles Ranhoffer, Delmonico's famous chef, serves in royal livery the outlawed pig:

"Steep smoked ham in cold water 24 hours; wash, pare and remove hip bone; put it in earthen dish, pour over some Madeira wine and season with whole peppers, cloves, thyme, bay leaf, mace, garlic, sliced carrots, onions and lemon juice. Keep it in cool place for 12 hours, turning the ham round several times in this marmade. Five hours before serving wrap the ham up, with its strained marmade fried in butter, moistened and reduced with white wine, in sheets of strong oiled paper; cover the paper with flour and water paste, so that the ham is hermetically inclosed; then cover this paste with another sheet of very thin oiled paper; lay it either on the spit or in the oven; pour oil over and roast for three hours; then remove from fire and make small hole in the top to penetrate the paste and papers; set a funnel into this and pour in a gill of good Madeira, the same quantity of Malaga and half a gill of brandy. Cover the whole with a round piece of paper and paste it over to concentrate all the steam, which is essential to obtain success.

"An hour later take ham from oven or spit, unwrap, pare carefully and glaze with meat glaze; dress and garnish around with escalops of foies gras, cockscombs, kidney and slices of red beef tongue three-sixteenths of an inch and one and a fourth inches in diameter, quenelles, channeled mushrooms. Cover the whole with well buttered supreme sauce and trim the handle with paper frill; insert a few skewers in the top, garnished with cockscombs and channeled mushrooms. This ham may be served with jardiniere dressing and a half glaze sauce served separately."

LIDA ROSE MCCABE.

Fashions In Petticoats.

Fashion, whether right or wrong, will have her way, and as regards the petticoat it is certainly her orthodox domain. She exacts that it shall be more elaborately trimmed than the skirt of the gown itself, the reason for which is obvious.

The flounced and furbelowed petticoat must not touch the ground, while the skirt proper may be longer and plainer, and therefore ought to be lighter, so as to be easily raised when walking on muddy pathways. A merveilleux satin shot in three colors—pale coral, turquoise blue and garnet—made to wear under cloth suits, is very service-

CAMBRIC PETTICOAT—SILK PETTICOAT.

able, but for more elaborate toilets all the rich and rare colors and materials are used. A peacock blue brocade, with a design in pale blue and yellow, made with a deep vandyke flounce, edged with lace and falling over a knife plaiting of plain blue brocade, is extensively used for skirts, which for those who like the rustle are lined half way up with glace silk. A pleasing idea was carried out in gray taffeta cut out in deep points and under the points a pink accordion plaited flounce, on which were three rows of insertion. Cambric petticoats richly trimmed with lace ruffles and flounces are provided for indoor wear.

Washing Silk Waists.

Wash silk waists do not always wash well because of ignorance of the proper way of laundering them. Add a teaspoonful of borax to some lukewarm water and enough nice white soap to make a weak suds. Rub through the hands carefully, and instead of wringing draw the silk through the tightly clasped hand. If all the dirt has not been taken out, wash again; then rinse in several waters to which have been added a pinch of borax or a half dozen drops of ammonia. Do not let the silk become quite dry before ironing; then use a moderately hot iron, as a very hot one will scorch the silk.

Apple Custard.

Pare, core and stew 6 apples until fine and add half cup of sugar. Beat 3 eggs very light, add half cup of sugar and 1½ pints of milk. Stir well and add the apples. Stir again, pour into a baking pan and bake a few minutes until the custard is set. If liked, a little grated nutmeg may be added just before it is put in the oven. This is a nice dessert and possesses the advantage of being so quickly prepared that it may be classed among the emergency desserts.

The Sewing Room.

If you have not a regular sewing room—and a sewing room should be carpetless—a good plan is to have a large, cheap crash rug placed under your sewing machine. It will catch rags, clippings and cuttings, and after you are through it is easily doubled up and its contents placed in some proper receptacle.

FROM THE DAILY COLONIST, December 27.

THE CITY.

THE Scotch team beat the English by eight goals to one in the Association football match on Christmas day.

A CONCERT and Christmas festival combined gave the children of Mount Tolmie district a pleasant time on Christmas eve.

MR. WILLIAM ALLEN is the first candidate for aldermanic honors to announce his intentions. He will contest the North ward.

THE annual Christmas tree and entertainment of St. Paul's Sabbath school, Victoria West, will be held in Semple's hall on Friday (to-morrow) evening.

