BIRTHS.

...pe, B. C., on the 11th inst., the ...s Wardle, of a son.

...h instant at Shapwick Vicarage, Somersetshire, England, Flor... of the late Arthur Scroggs, of a son.

MARRIED.

...OLDER—At the residence of the ...nts in this city on the 16th inst., ... Speer, William J. Cullum, to ..., second daughter of Mr. and ...Burkholder. No cards.

DIED.

...e 17th inst., Lucien Phillip, be... Charles and Rose Muriset, aged ...onth, 17 days.

...h inst. at the family residence, ...rmanda, beloved wife of James ...89 years, a native of Glengary,

...E YOU

...ith pains in the small of ...pains up each side of back ...er points of shoulder-blade ...nd then? Have you head ...r right side? Have you a ...or sensation, floating flicks ...re the gaze? Do you feel ...? Are you nervous? Have ...orked? Have you over-...we you over-exhausted your ...ody? Have you abused ...ourself? If you have you ...ured as soon as possible. ...ure you?

...DYAN

...ou. Hudyan is certain to ...t has cured others—it will ... Consult Hudson doctors ...te for

...rs and Testimonials.

...MEDICAL INSTITUTE,

...IN YOUR BLOOD?
...IN YOUR BLOOD?
...IN YOUR BLOOD?

...ndary or tertiary forms of ...ders are manifested by cop... spots and falling hair. ...cure is certain.

...L OR WRITE FOR

...Y CIRCULARS.

...MEDICAL INSTITUTE,
...on, Market and Ellis Sts,
...ancisco, - - Cal.

...Hudson Doctors Free.
...Hudson Doctors Free.

...RIA COLLEGE,
...BACON HILL PARK.

...EXT TERM BEGINS—
..., Sept. 6th, 1897.

...or day prospectus, apply
...Principal J. W. Churchill, M.A.

...cied by the executors to sell by

...CTION

... of the late George Brown, Esq., Beecher Bay, on

..., September 25th, 1897,

...AT 11 O'CLOCK A.M.

... of Horses, Milch Cows, Calves, Wagons and Farming Implements.

...TIES, - - Auctioneer

Family Knitter

Will do all Knitting required in a family, homespun or factory yarn. SIMPLEST Knitter on the MARKET. We guarantee every machine to do good work. Agents wanted. Write for particulars.

Dundas Knitting Machine Co.
DUNDAS ONT.

...TEAM DYE WORKS,
141 Yates Street, Victoria.
...gent's garments and household fur...anned, dyed or pressed equal to new
...ely-1ydaw

... will buy 60 lots between old and ... new townsite, sub-division 421, ...dress 136 Pandora street.

...ENTS OF BALLOONING.

...sland Aeronaut Has a Very Exciting Experience.

...MINOT, Maine, Sept. 17.—Mr. ... Providence, R. I., aeronaut, ... his balloon yesterday about ...s from St. Johnsbury with his ...After cruising around a short ...et her out of the basket near ...bury. He started again and ...nt in a thunder storm, drifting ...the White Mountains. Mr. ... stopped by the anchor catch...ees and was held there three ...en the fury of the storm broke ...y. He drifted about until he ...er Lewiston, several hundred ...m his starting place. Mr. ...rrington, of West Minot, hear...or help ran out and catching ...e anchor rope, succeeded, with ... of neighbors in pulling Mr. ...earth once more. Mr. Allen ...s returning in his balloon to ...bury as soon as the wind is ...

...NDREE'S BALLOON.

...o Have Been Seen a Few Days Ago in Arctic Russia.

...TERSBURG, Sept. 17.—A tele... message received here from ...rsk, in the interior of Siberia, ... on September 14, at 11 p.m., ...bitants of the village of Antzi..., in the district of Yeniseisk, ...Russia, saw a balloon, which is ...to be that of Prof. Andree, the ...eronaut, who left the island of ... shortly before 2:30 p.m., July ...attempt to cross the polar re... the balloon, it is added, was in ...five minutes.

TIME'S TEST.

Two lovers there are—I know them well—
Who learned the lesson love comes to teach,
Whose eyes are bright with the old, old light,
Whose hands seek each for each.
And this love of theirs seems a thing most rare,
For each of the lovers has silver hair.

His face is mellow with passing years,
But with never a line that is hard or bleak.
Her face is a rhyme of the olden time
With a tinge of red in her cheek.
And I deem this more than passing fair,
Since both of these lovers have silver hair.

