

# LEFT UNDECIDED

Victoria Chess Team Accepts a Draw in Last Night's Game With Frisco.

Strong Game Played by Both Teams - Frisco Adopts New Plan of Attack.

Fifth Regiment Rugby Team Scores Another Victory - Shoot at Sidney.

The chess champions of Victoria and San Francisco have had another royal battle, but the right to supremacy still remains undecided. Last year each side won a game and last night a draw was declared. Last night's match, opened at 7:15 in the Dental reading room, which was placed at the disposal of the Victoria players and in the Mechanics' Institute in San Francisco. The Victoria chess club was represented by Mr. T. W. Piper, assisted by W. C. Chapman, Ben Williams and Dr. Hands. The San Francisco team were W. S. Franklin, O. Samuels, R. Kendrick and Valentine Huber, the latter player coming in half an hour after the game started. Dr. Marshall acted as time-keeper for Victoria at San Francisco while C. A. Lombard filled a similar position here at the timekeeper for the home team here. Mr. W. Christie, the local manager of the C.P.R. telegraph manipulated the wire from the Dental, Dr. Martin had charge at the Mechanics' Institute and Dr. M. Emley watched the interests of both parties at the repeaters at Vancouver.

In the drawing, San Francisco won the move and opened the game with Pk4. Victoria decided to accept the open game and followed suit. The Frisco players proceeded with a Ruy Lopez opening and but up a very strong game. The attack, however, was successfully met by the Victoria contingent. At the end of the 25th move San Francisco wired as follows: "Mr. Piper, captain of the Victoria team—The players here propose a draw? What do you say?" Mr. Piper was of the opinion that the game might continue for hours, but as it was then only one o'clock he declined a draw, adding that a Britisher never liked to surrender. The answer came back: "If Mr. Piper can win he is the best player on the Coast." The game went on.

At the end of the 29th move the Victorians had a most slight hope of winning, but in meeting the very strong attack of their opponents their forces were so wasted that a victory at best could only be obtained after hours of tedious play. At 3 o'clock the home players wired that they would accept the draw, and one of the hottest of chess games was at an end.

Both teams played a strong game. San Francisco players adopted a form of the Ruy Lopez, about which their opponents had but very little information, with the result that the home players were thrown on their resources. The game was a considerable one for the Frisco players had later information on this form of attack than was obtainable in Victoria and from the fact that they had the attack itself in a matter of minutes means a considerable advantage. In a return match should Victoria get the move they would have much better chances to win.

The wireless admirably and there was no the slightest hitch from the opening to the closing of the game. Each side had to make ten moves in an hour. The longest time taken over a move by Victoria was in the 18th, 19th and 20th moves Frisco was hard pressed for time.

Among the interested spectators were several of the members of the Behring Sea Commission. They watched the game from a side table and the moves they made showed that they were no novices.

- Below are the moves:
- |                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| SAN FRANCISCO.      | VICTORIA.        |
| 1-P to K4.          | P to K4.         |
| 2-Kt to K B3.       | Kt to Q B3.      |
| 3-B to Kt5.         | Kt to B3.        |
| 4-Castles.          | Kt takes Pawn.   |
| 5-P to Q4.          | B to K3.         |
| 6-P to Q5.          | P to Q3.         |
| 7-B to K2.          | P to K5.         |
| 8-P takes Kt.       | P takes Kt.      |
| 9-P takes P check.  | B takes P.       |
| 10-B takes P.       | P takes Kt.      |
| 11-B to B4.         | B to K3.         |
| 12-Kt to Q B3.      | P to Q B3.       |
| 13-R to K square.   | R to K square.   |
| 14-B to Kt5.        | Kt to B4.        |
| 15-Q to B3.         | B takes B.       |
| 16-Q to B2.         | B takes B.       |
| 17-Q takes B.       | Q o B square.    |
| 18-Q takes Q.       | Q's R takes Q.   |
| 19-Q's R to Q's sq. | Kt to Kt5.       |
| 20-B to Kt5.        | B to Kt5.        |
| 21-B to K3.         | W's R to Q's sq. |
| 22-K to B sq.       | R takes R check. |
| 23-Kt takes R.      | R to Q's sq.     |
| 24-B to Q5.         | R takes R.       |
| 25-P takes R.       | P to K B3.       |
| 26-P to K B3.       | K to B2.         |
| 27-P to Q's R3.     | B to B4.         |
| 28-B to K2.         | K to K2.         |
| 29-B takes B.       | Kt takes B.      |
| 30-K to K2.         | K to K3.         |
| 31-K to K3.         |                  |