CHARLES FRANCIS, a seal hunter, was united in marriage last evening to Miss Nestling McGregor of California, at the Methodist parsonage by Rev. Solomon Cleaver.

THE funeral of the late Louis Redon takes place at 10 o'clock this morning from the Driard, solemn requiem mass being celebrated at St. Andrew's (R. C.) cathedral a quarter of an hour afterwards.

MRS. L. GOODACRE, Pandora street, has invited the members and friends of the W.C.T.U. to hold their monthly parlor social at her home this afternoon. A pleasant and interesting time is anticipated.

MR. J. W. VAN BROCKLIN, chairman of the Seattle board of public works, was united in marriage by Rev. Joseph Hall in this city on Christmas day, his bride being Mrs. Adele Kennedy, also of the Sound city.

THE following contributions to the Old Men's Home Christmas cheer are thankfully acknowledged: Box of cigars, Alderman Munn; box of cigars, Mr. Kurtz; box of oranges, Alderman Dwyer; side of mutton and roast of beef, Mr. Parker.

AUGUSTUS FREDERICK TURNER, who for the past year had been an invalid from consumption, died on Christmas day at his residence on Frederick street. Deceased was a native of Woolwich, England, and for several years was a resident of this city and a member of Victoria Columbia lodge, A.F. & A.M. He leaves a widow and four children.

THE attention of persons interested is drawn to section 43 of the municipal act amendment act, 1894, which reads as follows: "Any person who complains that his name has been omitted from the voters' list after the same has been certified as correct by the mayor, may, in cities, apply to the police magistrate of the city to have his name inserted."

JOY reigned supreme in the Dominion hotel on Christmas evening. Apart from the celebration of the holiday, the marriage of Miss May Jones, sister of the enterprising proprietor, to Mr. C. N Owen, occasioned additional rejoicing. Only the friends and relatives of the contracting parties witnessed the wedding ceremony, which was performed by Rev. Solomon Cleaver. Mr. and Mrs. Owen will make Victoria their home.

ALD. DWYER has given notice of the following resolution which he will introduce at the next regular meeting of the city council: "That a committee be appointed consisting of Ald. Keith Wilson, Ald. Ledingham and the mover, with power to get any assistance they may think necessary from the city engineer, for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not the new addition to Ross Bay cemetery is suitable to be used as a cemetery; and to report to the council at the earliest possible date."

THE case of D. A. McKinnon, charged with the theft of a diamond locket from Lange & Co.'s stock, is not yet at an end. Mr. George E Powell, who appears for the accused, had intended calling his final witness yesterday, but at the last moment discovered that, having celebrated Christmas not wisely but too well, he was unable to appear. The case was accordingly continued until this morning. The defence is that McKinnon did not steal the locket, but received it from a room mate named Carroll, who has left the country.

IN the city police court yesterday, James North, who is employed on the steamer Sadie, was arraigned on the charge of loitering on the premises of Mr. T. F. Sinclair during the night time, presumably with intent to commit a felony. The prisoner was arrested by Constable Redgrave from a description given him and has been positively identified by Mr. Sinclair's family. His defence is an *alibi* which he will endeavor to establish when the case is called this morning. North comes from New Zealand, where he is well connected.

NOWHERE last evening was there a happier holiday scene than at the Christmas tree entertainment of the Methodist mission in the Odd Fellows' hall, Spring Ridge. It is only about three years since this mission was opened, but its growth, judging from the youthful representation last evening, has been remarkable. The hall was prettily decorated, the main feature of interest being, of course, the Christmas tree, which bore something for each scholar present. The special numbers of the programme furnished were: Recitations by Lizzie Saunders, Flossie Field, Miss Banfield, Edith Noble, Richard Lorie, Katie Noble, Gertie Bates and Maud Field, and an address by Rev. Solomon Cleaver.

EVERY small boy and girl in the Protestant Orphans' Home is looking forward with gleeful anticipation to to-morrow, when they are to enjoy all the delights of a magnificent Christmas tree loaded with gifts of all kinds. A number of ladies and gentlemen have interested themselves in making a success of the treat, and have already got together a stock of toys, candies and many things to will make the children's hearts rejoice. Contributions will be gladly received and may be sent to Robert Porter & Sons, corner Douglas and Johnson streets. This is a capital chance to remember the orphans, and no doubt there will be a hearty response from the generous people of Victoria. The Christmas celebration will begin at 3 o'clock to-morrow afternoon, and the public are cordially invited to be present and see for themselves the excellent work that is being done in the home.