Let time go by, but love may last,
As true as ever true love may be.
May theirs be the smile that after awhile
Shall wait for you and me!
Ah, sweeter would seem life's toil and care
If there were more lovers with silver hair!

—Post Wheeler in New York Press.

...TTER OF VANITY

I heard that Maud Jeffries was to Jack Meadows, I took an opportunity of congratulating them both, for they were both old friends of mine and charming people—especially Maud. She was an artist and painted very zealously in oil colors. She was in her studio when I called. So I went up to it and found her enveloped in a linen apron covered with the variegated colors of her palette. She was working at an unfinished painting, and so absorbed in it that at first she did not hear me enter. When she did, she turned quickly.

"No, it's not Meadows. I'm sorry," I said sympathetically.

"Oh, but I'm very glad to see you," she answered. "And you are just in time to help me. Do tell me what is wrong with this thing," and she pointed to the canvas.

"That is Meadows' privilege," I said. I offered her my good wishes and told her I was sure she would be happy.

She blushed prettily and said, "We are very happy now."

"But how have you satisfied your conscience?" I asked. "I understood you had vowed yourself to the service of your art."

"Oh, but I will never give up my work," she protested earnestly. "Jack knows that. He wouldn't want me to. I think it is so wrong not to use one's gifts. Don't you?"

"Certainly, and I'm glad Jack sees that. He must be very proud of you."

She hesitated. "I'm afraid he is not naturally very fond of art," she said, "but I hope he will soon learn to love it.

"He is really awfully good about it," she went on. "He is going to let me paint his portrait, and then we shall hang it in our dining room."

"That will be delightful," I said.

"Look, here are some sketches for it," said Maud, drawing out some panels and charcoal drawings. "Don't you think they are like him?"

I recognized Meadows in spite of the varying expressions Maude had given him and said so at once. She was pleased, and just then Meadows came in.

"I am just admiring the studies for the great portrait," I said genially.

"Ah, yes, they are only rough sketches. The thing itself will be quite different, won't it, darling?" he said, with, I imagined, a shade of anxiety.

"Mr. Raller thinks they are excellent likenesses, Jack," she said happily.

He looked at me sharply, but I boldly repeated my opinion.

A fortnight or so passed before I saw anything of Meadows or Maud, then I met Meadows. He looked worried, and when I asked him after Miss Jeffries he said shortly, "I believe she is quite well, thanks."

"And how is the portrait going on?"

"It's not going on at all at present," he answered.

"How's that? Is she dissatisfied with it?"

"No, she's not," he said, emphasizing the pronoun.

"Surely you are pleased?" said I.

"Look here, Raller," he said, with a burst of confidence. "That wretched portrait is undermining my happiness. It's no more like me than that poster," and he pointed to a flaming placard. "I'm not a vain chap, you know, but I do bar being handed down to posterity looking like a criminal lunatic."

"But it can't be as bad as that? Maud would never do you injustice," I said.

"Not intentionally, but she swears to the good likeness, though I can't see how she can. When I suggested it was a bit unflattering, she said she must paint what she saw, and that she could not tamper with the truth of art. I just laughed and said, joking, that there was room for a little more truth, and then she was hurt and said she had no idea that men could be so vain."

"And you left it at that?"

"Yes, if you saw the thing you wouldn't be surprised."

"I should like to see it," I said.

"Come along then. Maud is out this afternoon, her sister told me so. We will go to her studio, and you can give me your unbiased opinion."

So we went together and climbed up to Maud's painting room. The portrait, still wet, was on the easel. Meadows pointed to it in eloquent silence. I was silent too. It was so painfully realistic that it verged on caricature.

"Well," said Meadows, "could you live in the same house with it if it were your portrait?"

"One might get used to it in time," I answered.

"Yet she is fond of you," I said. "Surely if you ask her to suppress it as a personal favor"—

"She would only say it was my vanity," he answered gloomily. "There is nothing to be done. She must choose between me and my portrait, unless"—

"Unless what?" I asked as he paused.

"You could persuade her. Tell her it doesn't do her justice, either of us justice. Do, there's a good fellow. She has no end of respect for you."

I could not resist his appeal and promised to do my best. "And surely that is she coming up the stairs now," said I as we heard footsteps.

"Yes. Well, speak to her now," said Meadows.

He left me alone in the studio as Maud entered.

She greeted me with a weary smile and glanced directly at the portrait. "You have been looking at it?" she asked, mechanically taking up her palette and brushes.

