

The Boston Herald declares that "the action of the house of representatives in voting against the Behring Sea damages award is discreditable when one takes into consideration the conditions under which the vote was given." In the Herald's view, however, the action of the house is discreditable only because it is likely to make the sum of the award to be paid by the commission and the expenses connected therewith a little heavier than the payment proposed by Secretary Gresham. "Taking into account," it says, "the claims made and the expense attendant in arriving at the award, which would have been borne by us, it is probable that the amount agreed upon by the state department of \$425,000 in full liquidation is a modest one, and should have been accepted as a cheap release from a bad bargain." The Herald continues:

"For two or three years prior to 1891 Mr. Blaine had been carrying on correspondence with the English government concerning the seal fisheries in Behring sea, in which he had put forth certain pretensions as to the right of the United States government to exclusive jurisdiction over the waters of Behring sea, and that maintained that on this ground the United States government was justified in laying down such laws bearing upon the use of this waterway as it saw fit, and in prohibiting the vessel of other nations from fishing in it or sailing over it. We had assumed all along that this was an instance of what might be termed diplomatic bluff, but it was difficult for us to find words to express our surprise when reading the arbitration agreement with Lord Salisbury we discovered that Mr. Blaine had been willing, not only to rest his entire case on this utterly absurd and untenable theory, but had admitted a willingness on the part of the United States to pay any damages that might be brought by the Canadian sealers against the government if an international tribunal should decide that this pretension was an unsound one.

"Three years ago we pointed out that this admission of possible damages by the United States was a most extravagant and unheard of proceeding. It not only held us responsible for what we actually seized, but for what upon a strained presentation of the case a Canadian sealer might assert he would have got if the United States had not stood in the way of his business operations. In effect, we admitted judgment in advance, because we based our claims upon pretensions which any one could have foreseen would be thrown out (as they were) just as soon as they were brought before an international tribunal. This was needless because it would have been possible to have arranged, by a system of restriction, that there should be either no damages paid at all or damages which in amount and character were strictly limited in advance. This is not an instance on the Herald's part of being wise after the fact, for the case now before us was predicted by us three years ago, as one which would inevitably come, the only difference being that the amount of \$425,000 which congress has now refused to pay is a much smaller sum than seemed to us in 1892 as likely to be the outcome of this instance of bluff and indiscreet international negotiation.

But having put our head into this noose, through what seemed to us three years ago to be a temporary mental aberration on the part of Secretary Blaine, it ill becomes us now to say that we are now gathered the fruits of our past folly."

Probably this is as moderate a view as an American journal could be expected to take of the matter. It is difficult, however, to find any foundation for the Herald's objection to the agreement under which the payment of damages became necessary. The United States government was found, by the tribunal to which both sides willingly referred the dispute, to have wrongly assumed the power of keeping Canadian vessels out of Behring sea. It followed logically, and according to all the rules of justice and equity, that the United States should pay the aggrieved parties for having deprived them of their rights. It looks somewhat ridiculous to censure Mr. Blaine for his contention as to exclusive jurisdiction over Behring sea, because that contention was not at the bottom of the trouble from the very first. This absurd assumption on the part of the United States was in fact the cause of the seizures and the unjust exclusion of Canadian sealers from the sea. The Herald is also considerably "off" when it intimates that the \$425,000 covers all sorts of possible damages; it should enquire of Secretary Gresham and learn the truth.

The Dominion government are paying workmen \$1.50 a day on the works which are being carried on at Revelstoke. Public meetings have been held

to protest against such low wages. Mr. Mara expressed his sympathy for the men but could make no promises, he having evidently found out, like Messrs. Barle and Prior, that what British Columbia representatives say to the Conservative government goes in at one ear and out at the other. No doubt the men were very thankful for Mr. Mara's sympathy, but that will not feed and clothe them.

