From THE DAILY COLONIST, September 12.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

Naturalist's Outing.

The Natural History Society will leave to-day by the steamer Alert for Sydney Island on a deciding expedition. They will be absent all day, and in the evening will meet at the Provincial Museum to discuss the day's operations and consider the spoils of the deep.

A Good Investment.

To the investor with only a small amount of capital to work on, THE WEEKLY COLONIST should prove a rare attraction. For the small sum of ten cents one can be procured a copy of this pioneer production,—16 pages of the best and freshest reading matter, issued every Friday morning, and value for the money that cannot be discounted anywhere.

Long Needed.

The long-needed increase in the desk accomodation in the three first divisions of the Central school, are now being made, and for several days those divisions will be in consequent confusion. The desks and seats are combined, built of two colors of natural wood with iron trimmings, and finished in the prettiest and most serviceable style. They were manufactured in Preston, Ont., and are the finest school desks ever seen in this Prvince.

An Eminent Optician Coming.

Those Victorians who are so unfortunate as to require aids to failing or impaired eyesight will be pleased to know that the eminent New York optician, F. D. Seward, will soon visit Victoria for a short sojourn. Mr. Seward carries the highest endorsements from leading American oculists and physicians, and will be prepared to furnish the finest lenses produced by modern science, adapted to any peculiarity of the vision. He also supplies artificial eyes. His stay here will be short.

Along the West Coast.

Almost every one composing the Indian population of the West Coast villages is away from home. So reports the steamer Alert, which returned from Clayoquot yesterday morning. Those of the Sliwashes who are not sealing, have gone with their wives and families to the hop fields, and the settlements are deserted. A big camp meeting is in progress at Alberni, and almost all the white residents of the district are attending. The Alert sighted two sealing schooners near the Cape, but did not come near enough to identify them.

It took a Tumble.

Last evening about half a dozen workmen were engaged with ropes and tackle in hoisting a large and heavy safe up the stairway to the offices over Mr. Joseph Somer's art store. The safe had been brought almost to the top step when the rope gave way, and it fell, with a thundering crash, down the stairs, smashing everything in its way. The decorative doorways were badly demoralized, but little further damage was done. Had anyone been standing in the path of the falling safe instant death would probably have been his portion.

Obituary.

A telegram was received yesterday announcing the death at the Bella Vista Hotel, San Francisco, of Mr. H. B. Vaudin, formerly of this city. The deceased gentleman, who was only 27 years of age at the time of his death, was a native of Jersey, Channel Islands. He was well known and much esteemed in Victoria, being employed in the office of Mr. H. E. Croasdaile. Two years ago he went to San Francisco, where he secured an engagement as reporter on the Chronicle and afterwards on the Examiner. His friends in Victoria will be sorry to learn of his death at so early an age.

Fire!—Back!!

Such was the salutation with which a number of persons were greeted at about noon yesterday when about to cross James Bay bridge. The individual appointed by the contractor or his foreman to warn passers by made no explanations, possibly because his vocabulary was not sufficiently extensive; but as he pointed to the excavations in a north-easterly direction the crowd addressed that there was about to be an explosion. Would it not be well if some one better versed in the English language were instructed to notify passers by, and that there be some better means than now obtain to tell them when it is safe to resume their journey?

The Assize Docket.

At present there are but three cases awaiting trial at the special Court of Assize, which opens on the 24th inst. The first, the least important on the list, is that of the man White, charged with assaulting a Chinaman at Esquimalt. The Chinaman's leg was broken and he was unable to appear at the preliminary examination. Next in order is the case of the Wellington miners, fixed for trial here by change of venue; in this Mr. C. E. Pooley appears for the prosecution, and Mr. Campbell, of Vancouver, for the defence. Regina vs. Rutledge is the remaining item on the docket, the prisoner being called to answer for the killing of Joe Dougan, of Cowichan. The attorney-general will represent the Crown, and Mr. S. Perry Mills appear for the defence.

A Stringent Step.

The Mayor of Port Townsend, yesterday, issued an order to suppress the gambling dens in that city, they having become an intolerable nuisance. His worship is so thoroughly determined in this step that he has made the assertion that the thing must be accomplished or the police force, chief and all, will be cleared out and new men put in their place. It seems that these institutions are part of a perfect organization in the shape of a regular joint stock company, the president of which is the chief of a large banking house in Seattle. This company has been known to disburse dividends of 35 and sometimes as high as 60 per cent. a month. The stock is more valuable than any bank in the country.

In the Police Court.