"Yes," I said, and she seemed to expect me to say more.

"It's a good likeness, isn't it?" she remarked presently.

"It is too flattering," I answered, sitting down opposite it.

She looked at me suspiciously, but my face was full of innocence. "Jack doesn't think so," she said.

"But he is so absurdly vain," said I.

"Not more than other men, I suppose," she retorted.

Her back was toward me and I could see her listlessly dabbing at the background of the portrait. "Yet you say he is not satisfied with that painting," I said. "What fault can he find?"

"Nothing definite; but he wants me to alter it."

"However painful it may be, you must keep your art pure. It is true that in the noble cause of realism you have accentuated his worse points"—

"No, I haven't," she said with some heat.

"I honor you for it. Very few girls would have had the courage to treat the portrait of a lover in so bold a way, even to the suggestion of caricature."

"But you said I had flattered him," she cried.

"Truth is the highest flattery," I answered sententiously. "And if Meadows be not high minded enough to see it you will not regret his loss."

"His loss? What do you mean?" she exclaimed.

"I saw him just now. He does not appreciate your noble self sacrifice. He said if you had really loved him you would not have pointed out his homeliness to the world. He seemed to feel it a good deal."

"Homeliness! He is beautiful!" she cried indignantly.

"Really, my dear young lady, you can't say that with that almost speaking likeness in front of us," and I pointed to the portrait.

With a sudden movement she smudged a brushful of paint over the face on the canvas.

"What are you doing? Are you mad?" I said.

"No, not now."

"But remember the fine technique."

For an instant she paused—but only for an instant. Then she took some more paint and rubbed it violently over the portrait. I saw Meadows looking round the door and beckoned him in.

"Your portrait is done for," I said.

She threw down her palette. "Jack! Look at it!" she cried, with a laugh that seemed to catch in her throat.

There is now hanging in the Meadows' dining room a portrait of the master of the house. It is not at all a good painting, but Jack gazes at it with satisfaction. It is by his wife, and when her friends suggest that she has flattered her husband she smiles.

Once I saw her looking at it rather sadly and I asked her if she were regretting the one she had destroyed. Perhaps it was an indiscreet question.

She shook her head. "No, sometimes I think I acted hastily, for it really was good," she said.

"But surely this one is, on the whole, better?" said I.

"Jack thinks so," she answered, and she sighed.—Westminster Budget.

"Yes or No?"

A pretty story of how Henry M. Stanley wooed and won Miss Dorothy Tennant, though coming to us from private sources, has been made sufficiently public to avert the charge of undue personality. Miss Tennant, it is well known, was the original of Sir John Millais' famous picture, "Yes or No?" It seems that Stanley had asked the question, and the reply was "No."

The great explorer went to Africa again, and after several years returned to London, to find himself the most talked of man of the day.

The thought of Miss Tennant was still uppermost in his mind, and he resolved that his first visit should be to her home. In his impatience for the morrow he turned over the cards and notes with which the table was strewn, and selecting one haphazard decided to while away the time by attending a certain reception.

The first person he met there was Miss Tennant. They greeted each other formally, but later in the evening Stanley retired to a small anteroom, to find that Miss Tennant had likewise sought solitude. A somewhat embarrassing silence ensued, broken at last by the woman saying, with the manner of one "making conversation:"

"Do you find London much changed, Mr. Stanley?"

"No, I haven't found London changed, and I've not changed either," returned the explorer, with his usual intrepidity. "Have you?"

"Yes, I've changed," answered Miss Tennant softly.

A few days later Millais received a note from his former subject, beginning:

MY DEAR SIR JOHN—The momentous question has been at last decided. It is a joyful and triumphant "Yes!"

—Youth's Companion.

When She Listened.

"Listen!" he hissed.

"No," she answered, and turning upon her heel brusquely she left him there alone.

For she was a telephone girl by profession, and it was not her wont to listen to anything unless she was sure it was none of her business.—Detroit Journal.

Jap Oddities In Eating.

The Japanese preserve their potatoes in sugar, pickle their plums and salt cherry blossoms to infuse as tea. They eat candy and other sweets at the same time with their soups, fish and vegetables. The more noise they make in the chewing of food the greater is the compliment to the host.

TERRORS OF THE TRAIL

How They Have Impressed an Agent of the United States Government.

