Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH, 1888.

From the DAILY COLONIST, Nov. 30.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

Direct Communication with New York.

After one o'clock this morning THE COLONIST despatches were received direct from New York, over 3,500 miles of wire without a single break. This was the first time press telegrams were thus received in this city.

False Rumors.

Rumors have been prevalent lately that several cases of smallpox were prevalent throughout the city. We are authorized by the Health Officer, Dr. Milne, to state that these rumors are false. There has only been one case reported and that of a mild character.

A Child's Narrow Escape From Death.

On Tuesday afternoon, while some children were playing on the sidewalk at the railway crossing on Oppenheimer St., Vancouver, a little rosy-cheeked girl of about three summers, slipped and fell just as the crashing wheels of a great locomotive was passing. The little slippered feet were but three inches from the track when the wheels passed by.

St. Andrew's Dinner.

The members of the St. Andrew's and Caledonian Society will have their annual dinner this evening at the Driard. The former dinners of the society have proved occasions of enjoyment long remembered, and it is confidently expected that the dinner to-night will prove but another of the happy affairs which are so long looked forward to by Scotsmen and their friends, and for months after referred to as pleasurable.

A Preventative of Diphtheria.

At this season of the year too great care cannot be exercised in keeping the throat clear of phlegm. This can be done by using capsules made from chloride of potash. These keep not only the throat clear, but likewise the lungs free and enables the mucus membrane to pass up and down freely. They can be procured at any drug store in the city and are easily taken and carried on one's person. The remedy is a simple one. Try it.

Infraction of the Medical Act.

Prof. Zimmer, who was fined the other day in the police court at Vancouver for an infraction of certain clauses of the B. C. Medical Act, intends to appeal from the decision of the court. The *World* believes "that the Professor is quite within the law in claiming that he can bring about good health by a liberal use of herbs. He is certainly already doing wonderful things in this line, and is favorably spoken of by those who have consulted him."

B. C. and Alaska.

M. W. Waitt & Co. have just issued a work containing over sixty photographs of points of interest and curios of British Columbia and Alaska. The publication is the finest of the kind ever issued, and is entitled "Views of British Columbia and Alaska." Victoria, Esquimalt, Nanaimo, Departure Bay, Vancouver, Sitka, Juneau, and various points on the Alaska and C. P. R. routes comprise the collection. It is valuable as a souvenir to tourists and forms an excellent gift to far-off friends.

The Diphtheria at Westminster.

The *Columbian* in referring to the death of the second child at the Cleveland Hotel, Westminster, from diphtheria, says, "there is another down with the disease and the remaining two of a family of five children will in all probability have to try their chances against what seems to be a most malignant type of this much-dreaded sc urge to the children. There need, however, be no anxiety felt as to the spread of the plague as no one but the city health officer, Dr. DeWolf Smith, who is in attendance upon the cases, is allowed to enter or leave the building which is under a strict quarantine."

Death of Mrs. Isaac Johns.

It is with regret that we learn of the demise, on Wednesday morning, of paralysis of the brain, of Mrs. Isabella Johns (*nee* McGregor) wife of Isaac Johns, deputy collector of inland revenue at Vancouver. The deceased lady had been ill for the past two weeks, but was not thought to be in any immediate danger. She was beloved by all who knew her, and the sincerest sympathy is extended from all quarters to Mr. Johns and other members of his family in the sad affliction they have sustained. The funeral will take place at Vancouver this afternoon, and the A.O.U.W. will attend in a body.

A Thief Foiled.

At about 10 o'clock yesterday morning, a Chinaman employed in the kitchen, by Mr. Wilson, Yates street, returned to his work after a short absence in another room, just in time to see Ah Quong, a Chinaman who has lately been released from prison, making out of the back door with a little bundle under his arm. The servant made a rush for the intruder, who dropped his bundle and ran. Mr. Clark, the milk dealer, was entering as Quong made off, and immediately gave chase, capturing the would-be thief after a run of about a mile, and handing him over to the police. The little bundle which Quong was appropriating to his own use consisted of a plush waistcoat belonging to the Mongolian kitchen operator, and a silver watch and chain, the whole valued at about $20.

PRISONERS SENTENCED.

Dubois, Tolymatch and Kanaka Joe to Serve Terms in the Penitentiary.

Mr. Justice Crease yesterday afternoon pronounced sentence upon the prisoners who were tried before him at the present assizes.