Kt to Kt6 was recorded by Victoria

Awarded Highest Honors—World's Fair, DR. **ROBEY'S** CREAM BAKING POWDER MOST PERFECT MADE.

A pure Grape Cream of Tartar Powder. Free from Ammonia, Alum or any other adulterant. 40 YEARS THE STANDARD.

# THE GUN.

Several of the members of the city gun clubs went out to Sidney yesterday and enjoyed a good day's shooting. The most important event was the match for 100 birds between F. S. MacIure and C. W. Minor. The scores were small for these crack shots, probably because they were new to them. Minor won with 77 birds, MacIure's score being 66. In the sweepstakes which followed, better scores were made, the majority of those taking part making over 400 birds. The five bird shoot furnished plenty of amusement. The pigeons were caught in the vicinity of Sidney a few days before and left the traps at noon. They were again the winner, missing only one of the thirteen live birds offered.

# A MESSAGE TO MEN.

Proving That True Honesty and True Philanthropy Still Exist

If any man who is weak, nervous and debilitated, or who is suffering from any of the various troubles resulting from youthful folly, excesses or overwork, will take heart and write to me, I will send him confidentially and free of charge the plan pursued by which I have been completely restored to perfect health and manhood, after years of suffering from Nervous Debility, Loss of Vigor and Organic Weakness.

I have nothing to sell and therefore want no money, but I know through my own experience how to sympathize with such sufferers, I am glad to be able to assist any fellow being to a cure. I can guarantee the prevalence of my quackery, for I myself was deceived and imposed upon until I nearly lost faith in mankind, but I rejoice to say that I am now perfectly well and happy once more and am desirous therefore to make this certain means of cure known to all. If you will write to me you can rely on being cured and the proud satisfaction of having been cured is a reward in itself. I need will be sufficient reward for my trouble. Absolute secrecy is assured. Send 5 c. silver to cover postage and address Mr. George G. Strong, North Rockwood, Mich.

# THE CLAIMS COMMISSION.

A Very Uninteresting Sitting Held This Morning.

The sitting of the Behring Sea Claims Commission was continued this morning. The session was quite one and very uninteresting. The claim of the Thornton was resumed, in which case Mr. Dickinson submitted a statement from the case of Warren vs. Bosworth in the Supreme Court of British Columbia in order to show that J. J. Bosworth was an American citizen.

Mr. Peters objected, arguing that it was not suitable evidence on the subject. The commissioners decided that it be allowed to go in subject to Mr. Peters' objection.

Mr. Dickinson also submitted a statement to show that the schooner Thornton and several other schooners were fitted out and sent to Behring Sea by J. J. Bosworth under the management of Captain J. D. Warren, who was to act as commander and treatment of the crews at Sitka. This witness was master of the Anna Beck.

Captain Olsen also gave evidence in the cases of the schooners Anna Beck, Grace, Dolphin and W. P. Hayward, all of which were fitted out and sent to the Behring Sea by J. J. Bosworth under the management of Captain J. D. Warren, who was to act as commander and treatment of the crews at Sitka. This witness was master of the Anna Beck.

Captain McLean told of the weather on the coast of the seas at Clayoquot Sound when the Thornton was ashore at one time.

The commission then adjourned until 2:30 o'clock this afternoon.

# BANKER SUICIDES.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—Suffering from depression, caused by financial reverses, Otto Wassmansdorff, a well-known banker of this city, fired a bullet into his brain on Sunday and died almost instantly. His sons, William G. and Otto, Jr., were in the parlor beneath his father's bedroom, and hearing the report of the revolver rushed up stairs. Running into the room the horrified father lay dying, a 32-calibre revolver at his side. He had shot himself in the right temple and a small stream of blood was running down his cheek. Everybody in the room was in a state of confusion. The deed apparently had been deliberately planned.

