Weekly Colonist.

FRIDAY, MAY 3, 1895

"TRUST HER NOT."

Who believes in peace; or at best, anything better than a patched-up peace which Russia can and will break at the moment it suits her? The history of events which preceded the Crimean and the last Russo-Turkish wars shows that when Russia was loudest in expressions of peaceful intentions her legions were already in motion and a conflict had really begun. Before Sinope there were few who believed that Russia would wilfully precipitate war while professing a desire for peace. Since that horrid affair the world has been prepared for almost anything at the hands of the Muscovite. To fully understand what is meant by the massacre of Sinope the reader has only to picture to himself a Russian war ship on this lovely Sunday morning quietly entering Esquimalt harbor and dropping anchor off the Satellite, which, all unsuspicious of danger, lies quietly there. Salutes are fired and the officers of the respective vessels exchange visits. The day is wearing away when suddenly, and without a moment's warning, the Russian ship pours a broadside into the English ship; following the first up with repeated broadsides while the Satellite, taken by surprise, and unable to return a blow, goes down at her anchorage with all on board. Such—only on a much larger scale—was the affair of Sinope. Now, the English people have placed no confidence in a Russian diplomat since that unparalleled act of barbarity; but the English government, unfortunately, would appear to have forgotten all about it. The late Col. Burnaby, in his ride through Khiva, noted the stealthy advances the Russians were making upon India, and in the capital book which he wrote of his travels he warned the British government that before long a Russian army would confront them on the Afghanistan frontier. Beaconsfield recognized the danger when he sent an army into Afghanistan and prepared to carry the Indian railway system through the Himalayas. When Gladstone came into power he withdrew the army from Afghanistan, stopped railway construction and stored the plant. English radicals at that time scouted the idea of Russia ever extending her empire to the borders of Afghanistan. Let any one read the prognostications of the Daily News and the Pall Mall Gazette of six years ago and compare them with facts as they are developing themselves to-day. He will discover what false prophets those papers have proved and how the British public have been lulled into fancied security by the utterances of the mouthpieces of British radicalism, which, unfortunately, have succeeded in shaping the Indian policy of the "grand old man." England, to-day, is brought face to face with the danger that Beaconsfield, with his wonderful prescience, foresaw. Her Indian empire is in danger. If the Russians should succeed, by referring the matters in dispute to arbitration and by professions of peaceful intentions, in again lulling the suspicions of the British government, they will gain their object. The war which is now threatened may be delayed a year or two; but when the Czar shall have completed the railway which he is now building from the Caspian Sea to Afghanistan and has concentrated a sufficient force on the border he will be able to crack the Herat nut at his leisure. Great Britain will then be able to do nothing but look on. Six years ago Russian power and influence in Central Asia might have been breasted back with ease if the policy of Earl Beaconsfield had been continued by his predecessor. Afghanistan was then in British possession; but Gladstone threw away the opportunity which the wise policy of Beaconsfield had placed in his hands; and, behold the result: A Russian army massed within 82 miles of Herat, "the gate of India," and a Russian railway within 140 miles of the same point. The proposed arbitration may stave off war for a short time; but your true Russian will never lose sight of the instructions contained in Peter the Great's will and the first foreign complication in which England may become involved will be the signal for a general advance on India. The last chance to beat back Russian influence in India is now, and, as Gladstone in his recent speech remarked, "if the two countries are plunged in blood and despair Great Britain cannot be held responsible." In patching up a peace by arbitration it must be remembered that the Afghans are an element not to be despised and if they should decline to acquiesce in the arrangement and attack the Russians the result would be the same as if the recent negotiations had led to war between Great Britain and Russia; because the former power must then interfere. Again, if the Afghans, disgusted at the backing and filling of the British government, were to suddenly become allies of Russia, what would then become of the boasted British influence north and west of the Himalayas? The gate of India would be thrown wide open. If war is to result from present complications, it could never occur at a more favorable moment for Great Britain She is ready—doubly ready—now. Three, five or ten years hence, with a Russian military railway traversing Afghanistan, will she be as well prepared?

A BETTER SUPPLY OF WATER.

On Tuesday the ratepayers will be asked to ratify by their votes a by-law which is designed to extend and increase the supply of water to the city. Elsewhere will be found an address by Mayor Rithet in which he explains the provisions of the proposed by-law and its scope and effect. It is explained that the by-law does not comprehend an addition to the existing rate of taxation and that the rate named in the by-law is the proportion of the present taxes that it is proposed to set aside as security for the payment of the loan. This explanation had become necessary, many ratepayers having labored under the impression that the passage of the by-law meant an increase in taxation. His worship further points out that the present supply of water is inadequate for the regulation and distribution among all the inhabitants; that in consequence many applications for a supply have been refused; that the loan, if effected, will provide for the construction of the reservoirs and engines, the purchase of the land and the extension of mains within the city limits; that the revenue of the water works is steadily augmenting and that the increase within the next ten years will be sufficient in itself to cover the amount required for interest and sinking fund of the proposed loan. The danger in which the city stands of destruction by fire in consequence of the ineffective supply is referred to. It is also shown, on the principle that it is better to be just before one is generous, that until an abundant supply of water has been assured to every person residing within the city limits the corporation will cease to supply the important manufacturing establishments without the city—a serious impending contingency. Finally, it is stated that the adoption of the reservoir system will afford facilities for the proper filtration of the water and that an improved sanitary improvement of the city depends in a great measure on an abundant water supply. We commend the explanation of the mayor and the accompanying certificate signed by a number of engineers to the careful perusal of ratepayers before they proceed to deposit their votes on Tuesday.