CELESTE DUBOIS,

who was found guilty of obtaining money under false pretences, appealed to the judge. He said he was guilty of obtaining the money as had been stated, but he did not pretend that the mixture was gold dust. He was on his way to see his old father and mother and had also a wife and child, and he urged upon his lordship for the sake of his family to be merciful in his sentence. He assured the court that he had never before been sentenced for any crime in this or any country, and stated that he would never transgress the law again.

Deputy Attorney-General Irving stated that the prisoner had at one time been connected with a gang of counterfeiters operating in Victoria, a statement which the prisoner pronounced "a lie of the whole cloth."

Dubois was sentenced to imprisonment in the penitentiary for three years.

S. TOLYMATCH,

convicted of larceny, was sentenced to two years' imprisonment.

KANAKA JOE,

pronounced guilty of manslaughter, received thirteen years at hard labor, a sentence he received with a bow, and "Thank you, sir," to the court.

Sentence was deferred for one week in the case of Thomas Waterhouse. The prisoner's wife had the misfortune to fall in a trench dug by the waterworks' employees, on Wednesday night, and fractured her leg in two places.

THE FALL ASSIZES.

[Before Sir M. B. Begbie, C. J.]

The case of Reg. v. Griffin was continued yesterday morning.

Dr. James McGregor called said: I am a professor of the normal school of Montreal. I hold the degree of L.L.D. from McGill College. Have known Dr. Griffin about four years. Have conversed with him in an office he at one time occupied. In the office saw a number of dictionaries of the modern languages. Have conversed with Dr. Griffin in regard to his travels in various parts of the world. I spoke of the books and expressed admiration of Dr. Griffin's ability to understand them. The doctor in conversation referred to his extensive travels in the east. I saw among the books those I know to be in Spanish.

John W. Walker, police sergeant, deposed to arresting the prisoner and searching him after the arrest.

After the examination of the sergeant of police considerable time was lost through the non-appearance of Chief Clerk Dowler who had been called by the prosecution to prove the existence of a scrap of paper containing a drawing of a black hand, one of the exhibits of the case which had been lost.

His lordship commented on the non-appearance of the witness as an intolerable piece of impertinence.

Benjamin F. Atherton, recalled: Identified the handwriting on certain documents handed him by Mr. Taylor.

To his lordship—I was not driving a wagon for Mr. Sehl when I posted the letter addressed to Mr. Howard. When I gave my evidence in the police court it was not taken down at once. The witness went into an explanation of how the mistake occurred.

The next witness called was Mr. Hyde, of San Francisco, an expert in chirography. He testified: My name is Henry C. Hyde, I am an attorney at law of the supreme court of California and an expert in handwriting. I have made handwriting a study for thirty years, and have made the examination of handwriting my business for several years. An expert goes to work to compare handwriting by analyzing the characteristics of the writers. No two men ever wrote the same hand, and no man ever wrote two distinct hands. An expert notices the apparent and real differences and resemblances. In determining if two pieces of writing are by the same hand or different, we analyse the characteristics of both. The hand in writing moves in a certain form mechanically without any effort of brain. The individuality of writing cannot be concealed. I look for the real characteristics of writing, no matter what the resemblances may be. In this case there is a preponderance of resemblance. I can tell whether a letter is in a feigned hand by the same methods I have mentioned. In feigned writing the writer tries to escape his individuality. A man writing a feigned hand generally gives few indications of his individuality at the first, but lapses into his individuality. I have examined a number of papers in this case, commencing on Monday morning last, using my instruments in connection with the examination. (Instruments produced and their working explained to the jury.) The witness proceeded to explain how, by means of his instruments, he was able to, first, make enlarged copies of pieces of hand writing. I have made a number of selections, to show where the characteristics of the prisoner's writing are found in the disputed writing. Only where the writer fails to disguise his hand, and lapses into his natural characteristics, have I thought it necessary to make selections for comparison. I first study the characteristics of the undisguised hand, and then look for these characteristics in the disputed writing. I have here the results of my comparison of the hand writing; in 8 plates of tracing of different selections from the writing of the prisoner, and the disputed writing. The plates were handed to the jury for inspection.

Witness, to Mr. Taylor—In writing naturally a good many people's writing appears to be very different. I base my judgment on unconscious characteristics of the writing. I have examined the exhibits, the series of threatening letters. They were all written by the same hand, and the envelopes also addressed by the same hand. I did not analyse the Greek characters; the Spanish was written by the same person. I have no doubt that the writing on exhibits J and 22 were written by the same hand. The writing on exhibit 22, below the signature, is written by the same hand as the body of the letter. On exhibit J, an old copy of the *Social World*, is written in blue pencil, "Hon. Robert Dunsmuir." These words contain the same characteristics of the prisoner's writing. The same characteristics are plainly observable, particularly in the address of the envelope, containing the letter to Mr. Dunsmuir of August 14th. Plate 1 is a magnified tracing of the word "Robert," found on the envelope; Plate 4, a tracing of the word "Robert," on exhibit J. The character of the two letters "B," is identical. I found the same characteristics of the writing in the threatening letters in other documents submitted to me for examination.