Mr. Wassmansdorff was a member of the private banking firm of Wassmansdorff & Heinenmann, which failed a week ago as a result of the failure of the National Bank of Illinois. The failure of the bank had a crushing effect upon Mr. Wassmansdorff, and also seriously affected his wife, who is ill. The banker for several days was unable to eat or sleep. The criticism of unfortunate depositors weighed him down, and he was in a constant troubled state of mind. Sunday morning the banker appeared brighter and less troubled in spirits than upon any other day since the financial crash that ruined him. After breakfast with his family, with whom he chatted pleasantly, he glanced over the morning papers. He then engaged in a frolic with his little grand-daughter, after which he retired to his room. Fifteen minutes later the fatal shot was heard by the two sons. The young men were overcome with grief, and said they never had the slightest suspicion that their father contemplated suicide. Mrs. Wassmansdorff is prostrated.

At the time of the failure the assets of Mr. Wassmansdorff's bank were given at \$350,000 and the liabilities at \$415,000. Mr. Wassmansdorff had been a banker in this city more than a quarter of a century, and during all that time he was a member of the firm which went down in the crash last Monday. He was of retiring and unobtrusive nature, and was known in the business community as a conservative and honest man. He was about 35 years of age.

# B. C. RAILWAY POLICY.

SECOND LETTER.

To the Editor: In my former letter I gave some reasons why it appears timely to discuss the construction of a railway through Central British Columbia. These substantially were that as the Dominion government is about to decide upon a railway policy, it is desirable that the provincial government should co-operate with it and endeavor to secure along such lines as will lead to the symmetrical development of the province and the conservation of the interest which the Coast has and ought of right to maintain in the progress of the great interior. Other reasons point to the same conclusion.

The next census will be taken in 1901, and upon it will depend:

The representation of the province in the federal parliament for the decade next hereafter ensuing; and

The amount of federal contribution to the revenue of the province for the same period.

It is therefore of the utmost importance that immigration should be attracted to the province at the earliest possible day, and also that the increase of population should not be confined to one section.

There can be no manner of doubt that before very long government aid will be extended to a railway through the coast region north of the Canadian Pacific. I shall in a future letter show why it seems to me that the only way, from a federal and provincial standpoint, to penetrate that country is by a line from the coast. I shall also give in detail the reasons why we may expect that portion of the province, when opened up by a railway, to rapidly fill up with people. For the present I will only ask the reader to accept these points as already established. Sooner or later, then, a railway will be built with government aid to open Central British Columbia, and its construction will be followed by a great influx of people. How great will that influx be? I conversed yesterday with an American mining expert, who has been through several great mining booms in the United States, and he asked him how many people he expected there would be in Kootenay by January 1st, 1898. He had just returned after spending the whole of the summer in that district. He replied that he expected to be between 40,000 and 50,000 by the end of next year, and 100,000 by the close of the century. If arrangements could be made for the beginning next spring of a line of railway from the head of Inlet to say, Quesnel mouth, a distance of 231 miles, the road would probably be completed in 1898, so that there would be upwards of two years after its completion before the next census would be taken. Let it be understood that such a railway will be built immediately, and next summer will witness a host of prospectors in the interior. There will be a rush to acquire new properties and to acquire those already known. The demand for farm produce, which will result from railway construction and increased activity in the mining sections, will induce settlers to locate upon the fertile lands in the river valleys, so that even before the railway is completed the population will begin to flow in and the conditions will be ripe for a great advance at the beginning of the 1898-99 winter. The succeeding winter was particularly severe. Large numbers of our birds perished of starvation through their usual supplies having been cut off for weeks. It was also very numerous. The birds mentioned as found among the victims of the frost are starlings, thrushes, blackbirds, robins and larks. During January and February gulls and English sparrows were seen in numbers that they went boldly to houses in town to be fed. Rabbits and hares suffered severely; and deer in the Highlands were driven from their usual haunts. At other times, visited our shores—then the little auk, thousands of which arrived on the north-east coast. Then, as though leading still more compensation, it is in the light of experience of the mid winter of 1895-96 that on the wild rocks were abundant, but there were scarcely any berries at all on the hawthorn or holly.

