Weekly British Colonist.

TWENTY-SOUTH YEAR. | VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 1885. | VOLUME XXVII NO. 10

Weekly Colonist.

FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 1885.

ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING IN TIME FOR THE MAIL

BY D. W. HIGGINS.

THE COLONIST BUILDING, GOVERNMENT ST.

TERMS—INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

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Per Week (if delivered).....25 Cents.

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Persons residing at a distance from Victoria, who may desire to insert a notice of Birth, Marriage or Death in *The Colonist*, must enclose with each notice Two DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS in P. O. Stamps, money order, bills or coin, to ensure insertion.

Local and Provincial News.

From the Daily Colonist February 28.

THE SHIP ASTORIA IN PERIL.

Believed to Have Gone Ashore in the Straits.

The schooner Mountain Chief, Capt. Victor Jacobson, arrived from the West coast yesterday morning bringing news of the probable wreck of the coal laden ship Astoria, owned by Samuel Blair of San Francisco, which is supposed to have gone ashore on Thursday morning at Pachena on the British side of the Straits, 30 miles to the eastward of Cape Beale light. When the schooner first sighted the ship it was about 8 o'clock in the morning. The latter was then lying perilously near the rocks with both anchors down. Capt. Jacobson sent a canoe, manned by two Indians, with a note to the ship, offering to stand by her if required. The captain of the ship returned a note thanking the captain of the schooner for his offer, but saying that he did not need any assistance. While the canoe was on her way back to the schooner a heavy squall accompanied by hail arose and the canoe was nearly swamped. When last seen the ship was among the breakers, and it is the opinion of Capt. Jacobson that she was driven on the rocks by the squall and totally wrecked. The Indians reported that the ship's boats had been lowered and provisioned ready for the abandonment of the ship if it was found necessary.

Marine.

The s. s. Empire, Capt. C. H. Butler, from San Francisco, Feb. 21st, arrived at this port at an early hour yesterday morning. She brought a small freight and 27 passengers.

British steamer Wellington from Departure Bay, arrived at San Francisco on the 25th.

British bark Princess Royal from Victoria, arrived at London on the 23d.

British bark J. P. Smith sailed from Valparaiso January 29th for Victoria.

Ship W. J. Rotch, Bray, in ballast, 30 days from Yokohama, arrived yesterday morning. Heavy weather was experienced. She will load coal for San Francisco.

Bark Innenock left Yokohama for Victoria on the 24th February.

Accident on the C. P. R.

(Special to The Colonist.)

YALE, Feb. 26th.

The regular passenger train on its way up country last night struck a slide at Grasshopper trestle, near Keefer's, whereby the locomotive and several freight cars were thrown over the bluff some two hundred feet. The engine was badly damaged, and the cars are a total wreck. Engineer Evans had his arm broken and was badly shaken up. No one else was injured.

The West Coast.

The schooner Mountain Chief reports heavy gales all along the west coast. During February there were only two days of fine weather on which vessels ventured out to catch seals. The success, thus far, has been limited. There are many seals, and they come close in shore, but the high winds prevent their being taken in large numbers.

Matters at the Alberni settlement are progressing favorably. New settlers are coming in and all are contented. Mr. Clarke sent to market by the Mountain Chief a ton of fine hams and bacon.

ANXIOUS TO FIGHT.—General Laurie, who cabled the Duke of Cambridge an offer to raise a Nova Scotia regiment for service in the Soudan when Lord Wolseley first commenced his march up the Nile, in renewing and urging the acceptance of his offer, also proposes the formation of a Canadian brigade, to comprise Maritime, French Canadian and Ontario regiments.

SIDEWALK OBSTRUCTION.—The laying of a new sidewalk from Johnson to Cormorant streets will give the corporation a long-looked for opportunity to cause the removal of the Musquetaire's awning posts, which stand right in the centre of the walk. We understand that the city surveyor's attention has been called to this most grievous obstruction.

NEW CARRIAGES.—The bark Haidee brought out a handsome landeau for W. G. Bowman. It is handsomely cushioned and finished, and a very comfortable looking carriage. The same bark also brought out Mr. J. Boscowitz's family carriage, a low-wheeled nobby looking vehicle.

What Some People Say.

That a woman, aged 66, picked up in a San Francisco street a few days ago, was recognized as a former resident of New Orleans where her husband was worth $5,000,000. She was sent to the almshouse.

That Ben Butler is growing old and poor.

That John Torrance, well known on this coast as a theatrical manager, died at San Francisco on Thursday, aged seventy years.

That the Princess Beatrice will be married at Whippingham Church, Isle of Wight, England.