JOHN MCINTYRE, who on Christmas eve helped himself to three turkeys from L. Goodacre's meat market, was yesterday sentenced to four months' imprisonment—two months for the theft and two months for assaulting night watchman Hoosen, by whom he was caught in the act and arrested. Mr. Hoosen, in the witness box, told with an infinitude of detail, how he had had his suspicions aroused in regard to McIntyre, had trailed him and had seen him climb the fence of Goodacre's establishment with the turkeys in his possession, and how he then had grabbed him. The prisoner broke away and the night watchman gave chase, capturing his man just outside McIntyre's cabin. Then it was that McIntyre assaulted him, striking him behind the ear and kicking him savagely in the side. Sergeant Walker subsequently arrested the prisoner, whose only excuse was that he had been drinking and did not know what he had been doing.

ARRANGEMENTS are being completed by Vancouver lodge, No. 5, A.O.U.W., for a concert and dance in the A.O.U.W. hall on New Year's eve. The Bantly family orchestra has been secured for the occasion.

THE Single Tax Club last evening continued their informal debate on Socialism v. Single Tax, and their discussion of the law of interest. A committee was appointed to arrange for a "trial by jury" or a lecture on Single Tax, as an attraction for next meeting.

NEARLY 300 invited guests of the Epworth League, principally young men without a home in the city, partook of a grand Christmas dinner in the schoolroom of the Metropolitan Methodist church on Tuesday. The dinner was provided by the Epworth League, whose hospitality was highly appreciated. Following the dinner was a fine concert in the evening.

THE Y.M.C.A. will keep open house on New Year's day and cordially invite young men to pay them a visit upon that day. In the afternoon there will be addresses, music, gymnastic exhibitions and refreshments. The faculty and teachers of the Conservatory of Music have consented to give a fine programme of vocal and instrumental music in the evening, when there will be a small charge for admission.

THE following will represent the Cowichan Rugby football club in their match against the second fifteen of the Victoria club on the Caledonia grounds Saturday afternoon next: T. M. Jackson, full back; J. Windsor, R Ramson, S. Ramson (captain), and C. Fall, three-quarter backs; H. Holton and L. Richardson, half backs; P. B. Johnston, M. T. Johnston, D. Broadwood, A. Nixon, W. W. Ferris, V. Trotman, E. Price and R. Bell, forwards.

DAVID JAMES spent Christmas evening at the house of a friend, Mr. Porter, on the Burnside road, and started home apparently in perfect health. His dead body was found yesterday morning on the road by some boys living in the vicinity. Apparently the unfortunate man had suddenly fallen dead from heart disease. The provincial police were notified, the body brought into town, and the coroner, Dr. Hasell, notified. Deceased was an old resident of this city, and was for some time steward to the old volunteer fire department. He was about sixty years of age. An inquest will likely be held to-day.

THERE was a large gathering of Indians and several white people at the Herald street Indian mission last evening, those present thoroughly enjoying themselves at a genuine Christmas feast. After the tables had been cleared a very interesting programme was given, made up of speeches in English, Chinook, and several Indian languages, interspersed with singing by Indians from different parts of the country. Two Christmas trees were next divested of their burdens, to the delight of the little Indians. Rev. C. M. Tate, the missionary, was assisted by Rev. Mr. Knox, Mr. Williams and other friends of the Indians, in making the evening a pleasant one.

MARRIED at St. Saviour's Church, Victoria West, on December 19 h, by the Rev. Canon Paddon, John S. Hickford, son of S. Hickford, Belleville, Ontario, to Ada E., eldest daughter of G. W. Unwin, Victoria, B.C. The bride wore a dress of cream cashmere, trimmed with lace and satin ribbon with veil and orange blossoms, and carried a beautiful bouquet of calla lillies, the gift of the groom. The Misses Dora and Nellie, sisters of the bride, acted as bridesmaids. They wore dresses in cream crepon, trimmed with cardinal satin ribbon and lace, and wore silver buckles and carried bouquets, the gift of the groom, who was supported by C. Bloomquist. After the ceremony the guests returned to the home of the bride's parents, where breakfast was provided. The presents were both numerous and costly. The newly-married couple will make their home in Victoria.

ST. ANDREW'S CHOIR CONCERT.

The Cantata "Daniel" Presented Last Evening in Very Creditable Style.