The Rush for Gold Develops Selfishness and Every Man Is for Himself Alone.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—Mr. Owen W. Weaver, acting commissioner of labor, to-day gave to the Associated Press a copy of a graphic letter on the terrors of the trip across Alaska to the Klondyke gold fields, from Samuel C. Dunsam, statistic expert of the government department of labor, who had been assigned to investigate the opportunities which the gold regions in the Yukon valley and adjoining territory afford for remunerative employment of American labor and capital. The letter is dated Lake Lindeman, Alaska, August 26, and says in part:

"I left Dyea on Monday morning at 11 o'clock and arrived here Tuesday evening at 7. My four Indians started ahead of me, but I have seen nothing of them since the start from Dyea, and am waiting for them here. When I reached the foot of the summit a terrible storm was raging in the pass and I presume the Indians went into camp somewhere on the other side to await better weather. It has been storming, rain, sleet and snow alternating continually, on the summit since Tuesday morning, and the situation is aggravated by a piercing wind of thirty miles velocity.

"I had an awful experience coming across the summit. I started out with my hand bag strapped on my back, thinking that as it weighed only forty pounds I would carry it. I managed to struggle along to the head of navigation for canoes, several miles from Dyea, and I was then forced to employ an Indian packer, paying him $10 to carry my grip to Sheep Camp, twelve miles from Dyea. I spent the night at Sheep Camp, which is merely a collection of tents, and started for the summit at 8 o'clock Tuesday morning, in a drizzling cold rain. I employed a packer to carry my grip from there to Lake Linderman, paying him $16. At the foot of the summit we met perhaps a hundred Indian and white packers, who had cached their packs on the trail above and were returning to Sheep Camp to await an abatement of the storm. We were warned that it was dangerous to attempt to get over, but the wind was blowing the way we were going, so we decided to go ahead, as I felt sure my packers had gone on, and I wished to be here when they arrived.

"The trail ascends at an angle of 45 degrees, skirting precipices, where a misstep would hurl one a thousand feet below, crossing the face of glaciers as smooth as glass, and in many places traversing the polished surface of great granite boulders hundreds of feet in extent. Every hundred yards or so, mountain torrents fed by the glaciers and on the present occasion augmented by the rainfall, rush across the trail and have to be waded, the water often coming to the knees. Add to this a gale blowing fifty miles an hour, with sleet and snow rushing horizontally through the air, and the temperature 30 degrees, and you will have a fair idea of the horrors of my passage across the summit. I finally reached this camp, at the head of Lake Linderman, about 7 o'clock in the evening, having been eleven hours in covering twelve miles, so thoroughly exhausted that I could scarcely drag one foot after the other.

"On account of the continuous rains, the soil washed down from the steep mountain sides, and wherever there is a level place you will find a bog into which a man sinks to his knees at every step. This is one of the worst features of the trails and makes it almost impossible to use horses. Many of the boggy places have been corduroyed, and I suppose by next summer the Skagway trail, which is now practically impassable on account of the bogs, will be in fair condition. At present the condition of affairs on both the trails is terrible and hundreds of men are bound to starve and freeze to death if they continue to come this way. I passed at least a thousand men between Dyea and here, and no more than one hundred have got their outfits this side of the summit. Every fifty yards along the trails are piles of goods and I suppose there are provisions to the value of $20,000 scattered along the trail.

"Prices for packing and for all kinds of services are practically prohibitive for most of those who are trying to get in, and many are carrying over their own outfits. It takes a man with an adequate outfit a month to get to the lake. There are many here who have been five or six weeks packing their outfits over, and are not ready to start down the river yet. All who have come to Skagway or Dyea within the last two weeks or so will have to come in without sufficient outfit, pay forty cents or more a pound, or not get in at all. There are about 200 men here and forty tents. Probably three or four boats are getting away each day with from two to five passengers. There is one sawmill here with a capacity of 9,000 feet a day, and it has all the orders it can fill in three weeks. Lumber is $500 a thousand and rising, a great many whipsaw their lumber, two men turning out about 100 feet a day. A boat carrying three men sells for from $250 to $450. Wages of carpenters are $12.50 a day and board. Everything is high in price when you can get it at all. Whisky is fifty cents a drink and $5 a bottle, and poor stuff at that. Alcohol is worth $40 a gallon. Meals cannot be had for money, as everyone is holding bn to his provisions. I never saw so much selfishness anywhere as displayed on this trail. There are so many on this trail that it is like walking along the street of a city. The individual is lost in the passing throng and you are recognized only by acquaintances. If you ask for food, in nine cases out of ten it will be refused.

