The Colonist.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1893.

THE TAXES WE PAY.

British Columbia's representatives in the House of Commons are doing only what is fair to the taxpayers of the Province when they direct the attention of Parliament to its contribution to the general revenue, and when they compare what it gives with what it receives. Those who observed the patronizing way in which the Minister of Marine, a short time ago, spoke of this Province in an interview with a representative of the press, would naturally conclude that British Columbia is a sort of pauper Province, which is all the time begging favors of the Government and complaining most unreasonably and most ungratefully when she does not get all she asks for. This is not the attitude of British Columbia with respect to the Dominion Government. She is not a beggar. She does not plead for special favors. She wants nothing more than she has a perfect right to receive and what should be freely and without hesitation accorded to her. When the representatives of the other provinces know that she contributes three times as much *per capita* to the general revenue as some provinces which are considered of great importance, whose wants are carefully attended to, and whose petitions are attentively and respectfully considered, they will wonder how it is that British Columbia members are obliged year after year to remind the Government that she does not get fair play, that she is neglected and that provinces which do not contribute so largely to the revenue, and which do not require public works so much, are better treated. These complaints are not groundless. They are, on the contrary, reasonable and are made with good and sufficient cause.

The members from this Province know that the taxes which the British Columbians pay in proportion to their numbers are exceedingly great. The Public Accounts show that this Province is subjected to so great a drain that it is difficult to comprehend how it stands it. Its population is less than 100,000. The figures, according to the census of 1891, are 97,613. This includes Indians and Chinese. Yet this handful of taxpayers contributes to the Dominion Treasury $1,414,886 as customs duties and $241,270 excise taxes, $1,656,156 in all, or $16.97 per head of the population. This is more than four times the *per capita* rate for Nova Scotia, and nearly three times as much pro rata as the inhabitants of Ontario are required to pay.

The average rate of taxation in this Dominion from the two great sources of revenue, Customs and Excise, is $5.92 *per capita*, yet the Public Accounts show us that British Columbia pays $16.97 per head of its population. This shows that British Columbia pays eleven dollars a head more than the average share, amounting in all to $1,078,623. What does this Province get from the Dominion Government for this million odd dollars a year more than the average share of taxation? Not its proportionate share of appropriations certainly. In order that our readers may see that we have not exaggerated in the least, we lay before them the following tabulated statement based upon the Public Accounts for 1892, and the Census of 1891:

Province.	Population.	Revenue. Customs and Excise.	Per Capt.
Ontario	3,114,321	$ 12,054,411	$ 5.70
Quebec	1,488,535	10,509,632	7.06
Nova Scotia	450,396	1,689,242	3.75
New Brunswick	321,263	1,336,745	4.16
Manitoba	152,506	1,145,189	7.50
British Columbia	97,613	1,656,156	16.97
P. E. Island	109,078	214,135	1.94
N. W. Territories	98,967	16,649	0.17
Dom. of Canada	4,832,679	28,631,166	5.92

Any intelligent and fair-minded man who studies these figures at all carefully and sees the great disparity between the burden of taxation in British Columbia and that which the other Provinces are required to bear must admit that the claims of this Province on the Dominion Government are very strong indeed, and that it is not surprising that its representatives in Parliament consider it their duty vigorously to protest against the treatment it is receiving.

INTRODUCED AT LAST.

The Thirteenth of February, 1893, will be a memorable day in the history of the British House of Commons. On that day Mr. Gladstone, after more than seven years of incessant agitation, introduced his second Irish Home Rule Bill. During by far the greater part of that time he has been in Opposition. He has worked with astonishing vigor for a man of his years. His tenacity has been as remarkable as his vigor. He has on this question lost the support of warm friends and able supporters. Among others, Lord Hartington, John Bright, Mr. Goschen, Joseph Chamberlain, not only left his party, but became his most strenuous opponents. Besides these eminent men a large number of his English supporters, men whose approbation he valued highly, found themselves compelled by their sense of duty to join the Unionists. To lose the political companionship and co-operation of so many men whose help he needed and whose approbation he valued highly must have been a great trial and a sore discouragement to the veteran leader of the Liberal party. In the interval the leader of the Irish Home Rulers fell. Parnell forfeited the position and the influence he had won by his own weakness and wickedness, and time was not given him even to attempt to retrieve what he had lost. Mr. Gladstone was left almost alone to fight the battle of Home Rule. But he did not falter. He went into the general election with the vigor of a much younger man. The victory he gained was not by any means decisive. His majority was, comparatively speaking, not much more than a corporal's guard, and England returned a majority of more than seventy to oppose his policy. A statesman in the prime of life might be excused if he feared to meet Parliament under such circumstances with so small a majority. But Mr. Gladstone, whatever he may have felt, has shown no signs of trepidation. Yesterday he brought down his Home Rule Bill with as much courage and apparent confidence as if he was sure of carrying it by a sweeping majority. It is impossible not to admire the pluck and the perseverance of the old man even when one does not approve the cause he advocates.

