SUNDAY'S DESPATCHES

Gladstone's Opinion of the Eight-Hour Movement.

Fifteen Thousand Cases of Influenza in Berlin.

The Imperial Government Strengthening the Thames Fortifications—Churchill's Bid for Popularity.

Churchill's Bid for Popularity.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—Lord Randolph Churchill's reply to the Ayrshire miners who sought his views on the eight hour question is regarded as a mere personal bid for popularity among the masses, and not as indicating the attitude of the aristocratic party in the House of Commons. Should the matter ever come to a vote, Lord Randolph commits himself to favor such a measure and this is in line with his former occasional appearances in the role of a friend of the poor classes. Yet for some reason which probably no one could explain, his utterances do not gain him the popularity which he evidently seeks by them. The utterances of some men are never taken seriously, and Churchill has the political misfortune to have got himself into this class. He also failed apparently to realize that the miners did not care whether he was for or against the proposal for a shorter day's work. Their object in addressing public men is as much a mischievous as a serious one. Leaders of the labor movement delight in nothing more than in forcing the leaders of the political parties to commit themselves. Gladstone was too old a bird to be caught with this chaff, and his response to the miners is a model of how not to commit one's self on a point that may have an awkward sequence.

The Labor Question.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—The gas strikers have made a sorry mess of their attempt to force the companies to their view on the wage question. Whether their set back is a turning point in the strike epidemic or not is not yet certain; but the general belief is that such is the case, and that a reaction may be looked for toward harder times for the working classes. The Socialists, who from the first opposed John Burns' way of doing things and sneered at his idea that the lion of capital and the lamb of labor could be made to lie down together, are already ringing the changes on "I told you so." A well-known student of the labor question said to your correspondent to-day that as nearly as he could make out the labor problem here was passing very rapidly through certain stages which it had taken a long time to pass through in America. There strikes were an old story. They had been tried on every scale and form, small to great, and on the whole they had failed to improve the laboring classes, who were turning their thoughts toward social reorganization as a more hopeful remedy than trade-unionism and strikes. Here the strikes had been fewer, and while quite often successful in the past they were so because of the very rarity of them, and because they were resorted to only in exceptional cases. The present budding out of strikes in all directions, with or without provocation, following the dockers' success, was sure to result in a large percentage of failure, and was certain to bring the English working classes to the very same position reached by their American brethren—a point where something more than labor organization would be seen to be necessary. These gentlemen took the view that the next result of the present agitation would be to increase the radicalism of the liberal party and bring about a condition more tolerable for the 'mudsills' of society. People who entertain hopes that the conflict between labor and capital will eventually be settled on a co-operative basis will be cheered by the action of the owners of the immense Bute docks at Cardiff, in apportioning among the workmen five shares bearing five per cent. profits.

The Eight Hour Movement.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—Mr. Gladstone, in replying to the request to throw his influence into the scale in favor of the eight hour movement, declines on account of his age and the engrossing character of the Irish question to initiate an agitation on the subject. He says that he will dispassionately consider the matter whenever a bill embodying the idea is presented. In reply to a similar invitation he says that the system of eight hours for sleep, eight hours for labor, and eight hours for recreation seems to be an ideal toward which democratic legislation may wisely and probably aim. It would diminish the number of unemployed and also the profits of the capitalist, but the latter disadvantage, if such it be, would be largely outweighed by the increased comfort and contentment of the laborers.

A Swiss Railroad.

BERNE, Dec. 15.—The Swiss council has insisted that the St. Gothard Tunnel Co. shall build a railroad between Goldan and Zugi, which the council claimed formed a part of the original tunnel concession and charter.

The Thames Fortifications.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—The government have decided to strengthen the fortresses at the mouth of the Thames by placing therein a number of heavy guns and adding several other improvements to bring the works up to modern requirements.

The Striking Gas Men.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—The striking gas employes now concede that their only hope of success lies in the possibility of stopping the coal supply of the companies. The key to the situation, therefore, seems to be with the coal porters and other workers in the coal interest.

A Dynamite Pool.

BERLIN, Dec. 15.—Important combinations have been formed among the manufacturers of dynamite and powder throughout Germany. Most of the large concerns are said to have joined the pool.

Robert Browning's Funeral.

VIENNA, Dec. 15.—The mourning displayed for Browning recalls that shown upon the death of Wagner. The poet long refused to believe that his illness was serious. He went out daily until Thursday. He then felt confident that he would be able to go out on Friday. At 7 in the evening his breathing became difficult. Learning that his last edition of poems was almost exhausted, he murmured: "How gratifying." These were his last words. The funeral took place to-day from the Palazzo Rezzonico. The coffin was covered with floral wreaths. The cortege started at 4 o'clock, the body reposing on a magnificent funeral barge, accompanied by a guard of honor. The body was deposited in the chapel of the cemetery of St. Michael until the time arrives for its removal to London, where the formal ceremonies will be held, and the body will be interred in Westminster Abbey.