THE LOAN BYLAW.

The Standard supports the putting in of larger mains, and opposes the reservoir system. This, too, on the score of economy. The laying of a second larger main would entail almost double the expenditure proposed for the reservoirs; it would not force the water to the higher levels, nor provide the necessary protection against fire. A larger main would be as liable to breakage as the one now in use, and in this event the result would be disastrous in case of fire. Previous to the late Johnson street fire the water had been shut off for three nights in order to repair defects in the mains, and had been turned on for only fifteen minutes prior to the fire breaking out. There is also the probability of the mains becoming maliciously damaged. In such a case the reservoirs would contain a sufficient supply to allow of such damage being repaired without inconvenience to citizens. There are many reasons in favor of the reservoir system, and few for that of an enlarged or auditional main. As it is we are supplied with poorly filtered water—the reservoirs will allow of its proper filtration; there is an insufficient supply—the reservoirs will meet all demands that may be made upon them. With regard to the indebtedness that the cost will entail, the extending of the service in and out of the city limits will bring sufficient revenue to meet the interest and sinking fund, so that there need be no fear of additional taxation. Should the bylaw unfortunately suffer defeat, it simply means that services cannot be extended in the city limits, and those at present connected outside the city limits will have to be cut off. We sincerely trust that property-owners will not be so little alive to their own interests as to vote against the measure, and thus prevent the city from receiving the benefit of a pure and sufficient supply of water.

A Question!

To the Editor:—Can you inform the writer whether Mr. R. T. Williams, who was a candidate in opposition to Mr. Duck at the late election, is the R. T. Williams who lives on the north side of View street, between Quadra and Vancouver streets, and who, a short time since, put a second story on top of his fence between his own lot and that of the widow Smith to cut off the light from her window and harrass the poor woman? The question is a disputed one, the writer taking the stand that he is not the same person; or, if so, that the public could not have been aware of it at the time of the election, as it is unreasonable to suppose that two hundred and seventy-four of the electors of this city would be found willing to endorse a man possessed of such inhuman, not to say contemptible characteristics as to annoy an unprotected woman. My friend will have it that he is the same individual and we have decided to refer the question to you. Will you kindly answer?

PHILO.

[Our querist has the same means of ascertaining the truth that *The Colonist* has. He can call upon the widow lady and ask for himself.—Ed.]

"Society Items."

To the Editor:—The Wharf street dude is making himself obnoxious again. Some people say that "Society" will shortly try the pump and cold water remedy upon him.

BEWARE.

Sanitary Sense—Throw Physic to the Fishes.

To the Editor—I think it was a man of the name of Shakespeare who advised that physic be thrown to the dogs; but just what the canines did to deserve this punishment was not stated. Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes improved upon this advice thus: "If all drugs excepting three were cast into the sea it would be all the better for mankind and all the worse for the fishes." Cross men in all ages have exposed themselves to the same effect. It would have been better for mankind, said Boerhaove, if doctors had never existed; and Sir John Forbes, physician to Her Majesty forty years ago, in view of the frightful salivations and bleedings, said that "things have come to such a pass that they must mend or end." But those who habitually mistake current sentiment for truth and pride themselves on loyalty thereto would be horror-stricken if the business ends of our drug stores were cast into the sea. But it is demonstrated that if this were done, and further importation prohibited, of what is generally known as medicines, the mortality would be reduced in a very marked manner. I know of 8,000 doctors in England and America who do nothing of what is commonly done in the sick-room by way of medical treatment, and the mostality attending their practice as compared with that attending the common practice is as 10 to 17. We know that it is only a few years ago that the doctors were engaged in the pulling-down treatment—bleeding and so on—and just before that the proper thing to do was to give anti-spasmodics, and since then to build up the system—too little blood and too thin, thus requiring stuffing; and after or on top of this the present fashionable theory prevails which makes worms to be the cause of all the trouble, so small though as to require a tube with glasses in it to see them. The point is to kill the worms without killing the patients. But this theory is on the wane, as the worms are seen to survive in any event, and high authority denounces the whole thing as a myth. A man simply stakes his life that the particular medical fashion in vogue, when he is sick is the right fashion—a rather hopeless gamble. Attention in this matter by the people will do more towards improving the general health and longevity than millions spent in other directions.

E. Stevenson.

"For Queen and Country."

Victoria, May 4th.