"I close this letter with the explanation that it has been written with great mental stress and physical suffering. I have tried to give you a fair idea of the hardships of this journey, but feel my incapability to paint its terrors. Simply say that no one who has written on the subject has overstated its difficulties. A man who got in to-day over the Skagway trail says that it is even worse. He counted 172 dead horses along the trail, and several men who have met with serious accidents such as a broken leg, sprained ankle, etc. Several deaths from drowning have occurred on both trails, the swift current carrying packers down stream and their packs rendering them helpless.

"Some movement ought to be made at once for the relief of the suffering which is bound to occur at Dyea and Skagway. Every steamship that has brought people up will have all it can do for at least two trips in carrying the unsuccessful people back to civilization, and there ought to be some way to force them to perform the service without compensation."

SALISBURY AND SHERMAN.

British Peers Approves of the Premier's Treatment of United States Bluster.

LONDON, Sept. 18.—The afternoon newspapers in their comments upon the Behring Sea correspondence approve of the British replies. They say the Marquis of Salisbury has taken the only course which was open to him in dealing with Secretary Sherman. "Since it is our settled policy to preserve friendly relations with the United States," as one paper explains.

The Times, commenting editorially upon the Behring Sea correspondence published this morning, says: "The publication of the dispatches showing how the agreement for a new conference was arrived at is a relief to the public mind. Nothing has been done to compromise the dignity of the nation or give even an apparent triumph to the tactics of unwarrantable dictation.

"Mr. Sherman's extraordinary dispatch, unexampled probably in the annals of diplomacy, has been conclusively answered in the state papers, admirable alike in reasoning power and literary form, prepared by the colonial office, dealing fully with Mr. Sherman's contentions and demolishing them in a most satisfactory way. The document absolves Lord Salisbury from the necessity of entering into the details of an irrelevant controversy, and at the same time leaves him free to assent to an investigation relating to matters of fact, which it is obviously desirable to have ascertained before the time arrives to consider whether it is necessary or desirable to revise the pelagic regulations. There is no reason against such investigation, which fact, looking to the conflicting statements on the subject, is absolutely indispensable before any revision of the regulations is possible.

"If it can be shown that a revision is necessary, there will be no desire on Britain's part to insist upon the original regulations when the time arrives next year for considering them. But it must be clearly understood that this limited inquiry does not in any way involve our assent to the strange misconceptions and extravagant misrepresentations in the Sherman dispatch."

WELLINGTON MINERS' LIBERALITY.

TO THE EDITOR:—Some years ago about $1,500 was subscribed by the workmen of the Wellington mines with which to build a hospital. It could not be used for that purpose, and a public meeting was held to-night to deal with the matter. Mr. D. Haggett was chairman. I write this to show how the workingmen of this place are willing to do good and help their fellowmen. We needed money here for certain purposes for our own benefit, but every other consideration was put to one side and every cent was given to people who did not live in Wellington. In a few minutes a motion was made by Mr. T. Haggett that $1,100 be given to the Nanaimo hospital, and $400 be divided between two men who are crippled and whose families are left without support. Out of a large public meeting there was only one dissenting voice, and every man was glad to give for the benefit of others. I am sure from the impression gained at the meeting that there are no men who would like to give more to the Nanaimo hospital than the Wellington miners would, as we know that some of our fellow miners have received great good there, for which we are thankful.

A WELLINGTON WORKMAN.

Wellington, Sept. 17.

Fifty Years Ago.

This is the stamp that the letter bore
Which carried the story far and wide,
Of certain cure for the loathsome sore
That bubbled up from the tainted tide
Of the blood below. And 'twas Ayer's name
And his sarsaparilla, that all now, know,
That was just beginning its fight of fame
With its cures of 50 years ago.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla

is the original sarsaparilla. It has behind it a record for cures unequalled by any blood purifying compound. It is the only sarsaparilla honored by a medal at the World's Fair of 1893. Others imitate the remedy; they can't imitate the record:

50 Years of Cures.

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE

Tramps Held on Suspicion of Causing the Collision of Two Railway Trains.

Surrey Centre Home Destroyed—Lacrosse at Nanaimo—Kootenay Robber Dead.

(Special to the COLONIST.)

VANCOUVER.

VANCOUVER, Sept. 18.—The story of the cause of yesterday's accident on the C.P.R., partially supported from official reports, is to the effect that while the eastbound train was on a siding, with the engineer and fireman away to get supper, a tramp climbed into the cab, and having pulled the lever, through accident or design, jumped out again. The engine and train reached the main track and ran away. Three tramps were arrested near by and held on suspicion.

