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IDNIGHT ROBBERY

rs Steal a Quantity of Silver are From Mrs. J. D. Pemberton's Residence.

of the Chinese Domestic Believed to be the Guilty Parties.

Wednesday evening last, "Gon- the residence of Mrs. J. D. Pem- was burglarized and a quantity silverware was stolen. The sil- re has been kept for a considerable past in a sideboard in the dining which is situated on the ground of the house, and a window close sideboard made a very conven- ntrance for any enterprising burg- s soon as the burglary was discov- he police were telephoned to and Abel went out to the residence turned and reported the matter to Sheppard, who in company with nt Hawton and Detective Palmer time in arriving at the scene of rglary. The place where the sil- re was kept was not any too se- and it was not very difficult for dnight visitors to obtain an entry The police are of the opinion that bbery is the work of some one who roughly acquainted with the inte- the house, and one little incident long way in confirmation of this . The fish knives and smaller s of the silver service were kept small cupboard at the top of the ard, the key to which was placed book case in another room. This as taken from the book case by rglars and several articles taken this drawer. Everything points to ct that one of the former Chinese tics, who have been changed sev- imes lately, is the guilty party. terday a considerable lump of sil- which had been crudely melted to into an irregular mass weighing four pounds and a half, was in a shack in the Chinese quarter, one of the domestics who was em- d at "Gonzales" was in the habit of enting when he came into the city. lump of metal the police believe to me of the stolen property. It will ssayed in order to ascertain how silver it contains.

e blue-bird is hailed as a harbinger ring. It is also a reminder that a purifier is needed to prepare ystem for the debilitating weather me. Listen and you will hear the singing: "Take Ayer's Sarsaparilla arch, April, May."

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HOLESALE DRY GOODS MANUFACTURER,

nearly completed their Spring Stock now offer, amongst other lines,

NEW PRINTS,
LAWNS,
MUSLINS,
CHALLIES,
FLANNELETTES,
ZEPHYRS

owest wholesale prices. See our travellers' samples. Letter orders solicited.

J. PIERCY & CO.,
Victoria, B.C.

NOTICE.

ty days after date we intend making ication to the Chief Commissioner of ds and Works for permission to purchase one hundred and sixty (160) acres of land (more or less) situated on the West Shore of Douglas Channel, North-west Coast, and commencing at a stake joining the north-west corner of C. d's. E. Donahue's and E. C. Stevens' d, thence west 40 chains, thence south chains, thence east 40 chains, thence ng the shore to point of commencement.

W. A. ROBERTSON.
L. M. CLIFFORD.
JNO. FLEWIN.

toria, 23rd Feb., 1897. 24-1m

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SUCCESSFUL GROWERS USE The STEELE, BRIGGS SEEDS

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RUSSIA ACTS THE TRAITOR

Thought to Have Engineered Greek Movement to Set Europe in a Blaze.

Departure of Greek Fleet to an Unknown Destination—Situation Critical.

The Whole Italian Nation Is Incensed Against the Cretan Struggle.

London, March 6.—The Times' Athens correspondent says that the Austrian, Russian and Servian consuls at Uskub have decided, after conferring together, to inform the ambassadors of the powers at Constantinople that the attitude of the Turkish troops at Uskub is menacing, and that measures for the maintenance of public security are urgently required. Much satisfaction is expressed at the announcement that the squadron will be sent from Corfu to watch the northern coast of Thessaly.

It is believed that a general mobilization will be ordered almost directly. Calling out the reserves is regarded as a virtual reply to the identical notes of the powers. Newspapers hitherto devoted to Russia now denounce her treachery. The feeling against Russia is as strong as against Germany. The Czar is abused for his harsh attitude towards this country, one of whose princes saved his life.

A dispatch to the Daily Chronicle from Athens, midnight, says the correspondent learns that "more than one power has intimated unofficially that if Greece is willing to meet the powers half way an amicable exit from the difficulty is still possible."

"It is believed," continues the correspondent, "that Greece is willing to consent to a temporary Turkish suzerainty over Crete if the powers will allow the Cretans, when order is restored, to decide their own fate by a plebiscite, and appoint a Greek governor for the present. Under these conditions it is suggested that Greece might consent to the withdrawal of the army and fleet on the assurance that there be no general massacre. I presume that it is generally known that three constitutional countries of Europe, not only sympathize with Greece, but have actually made proposals which Greece could have accepted, but Germany repulsed them. Unless some other leadership in the European concert is substituted for that of Germany, a peaceful issue is impossible."

It is announced that the Prince of Wales remains in constant telegraphic communication with London in view of the Cretan situation.

