Weekly Colonist.

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 1885.

SUPPLEMENT

Local and Provincial News.

From the Daily Colonist March 15.

What Some People Say.

That the dust was flying on the streets yesterday. Very pleasant winter weather, our eastern arrivals say.

That Gladstone refused a request from the Queen for his resignation.

That the supreme court of New York State in general term has decided that the act prohibiting the sale of oleomargarine is constitutional.

That a Harrisburg, Mo., father has christened the latest acquisition to his family Cleveland Marmaduke Proctor Vest McQuitty.

That Sir Alexander Campbell's Explosive Act makes a person who wilfully causes an explosion of a nature to endanger life or property, liable to life imprisonment.

That the manner in which fowls are scooped in some of the markets in this city and left for many hours without food or water is a disgrace to civilization.

That Keens has joined Vanderbilt as the latter's factotum and the two are going to raid Gould's stocks.

"What is a curiosity, ma?" asked little Jamie. "A curiosity is something that is very strange, my son." "If pa bought you a sealskin sack this winter, would that be a curiosity?" "No, my son, that would be a miracle."

That "pa, what is poetic license?" "Well, my boy, as near as I can learn, poetic license is something which enables a man to say things in verse which would incarcerate him in a lunatic asylum if worked off in a political meeting."

That those people who wonder at the wide circulation of the popular fashion periodicals have never stopped to consider that if it were not for them our economical better halves would never get suggestions of ways in which to utilize a worthless old dust-pan at an expense of only $3 to make a lovely 13 cent ornament.

That the Times man accuses *The Colonist* of "bearing" Coal Harbor. This is not exactly correct. *The Colonist* has stated facts without expressing an opinion. If Coal Harbor speculators cannot "bear" the truth they must rest on a flimsy foundation indeed, and our good neighbor of the Times is advised to hedge.

That a large private dinner of Englishmen and Americans took place in London on Washington's birthday. During the dinner a discussion arose about the next American cabinet. A Briton asked the surname of a great American statesman whose christian name was Daniel. A mischievous American answered Lambert. "Quite right," rejoined the Englishman. "I had forgotten his name for a minute."

That Asotin and Garfield counties, as well as the region around Lewiston and Palouse, Washington Territory, are full of grain, and there is no market for it. It is said that a million of bushels of wheat are piled up. If not remedied soon, this must insure absolute impoverishment of farmers in that region.

That "there's a good time coming" for the Coal Harbor operators. The line will surely be married there; but whether this year or next, or two, three or five years hence, cannot be asserted with any degree of certainty. Speculators should exercise the virtue of patience and by all means muzzle their Victoria organ.

That Port Moody lots are in slight request at low rates.

That the first Burrard Inlet mosquito arrived in town last evening. He was feeble and attenuated and was on his way to the Times office to present his little "bill" for making things "hum" at Coal Harbor.

That it costs from 5 or 6 cents apiece for the use of a dollar for a year. It is surprising what a large sum it amounts to when left for a number of years, as in the case of the Connecticut man who in 1836 commenced making deposits in a savings bank. His total deposits from that date until 1846 amounted to $1,962.25. Between 1838 and 1858 he drew from the bank $1,870.70, and yet, a few days since, on having his bank book written up and balanced, he was found to have a balance on deposit of $11,273.33.

No Place for the Sole of John's Foot.

(Exclusive to The Colonist.)

SAN FRANCISCO, March 14.—Two hundred and forty Chinese have arrived here in the steamer New York from Hongkong in transit for British Columbia. The Chinese restriction act just passed by that province in defiance of the Dominion laws prevents them going there and they can't land here, so neither the Chinese consul nor the steamship company know what to do with them.

The Streets.

The city authorities have been active lately in improving and cleaning the streets, and assisted by the recent favorable weather, have placed them in a satisfactory condition. A large lot of stone is now ready for laying on the streets, and if funds hold out the steam drill and rock crusher will be kept busy during the entire year. The metal will not be placed until the fall rains begin, when Jumbo will be used in rolling the streets, and this course will make them as smooth as a billiard table. The present council are evidently going the right way about making our thoroughfares permanently good, for once they are in first class repair it will be an easy matter to keep them so. After this is done it will allow of the opening up of new streets in many parts of the city where needed, though the probability is little will be done in this direction during the present year.

Personal.

Captain Martley, of Pavillion, was a passenger from the mainland yesterday.

Mr. A. D. Edgar, the assistant freight agent of the Northern Pacific railway, who had paralysis of the legs at Brainard last fall, is still off duty, but slowly recovering.

Mr. M. J. Haney, gen. superintendant of the C. P. R., and Mrs. Haney are registered at the Driard.

Mr. Robert Dunsmuir, M. P. P., and Mr. Justice Crease were passengers by the Enterprise yesterday.