The Columbian: Since population is the great desideratum for this country, an artificial trade policy, which adds immensely to the costs of living and the costs of government, while it has, apparently, checked even the normal growth of population, must stand condemned, by a comparison of its results with those predicted for it, and absolutely as well as a policy for the general advantages of the Dominion, whatever classes and sections may have been benefited by it. It appears worse than folly, then, to continue the experiment. The long drawn out effort to build up, settle, and develop the country by artificial interference with trade—whose most obvious and appreciable effects have been to artificially and unnecessarily increase the costs of living and of government, to a population which has remained almost stationary—having been demonstrated to be a signal failure, it is high time to turn to the more natural, less pretentious, and infinitely less expensive, policy of carrying on the necessary government of the country as economically as possible, and, as far as possible, giving the country a chance to develop itself, along natural lines.

SHEEP STEALING ON MAYNE ISLAND.

To the Editor: May I add the testimony of a sufferer to the letter of "R. G. G." in your issue of February 2nd? Whether or not the small hotel on Mayne Island benefits from the occasional visit of the police boat is of small consequence in comparison to the injury done by such misrepresentations as that published in the Colonist of January 10. That robberies are committed and sheep and cattle stolen from the island almost daily I fear is a fact that must be acknowledged by all hands. Surely it behooves us to get our house in order and try to prevent this state of affairs. Nowhere in the correspondence that has taken place do I see any suggestions for better protection, only a deal of recrimination between "R. G. G." and "Knowing one." We want more constables and watchers and less talk. No doubt the constable at Plummer Pass does his very best, in fact I know a more zealous officer does not exist, but how in the name of goodness is he to catch a man who comes in a sloop, kills my old tame bell sheep in front of my house, quietly puts her on board and sails away. Not so many years ago death was the penalty for sheep stealing in England. The reason for this severity was the great difficulty in bringing the crime home. To-day the same argument applies to these islands, therefore when a man is caught red handed it is a mistaken kindness not to make an example of him. Three months in jail in this country is no punishment to speak of; it is only making justice ridiculous; he does not fear it, in fact, one who had just done his time informed me the other day it was not at all a bad place and "the coffee very good." Indeed, so highly is a short visit to these institutions appreciated that when visiting one of our provincial jails at Xmas time I observed the delightfully naive motto of "God Bless Our Home" put up by the prisoners over the door of their dining room.

THE CUBAN TROUBLE.

U. S. Careful Not to Lend Any Assistance to the Revolutionists.

Washington, March 7.—The statement that the Captain-General of Cuba had formally demanded the recall of the U. S. consul-general at Havana and the Spanish government had acceded to the demand is received with marked incredulity in official circles here. The present consul-general at Havana is considered one of the ablest men in the U. S. consular service.

AMERICAN DISPATCHES.

Twelve Thousand Miners Go Out on Strike at Pittsburg.

Sacramento, March 7.—The senate today passed a bill making the "Golden poppy" the state flower.

Detroit, Mich., March 7.—A fire engine crossing a track here was struck by a locomotive. Several firemen were injured.

Augusta, Me., March 7.—The house today voted in favor of giving municipal suffrage to women.

Pittsburg, Pa., March 7.—From reports received at the miners' headquarters the order to strike had been generally obeyed. Very few mines are in operation in Pittsburg district. It is claimed that twelve thousand miners are out.

Sayboy—"Do you think that waste makes any sense?"

McLaughlin—"Sure, Mike; the very sight of my sweetheart's waist makes me want to put my arms around it."

"You seem to be excited, dear, what has happened?"

"Poor Jack Murray. I have just rejected him."

"Oh, don't mind a little thing like that. Why, I reject him every six months."

FINANCES OF NANAIMO CITY

Auditor Pierson Makes a Report at a Public Meeting Held Last Evening.

Wellington Elopement Case Before Magistrate—Veers Committed for Trial.

Nanaimo, March 6.—The adjourned hearing of the Wellington elopement case came up before Magistrate Bate yesterday. The evidence went to show that Veers had promised to marry Mrs. Black after they were safely in the States. Mrs. Black's evidence was very reluctantly given even as she left the court she called out to the defendant in a sympathetic tone, "Good-bye Jim." Magistrate Bate decided to send the case up for trial.