The Brazilian Revolution.

LISBON, Dec. 15.—Ouro Preto, late prime minister of Brazil, has issued a manifesto in which he says the imperial government was betrayed by the leaders of the army and navy, including the minister of war. The presessions of loyalty on the part of the military, blinded the government to the existence of the conspiracy. Preto complains of his treatment in prison, and says he was informed that he would be shot if his friends offered armed resistance. He urged the people to exercise their freedom of choice at the coming elections. He counsels his friends to vote for any of his adherents who may become candidates.

The Influenza in Berlin.

BERLIN, Dec. 15.—There are fifteen thousand cases of influenza in this city.

Miners Meeting at Essen.

BERLIN, Dec. 15.—Three hundred miners assembled at Essen to-day and adopted resolutions thanking the Government for its expression of sympathy, and declaring their readiness to await the result of the Government's promise to intervene between them and their employers.

Armenians Turn Upon Their Persecutors.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 15.—The Armenians near Moosh, in revenge for the murder of one of their number, attacked and defeated a band of Kurds and a detachment of Turkish soldiers. Reinforcements of Turkish troops have been sent from Erzeroum to quell the disturbance.

EUROPEAN GOSSIP.

A Local Government Scheme for Ireland.

Serious Loss of Life During a London Fog.

The Striking Gas Men Out of Funds, and With No Prospect of Regaining Their Old Places.

THE TROUBLE WITH PORTUGAL.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—The London and provincial press are bristling with denunciatory comments and bellicose suggestions on the attitude of Portugal in Africa, the government being, as far as can be learned, in a similar state of indignation. It is difficult to see how prompt official action in the matter can be avoided, or how such action can result otherwise than in the complete backdown of Portugal. Portuguese officials here as well as at Lisbon declare that the reports of Serpa Pinto's action have been grossly exaggerated by Consul Johnston, whose information consists solely of a jumbled mass of statements made by frightened or otherwise mentally warped English missionaries. However, this may be, it is undeniable that Pinto has been grazing in forbidden pastures, and that his opportunity to commit his questionable acts was obtained through fraud, deceit and falsehood, and for which the Portugese government must answer.

DROWNED DURING THE FOG.

During the almost unprecedented fog which hung over London on Friday, eleven persons were drowned in the various parts of the city and the metropolis by unconsciously walking into the river, the canals, or the docks, and a larger number were seriously injured by falling into cellars, excavations, etc., or through being knocked down and run over by vehicles.

THE GAS MEN'S HOPELESS FIGHT.

The striking gas stokers have succeeded in collecting but a very little money towards supporting their hopeless fight against the companies, and their leaders are now as earnestly advising the misguided men to seek work elsewhere as they were several days ago counseling them to abandon their employment and force the masters into compliance with their rather exorbitant demands. The advice is good, but somewhat tardy, as there was never any chance of victory for the strikers. The place of every man who went out has been filled for several days, and the company could not reinstate the old hands even if it would.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FOR IRELAND.

It is stated that the cabinet at its meeting to-day devoted most of the session to the consideration of a local government scheme for Ireland, which, it is asserted, embodies many of the provisions which the liberal leaders have repeatedly declared themselves to be in favor of.

ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE IN RUSSIA.

The Russian Government has decided, after much deliberation, to appoint technical attaches to the Russian embassies at London and in continental capitals, the addition to be made immediately. This course is adopted with a view of obtaining the best information of the progress of science, art, mechanics, etc., in other countries, to the ultimate improvement of similar pursuits and industries in Russia.

RIOT IN LOMBARDY.

The Italian government has sent a strong force of troops to Lombardy to quell the riot of peasantry which is imminent in that province.

WESTMINSTER SPECIAL.

Salmon Hatchery to be Established at Alert Bay.

One Million Sockeye Salmon Ova Forwarded Yesterday—Crazy Man in Surrey—Football Match.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

NEW WESTMINSTER, Dec. 16.—Max Mowat, caretaker of the Fraser River hatchery, left for Alert Bay to-day with one million sockeye salmon ova packed in moss and cotton. A temporary hatchery will be built in Spencer's cannery, and the ova hatched there. The fry will be deposited in the Neninguish river.

The crazy man who kept Surrey in a state of terror for a few weeks in September, has again made his appearance with a repeating rifle, and the inhabitants are in a great fright. The Surrey authorities have been unable to effect his capture and have appealed to Mr. Moresby, governor of the gaol, to place the man under arrest.

The Nanaimo and Westminster football clubs play in this city on Saturday.

PACIFIC COAST NEWS.

Cowardly Assault.

SPOKANE FALLS, Dec. 16.—Austin Corbin, president of the Spokane and Northern Railway, was brutally sandbagged, jumped upon, robbed and left for dead by four men last night.