PARK PASTURE.—It was the general complaint last Sunday at Beacon Hill that the place was being utilized too much as grazing ground. There could have been no less than twenty cows roaming around the hill, rendering it very unpleasant. As we understand the city authorities have control over the park, it would be a benefit to every citizen and visitor if they would prohibit the park from being made a dairy farm by impounding all straying animals. It has been the habit of a number of people to regard Beacon Hill as a public grazing ground, and they have systematically made it such. It is too pleasant a place to be degraded for such a purpose.

EVENING AND MORNING.—The Times clips from a San Francisco paper to prove that an evening journal is of more value to advertisers than a morning issue. It is scarcely necessary to say that the authority quoted is an evening paper. It is probable that the authority is in the same position as the Times. Having found that the evening field is not remunerative it is extremely anxious that all other papers on the coast shall be evening too. This reminds one of the fox which, having lost its tail, advised all its fellow foxes to lose theirs too.

RODGER HANLEY, a letter awaits you at this office.

Obituary.

Mr. Henry Hurrell, aged eighty, a resident of the province since 1862, died suddenly sometime on Friday night. He was a long time in the employment of Mr. Eli Harrison, and was very much respected. The funeral will take place to-morrow.

Mr. John Gastineau, C. E., a resident since 1858, who was connected with most of the important engineering enterprises in the early days of the country, died yesterday at the French Hospital, after a brief operation. Previous to coming to Victoria he was concerned in engineering operations in California. Mr. Gastineau sank under a surgical operation, and was really ill only about twenty-four hours. His age was sixty-five. The funeral will take place on Sunday.

The New Directory.

The new directory of the province of British Columbia has just been issued by Mr. R. T. Williams, publisher and bookbinder. The book is well bound in cloth, printed on heavy paper, and is handsomely gotten up. Every city, village and district of the province has received attention, and the information is complete and accurate. The list of names has increased nearly 1,000 since the previous issue. The information given of the various portions of the province makes it a most desirable publication on this account alone. The price is $1.50, and we would recommend that every citizen invest in a copy, for it makes a most reliable and valuable book of general reference.

New Westminster.

(Columbian.)

Yesterday morning a wagon, loaded with goods for the Serpentine river, while being loaded on to the ferry, slid into the river. The horses were recovered but the wagon was also hauled out before noon. A proper slip for the ferry is greatly needed. At present things are ferry apt to slip into the Fraser.

Major Rogers has discharged his surveying party, and he and Mr. Roberts leave this morning for Kamloops. It is believed that the British government is anxious to have the road completed across the mountains with all possible haste, so it can be used for the transportation of troops in the event of war with Russia, and that this is the reason why Major Rogers has gone to the mountains.

THE QUEEN.—Mr. J. Brink has completely changed the interior arrangement of his restaurant on Yates street. The range at the back of the counter has been placed in the large kitchen in the rear, a most roomy and convenient one. Tables have been ranged along the sides and small private rooms built, the seating capacity being for about eighty people. The lunch counter has been entirely removed and the restaurant, as it is now, is very complete in its arrangements.

London House.

Messrs. Shears & Page continue to offer great bargains in dry, millinery and other goods. Their store was filled with purchasers yesterday, many of whom found, to their agreeable surprise, that one dollar went as far as two formerly. A fine line of goods remain undisposed of and will be sold at extremely low figures.

By looking at the quotations of the Virginia tobacco markets it will be found that the highest price paid for "fillers"—which is the tobacco which forms the body of the plug—very closely corresponds with the invoiced price of tobacco leaf imported into Ontario. As over four-fifths of all the leaf imported into the province is for "Myrtle Navy" stock, this fact is official proof of the claim that the "Myrtle Navy" is made of the finest Virginia leaf.

HORRIBLE DEATH.—A dispatch from Stockton, Cal., states that "Leoni," so well known here as a most daring wire-rope walker, fell from the wire there last night, breaking his neck, and died shortly after. He was in Victoria last year for a couple of months.

THROUGH FREIGHT.—Our merchants are making considerable complaint lately on account of long delays in the arrival of through goods. The source of detention is not known, though it is probable that the snow is the cause, there having been great storms lately in the east. The O. R. & N. Co. and the Northern Pacific have always shown a desire to favor Victoria consignees, and this has been the first serious detention for some time.

THROUGH PASSENGERS.—A dozen through passengers were forwarded from Victoria over the Northern Pacific last week, which is evidently becoming a popular route of travel for the east.

COAL OIL.—The steamer Enterprise takes 300 cases of coal oil to Nanaimo to-morrow. Inhabitants of that city are happy in being free from a gas monopoly.

LILLOOET.—The weather is very fine. Farmers are putting in their wheat, and miners who wintered in the town have returned to Bridge river.

UPERT.—A livery horse and rig, driven by two young women, was overturned at Beacon Hill yesterday, throwing out the occupants, breaking one wheel and generally demoralizing the top of the buggy. No one was hurt.

FREIGHT.—The O. R. & N. Co.'s warehouse is almost filled at present with three classes of freight—coal oil, flour and sugar.

From the Daily Colonist, March 17.

Distinguished Visitors.