To the Editor:—As a loyal Scotchman I would respectfully suggest that a Scottish volunteer corps be formed from Victoria city and district. Even although the present war cloud should "wear away," it is desirable that such a company should be instituted. In days gone by Scotland has always appeared in the van against Britain's adversaries, and surely we, her loyal sons, though far removed in body from the dear old country, will maintain her honor.

Scotchmen, think on Waterloo, the Alma, Lucknow and Tel-el-Kebir; and in these days of effeminate politicians, blatant republicans, and weak-kneed patriots, show that you are right loyal subjects of the Queen on whose glorious empire the sun never sets.

Ailsa Craig.

PRIZE PATRIOTIC SONG.

By Bass Kennedy, 175 West Scotland Street, Glasgow.

OUR COLONIAL BOYS

(OFFERING MILITARY ASSISTANCE IN THE SOUDAN CAMPAIGN).

Hurrah for the cry, o'er the war bugle sounding!
It thunders along each Colonial shore—
The voice of true Britons, with sympathy bounding
To answer the old flag their forefathers bore.
Their love for the land, which, when threatened with danger,
Rescued in their patriot cry from afar,
And proudly we hail them—a trusty avenger,
Our buckler and shield in the perils of war.

Chorus—Hearts true as British oak,
Brave as the parent stock,
Strong as the granite rock, o'er the blue sea.
Linked in fly offer grand,
Feel we a brother's hand,
Guarding our fatherland, fearless and free.

They smiled when prosperity flourished around us,
And Britain's old Lion reposed in his den;
But, hark, when the storm of adversity found us,
"To arms" was their cry for the old country then.
Oh, sons of the stock that gave Britain her glory;
Oh, daughters of mothers that shared in their joys;
Oh, souls patriotic, exult in the story
That seals to our hearts our Colonial Boys!

Chorus—Hearts, &c., &c.

Yon cohort of heroes from Sydney advancing,
Yon phalanx replete with the manhood of man,
Will soon send the False Prophet's dervishes dancing,
When shoulder to shoulder they pace the Soudan.
Unrivalled at hard-handed labor and hunting,
The broadaxe and rifle they handle like toys;
And woe to the foemen that find themselves fronting
Our hard-fisted, broad-chested Colony Boys.

Chorus—Hearts, &c., &c.

Old Mother Britannia, intensely delighted,
The Austral-Canadian loyalty see;
With confidence feels her wide empire united,
And proudly unfurls her old flag to the breeze.
No glib-worded treaty, no phantom Alliance,
But filial devotion her heart overjoys;
The strong brother hand for defence—not defiance—
We grasp in our darling Colonial Boys.

Chorus—Hearts, &c., &c.

Tennyson's Latest.

London, April 23.—The Times this morning publishes the following poem by the Poet Laureate:

THE FLEET—ON ITS REPORTED INEFFICIENCY.

You, you, if you have failed to understand the fleet
of England is her all in all,
On you will come the curse of all the land which Nelson left so great.
This isle, the mightiest naval power on earth,
This one small isle, the lord of every sea,
Poor England, what avail thine ancient fame of free
Were thou a fallen state?
You, you, who had the ordering of her fleet,
If you have only compassed her disgrace,
When all men starve the wild mob's million feet
Will kick you from your place.
But then too late, too late.

—*Tennyson.*

CLEVELAND'S SAYINGS.

Some of the Replies Which He Makes to Importuning Office-Seekers.

(Cor. Philadelphia Times.)

Washington, April 27.—President Cleveland's sayings have a striking resemblance to some of Mr. Lincoln's. Indeed, people are tracing wherein the two resemble each other. For instance, the other day half-a-dozen good and true Democrats from a Western State went to the White House to see the President about certain offices they had come for. There was perfect agreement among themselves, and all they wanted was to have Mr. Cleveland agree with them. Of his doing so they had a little doubt when he had heard them state their case. They were admitted and a hearty hand-shaking followed. Then the spokesman of the party spoke up.

"You see," said he, "we're all Democrats and hard workers for the party, and concluded that these offices would be about the thing. We're all agreed about the business and would like to have it done up right soon."

Mr. Cleveland listened attentively as they all spoke around. When they had done, he spoke.

"Are the men in the offices not of good character?"

They all said they were, and added:

"But they are Republicans and we're Democrats. We think turn about would be the fair thing."

"Are you prepared to charge them with anything wrong in office? Do they administer the offices satisfactorily?"

They said they had nothing to charge against them only they were Republicans.

"You see," said one perceiving where the thing was drifting, "we all worked hard for the party last fall, and our district gave a larger majority than ever. We thought the offices would go with the election, and so we've come for them."

"When will the terms of the incumbents expire?" asked the President.

They all spoke up: "Two years."

"Two years," repeated the President, musingly, immediately adding, "Come and see me then!"

Another party of office-seekers appeared at the White House and stated their case in about the same way as the others. They were Democrats, and had agreed among themselees who should have certain offices, the themselves of the incumbents of which would not expire for some time.