Fatal Fall.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 16.—Mrs. M. Lyon, 43 years of age, was engaged in beating a carpet this afternoon, when the railing gave away. She fell to the ground and was killed.

Noted Singer Dead.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 16.—The funeral of Karl Formes, the noted singer who died yesterday, takes place tomorrow.

Cannot Fail.

MRS. John E. Thompson, of Shelburne, P.O., writes: My two children received great benefit from Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry for Diarrhœa and summer complaint. I gave it according to direction and they soon recovered. Be sure and get the genuine. sw1

A VERDICT AT LAST.

Three of the Prisoners Found Guilty of Murder.

Coughlin, Burke and O'Sullivan to be Imprisoned for Life.

Beggs Acquitted, and Little Kunze Sentenced to Three Years—Verdict Received with Satisfaction.

NO VERDICT ON SUNDAY.

CHICAGO, Dec. 16.—The jury in the Cronin case passed Sunday night in its room, the ballot standing just where it was on the first ballot, on Friday night at 5 p.m., 11 to 1 in favor of conviction of the defendants. The recalcitrant juror Jno. Culver, who would not have a word to say to his associates of the story, unbended far enough on Sunday to discuss some portions of the evidence, but no ballot was taken. Judge McConnell came in from his residence at Lake View at 4 o'clock and waited till 6, when receiving no word from the jury he declared the court adjourned until 10 o'clock Monday morning. Groups of people hung around the criminal court building throughout Sunday morning and evening, and engaged in some strong talk concerning Culver.

THREATS OF LYNCHING

in case he hung the jury were freely made. Out in the aristocratic suburb of Evanston, where he resides, the excitement was intense. The churches had less than the usual amount of worshippers, and suburbanites gathered in groups on the street or visited at each other's houses to denounce the peculiar actions of their neighbor. All sorts of rumors concerning the motive for Culver's position were current, and it was broadly insinuated in more than one of the morning papers that he had been "fixed" in a financial sense. Culver is a strict church member and a rabid prohibitionist, and put in all his spare time during the trial, both in the court room and at the hotel, in reading the Bible, a copy of which he always carried. Just as he was leaving the courtroom Friday afternoon, his wife, through the negligence of the bailiffs, managed to reach his side and the two indulged in a whispered conversation lasting two or three minutes.

MONDAY MORNING.

Judge McConnell made his appearance in his private chamber at 10:50 o'clock this morning. A rumor found its way from the other side of the building that the jury had at last agreed upon a verdict. Extraordinary precautions were at once taken within and without the court-room. Orders were issued that no one but representatives of the press and counsel engaged in the case should be given admittance, and to the fifty or more reporters that occupied the benches there were as many or more police officers in plain clothes. Some slight delay was created by the absence of counsel, O. R. Forrest, and a special messenger was dispatched for him, and upon his arrival at 2:25 p.m., Judge McConnell took his seat upon the bench and the court was declared to be in session. One moment later, and

THE PRISONERS

were ushered in over the iron bridge leading from the jail. Lawyer F. Beggs, with a deathly pallor on his face and his blue eyes staring as though protruding from the bleached bones of a skeleton, headed the line. Behind him came Dan Coughlin, with a half nervous, half cynical smile on his face. It was apparent to every observer that he had nerved himself for the ordeal. Next came O'Sullivan, his jaws compressed and the fingers of his right hand tugging nervously at his moustache. Martin Burke, close behind him, had the same look of stolid indifference that he had worn throughout the trial. Little Kunze, the last in line, was, as usual, the comedian of the prisoners, and smiled and waved his hand at the officers and newspaper men as he entered the room. As soon as the defendants had taken their seats three deputy sheriffs took up a position behind each chair, and at the same moment about fifty officers entered the room by the door and formed a complete barrier between the prisoners' row and all means of exit from the room. At 2.29 the iron doors leading to the jail were again swung open, and while word went round the audience

"HERE THEY COME,"

the members of the jury filed in.

Every man had on his overcoat and carried his hat in his hand, and this was at once accepted as conclusive evidence that the verdict had at last been reached. The twelve good men and true were escorted to their seats, and the roll was called. Perfect silence prevailed, even the judge, usually calm and collected, nervously mopped his brow. The prisoners maintained the same demeanour which they had worn when they entered the court room, except that Burke chewed with redoubled nervousness at his quid of tobacco. While O'Sullivan ran his fingers through his hair with a desperation that threatened to tear it out by the roots. The voice of Foreman Clarke came out clear and distinct, and with a triumphant ring in it, when he answered "We have," in response to the question of the clerk of the court as to whether he and his colleagues had agreed on a verdict. Rising in his seat he handed a folded paper to the clerk. The stillness at this moment was not merely oppressive—it was painful. Every eye was turned upon the five men, whose fate in another moment would be determined. The prisoners' counsel glanced encouragingly towards their clients as much as to say,

"BE BRAVE."