That another victim of the present Soudan campaign is Viscount Avonmore in the Irish peerage, who died of enteric fever at Kirbekan, a few days ago. The viscount was a young fellow of 26, and was a lieutenant in the 57th foot regiment. He went out with the 1st Battalion and went with the forces under Lord Wolseley to Egypt to meet his death.

That

When'er at school some bigger boy
Would pound me till I'd smart,
My brother'd jump into the fray,
And kindly take my part.

When'er at home our mother gave
To us each half a tart,
My brother'd get me off alone
And kindly (!) "take my part."

—*Evansville Argus.*

That young ladies are oftener taken for wives for their pa's value than at their par value.—*Oil City Blizzard.*

That "Ireland bleeds out of a thousand ugly wounds," says a recent proclamation. "The cup of Ireland's woes has been running over for centuries," said an old proclamation, "and is not yet full."—*N. Y. Graphic.*

That "Have you really abandoned the use of slang altogether? was the question which the professor asked of the student president of the Wellesley College Anti-Slang Society; and the young lady answered in strong and pure Saxon. "You just bet we have."

That Lieut. R. Wolf, who was killed at Abu Klea, was the head of the old Irish family which counts among its members Major-General J. Wolf, the illustrious hero of Quebec, and in later times the Rev. Mr. Wolf to whom we are indebted for the imperishable lines on the death of Sir John Moore at Corunna.

That the New York Graphic says a Georgia negro, after living 85 years of single happiness, fell heir to a small fortune and has been married. Some men never can stand prosperity.

That since the birth of the first Prince of Wales in 1284, more than six centuries ago, the title has been borne by seventeen persons, but the present possessor of it is the only one who has lived to see a son attain his majority.

That considerable commotion was caused among the clerks in the postoffice at Vincennes, Ind., recently, over a peculiar noise issuing from a mail bag, which, upon being opened, was found to contain a large gray eagle. It came from the West, and is supposed to have been captured by the route agent.

That the London Echo says: Two native Indians were called to the bar at the Middle Temple yesterday, and three of the most valuable law scholarships in London have just been won by the natives. These are the sort of men who are disqualified under British rule from discharging public functions in their own country.

That maybe the four ineffective bullets aimed by Mrs. Dudley at Ross struck his cheek.—*Pittsburg Times.*

That "What is the breed of your calf?" said a would-be buyer to a farmer. "Well," said the farmer, "all I know about it is that his father gored a justice of the peace to death, tossed a book agent into the fence corner, and stood a lightning-rod man on his head, and his mother chased a female lecturer two miles; and if that ain't breed enough to ask $4 on, you needn't take him."

That "Industry must prosper," as the husband said when holding the baby, while his wife chopped the wood.

That there is no rule for beauty; this enables every man to have a better-looking wife than any of his neighbors.

That a bore is a man who spends so much time talking about himself that you can't talk about yourself.

That a parrot and a monkey one day began a dispute as to which of them had the better right to be called handsome. "I have limpid black eyes!" exclaimed the monkey. "And I have plumage like the rainbow!" replied the parrot. "I am the better climber." "And I can fly." The dispute waxed so hot that it was finally agreed to leave the question to a sage living near by. "Ladies and gentlemen," he remarked, when the case had been stated, "the rose and the violet are sweet to look upon, but when you want something real solid take a cabbage head." Moral: If you pick a wife for her dimples don't bewail the fact that she can't make bread.

That a New Hampshire editor was attacked by a tramp the other day, and in crying out for help was delighted to see a man running to the spot. The tramp, however, continued to maltreat the editor, while the stranger hovered near, but failed to close in. "Why don't you help me?" exclaimed the discomfited editor. "Because I can't tell which of you is the tramp and which ain't," was the candid reply.

SIDEWALKS.—The contractor is busy laying the sidewalks contracted for. The on Government between Johnson and Cormorant is being placed according to street lines and is leaving the old dilapidated wooden buildings about half a storey below the sidewalk. If it could only bury them altogether it would prove an advantage.

ALL tobaccos except the finest Virginia have a pungent effect upon the tongue and will smart it if the smoking is long continued. Some of them even will blister it, or at least destroy its outer skin at the point where the smoke impinges upon it. The "Myrtle Navy" is entirely free from this defect, which, together with its fine full flavor makes it a great favorite with smokers. 5

FOR PORT HAMMOND.—The C. P. N. Co.'s steamers will commence on Monday next tri-weekly trips between Victoria and Port Hammond, connecting with the railway there for interior points.

MISSION SCHOOL.—The Chinese school is progressing favorably, there being nearly 100 in attendance last evening and all manifesting great interest in their studies.

THE EMPIRE BREWERY.—Mr. Peters has no partner in his new enterprise. The brewery will be in running order in a short time.