The Presbytery of Victoria held their session at St. Andrew's church yesterday afternoon with Rev. Dr. Campbell in the chair. The regular routine of work was gone through and the complaint of F. J. Deane, Free Press reporter, was taken up. A special committee were appointed to investigate the matter. At the evening session the committee reported that Deane was in fault.

A public meeting took place in the city hall last evening over which Mayor Quennell presided. The chairman briefly stated that the meeting was called for the purpose of hearing the official auditor's report respecting the audit of the city clerk's books. The council considered it was necessary to call the meeting owing to the scandalous reports circulated throughout the provincial press. Mr. Pierson then read the balance sheet and explained it at great length. He went on in detail and showed minutely what funds remained of the loan by-laws expended. He then delivered his report, formally to the mayor and council.

In speaking of the finding of the book he explained that the primitive system adopted was entirely unsatisfactory but there was no trace of dishonesty. He regarded the non-signature of notes and memoranda as improper and advocated a more thorough system. He advised that a proper system be inaugurated in the police department which he found was slightly disorganized. The cemetery question was also explained and advice given for the recovery of dues therefrom. In conclusion he showed that the audit of the books was satisfactory. He went on to explain the irregularities of money being paid to the city clerk's account. The \$1700 being paid to that account, was because the clerk had not with him the proper form wherewith to pay it to the bank and that they were properly paid over in two or three days and there they were properly accounted for.

He scored the Vancouver World or its anxiety to gather matters sensational. In answer to a question as to the amount spent on certain streets, Mr. Pierson said he was pleased to tell them that the city was in a remarkably healthy state to borrow money. (Applause.) To a further question as to why he had not gone back further than 1892 in the audit, he said he had followed the instructions of the provincial government. In reply Mr. Richardson he said he had not found material difference in the audits of vital importance of the past two years.

No more questions being asked the meeting was brought to a close.

Nanaimo, March 5.—An inquest touching the death of Andrew Vanger took place at Wellington yesterday. The evidence went to show that deceased was passing along the level where a crosscut was being driven to connect with the level and while passing the shot blew through and its full force struck Vanger, killing him instantly. The jury returned a verdict that deceased met his death through a shot striking him. The funeral took place yesterday.

The only tender for the new court house is that of S. M. Robbins on behalf of the Nanaimo Coal Company. It is understood that the building will be bought for the Nanaimo Literary Temperance Athletic Association. A meeting of Liberals took place in the rooms of the Y. M. C. A. last evening when Mr. Ralph Smith stated that the meeting was called by him to end the feeling of ill-feeling throughout the district, through nominating a miner, he would beg to withdraw for the purpose of allowing them to choose a more suitable candidate and one who would more likely succeed. He favored the organizing of another convention and so arrange it that delegates from all parts of the district might be present. On motion it was decided to hold another convention at the earliest possible date. The next convention will take place at Nanaimo. The calling of the convention was left in the hands of a special committee selected from the meeting. The committee selected were: Messrs. R. Smith, J. Young, T. Boyce and W. Roos.

NEWS OF THE INTERIOR.

Quarrel at Rossland Ends in Murder—Mining Deals.

NEW DENVER.
Nakusp Ledge.

The first life to be taken in a quarrel in West Kootenay in years was sacrificed at Rossland a day or two ago. Arrivals in town assert that on Tuesday week two men, named Hugh McLaughlin and James Westcott, got into a slugging match, and which Westcott contended would shut out the light from his premises. From words, the altercation soon led to blows.

McLaughlin, thoroughly incensed, picked up a hatchet, and struck Westcott over the arm and head with the back of it, peeling the skin and causing the blood to flow. Westcott had his wounds dressed and his arm put in a sling. Later on he again met McLaughlin and hurled an axe at him, the blade

entering the calf of one of the legs of the latter, severing the artery and cord. Dr. Arthur was summoned and administered chloroform to McLaughlin in order to dress the gaping wound. McLaughlin lingered for a few days, and then succumbed to a loss of blood and nervous prostration.