The scientific observer admits the facts, but declares the popular deduction erroneous. At the head of the phenological department is Mr. Edward Mawley, P.R.H.S., who has made a life study of these matters, and has been prominently mentioned as found among the victims of the frost are starlings, thrushes, blackbirds, robins and larks. During January and February gulls and English sparrows were seen in numbers that they went boldly to houses in town to be fed. Rabbits and hares suffered severely; and deer in the Highlands were driven from their usual haunts. At other times, visited our shores—then the little auk, thousands of which arrived on the north-east coast. Then, as though leading still more compensation, it is in the light of experience of the mid winter of 1895-96 that on the wild rocks were abundant, but there were scarcely any berries at all on the hawthorn or holly.

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is a subject for great regret that two years ago, and more so the provincial government was not able to see its way clear to adopt such a line of policy as would have led them to the inception of this great undertaking, which by this time would have been far enough advanced towards completion to have brought about a great revival of business on the Coast and the investment of capital and a great increase of population in its vicinity. It is not surprising that the letters the appearance of anything like criticism. I think that as a rule public men act according to what their judgment tells them to be for the best, and recognize that it is not their responsibility of a line of policy to be bolder than it is for those who have to. At the same time I think I may say that the policy, which has prevailed since this province has not been as aggressive as the resources of British Columbia would have warranted. We all understand this now better than we did two years ago.

There can be no manner of doubt that before very long government aid will be extended to a railway through the coast region north of the Canadian Pacific. I shall in a future letter show why it seems to me that the only way, from a federal and provincial standpoint, to penetrate that country is by a line from the coast. I shall also give in detail the reasons why we may expect that portion of the province, when opened up by a railway, to rapidly fill up with people. For the present I will only ask the reader to accept these points as already established. Sooner or later, then, a railway will be built with government aid to open Central British Columbia, and its construction will be followed by a great influx of people. How great will that influx be? I conversed yesterday with an American mining expert, who has been through several great mining booms in the United States, and he asked him how many people he expected there would be in Kootenay by January 1st, 1898. He had just returned after spending the whole of the summer in that district. He replied that he expected to be between 40,000 and 50,000 by the end of next year, and 100,000 by the close of the century. If arrangements could be made for the beginning next spring of a line of railway from the head of Inlet to say, Quesnel mouth, a distance of 231 miles, the road would probably be completed in 1898, so that there would be upwards of two years after its completion before the next census would be taken. Let it be understood that such a railway will be built immediately, and next summer will witness a host of prospectors in the interior. There will be a rush to acquire new properties and to acquire those already known. The demand for farm produce, which will result from railway construction and increased activity in the mining sections, will induce settlers to locate upon the fertile lands in the river valleys, so that even before the railway is completed the population will begin to flow in and the conditions will be ripe for a great advance at the beginning of the 1898-99 winter. The succeeding winter was particularly severe. Large numbers of our birds perished of starvation through their usual supplies having been cut off for weeks. It was also very numerous. The birds mentioned as found among the victims of the frost are starlings, thrushes, blackbirds, robins and larks. During January and February gulls and English sparrows were seen in numbers that they went boldly to houses in town to be fed. Rabbits and hares suffered severely; and deer in the Highlands were driven from their usual haunts. At other times, visited our shores—then the little auk, thousands of which arrived on the north-east coast. Then, as though leading still more compensation, it is in the light of experience of the mid winter of 1895-96 that on the wild rocks were abundant, but there were scarcely any berries at all on the hawthorn or holly.

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# Highest of all in Leaving Power.—Latest U.S. Gov't Report

## Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

It will be seen, concludes Mr. Mawley, that while there may be some reasonable foundation for the belief with regard to the birds, it must be purely an accidental occurrence when the forecast of the berries comes true.—St. James's Gazette.