The minister of militia (Hon. Mr. Caron) will visit Victoria early in the summer; and the governor-general and Sir John Macdonald will cross the mountains to this place in August. They will be most hospitably received.

Funerals.

The remains of Mrs. Sears, mother of Mr. Joseph Sears, were followed to the grave on Sunday by a large number of sympathizing friends. Henry Hurrell, aged 80, Richard Jones, aged 76, and John Gastineau, aged 65, all old and respected residents, were interred yesterday. The cortege in each case was large.

THE WESTERN HOTEL.—This new hostelry opens to-day. It is situated on the corner of Store and Discovery streets. The furniture is new throughout and charges being reasonable, families and travelers may depend on receiving the best of attention. Fifty guests can be accommodated. The entire establishment is under experienced superintendence. It is pleasant to note this important addition to the hotel convenience of this city which has lately been greatly taxed to its utmost.

FINE WEATHER.—For more than a week we have been enjoying the most glorious weather. The sun has shone down from a clear sky, day after day, with a gentle warmth that has been very beneficial to vegetation. All the spring flowers are out in the gardens, and in the suburbs the new grass is studded with wild flowers. It is almost too late now for any further wintry weather, and it is safe to say that spring is begun.

NAVAL.—H. M. S. Satellite has gone to Burrard Inlet for a cruise. H. M. S. Heroine or Constance is on the way to Esquimalt from the southern station, and one or two China ships are expected.

ROCK BAY BRIDGE.—The planking on this city bridge is in a dangerous condition, and the city councillors should see to its immediate repair.

THE GUIDE.—Mr. Halpenny, government guide starts for Alberni to-morrow (Wednesday) morning, on the steamer to Nanaimo, thence to Alberni district by way of Qualicum.

THE B. C. DIRECTORY.—This new work contains some 10,000 names. The increase in Victoria alone since the publication in 1883 is 1000 names, which, of course does not by any means represent the increase in the population that has taken place during the same period.

PROVINCIAL DEFENCES.

The War Office Will Make Them Secure.

Several Powerful Ironclads and Bodies of Troops for Esquimalt.

C. P. Railway to be Hastened to Completion.

(Exclusive to The Colonist.)

LONDON, March 16.

It is the intention of the war office to place the defences of British Columbia in a satisfactory condition. The fleet at Esquimalt will be increased by the addition of four or five powerful ironclad rams and the Canada Pacific railway will be pushed to completion with all possible speed to be available for the conveyance of troops and munitions of war to the Pacific coast.

OTTAWA, March 16.

Capt. Pallissier, who is here, says that Esquimalt and Victoria will be strongly fortified and made as nearly as possible impregnable.

THE COAL HARBOR PAUSE.

Mr. Van. Horne Says the Engineers had Finished Their Work.

When Hon. Mr. Smithe heard that the engineers had been withdrawn from Coal Harbor he sent the following telegram to Mr. Van Horne:

"What means the withdrawal of engineers from railway extension?"

The following reply was received on Saturday:

"MONTREAL, 14th March.

"TO HON. MR. SMITHE:—Engineers under Rogers withdrawn because they had finished their work, which was simply location of line. Remaining engineering work will be completed by other engineers after Dagas (?) plans are received and location of structures decided upon.

"W. C. VAN HORNE."

A WALKAM BEAVEN LEGACY.

Suit for Ninety-five Thousand Dollars.

Mr. McNamee, the former contractor for the Esquimalt dry dock, has issued a fiat in a suit of $95,000 against the British Columbia government for not (as he alleges) keeping faith with him in the matter of the dry dock contract. This suit grows out of the action taken by the Walkem-Beaven government in seizing the $10,000 deposit and converting into cash the plant, etc., owned by the contractor and on the ground at the time of the seizure.

Awaiting the Chinese Bill at Ottawa.

(Exclusive to The Colonist.)

OTTAWA, March 16.

The Chinese Immigration Bill recently passed and put into operation in British Columbia and under which a number of Chinese were prevented landing has not yet reached the governor-general, whose approval is necessary.

Rumored Death of Gen. Grant.

(Exclusive Dispatch to The Colonist.)

NEW YORK, March 17, 3 a.m.—It was rumored that Gen. Grant had died; but inquiry developed the fact that he is still alive.

THE GLANDERS.

An Afflicted Horse Turned Out to Die.

Some time ago a correspondent drew attention to the fact that among a number of American horses disposed of at the last agricultural fair were several that were afflicted with the horrible and fatal complaint known as the glanders. This disease is alike fatal to man and beast, and if it once lays well hold of the system is absolutely incurable. On Sunday a gentleman while out walking near ex-councillor Russell's residence on the old Esquimalt road, came upon one of these identical horses. The poor animal, which was just able to move, showed every symptom of the disease. He had been turned out to die, and as he moved along probably deposited sufficient of the virus on every square yard of earth to poison all the horses in the neighborhood. There is a Canadian statute, we think, which deals with cases of this kind and provides a punishment for owners of glandered horses who fail to take every precaution to prevent the spread of the disease. To turn a horse with the glanders out to die is to commit a felony.