To judge of the bill from what we have seen of it, we should say it cannot be palatable to the Irish Home Rulers. In the very first sentence of its preamble it declares the Irish Parliament to be subordinate. The agitators have been all along demanding a free and an independent Parliament. If the supreme authority of Parliament—that is, the existing Parliament—is to be neither "restricted" nor "impaired," where is there room for independence or the sovereignty of the Irish Legislature? Mr. Gladstone may juggle with words as he may, but the legislature which is under the supremacy of the Imperial Parliament cannot in the nature of things be "sovereign."

LYNCH LAW.

An unutterably horrible lynching took place in Texas a few weeks ago. The spirit of barbarity exhibited, not by a few lawless characters, but by almost the whole population of a large district, shows the observer that the veneer of civilization which covers society in that part of the United States is very thin indeed. There were, no doubt, many humane and law-abiding people in Texas who were horrified at the display of almost fiendish barbarity, but it will have to be admitted that the great bulk of the inhabitants heartily approved of condign punishment without trial and by a dreadful form of torture. Among those who were indignant at the outrage and who were shocked at the spirit displayed by men and women who were supposed to be civilized and imbued with Christian principle, was the Governor of Texas. In his message to the Legislature Governor Hogg stigmatized the lynching as "an atrocious and barbarous crime, shameful to humanity," and as "the most revolting execution of the age." He said: "The condition exists in our State that while one man can be convicted for murder a hundred men who commit murder cannot be." This is a deplorable condition for any civilized community to be in. There are, it is true, some crimes which are horrible to think of, and which deserve the severest punishment, inflicted in the most impressive way. But the burning of the criminal by an excited mob is calculated rather to provoke crime and to foster a spirit of revenge and cruelty, which is the prolific cause of crime, than to deter wicked and bloody-minded men from giving the rein to their brutal passions. Besides, the contempt for law which lynching encourages is of itself a danger to society. The Governor in his message said:

The observation of every experienced man teaches that when a community is infested with a mob spirit legal executions become rare and impossible. When a murderer on trial knows that he is before a jury composed of one or more men who have escaped punishment for an equal crime he feels sure of either an acquittal or a hung jury. A mob execution is no less than a murder execution. No man or set of men with murder upon their hands are capable of justly enforcing the laws. As a rule the riff-raff, lounging, indolent, lawless element of a community inspire and lead the mobs, while the law-abiding, industrious citizen is terrorized by the spectacle. If people otherwise respectable are led into the crime by the excitement of the occasion, in their cooler moments they must see that their associates and leaders are an element of hardened criminals. Something should be done to teach them in advance that for their crime they must answer at the bar of justice.

When men learn to respect law—to acknowledge its majesty—there will be no lynching. It is because many citizens of the United States have lost their respect for law and their faith in the integrity and fidelity those who administer it, that so many are so ready to take the law in their own hands. The first thing to be done to bring about the reform that Governor Hogg believes to be necessary, is to cleanse the law courts and to place the enforcement of the laws in the hands of men of courage, energy and integrity. Let the people once have reason to feel that the law is a terror to evil-doers and they will be content to leave it to deal with the men who commit crimes of every degree of atrocity.

MEAN AND MENDACIOUS.

One of the contractors who are making the alterations necessary to transform the gymnasium of the Central School into class rooms, had his men working on Sunday. The Times hearing of this offence against religion and the law of the land, tries in its mean and mendacious way to hold the Minister of Education responsible for its commission. As the Times very well knows, as the schools are now managed, the Minister has no more to do with the repairs done to school buildings than the Mayor. In fact, not so much. But neither the Minister nor Mayor, we are quite sure, knew that the carpenters were at work in the school building on last Lord's Day. The work is done under the supervision of the Trustees, who it is certain would not permit, if they were aware of it, the contractor or any of his men to work on Sunday. To attempt to fasten the offence of this act of Sabbath desecration on the Minister of Education was one of the contemptible little tricks for which, to the disgust of honest and fair-minded men of both parties, the organ of the Opposition is notorious.

MARSEILLES, Feb. 14.—The mayor announced to the municipal council to-day that the health of the city was now much better than it had been in the last two years.

From the DAILY COLONIST, Feb. 14.

THE CITY.

Those Valentines!