Exhibits 14 to 25, identified as the documents referred to.

I have formed the opinion that the writer of the disputed letters, and the writer of exhibits 14 to 25 was one and the same person.

To his lordship—The disputed letters comprise the seven threatening letters in court. After having carefully examined the documents in court, I am firmly of the opinion that the writer of these anonymous letters was the writer of exhibits 14 to 25. (Small calendar produced by Police Sergeant Walker, and taken from prisoner's pocket book, produced.) The writing on this calendar was written evidently by Dr. Griffin and by the same person that wrote the letters comprising exhibits 14 to 25.

The witness proceeded to illustrate the peculiar character of various letters to show to the jury how his conclusions were arrived at.

At one o'clock the court adjourned for luncheon.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

On the court resuming at 2:45 p.m., the evidence of Mr. Hyde was continued.

The result of the examination of the handwriting, the witness stated, was that he had no doubt that the seven letters were all written by one hand, and that all seven letters were written by the same hand as that which penned the other exhibits, said to be the prisoner. Owing to lack of time he had been unable to make as many comparisons and drawings as he would otherwise have done. One marked characteristic of the prisoner's writing was the blind loop, particularly observable in the formation of the capital letter M.

Cross-examined by Mr. Walker—I have given evidence a great many times and have been subjected to a severe cross-examination. I have compared the writing on the threatening letters with others to see if the characteristics are similar. If you can show me writing more similar to that in the disputed letters, I can recognise that it is. I have not noticed the way in which the K's are made particularly. I have noticed the manner in which the I's are formed. There is nothing particularly noticeable about them. The T's are peculiar. I know nothing about Russian writing, can tell Russian in print. I noticed that the small m's were made in a variety of ways. I noticed that some of the m's ran down from the line. All the small m's did not. They were made in almost every way that it is possible to form the letter. The prisoner's small m's are more apt to be pointed at the top than rounded. The three parts of the m in Dr. Griffin's writing are generally of equal height. (Letter produced by Mr. Walker and handed to witness.) This letter contains some peculiarities that belong to the prisoner's hand and some do not. I would have to weigh both to say whether it was the prisoner's writing or not. I have compared the writing in this letter with that of the disputed letter, I do not think they are written by the same person. I have looked at the letter K in the word look. (Witness proceeded to explain the formation of the letter for the benefit of the jury.) When that K was made I do not think it was made as a V, and the down stroke afterwards added. I could tell if it had been so formed. The K in the word peak was not made in that way. I do not state this as an opinion but as a fact. (Proceeded to illustrate the formation of the letter to the jury.) I am sure it was made with one movement. I don't know how many movements of the hand Dr. Griffin's K's were made with. I can tell if I look. His ordinary small K is in the form of a capital, with two movements. (By request of a juror the letter K in the word Lopatecki, disputed letter, was placed under the glass.)

His lordship—What are you trying to prove, Mr. Walker?

Mr. Walker—I am trying to shake the evidence of the expert. It is a question of fact for the jury.

His lordship could not see the force of the examination at all. It was very similar to a case where a few marked coins were found in the pocket of a thief. It was not a point bearing on the case, that other coins not marked were also found. He thought if Mr. Walker continued his examination in this way he would never get through.

The witness, continuing the examination of documents produced by Mr. Walker, noted many examples of the letter M, running down, that is the second and third strokes were further below the line than the first. The D on one of the threatening letters is peculiar. It is made by making an O and then adding a stroke down. I see one very much like it. Dr. Griffin's "sh" is in some respects like the "sh" in sheriff, in exhibit 29. In the threatening letters I cannot say whether or not the writer of the anonymous letters stopped to dot his i's. My impression is that the i's in the letters are not connected with the next letter. I don't know whether Dr. Griffin forms his i's in this manner or not. I cannot say whether it is the custom of the writers of these documents to stop and cross their t's. The t's in Dr. Griffin's writing are generally disconnected, if my memory serves me right. I do not remember saying of certain letters that they were not capable of proving anything either way. The t in the disputed letters I did not think it necessary to examine. I could not give any opinion of a man's hand writing from two letters. All the disputed letters are undoubtedly written in a feigned hand. I know that Dr. Griffin was charged with writing threatening letters when I examined the writing.