Personal.

Stephen W. Hovey, a prominent resident of Puget Sound since 1857, died on Saturday evening at Seattle.

Dr. Paul M. Brennan, of Portland, Oregon, died at Paso Robler Springs, California, yesterday.

General Grant continues to fail.

Mr. J. T. Porter, wife and children, arrived from London, Eng., on the last mail steamer, with the purpose of settling in the province. Mr. Porter for many years was proprietor of "Ye Old Half Moon," London, which was established in 1750 and rebuilt in 1882. He and his family will make most valuable colonists.

Hon. Mr. Smithe has gone to The Hermitage, Cowichan for a short visit.

Mr. T. J. Partridge is convalescent.

Mr. Thos. Nicholson is seriously ill.

Mr. R. C. Cridge, although confined to his room, is rapidly recovering from the effects of the pistol shot accidentally received while at Goldstream.

Hon. Mr. Robson is visiting his constituents.

John A. Cameron, of the famous William Creek (Cariboo) claim, is at Mount Uniacke, Nova Scotia.

Marine.

Steamship G. W. Elder sailed for San Francisco at noon yesterday.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]

SAN FRANCISCO, March 16.—Arrived—British steamer Wellington, Departure Bay.

Steamship Mexico sailed from San Francisco for Victoria at 10 o'clock on Sunday morning.

ALASKAN EXPLORATION.—The exploring expedition which will set out from San Francisco for Alaska as soon as spring opens will be composed entirely of officers and enlisted men of the navy. A suitable stern wheel launch is to be built, under contract, for the use of the expedition. Many of the articles of outfit, especially canned goods, will be taken from the supplies turned in from the Greely relief expedition.

THE ECLIPSE ELSEWHERE.—Throughout the California coast yesterday dense fogs obscured the sun and prevented the people obtaining a glimpse of the eclipse.

What Some People Say.

That Mr. A. W. Ross, M.P., informed an Ottawa reporter that he likes the climate of British Columbia, but not the people. That is too bad; because the people all like Mr. Ross. There must be a mistake somewhere.

That a fire drill has been successfully introduced into some of the public schools of San Francisco. In just one minute and one-quarter 1,000 children from a three-story building are got safely into the yard or street. They form in rank by twos, each pair clasping hands.

That Mr. Aquila Walsh, Dominion land commissioner at Winnipeg, met his death by slipping on an *icy sidewalk* in that city on the evening of March 8th; and being a large, portly person, probably *froze to death*; although the dispatches do not so state.

That the Dominion order which requires the labeling of each can of inflamable oil is creating much annoyance as every case must be opened before the label can be attached.

That the 240 Chinese immigrants who are detained at San Francisco in consequence of the British Columbia Chinese Restriction Act, should be put in sealed cars, bonded and sent through to Ottawa.

That the Archbishop of Paris is about to issue a pastoral against the excessive use of morphine. The morbid fashion has spread so widely that morphine parties are now quite common among the most aristocratic society. The custom is for the hostess and her guests to sit in a circle, and, while listening to a concert in a distant room, they apply the drug to themselves and recount the sensation to each other.

That Robert Bonner has just written a letter refusing to permit Maud S to be exhibited at a country fair. He says he will not permit her to trot for money.

That the "Life of George Eliot" is having the greatest success of the season—of many seasons—in England. The publishers have already made a profit, it is said, of $40,000.

That the manuscript of a novel which Colonel Burnaby has left was written two years ago, and the Colonel used to say it was the only book he ever wrote without the help of an amenuensis. The hero of the story is an eminent living English statesman.

That the first meeting of the American congress of churches will be held at Hartford early in May. The congress is intended to embrace all christian denominations and to be participated in by representative divines and laymen.

That the Literary World has this suggestion to philologists: "We propose a new word—'literarian,' a person devoted to literary pursuits. 'Litterateur' is foreign; 'literary man' is awkward, besides being restricted in gender; 'literarian,' following the analogy of 'parliamentarian,' is natural; it is also sensible, euphonious and convenient."

That the private insane asylums in England are likely to be suppressed before long. In a recent parliamentary debate the Earl of Shaftesbury, chairman of the commissioners of lunacy, stigmatized the private insane asylums as "abominable," "vicious," "objectionable," "execrable," and "detestable." The London Lancet joins in the demand for their abolition, and terms them private prisons which ought not to be allowed to exist.

That an American exchange says that every day the business outlook grows more cheerful. Factories, rolling mills, etc., are starting up, and thousands of men who were idle when the new year opened, are now working with might and main.

That Russia is quick to deny that she has any intentions of acquiring any part of Afghanistan, and her word for it must be taken. Where, however, she adds, that she will assist England in establishing a suzerainty over this strategical land, her sincerity may well be doubted.

That among the fashionable watches now taught in London are "the Boston Belmont," "the New York pump-handle," "the Kensington crawl" and "the English straight."

LICENSING COURT.