Foster, from his chair a couple of feet distant, threw a word in a whisper to Beggs. In another moment the voice of the clerk reading the verdict, clear and distinct rang out on the air: "We find defendant John F. Beggs not guilty as charged in the indictment." There was a buzz in the court room as though a thousand breaths had been let loose. The blood rushed to the face of the lawyer prisoner, and in a second it was a carmine hue. His right arm, which had been resting on the railing, fell to his side and his entire frame shook like that of a man afflicted with palsy. All this was but the work of a moment. Again the voice of the clerk rang out: "We find defendant John Kunze guilty of manslaughter, and fix his penalty at

THREE YEARS IN THE PENITENTIARY.

The little comedian smiled and bowed to all appearances as well pleased with the verdict as if it had been an acquittal. There was a pause before the clerk resumed. No doubt remained but that the three remaining men had either been condemned to die on the scaffold or to suffer a living death. The eyes of Coughlin, Burke and O'Sullivan were riveted on each other, while a convulsive movement of the jaws showed that each man was making a superhuman effort to control his feelings. For the third time the clerk cleared his throat and proceeded: "We find the prisoners Daniel Coughlin, Martin Burke and Patrick O'Sullivan guilty of murder as charged in the indictment, and fix their punishment at imprisonment for the term of their natural lives. The suspense of the auditors found vent in a half suppressed shout, and the demeanor of the three passed unnoticed in the wild scampering of the newspaper men and officers from the room. Over 2,000 people were congregated outside of the jail, and the news was received by them with satisfaction.

JUROR CULVER WAS THE CAUSE.

CHICAGO, Dec. 16—11 p.m.—It was stated to-night on undoubted authority that but for fear of Juror Culver going mad in the jury room, the other eleven would have stood out indefinitely for the hanging of Coughlin, Burke and O'Sullivan; 21 years' imprisonment for Beggs, and 14 years for Kunze.

ASHCROFT NOTES.

Under date of December 4th, a correspondent of THE COLONIST writes from Ashcroft:

Ten degrees below freezing at this writing, which is considered winter weather in this section. Snow has fallen here in the valley to the depth of two inches, after being seen approaching down the mountain side for the past three weeks.

A literary and debating society has been organized in Ashcroft, meeting once a week. President, S. H. Smith; secretary-treasurer, Miss S. O. King. The membership roll numbers twenty-four. A pleasant time was spent last Wednesday evening in listening to very exciting debate conducted by the members. The subject debated on was "Which is the most destructive of the elements, fire or water?" The firey eloquence of Mr. Erving, teacher from Cache Creek, and our talented schoolmistress, Miss King, won the decision in favor of fire, after the vain attempt of Messrs. Cary, McNicols, Clunie and others to pour on enough cold water facts to put it out.

Rev. Ladner, from Kamloops, assisted by Rev. Woods from Clinton, conducted a missionary meeting in our school house last Monday evening which was fairly attended.

Mr. McCloud, with servant, from Vancouver, is staying here to try and benefit a lung malady, adding one more to our list of patients.

Mr. Clunie starts for the East in a few days to spend Christmas with his relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown and family of eleven registered at the Ashcroft House this week on their way from Bakerville to Victoria, there to reside.

CAPITAL NOTES.

Mr. A. R. Milne to Assume the Collectorship on January 1st.

A Market for Hawaiian Sugar in Canada—Carload of Turkeys Shipped to Boston.

(From our own Correspondent).

OTTAWA, Dec. 16.—The order-in-council superannuating Hon. Mr. Hamley has been passed, and is to take effect on January 1st. Mr. Milne will assume the duties of collector on the same day.

Attorney-General Ashford, of Hawaii, is still here. He wants to obtain a market for Hawaiian sugar in Canada.

An immense train load of turkeys was shipped from here to Boston on Saturday, valued at $28,000.

A. W. Ross and wife have returned from England and leave for Vancouver to-morrow night. Mr. Ross says his business is entirely of a private nature. Mrs. Ross is greatly improved in health.

CABLE NEWS.

Siberian Exiles Shot Down.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 15.—News is received from Siberia that a party of exiles were fired upon by soldiers, and six of them, including one woman, were killed and nine wounded. Their offense was that they had declined to withdraw a petition which was construed as rebellious. After the shooting a court-martial was held, and three men were sentenced to death and several more to prison for long terms. One of those condemned to death had been wounded during the shooting, and he was carried to the gallows on a bed.

Nine Hours a Day.

BERLIN, Dec. 16.—It is believed that the demands of the hands employed in the Royal mines at Saar, for a reduction of hours to nine per day, will be granted by Emperor William.

The Gas Men Without Funds.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—The committee of striking gas men at Manchester and Sanford announce that their funds are exhausted and they advise the men to ask the companies to take them back in their employ.