To Mr. Taylor—In regard to the letter K, found in the word Lopatecki, in one of the disputed letters, it has been made with a V stroke and a downward dash.

To the foreman,—I have no doubt whatever that all the anonymous letters were written in a feigned hand, and I have very little doubt in saying that the hand that wrote the letters in exhibit signed by Dr. Griffin, also wrote the disputed letters.

Wellington J. Dowler sworn,—I am clerk of the police court, I took the deposition at the police court, and received the exhibits. I remember receiving a small exhibit with a drawing of a black hand. After the closing of the investigation I locked up the depositions and exhibits until I delivered all in my possession to Mr. Irving. I have searched for the exhibit which was sketched the black hand. Mr. Whyte called on me a few days ago and told me the exhibit was lost. I searched for it but could not find it.

To Mr. Walker—I was not subpoenaed to give evidence in this case until today.

To his lordship—I remember clearly the sketch of the black hand. I don't know whether or not I gave it to Mr. Irving.

His lordship—This does not prove the loss. It rather proves the safety of the document.

Deputy Attorney-General Irving deposed to receiving the depositions and exhibits from the police court, from Mr. Dowler, on Saturday. The parcel was rolled in paper with the ends open. Locked exhibits in the safe, where they remained until Monday morning, when they were brought to court. I made no search among the documents. I never saw the sketch myself. I placed the threatening letters in an envelope, to keep them together. The sketch was not with them.

Mr. Prevost, registrar of the court, deposed that the sketch was not in the bundle received by him.

His lordship—I think there is reasonable proof of the loss of the paper, Mr. Taylor. You may give secondary evidence.

Benjamin F. Atherton—Among the papers I placed in the garret of the building at the corner of Broad and Yates streets, and from which I took whatever were in Dr. Griffin's handwriting some time this month, was a slip of paper with a black hand on it. It was a retracing, apparently from a piece of blotting paper with a black hand on it. I saw the piece of paper after I gave it to Mr. Cornell, in the police court. It was not a direct drawing, but an impression. It came out of Dr. Griffin's pocket.

Cross-examined by Mr. Walker—I put the papers in the garret some time in June. I don't know whether or not there is a black hand pointing up the stairs to Dr. Griffin's office. I saw no boys in the garret at any time. I did not make that drawing of the black hand.

Mr. Walker objected to the reception of the evidence. He claimed that there was no evidence to prove that the paper put in the garret could not have been changed.

W. J. Dowler, recalled: Remember the last document very well. It was marked "exhibit I." It was a small irregular shaped piece of paper, on which was a dim outline of a black hand, precisely the same, in size, direction and proportion as the hands on exhibits. The hand was not blacked within; it was not filled out in black.

To Mr. Walker—I do not remember comparing it with the hand on Mr. Howard's letter.

Mr. Taylor—That closes the case for the prosecution.

The court adjourned until 7:30 p.m.

EVENING SESSION.

The case for the prosecution being closed, Mr. Walker opened his defence. He remarked to the jury that they had heard but one side of the case. There have been three detectives from San Francisco at work, there has been a man who claims to have been a private secretary, but who will be proved to be a traitor, there has been an an expert in hand writing employed, unlimited money has been expended, private detectives, Mr. Whyte may be called one, post office clerks, deputy sheriffs, etc., have been employed to watch Dr. Griffin, the intention from the start being to convict him. The whole case for the prosecution hangs on the evidence of Mr. Atherton, and if I can prove to you that he is not be believed, the case for the prosecution falls. I will produce witnesses who will swear that they would not believe Mr. Atherton on oath. I will produce the evidence of two Greek scholars. They are not experts, but we will do the best we can. I will also prove to you that the writer of the letter I produced for Mr. Hyde's inspection in cross-examination was Mr. Lopatecki's. I do not mean to insinuate for one moment that Mr. Lopatecki was the writer of the threatening letters. I will produce other evidence which, with what I have mentioned, will constitute our defence. I will first call Mr. J. J. Shinabarger.

Mr. Shinabarger, sworn: I am foreman in the *Standard* office. I know Mr. Lopatecki's writing. I have seen him write. (Letter produced.) This is Mr. Lopatecki's handwriting.

Mr. Taylor—I understand we can call Mr. Lopatecki in rebuttal of this evidence?

Mr. Walker—I shall have no objection.

Witness, continuing—These four letters (produced) are in Mr. Lopatecki's handwriting.