Did'st ever get a valentine
To fill your heart with joy—
To make you cry in ecstasy,
"Dear girl"—perhaps "Dear Boy"?

Did'st ever get a valentine
And fall down in a fit—
As tenderly you opened up
A chilling "please remit"?

Imported Cattle.

Mr. W. J. McKeon has imported twenty fine milch cows from Ontario, which arrived on Sunday and are now the pride of his farm.

At Half Mast.

In pursuance of instructions received from the State Department, U. S. Consul Myers is floating the flag over the Consulate at half mast for ten days, in honor of the late James G. Blaine.

Calgary Cattle.

A big consignment of cattle arrived in town yesterday from Calgary. They are consigned to Mr. L. Goodacre, of the Queen's Market, and are pronounced by him to be as good in quality as any yet brought to Victoria. They had all been stall-fed, but they stood the long journey well.

Pacific Portland Cement.

Application was made on the 11th inst., to incorporate a company to operate this important industry near Victoria. The company, which will be known as the Pacific Portland Cement Co., will be represented by Messrs. Wood, Travis & Co., as agents, with Mr. A. S. Dumbleton as solicitor. The agent's office is at No. 6 Bastion street.

The Weight of Coal.

Consumers of coal are beginning to avail themselves very largely of the provisions of the Market by-law, which gives them the right of having their coals weighed on the public scales, a ticket therefrom being produced by the teamster setting forth the exact weight. Eight out of every ten loads thus tested show a shortage of from two to three hundred weight. The checking system will, therefore, be more freely adopted.

Improvements at St. Mark's.

Extensive alterations are to be carried out at St. Mark's Church after Easter. A chancel is to built and the west side thrown down and extended; the building consecrated, a new organ purchased and a surpliced choir organized under E. J. Eyres, whose experience of choirs in England has been extensive. Towards the alterations a friend in England has just donated the sum of $250; the total cost of the alterations will amount to $1,000.

The Synod of B. C.

The Synod of British Columbia, embracing the Presbyteries of Calgary, Kamloops, Westminster and Vancouver Island, will meet in the First Presbyterian church, Pandora avenue, on Wednesday, March 1, at 7:30 p.m. Rev. Walter R. Ross, of Donald, is Clerk of the Synod, and the retiring Moderator, Rev. D. MacRae, will preach the opening sermon. The Presbytery of Vancouver Island will meet in St. Andrew's church here on Tuesday, the 28th inst.

The Considine Case.

In consequence of the publication of certain articles in the Seattle Mercury, John W. Considine and an attache of his theatre invaded the sanctum of that paper on Sunday, and an argument with the editor and his associate followed. Remarks on both sides were punctuated with revolver shots, and Considine was the only one of the party to emerge scathless from the fray. Mr. Considine's matrimonial troubles have not yet been disposed of by the courts, the proceedings being continued until February 16.

Dr. Hills' Improved Health.

All will be glad to hear that the Most Rev. Dr. Hills has so far recovered from his late severe illness that he was to have left London for Hastings last week. It is uncertain whether he will be sufficiently recovered, however, to assist in the consecration of Rev. W. W. Perrin on St. Matthias' day, February 24. Bishop Perrin and Miss Perrin, his sister, will arrive in Victoria early in May, His Lordship not being able, as was fondly hoped, to reach his new home by Easter.

"Infant Salvation."

This was the subject of Sunday evening's discourse at Pioneer hall by Mrs. C. Mayo-Steers, which, judging from the attention given by the audience, proved very interesting. The speaker claimed that infants passing to the after life are received by a band of loving spirits, by whom they are cherished and brought to maturity under far better conditions than they are likely to attain here.

"Still," said the speaker, "if parents would study pre-natal conditions, so that their children would be healthier, they would live out their lives in this sphere, and the happiness of both parents and children would be greatly increased.

Lenten Services.

The Lenten season commences to-morrow, Ash Wednesday, and will be observed as a special period in which "to mortify the deeds of the body," by those branches of the Christian Church which more particularly observe the fast. At St. Andrew's R. C. Cathedral, on Sunday last, Rev. Father Nicolaye read a pastoral letter from Bishop Lemmens upon the observances of the season, outlining a general programme from date to Easter eve. In the Episcopalian churches special arrangements have also been made for the "forty days." At St. Mark's, Cloverdale, the subjects for Sunday morning and evening services have already been announced, also for the regular Wednesday and Friday night meetings. Similar arrangements have been made at the church of the Holy Saviour, Victoria West.

Protestant Orphans Home.