Mr Cleveland heard them through, and then said:

"I don't see anything between you and the offices, except the law and my promise to execute it."

To another company on a similar errand he said.

"There is a law bearing on the question, and I have had something to say myself about removals and appointments, which you will find in my letter to Mr. Curtis. Neither seems to have received your attention and I will be glad to send you copies of both."

To a Democrat who was importunate in his demand for a certain office now held by a Republican widely known for ability and faithfulness, the President, after listening for the third time to the story, said;

"You just bring me the charges on which the incumbent can justly be removed and I will take up the question. You must show that he is dishonest, incapable, or in some other way unfaithful. Till this is done I will do nothing."

A dozen similar replies to applicants for office could be given. They have circulated like quicksilver and sent the larger part of the crowd that came for office home, realizing precisely how things stand, under what conditions the offices can be obtained and what their chances are. Reflection will cause the most of them to be stronger than Cleveland men than they had ever been

Men of all parties are rapidly settling down to the understanding of what President Cleveland's purposes are, and that so far from toying with ideas to be tried for a time and then given up, he is inflexibly devoted to the ideal and intentions set forth in the Curtis letter—and that indeed his election was a new departure. His supporters are more numerous to-day than ten days ago; but they are not the same supporters. He has lost, but he has gained more than he has lost.

USEFUL AND CURIOUS.

Interesting Facts and Scentific Progress of the Times.

(New York Star.)

There are 2,750 languages.

A square miles contains 640 acres.

A hand (horse measure) is four inches.

Watches were first constructed in 1476.

The first lucifer match was made in 1829.

The first iron steamship was built in 1830.

Modern needles first came into use in 1545.

The first horse railroad was built in 1826-7.

Measure 309 feet on each side, and you will have a square acre within an inch.

A colored man at Key West bought a conch at the fish market, and on cracking its shell found a pearl the size of a bean, which he sold for $90.

England supplies three-fourths of all the dolls carried by the children of civilized nations. Even the so-called French dolls—those with china heads—are made for most part in England, the head alone coming from France.

A fountain is to be erected in Back Bay Park, Boston, to commemorate the early visit of the Norsemen to this country. It will cost $6,000, and will be ornamented with Norsemen, galleys, and bas-reliefs.

San Francisco gets 900,000 bananas a month from the Sandwich Islands. The number of bananas on a bunch averages 110, and they bring in that city at wholesale $4 per bunch. The sale is large, but to the retailer the profit is small.

Only thirteen out of ninety-one samples of coffee analyzed during one month in Paris were pronounced pure. One specimen package is reported to have contained the following ingredients: Red earth, flour, coffee grounds, caramitale, plumbago, vermicelli, semolina powder, bean dust, carrots, bread crusts, acorns, sawdust, red ochre, brick dust, ashes, mahogany shavings, vegetables, earth and sand.

Small Yields of Potatoes.—At a recent gathering of farmers it was said that the average yield of potatoes in a district where they are largely grown for shipping was less than 100 bushels per acre. One farmer put it at less than seventy-five. Yet in the same neighborhood crops of 250 to 300 bushels of marketable potatoes were grown last season.

THE RAILWAY IN THE DESERT.

Some Facts and Figures Showing how Work is Done.

(London Times.)

On February 14th the government decided to place in the hands of Messrs. Lucas & Arid the construction of the line from Suakim to Berber. On the 15th that firm received their orders. Within a month of that date the material, plant and rolling stock of every description, with staff, gaugers and leading men for the laying down and completion of upward of 100 miles of railway of 4 feet 8½ inches gague, with 56-pound steel rails, have been shipped to Suakim, and the railway has been begun. If we consider the amount of transport required and supplied by the government, and the material gathered together and shipped within four weeks of the date of the order, we must admit that the speed used in carrying out the contract is without precedent.

Up to the present time eighteen vessels have started from different ports for Suakim, each vessel containing staff, men and material sufficient to lay down its portion of the road. News has been received from Suakim that the construction of the line has been actually begun, and that the coolies sent from India have arrived and begun to work with the native laborers already engaged. It would be impossible to give here a complete list of the plant and material required for the 100 miles of railway thus shipped, and of the outfit and other matters wanted for the staff who have to superintend the construction, and for the men who have to lay the road. It will be seen that the contractors have been as thoughtful in small things as in great; that they have considered, not only the railway that is to be laid and the rolling stock that is to move upon it, but also the minutest requirements for the health, comfort and defence of their men.

Up to the beginning of the week, then, there has been shipped, as already stated, everything required for the laying down of the 100 miles of railway. In the first place we may put down 10,000 tons of 56-pound steel rails for the main line and 2,470 tons of smaller rails for the guage line and for the temporary lines to carry materials, all these with fish plates and fastenings complete. The sleepers necessary to carry these rails are more than quarter of a million, besides 600 tons of steel sleepers for the one foot 6-inch guage line. There are also 12 tuan-tables. The rolling stock includes 6 four-wheel and 10 6-wheel locomotives for the main line, and 12 locomotives for the guage line, and a quantity of duplicated portions of engines in case of accident; and there are six covers to protect the men from shot and heat. The passenger traffic will be conducted in 6-saloon and 26 third-class carriages, with 10 brake vans, while for stores and ammunition are provided 250 ballast trucks, to carry eight tons each, and upwards of 300 trolleys and wagons. Fitted to the 4 foot 8½ inch guage also is a double-tank water car of a capacity of 4,000 gallons, and there six single tanks on trolleys.