A Miners' Conference.

BERLIN, Dec. 16.—A conference will be held between a committee representing the miners at Waldenburg and the managers of the mines. If the miners demand that eight hours shall constitute a day's work their demand will be refused. The men will appeal to Emperor William, and for the present a strike is averted.

London's Club Scandal.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—A secret conference was held to-day before the magistrate of Bow Street police court, in which the crown lawyers in the case of the West End club scandal had several boys committed to jail for connection therewith, and several new witnesses were heard. It is believed that as a result of the hearing, additional warrants have been issued against persons hitherto unsuspected of complicity in the crimes alleged.

The German Strikes Ended.

BERLIN, Dec. 16.—In consequence of the government having allowed the miners who were dismissed for disobedience to resume work, the strike has ended at Reden, Itzemplatz, Koenig, Heinitz, Dechen, Kohlwald and Schwalbach. It continues, however, at Dudweiler, Comphausen, Sulzbach and Ilgerafrende.

Money Controls Another Industry.

VIENNA, Dec. 16.—The Rothschilds have agreed to pay the mother-of-pearl workmen increased wages on condition that they alone be supplied with the goods manufactured, and that the production be limited. The strikers have accepted these terms and will resume work.

Portugal's Claims in Africa.

LISBON, Dec. 18.—The Portugese government has in course of preparation for immediate issuance a map showing the extent of Portugal's claim in Africa, which it is officially declared she will neither overstep nor abandon. Portugal does not raise any pretension to authority over Molabeland, the western limit of Zumbololand, nor does she claim the stretch of territory across the continent.

A Second Speech by Parnell.

LONDON, Dec. 17.—Parnell spoke again this evening, devoting his address to an explanation of the objects of the tenants' defense league, which he said was the most powerful and at the same time the most peaceful movement ever known in Ireland or any other country. In spite of coercion and her other ills, he declared Ireland was perfectly tranquil, under the assurances that Gladstone would soon give to the country and her people their legitimate freedom.

Parnell to Visit Gladstone.

LONDON, Dec. 17.—Parnell, after leaving Nottingham, will go to Hawarden to pay a visit to Gladstone.

Wreck Off Holyhead.

LONDON, Dec. 17.—The British barque Tenby C. Bell was wrecked in the Irish Sea off Holyhead to-day and eleven of her crew were drowned.

EUROPEAN GOSSIP.

English Newspaper Comment on the Cronin Verdict.

Fashionable Marriage at St. George's, Hanover Square.

The German Government will Not Advise the Kaiser to Have Himself Crowned King of Bohemia.

THE CRONIN VERDICT.

LONDON, Dec. 17.—The verdict in the case of the Cronin murderers is a prolific source of newspaper comment throughout the kingdom, and is productive of satisfaction to nobody. A few journals openly or covertly sympathise with the prisoners on various grounds, and say that the finding of the jury seems vindictive and totally at variance with the evidence, which they profess to interpret. These papers are, of course, dissatisfied and are early in the field with the prediction that the men will be acquitted if they are granted a new trial. Happily, journals of this character are few, and wholly without influence or standing. On the other hand, the great majority of the papers, liberal and conservative, regard the penalties fixed by the jury as ridiculously inadequate to the enormity of the crime. These journals say the prisoners were plainly convicted of murder, and are, consequently, inclined to express their great disappointment that the wretches are not to be hanged forthwith. Nevertheless, they agree that there is much reason for congratulation that the prisoners are to suffer life imprisonment, and predict no pardoning power will be found having the hardihood to defy public opinion by mitigating the sentance of judgment pronounced on them. Turning their attention to the moral influence of the case, the tory papers are pessimistic to the last degree in their estimation of its effect on the Irish-Americans, several of the leading journals declaring it is too much to hope that even the exposure of the aims and methods of the Irish societies laid bare at the trial will prevent Americans from subscribing money in large sums for the support of these murderous associations.

KING OF BOHEMIA.

Count Von Taafe, president of the Austrian counsel of ministers, replying to an interrogation in the Reichsrath to-day, declared that the government would not at present advise the Emperor to have himself crowned King of Bohemia at Prague. This declaration aroused a storm of remonstrance from that part of the chamber upholding the national rights of the Bohemians, but no debate on the question was permitted, the president ruling that the Government's announcement was final.

A FASHIONABLE WEDDING.

Lord Dongan, who was recently successful in settling out of court a suit for breach of promise brought against him by Phyllis Broughton, the actress, to whom he paid $7,500, was married in St. George's church, Hanover square, to-day to Lady Neville. The guests were numerous and fashionable, and the presents magnificent and costly.

ALASKA SEAL FISHING.

Secretary Windom Will Not Extend the Life of the Present Company.