HORSE-RACE.—A horse-race is on the books between the racers "Deschutts" and "Larry O'Brian," at Granville, on the 14th of March. The purse is for $500—$250 a side.

THE WINNER.—The race at Beacon Hill yesterday was won by Chas. Beak's "Crowbar." The purse was $50.

FOURTH PROVINCIAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION.

FRIDAY, Feb. 27th.

The speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock.

Prayers were offered by the Rev. Mr. Stephon.

RETURN.

Mr. Duck moved, seconded by Mr. Galbraith that an order of this house be granted for a return showing the number and names of all persons who, having applied for permission to purchase lands under the land acts of the province, prior to the passing of the "Land Act, 1884," have completed their purchase under section 76 of the above named act, and the number of acres obtained by each applicant.—Carried.

ESTIMATES.

The house in committee approved of granting supplies.

On motion of the finance minister the house will go into committee of supply on Monday next.

SUMAS DYKING ACT.

Hon. Mr. Smithe said that there were 170,000 acres under reserve, though but 45,000 were to be given to the contractors for dyking the same. They were still provincial lands while the dyking act was in force. He had corresponded with the Dominion government in reference to handing them over to the Dominion for reclamation, but they would not assume the responsibility of reclamation. It was very undesirable that settlers should locate on this land under the impression that they were protected by the Settlement Act, and therefore it was highly necessary that they should be made available for settlement, and a fund formed from the sale of the lands to go toward reclaiming overflowed land.

Mr. Orr asked the leader of the government if he had any returns of the number of settlers, and the amount of improvements made.

Hon. Mr. Smithe said that he had no definite information on the question, though he thought there were a large number of settlers located there and extensive improvements made.

Mr. T. Davie said the law by reference to a provision in the Dyking act, that if the contractors made default the government could assume the control of the lands on giving three months' notice. He would call attention to the fact that the lands were to be reclaimed within one year, which was not done, and a further permission was granted to reclaim them. Under this act which was passed in 1878, the lands were locked up, and the settlers were unable to secure their land. The indulgence was granted Mr. Derby in 1878 of withdrawing interest from these settlers on the amount expended. The speaker referred to the passage of the act and the manner in which interest had been collected from settlers or money expended on the dyke, when no practical benefit had accrued to them from the work. If there was anything in what he stated, then he thought the house should fully understand the position of the settlers and provide for their relief.

The house went into committee, Mr. McTavish in the chair.

Hon. Mr. Smithe said that the remarks of the hon. member had nothing whatever to do with this bill, for the Sumas dyking act had always been treated as a separate bill. There might be some doubt about whether they were provincial or Dominion lands. While the act was in force there was no doubt that they were under provincial proprietorship. If they repealed the act the Dominion government might say that then the lands reverted to them. It was to avoid the possibility of this that the provincial government were taking this course. If hon. gentlemen could suggest any better scheme he would be glad to adopt it.

Mr. Galbraith objected to the way the bill was being introduced. The hon. member for Victoria was going to make an amendment that would sweep away Mr. Sword's right to land there. If it was the intention of the house to do so sufficient notice should have been given to Mr. Sword and others before they undertook any such amendment to a private bill.

Mr. Drake entirely agreed with the remarks of the member for Kootenay, for if the amendment was carried it would take the property from one man and give it to another. Mr. Sword would probably be able in a couple of months to raise the necessary funds to repair the dyke, and it would be injurious to the interests of private individuals to pass the amendment proposed. Further time should be allowed to consider the matter.

Mr. T. Davie said that he would withdraw the amendment, with the understanding that he would bring in another bill to cover the grounds he proposed.

The first clause passed.

Clause 2d is as follows: "It shall be lawful for the Lieut.-Governor in Council to award such contracts, construct such works, and to make such payments out of such fund as may be necessary in his discretion to secure the dyking and reclaiming of the said lands in Chilliwhack and Sumas."

Hon. T. Davie moved that the district of Matequi be added.

Hon. Mr. Smithe objected, as already 6,000 acres of prairie land had been granted for the purpose of dyking the Matequi overflowed lands.

Mr. Dunsmuir said that there were too many bills passed through this house without any provision being made for default on part of the promoters. He would be willing to have from $10,000 to $30,000 guarantee placed in every private bill. Parties had obtained charters for works which others were now prepared to carry out, but could not on account of the charter in force preventing them. Two or three years should be allowed, and if the promoters did not carry out their project the charter should cease.

Mr. T. Davie withdrew his amendment.

The committee reported the bill complete with amendment. Final reading Monday.

LAND ACT AMENDMENT.