The body was removed to Nelson yesterday, where the deceased's wife lives. Westcott was also brought up and lodged in jail. McLaughlin was a steady and industrious fellow. He had erected several buildings in the Forks and Kaslo, and was generally well known and respected.

The concentrator people at New Duluth, have had engineers out during the week running lines for the tramway, leading from the works to the Idaho and Alamo mines. Grades were also obtained for a large flume to obtain water from the Sandon creek, or some point up the Carpenter, for motor power for the concentrator. Capt. Moore was in town on Saturday endeavoring to secure bids on the lumber and construction of the latter improvement. It would require several hundred thousand feet of lumber as the quantity of water needed is considerable. Later on bids will be solicited for the tramway, which will be a work of considerable magnitude.

Cummings & Richardson have applied to the inland revenue department to have a customs warehouse erected here. The department are treating with a party in town to act as collector, and the building will follow.

The Bank of Montreal is again being urged to establish a branch here. In case they refuse, an effort will be made to get the Imperial Bank to locate here. Failing that, several citizens will open private banks for the cashing of checks.

Byron White has had in contemplation for some time past the erection of a concentrator for the Slocan Star. The plans for this are about settled, and all that he is waiting for before the work of construction proceeds, is the striking of the vein in the lower tunnel that is being driven on the mine.

Work is being pushed along rapidly on the Alpha, and the mine will soon be in a position to employ a large staff of men and ship extensively. The chief labor is being expended on the lower tunnel, where considerable dead work is being done. This is necessary, if more men are to be employed. There are twelve men now on the staff, which will be increased later on. Seven tons of ore are being shipped daily.

The Spokane Falls & Northern railway company has filed notice in Spokane of their intention to increase their capital stock. The present capital is \$2,500,000, which the company propose to increase to \$2,812,500. The increase will be for permanent improvement, and with a possible eye on the building of the Red Mountain railway.

There is a boom on at present in Trail creek properties. One of the most recent dickers was the bonding of the San Francisco claim, situated near the War Eagle, by J. Hanley for \$10,000.

J. C. Ryan and C. H. Greene, of Saginaw, Mich., representing a strong syndicate, have bonded the Eureka mine, on the Kaslo slope. The bond extends over a period of two years, and is for a figure ranging anywhere between \$40,000 and \$100,000, in equal payments—\$4,000 down. Included in the agreement besides the Eureka, are the Yosemite, Scottish Chief, Homestake, Echo, and a fourth in the Parrott, all being located between Bear and Lyle creeks. Work will be vigorously pushed by the new proprietors, who anticipate striking large deposits of ore. J. D. Moore, J. McPhee and McDonald Bros. were the original owners.

REVELSTOKE.

Revelstoke Mail.

There are many promises of an early spring, according to the old-timers. True the weather is most congenial, and the warm Chinook wind of Wednesday and Thursday melted the snow considerably, but last night the "beautiful" again put in an appearance and the landscape looked very "Christmasy" this morning. The river was never absolutely frozen over this winter, and the ice has become rotten where erstwhile the festive skaters disported themselves. We may rest assured of one thing, however—the thermometer will not again touch zero this season.

We are informed on good authority that a Chicago syndicate is making application for leasing the Revelstoke smelter.

TERRIBLE ACCIDENT.

M. N. Nelson Killed in an Elevator at Seattle.

Seattle, March 6.—A terrible accident happened in the elevator of the Pioneer building at 6:20 o'clock last evening the second of the kind in the history of that structure, whereby M. N. Nelson, postmaster of Seabold, Kitsap county, had his neck broken by being wedged between the elevator door and the floor. When the body was released by a terrified girl, it tumbled headlong to the bottom of the shaft and was further mutilated. The accident seems to have been due entirely to the man's own attempt to run the elevator without knowing how to handle it.

