

FORMAL OPENING.

Inauguration of California's Grand Midwinter Fair—San Francisco in Its Best Mood.

Imposing Procession—Telling Addresses—The Most Intense Enthusiasm Manifested.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 27.—Governor Markham having proclaimed to-day—that of the opening of the International Midwinter Exposition—a public holiday, business throughout the State was suspended, and thousands of people came to the city from the interior and other sections of the State.

The procession, of which General John H. Dickinson, of the National Guards, was grand marshal, commenced to move at 10 o'clock, and was larger and more representative than any ever held here.

The scene at the gates of the exposition was one remembered. The crowds seemed to be in feverish haste to get in, and rushed for the grand stands where the ceremonies were to take place.

The first speaker was James D. Phelps, president of the day, who congratulated the people of San Francisco and California on what had thus far been done and what would yet be accomplished.

Governor Markham came forward and spoke as follows: "Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen—I am very pleased with the pleasant task that has been assigned to me of extending words of welcome to the thousands assembled here to-day and to many thousands yet to come to us during the progress of the fair.

At the conclusion of his remarks the Director-General declared the exposition open, and Mrs. de Young pressed the button which set the machinery of the exposition in motion, and the shouts of the great gathering, the waving of thousands of flags and banners, the salutes of the great guns of the battery of artillery and the playing of "The Star-Spangled Banner" by five bands.

The heavy rains of January proved a serious detriment to the reception and installation of exhibits, but now that the sun shines upon the efforts of the exhibitors every energy has been redoubled, and the result is that the latter days of preparation worked a most remarkable transformation.

Imperial Defences. LONDON, Jan. 27.—Hon. Robert Reid, minister of defence for Victoria, arrived by the last steamer from Melbourne.

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE.

Sold by Her Guardian—Boston Bar Hydraulic Mining Proves a Success.

Burns Anniversary Banquets—Body To Be Examined—Delta Agricultural Society.

PROTESTANT PROTECTIONISTS.

HAMILTON, Jan. 27.—The P. P. A. convention closed in the small hours of the morning. The committee on legislation did not report to the convention, their conclusions being considered too important to be given out until the elections are nearer.

THE KHEDIVES CROW.

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WESTMINSTER.

NEW WESTMINSTER, Jan. 25.—Steamer Capilano arrived this morning from the north with 45,000 pounds of halibut for the Westminister Fish Co.

The meeting of the Fruit Growers Association closed this evening. A number of papers were read on fruit and orchard matters and much useful information was given to them.

Old Andy Johnson, one of the best known characters in the city, has lost his memory and will be sent to the Old Men's Home, Victoria.

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THE COQUITLAM.

U. S. Government Refuse to Accept the Surrender of the Steamer.

The Treadwell Mine Robbed of Ten Thousand Dollars—No Clue to Thief.

PORT TOWNSEND, Jan. 27.—The steamer City of Topeka arrived to-day from South-eastern Alaska and reports that U. S. District Attorney Johnson, at Sitka, has received instructions from Washington city not to accept the voluntary surrender of the British steamer Coquitlam in lieu of the \$50,000 bonds given as surety.

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Condensed... is the most... CO. descriptions... WARM and... NE'S... day Blade... go Ledger... Weeklies... the World... 1000 COPIES WEEKLY... CHICAGO... MONTREAL... nting... T. ployed.