Signal boxes, levers, hand and steam cranes, sheerlegs, portable engines, winding gear, boilers, steam pumps, artesian well-pumps, galvanized iron tanks, water casks, pipe-testing machines of every size, lift capacity, horse-power and guage, have all been provided. Of wrought iron, steam tubing, testing to 1,200 pounds a square inch, for conveying water, there are in all over 161,000 feet—more than thirty miles—with diameters varying from four inches to three-fourths of an inch, and the fittings for these are complete. In the matter of lighting the following apparatus has been shipped. Six sets of electric light apparatus for 6,000-candle lights, with six spare lamps, and three spare lanterns to work on 4 feet 8½ inch guage, trolleys and shears, crabs, ropes, and brackets, 500 yards of cable, all complete for lamp, 4,000 feet carbons, wrought iron dust-proof case with each set. Six sets of ditto (fitted on trolleys 4 feet 8½ inch guage), each of six lengths (Brush), and 800 yards of cable with lamps, lanterns, carbons for 2,000 hours each lamp, poles, crabs and appliances for lamps complete. Six sets of telegraphic apparatus (five miles in each set), with alphabetical instruments and telephones complete, two spare sets of telegraph and four spare sets of telephone instruments.

There are 11 water condensers, capable of producing over 40,000 gallons a day, and admiralty supply the Zurich and another vessels, for condensing purposes, each with apparatus and 100 tanks of 300 gallons capacity. The Admiralty have supplied also two 130-ton iron barges, and the contractors a steam launch and six wooden pontoons, all of which will be for landing purposes. The vast supply of miscellaneous materials used in construction—Portland cement, (350), timber balks, deals, struts, packings, scaffold poles, ropes, blocks, chains and sling chains—these things are too numerous for detailed mention. For the laying and repair of plant two complete fitting shops, with all necessary appliances, fitters' smiths' and plate layers' tools have been shipped. Aneroids, theodolites, and other instruments for engineering are are of course, not forgotten.

A Scotch Minister on "Springs and Flings."

Speaking at a social meeting at Stonehaven recently, Rev. J. M. Danson, Aberdeen, stated that after disposing of the new views propounded by Mr. Robertson Smith, and settling down in peace, they in Aberdeen found themselves at war on the subject of dancing. One of the comic papers paid him an honor by observing that, if they judged from his (Mr. Danson's) name, he ought to be an authority on the subject, and inasmuch as he had some experience in that rythmic art, perhaps they would allow him to repeat it. On Christmas twelvemonths they had their old women's gathering, at which many of their ancient ladies came together, and, after a cup of tea, made up as good a set of Scotch reels as they possibly could. He (Mr. Danson) chose for his partner on that occasion a lady who had attained the age of 94, and if they had seen "the springs and flings and close-bosomed whirlings" of his partner and himself he was sure they would have as lively a recollection of it as himself. He (Mr. Danson) thought he had acquitted himself very well, but afterwards he heard another old lady say: "Aich, bit our minister is a muckle better preacher than he is a dancer." (Laughter and applause.)

Inspection.—Mr. Vigor will inspect the steamer Gladstone, late the McNaught, at New Westminster early next week. The Gladstone will ply on the lower Fraser.

Spring Fashion Notes.

For dressy walking shoes French kid still heads the list.

Ribbons will be used with a profusion unknown for years, if ever before.

French crapes, richly embroidered, will be among the most appropriate materials for summer wear.

"Jersey" gloves in silk are very fashionable. They have been so improved and are made with such care that they are perfect in color, quality and fit.

Hats come in various fancy colors; indeed any dress fabric could be matched in braids, and they are so perfectly tinted that they are really beautiful.

Oriental laces find especial favor; they are shown in all colors, with tinsel threads, floss silk heavy embroidery silk, and some cases with wool floss embroidered on net.

The chemisette is to be a special feature on summer dresses. It may be had either in plain linen or crepe lisse, or embroidery of various sorts, or made almost entirely of lace.

A Paris novelty is a laced glove, laced at the outside of the arm, and at the top is a full ruche of fine lace and tassels and cords or long ends of satin ribbon an inch and a half wide.

One of the special novelties promised is a fancy hose with many colors interwoven, and designed to be worn with satine or fancy colored organdies. They are described as combining the delicate shade found in such summer goods.

Among the novelties on exhibition at some of our leading stores is the Spencer waist, Spanish jacket and standing collar, all in jet. They can be worn with any dress, are very rich looking and are particularly becoming to slight figures.

