

Our Ottawa special will be read to-day with very great interest. It informs the people of this province that there will be a session of Parliament in a few weeks and it tells them that the Government has arrived at a decision in the matter of the appeal of the Manitoba minority.

The Ottawa telegram also contains the principal part of the report of the Committee of the Privy Council. The Government leaves the redress of the grievance of the Catholic minority in the first instance with the Legislature of Manitoba.

The Committee also recommends that Your Excellency-in-Council do further declare and decide that for the due execution of the provisions of section 22 of the Manitoba Act it seems requisite that the system of education embodied in the two acts of 1890 should be supplemented by a provincial act or acts which would restore to the Roman Catholic minority such rights and privileges of which such minority has been deprived.

The decision is perhaps the most important ever arrived at by any Government of the Dominion. It will no doubt be fully and earnestly discussed in every part of the country. The action of the Legislature of Manitoba will be watched with intense interest.

Sir Arthur Wellesley Peel is considered a model Speaker. The way in which he has performed the very difficult and very trying duties of his office has won for him the esteem and admiration of men of all parties.

These dispatches chronicle a year ago his intention to withdraw from public life at the close of the present parliament, but it was supposed that he would remain Speaker till the end.

Our American neighbors are talking a good deal of nonsense about protecting Nicaragua, Venezuela and other republics on this side of the Atlantic from the consequences of their own acts.

Buffalo, March 21.—Clarence Robinson was to-day found guilty of murder in the second degree and his wife, Sadie Robinson, was sentenced to life imprisonment.

This Monroe doctrine business, as some United States citizens understand it, is very absurd. The United States, if it is wise, will give the republics distinctly to understand that they must pay their debts and fulfill their other obligations or take the consequences.

IN FIFTY-NINE. A Trip Into British Columbia's Terra Incognita of Two of Its Early Pioneers.

One cold, bleak morning about the end of February, 1860, James Stewart and myself stood on the wharf at Victoria, all ready for a plunge into the great unknown ahead of us, that unknown which for the last three months—away in our cabin in the woods beyond Sikil-thowl—had been thinking and dreaming about, which we hoped to take a share of the wealth hidden there.

On our feet were lying two good stout packs, perhaps over sixty pounds each, well roped, with a pair of leather slings or shoulder straps to each. One of the packs contained fifty pounds of oatmeal, a small tin of butter, a small sack of salt, and a little tea and sugar.

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traveled to California, "no to come back," he said, and for a year he ranged over and through her mountains and glens, but just as he turned to British Columbia, he called British Columbia, just to disengage himself as he said, a young man named Jamie on his return brought back the good news that the new river steamer Henderson was going to make his first trip the next day as far as Harrison River, and that we could sleep on board.

Next morning was a transformation indeed from the day before. The rain had ceased and only a few fleecy clouds were overhead. The sun had not yet risen, but the thermometer had gone down to freezing point, and the black logs and stumps of yesterday, which covered most of the cleared part of the woods, were now white with frost.

By here we are at Langley, with its Hudson Bay Company's fort and stereotyped group of Indians, half-bred and half-white, as the employees of that company were then called. This was to be the last place of call until we reached the head of our day's journey—Harrison River.

Castled history, part owner of the two steamers mentioned above, soon after the start out his interest in them to his partner Captain Irving, and sailed for Australia, but we did not seek to go on shore, as our little boat was showing signs of being blown to pieces by the heavy wind.

Well, "it is good for much," said the pilot, "but the low lands were only unproductive swamps or morasses; the high lands gravel beds covered with great trees and brush, together with one or two hardy walks between them, or it would take a lifetime to clear a lot of ten acres, and even if the lot could be cleared nothing would grow on it.

Well, we thought, he surely can't have anything to say against the mines; at any rate they are not so far off, and we had better look at them through the colored and distorted glasses, as he declared that the stories told about their great richness were all lies—the few good claims that were made in the past had never paid as much as they were reported, and further that they were about worked out.

However, we had made the plunge and we could not go back even if we had wished to do so, for our capital, except five or six dollars apiece, was lying in the pockets of our coats.

So we said where others had gone we could go, and we were going to get there some how, in spite of all the hum that Campbell had been trying to place in our way.

But our journey on the little boat was now nearly over and the sun was sinking behind a bank of dark clouds down in the river valley.

Stirring the leaves and stirring my heart with a cold breeze, I looked down at the water under my feet.

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boxes for guests like ourselves to sit on, were scattered around. At the end of the row was the door through which we entered from the river, at the other end another door being the entrance from the kitchen. A round dingy looking brass bucket fastened on the wall above, that with a shabby quavering sound struck the hours as they went by.

As one side of the room was a large open fire place, where the fire was fastened against a big black log giving a promise of comfort and warmth later on. On the other side of the room was the long narrow table we have spoken about before.

We were glad when our portly host made the announcement that supper was ready for this our first square meal since we left Victoria almost two days before and we had been living on the rock of bread and cheese that we had taken in there, the last of which had disappeared this morning. So as we carried our stools to the table and with fifteen or sixteen others took our seats.

As soon as the Chinaman removed from the table the dishes and the remains of the feast some of the guests pushed stools up to it, and to pass the time away engaged in cribbage, euchre and forty-five, whilst others of us drew our seats round the fireplace, with the cheerful glow and warmth, and listened until bedtime to a stirring tale and humorous story of California or British Columbia and their mining camps.

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OPPER RIVETED OVERALLS AND SPRING BOTTOM PANTS. EVERY PAIR GUARANTEED. ADDRESS SAN FRANCISCO CAL.