Peter Hoake and Charles Nolan, both bearing traces of a Bacchanalian feast, made their debut before his honor at 10:30 o'clock, when the police court proceedings commenced yesterday morning. They (the Bacchanalians) were financially worth five dollars less on their exit than on the entree about five minutes after bowing to his honor. Then a dirtily, picturesque Celestial was presented to explain whether he appropriated $1020 and some jewellery from Tenn Kuhn, and if he did, why he did. The affair seemed to be an outcome of the fighting escapade tried at the previous day's sitting of the court. Tenn Kuhn says he left the money in a tin box in his house and last saw it safe on Sunday morning. The same afternoon he found the house broken open and the box pillaged of its contents. The prisoner acknowledged having gone into the house, but denied having stolen the money. Prosecutor's statement to this effect was taken and the examination was adjourned. Mr. Fell for the prosecution, and Mr. Walker for the defence.

The Flying Dutchman.

The Yokohama sealing schooner Adele, Capt. Hansen, better known as the Flying Dutchman, entered the outer harbor and tied up at Warren's wharf during the hours of darkness of Wednesday night. She brought 433 skins, and had spoken none of the other sealers recently. Nine of the fleet were, Capt. Hansen said, between Behring's Sea and Victoria, en route here. He was fully satisfied that the Lily had found the bottom, but he had not seen the missing schooner during the season. On the 16th of August, the Adele reported being boarded by a lieutenant and party from the U. S. cutter Rush. She was then lying in Coal harbor. The lieutenant asked where the schooner had secured her catch, was told the North Pacific ocean, and departed apparently satisfied, after leaving a copy of the proclamation aboard. Volcanic disturbances on the Ounimak islands were reported by the schooner, but no fatalities had yet occurred.

Cannot Get Crews.

There was a report current yesterday afternoon that each of the sealing schooners now in port had commenced refitting for a late cruise to Behring's Sea. This seemed somewhat strange, after the reports made by the captains in regard to their reasons for returning to port, and investigation showed that the rumor was hardly justified by facts. It was contemplated to send the Triumph into a hitherto untried corner of the North Pacific, Capt. Cox having a theory in regard to the migration of the seals. A crew, however, could not readily be obtained, and it is likely that the plan must be abandoned, although many of the sealing men contend that good hunting weather can be enjoyed during the entire month of October. The Mary Taylor, whose captain had also some intention of going North again, is to be thoroughly overhauled and her gear changed, and this will prevent her making a second trip. There is very little probability of any of the schooners going out again until spring.

The Kootenay Trout.

Prof. S. J. P. Silvernail was a passenger by the Islander this morning for the East. His hailing place is Brooklyn, N. Y., where he is a noted elocutionist. On his present trip he represents that well known publication The Angler, which occupies a unique and popular position as a sporting paper. It is edited by Messrs. Harris & Hallock, the founders of Forest and Stream. Mr. Silvernail's opinion of Victoria is refreshingly encouraging to sportsmen. In this place will be a monumental monument to progress in 20 years from to-day. British Columbia generally he looks upon as the sportsman's paradise, but with the Kootenay he is most enthusiastic. For accessibility, and freedom from nuisances there could not be a finer spot in the world than the Kootenay river; and for real, downright game fish the trout of Kootenay are not to be equalled. Arrangements have been made for the Professor to give a series of readings at some of the important points along the line.

Steamboat Inspection.

The steamer Lorne was yesterday under examination at Spratt's wharf by Mr. Thompson, the official inspector, who is in no wise what a contemporary described as being a candidate for that position. He holds the Deputy-Minister's letter to say that he would be appointed if he passed a successful examination before the Board of Steamboat Inspectors. He has done so, and consequently holds the letter of the Chairman of the Board to that effect. It is, indeed, only owing to the fact of ministers being absent at this time of the year that the official notification has not been sent through to him. Naturally this makes it rather anomalous for Mr. Thompson, but he is attending to the work as far as he can, so as not to delay the making and repairing of boilers. When he gets his official notification of appointment he will sign the necessary documents, and, in the meantime, vessel owners and other parties interested are acting under his directions and instructions.

Standing of Battery "C."

Lieut.-Col. Holmes, commandant of "C" battery, called yesterday to correct inaccuracies in an item concerning the standing of the battery which appeared in THE COLONIST. He stated that none of the terms of the men expired this month. Ninety-five men had enlisted between the 15th and 20th October, 1887, and of these 52 remain, the others, principally, having purchased their discharge, a few deserting. Twenty-four men now serving entitled in Victoria, many of whose terms will not expire for nearly three years. The men whose terms expire next month have not of late signified what their intentions are—whether they will leave or remain. The battery, including officers and men, is now 81 strong, and even if the whole of the 52 left a number would still remain.

Cassiar Notes.