Nelson came to this city yesterday afternoon in a sloop which he had just purchased and which was handled by a man named Guliset. He transacted some business and met a Mr. Tellef, who returned from a trip East, during the morning and who is engaged to marry his daughter. About 6 o'clock in the evening he went to the Pioneer building entered the elevator and engaged in conversation with Thompson, with whom he was well acquainted by reason of Thompson's owning a ranch in Kitsap county adjoining his own.

Nelson was accompanied by Hettie Bergeson, a young woman whose parents live in Kitsap county and who expected to go back with him on the sloop. Thompson and Nelson engaged in a conversation over some Sunday school literature, which the latter said he desired to secure for the Seabold Sunday school of which he is superintendent. At

about 6:15 Thompson ran the elevator up to the fourth floor in order to light the gas. He opened the door and stepped outside, Nelson and the girl remaining in the elevator. What he did is not known. One story told the corner as to the effect that the elevator had started to descend and Nelson had seized the lever, intending to stop it. The girl told several persons that Nelson laid his hand on the lever as soon as Thompson stepped out, without any apparent reason for doing so. The moment he pulled the lever the elevator shot upward, Nelson then lost his head and the door at the fourth being open, he attempted to jump out. As he did so the elevator floor approached the heavy railing over the door. Nelson had just got his head out of the opening, and his neck was caught and broken. So tightly as it wedged between the floor and the railing that the elevator's flight upward was cut short.

NICARAGUA CANAL.

Congressman Money Not Satisfied With the Senate Bill.

Washington, March 6.—Congressman Money, of Mississippi, will visit Nicaragua at the last of the month and travel over the route of the proposed canal. He says he is not satisfied with the provisions of the bill recently passed by the senate appropriating \$70,000,000 for the work on the canal, inasmuch as it does not stipulate that the money should be entirely expended in the work of construction of the canal proper, and might all, he claims, be thrown away in dredging the harbor of Greytown, which, he claims, would fill up again under the first "norther" that occurred. The sundry civil appropriation bill contains an item of \$20,000 to be spent in a government survey of the canal route.

NO MARRIAGE SETTLEMENT.

The Coultids Did not Pay Count de Castellene's Debts.

New York, March 6.—To-day George J. Coult was seen at his office and said: "The statement that there has been any marriage settlement in connection with the marriage of my sister to the Count de Castellene is false. Not only has there been no marriage settlement, but such a thing was never discussed or even mentioned by any member of either of the families. The statement which obtained such publicity to the effect that certain debts of the Marquis de Castellene had to be settled before he would give his consent to the marriage is as malicious as it is false and absurd."

HAWAIIAN SENTENCES.

The Daily News Takes a Fling at the Hawaiian Government.

London, March 6.—The Daily News will say editorially to-morrow: "The announcement that none of the death sentences in Hawaii will be executed will not excite surprise. It would have been impossible for the American party to kill prisoners for sharing in the civil war. They are bound by the great traditions of their own history, and national pride should forbid their departing from the same and reducing themselves to the level of an effete Europe. Moreover, the queen's friends were only fighting to give her majesty her own again. The republican party's only proof of right was force. If the ghost of Monroe is to walk the party which has so grossly violated one of the precepts of his doctrine would find it hard to sleep at nights."

DARING BANK ROBBERY.

Two Men Secure Fifteen Thousand Dollars, But Are Captured.

Adel, Iowa, March 6.—The Adel State Bank was robbed of \$15,000 yesterday morning by two men. The cashier and a customer were shot and seriously wounded by the robbers who escaped at the time but were afterwards overtaken at Onealsford. One hid in the bushes and was captured alive. The other hid in a barn which was set on fire. The robber stayed in until his clothes caught, when he rushed out, a shotgun in hand. He refused to surrender and was shot dead. It is feared the other will be lynched.

MAY BE ABANDONED.

Would Cost Too Much to Float the Black Diamond Mine.