WASHINGTON CITY, Dec. 16.—It is reported to-night that Secretary Windom has refused to extend the contract of the Alaska Seal Fishing Company beyond May 1 when it expires. A big lobby has been here working for the extension, which the secretary had a right to do under an act of last congress. It is unofficially announced that Secretary Windom will at once advertise for bids, which will put American concerns on an equal footing in competition for the business. The department of state has been considering the question in connection with Secretary Windom with a view to securing favorable relations with other countries interested in the work.

THE CRONIN VERDICT.

Beggs Going to Hunt Down the Murderers.

London Press Comments on the Verdict—Mrs. Coughlin's Grief when the Result was Announced.

CHICAGO, Dec. 16.—Judge Longnecker, when asked if he was satisfied with the verdict, replied that it was a compromise verdict, and that was all anybody could say about it. It was quite plain that the state's attorney was not pleased at the outcome of the case. Juror John Culver was seen at his home in Evanston this evening, and refused to make any statement as to what took place in the jury room, or whether or not he was the dissenting member. All he would say was: "I took what to me was the only just course." Mr. Culver warmly denied the stories of quarrels among the jurors. John F. Beggs left the jail this afternoon soon after the court had adjourned, in company with his lawyers and friends. As he stepped into the street a free man, Beggs was heard to say: "I am going to spend the rest of my life hunting down the men who killed Cronin." Beggs spent a few minutes at his office and then hurried home, where he positively refused to receive callers this evening.

THE LONDON PRESS.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—The Standard says: It is a strange, illogical verdict, and speaks little for the criminal jurisprudence of America that a court should have taken so long to arrive at such an absurdity verdict.

The Times: When the difficulty of impaneling the jury is considered, the verdict may be regarded as satisfactory. The murder was plainly a consequence of a squabble over corrupt financiering, and was one of the most atrocious crimes perpetrated outside of Russia in modern days.

The Daily News says: The Cronin trial men sentenced for life are three of the vilest wretches ever left unhung. The jury has done substantial justice, and it is to be hoped that nothing will be allowed to disturb the righteous verdict.

The Daily Telegraph characterizes the verdict as surprising, but reflects that it must be thankful for small mercies.

MRS. COUGHLIN'S GRIEF.

CHICAGO, Dec. 17.—When the verdict was read this afternoon Dan Coughlin's wife and little girl were sitting out in the main corridor of the criminal court building. Some one rushed into the corridor and called out the result. Mrs. Coughlin gasped, stood erect, shrieked and fell back into her chair. She buried her face in her hands and moaned wildly. The child, too, began to cry loudly.

Mrs. Whalen, O'Sullivan's sister-in-law was standing by and turned savagely upon the men who were watching Mrs. Coughlin. "Oh, you cut-throats; you tried your best to hang them and now you hang around to gloat at us in our misery," she shouted and then followed Mrs. Coughlin into a private room.

SYMPATHY FOR THE PRISONERS.

CHICAGO, Dec 17.—The friends of the four prisoners convicted yesterday called on them this morning to express their sympathy. Mrs. Coughlin leaned against the bars of the prisoner's cell and sobbed as though her heart would break, while her husband whispered such words of comfort and consolation as he could command. O'Sullivan's sister, accompanied by her husband, paid the iceman a visit. She wept bitterly over her brother's fate. Kunze's lady friends visited him to-day. The little German was loose and tried to cheer them up. Friends also called to see Burke. He did not seem to feel hurt at his isolation. He still maintains the coolness that has always characterized him. The prisoners, now that the suspense of the trial and of the waiting for the verdict is over, have no doubt taken heart and look forward with a hope of the possiblities of a new trial. They will not be taken to the penitentiary until the motion for a new trial shall have been passed upon them by the supreme court, and this process will consume a year or more.

CAPITAL NOTES.

Lieut.-Col. Prior Reached Ottawa Last Night.

He Will Interview Hon. Mr. Bowell To-day Relative to Coasting Regulations—Vancouver's Postoffice.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 17.—Lieut.-Col. Prior arrived here to-night, and will see Hon. Mr. Bowell to-morrow relative to the coasting regulations.

A. W. Ross left for Vancouver to-night. He saw Sir Hector Langevin during the day relative to the postoffice site in Vancouver, but he will not divulge the nature of the interview. It is reported, however, that the government has about decided that no postoffice will be built unless Granville or Pender streets be selected.

CABLE NEWS.

A London Postman Robbed.

LONDON, Dec. 17.—While a postman was delivering letters in Hatton Garden this morning, he was attacked by three men. He resisted stubbornly, but was finally overpowered, not, however, until he had been badly wounded. The robbers dragged him into a room and locked him in. They then seized the mail and decamped. It is stated that the mail comprised a registered package of diamonds from the Cape of Good Hope. The postoffice officials deny this, and assert that the package of diamonds from the Cape had already been delivered.

Bushiri Hanged by the Germans.