New York, March 6.—James Creelman cables the Journal from Athens as follows: "Bulgaria has offered to join Greece and Servia in a joint campaign against the Turks in Macedonia, should events in the next few days require it. This would practically annihilate Turkish rule in Europe and drive it back into Asia. The Greek government has not yet replied, but nearly the whole of the Greek army is concentrated at Thessaly, on the Macedonian frontier. Twenty thousand Greeks are in Macedonia, armed and waiting for the signal to rise against the Sultan. Ten or fifteen thousand Greek volunteers are marching towards the frontier with the obvious intention of invading the Sultan's territory. The gravity of the situation cannot be exaggerated.

Canea, Island of Crete, March 6.—The Russian war ships have landed 500 men at Selino.

The news of the proposal upon the part of the powers to grant autonomy to the island of Crete has created a bad impression among the insurgents, who desire annexation to Greece. The Mussulmans are also irritated at the concession of autonomy.

The departure of the British consul, Sir Billiotti, alone, for Selino, on board the British battle ship Rodney, although that vessel was accompanied by other foreign war ships, is badly interpreted by the other consuls, who, however, previously rejected the proposal to go there in order to make a fresh attempt to save the Moslem families in danger of the investment of that place by the insurgents.

The Greek fleet left here this morning for an unknown destination.

Athens, March 6.—The metropolitan of Athens has telegraphed to the Archbishop of Canterbury as follows:

"In the name of Jesus Christ raise your voice for the salvation and liberty of your Cretan brothers, who are cruelly oppressed."

Rome, March 6.—The whole Italian nation is incensed over the Cretan struggle. Manifestations on behalf of the union of Crete and Greece are being held in the country and resolutions denouncing the bombardment of the Cretan camp near Canea by the powers are being adopted.

The German embassies and colleges being repeatedly strongly hissed.

Constantinople, March 6.—While the mail steamer was passing through the straits of the Dardanelles last evening a shot was fired across her bows from one of the forts on shore, although the vessel had displayed the usual signals and had obtained the necessary permit to pass through.

The Italian embassy has demanded formal satisfaction for the firing of a shot across the bow of the Italian mail steamer while passing through the straits of the Dardanelles by a Turkish fort, although the vessel had displayed the usual signals and had obtained pratique.

The Turkish government has called the attention of the ambassadors of the powers to two declarations contained in their note to the effect that Crete will not be annexed to Greece. The notations are: "At the present juncture," and that "autonomous regime" will be conferred on their land. The Turkish ministers wish a further explanation of the words "present juncture" and autonomous regime." They want a precise definition of these terms.

Athens, March 6.—Activity continues through the whole country. Large quantities of arms, ammunition, provisions and military stores are being conveyed by transports to Thesselia. The massing of the troops on the frontier is proceeded with the utmost speed, and public feeling is at the highest pitch of excitement. Those taking the coolest view no longer conceal their opinion that in the event of coercion by Europe the centre of interest will be transferred to the Turkish frontier, where the most serious events may be expected. Foreign correspondents have already started for Thesselia. The Greek fleet has been divided into four squadrons.

London, March 6.—A dispatch to the Times from Constantinople says that the opinion is growing in palace circles that Russia engineered the Greek movement in order to set the East ablaze and to give her a reasonable pretext for occupying the Turkish provinces. Reports have been received here of the active concentration of Russian troops from the Anatolian frontier. Salonica is being fortified against a sea attack.

It is stated by Hon. Geo. E. Curzon that H.M.S. Dryad left Canea on March 2, escorting a Turkish steamer carrying provisions for the besieged Turks at Selino, whom the British admiral has been instructed to do his utmost to relieve. H.M.S. Rodney with the British consul and three foreign ships sailed for Selino last evening to relieve that place.

LONDON NEWS BY THE CABLE

Newspapers Discuss Plans for the Celebration of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee.

Seats Opposite St. Paul's Cathedrial Command Big Prices—Queen's Departure for Nice.

Lieut.-Governor Kirkpatrick Convalescent—Emigration to Canada—A Sensational Book.

London, March 6.—The newspapers are filled with the plans for the celebration of the Queen's diamond jubilee and speculation in windows has already begun. Opposite St. Paul's cathedral they are already asking £200 for a small room with two windows. The government has decided to signalize the occasion of Her Majesty's jubilee by, among other things, the issue of a new coinage, which will be put in circulation next June. The design is said to be of a very handsome and striking character, and includes new pennies with a most artistic design on the lines of the design of those at present in use. It is learned that among the honors which will be granted at the forthcoming diamond jubilee another knighthood will be conferred on a leading West End theatrical manager. Much speculation has been indulged in as to the fortunate recipient of the distinction. It is more than probable that Charles Wyndham will be the one favored. West End goldsmiths and silversmiths are preparing for the diamond jubilee celebration. Several windows contain a great variety of medals, which have been struck ready for distribution at the gathering in June. On that occasion, it is expected, many thousands of these medals will be distributed among the school children. Making the day a public holiday has given a great impetus to this trade.