A meeting of the Committee of Management of the Protestant Orphans' Home was held last evening, with President F. H. Worlock in the chair, and the following present: Rt. Rev. Bishop Cridge, Jas. Hutcheson, treasurer; Chas. Hayward, secretary; N. Shakespeare, H. Carmichael, H. Jewell, Mrs. E. Cridge, Mrs. J. Hutcheson, Mrs. Sargison and Mrs. Williams. Letters and enclosures were received from Mr. R. Owen Allsop, now in England, setting forth the results of visits paid by him to orphanages in that country with various sketch plans of proposed buildings, for the guidance of the committee in selecting plans for the John G. Taylor building. These were received with thanks, and the secretary requested to tender the same. Mr. H. Carmichael and Mr. C. Hayward were appointed a committee to draft conditions and invite competitive plans for a brick building on the new site, Hillside avenue, to cost $20,000—plans to be ready within twenty-one days from date. The urgency for having the new building as soon as possible, was explained by the president, who reported that the home was at present overcrowded, and suggested that a temporary building be rented. Various details as to internal arrangements were referred to the Ladies' committee.

Licensed to Wed.

The Puget Sound papers announce that a license to wed has been issued to Albert E. Stevens, of Victoria, and Miss Mary E. Ballanger, of Port Townsend.

The Juvenile Court.

The juvenile branch of Court Northern Light, A.O.F., met and elected the following officers last evening: Wm. Nicholas, president (re-elected); G. Phillips, vice-president (re-elected); J. P. Hancock, treasurer; J. March, secretary; Messrs. Trace and Rennie, trustees; Dr. E. Hall, medical officer (re-elected).

Ottaway Lodge, Sons of St. George.

Ottaway lodge No. 354 met last night, when, after disposing of considerable business, a very pleasant social time was spent, there being a large attendance of members and visitors. The programme is appended: Song, Bro. Bassett; reading, Bro. King; song, Bro. Wise; song, Bro. Penketh; recitation, Bro. Bovin; song, Bro. Martindale; song, Bro. Carter; speeches, Bros. Bradbury and Penketh, of Milton lodge.

Amateur Theatricals.

The amateur operatic performance at Victoria West, arranged for last night—weather and tram cars permitting—came off as was intended and proved a big success. The musical farce, "My Uncle the Ghost," with Mrs. Bullen, Mrs. Scaife and Mr. G. Bushby occupying the boards, was a treat warmly applauded. The comic singing of Messrs. Foulkes and Webber was much enjoyed, as was also the farce, "His Only Coat." Mrs. F. Fenberton and Miss Harvey sang with their usual taste, and Mr. Scaife gave a recitation.

Advanced Prices Prevail.

Cable reports of the February fur sales in London show that generally advanced prices prevail. The Hudson's Bay Co.'s beavers went at ten per cent. more than in January, and muskrats at five per cent. advance. Lampson's bear sold at fifteen per cent. over November, beaver at seven and a half per cent. advance since June and grey fox at twenty per cent. rise on November. Red fox showed an improvement of ten per cent. since November, marten twenty, mink thirty-five, opossum fifteen, raccoon five, and skunk twenty-five per cent., also over November. The price of muskrats, according to Lampson's, has advanced ten per cent. since June. The next important London sale will commence March 13.

SEAMEN'S TROUBLES.

Supt. Hussey, of the Provincial police, yesterday received information that another raid had been made on a non-union crew in the port of Nanaimo, and also an outline of a daring highway robbery which took place in Northfield on Saturday evening. Thinking that the vicinity of Nanaimo offers unusual inducements for the exercise of his official powers, Mr. Hussey leaves for that place this morning in order to thoroughly investigate the matter, and also to be present at the trial of those concerned in the raid on the steamer Bawnmore, which comes up on Thursday.

The following particulars were received from Nanaimo regarding the cases:

"NANAIMO, Feb. 13.—At midnight on Saturday evening Constable Shakespeare was held up at Northfield by two negroes and one white man, who relieved him of all his valuables, including his six-shooter, handcuffs, watch, and twenty-one dollars in money. On Sunday night Constable Stevenson arrested one negro, named Dooly, at Wellington, and Sergt. Gibbs arrested another, named Smith, in town. Smith was armed with a knife, razor and slingshot. He attempted to draw the knife on Gibbs, but the latter pulled out his revolver and quieted the darkey. Shakespeare's watch was found on Smith. A white man, supposed to be the one wanted, was arrested this morning by Constable Stevenson at Wellington, where he lives with his family. All of them have been remanded until Thursday.