Licenses and Transfers—Some Hotels Reported Disorderly.

MONDAY, March 16.

The bench of licensing magistrates met at 12 o'clock. There were in attendance Mayor Rithet, R. Johnson, S. M., and Messrs. McLean and Shotbolt.

An application for transfer of license from Wm. Tierney to N. Allen was granted.

Application for transfer from John Wilson to Messrs. Clements & Co., Albion. Decision reserved.

Application for transfer from N. Allen to Rush and McDermott granted.

An application from Thos Shaw for license for hotel at corner of Store and Discovery streets was considered. License was granted subject to any restrictions which may be made.

Amos Vader applied to have his name added to the license now held by Mr. B. Pettingill. Mr. J. P. Walls appeared for the petitioner, and Mr. Theo. Davie appeared for Mr. Pettingill, who opposed the application.

Mr. T. Davie on behalf of Mr. Pettingill opposed the application which he said was a pretext to drive his client out of the place—a squeezing process in which Vader and the landlord of the house were concerned. His client owned a three-fourths interest in the business, and it would not be fair to have a partner holding only one-fourth, to have equal participation in the license.

To his worship the police superintendent stated that there had been reports of gambling going on there.

Mr. T. Davie was surprised at such an objection being raised. It being only hearsay, it had no bearing on the application.

The bench decided to refuse the application.

An application for transfer from Geo. Smith to Edmund Legg was considered. The transfer was agreed to and temporary permission given.

Complaints were read from citizens concerning the Park Hotel, Mousquetaire, Prince of Wales, Railroad, and one or two other saloons.

Mayor Rithet, on behalf of the Board, stated that it would be well for all such houses to take warning that in future any complaints would investigated. Houses complained of after this would be dealt with summarily. Hotels and saloons must be conducted in an orderly manner.

A WORN OUT NAVY.—The Duke of Edinburgh, in a speech in London, said the vessels under his command were fearfully deficient in the equipment required by modern methods of warfare. He was not inclined to be an alarmist, but he knew England's best ships would be powerless, even against the vessels of the despised South American Republic, owing to the absence of repairs rendered necessary by wear and tear and stress of weather.

THE brick dwelling in course of construction by Mr. Gillespie on the corner of Cook and Yates streets is progressing with commendable rapidity. It will be a very handsome and substantial structure and an ornament to that part of the town.

THE DRY DOCK.—Larkin & Connolly of the dry dock at Esquimalt, have entered into a contract with Tai Chong of Victoria to furnish them with what Chinese laborers they may require upon their work.

FALSE CREEK BRIDGE, which will be built by Taylor & Allen, who have been awarded the contract.

THIS is the anniversary of the natal day of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland.

Municipal Police Court.

[Before Mr. Edwin Johnson.]

MONDAY, March 16.

Thomas. Allen, charged with supplying whiskey to Indians, was fined $50, or in default, three months.

A FEMALE VAG.

Nicholas Flood Davin, on his return to Ottawa, reported that he had found in a Chinese opium den in Victoria a beautiful white girl stupified by the effects of the drug. This "beautiful white girl" was arraigned this morning on a charge of vagrancy. Her baptismal name is Clara Gonzales; but she is known in the station of society which she adorns as "Long Clara."

Sergt. Flewin deposed that he had known defendant for over twelve months, but had never known her to do anything during that time. Had seen her in saloons and opium dens. She was a street walker.

Defendant—How do you know that I am?

Witness—I say that you are reputed to be one.

Defendant—Oh! only reputed to be one?

Witness—I have good reasons to believe that you are one.

Defendant—Oh! perhaps you have good reasons to know that I am?

Magistrate, to witness—Have you ever seen defendant around town late of nights during the last three months?

Witness—Yes, often.

Defendant—Ah, but I was never alone at those hours!

Witness—No, that's just where it was. Sometimes you were in company with one man—sometimes with another.

Officer Sheppard gave similar testimony.

Defendant said she had nothing to say. The magistrate remarked that he could only deal with the case as the law allowed. There was no need for him, he said, to remind the defendant that women of her class could not be tolerated plying their calling on the streets, nor any need to remind her of the inevitable end of the life she had chosen to lead.

His honor was proceeding when a young man stepped forward and said he had something to say about the little matter. Upon being sworn he said his name was L. T. Garland; that he was a carpenter by trade, and had lived on Discovery street with the prisoner for over a year, whom he had supported during that time.

Supt. Bloomfield—Are you married to the woman?

No; I am not. In answer to a question he said he had never given defendant a pistol for the express purpose of shooting another man; did not know the woman to have slept elsewhere than at his house; it was with his consent she had walked the streets at all hours of the night; but he did not know what she did upon those occasions; she might have been visiting the sick for all that he knew.

The magistrate thought the evidence of the last witness had rather confirmed than disproved the evidence of the constables. He should inflict a fine of $25, or in default two months' imprisonment with hard labor.

OLD SOL

Has His Rays Obscured by Fair Luna.