ZANZIBAR, Dec. 17.—Bushiri, the noted Arab who led the insurgents in their revolt, and who was captured by the villagers of Mgailla and handed over to the Germans, has been hanged.

Stanley Banquetted.

ZANZIBAR, Dec. 17.—The British Consul-General, Mr. Evansmith, entertained Stanley at dinner last evening. All the notables were present. The ships in the harbor were illuminated in Stanley's honor.

Parnell at Nottingham

LONDON, Dec. 17.—Parnell, in his speech at Nottingham to-day declared that never had a movement of such magnitude in its relations to the welfare of the country been conducted with such comparative freedom from crime as had the operations of the home rule movement.

Parnell would not say that it was impossible to govern Ireland by mere coercion; but he would say that Balfour's method of coercion by constitutionalism would never succeed. Referring to the special commission, he declared that he knew the Times' letters were forgeries, but he would almost accept death rather than the vindication offered to him by the government.

A Printers' Strike.

BERNE, Dec. 17.—The strike of printers in this city has ended in the complete defeat of the men.

Catholic Church Closed.

VIENNA, Dec. 17.—Twenty Catholic churches in the Russian province of Kieff, have been closed by order of the governor of the province. No reason was given for the act.

Plot to Assassinate the King of Corea.

SHANGHAI, Dec. 17.—A plot has been discovered to assassinate the King of Corea, who, it is reported, desires to abdicate in favor of Prince Meir Yank Gik. Several high officials are implicated in the conspiracy, and have been exiled to Hong Kong.

KOOTENAY LAKE.

Latest News from the Camp—Prospective Railway Connection.

Hot Springs, Kootenay Lake, B.C.

I send this by the last steamer for the season. Although this lake remains open the whole season, the upper part of the Kootenay river is liable to close at any time. The weather is very mild. No frost of any account has yet appeared. The first snow, about two inches, fell last night, but has almost all disappeared to-day under a warm south wind. What a contrast this climate is from that enjoyed by the C. P. R. in Rogers' Pass, where they have had about two months winter already. Imagine the saving that would be effected in operating a line through this valley instead of their present one.

We are likely to have more railways than one next summer, building to within easy reach of this place. Among others, I may mention that the Montana Central have decided to continue their line from east of the mountains to Spokane Falls, there to connect with the Seattle, Lake Shore & Eastern. It appears to be almost a certainty that they will build via the north end of Flathead lake, Tobacco plains, and down the Kootenay to Bonners ferry, thence, most likely, from a point near the International Boundary at Metlaq plains, westward via Priesta lake, Metaline and Spokane.

This railway will be of great benefit to the camp, giving us easy and cheap access to smelters during the whole season. Transport from this point to the boundary can be effected by steamers, the lake being always free from ice, which, however, forms in the river but never so thickly but what it can be easily kept open by a steamer fitted for the purpose. The distance to be opened is only thirty miles.

Mr. John F. Stevens, C. E., who has a reputation as a railway engineer, lately left this camp to survey the line for the Montana Central, from the Kootenay westward to the Flathead Lake, and the chief engineer of that railway recently came through to Bonners down the Kootenay river, so that their route has been pretty well decided on. This road will connect us with the smelters at Great Falls.

Should the legislature be so blind to our interests and thereby, indirectly, to their own, as to oppose charters for railroads connecting us with the United States, they will only damage our prosperity for a short time. The Americans are fully aware of the importance of the mines here and will make every effort to reach us, and will do so in spite of all opposition.

The prospect of having a mail service to here during winter is rather gloomy. Our only course will be to have it carried and paid for by subscription.

B. C.

CANADIAN NEWS.

Death of Rev. John E. Williams, D. D.

Large Shipment of Christmas Goods to British Columbia.

Premier Mercier Endeavoring to Have All the Provincial Elections Take Place on the Same Day.

Obituary.

BRANTFORD, Dec. 16.—Jas. Wrimus, police magistrate, died to-day of paralysis of the brain.

Nearly a Serious Fire.

MONTREAL, Dec. 16.—The public works department of the Ontario government narrowly escaped destruction by fire this morning. Damage to building is about $500.

Provincial Elections.

QUEBEC Dec. 16.—It is rumered here that Premier Mercier has made or is endeavoring to make arrangements with all the provincial governments of the Dominion with a view to all the provincial elections taking place on the same day. There is reason to believe the rumor is true.

Quebec By-Election.

QUEBEC, Dec. 16.—Writs have been issued for the election in Quebec West, nominations being fixed for the 23rd and polling for the 30th. Owen Murphy is the Government candidate. The Opposition have as yet no candidate in the field.

Fishing Schooner Seized.

OTTAWA, Dec. 16.—The schooner Wide Awake, owned by Wm. Foley, of Eastport, Maine, has been seized at West Isle, N. B., for taking a cargo of fresh herrings on board and leaving the harbor without reporting.

Rev. Dr. Williams Dying.