The bark Forest Queen arrived last night from Frisco. Soon after she dropped anchor the scab crew were taken off. They were found this morning in the loft of an old house at Grasshopper flat. The union deny all knowledge of the affair and the seamen also swear that they left the vessel of their own accord, owing to bad treatment and the unseaworthiness of the ship. The police think the union had a hand in taking the crew off, but have, as yet, no evidence of it. The case has been referred to the American Consul, who this evening heard the complaints of the men, and ordered them to be detained in jail until the vessel is ready for sea, and then to be put on board.

Chief O'Connell last night arrested Tom Davis, the owner of the sloop Mollie, on which Hamlyn, the leader of the Bawnmore raid, left the city. Davis, who returned yesterday, states that the sloop was wrecked. He has nothing to say regarding the Hamlyn affair. Information has been laid against him as being accessory to the kipnapping affair. He will probably be tried with the others at the special assize.

Puget Sound papers assert that the union men in Seattle and Tacoma discountenance the kidnapping policy, and quote a prominent union seaman as saying: "We don't approve of any such outrages, and ship owners who know us are well aware of our sentiments."

MONTREAL, Feb. 14.—The Montreal civic elections held on Feb. 1st have been declared legal by the Superior court, and Senator Desjardins has been sworn in as Mayor. The aldermen elected have also been sworn. Ex-Mayor McShane has appealed from the decision.

HAMILTON, Feb. 14.—By a vote of 16 to 4 the Hamilton city council last night refused to reduce the number of liquor licenses.

HAMILTON, Feb. 14.—Shaver's lumber mill, in Lancaster township, has been burned. Loss, $3,000; uninsured.

TORONTO, Feb. 14.—As a result of the efforts of the Manitoba and Northwest emigration commissioners in Ontario, the first settlers' party will start on February 28, when about 30 carloads leave. The greatest number, however, have signified their intention of starting about the middle of March.

TORONTO, Feb. 14.—At a meeting of the Young Men's Conservative association, last evening, Dr. Ryerson, Conservative candidate in the approaching local election said that Mr. Meredith would take his seat in the Legislature next session in spite of all rumors and it was therefore desirable to have a strong opposition to strengthen his hands.

ORILLA, Feb. 13.—A race between Edward Hanlan and Jacob Gaudaur now seems to be a certainty. Gaudaur posted his forfeit of $300, the understanding being that the referee is to toss for choice of courses at the time of making the second deposit, which, it is said, was Hanlan's own suggestion.

IT GIRDLED THE GLOBE.

The Storm Which Chilled Victorians Also Whitened the Flowery Kingdom.

Smallpox Epidemic—Curios for the Fair—The Zambesi—From Oriental Papers.

Victoria's namesake, the fine steamship of the Northern Pacific line which Captain J. Panton, R.N.R., commands, arrived in port on time Sunday, with a clean bill of health and a good cargo, besides 123 passengers in the steerage. Owing to the rough weather, for the recent storms have boldly crossed the seas, the Victoria took the southern passage, and was consequently a day or so longer on the voyage.

The report of the trip from the log is, in brief, as follows, no particularly noteworthy happenings being chronicled: The Victoria left Hongkong January 18, Shanghai 22, Kobe 26 and Yokokama 28, having experienced fine weather generally while on the Chinese coast. After leaving Yokohama fresh winds from northeast to northwest were met with, while heavy snow storms and high head seas were encountered. The meridian was crossed on the 4th inst. in the 49th parallel. Then followed moderate easterly winds and fine weather until the 10th, when a southeast gale with high seas was experienced. Saturday brought thick weather with very heavy rain; Carmanah was passed at 7:30 p.m. and Victoria sighted early Sunday morning.

On the present trip 2,500 tons of mixed Oriental merchandise form the bulk of the cargo, though not the most interesting portion, which is made up of curios for exhibition at Chicago. One of the most conspicuous of these is a "tea house," complete, from Yokohama, which will be set up at the World's Fair grounds by the Japanese accompanying it on the voyage, and who leave for Chicago by the N.P.R. to-day.

"Across the water" the cold snap is just at present receiving undivided attention. It made its presence felt in the Orient before it reached Victoria, and when the steamer left Hongkong that city was enjoying the first snowstorm that has ever whitened its streets. The Pok-fu-lam reservoir was frozen over and there was good skating too—or at least there would have been had not skates been an unknown quantity in the land of summer. In Macao the snowfall was heavy, five to six inches, and one correspondent describes the scenes there in the following:

"It was indeed a magnificent sight, to see all the surrounding mountains and hills, trees, houses, everything covered with a soft white veil of dazzling beauty—the like of which has never been seen by the present generation. The children were immensely delighted, making snowballs and snow figures, just as if they had been accustomed to it every year. In the country round about it is reported that the vegetable gardens were in some cases two feet deep in snow, and the hillsides five or six inches. The heights of Lappa called to mind Fusiyama, the peerless mountain of Japan, or the Alps, with their glittering white crests. The icicles hanging from the leaves and from the housetops are as big as candles, and the pools of water in the streets are all frozen about the hedges. The old residents of Macao have no recollection of ever having seen snow here before, but some of them say that when they were quite young they heard their aged patriarchs speak of some such occurrence—perhaps before the Flood!"