John Reese, who left Victoria for McDame Creek, Cassiar, in the latter part of February, in a letter to J. Fred. Fell, dated July 23, states that he reached his destination on the sixth of April. The party left Wrangel for up-river on the fourth March, but had to lay over for a week at the Desert on account of snow. At the boundary line three more days' delay occurred on account of water being on the ice. From thence on they had to break trail all the way, arriving at Telegraph Creek on the twenty-third March. It was easier traveling from that on to Dease Creek, but from there to Centreville very tedious, on account of the light snow. The winter on McDame Creek was a severe one, in January the mercury not venturing out of its bulb except for a couple of hours in mid-day. It ranged from 15° to 20° below zero until the fifteenth April. It snowed on the mountains all through June. Reese and company began sluicing on the seventeenth June. Donald McQuaig is working with John Allen on Snow Creek, but will spend the winter in extending his tunnel on Quartz Creek. Jack Mitchell is still working in the tunnel on Quartz Creek. Thos. Buckley, on Bear Creek, is making four or five dollars per day. There is no news from Thibert or Dease Creeks, except that J. Porter has sold out to the Diamond C. company. The la grippe played havoc among the Indians during the winter, many of them having died from it; others have left to seek a more congenial climate.

The Rithet Dredge.

Something like a week ago THE COLONIST announced the arrival in Victoria of Mr. A. O. Beattie, of Welland, Ontario, who has arrived to superintend the putting of the machinery in the Rithet dredge. His firm, that of A. O. Beattie & Co., control the patents of the latest devices, with which the dredge is supplied, and, in consequence, the machinery is the product of their establishment. Mr. Beattie was yesterday noticed by a COLONIST reporter on board the hull, and, in conversation, said that everything connected with the structure was first class and had been well put together. He would, however, he added, have preferred to see a greater proportion of oak employed. Possibly he was not aware how highly California pine and other Pacific Coast woods are appreciated by the underwriters. The dredge, he continued, was almost the largest which it is the custom to build, and had all the improvements and appliances. She had an improved fixing machine and patent swing cylinders, would make 40 feet of water and dig up from 800 to 1200 yards per day, according to the character of the material. She carries a 2½ yard dipper and is worked by 100 horse power, being, as he believed, the largest and most powerful dredge on the coast. She would, he thought, be in full working order in about six weeks. Captain J. A. Upper, who would command her, had had large experience as the captain of a dredge in the Welland canal. Her cranesmen would also come from there, but the rest of her crew would, he thought, come from British Columbia.

Grand Lodge I. O. G. T.

Wednesday's session of the Grand Lodge I. O. G. T., now meeting at Nanaimo, was a very busy one. Preliminary business being disposed of, reports for the year were received from the Grand Chief Templar, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Superintendent of Juvenile Templars. The Secretary's report shows that two new lodges have been established in the Province since the last session of the Grand Lodge, there now being 29 lodges at work with a total membership of 1,197. The receipts for the year were, $1,140.38; expenditure, $1,224.55. Five juvenile temples were instituted during the year, making a total for British Columbia of twelve temples, with 500 members.

Standing and special committees having been appointed, the election of Grand Lodge officers for 1890-91 was proceeded with, resulting as follows: G. C. T., C. S. Keith, New Westminster; G. V. T., Miss Ida Barrett, Vancouver; G. Couns., N. L. Oakley, Vancouver; G. Supt. of Juvenile Templars, Mrs. M. Jenkins, Victoria; Grand Secretary, William Allison, Vancouver; Grand Treasurer, Lewis Hall, Victoria; G. Chap. Rev. J. W. Hall, Kamloops; G. Marshal, A. W. Semple, Victoria.

A. G. S., S. Gough, Nanaimo; G. D. M., Miss L. Matthews, Vancouver; G. M., J. Menzies, Nanaimo; G. J. G., Miss Ida Steves, Lulu Island; G. G., G. J. Rolling, North Arm. The next session of the Grand Lodge will be held in New Westminster.

An Aldermanic Outing.

The aldermen will take their annual outing to-day, visiting and inspecting the water works. All the necessary arrangements have been made for the occasion, and nothing remains uncertain now, except the weather, which is not likely to go back on the aldermanic board. They will, no doubt, inspect the 12-inch main, which burst yesterday morning at Foote's valley, where a joint blew out. The cause is probably the result of the last test, when things were not left in a proper state afterwards. However, the damage was soon repaired by a new joint being put on, but not till considerable waste of water had taken place. There is a suggestion that the 6,000 feet of 24-inch pipe, now being made for the city by the Albion Iron Works, be used for the extension of the northern boundaries of the city. The old 12 inch main could then be relaid in the central streets, say from the fountain, on Government street, to James Bay bridge. This plan would give a wonderfully increased supply of water for fire protection. The city being supplied with the 24-inch main on the low levels, and the 16 inch main on the high levels, would have a very valuable water supply for domestic and manufacturing purposes, as well as fire protection, while the 12-inch relaid on the streets of the city would vastly improve the distribution system for the city. In view of the introduction of the sewerage system, which will require large quantities of water for flushing, the 24-inch main would become an absolute necessity if the city is to be supplied at all. It is more than likely that the aldermanic board, in their inspection to-day, will take into consideration the cutting of the proposed canal from Elk Lake to the filter beds, so that the quality of the water will be vastly improved, and drawn from the lake direct, instead of being brought through the present slough and Beaver lake, which is now one mass of vegetation.