Seattle, March 6.—It is believed that the fire in Black Diamond mine No. 12 may result in its permanent abandonment. To flood it would require a month, and several months would then be consumed in pumping out the water. This would cost the company a great deal of money. Then, too, the coal is of such a nature that once thoroughly soaked with water and then having the air turned in on it, spontaneous combustion is likely to result. Had the mine been working the time the fire broke out the death list would have been in all probability something awful, as there is only one exit.

EASTERN BLIZZARD.

Winter is Still Very Much in Evidence in the East.

Toronto, March 5.—Ontario is just recovering from one of the worst storms of the season, which set in Sunday night and continued until last night without abatement. The railroads are blocked, trains are very late, and street car traffic is suspended.

Detroit, Mich., March 5.—The city suffered from the worst blizzard of the season yesterday morning. Car travel was impeded and all the lines experienced the greatest difficulty in keeping cars moving. There were about six inches of snow upon the ground. The incoming trains on all the roads were effected and were from one to five hours late.

GENERAL EZETA NOT

Has Not Given Up Hope of a United States of Central America.

Equipments for a General War Stead Now on the From Paris.

San Francisco, March 6.—tonio Ezeta is living quietly in a hotel and to all appearances as though he were doing California for good, says a per. He treats his name with open-hearted generosity to them the ex-president vador has given up all the Central American home, assertions and appearances true there are other things to the fact that the general and that his dream of a United Central America has not been. Last Thursday the City of Panama was delayed awaiting instructions from Agent Center. There were cases on board which carriers of the steamer considered, and when the order move them from the hold, general feeling of relief. The said to have contained war and to have been shipped Ezeta's agents. The only cases were not sent on a Co can port the ship and cargo been confiscated.

The records of the custom that there is now the war the full equipment of a war so the full military outfit. These goods are consigned Antonio Ezeta, California Francisco. The uniform elements for the war horse as to via the Southern P and had there not been a proceedings, Ezeta would Central America on the A is scheduled to arrive on t

A BET ON COTTON.

An Incident of the Dalt Meeting at Peterb.

Col. O'Brien on rising greeted with a splendid plause, and in the audience as the man from Shant in introductory remarks Col. O'Brien stated that the spirit of been carried too far, and it revolt against this spirit of audience before him had together. The speaker at Carthy were, he believed, as to the fate of the nation and the welfare of the (col. plause). From this the to tell how in 1878 he had supporter of the National because he believed it was exodus of that time, and migration and give the fa market, which he agreed vaters in saying was the be kets. In 1878 it was he many manufactures suitable would be established. If the exodus of Monroe to tem he had done so on th ing that if combinations of cers should use this incident to prevent free competition should be withdrawn no moral benefit from pro was never intended that it manent. Now the minist it could be continued, alt ufacturers had violated th which protection was gra was now scarcely any ind not controlled by trusts and the center and its result spoke as giving an answer of the National Policy, nothing that the speaker Tories of those days ver throwing in the teeth of a kenzie and John Richa and the other side of the For a time after the adop tive system the countr one, because millions of ing spent, and the govern on with sail all set and But at the end of the stock it was found that population under ten year had been less than in the parative free trade. (A should the people of Cana ing themselves under the ces? Continuing, Col. figures to show that the Canadian cotton is just that of English cotton pl objected to the system u could be done by the cot by the other combines.

At this stage a voice was heard, thus, "It is n der and cries off 'sit do form.'" To the platfor trupter, and he prove Kendry, the president of Woolen Company. He he forced his way to th the cheers were mingl When silence was obtain am prepared to put up s to any charitable instit Col. O'Brien stated just true. (Applause and a gentleman comes to th constituency to speak as he may be a farmer, but tlemen, he does not kn talking about. I under that the price of certai land was 4-1/2 cents, a sponding Canadian cott 6 cents, and the diff on out of the pocket of say that it is not s making goods as cheap England, and if Col. Canadian woolen goods