The snow is welcomed by the superstitious Chinese, to whom it is a stranger guest, as a special mark of divine favor, for snow is thought to be a certain specific for many dangerous fevers. In all the temples of the Flowery Kingdom hymns of praise to the Lizard are ascending for the special mark of favor.

Both in China and Japan smallpox is raging with considerable malevolence. Mr. Hayashi, Japanese consul at Shanghai, has reported to his Government that the epidemic there is increasing in severity, and has already assumed dangerous proportions. In Kobe, during the fourteen days ending January 8, no less than 340 persons were attacked by smallpox, and there were 149 deaths. On the 11th January 21 new cases were reported, which shows a decrease on the number reported for the preceding few days.

When the Victoria left Japan the Zambesi was preparing to emerge from the Yokohama drydock, her intention being to clear for Hongkong in less than a week. She will load cargo at the British port and then return to Victoria to take her place on the Puget Sound-Honolulu line. The "shire" line steamer Monmouthshire, which is reported to be under charter to the N. P. Co., left Hongkong for Victoria via Japanese ports.

The cream of the Oriental news, as contained in the papers brought by the Victoria, may be given in a few words as hereunder:

"The Japanese steamer Wadatsu Maru foundered in January while entering the harbor of Nugata, with the loss of eleven lives.

"Subscriptions to the Bokhara relief fund collected in Shanghai alone now total $5,546.45, less $10, the cost of printing and sending out the list of subscribers.

"The Yomiuri Shimbun says that there is a movement on foot among the influential members of the House of Peers to try and compromise the deadlock between the House of Representatives and the Government over the budget.

"The Jiji Shimpo reports that a large fire occurred in Peking on the 7th of this month, when over ten thousand houses were burnt, and several lives lost. The authorities are making efforts to learn the extent of the damage, and are doing their best to relieve the sufferers.

"An interesting and significant amendment, introduced in the Japanese committee of the Peers, to the act for the Government of Public Newspapers, prohibits women from becoming publishers or editors. These offices are to be reserved to men of or over 21 years of age, the committee unanimously deciding that the discharge of such work by females is neither becoming nor desirable. A minority of the committee was strongly opposed to the principle of empowering the administration to suspend a newspaper even for the limited period of one week.'

"Crimes punishable with the last penalty of the law are comparatively few in Japan, and there are some who hold strong opinions against capital punishment. Mr. Ouchi Seiran, a well-known priest in Tokyo, has presented a petition to the House of Representatives asking that capital punishment should be abolished; the introducer was Mr. Kuroda, a member of the Diet belonging to the Kokumin Kyokai."

The Chinese New Year.

The Chinese of Victoria will to-day celebrate their 19th new year—that is the 19th year of the reign of their present emperor, Kwong Sui. Chinatown was searched yesterday for the man who could tell a COLONIST reporter what year they were about to celebrate—that is numerically. The information gleaned was that since the accession of Emperor Chin, B. C. 349, the Chinese, wherever they are, count their new year from the date of the accession of each successive emperor. How many rulers preceded Chin no man knows, but tradition says that the empire dates back 11,000 years before Christ. Whether there were fire crackers used in those days history does not record; but it is pretty certain that Joss will not be successfully dealt with this year. There is great poverty in Chinatown just at present; even the leading merchants cannot rake in cash, and consequently the "display" will not be as extravagant as usual.

DRAGGED DOWN TO DEATH.

Victoria Arm added another to its list of victims on Sunday last.

Early Sunday morning Thomas Fletcher, a son of the Fort street music dealer, and Harry Campbell, son of the proprietor of the Driard bar, both lads of about fourteen years, took an Indian dugout canoe and proceeded up the Arm for a day's duck shooting. When in the vicinity of Craigflower bridge young Campbell stood up in the canoe to take a shot at a duck. While doing so he lost his balance and the canoe began to fill with water.

Fletcher, who was paddling at the time, called for him to sit down in the middle of the canoe, but Campbell became excited and sprang into the water, overturning the canoe at the same time. Fletcher succeeded in clinging to the craft and managed to draw himself up on it, but Campbell sank at once to the bottom.