The house went into committee on the second reading of the "Act to amend the Land Act, 1884," Mr. Grant in the chair.

Clause 4 legalized all reserves, city town and suburban lots sold.

Mr. Beaven thought the 4th clause should not pass as it would be virtually legislating blindly and it should not be asked of the house. When a similar clause had been put in the Land Act, 1875, it was with the full knowledge of the house.

Hon. Mr. Smithe said the government were prepared to give the fullest returns in the matter. The sales were confined to the lower Fraser, in New Westminster city, and the lots in Victoria, and possibly those at Hastings. They were all sold at auction with the exception of a couple of pre-emptions. When the Victoria lots were sold he did not believe there was any reserve on such lots. Subsequently, however, he had found that there was such a reserve and it was only proper that they should ask the house to sustain them by making it valid, as it was done in the interests of the province.

Mr. Helgesen saw no necessity for the clause if the lands belonged to the government.

Hon. Mr. Davie thought the parties who had purchased in good faith should be considered, as their money had been paid into the hands of the government.

Mr. Duck said that there was an opinion at the time that the sale of Victoria lots was illegal, but he thought with the attorney-general that the parties who had purchased land should have the title made good. He therefore thought the clause should be inserted.

Mr. T. Davie also favored the clause for the lands had been sold in good faith at good prices.

Hon. Mr. Smithe moved an amendment that the words be inserted "in the cities of Victoria and New Westminster and the town of Hastings be declared to be valid."

Mr. Dunsmuir said he would like to remark upon the inconsistency of the member from Esquimalt, who at one time was in favor of protecting settlers, another time against it—one time wrong—another right.

Mr. Helgesen said that he had always been for the settler. He had never forgot Holgate altogether. But his hon. friend who had just lectured him never forgot Dunsmuir—he always worked for Dunsmuir. (Laughter.)

Mr. Beaven again objected to the clause.

Mr. Orr thought all the Victoria lots should be covered in the clause.

Mr. T. Davie thought if the hon. members were under the impression that the government were selling these lands and putting the money in their pockets they should say so. He could not see why there should be so much objection to the clause.

The clause as amended passed and the committee reported the bill with amendments.

GAME PROTECTION.

The act extending the game protection act was reported and received. The bill was read a third time and passed.

The bill provides that it shall be unlawful to shoot, trap, buy, sell, have in possession, or destroy pheasants or Virginian quail before the first day of September, 1887, and every person offending against this Section shall be liable to be punished and dealt with as for an infraction of Section 2, sub-section 2, of the "Game Protection Act, 1883."

ESQUIMALT WATER-WORKS.

The act authorizing the construction of the Esquimalt water-works, was reported, read a third time and passed.

CHINESE IMMIGRATION.

Mr. Theo. Davie's "Chinese Immigration Bill" was reported, read a third time and passed.

MUNICIPALITIES ACT.

The house went into committee on this bill, Mr. Semlin in the chair.

The committee reported progress.

House adjourned at 5:55.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

Mr. Duck on Monday next will ask the finance minister: (1.) Is it the intention of the government to do away with dual taxation by abolishing the income tax on incomes derived from personal and real property otherwise heavily taxed in the various municipalities of the province? (2.) Is it the intention of the government to abolish the school tax on personal property situated within the different municipalities of the province, so that a similar tax may be imposed by the corporation of the municipality in which such property is situated?

Mr. Allen on Monday next will ask the chief commissioner "What compensation, if any, does the government propose to make the settlers on the lands transferred by the provincial government to the Canadian Pacific syndicate."

Mr. Semlin—That on Monday, March 2, 1885, a select committee composed of Messrs. Duck, Grant, Helgesen, Raybould and the mover be appointed with power to send for persons and papers and to report to this house as to the claims of C. C. McKenzie, Esq., late superintendent of education.

Mr. Orr on Monday next—That a select committee be appointed for the purpose of enquiring into the claims of McDougall Bros., for extra work performed on the New Westminster and Granville wagon road.

Hon. A. E. B. Davie on Monday next will ask leave to introduce a bill entitled, "An Act to amend the Licenses Ordinance, 1867."

Personal.

Mr. Robt. Elder, for many years a respected resident of Victoria, and connected with the leading clothing house of A. Gilmore, will leave on to-day's steamer for San Francisco, where he will engage in business. Mr. Elder carries with him to his new home the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens here.

A report comes from San José that Miss Maggie Farron, of this city, who was sent there for her health, is rapidly sinking.

Major Dupont, Mr. D. Oppenheimer and several other passengers came down on the Otter yesterday.

From the Daily Colonist, March 2.

Is It Smallpox?

(Special to the Colonist.)