Cross-examined by deputy attorney-general: I received these papers as copy from the *Standard*. Part of this copy I received from Mr. Lopatecki himself. One or two pieces were taken from his hook. I have been with the *Standard* ever since it changed to an evening paper, about the 6th of August. I was in New Westminster before I came here, before that was in California where I learned my trade. I never met Dr. Griffin in my life. Three days ago I met Mr. Walker and he asked me if I had any objection to coming to court as a witness. I told him I could recognize Mr. Lopatecki's handwriting. I have seen the papers submitted to me, before. After they passed through my hands as copy they went in the waste box. I took them from the waste box; the one piece, the day before yesterday.

Mr. Walker asked me if I could get him some specimens of Mr. Lopatecki's writing. I got one of the other pieces yesterday. I got all the specimens of Mr. Lopatecki's writing produced, on two visits to the waste paper basket. I recognize the documents as in Mr. Lopatecki's writing. The first two words, "Deputy-Sheriff," are in my writing. The body is in Mr. Lopatecki's writing. I knew that the the first words were in my writing when I came into court.

Mr. Irving—I am done with Mr. Shinabarger.

Maurice Lopatecki, sworn—Exhibits 30, 31, 32 and 33, produced, are in my handwriting, with the exception of the words "Deputy Sheriff."

To a juror—I don't consider there is a great resemblance between my writing and Dr. Griffin's. There is a certain similarity.

A. J. Woodward called, identified as his, the writing on exhibit L.

Rev. A. J. Beanlands, sworn—I have seen these two photographs of writing before. I know Greek, and a little about Russian letters. (Exhibit 29 produced.) I think I have seen two pages of this. Don't know that I have seen the inside pages.

Mr. Walker—Will you compare the writing with that of the threatening letters, and point out any similarity.

Witness—I do. The likeness struck me the first time I saw them. As a rule the i's are dotted, and the t's crossed, by the writer, before he proceeds with the word. There is also a similarity in the k's. In every case the k's are made like a V with a tail, the second stroke commencing from the base of the first, and then the tail is added. The k's of the Greek are similar. I think if a man had a classical education he would be apt to put his Greek k's into his English. The L's in the Greek struck me as being very peculiar. The letter is made in a very facile way, as I never saw it before. (The witness proceeded to illustrate his method of forming the L, and the method used in the letter.) I have seen L's in the Russian made as the letter is made in these letters. In comparing the letters with exhibit 29, I noticed that the i's are frequently made without any first stroke. In the Greek, the m's are made in a very curious way, like an English m with a long tail.

His lordship—A long handle.

Witness—A long handle. I could call attention to many peculiarities in the Greek, but I don't know that they would bear on the case.

Cross-examined by Mr. Irving—The Greek writing is very fluent. The letter *theta* is written in an old fashioned way. I heard the expert say he had not compared the Greek. I have made no study of the comparisons of handwriting. I have a knowledge of, and take an interest in Greek. The degree of B.A., London, would mean Bachelor of Arts at the University of London. A doctor of medicine has to pass some examination in arts as well as medicine. In London University, I don't know that you would be obliged to pass an examination in Greek to take a B.A. I don't know that the University of London grants a B.A. I have spoken to Dr. Griffin on two if not three occasions. The subject of his scholarship or his knowledge of languages did not come up. I am not very familiar with Latin. I am familiar with Russian letters. I think there are 36 letters in the Russian alphabet. I said the letters in the letters were like Russian because they were more modernized than the ancient Greek is supposed to be. I am not familiar with modern Greek. The letters in the Greek might be used in modern Greek. Many of the letters of the Russian alphabet are adapted from the Greek. I concluded that those debatable letters would be Russian or modern Greek when I first saw them. I had Russian letters written for me to make comparisons with.

To a juror—I said that the writer of those letters stopped to dot his i's and cross his t's before finishing the word. It is very apparent. The witness proceeded to explain to the court his reasons for the statements.

George Langley sworn, said—I remember the day Dr. Griffin was arrested. He had left two prescriptions at the store. Mr. Dunsmuir and Mr. Whyte came in afterward. I told Mr. Dunsmuir and Mr. Whyte that the two were lotions. There was nothing in either that any doctor would not prescribe.

To Mr. Irving—Said the prescriptions were poisons. Said they had to be diluted. One contained 10 grains of morpine. It takes 180 grains to make 3 drachms.

Thomas Houghton sworn, said—I know Mr. Benjamin Atherton. Have known him since before the first of July of this year. Part of the time since then he and his wife have lived with me. They lived with me about five weeks. While living with me he would do little jobs of work for me. His conversation at times—

Mr. Taylor—I object.