The cries of Fletcher attracted the attention of a party who were near the shore in a boat, and who hastened to the scene of the accident, but too late to rescue Campbell. Mr. George Clyde, one of the men in the boat, secured a rake and brought up the body from the bottom, where it was lying in about eight feet of water. The Provincial police were at once notified and the body was removed to town by them.

An inquest was held upon the remains yesterday afternoon. Coroner Hasell called a jury consisting of John Fullerton, foreman; E. B. Drummond, H. L. Salmon, George Langley and C. Spencer. Thomas Fletcher, companion of the unfortunate lad, J. H. Bucket and George Clyde were examined and the story as told above brought out. The sudden sinking of the boy was owing to a hunting vest filled with cartridges and heavy rubber boots.

A verdict of accidental drowning was rendered, the jury adding a rider to the effect that the Legislature should enact a law against young lads being allowed to carry firearms.

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Campbell unite in extending to them a heartfelt sympathy in this hour of suffering. The loss of the young lad, who was dearly beloved by his parents, has cast a gloom over the once happy family which the most tender ministrations of friends can only partly alleviate.

The funeral of Harry Campbell will be held from 151 Pandora avenue, and from Christ Church Cathedral, at 2:30 to-day.

THE LOTTERY OF LOVE.

How the Anniversary of Good St. Valentine Became Identified With the Lupercal Festival.

The Changes Which Follow in the Wake of Years—The Modern System.

Way back in the merry days of pagan Rome at the great Springtide feast of the Lupercal the youths and maidens played the lottery of love. Each gallant gentleman drew from a box a slip of parchment, on which a maiden's name was inscribed. To this fair lottery prize—and there were no blanks in those days—the gallant devoted himself with chivalrous zeal for a whole year. He was under solemn, oath-bound compact to be at her beck and call, like a faithful knight-errant, and render profuse homage to her charms in the best rhyme he could frame or buy of the verse-makers.

Rome jogged along joyously until Christianity threw a shadow of martyrdom over many of its festival days. Among the primitive worthies of the early Church who met violent deaths for the faith were Saint Valentine of Tortosa and Saint Valentine of Interamna. Both suffered martyrdom, so tradition says, on the 14th of February, when the Lupercal festivities were at their height in Rome. And so it came by the principle of amalgamation so common with the early Church that the anniversary of Saint Valentine was merged in the Lupercal games, and the lottery of love became a feature of the celebration in honor of the gentle old saint's memory.

For many centuries it flourished on the continent—especially in Italy and Germany—In England, and in this new country, until recent years, and love told its tales in valentines. But like much of the genial poesy of the past, the festival's pretty chivalry has been crushed under the wheels of the practical Juggernaut of prose. Money makers are the idols of the day. Verse makers are tolerated as harmless cranks. The details of chivalry take too much time. They have followed the stage coach into retirement, and all matter of sentiment, all affairs of the heart, once surrounded with the charms of leisure, are now rushed to a climax on the railroad of love. To-day the swain who would play knight for a whole year, weaving embroidered ditties to his Valentine's eyebrows or ambrosial lips on the strength of any oath made at a festival, would soon be taken in hand and referred to a court of lunacy.

So we of the nineteenth century can pack the dead old Saint away with the other "fair humanities of old religion," and keep an eye on the passing regiment of rapid Americans who play the lottery of love upon different systems. There is the bigamy system, the tandem, the four-abreast, the Jekyll and Hyde combination, the Chicago system, with "fifteen minutes for divorce," as an attraction of travel, or the Dakota plan, which advertises to break all love shackles while you wait. Valentine was an estimable saint when the world was full of rhyme and time moved on crutches. He is a back number now.

Steinberger-Tway.

At the residence of Rev. J. H. White, yesterday, Mr. William Steinberger, one of the most popular young farmers of the Lake district, was married to Miss Annie Tway, youngest daughter of Mr. John Tway, of the same locality. The wedding was a quiet one and the happy couple are away now on their wedding trip to Vancouver, thence across the Sound. They have the best wishes of many friends for a very happy and prosperous married life.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Third Session of the Sixth Parliament.

TENTH DAY.

MONDAY, Feb. 13, 1893.

The Speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

MR. MARTIN, from the Private Bills committee, reported that the rules had been complied with in the case of the following petitions: City of Vancouver *re* amendments to the charter; *re* Kootenay river to Kootenay Lake Railway; *re* Osoyoos and Okanagan Railway; *re* Masonic Temple Association, of Victoria; *re* Cable Company between Vancouver Island and Mainland; *re* Lardeau and Kootenay Railway.

FEES ON PRIVATE BILLS.