NANAIMO, Feb. 28.

The yellow flag has been hoisted this afternoon at John Beaven's house, also at T. Morgan's on the opinion of Dr. Clunness and Dr. Davis, who pronounce smallpox patients in both places, but there seems to be a difference of opinion amongst the doctors here as to what the disease is. Some think it is only chickenpox. It is hoped it is the latter. Both those houses have been quarantined.

Personal.

Mr. Hanter, chief engineer of the E. & N. Railway, Supt. Roycroft, Dr. Praeger, C. E. Busk, Canon Dreyer and Mr. H. Davie were among the east coast passengers yesterday.

Mr. Cunningham, M. P. P., Judge McCreight, Mr. James Laidlaw, Mr. J. A. Webster, Mr. Kyle and Rev. Mr. Tate were passengers on the Princess Louise yesterday.

Capt. Tatlow and Mr. John Kurtz are suffering from malaria.

Marine.

German ship Moltke, consigned to R. C. Janion, sailed from Liverpool for Victoria on the 25th Feb.

The bark Condor is chartered by Welch, Rithet & Co. to load lumber at the Moodyville sawmill for River Platte, South America.

Customs.

Collections at the Port of Victoria, B.C., for the month ending 28th February, 1885.

Duties	$50,948.49
Miscellaneous	684.15
	$51,632.64
Collections, February, 1885	34,892.80
Increase	$16,739.84

MATRIMONIAL.—The North Pacific arrived yesterday with flags flying in honor of the presence on board of Mr. Robert Irving (O. R. & N. Co.'s agent at Victoria) and bride, who were married in Portland on Thursday evening last. Mr. Irving has hosts of friends in Victoria who join with us in wishing him and his partner in life the greatest of happiness and success.

What Some People Say.

That the proposition to allow the city fathers to establish a gasworks and supply gas at one-half present rates, meets with general approbation. One hundred and fifty thousand dollars would equip a modern establishment; and the money ratepayers would save in their gas bills would go a long way towards paying their taxes.

That our esteemed morning contemporary says a man living in Philadelphia read an advertisement in its columns and ordered some seeds. This is another instance of the truth of the saying that a prophet hath honor save in his own country.

That our esteemed morning contemporary says, "The Standard has no circulation." Our c. c.'s announcement merely confirms the opinion its contemporaries have often expressed.

That it is true a copy of *The Standard* asked a man in the restaurant the other day. "No, this is the Standard," replied the reader of the paper. "Well, is not that a copy of *The Colonist*?" queried the first.

That all the Thibetian men and women smoke.

That there are $5,000,000 worth of houses in Paris untenanted.

That Arabi Pasha, exiled in Ceylon, is teaching school and lecturing.

That there are 742 churches in London within a radius of twelve miles.

That the French army in Tonquin consumes $180 worth of quinine a month.

That London is now consuming water at the rate of over 140,000,000 gallons per day.

That there are seventy-eight women studying medicine at Paris, thirteen of whom are Parisians.

That British brewers last year paid $45,000,000 in taxes and exported more than $7,500,000 worth of beer.

That Bavarian laws forbid the marriage of couples who do not possess sufficient means to maintain themselves.

That the second prize for butter at the Calcutta exhibition was awarded for a sample of American oleomargarine.

That from a single tree 192 bread fruits have been gathered, the average weight of each fruit being over two pounds.

That the Belgian periodical press of the present day comprises about 650 newspapers and magazines. There are seventy daily journals.

That in the French military hospitals chaplaincies have been abolished. The necessity of reducing the army estimates is the official explanation.

That the moistest climate known is in India, at Cherrapongee, where over a small area the yearly fall of rain is more than 610 inches, or about 51 feet.

That a Welsh enthusiast in the cause of cremation lately cremated a favorite bull. The ceremony lasted nine hours, and was witnessed by thousands.

That the Paris boulevards have been cleared of booths, and the papers of that city have been indulging in a congratulatory chorus over the change.

That what is generally taken for a sign of severe winter weather was lately present in Paris, namely, a numerous flight of wild geese to southward.

That a corporation at Newcastle-upon-Tyne has a charter that was granted in 1215. It is said to be the oldest business concern in the world, and is named the "Merchant Adventurers."

That a large number of the choicest shops in Paris, even such as one in the Rue de l'Opera and the Rue de Rivoli, are to let, and few, if any, of the large Parisian hotels are paying their expenses.

That "Congo" Stanley, previous to his recent return to Berlin, had been richly wined and dined by the German Colonial Associations at Cologne, Frankfort and Wiesbaden. He continues to be the lion of the day in Germany.