The eclipse of the sun which occurred yesterday morning was no doubt viewed with interest by most of the inhabitants of Victoria. Though not an annular eclipse at this point, the sun was sufficiently obscured to make it a very interesting spectacle. The shadow of the moon upon the sun was first noticeable about 8 o'clock and the greatest obscuration occurred shortly before 9 o'clock, when the face of nature took on a grey lime something like that of the morning twilight. The small crescent of the sun then visible appeared like the new moon and could almost be looked at with the naked eye. An annular eclipse is caused by the moon passing between us and the sun, at such a distance from us that the shadow of the moon is not large enough to cover the whole face of the sun but leaves a complete ring of sunlight around it, that is in the "path of the annular" as it is called. This path in the present eclipse lay considerably south of us. The line of the central eclipse struck the earth at sunrise at a place in the Pacific ocean, in latitude 36 deg. north, longitude 157 deg. west. It reached the continent at Cape Mendocino in California in latitude 40 deg. north, longitude 124 deg. west, and thence passed in a northeast direction over the northwest part of California, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana, thence into Canada where in latitude 56½ deg. north 91½ deg. west it was central at noon; thence over Hudson's Bay, Baffin's Bay and Greenland to latitude 71 deg. north, longitude 15 west, where at sunset it left the earth.

A total eclipse of the sun is caused by the moon intercepting the light of the sun when passing very close to the earth. In the same way a ten cent piece will obscure the sun if held close enough to the eye. The next total eclipse in America will take place in the afternoon of January 1st, 1889, when the moon's shadow will pass over Colusa, California, and over a narrow strip to the east of it till the sun sets. This will be the return of the total eclipse of November 30th, 1834.

Water Supply.

Coun. Ward has given notice that on Wednesday evening at the meeting of the council he will move the following resolution:

"That the council resolve itself into a committee of the whole for the purpose of taking into consideration the rapidly increasing demand for water for domestic purposes; the entirely inadequate supply to the high levels of the city extending eastward from Cook street, both for domestic purposes and for protection from fire, and that the council adopt early measures for placing the water supply on a basis equal to the demands thereon.

ACCIDENT.—A young man named Thos. Hodges, who drives a cart for Mr. E. Metcalf, met with a rather serious accident yesterday. While getting into his cart on John street, the horse bolted, thus precipitating the lad to the ground and breaking his leg. Mr. Shore, of Wells, Fargo & Co., seeing the accident, went to the lad's assistance and conveyed him to Dr. Davie's office, where the leg was set. The boy is doing well, but it is feared that many weeks will pass before he can resume work.

A GREAT STORM PREDICTED.—Wiggins has conjured up another great storm to come off to-day in the North Atlantic and Western Europe. Canada will be mercifully spared. The public are of opinion that Wiggins could be "mercifully spared" by the department at Ottawa, where he is allowed to draw a salary while he spends his time in driving sillier people than himself mad with fright. Wiggins should be bounced by the Dominion government.

APPOINTMENT.—Capt. Henry Moore, formerly of Onderdonk & Co.'s steam wheel steamer Myra, and lately of the Teaser, has been offered and has accepted the command of the steamer Adelaide, running between New Westminster and Yale.

TESTING THE CASE.—The Chinese are about to test the validity of the Chinese Restriction Act by inviting a number of their countrymen to cross over from the Sound to-day. It is asserted that in taking this step they are acting under advice from Ottawa.

IMPORTANT SALE.—H. F. Heisterman & Co. yesterday sold the lot and two stores occupied by London Bazaar and Bagnall's music house to Mr. A. Ofner for $19,000. The vendor, Mr. A. Rickman, is in Germany. The price obtained is another indication of the confidence which is felt in Victoria realestate.

GIANT POWDER was discovered in one of the rooms of the Telephone, an opposition steamer running on the Columbia river the other day. It was sent ashore. The object of the party who placed it there can only be conjectured.

THE WATERING CART.—Complaints are made by the merchants that the dust is doing damage to their goods. An occasional shower from the street sprinkler would avoid all the trouble.

AN INSIDE VIEW

Of the Great Chinese Question.

What Employers Say of Chinese Servants.

(Montreal Herald).

A lady of Victoria, B. C., writing to a friend in Montreal, describes, incidentally, a phase of the Chinese question of which no mention has been made in the philippics of British Columbian orators. We are permitted to publish an extract or two from this private epistle,—the portion which relates more particularly to a Chinese servant employed in the lady's household. The weather, at the date of the letter—Feb. 13—is spoken of as "the most beautiful spring weather you can imagine, and crocuses and primroses are beginning to appear in the gardens." There had previously been a cold snap, during which "Hing, who comes from Southern China, and had never seen snow before, put on some additional pieces of clothing every day until he more nearly resembled a tea cosy than anything else. He even made use of his queue to protect his ears." The writer continues:—