TORONTO, Dec. 15.—Rev. Dr. Williams had a bad turn on Saturday, and early this morning he was not expected to live many hours. About 6 o'clock it was reported that he was very low. At noon he was the same.

Large Shipment of Christmas Goods

WINNIPEG, Man., Dec. 16.—On the 13th of December, W. T. Doll shipped 1,053 pounds of express packages, principally to British Columbia. It was the largest shipment of Christmas goods that has ever left the express office in one day.

Stables Burned.

TORONTO, Ont., Dec. 16.—The Queen's Hotel stables, with four horses, were burned to-day. Loss, $10,000; insurance, $6,000.

Contempt of Court.

TORONTO, Dec. 16.—Alexander Wood, of the late firm of Wood Bros., was to-day sent to jail by Justice Street for two months for contempt of court, having refused to answer questions relative to the estate.

A Romantic Case.

MONTREAL, Dec. 17.—Two years ago an apprentice in a cigar factory in this city quarrelled with his employer and was ordered out of place. Accepting this as a dismissal, he sought and secured employment in another factory, when his late employer asked him to come back, and on his refusing to do so, summoned him before the recorder, who ordered him to return or go to jail for three days. He appealed by certiorari to the Supreme court, and after nearly two years, judgment was given against him. In the meantime, he had become an expert cigar maker, earning $10 a week, and was besides engaged to a young lady and soon to be married. If he went back to his former employer he would have to work for $2.50 a week and give up his marriage for the present. Acting upon the advice of his counsel he went to jail for three days, and is now a free man. The case is a somewhat romantic one and interesting from a legal point of view.

Queen's University Jubilee.

KINGSTON, Dec. 17.—Queen's University has passed its fiftieth year of existence and the event is being appropriately celebrated.

The Stanstead Election.

MONTREAL, Dec. 17.—Reports from Stanstead, from sources favorable to Leberon, the equal rights candidate, represent the situation as not very cheerful for Colby. The result, they claim, is anything but a dead sure thing.

Rev. Dr. Williams Dead.

TORONTO, Dec. 17.—Rev. Dr. Williams, General Superintendent of the Methodist Church in Canada, died to-day, aged 72.

(John Ethurhuld Williams was born in Carmarthen, Wales, Dec. 19, 1817. He removed to Canada in 1833, was ordained a minister of the Methodist church in 1850, elected president of the London conference in 1874, was joint representative to the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States in 1876, and was president of the United general conference in 1883 for the unification of the various branches of the Methodist church in Canada. He was joint representative at the Centennial conference of the Methodist church of the United States in 1884, and in 1885 was appointed General Superintendent of the Methodist Church of Canada. Victoria University gave him the degree of D.D. in 1877.)

HON. ROBT. BEAVEN'S REPLY.

TO THE EDITOR.—In your Sunday's issue you insinuate that on Saturday evening, the 14th inst., I attempted to deceive the electors of Victoria. I was asked to speak and move a resolution at the public meeting to be held on that evening. I did so, and am not aware that I attempted to deceive or misrepresent any thing or any person, and in fact am certain I did not. Can you show one word or sentence, either in the preamble or in the resolution moved by me, or in my remarks, which is incorrect. The 300 gentlemen who signed the requisition asking Mayor Grant to convene a meeting evidently thought such a step necessary. Putting everything else aside, one cannot peruse the press without feeling that there is danger in silence. The remarks of the Hon. Mr. Dewdney at the banquet in Victoria, coupled with the opinions expressed by prominent members of the Parliament of Canada, and others who voice public opinion, should be of itself a sufficient intimation even to the most verdant and confiding person that an effort may be made in the near future to repeal the fifty dollar duty upon Chinese entering Canada. If the people of the province express their disapprobation as clearly as the citizens of Victoria have done, no doubt the effort will be abandoned. I can understand people who wish the Chinese to enter the province and other parts of Canada free from the $50 duty, taking exception to others publicly expressing their views against repeal, but I am at a loss to understand adverse criticism from any other quarter.

ROBERT BEAVEN.

Tried! Tested! Proved!

A Year ago last summer I was troubled with dysentery. I procured Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry and took according to directions, which completely cured me. ROBERT E. GREEN, Lyndhurst, Ont. This medicine cures all looseness of the bowels. sw

MISCELLANEOUS.

MONEY TO LOAN

On Farming Lands.

BOURCHIER & HIGGINS.

my14-w-6mo

SHOOTING MATCH,

Will take place on 21st,

FOR GEESE AND TURKEYS,

d6 AT ROYAL OAK. 3t

REMOVAL NOTICE

MESSRS.

J. H. TODD & SON

Beg to give notice that they have removed their business to the spacious store of three flats, No. 72 Wharf street, and next to the Hudson's Bay Co.'s Store, on the north.

Having now secured ample room, they purpose to largely increase their stock of General Staple Merchandise,