MR. SWORD moved, seconded by Mr. Horne, "To amend the rules and orders by adding to section 58 the following words: Private bills brought in on petition presented after the first two weeks of the session shall be subject to double the regular fees."

HON. MR. DAVIE said he thought it would be better if the hon. member would not proceed with his resolution. All hon. members, he said, understood the laudable object the hon. member from New Westminster district had in view, but he (Mr. Davie) thought it would not be quite fair to those who had private bills in charge and to promoters of private bills, to pass the motion now. Next session something of the kind might be incorporated in the rules.

MR. SEMLIN supported the resolution.

HON. MR. DAVIE said his objection was that the rule would, under the resolution, come into force this session.

MR. HOUNE said that as seconder of the resolution he understood the principle would not apply until next session.

On suggestion of the hon. Premier the motion was allowed to stand over for amendment.

ATTACHMENT OF WAGES.

MR. KEITH introduced a bill to abolish the attachment of wages. Read a first time; second reading Thursday.

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRIVATE BILLS.

MR. MARTIN moved, seconded by Mr. Stoddart, "That the time for presenting private bills and receiving reports from the Private Bills committee be extended ten days." Carried.

MEDICAL ACT AMENDMENT.

DR. WATT introduced a bill to amend the Medical Act. Read a first time; second reading Thursday.

PROTECTION OF CATTLE RANGES.

MR. STODDART moved, seconded by Mr. Smith: "That a select committee be appointed to inquire into the question of the protection of winter cattle ranges and the desirability of defining certain boundaries in which sheep may be depastured; committee to consist of Hon. F. G. Vernon, Messrs. Martin, Semlin, Rogers, Watt, Smith and the mover."

MR. STODDART said: In moving this resolution for a select committee, which, you will notice, is composed of hon. members who represent districts that are largely interested in stock raising, I would say that my reason for wishing to have this committee appointed is to try to amend the Cattle Ranges Act of 1888, which was so amended by a slight error last session in introducing a change in the Commons Act that it was found to be unworkable. My idea is to so amend the Act that the different stock raisers' associations throughout the Province will have a certain amount of control over the ranges in the different polling divisions, but I certainly think that the parties who have invested their capital in sheep are also entitled to some protection. In the district which I have the honor to represent there have been imported within the last two years several thousand head of sheep from Oregon and from Ontario—I think something over 15,000 head—and I am informed that there will be large importations this year. It is a well known fact that cattle and sheep will not thrive on the same grazing land, especially in a dry section of country, and some people are of the opinion that sheep should not be allowed to pasture on public land, especially in a bunch grass country. This Province, however, is large in area, and I think there ought to be room for both cattle and sheep, providing the Act is so amended as to give justice to the owners of both. The Cattle Ranges Act of 1888 gave the stock-raisers north and east of the Cascade range, power to form themselves into an association by having a two-third majority of the qualified resident holders of land, and was found to work well, with very few exceptions, and I am still of the opinion that cattle raisers should have ample range for their cattle as they are the oldest settlers in the Province and have the bulk of their capital invested in that enterprise. The principal dispute is in regard to the winter ranges, which are principally situated along the banks of the different rivers and in ordinary winters cattle and sheep can be pastured without any serious loss. I sincerely hope that this committee will be able to so amend the act as to give general satisfaction to all the parties interested in stock-raising.

MR. SMITH said that in seconding the resolution he did so with the idea in view that the result of the work of the committee would be to find a solution of the question. He thought that men who had lived for a length of time in the country, as the cattle men had, should have a certain amount of protection. It was generally conceded that sheep would destroy the cattle ranges, and he hoped legislation would be had to prevent the grazing being all destroyed.

MR. SEMLIN supported the resolution, but thought it should include summer as well as winter ranges.

HON. MR. VERNON thought that the resolution was a good one, which should commend itself to every hon. member of the House. The subject was a very difficult one to deal with. Parties who invested their money in sheep claimed the same rights as other citizens to the use of a portion of the public domain. On the other hand, the cattle men had been in business for many years, and felt that they should not be injured by sheep being allowed to destroy the pasture. He would have much pleasure in assisting in the inquiry, which, he hoped, would result in the settlement of the much vexed question.

MR. SEMLIN drew attention to the rules which provide that select committees shall not have more than five members.

After some considerable discussion,

HON. MR. DAVIE said that there was every reason why the committee should have on it all of the members from the interested districts. The question before the House was one which had given the Government much concern, and he was sure the information which would be gathered by the committee would be of great use and assistance in settling the difficulty.

MR. HUNTER supported the motion, which was carried unanimously.

B. C. SOUTHERN RAILWAY.

MR. SMITH introduced a bill to amend the B. C. Southern Railway Act; read a