Many of our most sensible women of fashion adopt for warm weather what they call their "summer uniform." This consists of a silk vest and drawers, a satin corset, silk or fine Balbriggan hose, a petticoat of hair cloth and a thin one of cambric.

The latest novelty for Commencement dresses will be the scrims of canvas-cloth, similar to that used for curtain draperies. Young ladies of taste may make very pretty dresses for themselves by running through the meshes alternate rows of pale-colored embroidery silk.

White will be used this summer for every occasion to which can be adapted. There are some charming novelties of white goods, such as embroidered mulls and piques, pretty cross-barred muslins and the finest French nainsooks that are covered with dainty flowers.

Breakfast caps when properly made are extremely pretty and popular. Some of the latest novelties are of etamine, which is so popular in millinery goods. They are in small squares, and are made by being pinned in suit able shape by small fancy pins.

Railway Progress.

The road-bed between Savona and Kamloops is nearly ready. Mr. Leamy expects to finish his contract in two weeks. The track was only laid about a mile east of Port VanHorne when the halt took place. However, Messrs. Munro & Foster are now busy driving piles for the bridges, and Mr. D. McGillyvor has a bridge force camped along the line, and it is thought the track laying will soon commence again and probably reach Kamloops during the month of May or June at the latest. East of here, Mr. Keefer has the line nearly ready for twenty miles and other sub-contractors are pushing forward toward Bray's tunnels, now well advanced. Mr. W. C. Mitchell, C. E., interested, we believe, with Mr. D. McBeth, has removed from Savona to Shuswap Lake Division, where he will push forward the construction with his usual ability when in the field of railway progress.—Sentinel.

A MAN AS STRONG AS AN OX.

With the Biceps of Samson and the Wrought Iron Fists of Hercules.

(Louisville Post.)

Louisville comes to the front again with the strongest man in the country. His name is John Bernhardt, but he resembles the divine Sara in name only, though he is a native of Alsace, in the east of France. Bernhardt is a new comer to Louisville, and is employed in the foundry department of a downtown factory, where his feats of strength are daily exhibited to the astonishment of his fellow laborers. He is twenty-seven years old, six feet four inches high, and weighs 256 pounds, and with no surplus flesh. He is not fat, but is the finest specimen of muscular manhood seen here in a long time. A Post reporter called in to see him this morning and had a short interview with the brawny Frenchman. He is of magnificent build, straight as an Indian. His chest and cheek bones indicate great strength. But his arms are wonderful, and around the biceps they measure seventeen inches. His hands look like hams. His skin is smooth and red, though he never drinks a drop of intoxicating liquor of any kind whatever, and was never drunk in his life.

He gave the reporter a few exhibitions of his strength. Taking a piece of iron, which was afterwards found to weigh forty-three pounds, Bernhardt held it horizontally at arm's length for several minutes. He then raised a huge piece of block iron from the ground and placed it upon the scales. It pulled 864 pounds. Taking a piece of bar iron two inches wide and one inch thick, and, placing it against his knees, he bent it double easily. He took hold of a fifty-two gallon barrel of water, and balanceing himself against a post, he went through the motion of krinking out of a piece of seasoned oak, about the size of a wagon spoke, and broke it with his hands. He did various other wonderful things which demonstrated the possession of most extraordinary strength.

Bernhardt says he was never in the prize ring, but says he is not afraid to meet John L. Sullivan or any other man. He professes to be able to fell an ox with his bare fist, and often killed hogs in that manner while employed in a Chicago pork packing establish. His hands are as hard as wood, and a stroke from one of them would not differ from the stroke of a mallet.

It is now pretty well understood to be a dangerous practice to attempt to palm off worthless imitations of the "Myrtle Navy" tobacco for the genuine article. In former years that practice was the cause of much annoyance, and Messrs. Tuckett & Son were compelled to resort to the law courts to put a stop to it. Though they have not met with any cases of the kind lately, it is always a safe precaution for the purchaser to see that the trade mark T. & B. in bronze letters is stamped upon each plug; no plug ever leaves the factory without it, and to appropriate the trade mark is a punishable offence.

NEWFOUNDLAND FISHERIES

Sir Ambrose Shea Negotiating for a Treaty with the United States.

Washington, April 22.—Sir Ambrose Shea, representing the Province of Newfoundland, has been for several days with authority from the Imperial Government to negotiate with the State Department for a treaty that will give Newfoundland some of the advantages enjoyed under the fisheries clause of the treaty of Washington, which will expire on July 1st next. His visit, he thinks, will lead to favorable trade relations between the United States and the province which he represents. At a representative meeting last night, he showed that Newfoundland imports consists largely of American food products, aggregating annually $2,500,000, while her exports of fish and fish oil averaged $274,000 per annum.

"Our fish products," he said, "have free entry into Canada, and already the Dominion Government has intimated that a continuance of the privilege depend upon our abrogation of the duties on their agricultural products, which now operate alike upon yours and theirs, and you must see how difficult it will be to resist this demand if you carry your threatened hostile policy into effect and impose upon our product the prohibitory taxes that you have indicated."