Mr. Walker—Does your lordship allow me to ask what Atherton's general reputation for veracity was?

His lordship—If you only want to bring some one who will say he has been told so and so is a liar, it is no proof. Anyone might say I am a liar. I have heard several people on the streets talk libellously of Atherton.

His lordship ruled the question not admissible.

Mr. Walker asked that a note be taken that the question had been asked, and the examination proceeded.

Witness—I know quite a number of people who know Mr. Atherton.

His lordship—Everyone in court knows him by this time.

Mr. Irving waived his cross-examination.

C. A. Yorke, called: I know Mr. Benjamin Atherton very slightly.

Mr. Walke—Do you know his reputation for veracity among his neighbors?

Mr. Taylor—I ob—

Mr. Walker—That's all, Mr. Yorke.

Mr. Taylor—Good-bye.

His lordship—You can ask your witnesses if they would believe Mr. Atherton on his oath. You cannot ask for what may be said in street scandal about his general reputation. You may recall those witnesses.

Mr. Houghton, recalled: I would not from my knowledge of Atherton's character believe him on oath.

Cross-examined by Mr. Irving—I was subpoenaed to give evidence in this case. I have said in conversation that I would not believe Atherton on oath. I told Dr. Griffin. I have never warned Atherton against Dr. Griffin. I have conversed with Atherton about Dr. Griffin. Atherton lived in my house for several weeks. He told me lies. He told me he had got a job at $60 a month with a Yate's street merchant. I forget the name. Since living with me he dug eight bags of potatoes in three days, (laughter), weeded the one side of a flower bed, (laughter), and cleaned the hen-house, (laughter.) I charged Atherton nothing for board. I have had no special conversation about the trial. I do not keep a boarding house. The wife and myself keep house. We take in a friend occasionally. I don't know that it is a recommend or a detriment to a man to live in my house. I don't know that Atherton is married, I wasn't at the wedding. I don't know that he is not. He has a woman with him. I don't mean to say that I don't believe she is his wife.

Mr. Taylor and his lordship censured the witness for insinuating against the relations of Mr. and Mrs. Atherton.

The witness continued to Mr Taylor—Mrs. Atherton was assisting Mrs. Houghton in the kitchen, and he helped me whenever I wanted him to. I never asked him for money for board. I saw Atherton, on oath, in the police court. He said some things that could not be true. He said that he was every day at the *Social World* office, when he was part of the time at my house.

Witness continued to narrate conversations with Mr. Atherton. Atherton had said that he (Atherton) had told Mr. Dunsmuir that there was nothing honorable about him but his gray hairs. Atherton also said he was going to get even with Dr. Griffin. He was going to sue Dr. Griffin for $10,000. From these conversations I have sworn I would not believe him on oath.

Maurice Lopatecki, sworn—Exhibits 30, 31, 32 and 33, produced, are in my handwriting, with the exception of the words "Deputy Sheriff."

To a juror—I don't consider there is a great resemblance between my writing and Dr. Griffin's. There is a certain similarity.

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Mr. Taylor—I object.

Mr. Walker—Does your lordship allow me to ask what Atherton's general reputation for veracity was?

His lordship—If you only want to bring some one who will say he has been told so and so is a liar, it is no proof. Anyone might say I am a liar. I have heard several people on the streets talk libellously of Atherton.

His lordship ruled the question not admissible.

Mr. Walker asked that a note be taken that the question had been asked, and the examination proceeded.

Witness—I know quite a number of people who know Mr. Atherton.

CABLE NEWS.

Russia Hopes to Induce the United States to Invest Its Surplus Revenue in Russian Loans.

Mme. Boulanger Refuses to Accede to a Divorce from the General, and Will Retire to a Convent.

Members of the Commons Agitated Over the Conduct of Gen. Davis, M.P. for Kensington.

Mr. Maroney's Imprisonment.

LONDON, Nov. 29.—In the commons to-night Mr. Bradlaugh moved an adjournment in order to call the attention of the house to the imprisonment of Mr. Maroney in Kilmainham jail for contempt of court under the coercion act. He declared that there was no doubt that Maroney was becoming insane as a result of his incarceration. Bankruptcy proceedings had been used unfairly to compel Maroney to divulge certain things, and his refusal to testify was morally justified. At any rate he ought not to be punished by imprisonment of an indefinite duration. Chief Secretary Balfour and Attorney-General Webster stated that the government had no power to order his release from prison. Mr. Maroney's proper remedy would be to purge himself of the contempt. Mr. Bradlaugh's motion was defeated by 195 to 159. The land purchase extension bill was read a third time, the vote being 202 to 141.