That recently the carcass of a huge whale was discovered on the banks of the Severn. It measures seventy feet, and is estimated to weigh over forty tons. It is supposed to be the largest that has been stranded on British shores within living memory.

That the most heavily loaded infantry soldier is the Swiss. When fully equipped he carries a load of 34,406 kilogrammes, while the Russian carries 31,368, the Italian 30,540, the English 28,308, the German 28,250, the French 27,750, and the Austrian 27,720.

That twenty Parisian duelists are organizing a club under the name of "La Flamberge," whose members must all have fought at least one duel. The headquarters of the club is the Cafe Riche, and, considering the large number of combatants in the field of private honor, no doubt the association will not want for recruits.

That a small urchin was yelling the merits of the Times last night, clinging, as he yelled, to the awning post at Frank Campbell's corner. "Evening Times," the boy bawled. A passer-by remarked to him, "Have you to use The Post to get that out?" The boy fainted.

AT BROCKVILLE, Ont., on the 20th ult., Mr. Shakespeare addressed a social at Trinity church on British Columbia. He spoke of the great mineral resources of the province on the Pacific slope—her untold wealth in iron, copper, silver and gold—all only waiting the necessary mining appliances to be sent forth to the world. He gave also a glowing description of the beautiful scenery and wonderfully productive fisheries. The finest fish and game in the world are to be had there. The climate is most delightful and healthy.

DANGEROUS.—The building of the new sidewalk on Government street in front of the Chinese rookeries has brought the signs attached to the wooden awnings dangerously close to the sidewalk, some of them being as low as a medium sized man's height. The awnings themselves in several cases are not the required height from the sidewalk and should be removed. The awning post in the centre of the sidewalk in front of the Monsquetaires saloon has not yet been removed, though perilous to the passage of pedestrians.

SEATTLE.—We are in receipt from Mr. Thos. T. Minor, secretary of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce, a descriptive pamphlet of Seattle and King County, W. T. It contains an interesting statistical report of the industries of the city and county, and also an article on Seattle city, for which they claim a population of 12,000. The assessed valuation of the city is $8,900,000. Attached to the pamphlet is a very handsome photograph of Seattle.

POLICE COURT.—An Indian was fined $1.25 for being drunk. J. Schofield, drunk and fighting, was fined $5. Bob, a Beecher Bay Indian, for being in possession of a bottle of gin, was fined $25.

CLOTH ROBBERY.—The police yesterday afternoon arrested two Chinese on a charge of complicity in the late cloth robbery from Mr. Williams' clothing store on Johnson street.

ENGRAVINGS and Works of Art sold at LONDON PRICES. Office and Fine Furniture made to order and on hand.
JOS. SOMMERS, 209, Government Street.

CANOEING IN ALASKA.

A Doctor's Adventurous Voyage on the Upper Yukon.

Captain Carroll of the steamer Idaho has received the following interesting letter from Dr. Everett, relating his adventures on a canoe voyage 750 miles up the Upper Yukon to Fort Reliance, Alaska, whence the letter is dated:

"I left Chilcat June 13th and arrived at the head of the canoe navigation of the Upper Yukon on the 18th. Here I built a raft, very close to where Schwatka built his. I floated down to the first portage and procured logs, which I whipsawed into boards and made a boat, starting again June 30th, accompanied by a miner from Killisnoo named Hess. We descended the chain of lakes in safety and arrived at the cañon July 7th, where we made another portage of two miles. Here pushed the boat through the cañon and I began poking.

"We loaded up at the mouth, passed the Five Rapids in safety, and I was just congratulating myself on our success in running the rapids, when I heard the roaring of waters below me and tried to pull for the shore, but it was of no use, the current was too strong to pull against. On we went sideways right into the midst of the worst rapids on the entire river. One more wave and, my dear captain, I would probably be feeding the fishes instead of writing letters. Well, the boat filled to within three inches of her rail at the stern, and as I was sitting there at the time, you can imagine in what a condition I was. Everything was wet and damaged. It was very provoking. We ran through Lake Labarge, and when about seventy-five miles above the mouth of Pelly river we met three miners on a gravel bar—Messrs. Boswell, Franklin and Madison, of Harrisburg. They had a rich thing. Boswell informed me that he could take out $1,500 per day with a rocker when the water was low. I saw some of the dust they had taken out. It was very fine, yellow, scaly stuff—something like Palmer gulch dust of the Black hills. Here my canoe was caught the 'gold fever' and left me. So I came on alone, and when off the mouth of the Pelly river, fifteen noble red Lo's of the woods, seeing me alone, tried to persuade me to let them take my provisions, break up my boat and kill me and throw me in the river. I rather objected, especially at the latter part of the circus, and I very kindly persuaded them that it would not be just the thing they expected if they tried it, and after awhile they seemed to think so also, for my Colt's self-cocking 45 was too much for their long knives and furious look, and they knew it. I jumped in among them, overturned a couple, untied my bow line, shoved off and away I went down the stream, amidst their angry exclamations and furious gesticuse, indicating that they had no intention of robbing me.