"For the next few days all Victoria will be *servantless*—if there is such a word. Hing went off about 10 o'clock this morning, turning back at the gate to give my husband his last directions about the winding up of the kitchen clock and the 'little wood' which he had cut for to-morrow's fires. The Chinese are all busy celebrating their New Year, and the festivities extend over several days, during which time they entertain their friends, give presents all round, and fire off crackers whenever they are allowed. Yesterday morning, to our intense astonishment, Hing presented Mr. —— and me with large crimson silk handkerchiefs and with dish of Chinese sweetmeats. He blushed all over with shyness and embarrassment as he placed the parcels beside our plates. It was a curious state of things, to be receiving instead of *giving* presents to a servant. He does in words recognize me as his "boss," but his footing is that of an independent power and our communications resemble those which might pass between two sovereigns. The handkerchiefs cost a dollar a piece. Mr. ——'s is a plain silk, but mine has embossed flowers on it, because, as Hing explained, I am a woman! Of course, we are sorry that the little fellow should have spent so much of his money upon us, and it was very difficult to know how to make it up to him. A gift of money would have insulted him—he is a proud monkey! However, an idea occurred to me, and to-day I told him that, as he was not going to "eat" at our house for three days, it was only fair that I should pay for his meals elsewhere. After a little hesitation he acquiesced in this arrangement.

"It is the custom here to speak of the Chinese as if they were the scum and refuse of the earth. But the dozen Chinamen with whom I have had any dealings compare very favorably with white men of the same class. I do not know whether Hing is an exceptional boy or not, but he is a thoroughly good boy, full of fun and humor, and very provoking at times, but honest and truthful, and as sharp as a needle. A little while ago he made me a serious offer of two dollars a month if I would teach him for an hour every evening.

* * * I hope that next year you will keep your promise of paying us a visit. * * * Hing would give a most hearty welcome either to 'Mr. ——'s father's boy,'—in whom you may fail to recognize the dignified head of your house—or to 'Mr. ——'s father's boy's girl, namely, yourself!'"

Kamloops and Vicinity.

(Sentinel.)

Mr Moore, who recently arrived here from Nicola, mentions that the hills in the vicinity of his residence have been swarming with newly fledged grass-hoppers since the latter end of February. This singular phenomenon was seen by another gentleman who bottled some of the hoppers to exhibit to persons who would probably doubt the truth of his assertions. The appearance of this insect at this time of year is unprecedented.

There is a butter famine in town at present—not a pound to be had at our stores. This is strange in a country where cattle are plenty and best of pasturage. It wants enterprise.

At Nicola spring weather has fairly set in. Cattle looking well.

Feb. 24th, a man named Ellis Milen went out with Charles Randolph from a camp located at Salmon Bay for a hunt. They went east to a flat, covered with heavy timber. After traveling some hours, toward evening, they got into a thicket difficult to get through, and neither knew where they were. Milen feeling tired told Randolph to go ahead and he would follow after him. This was the last Randolph saw of his companion alive. R. having arrived home about dark he asked James Walker, at the camp, if Milen had returned; but was told not. Randolph got supper and went to bed; nothing was done or said about Milne until Saturday morning. He having been missing since Tuesday caused uneasiness, and it was concluded best to hunt for him. Randolph and others went to the woods, and the body of Milen was found a short distance from where he had been left. Apparently Milen had sat down in the snow, and his rifle was loaded and resting upon his arm; from appearance deceased had been dead for some time. A grave dug and a rough box prepared and the unfortunate man was buried where he was found. Milen was a native of Herat, Berkshire, England, and had been working upon the right-of-way, near Shuswap Lake. He was aged about 25, and very little is known about him in country. We understand there is talk about holding an inquest.

DEATH OF TOM STRATTON.

A Reminiscence.

A dispatch from Port Angeles announces the sudden death there, on Friday last, of Capt. Tom Stratton, who in early days was one of the best known and most popular men on the northern coast, and an especial favorite in Victoria. He was a pioneer of California, and afterwards came to Puget Sound and British Columbia. He was one of the E. T. Coleman party, who first scaled Mount Baker, and whose exploits were recorded in Harper's Magazine some fifteen years ago. In 1862 Victoria was a hot-bed of secessionists, many of whom had been driven from the United States on account of their disunion sentiments. A secessionist named Shapard opened a saloon on Langley street and erected a flagstaff in front, from which he kept floating, night and day, a confederate flag. Stratton, who was a unionist, had frequent wordy wars with Shapard, and one fine night in 1863 the pair met in the dining hall of what is now known as the Angel Hotel, but was then called Ringo's. Which of the two mortal enemies struck first we do not now recall, but they were soon locked in each others embrace and rolling over the floor, amid a wreck of crockery, chairs and tables. First Tom and then Shapard would be on top, the men all the while raining fierce blows on each others bodies, faces and heads. They were true grit. Both were of powerful physique and fired with enthusiasm for the cause which they respectively advocated. The fight lasted for at least fifteen minutes, at the end of which time Shapard capitulated and was carried home by his friends. Tom was victor, but at terrible cost, not the least of the items of which was a beautiful black beard, nearly two feet in length. This had been torn out by the roots. The combatants were ill for a long time, and some persons think that Stratton was never the same man afterwards. Soon after the confederate flag was lowered at night by some persons and was not seen again. Stratton was a genial, whole-souled fellow and a perfect genius. He could write poetry and prose and tell stories admirably, sail a ship and drive a four-in-hand; he was an expert fisherman, taxidermist, carpenter and miner, and, above and beyond all, a good husband and kind father. May the mould that covers his brave heart be ever green is the wish of one who knew poor Tom, who is now "a' cold," in his best days.