The Parnell Commission.

LONDON, Nov. 29.—The Parnell commission resumed its sitting to-day. Police inspector Crane testified that the progress of crime in Ireland was coincident with the formation of the national league. Not every member of the league was a moonlighter, but the majority of moonlighters belonged to the league. The witness admitted that he was unable to trace directly any connection between persons convicted of committing outrages and the league. No league official had been convicted of committing outrages. He knew of no crimes connected with the home rule agitation or with the extension of the franchise. The crimes principally arose from disputes about land. Inspector Rice deposed that he understood that the moonlighters executed the behests of the league, but on cross-examination the witness could not give a single instance of the kind.

Repentant Too Late.

LONDON, Nov. 29. — General Davis, M. P. for Kensington, who was committed to prison on Tuesday, for contempt of court, in failing to pay £23,778, which he owed as administrator of his uncle's estate, offered to-day to apologize and to refund the money. The judge, however, refused to interfere with the warrant that had been issued. The money to liquidate Gen. Davis's debt was subscribed by Tories in order to prevent the disgrace of his arrest to fall upon them in Parliament.

The Sheehy Incident.

LONDON, Nov. 29.—The committee appointed by the House of Commons to investigate the complaint of Sheehy that the summons was served upon him in the lobby of the house, met to-day. Among the Irish police present were Inspector General Reed and Inspectors Gennings and Lawndersdon, from Limerick. Jeremiah Sullivan, the constable who served the summons on Mr. Sheehy, produced a batch of summonses which he had intended serving upon Irish members of parliament. The newspaper reporters were excluded from the proceedings of the committee.

The Case of Gen. Davis.

LONDON, Nov. 29.—In the commons to-night Timothy Healy asked what Wm. H. Smith, government leader, recommended that the house do regarding the case of Gen. Davis. Mr. Smith replied that there were no proofs of the latter's guilt, which would justify asking the house to pronounce judgment upon him. Mr. Edmund Robertson, liberal, reminded the house that the expulsion of a member was decreed for a breach of trust. Mr. Smith deprecated any hasty action. Mr. Healy then intimated that unless the government took action in the matter, he would move on Tuesday that a new writ be issued to fill Gen. Davis' seat in the house.

Gen. Davis Imprisoned.

LONDON, Nov. 29.—General Davis, who has hitherto been only nominally imprisoned under the warrant of arrest, was actually put in prison after the court's decision to-day.

The Liberals Badly Sold.

LONDON, Nov. 29.—A false report was circulated in the House of Commons that Lord Compton (liberal) had been elected in Holborn district. The Gladstonian members stood upon the benches and loudly cheered. When the corrected figures were received the conservatives indulged in a similar demonstration.

A Conservative Victory.

LONDON, Nov. 29.—The contest for the parliamentary seat of Holborn, London, has resulted in the election of Mr. Bruce, conservative candidate, by 4,378 votes against 3,433 for Lord Compton, the Gladstonian. At the last election the conservative majority was 1,701.

Russian Wants America's Dollars.

LONDON, Nov. 28.—The *Telegraph's* St. Petersburgh correspondent says that the Russian minister of finance hopes to induce the American government to invest its surplus revenue in Russian loans. An imperial ukase has expressly fixed the rate of exchange at which the present loan is to be paid in American dollars.

A Smart Trick.

LONDON, Nov. 29.—The *News* asserts that a large land owner in Meath has taken advantage of the Ashbourne Act to dispose of a portion of his property to his two sons, the effect being that the government has contributed large sums of money to family transaction.

They Want a Further Reduction.

DUBLIN, Nov. 28.—The plan of campaign has failed to work on the estate of the Marquis of Conyngham at Glenties, near Donegal. The tenants who accepted a reduction of five shillings a short time ago now demand a reduction of eight shillings.

A Reduction of Fifty Per Cent.

DUBLIN, Nov. 23.—The land commission has reduced the rents on Lord Kenmore's estates, near Killarney, fifty per cent. Edward Walsh, the proprietor of the Wexford *People*, has been sentenced to five weeks' imprisonment for making speeches intimidating tenants.

The Pope's Temporal Power.