**A TARTAR BATTLE.**

Marco Polo, a Venetian traveller of the 13th century, gives this account of a great Tartar battle that was fought in Asia:

The Kaan was there on the hill, mounted on a great wooden brazier, which was borne by four well-trained elephants, and over him was hoisted his standard, so high aloft that it could be seen from all sides. His troops were ordered in battalions of 80,000 men apiece; and a great part of the horsemen had each a foot soldier armed with a lance set on the crupper behind him (for it was thus that the footmen were disposed off) and the whole plain seemed to be covered with his forces. So it was that the Great Kaan's army was arrayed for battle.

When Nayan and his people saw what happened they were sorely confounded, and rushed in haste to arms. Nevertheless they made them ready in good style and formed their troops in an orderly manner. And when all were in battle array on both sides as I have told you, and nothing remained but to fall to, then might you have heard a sound arise of many instruments of various music, and of the voices of the whole of the two hosts loudly singing. For this is a custom of the Tartars that before they join battle they all unite in singing and playing on a certain two-stringed instrument of theirs, a thing right pleasant to hear. And so they continue in their array of battle, singing and playing in this pleasing manner, until the great Nacarrs of the Prince is heard to sound. As soon as that begins to sound the fight also begins on both sides; and in no case before the Prince's Nacarrs sounds dare any commence fighting.

So, then, as they were thus singing and playing, though ordered and ready forward the din of the battle began to be heard loudly from this side and from that. And they rushed to work so doughtily with their bows and maces, with their lances and their swords, and with the arbalests of footmen, that it was not easy to behold such a sight. Now you might behold such flights of arrows from this side and from that, that the whole heaven was canopied with them and they fell like rain. Now you might see on this side and on that fall many a cavalier and man-at-arms fallen slain, inasmuch that the whole field seemed covered with them. For fierce and furious was the battle and of quarter there was none given.

But why should I make a long story of it? You must know that it was the most marvellous and fierce and fearful battle that has ever been fought in our day. For have there ever been such excesses in the field of actual fighting, especially of horsemen as there were then engaged? For, taking both sides, there were not fewer than 700,000 horsemen, a mighty force; and that without reckoning the footmen, who were also very numerous. The battle endured with varying fortune on this side and that from morning until noon. But at the last, by God's pleasure and the right that was on his side the Great Kaan had the victory, and Nayan lost the battle and was utterly routed. For the army of the Great Kaan performed such feats of arms that Nayan and his hosts could no longer stand against them, so they turned and fled. But this availed nothing for Nayan; he and all the barons with him were taken prisoners, and had to surrender to the Kaan with all their arms.

**A STRONG FRAGMENT OF LATIN.**

"Excruciating" is a long, strong word. It comes from the Latin *crux*, a cross. We use it to describe a pain that is very severe. When any one talks of "excruciating pain," we understand him to mean the greatest agony it is possible to endure. But this morsel of Latin loses much of its force when nervous or timid people apply it to small aches, like bruised fingers, and corns in wet weather. The wordfully expressive word should be saved for great occasions, like a Sunday coat.

"Almost every day I had severe attacks of spasms, which caused me excruciating pain," writes a lady in Stony Stratford, near Wolverton, Bucks. Was this language too strong? Let us see.

"All my life I have suffered more or less from indigestion, but got along fairly well up to October, 1889. At this time my appetite was poor, and after meals I had a great weight and fullness at the chest. However light the food I took, intense pain followed, and I was in agony until my stomach rejected it. Almost every day I had severe attacks of spasms which caused me excruciating pain.

"In this state I continued month after month, my food not doing me the slightest good. I lost flesh rapidly and went as thin as a skeleton. My friends never expected me getting any better.

"For over six months I continued in this distressing state, during which time I took medicines which relieved me for the time, but I gradually got weaker and weaker.

"At last I was recommended by Mr. Pattison, of Stony Stratford, to try a medicine called Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. I got a bottle from Mr. P. Moore, grocer, Wolverton, and after taking half of it I felt relief; and soon the spasms of pain left me, and I got as strong as ever, and have since had no return of my old ailment. If ever I need a medicine a few doses of Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup set me right. You can make what you like of this statement. (Signed) Mrs. Ellen Hooper.