The Saint Andrew's church choir are to be congratulated upon the success which they attained in their concert last night. They were assisted by a number of friends from the various city choirs, and with this addition to their numbers there was a choir of about forty voices. Root and Bradbury's cantata "Daniel" occupied the first part of the programme, and among the choruses that deserve special mention are the following: "In God is our trust," "Sing, O sing and magnify the Lord," and "Freedom again is bringing." It would appear as if the choir entered into stirring choruses with right good will, although when they come down to the more modified music they are apt to drag a little. The exception to this rule was "Once more the spot with solemn awe we tread." Mrs. McCandless made the most of her part as the Queen, although there was nothing that could be justly noted as worthy of her faultless voice and style. Of Mr. J. G. Brown, the King, one can only say that he rendered his solos in his usual effective manner. Miss Hutcheson shows much improvement in her singing and rendered the part of "Sister of Azariah" in good style. Mr. W. Muir had the title role, and did the part well. At times, however, his register seemed to be hardly equal to the higher notes. Mr. Mitchell, although suffering from a severe cold, sang his part of "Azariah" with great taste. The trios, quartettes, etc., were effectively rendered, in which the principals, as well as Miss Brown, Miss McMicking, Mr. D. D. Muir, Mr. W. Allan and Mr. D. J. King took part. The second part of the programme was occupied with an organ recitation by Mr. G. J. Burnett, the talented organist of the church, which showed him to be a player of considerable taste. In this part Mr. G. Phillips sang a recitative and solo, "Thus Saith the Lord" and "Who May Abide the Day of His Coming?" in good style. It is to be regretted that so small an audience attended to enjoy such a really good entertainment, but this is probably accounted for by the fact that the concert was held so soon after Christmas.

ARCTIC WEATHER.

The Northwest Getting a Decidedly Cold Visitation.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 26.—The first Arctic wave of the winter came this evening. The range of temperature over the Northwest was from zero at St. Paul to 28 at Qu'Appelle. The barometer at the latter point has reached the high level of 31.26. The signal service office at Lyons reports that temperatures ranging from 20 to nearly 40 degrees below zero will be registered over the Northwest to-morrow morning. No moderation is expected.

CHRISTMAS CHEER.

What Was Done to Make the Day a Pleasant One for All.

The Sick and the Orphan, the Aged and the Unfortunate—No One Forgotten.

Christmas day was a merry one in Victoria. Everybody, rich and poor alike, had a share of its joys and the Christmas dinner was the more enjoyable because of the true spirit of good will and charity that was abroad. There was the comfortable, pleasant feeling that the sick, the orphan and the unfortunate had been well provided for and that few, if indeed any, had gone hungry. At the Protestant orphans' home the youngsters fared famously and enjoyed a very jolly day, with as good a dinner as heart could wish. The Roman Catholic home at Saanich was just as fortunate, while at the hospitals everything possible was done to make the day cheerful and happy for the patients.

After dinner at the Jubilee hospital the beds of the patients were wheeled into the surgical ward, where the Arion Club gave a delightful little concert. The music was very carefully chosen—soft and soothing, just what a sick person would enjoy most. Its effect on the patients was wonderful, judging by the pleasure they so plainly manifested. Here is the programme:

Thuringian Volkslied ..... Abt
The Chafers ..... Truhn
Lullaby and Good Night ..... Brahms Zander
Song—"Answers" .....
J. S. Floyd.
Song—"King Witlaf's Drinking Horn" .....
J. L. Hatton.
Home ..... Kreutzer
He Who Trusts in Ladies Fair ..... Eisenhofer
Stars of the Summer Night ..... J. L. Hatton
Sea Song .....
C. H. Lloyd.
Pianoforte duet—"Hungarian Dances" Brahm
Messrs K. J. Middleton and E. H. Russell.
Ave Maria ..... Abt
The Waltz ..... F. A. Vogel
God Save the Queen.

The old men at the Home had a jovial time at their Christmas dinner. The Mayor, Ald. Dwyer and Humphrey and Dr. George Duncan visited them and made little speeches appropriate to the day. In return the old men toasted their health and thanked them. A Christmas letter was received by each of the old men from the Christian Endeavorers.

Many a person had reason to be grateful to the B. C. Benevolent Society for a good Christmas dinner. Mr. T. J. Burnes, the president, gave away tickets for a good square meal to eighty persons, and this was in addition to the seventy-five families which the society has been helping so generously during the past week, with the contributions entrusted to them for distribution. Many a good dinner also was sent to various families by the ladies who had charge of the charity concert last week. The Samaritan home and all the other institutions fared well and had reason to be grateful for the advent of Christmas.