ROME, Nov. 28.—The Vatican having lately received a large number of telegrams enquiring as to the truth of the reports that the Pope had resolved to quit Rome, Cardinal Rampolla, papal secretary of state, replied through the various nuncios that nothing of the kind had as yet been decided upon. Inquiry has been addressed to Berlin authorities whether the Emperor's silence with regard to his recent visit to the Pope indicates coolness between Germany and the Vatican. In accordance with a request from the governments of Austria and Spain, Cardinal Rampolla has instructed the nuncios at Vienna and Madrid to endeavor to prevent the projected meetings of the Catholics in those countries to demand that the temporal power of the Pope be restored.

The Panama Canal Lottery.

PARIS, Nov. 28.—The Panama canal company has decided to issue the remainder of its lottery loan on December 12th at thirty francs per share below the original price. Small investors may pay fifty francs upon an allotment and the remainder in monthly installments of thirty francs.

Turkey's Attitude Toward Bulgaria.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Nov. 28. — Prince Ferdinand having requested the sultan to grant him an audience, the sultan replied, declining to accede to the request, and intimating that there was no change in the Turkish policy toward Bulgaria.

Is Scotland Becoming Unionist?

EDINBURGH, Nov. 29.—Lord Salisbury, in a speech here to-night, said he believed Scotland was becoming unionist in doctrine. He hoped that the scheme of local government for Scotland might prove satisfactory. He urged his hearers to distrust Mr. Gladstone's home rule promises. They were vague because, within his own mind, they were undefined.

Will be Created a Prince.

VIENNA, Nov. 29.—It is understood that Count Von Taafe, president of the Austrian council, will shortly be endowed with the title of prince.

Persecuting the Jews in Russia.

ST. PETERSBURG, Nov. 29.—Thirty-five foreign Jews, who failed to leave Kief after the recent general edict of expulsion, have been arrested. The charge against them is that they demoralize the townspeople.

A Plucky Lady.

LONDON, Nov. 29. — The *Times'*, Paris despatch, states Mme. Boulanger refuses to agree to a divorce from the general, and has retired with her younger daughter to a convent.

CAPITAL NOTES.

The West Coast Indian Murderer is to Swing.

Barnett, of Central Bank Notoriety, to be Brought Back from England—A Wrathy Editor will Copyright His Dispatches—Ontario Seedsmen Want More Protection.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, Ont., Nov. 29.—Three capital cases have been decided by the governor in council; British Columbia, Indian Tayinekwah, who murdered the boy Moise, and Webb, the Brandon wife murderer, are to swing. Kehoe, the Montreal murderer, had his sentence commuted to penal servitude for life owing to the strong proof of insanity forthcoming.

Barnett, of Central Bank notoriety, is now under arrest in London, Eng., and will be brought to Canada immediately, the provincial authorities having consented to defray the cost of transportation.

Acton Burrows, of the Winnipeg *Call*, is going to copyright his dispatches to prevent the *Sun* from stealing them.

Ontario seedsmen have interviewed the minister of customs and ask for greater protection from the United States seedmen.

The vice-regal party left to-night to attend St. Andrew's Society ball, Toronto.

A EUROPEAN SENSATION.

England Declines to Assist Germany in Colonizing East Africa

And the Latter Power Feels Offended at the Refusal—It Says the Time May Come When England Will Require the Friendship of a Continental Power.

(Special to THE COLONIST.)

LONDON, Nov. 28.—Quite a sensation has been caused in political circles, both here and on the continent, and wide attention attracted generally by a semi-official note published by the Berlin press. The note contains a protest against the opposition of England to the efforts of Germany in Zanzibar. It asserts that anti-German tendencies prevail in England, and the co-operation in African schemes that might be given to Germany, is through their influence denied. Germany is forced to conclude, says the note, that England does not need Germany's friendship. Then follows what may be looked on as a warning to the insular powers: "It is true that it is improbable that situations may arise in the immediate future in which England may feel the want of friendship from a continental power, but such condition of affairs is not impossible." The note is but the legitimate outcome of the feeling that has long existed in Germany over the hesitation of English politicians to commit the British Government to the doubtful policy of assisting Germany to help herself to whatever benefits the east coast of Africa may present. The ostensible object of the desired co-partnership is to root out the slave trade, and to make East Africa and Zanzibar safe to Europeans. As a colonizer and reclaimer of savage countries, England has had greater success than Germany, and the latter knows this, and for this reason, longs for English assistance. But England does not propose to help Germany to colonize Africa, and this is why the co-partnership is denied.

SCHOOL TRUSTEE ELECTION.

Mr. Robert Erskine Elected by a Plurality Over the Other Candidates.

The election for a school trustee in Johnson street ward, to fill the vacancy on the school board caused by the resignation of Mr. J. B. Ferguson, was held yesterday at the city hall, polls being opened at 10 a.m., and clos