Ex-Sergeant Haywood, who has arrived in Seattle from Klondyke, is expected home to-night.

Dr. Thomas, the ex-health officer's claim on the city for $13 salary during absence and $50 for attending a fever case, has been disallowed by Magistrate Anderson in the small debts court, on the ground that Dr. Thomas absented himself without leave and that the $30 charge was not according to arrangement, as he was only to be paid extra for attending smallpox patients.

Charles Allan died at Wharnock yesterday of typhoid fever. He was well known in New Westminster.

The residence of Mr. Barton, at Surrey Centre, was totally destroyed by fire yesterday. The remains of Mr. Barton's daughter, Mrs. Cole, who had just died of consumption, were in the house at the time of the fire and were barely saved, only the ladies of the family being in the house. The Barton family are left without clothing with the exception of what they wore when they escaped. All the furniture also was destroyed.

NANAIMO.

NANAIMO, Sept. 18.—The Nanaimo Jubilee lacrosse team won from the Vancouver Beavers this afternoon by a score of 7 to 1. This places Nanaimo a tie with New Westminster for the championship of the province. It is expected there will be a big excursion to Vancouver when the tie is played off.

GRAND FORKS.

GRAND FORKS, Sept. 14.—A courier from the reservation came in this evening and reports that the body of the highwayman who held up Mr. Privitt on La Fleur mountain last Saturday was found on Saturday last by a searching party. It was lying in the bush not far from where the shooting occurred. The body was carefully examined by many of the old resident miners, but none of them could identify it, and so the holdup is still shrouded in mystery.

FORT STEELE.

Talk in favor of incorporation is heard in the town.

Mr. Sweetnam, Chief Post Office Inspector, and Provincial Inspector Fletcher have met the citizens regarding mail matters. As a result of conferences, Mr. Sweetnam will recommend to the Postmaster-General the continuance of a weekly service from Golden during the winter, instead of the fortnightly winter service that the present mail contract calls for. He could not hold out any hope of a semi-weekly service during the remainder of the summer and fall, because of the expense it would involve being out of proportion to the revenue from the service. He will also recommend that a weekly service to the south be established, so that Fort Steele will have a bi-weekly service, one mail coming from Golden, the other via Kalispell.

GRAND FORKS,

The survey work on the road from Trail to Penticton is being pushed as rapidly as possible, and it is now expected to have all maps complete before winter sets in, so that the work of construction can begin in the spring. Engineer Sullivan, with half a dozen men, who it is understood are in the employment of the Columbia & Western railway, are camped in the northern part of the city. It is learned on pretty good authority that they will proceed to Penticton and survey there. Their aim is to have the work fully completed within ninety days.

At its last meeting the city council decided to call for bids for the putting in of a water works and electric light system, and the 25th inst. was the last day set for receiving these bids. The water works system will cost in the neighborhood of $10,000, while the light plant will cost some $3,000.

Much interest was taken here in the horse vs. bicycle race which took place last Saturday between Arthur Milthorp, a young English cyclist, and Mr. Huntley, a prominent merchant, who drove his trotting horse, known as Honest John. The trotter made good time, but Milthorp won the race by 200 feet.

THE STATE OF INDIA.

Belief That the War Office Apprehends Serious Work in the Near Future.

LONDON, Sept. 18.—The fact that no less than ten batteries of horse and field artillery have been ordered to embark for India during the months of September and October is much commented upon in military circles. Under ordinary circumstances, the four batteries now in India would have been relieved this month. But they have been ordered to remain, and therefore there will shortly be on the frontier fourteen batteries of artillery, a full complement for an army corps. As the British force now assembled on the frontier is of ample strength to wipe out all visible resistance, the only conclusion that can be reached in regard to these dispatches of reinforcements of artillery is that the authorities are possessed of information of a serious character.

The intimation conveyed by the war office on Monday last to the London commercial agent of the Ameer of Afghanistan, that no war materiel or machinery for the manufacture thereof will be allowed to cross the frontier during the present crisis, indicates that the British government has by no means entire confidence in the Ameer's fidelity, and it is hinted that the government has learned that, while professing friendliness to Great Britain, the Ameer has been in secret preparing for war. Well informed circles are also discussing the story of secret correspondence between Russia and Afghanistan, which is said to have fallen into the hands of British officials; and it is further intimated that a widespread plot, embracing the Beluchis and others, has been discovered.