The prisoners at the provincial jail had all the turkey, plum pudding and other good things that they could stow away, while, in addition, they were for once allowed the luxury of tobacco, kind-hearted Warden John giving them a holiday yesterday in which to recover from the unwonted festivities. A number of Salvation Army soldiers visited the jail on Christmas day and spent some time talking to the inmates.

CHRISTMAS AT THE CHURCHES.

The Christmas services in the churches were well attended and were very impressive. The music was of the bright and happy character appropriate to the day, and the lovely decorations of flowers, evergreens and holly had a pretty effect. In all the Anglican churches there was special Christmas music—carols, anthems and hymns at the 11 o'clock service, while at most of them there was an earlier service with Holy Communion.

Morning service was held at the First Presbyterian church; and at the Central Presbyterian church there was divine worship and thanksgiving both morning and evening.

Pontifical high mass was celebrated at 10:30 o'clock at St. Andrew's Roman Catholic cathedral by Bishop Lemmens, assisted by the priests of the diocese, Rev. Father Woods preaching. The music was the same as at midnight mass on Christmas eve.

The Salvation Army had a regular jubilee meeting in the evening, when the girls' brass band turned out for the first time. The sight was a novel one, for even down to the big drum every instrument was played by a "lass."

WELL DONE.

TO THE EDITOR:—The ratepayers and bread-winners of this city are under a heavy debt of gratitude, which they will have a chance to pay at the coming election, to the five aldermen who stoutly and successfully resisted the deep laid plot to import from Tacoma and the Sound cities an alien engineer, alien contractors, alien foremen and alien pauper laborers for the construction of the filter beds. If these aldermen will go a step further at the next council meeting and pass a law to prevent any plans from being received for competition from the other side they will score another point in favor of workingmen and their families here who find times this winter very hard. Things in this city want watching. Just look at the arguments of some of the aldermen who were in favor of the aliens. They say none of our own people wanted to make the plans because they did not apply. How did our engineers know that plans were wanted? No tenders were called for, but a man from Tacoma was to be brought here while our own men were walking the streets with nothing to do. And so it will be with the labor on the filter beds. If the workingmen of the city do not watch their chance when the time comes and go hat in hand asking for a job we shall see a crowd of outsiders employed on the work. We do not want any Winnipeg dodging here.

WORKINGMAN.

PHYSICAL CULTURE IN SCHOOLS.

TO THE EDITOR:—I have noticed the rather severe strictures of Trustees Marchant and Lewis at the recent school board meeting, in which those gentlemen referred to the work done in the gymnasium as useless and not within the scope of education. The latter even went so far as to stigmatize all such efforts as "tomfoolery." It is, indeed, regrettable that Mr. Lewis should have committed himself to such an expression, as he thereby betrays not only his ignorance of that phase of educational life, but condemns an important feature in our schools which is sanctioned and introduced the world over as embodying the very principles of life, "a sound mind in a sound body."

What is education after all if not the developing of the whole man—his moral, intellectual, and physical faculties, the neglect of any one of which would be as pernicious as it would be fatal to his best interests in the warfare in life! I am sure the teachers of this city may confidently assert without fear of contradiction, that better work has been done and may be expected in the future with the introduction of an important branch of school work, which although characterized by one trustee as child's play, is in the estimation of every citizen solicitous for the welfare of the community deemed consistent and in keeping with the demands of this progressive age. We man not see the results of such efforts in "percentages," but the time will not be far distant when the future young man or young woman may exclaim with pride and envy that he or she has been fitted for the battle of life, and is ready to put his or her shoulder to the wheel where intellectual ingenuity alone is at a discount.

MARS.

SHIPS AND SHIPPING.

Overdue Colliers Arrive in San Francisco—The "Montserrat" and "Keweenaw Not Among Them

First of the Sealing Fleet Away—The "Scottish Dales" Salvage—Front Notes.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26.—The coal laden bark Wilna arrived this morning, seventeen days from Nanaimo. The Wilna is the last but two of the coal fleet that went through the storm in which the steamers Montserrat and Keweenaw are believed to have been lost. The two vessels still at sea are the Sea King and the J. B. Brown. The latter two may be expected to put in an appearance at any time. There is no trace yet of the missing steamers Montserrat and Keweenaw, which left British Columbia coal ports for San Francisco on the morning of December 7. The Montserrat's crew was shipped at the last moment and the seamen, coal passers and oilers were picked up at the sailors' boarding houses and bundled on board without any record being taken of their names. The two steamers had on board fifty-nine men, all told. Hope is now given up for the return of the steamers.