"I arrived at this post (abandoned for the summer) July 22d and am awaiting the arrival of the Alaska Commercial Company's steamer to take my mail down to St. Michael's. I will ascend the White river this fall and there winter, then in the spring will cross over to Copper river, descend it and try and arrive at the coast in the fall of 1885. Gold can be found on nearly every gravel bar of course in limited quantities, but I have seen quite a few men at extreme low water, if sluice boxes were used, nearly any ancient bar would pay for the work up. This interior is greatly misrepresented—the climate is even preferable to that of Northern Montana, being something similar to Northern Idaho and the Kootenay country. The country consists of low rolling hills, densely covered with larch and poplar, cotton wood, white birch, alder and willow on the river banks. I passed many fine flat table lands and mesas, covered with bunch grass, white sage, wild flowers and moss. I will write you fuller details in my next."

BLUE RIBBON MEETING.—A large audience attended last evening. The choir, under the able leadership of Mr. McConnel, rendered several selections. Mr. Williams gave a temperance speech, Miss Green sang a nice solo, Miss Foster gave a recitation entitled "Three Bright Pennies." Two young ladies, Misses Burgess and Penwell, sang a plessing duet. A selection by the orchestra was well rendered. Mr. Ellis made a splendid speech, and Mr. Samuel Evans also spoke on the question. Mr. Kelly gave a recitation and Mr. Holden sang "Drifting with the Tide." Miss Bertha Burgess recited two splendid pieces and received a perfect ovation from the large audience. This young lady is possessed of great elocutionary powers. Miss Humber played a fine selection which received an encore. Mr. Shopland and President Rudge made powerful speeches in favor of the cause. Mr. Samuel Gray made the finishing speech, and stated that the election of officers will take place next Wednesday evening. A unanimous vote of thanks was tendered the retiring president, Mr. Rudge, and his reply was received with loud applause.

THE ASTORIA.—The Sir James Douglas arrived from Cape Beale yesterday afternoon and states that they saw no vessel or wreckage at Pacheena Bay. There was a fair wind on Thursday, and on Friday the sea was calm as a millpond. The Astoria reported yesterday as in a very dangerous position must have either been towed from her position or taken advantage of a favorable wind and sailed. There is little doubt but she is now safe.

COMPENSATION.—Mayor Rithet has notified Drake, Jackson & Helmcken that the council will allow Hon. A. F. Pemberton the sum of $500, equivalent to six months salary, as a recognition of past services and in compensation for summary dismissal from the position of police magistrate by the late council.

PUBLIC MEETING.—The mayor has been (or will be on Monday) served with a requisition to call a public meeting on Tuesday evening next to consider the Chinese commissioners' report. Would it not be better to await the receipt of the full text of the report? The matter is a very important one, and the public should not, like the unreliable gun, go off at half-cock.

THE old established and popular firm of Woods & Turner, New Westminster, have been strengthened by the addition of Mr. A. G. Gamble, for several years bookkeeper at Robert Ward & Co.'s. The firm name will in future be Woods, Turner & Gemble, and will do a surveying, real estate and commission business.

A SCARE.—The Free Press charges that Dr. Walkem tore through Nanaimo on Friday with the news that a child whose parents reside in the heart of the city was afflicted with the small pox, and hoisted the yellow flag. The case on examination by Dr. Cluness proved to be chicken pox. Dr. Walkem then removed the yellow flag; but several parties are seriously ill from the scare they received.

THE SMALLPOX.—Dr. Praeger, who returned from a visit to camp 10 yesterday, states that the man quarantined there is certainly afflicted with smallpox. No other cases have developed. The Chinese quarters were searched, but no symptoms of the disease were discovered.

BY ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH

EXCLUSIVE DISPATCHES TO THE COLONIST.

ENGLAND.

LONDON, Feb. 28.—The government's majority of 14 in the division on the censure motion in the commons last night has not disappointed the conservatives. It is the lowest majority the government has ever obtained upon any important question since it entered office. The conservative vote, which is normally estimated at 245, was increased to 288 by the votes of Goshen and other Whigs and 24 of the Irish members. The Peace Radicals supported the government. The excitement became intense toward the end of the debate, when it became known that a section of the Whigs and the Parnellites had decided to vote against the government. The report led a number of hesitating Radicals to vote against the censure motion, thus saving the government from defeat.