HOME AGAIN.

Ex-Alderman Styles Returns After Fourteen Months' Absence—Victoria Out in the Cold at C. P. R. Agencies, but it will Get There all the Same.

Ex-Alderman Styles, who has been absent in Europe for the past fourteen months with his daughter, returned on Tuesday evening, and is again at his residence in Amelia street. Yesterday, he was receiving a "welcome back" from old friends. To a reporter Mr. Styles stated that the chief portion of his time had been spent in London, but he had visited many portions of the European continent. Though his visit had been productive of a great deal of pleasure, yet both he and his daughter were delighted to again be back in old Victoria, for as a place of residence it had greater attractions for them than any other in the world. In his travels Mr. Styles was surprised to find out how little was known of Victoria and British Columbia in the old world, and thought that it was the duty of the city to take steps to advertise it in a more generous and methodical way than it has been in the past.

In the New York office of the Canadian Pacific railway, where he purchased his tickets, a strong attempt was made to convince Mr. Styles that Vancouver and not Victoria was the place he wanted to go to. When he requested Victoria tickets the agent said, "Oh, of course it is Vancouver you want a ticket for?" "No, Victoria will do," answered Mr. Styles. "But then Vancouver is the place to go out there." "Well," remarked the ex-alderman, "just permit me to know something about it, for I have lived in Victoria for the past twenty-five years." The agent saw he was barking up the wrong tree, and issued the desired tickets. Mr. Styles is of the opinion that agents everywhere are instructed to thus bring Vancouver prominently forward when strangers are going westward, to the detriment of Victoria. The people of Victoria, he thinks, should show their indignation at this unjust practice in a way that the great Canadian road (which seems to have but one station on the Pacific coast), would feel it financially, for it was a well known fact that Victoria was their best business point on the whole coast.

Mr. Styles was highly pleased with the substantial progress that Victoria has made during the time he has been absent. He considers that it has advanced more during the last year than in any previous ten. He was going to settle down to business again, and endeavoured to do all that he could to promote the interests of the city. There could be no question that financially it was the soundest city in the whole Dominion, and that when it had the railway connection that was assured it in the near future that it would become the most important city on the North Pacific Coast.

A Cure for Toothache.

Gibbons' Toothache Gum is guaranteed to cure toothache instantly. Prepared by J. A. Gibbons & Co., Toronto, and sold by druggists. Price, 15 cents.

From THE DAILY COLONIST, September 13.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

Magnificent But Costly.

For two or three evenings past the air of Victoria, usually so fine, has been choked with smoke, which rests like a dense fog over the city. From Beacon Hill the cause can be plainly seen, and a grand view of bush fires obtained across the straits. The forest blaze stretches from Crescent Bay to Dungeness, and vast destruction of valuable timber must be the result.

A Second Edition.

From the many complaints heard on every hand of colds, sore throats and the other symptoms of la grippe, it is evident that a second, but fortunately less general, edition of la grippe has made its appearance. Medical men report five or six cases of the genuine article, and it is to be hoped that the precautions will be observed by all, and a return of the epidemic avoided.

From Bonilla Point.

The Dominion steamer Sir James Douglas, which returned from Bonilla Point yesterday, reported two sealers in the Straits, the one the Pathfinder and other name was unknown. Both were beating homeward. The telephone between Cape Beale and Bonilla Point was reported to be working well, but the line to Victoria was down. Good progress is being made in the construction of the lighthouse and it will be ready for use in about two months.

The Kingston Wild.

The Port Townsend Morning Leader says, if the City of Kingston had kept up the gait at which she tried to land at Tyler street wharf on Thursday, Maud S. could not have overtaken her before she reached Morgan's hill. The steamer collided with piles and other material in the attempt to make a landing. She tore the wharf almost to pieces, the warehouses tottered for a moment, and the crash could be heard for two blocks.

Projected Improvement.

On the 30th proximo the 30-year lease of the premises fronting on Government street and extending therefrom up Fort, now occupied by Geo. Morrison and others, will expire. The property formerly belonged to the Douglas estate, but now is in the hands of the heirs. It is the intention almost immediately to tear down the present building and erect on the site a magnificent structure, of which the estimated cost is about $100,000. Further particulars of this project will be given in a few days.

Firing the Forest.

A bush fire, which evidently originated from the match of an incendiary, swept over many acres of fine forest land on Carey's road Tuesday night, completely ruining a large number of valuable timber. The smoke and flames could be plainly seen and located from the city, while those in the near neighborhood state that there can be no doubt but that the forest was fired. Criminal actions, such as the incendiary in this case was guilty of, should be traced to their source, and the perpetrator punished with the severest penalty of the law.

The First Sale.