It will be seen, concludes Mr. Mawley, that while there may be some reasonable foundation for the belief with regard to the birds, it must be purely an accidental occurrence when the forecast of the berries comes true.—St. James's Gazette.

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Twice-a-Week.

# FROM THE CAPITAL

**Ex-Aid. Bingham Elected Mayor of Ottawa, Receiving a Good Majority.**

Eddy, Paper and Woodware Man, Wants Duty Raised on Goods He Manufactures.

**Two Delegations of Farmers, With Different Ideas, Before the Commission.**

Ottawa, Jan. 4.—(Special)—Sam Bingham was elected mayor of Ottawa by 50 votes over Crannell and 700 over Duff.

Hon. A. G. Blair, minister of railways, has returned from his trip to the Pacific coast. It is understood that his report will be in favor of building a road through the Crow's Nest Pass to the Rockies, but how it is to be done is another question upon which Mr. Blair will say nothing.

At the tariff commission to-day E. B. Eddy, of Hull, and H. S. Gane of Newmarket, Ont., were examined in regard to woodware. Messrs. Cartwright, Melding, Paterson and Fisher were present. Mr. Eddy said that the duty of 20 per cent was not enough. It was reduced from 25 per cent by the late government. This almost ruined the business. What they wanted now was 35 per cent, the same as that now imposed by the United States. Mr. Eddy asked the old claim of the Americans making a slaughter market of Canada. He said that he could not carry on an export trade to Europe on account of the heavy ocean freights. He also complained of prison labor. Mr. Eddy asked for an increase to 35 per cent. The same as on paper and envelopes. He also wanted an export duty of 54 per cent on pulp wood, so as to make it prohibitive. There were two delegations of farmers present. One delegation asked for no protection, the other delegation asked for no reduction on binder twine or anything else. The last delegation was in control of an Ottawa Tory merchant, H. H. Lang. Mr. Eddy, of Carleton county, said that the Carleton farmers were divided politically.

**FRENCH SENATE.**

Recent Elections Not Likely to Modify Its Plans.

Paris, Jan. 5.—Official returns of the election held yesterday to replace one-third of the members of the senate whose terms are expiring, shows that 90 Republicans, 13 Radicals, 3 Socialist-Radicals and 12 Reactionists have been elected. Most newspapers agree in saying that the result will not modify the policy of the senate.

**MCCULLIGH'S ESTATE.**

He Left No Will So His Will Inherits His Fortune.

St. Louis, Jan. 5.—Joseph B. McCulligh, late editor of the Globe-Democrat, left no will. His estate will be divided among his seven sons and heirs. A conservative estimate of the value of the estate is \$210,000. Among the papers is stock in several mining companies with face values of \$2,000,000. The real value, however, is comparatively small.

**TROOPS WITHDRAWN.**

Recently Elected Sheriff to Take Charge of the Affairs in Leadville.

Leadville, Col., Jan. 4.—In accordance with his expressed determination to remove the state militia from here, soon as a sheriff was elected in whom he had confidence, Gov. McIntyre today ordered home four companies, comprising 150 men, members of the first and second regiments, G. N. G. These companies are from Denver, Boulder, Pueblo and Colorado Springs. T. F. Finney, who succeeded M. H. New, but as sheriff, announces that he will give a bond and take the oath of office on January 6. More troops will go home before that date, but all will not be removed until the new sheriff is installed in office.

**GLOBAL INSURANCE CO.**

Residential Policies—Best—Recommending the Company's Affairs.

New York, Jan. 5.—The World says that the affairs of the Fire Insurance Company of New York, of which John S. Matthews is president, and J. S. Matthews is president, are in a state of liquidation. The company has a capital of \$1,000,000 and a surplus of \$1,000,000. The company has a long history and has been successful in the past. The liquidation is the result of a combination of factors, including a fire in the company's office and a general decline in the insurance market.

**J. PIERCY & CO.**

WHOLESALE DRY GOODS.

BLANKETS, FLANNELS, UNDERWEAR, UMBRELLAS and WINTER CLOTHING.

IN STOCK AND ARRIVING.