The Standard, commenting on the majority by which the government escaped a vote of censure, says the cabinet is bankrupt in influence, and Gladstone has received a severe lesson.

LONDON, Feb. 28.—Ponsonby, the Queen's private secretary, left Windsor to-day and visited Gladstone at Downing street. He was closeted with the prime minister for a long time.

LONDON, Feb. 28.—The Telegraph states that the cabinet were summoned to meet at two this afternoon to consider the question of resigning.

LONDON, Feb. 28.—3 p. m.—A cabinet council met at 2 this afternoon and is still in session. Earl Spencer, Lord Lieut. of Ireland, was present, having arrived from Dublin this morning. The outcome of the meeting is very uncertain, but a crisis is predicted.

SOUTH AFRICA.

LONDON, Feb. 28.—Advices from Durban announce that reports are current there to the effect that proposals have been made to organize a contingent of 5000 Zulus for service in the Soudan.

ITALY.

ROME, Feb. 28.—The government has sent a million dollars to Massowah for the purchase of camels. The action taken indicates that Italy intends to take steps for the relief of Kassala.

EGYPT.

LONDON, Feb. 28.—Last October, El Mahdi sent an autograph letter to General Gordon, exulting over the wreck of Col. Stewart's steamer and the murder of that officer and company, in proof of his knowledge of the disaster that had overtaken Stewart. He endorsed copies of the document found on the steamer, and an account showing the state of the munitions and supplies at Khartoum at the time of Stewart's departure, by messenger, who brought the letter to General Gordon, who sent back a defiant reply to El Mahdi. He said: "I do not care how many men you kill, or what success you gained. It makes no difference to me." After more in the same vein, he concluded with: "I do not care what forces you have; I have made iron, and intend to hold on here."

SUAKIM, Feb. 28.—After the late action with the rebels, in destroying the stockades, the British troops found it difficult to induce the friendly natives to alter arrangements for exploding the mines. While examining one of the mines it exploded. Askwith was blown to pieces.

EASTERN STATES.

NEW YORK, Feb. 28.—The general sessions court romm was crowded this morning by persons anxious to witness the proceedings in the arrangement of Mrs. Dudley for shooting Ross, and Dick Short for stabbing Capt. Phelan. Short was first arraigned. His face was flushed but his manner was calm and collected. Short pleaded "not guilty" to the charge of assault and battery. The recorder said as the case was an aggravated one, he would increase the bail from $3000 to $5000. Short was then removed. Mrs. Dudley was then arraigned and approached the bar with a quiet smile. Her counsel said that by his advice, she stood mute. The recorder directed a plea of "not guilty" to be entered for Mrs. Dudley, and her bail was fixed at $500. The accused was then taken back to prison. Neither Capt. Phelan or O'Donovan Rossa was present during the proceedings.

PITTSBURG, Feb. 26.—In 1873 Henry J. Moore, living on a farm in Washington county, was thrust into a cellar previously prepared by his step-daughter and her husband, and kept there ever since in order that they might get possession of his property. He escaped a few days ago, came here and instituted legal proceedings. His jailers gave it out that he died while visiting in Michigan.

DELAYED DISPATCHES

AFRICA.

LONDON, Feb. 26.—Advices from Durban, South Africa, state that martial law has has been proclaimed in Bechunaland.

CHINA.

PARIS, Feb. 26.—Admiral Courbet will take a position near Shanghai for the purpose of intercepting vessels with rice for China.

LONDON, Feb. 26.—England has refused to recognize the French declaration making rice contraband of war, if found on vessels bound to or from China.

EUROPE.

LONDON, Feb. 26.—The army estimates for the year 1884 have been announced and amount to £17,820,700. This sum includes the expenditures which the Soudan expedition necessitates.

BRUSSELS, Feb. 26.—King Leopold has written to Bismarck a letter of thanks for the great services rendered by him to African civilization by summoning and making a success of the International conference of the Congo question.

PARIS, Feb. 26.—It is now alleged that the recently reported congress of dynamiters in this city was a hoax. The whole of the affair was concerted by foreign police for the purpose of alarming England and inducing her to become a party to the proposed international extradition treaty against dynamiters.

LONDON, Feb. 26.—Baron Wentworth, Liberal, moved an amendment, of which he gave notice, to the vote of censure. The amendment declares that Her Majesty's forces should not occupy the Soudan longer than is necessary and in the interest of Egypt and the British empire and it is undesirable to prevent the Egyptian people from exercising the right to select their own government.

In the House of Commons this evening Henry Chaplin, conservative for the mid division of Lincolnshire, resumed the debate on Northcote's motion to censure the Government for its Egyptian policy. He declared that half meas