Mr. W. D. Ferris, one of the pioneers of British Columbia, yesterday showed a COLONIST representative the first page of THE COLONIST of June 4th, 1859, containing a detailed account of the first sale of lots in the town of Queensborough (New Westminster). Attached to the sheet was a draft of the blocks of lots sold. The whole is mounted on canvas, and is a curiosity in its way. The prices obtained for the lots were remarkably high for the infancy of the town in that day, but are a flea bite compared with the handsome figures that property has reached in the bustling New Westminster of to-day.

The Parliament Buildings.

Simultaneously with the addition which is being made to the quarters of the Premier and Provincial Secretary, the stairs leading to the upper floor of the main building have been taken down. It had been expected that the new stair case might have been after the cork screw pattern; but if is said this idea has been abandoned, and that the stairs will be wider and start from the other side of the entrance hall. They will also be more substantial and stylish in appearance. The idea of making a tower on the side near the Queen's printing house was considered; but has not been entertained. Meantime, until the new stairs have been completed and connection established between the addition and the Provincial Secretary's office, matters in the upper provincial sanctuary are in a rather chaotic condition.

Cemetery Swept By Fire.

About an hour before noon yesterday a grass fire which had been smouldering during the night burst into activity in the neighbourhood of the Jewish cemetery, on Cedar Hill road. The fire found fresh and more substantial fuel in the fences, and soon began to assume serious proportions. It was first noticed by Messrs. B. Williams and E. J. Salmon, who were in the neighbourhood, and they worked with a will for an hour or more trying to beat out the flames and keep them under control until help could arrive. In this only partial success was achieved. The flames seized upon the tall grass and soon swept over the thirty or more graves in the cemetery, destroying the head and foot boards, ruining the flowers, and where there were marble headstones or monuments, doing them considerable damage. The fire department, although the graveyard is beyond the city lines, responded to a call from the scene, and did all they could to extinguish the fire, which was under control by 1:30 in the afternoon. Two of the department men with Babcock extinguishers were left on guard during the balance of the day. The amount of damage in the cemetery is very considerable, and will be keenly felt by the members of the Jewish congregation.

Again Frustrated.

A case of attempted incendiarism, possessing several peculiar features, developed on Pandora street, between Cook and Vancouver, sometime in the neighborhood of 2 o'clock yesterday morning. It is in the section mentioned that Paris Carter, a well known colored citizen and an old resident, makes his home. A few weeks ago an attempt was made by some malicious person to burn Mr. Carter out of house and home, but the fire was discovered and extinguished before it was fairly started. As the hour mentioned yesterday morning one of Mr. Carter's sons, who is sick, was awakened by the crackling of fire and the smell of smoke. He at once got up, and upon in vestigation found that a pile of paper, straw and small wood had been first saturated with coal oil and then ignited, under the back part of the house, and not far from the kitchen door. It was so arranged that had it obtained a good start nothing could have saved the house. Fortunately it was located in its babyhood, and easily put out. The fire was arranged in the identical manner that the one of a few weeks ago had been, and it is evident that some one is very anxious to see Mr. Carter's house a heap of ashes.

Fire on Either Side.

The principal feature on the Saanich road yesterday was smoke of a very dense and suffocating nature. Everywhere was to be seen evidence of a recent great fire which had raged among the bush on either side of the road, and which left its traces for a considerable distance. The whole district to a very great extent was one smouldering mass of a fierce fire that had burnt itself out after many days. It was not agreeable to pass through this furnace with a hot sun beating down from above, but the ordeal had to be borne.

Mining Prospects.

Mining prospects are brightening in the neighborhoods of Illecillewaet and Golden. So says Mr. Brady, C. E., who returned to town on Thursday evening. The construction of the furnaces will have the effect of giving mining a great impetus. Revelstoke's smelter is now ready and waiting for the railway to bring in ore. That at Golden is also nearing completion, and its first ore has already arrived, coming by Columbia river steamer from Spillumcheen. Reports from the Windermere copper mine continue of a most encouraging character, while the opening of a better market for all classes of ore is certain to produce valuable results. Ore can be disposed of readily at Revelstoke or Golden, or shipped to Spokane from the latter place at the reduced rate of ten dollars.

"Pinafore" at Seattle.

The production of "Pinafore" at Seattle on Thursday evening by amateurs, under the direction of Prof. Adderley, was in every sense a triumph. The Seattle Post-Intelligencer bestows unstinted praise upon every member of the company, and says: "The costumes were all handsome and appropriate, and to the general management of the performance by Frederick Adderley, the stage manager, was largely due its marked success. The chorus work of the singles and the admirable training of the chorus the audience have to thank Prof. Sharpe, of Victoria, who has been indefatigable at rehearsals, and crowned his labors by conducting the performance.

An Inconvenient Bridge.