Nihilism in Russia.

St. Petersburg, April 19.—The report is being industriously spread by the Government organs that Nihilism is moribund. This statement is without foundation in fact. Count Tolstoi's department is as active as ever against the secret society, the only difference being that the prosecutions are all conducted in camera and the public never knows who are being sent from day to day to the living grave of Siberian exile. The authorities know that a war with England would be the signal of an outbreak of the dissatisfied at home, and they are using every means to suppress Nihilism. But the chiefs of the order are wide awake and are particularly active in Poland, which, under favorable circumstances, will undoubtedly be the scene of a well organized outbreak before long, should Russia entangle herself in Asia in a big war.

Why Britain is not Despised.

The Governments of Europe knows pretty accurately the strength and weakness of England, and it is fortunate they do; for if they did not it would be next to impossible to avoid war. We never remember—and our experience is now, unfortunately, growing long—to have seen the tone of society and the journals at once so provocative and so pessimist. The talkers and the writers provoked, as we believe, mainly by dislike, sometimes unconscious, for the great social changes which the existing governments favours have fastened upon foreign policy the best point of attack, and declare every day, and almost every hour, with one and the same breath, that England must go to war, and that England is without policy, without means, without a General, and entirely unable to commence any military enterprise. The whole notion of the British army is that of one which can fight successfully in small divisions, which will plunge among a beetle people with ten thousand men, which will be, as it were, in three places at once, and any separate section of which will on occasion resolve itself into a forlorn hope. Take away those assumptions, assumptions as yet amply justified by our history, and only two alternatives remain—the conscription which the bitterest critics know to be out of the question, and a concentration of strength and efforts upon a few spots, which those critics denounce as a policy of shame. The journalist who cries for a garrison for Herat—five hundred miles from our border—cries also that Wolseley did not keep himself supplied with a steady stream of men! It is too silly.—London Spectator.

A HUSBAND'S MURDEROUS ATTACK.

On his Eloped Wife and her Paramour—His Attempt at Suicide.

A last Saturday night's Newburg, N. Y., despatch says: A week ago James Barclay, aged 23, eloped with the wife of Joseph Myers of Montgomery, this county. The parties came here and commenced housekeeping. This evening Barclay, on returning home, found Myers stabbing the woman with a large jack-knife. She was covered with blood from a gash in her neck six inches long and another under the left ear. Seeing Barclay, Myers turned and attacked him, inflicting two terrible gashes, one in the throat and the other under the ear. Supposing he had finished his deadly work, Myers drew the knife across his own throat, cutting it from ear to ear, and then threw the knife out of the window. When the neighbors arrived a terrible sight presented itself, the three bodies being covered with blood. Barclay, who is the least injured of the three, was taken to a neighboring drug store, were his wounds were dressed. Physicians were called to attend Myers and his wife, whose injuries will likely prove fatal.

WHAT GRAHAM HAS DONE.

The General Quietly Doing a Great Work in the Soudan.

A London cable says: Attention has been so completely diverted from the Soudan, designedly so, some say, by the immensity of the question pending between Russia and England, that the good work being unostentatiously performed by Gen. Graham is almost lost sight of. He went to Suakim without a flourish of trumpets, and he is pursuing his work without the beat of drums. His work has been onerous rather than great and useful more than ostentatious, and the result is that he has received but little notice. As a matter of fact, he has cleared the district surrounding Suakim of rebels. He has not defeated Osman Digma in pitched battle, because that worthy has taken to the hills, but he has reduced many hostile tribes to submission, and has opened the way for the construction of the Suakim-Berber railway far beyond the present requirements of the contractors. With the exception of the one mishap, for which Gen. McNeill is entirely responsible, Gen. Graham's work has been uniformly good, and greatly enhances his reputation as a commander.

Coal Exports.—The total coal exports for the month of April from the port of Nanaimo, amounted to 20,558 tons, worth about $82,232.

PARTICULARS OF THE FORT PITT AFFAIR.

McLean and the White Settlers Deceived.

Gallant Fight of the Mounted Police.

Winnipeg, Man., April 23.—A despatch to the Hudson Bay authorities from Battleford gives a different version of the Fort Pit disaster. It comes from the agent via Battleford. It states that Chief Factor McLean, with his family, staff, and other whites are prisoners, which cannot be made to indicate that they are being cared for by the Indians. It does not appear probable that McLean would willingly remain with even friendly Indians in preference to accompaying the police to Battleford, but it must be remembered that he has

A LARGE FAMILY OF CHILDREN,

who are of too tender age to have undertaken the journey. He may, as indicated, now be safe under the protection of some kindly disposed band. The following is given as the manner in which Chief Factor McLean came to be in the Indians' camp:—When Big Bear took up his position before Fort Pitt Chief Factor McLean went into his camp to persuade him, if possible, to abandon the idea of attacking the Fort. McLean, like other H. B. Co. officers, had always been very influntial with the Crees, and was evidently under the impression that, at least so far as he was concerned personally,

HE HAD NOTHING TO FEAR.