THE TRADE REVIEWS.

Business Throughout the Country Has Increased More Than Anticipated.

NEW YORK, Sept. 17.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade to-morrow will say: "The end of the bituminous coal strike and the return of many of the men to work at advanced wages adds to the purchasing power of the people, and the anthracite strike affects not a fifth as many workers. The starting of many mines and works, the enormous exports of wheat and corn, the favorable news as to the crop of cotton, the fall in sterling exchange and the report showing that gold imports began in August exceeding exports by $2,390,587, while merchandise exports exceeded imports by $40,953,753, have all contributed to forward the improvement in business. Some who could see no signs of improvement a few weeks ago, are now finding them so fast and rapid that they fear reaction. The iron industry shows increasing demand and an average of prices nearly one per cent. higher, due to purchasing by consumers. The shipments of boots and shoes from Boston are 23 per cent. larger than for the same week of September last year, which in turn exceeded those of any previous year. But business is mainly for quick delivery and orders for spring goods are still very much retarded by uncertainty about future prices. While leather is held firmly in spite of decreasing business, hides at Chicago have taken a turn downward, declining an average of ⅜ per cent. for the last week. Actual buying of wool by mills is increasing at all markets, with the belief that foreign supplies are short. Failures for the week have been 204 in the United States against 317 last year, and 40 in Canada against 32 last year."

Bradstreet's to-morrow will say: Notwithstanding unseasonably warm weather and the appearance of yellow fever in several Gulf states checking locally the distribution of merchandise, business throughout the country has increased more than anticipated. The centre of improvement is Chicago, which furnishes the most favorable trade report within five years. Advices from Kansas City, Omaha, St. Paul and St. Louis also reflect activity in demand among jobbers and wholesalers. There is a temporary stimulus to business at Savannah owing to withdrawal of competition from merchants at towns now cut off by the yellow fever quarantine. Chattanooga, Memphis, Atlanta, Augusta, Galveston and even St. Louis anticipate a falling off in business owing to the interruption of traffic in the Gulf States and adjoining territory. The practical settlement of the bituminous coal strike, and a further rising tide of demand for iron and steel products, and reports that mercantile collections have improved, constitute the feature of the week.

Prices for thirty of the more important staples continue to show pronounced strength, only seven being lower than last week, including wheat, wheat flour, Indian corn, lard and pork, the result of a natural reaction for preceding advances, and lead and cotton, which have begun to move more freely. Unchanged prices are reported in copper, coal, print cloths, leather hides, oats and for wool, which remains very strong with an upward tendency. Higher prices are given for sugar, rice, coffee, butter, eggs, potatoes and canned goods among food products. For woollen goods for spring delivery, for some grades men's shoes, whiskey, white and yellow pine lumber, iron and steel bars, southern and Bessimer pig iron, and for steel billets.

FAMINE IN IRELAND.

It Is Said to Be Largely Imaginative and Charity Is Not Wanted.

LONDON, Sept. 18.—The extent of the distress threatening Ireland seems to depend largely on which party eyes view it. The council of the confederation has decided that the country is on the brink of widespread calamity, and calls upon Messrs. Dillon and Harrington to convoke a meeting of the Irish members of parliament for the purpose of requesting Mr. A. J. Balfour, government leader in the Commons, and First Lord of the Treasury, to call an autumn session of parliament to devise relief measures and to pass a bill reducing rents in Ireland in proportion to the loss incurred by the tenants owing to the wholesale destruction of their crops. On the other hand the Dublin Express says the cry of famine is only a continuation of the party war cry which is raised every year the Unionists are in office, and adds: "Judging from the past, we may hope that much of the crops doomed to destruction by the prophets of evil will be rescued, and the general yield will be much larger than expected."

The Daily Independent regards the suggestion that the Duchess of York will shortly appeal for funds in behalf of the Irish who are threatened with famine, in a manner similar to the appeal of the Princess of Wales in behalf of the London poor at the time of the Queen's Jubilee, as being an insult, and says: "If the country was ten times as badly off as it is likely to be, it would resent any charitable appeal to the English."

Yellow Fever Spreading.

EDWARDS, Miss., Sept. 18.—A total of thirty-nine cases of yellow fever has been reported here. The rapid spread of the disease is remarkable. Five are in the country. The disease is now well distributed through the town. Several new cases are reported, but not yet passed upon by the physicians, and will doubtless swell the total to fifty.

Woman Suicides.