Complaint is made of and a protest has been sent into the provincial authorities against the construction of a bridge over the lagoon at Esquimalt to the Government dry dock, the element of the residents on the shore. At high tide the bridge will be only three feet above the water, and thus prevent residents on the bank from approaching their houses and lands from the water as has been their custom in the past, in preference to travelling round the arm. The object of the bridge is, it is said, to afford the sailors and marines easier access to the rifle ranges, without taking into consideration the fact of the inconvenience that would accrue to the residents, whose schooners and boats would be shut out.

Death of Dr. Robotham.

A telegram was received yesterday announcing the death of Dr. John R. Robotham at his residence in Quamichan, Cowichan district. The deceased gentleman, who formerly held the rank of surgeon-general in the British army, was well known throughout the district, where he had resided with his family for many years. He died after suffering for several months with heart trouble, and death was not unexpected. He leaves a wife, one son and three daughters to mourn his loss. The remains will be interred at Cowichan.

Nearly Burned to Death.

At Nanaimo, on Thursday morning, a two-year-old child of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Bevilackway met with a serious accident while playing around a can of coal oil with a lighted match. It appears the mother had been filling a lamp with coal oil and before putting it away she was called to the door by a Chinaman peddling vegetables, and while attending to the call of the Chinaman she was startled by the piercing screams of the child. She immediately ran to its assistance, and to her horror discovered her child enveloped in flames which were proceeding from the coal oil can. The clothing of the child was burned completely off its little body, and the child burned in a most shocking condition. Dr. Walkem was called in and did all he could to alleviate the suffering of the little fellow who now lies in a precarious condition.—Free Press.

The Session Sustained.

Some week ago, Mr. J. N. Muir, then a member of St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, laid a charge before the session, in which he accused Hon. John Robson, also a member of the same congregation, of falsehood and conduct unbecoming to a church member. The specific allegation was that the Premier had made certain statements, untrue and calculated to injure Mr. Muir, to a House committee on Education, which sat during the last session of the legislature. These statements, Mr. Muir further charged, were suppressed in the published report, through the influence being brought to bear on the committee by the Premier. The only evidence adduced before the session, made out a clear case in denial of the charges, and the complaint was dismissed and Mr. Muir's name erased from the membership roll of the church. From this verdict he appealed to the Presbytery of Columbia, who gave it their careful attention at the session just closed at New Westminster. The verdict of the session was unanimously sustained by the Presbytery, and Mr. Muir acquiesced in the decision.

Looking Further Forward.

"Looking Further Forward," by Richard Michaelis, is an answer to Edward Bellamy's "Looking Backward." (Rand, McNally & Co., Chicago and New York; T. M. Hibben & Co., Victoria). It is an attempt, a logical one to a certain extent, to bring the controversial into a novel. Bellamy's work was a theory worked out in a theatrical mode of reasoning. He took his subject from the troubles of the present age, and placed him in what he thought an ideal age, governed by a perfect administration of laws and customs. Moreover, he is kind enough not to shock his hero by merely showing him this model of life of the Boston of 2,000; he actually leaves him there to enjoy all its pleasures and comforts. This done, the author considers his work completed, and making his bow departs. But Mr. Michaelis takes up the thread of the narrative, and knocks down all Mr. Bellamy's castles with the one word communism. He unkindly shows the unfortunate Mr. West that the state of the Boston of 2,000 is far worse than the misery, poverty and crime of the 19th century. In the latter men work, in the former they are made to work; they are simply cogs in the wheel of a huge administrative mechanism. After the author of "Looking Further Forward" has dragged the unfortunate Bostonian through all the horrors of communism, terminating in a faction murder, he very considerately makes Mr. West to have been asleep and dreaming, and after waking him from his mesmeric slumber the author speaks briefly of the beauty of contentment, with present circumstances as the only solid basis of happiness.

From THE DAILY COLONIST, September 14.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

Fruit Growers' Association.

The directors of the B. C. Fruit Growers' Association meet at Chilliwhack on Thursday evening, 18th September, 1890. All interested in fruit growing are invited to attend. A. H. B. Macgowan, Secretary.

A Warning.

Henry A. Alexander will remember that it is not legal just at present to shoot either cock or hen pheasants. The fact was indelibly impressed on his mind yesterday in the Provincial police court, when a fine of $22 was imposed upon and paid by him. Others will, no doubt, take a hint from his experience.

Cod Fishing in the North.

The schooner Arago has arrived at San Francisco after a passage of 18 days from Sand point, Alaska. The Arago has been cod fishing in the North Pacific ocean and Behring's sea. She caught 118,000 fish, 78,000 of which she brought down, the balance having been cast down on the Dashing Wave.

Becoming Dangerous.

A grass fire upon the embankment along the water front threatened the residence of Mr. C. E. Redfern with destruction at about 6 o'clock last night. The firemen were summoned by telephone, but before they arrived Mr. Donald McLean had succeeded in extinguishing the flames, and thereby removing the source of danger.

Incoming Passengers.