Instead of treating with him however, Big Bear promptly made him his prisoner, and then compelled him to write a letter to his friends inside the Fort, advising the civilians to come to him in Big Bear's camp as prisoners, rather than be killed in the intended attack on the garrison. The police were also told to lay down their arms and leave, and on condition they did this, they were promised that they would not be molested. The civilians

FOLLOWED THE ADVICE

commanded in McLean's letter, but Inspector Dickens gallantly determined on fighting to the end against enormous odds rather than secure the personal safety of himself and his men at the cost of a surrender or an ignominious retreat. Soon after the settlers had given themselves up as prisoners,

LITTLE POPLAR AND BIG BEAR,

heading about 100 of their followers, made an assault on the garrison. The fight was fast and furious while it lasted, and for a time it looked as though Inspector Dickens and his gallant little band of twenty could be overpowered, but the coolness and pluck of the

GARRISON ULTIMATELY TRIUMPHED,

and the Indians were driven off with a loss of four killed on the spot and several others wounded (some of them very badly). On the side of the police, Constable Cowan was killed and Constable Lousby wounded. The victory of Inspector Dickens and his handful of men gave time for a comparatively safe and thoroughly honorable retreat. The settlers had on their own accord abandoned such protection as he was able to afford them, and nothing remained for him but to

SAVE HIS FORCE

and keep his surplus ammunition and supplies from falling into the hands of the Crees. Fitting up a York boat, they provisioned it for the journey, and then destroying everything in the shape of supplies, arms, and ammunition which they could not take with them, they started down the river and, after a tedious journey, arrived at Battleford worn with anxious watching, exposure and fatigue, but otherwise safe and well, save the wounded constable, who is doing well.

IT IS REMARKED HERE

in Winnipeg that the news concerning Chief Factor McLean's letter is a little ambiguous It is asked how anybody is to know that McLean was compelled to write the letter in the tone indicated. The letter was evidently written in English, and neither Big Bear nor any of his band can read their own language when written, to say nothing of English which they

NEITHER SPEAK NOR WRITE.

On the other hand it is thought that Mr. McLean underrated the ability of the garrison to resist the attack of the savages, and that he may have of his own accord advised the civilians to deliver themselves into the hands of Big Bear as prisoners. At all events it seems strange that anyone should be in a position to know just what took place in Big Bear's camp.

POOR "BAGPIPES."

Why DeWitt Charles Clinton Fletcher Piper Wishes to Change his name.

DeWitt Charles Clinton Fletcher Piper petitioned the city council for leave change his name to Charles Clinton Fletcher. He says his name is too long for convenience in correspondence and for transacting business. He has been known as Charles Clinton Fletcher for some time, and prefers that name. The name Piper he dislikes, as it subjects him to ridicule and humiliation, persons often calling him "Bagpipes" and "Pipestem," and reciting in his hearing such old-time sayings as "Tom, Tom, the piper's son, stole a pig and away he run," and "Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers." He was born in Durham township, Oxford county, Ontario, and his parents' names are Isaac and Sarah Piper. His mother's maiden name was Bull.

Judge Clement has given leave to the petitioner to assume the name of Charles Clinton Fletcher after May 10th.—Brooklyn Eagle.

A PROFOUND MYSTERY.

New York Apartment House Panic-Stricken by a Series of Mysterious Explosions.

New York, April 16.—The mysterious explosions which a month ago startled the tenants of the Stoney apartment house in the upper part of the city recurred with increased force on Saturday night, and have since continued daily. This morning a terrible explosion occurred, displacing furniture, cracking the walls, and creating a semi-panic among the occupants. The tenants say the explosions are similar to the discharge of a cannon, and seem to come from the center of the building. The owners of the property have instituted all manner of investigations to ascertain the cause of the disturbances without success. Many theories are advanced, and the explosions have been variously attributed to dynamite, settling of the buildings, blasting in the vicinity, and steam in the pipes. But none of the causes mentioned when thoroughly examined were sufficient to convince the most credulous that they produced the reports. Experts are completely nonplussed, and the tenants are seeking other quarters.

DELAYED DISPATCHES

EUROPE.

London, May 2.—To-night the Anglo-Russian situation is one of uncertainty. There is absolutely no war news, no peace news of truces. No one—that is, no one outside of ministerial circles—is warranted in drawing any conclusion from this abnormal condition of affairs. It should be borne in mind that up to this moment Russia has given the Saxon reader not an item of news. Russia has acted, has advanced, has waged battle, has taken territory, but has said nothing. England has done all the talking and has made all the explanations, hence the Czar has had no retractions to make; but Gladstone's necessity for making excuses has been so supreme that in the effort to talk against blows last Monday he succeeded, without saying anything, in making the greatest speech of his life, and for making it got a completely silenced opposition, unlimited credit and £55,000,000 cash. Forty-eight hours after the Prime Minister's marvellous oration every "Jingo" in England was a Gladstone man, and every Qua