MONTREAL, Sept. 17.—The body of a young woman who committed suicide at the Hotel Cadilac has been identified as Mrs. Alley Warner, of Burlington, Vt.

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40 YEARS THE STANDARD.

UNITED STATES INCONSISTENCY.

While New Championing the Seals That Country Recently Claimed the Right of Indiscriminate Slaughter.

LONDON, Sept. 18.—Mr. Chamberlain, in a long letter from the colonial office to the foreign office, signed by Edward Wingfield, one of the assistant under-secretaries of state, published by the Times to-day, deals with Secretary Sherman's attack. He says it is not unnoticed because his silence might be construed as an admission that the dispatch was not unwarranted. He says:

"From a perusal of Secretary Sherman's dispatch it might be inferred that the protection and preservation of the fur seal are identical with the suppression of pelagic sealing. This view is consistent with the attitude of the United States from the outset. In support of their views, the United States government departed from the noblest tradition of their country, which earned universal honor of their efforts to vindicate the freedom of the high seas. A nation which is now so zealous for prohibiting pelagic sealing was in 1893, with equal zeal, asserting a claim of the right of its citizens, not only to kill the seals on the high seas, but to land and slaughter them on the shore of a friendly nation."

Mr. Chamberlain elaborates this point at some length, relating the incident of the seizure of the sealing vessel Harriet at Buenos Ayres, in 1832, and adding:

"The shores of the Pribyloff islands to-day are equally as uninhabited as the shores of Faulkland island and Tierra Del Fuego were fifty years ago. No British subject ever claimed to land and kill seals there, as the United States did on the South Atlantic, under the protection of the guns of an American man-of-war."

Mr. Chamberlain's letter quotes and answers most minutely all the points of Secretary Sherman's despatches.

RAILWAY ROUTE TO YUKON.

TO THE EDITOR:—Referring to the letter of Charles W. D. Clifford published in the DAILY COLONIST, September 8 last, in which letter is contained valuable information regarding railway construction into the Yukon, being familiar with the Skeena and Naas river country, having spent a number of years prospecting in it, I can certainly endorse Mr. Clifford's suggestions, and would urge the immediate construction of that portion of railway commencing at the head of Kitamaat arm through the Kilitsah or flat country, thence to the Skeena river, a distance of 50 or 60 miles, thence crossing the Skeena at Kitselass canyon, the engineering difficulties being comparatively easy. A small snow shed above the Kitselass canyon would be necessary, continuing then up the Skeena through a level and somewhat benchy country not heavily timbered and suitable for railway construction to within a few miles of Hazleton. Hazleton would then become the terminus of the cattle drive coming by the way of the telegraph trail from Alexandria and Chilcotin country. The land around Kitwingah and Hazleton is not excelled for growing farm produce. The market for all the cattle and produce would be unlimited, extending all the way into the great gold fields to the north. The Kitwancool valley, being further inland, in my opinion is the proper route for a railway, as it is wide, level and adapted in every respect, and leads up to the Naas river a few miles above Kitlatomux, where the river is narrow, the banks high, therefore easily bridged: from thence through a level benchy country, striking the Stickeen river in the neighborhood of Glenora or the Teslin Lake trail. Again I say, this route cannot be overestimated, as there are hundreds of miles of territory between Stickeen and Dawson City yet to be prospected, and may be as rich in gold as any yet found. Even a few miles to the east of Hazleton the mountains show every indication as a mineral bearing country. By all means let that portion of railway from Stickeen to Teslin Lake be first completed; it will open the Stickeen route and bring travel and traffic to and from the Yukon; and secondly, from the Stickeen to the Kitamaat arm, bringing the travel to within two days from the city of Victoria by steamer.

JOHN C. BRYANT.

Nanaimo, B.C., Sept. 17, 1897.

Russian Peasants Ruined.

ST. PETERSBURG, Sept. 17.—The bad harvest affects seventeen Russian provinces and it is feared it will also be felt in another, as the drought has prevented sowing winter wheat in a large area. Immense reserve stocks will prevent a famine, but the peasants are ruined for several years.

The Anarchists.

BRUSSELS, Sept. 17.—Subsequent to the expulsion from the city yesterday of Louise Michel, the notorious French anarchist, and two companions, Charlotte Fauville and Erouson Loux, the police arrested fifteen persons suspected of being anarchists. The police also dispersed several bands who were parading the streets shouting and cheering for anarchy.

'This said that blondes are always
In a hurry to be wedded;
Perhaps the reason is because
They're naturally light headed.