The steamship City of Puebla, due from San Francisco this evening, has on board the following passengers for Victoria:—Mrs Tingey, Mrs Captain James Ross, Justice McCreight, Mrs Cabin, Mrs G Clyde, Mrs J Dewsnap, Mrs H Bennett, Mrs J Haggerty, Alfred Fellows, Mrs I Lewis, J Livingston, William Sehl, Mrs E Crawford, G O'Brien, J A Lutti.

The Kate Returns.

The sealing schooner Kate, Owens master, Mr. Charles Spring owner, returned to port last evening, her catch totalling about 400 skins. She has had hard luck, in addition to the bad weather feature. During the season nine canoes were lost; fortunately most of them were picked up by other schooners, Capt. Owen is very sick, and this necessitated his early return.

Burst Again.

The 12 inch main seems to be most unfortunate; first it is tested and pronounced by some inadequate means the city's wonder then it bursts and floods almost a whole district. No sooner is the break repaired than it bursts again, which was the case yesterday, and that too in almost the same spot that experienced the break, a day or so since. After a good deal of water had been wasted the damage was repaired.

Alaska Salmon.

The schooner Electra which arrived at San Francisco on Friday, brought down 29,000 cases salmon from Nuskagak, Alaska. The season on the Nuskagak river was universally successful, although the opposite must be said of the yield at other Alaskan points. When the Electra left the Nuskagak the bark Will W. Case was taking on 20,000 cases salmon for the Arctic Packing company. She was billed to sail for San Francisco on September 1.

Information Wanted.

The relatives of A. G. Syford, familiarly known as "Glen," would like to hear of his present whereabouts. He was last heard from in Victoria, about March, and was then supposed to be starting out with a surveying party, but for what destination is not known. Any information which can be given of his movements will be forwarded to the proper quarter if sent to Mr. Robert Plummer, Y.M.C.A., Victoria.

All Credit to the Club.

The Victoria Driving Park, upon which the Football Club sports were held, yesterday, is looking better than its best, thanks to the enterprise and hard work of the Jockey Club. The grand stand now is comfortable and clean, as are also all the buildings; the track is good for any class of sport contests and the oval has been made suitable for lacrosse and baseball matches, etc. Good water is now obtainable on the ground, and altogether the Driving Park is as complete in all the details of a well-regulated race track—with the exception of a stand for the Press and judges—as horsemen or spectators could desire.

A War of Railroads.

The Ballard correspondent of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer writes: What promises to be the beginning of a protracted war was commenced last night between the Seattle & Montana and the Seattle, Lake Shore & Eastern railways. The battle-field is the land or sand spit formerly in possession of old man Rice, who was accidentally killed by falling off a trestle a few weeks ago. Last night the Seattle, Lake Shore & Eastern called in every section man and bridge builder on the road, who, with others, comprising 100 men, were set to work building a double track across the right-of-way of the Seattle & Montana railway. The Seattle, Lake Shore & Eastern has switch-locked the San Francisco Bridge Company, which is in the employ of the Seattle & Montana, by blocking the San Francisco Bridge Company's pile-driving outfit with two cars of piles and a car of steel rails on the Ocean dock, preventing the bridge company from commencing work for the Seattle & Montana. At Smith's Cove the Seattle, Lake Shore & Eastern has already built about 200 feet of double track across the right-of-way of the Seattle & Montana, and has over 100 men still at work night and day completing the obstruction to the Seattle & Montana's right-of-way.

How to Spend the Holidays.

Mr. Alan Cameron, agent of the C. P. R. in this city, has a plan now developing that should at once settle the question for those who are hesitating where to spend the holidays. The project is to form a party of about twenty Victorians, at whose disposal one of the best sleepers of the C. P. R. will be placed, at Vancouver. By this special car, which during the trip is entirely at their orders, the party will go to Banff, making stop overs if they so desire at Harrison, North Bend, Glacier or Field. Mr. Cameron will in person take charge of the party and see that nothing is left undone that can add to the general comfort and enjoyment. At Banff arrangements will be made for hunting and fishing parties, mountain climbs, dances etc., and a number of days will be allowed at this charming resort in the Rockies. An opportunity will be afforded of visiting Calgary, and if the trip is not long enough for any, they can on the special excursion ticket return to the coast by any regular train. The prospect is that the tour will be taken in about two weeks, a sufficient number of tourists to fill the special car being certain at the low rate fixed for the trip—thirty dollars.

In Her Proper Element Again.

The Etta White, which was thought to have become a fixture on the Star waves, will be launched to-morrow morning. She has been so thoroughly overhauled as to make her seem a new boat almost. The boiler setting has been rebuilt, the furnaces renewed, and the engines inspected and overhaled. The wood-work has been gone over and renewed in great part.

Unsuccessful Sealing Cruise.

The schooner City of San Diego has arrived at San Francisco from Behring's sea. The captain reports his catch for the season to have been only 14 otter and 20 seals. The schooner brought back three men out of a crew of fifteen, the others having deserted in Alaska. The captain says that during the entire season he was able to lower his boat only twice.