FIRST OF THE FLEET.

Spratt & Gray's schooner, the Rosie Olsen, will start on her 1895 sealing expedition to-night or to-morrow morning. She is provisioned for a nine months' cruise, and according to calculations will be out nearly if not all that time. After leaving here she goes direct to Pachena, where she will ship an Indian crew and then head for Yokohama. A short stay will be made at that point and the vessel will then go south to meet the seals on their way north. After finishing the Japan coast sealing she will enter Behring sea, en route home. Captain Quinlan will command the Olsen on her present voyage, the schooner being manned by six white men and carrying eight canoes. As will be remembered the Rosie Olsen was the first of the fleet to leave last season and the last to return. Few, if any, others of the British Columbia fleet will depart before the new year, but it is understood that several will sail next week.

RETURNS FROM THE NORTH.

The steamship Danube, Capt. Meyer, returned from the North on Christmas day after a delightful trip. She experienced fine weather throughout the voyage, but brought back a light freight list, some oil from Skidegate constituting its bulk. At Claxton, on the 20th inst., mine host Kirby gave a dinner party to Captain Meyer, while several concerts were held aboard ship on the way down. The incoming passengers were: W. Williscroft and wife, Port Simpson; H. McKenzie, Skeena; Theodore H. Robinson, Skeena; H. M. Price, Cra river.

THE BUSY "LORNE."

The tug Lorne, which went out seeking the abandoned Southern Chief, returned to port on Christmas day with two vessels in tow—the bark McNear for orders, and the ship Louis Walsh to load coal at Departure Bay for San Francisco. Outward she had the John C. Potter, coal laden for San Francisco from the Bay. The Lorne did not get a chance at the derelict Southern Chief, which was picked up by the Sea Lion and towed into Port Townsend.

MARINE NOTES.

Steamer Maude was in port yesterday discharging sixty odd barrels of salted salmon which she brought from Clayoquot and some paper which she brought from the Alberni mills Christmas eve. The trip down the coast was uneventful. A rumor was current among some of the West Coast Indians that a big steamer had recently foundered not far from Cape Beale, but it could not be traced to any definite source.

A compromise has been reached in the salvage claim of the steamer Bertha against the distressed bark Scottish Dales, which she recently towed into Esquimalt, the owners of the Bertha accepting $7,500, though their claim was for $100,000.

Mr. E. H. Weeks, agent of the Great Northern, is to be succeeded here by Mr. Devlin, Mr. Weeks being transferred to Spokane.

The steamship Mexico will not call here en route to Alaska on the 28th inst., but will touch at Departure Bay.

The steamer Minnecla passed down Monday night with coal from Union for Port Los Angeles.

Bark India, with $6 200 worth of lumber, leaves Vancouver for Valparaiso this morning.

The Empress of China left Hongkong for this port yesterday.

"WAGES AND PRICES."

TO THE EDITOR:—Will "Bimetalist" kindly state from which work of Ernest Seyd he quoted in his article "Wages and Prices," published in your issue of December 19.

ENQUIRER.

MARRIED.

ARMOUR-COOK—At St. Andrew's R. C. Church on the 19th inst., by Rev. Father Nicolaye, James Armour to Maggie Cook, both of Victoria.

DIED.

REDON—In this city, on the 24th instant, Louis Redon, a native of Perigaux, France, aged 58 years.

JEPSON—In this city, on the 24th instant, Gustave Wilhelmine, the beloved wife of Mr. Ole Jepson, aged 28 years.

DIXON—At Mount Clemens, Mich., on the 22nd December, at 7 o'clock p.m., Mrs. Harriet Dixon, mother of Mrs. A. G. Ferguson and Mrs. H. T. Ceperley, of Vancouver.

BURNER—In Vancouver, on the 23rd inst., of typhoid fever, John Davis, eldest son of H. V. and Kate Burner, aged 7 years and 7 days.

San Francisco and Oakland papers please copy.

TURNER—At his residence, Frederick street, on the 25th inst., Augustus Frederick Turner, a native of Woolwich, Kent, England, aged 66 years.