BY ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH

EXCLUSIVE DISPATCHES TO THE COLONIST.

EGYPT.

CAIRO, March 16.—Suakim advices do not confirm the rumor about the fall of Kassala and the massacre of the garrison.

Four more persons have been arrested as accomplices of Zeber Pasha in his treason against the Khedive.

KORTI, March 16.—British troops retiring to Korti were harrassed between Gakdul and Hambok, by marauding followers of El Mahdi, who were armed with rifles. Several British soldiers were wounded.

INDIA.

Advices from Calcutta report tea and indigo districts in India suffering severely from drouth.

CHINA.

HONGKONG, March 16.—A French man-of-war stopped and searched the British steamship Surat. The squadron of the British navy stationed in Chinese waters has been ordered to rendezvous at Hongkong.

PARIS, March 16.—A dispatch from Shanghai says that Admiral Courbet intends abandoning his position at the Island of Formosa, and is to operate on the coast of Northern China.

ENGLAND.

LONDON, March 16.—In the house of lords this evening the government stated that the admiralty had freely given advice and assistance to Australia for the formation of a colonial navy.

In the commons this afternoon it was stated that England had protested against the shipment of lead by France to Siam on board of war, and that in the arrest of the British vessel Glenroy and the seizure of lead in the cargo.

Gladstone explained that England and Russia had agreed, as he stated on Friday, that no further advances should be made in Afghanistan. This agreement was based on an interchange of communications carried on through the British ambassador at St. Petersburg. The latest communication on the Afghan dispute received from the ambassador was that of March 5th; but to obviate any possible misunderstanding Granville, British foreign minister, on Saturday last wired his (Gladstone's) exact words to Thornton asking him to ascertain whether the Russian prime minister endorsed as correct the statement made by Gladstone of an agreement reached with Russia. As yet no reply has been received. Gladstone said there had been no time to obtain the assent of the Ameer of Afghanistan to the terms of the arrangement made with Russia. "The expression agreement," said Gladstone, "conveys a somewhat fallacious idea of what has been obtained. I prefer 'arrangement.' The telegram sent by Granville on Saturday to Thornton was merely intended to ascertain whether our understanding of the details of this agreement or arrangement was correct. There is no question as to the substance."

Hartington explained that the Russians occupy Katau and Akrobat and that the Afghans still occupy Penjdeh. He refused on the ground of public policy to make any further disclosures. The alleged occupation of Roseteen, one of the Society (South Pacific) Islands by the French was denied. In 1882 the French flag was hoisted on Roeatea. As soon as England heard of it she protested. France at once disavowed the action and said the flag has been removed by naval officers without the warrant of France. She, however, requested that the flag should be allowed to remain until England and France should arrange the dispute about their respective rights on the island. The controversy was still in amicable progress. In regard to the Cameroons difficulty negotiations were still pending between England and Germany for a friendly settlement. The outcome of these negotiations it is impossible to foretell with exactness; but whatever it might be it would, beyond all doubt, include a complete provision for the proper respect of all rights in the Cameroons. Negotiations for the settlement of the Cameroons' dispute embraced a general scheme for the adjustment of all questions in dispute between England and Germany in regard to their respective colonial claims in the entire region of Africa and the South Pacific on the basis of mutual concessions.

LONDON, March 16.—To-morrow Prince Albert Victor is to be initiated into Freemasonry. The Prince of Wales as master of the Royal Alpha Lodge will perform the ceremony.

LONDON, March 16.—Consols, 97⅞ for money; 97 1-16 for account.

PARIS, March 16.—Bakers have taken advantage of the recent passage of the bill increasing the duties on cereals, and raised the price of bread. People are complaining savagely of the increased cost of living.

The Crown Prince Frederick William, of Germany, will visit Paris next Monday.

LONDON, March 16.—In the commons this evening the government announced that a telegram had been received from St. Petersburg fully confirming Gladstone's view of the Anglo Russian arrangement regarding the outposts on the Russo Afghan frontier.

EASTERN STATES.

WASHINGTON, March 16. Mrs. Whitney, wife of the secretary of the navy, created a social innovation by a Sunday evening dinner party last night in honor of Whitney taking a place in Cleveland's cabinet; 30 guests attended.

KANSAS CITY, March 16.—The strikers here received orders late this afternoon to recall Sedalia to raise the freight blockade, and trains were started out to-night. The proposed terms have been accepted by the conference and will be ratified by a meeting at