Changes at Esquimalt.

H. M. S. Amphion will leave this station about the end of the present month, her destination being most probably China. This is the present understanding. Victorians will particularly miss this favorite vessel, whose officers and crew, from Capt. Hulton down, have been kind, courteous and gentlemanly in their conduct and attention to any citizen who ever visited the ship. This is not the only change contemplated at Esquimalt. The Warspite, Champion and Espiegle will go to Coquimbo, and the Nymphe will be sent to Honolulu. It is expected that the Daphne will be the only ship that will winter here.

Work Going Ahead.

Work on the Roman Catholic cathedral is going along almost quickly as steam now that a start has been made. The granite finds its way to the foundations almost as soon as it arrives, but a large part of it is under charge of an army of stonecutters, who put it in shape for the finer work. The large stone for the corner is undergoing the facing process, and will be laid about the 25th of the present month.

Six Per Cent Consols.

The Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York is now offering its consols to accepted lives. Security, $140,000,000. Estate can be secured by making annual deposits of five to eight per cent on value. Principal never called for. Particulars on application.

S. FOSTER MACGURN, Supt. of Agencies.
H. F. HEISTERMAN & Co., Agents.

A Desirable Improvement.

Before many weeks citizens of Victoria will have the bliss of being able to use the telephone without experiencing the sensation of a dozen bumble bees humming in their ears. The telephone company are working hard on the erection of the metallic circuit of the return current, and will have it completed shortly. Already a portion has been finished, and the result is most satisfactory to people using the telephone on that particular circuit.

New Way of Smuggling Opium.

Some $60 worth of opium was discovered concealed in two packages of artificially manufactured Chinese biscuits, offered for shipment at Seattle on Thursday by Gee Lee, marked for a Chinese dealer at La Conner. Customs Inspector Thompson made the discovery and seized the goods. The biscuits were simply crusts of baked dough surrounding a small piece of opium. They were 24 of the new style of baked goods, and the drug contained in each was worth about $2.50.

Testimonials.

PALMERSTON, Ont., Sept. 5, 1890.

To C. B. LOCKHART & Co., Victoria, B.C.

DEAR SIRS:—In answer to yours of Aug. 29, 1890, with regard to the late James Blair's remains, which arrived here to day, the body was in good condition, in fact much better than I expected to find it after coming the distance. I must say your company, as funeral directors, deserve great credit for the same.—Yours truly,

M. DELLANE, Undertaker and Embalmer.
1 t Palmerston.

The Warspite Minstrels.

The entertainment to be given, on Wednesday evening, in the Victoria Theatre for the benefit of the Protestant and Roman Catholic Orphans' Homes of Victoria promises to be at the same time a fashionable and successful affair. It will be under the patronage of Rear-Admiral Hotham, C. B., by whose kind permission the band of the Warspite will be in attendance. The Warspite Minstrels enjoy a considerable amount of professional fame and their efforts in behalf of such laudable objects as those which are contemplated ought to be liberally seconded and supported.

A Healthy Sign.

Through the kindness of Mr. T. R. Ingegate, the British Columbia Marine Engineers' Association has made its first appearance in his office since last February. Now this healthy infant has grown into a strong, vigorous and prosperous society, and has gone out and taken up a home for its own on the same landing where it was cradled. The society now numbers sixty-five, and will soon be comfortably established in its new quarters. At a meeting last evening every arrangement was made to move into adjoining rooms, which will be appropriately furnished and devoted to the interests and uses of the society.

Back from Behring's Sea.

Between 11 and 12 o'clock last night, the schooner E. B. Marvin, formerly the Mollie Adams, sent a boat into Victoria, the schooner being at anchor in the Straits, and secured a tug to bring her into harbor this morning. She has 800 skins, making her total season's catch 2,164. The Pathfinder, also in the Straits and coming in to-day, has 1,040 in all, and the Henry Dennis, which goes to Port Townsend this morning, brings 1,500. All on board the sealers are well, and the Marvin reports no accidents other than that one of her men was lost in the sea for two days, but fortunately found before his health had been at all affected.

Sealers' Adventures.

The schooner J. H. Lewis, Capt. Alex McLean, has arrived at San Francisco from Behring sea with 1,484 sealskins, making her total for the season 2,591. On October 7th, 60 miles southeast of Copper Island, the picked up three boats and eleven of the crew of the schooner C. G. White, which lost the vessel in a fog and had been 3 days in open boats when found. While trying to find shelter and water at Copper Island three of them were shot, James Lee dying from his wounds. The boats were riddled with bullets. Carr was left ashore at night and buried by the Aleut Natives of Copper Island shot at the time by the White. One boat with six men landed at Copper Island, and the men reached San Francisco a few days ago on the steamer Karlnk. The men brought down by the Karlnk say they were left to their fate in open boats by the captain of the C. G. White.