The Queen leaves Windsor for Nice on Wednesday, March 10th. A special steamer has been chartered at Cherbourg for the use of Her Majesty, who will land at that point.

Lieut.-Governor Kirkpatrick of Ontario has progressed sufficiently to leave the nursing room next week, when he will go to Brighton for a four or five weeks' stay prior to his return to Canada.

The efforts of the Dominion government to aid emigration to Canada have aroused a great deal of interest in Great Britain. The high commissioner, during the winter and coming months, arranged for 1,000 lectures on Canadian advantages for intending settlers. These lectures were illustrated with lantern slides loaned by Sir Donald Smith, who had more applications than he could comply with.

It has remained for Miss Emily Solden to write the most interesting, and certainly the most sensational, book of the season. This volume, which was published five or six weeks ago, was received with indifference on its appearance, but, as the frank revelations about the gilded youth, statesmen, fathers, family men like Lord Rosebery and Lord Dunraven, began to be known, there has been a great rush for the book. Most of the men who twenty-five years ago set the pace in London have read pages with fear and trembling, while the rest of the "upper ten" are chuckling over Miss Solden's revelations.

"This punishment hurts me as much as it does you," said the parent.

"Well, then, let's compromise, pop," pleaded the boy. "There's no reason why either of us should suffer."—Philadelphia North American.

GREECE'S REPLY TO THE POWERS

Now Thought That a Peaceful Settlement of Cretan Difficulty Is Possible.

King George, However, Does Not Make Any Large Concessions to the Powers.

Better Feeling on the Stock Exchange and Among the Banks in London.

London, March 8.—It is reiterated here that a complete agreement exists between the powers as to the effective measures to be immediately taken against Greece in the event of her declining to comply with the demands of the powers in the matter of the withdrawal of the Greek troops from the island of Crete and recalling the Greek fleet in Cretan waters. The Princess of Wales feels great anxiety regarding the position of her brother, King George of Greece, and instead of returning to Sandringham she is remaining in London in expectation of receiving definite news to-day of the attitude which Greece will assume. All the dispatches of the Associated Press are immediately sent to the Princess of Wales. It is learned on good authority that the Greek reply to the identical notes of the powers will be characterized by four points. In the first place it will be conciliatory in tone, fully recognizing the high aims of the powers; secondly, it will offer to withdraw the Greek fleet from Cretan waters; thirdly, while pointing out that it is impossible to withdraw the Greek troops from the Island of Crete, it will offer to place them under the control of the powers to restore order. Finally, the reply will meet the statements about the Cretans really preferring autonomy by suggesting that the Cretans be allowed to choose their own government.

London, March 8.—The reply of Greece to the identical notes of the powers, delivered at Athens on Tuesday last and insisting upon the withdrawal of the Greek troops from Crete and the Greek fleet from Cretan waters, was received here at noon and confirmed the forecast cabled exclusively by the Associated Press. A cabinet council was immediately held, after which the Marquis of Salisbury went to Windsor in order to consult the Queen. There was a scene of great animation at the foreign office.

The reply of Greece to the identical notes of the powers is regarded in official circles here as being of a most favorable nature, and it is believed the crisis will now soon be ended, as the Greek note at least furnishes a basis upon which a compromise, satisfactory to all concerned, can be speedily reached. The stock exchange here and the bourses on the continent are buoyant in consequence.

London, March 8.—There is no doubt, says the Athens correspondent of the Times, that if Prince George of Greece is placed at the head of an autonomous Crete government with the title of Prince, the whole Greek nation and the Cretans would willingly accept the proposal of the powers, and the Greek troops would be withdrawn. Such schemes, says the Times' correspondent, ought not to be rejected without the gravest reasons. The Cretans are suspicious of the promises of Europe and firmly believe that there is no other course open that the union to Greece or Turkish rule, but, doubtless, if a choice were offered them their preference would be for an autonomy under a Greek prince.

King George of Greece has sent to Sir Charles Dilke a telegram conveying his heartfelt thanks and sympathy to Sir Charles and other members of the house of commons who signed the telegram sent to the king from the house last week assuring him and the Greek nation of the desire of themselves and the Englishmen and Irishmen whom they represented for the success of the Greek cause in the Cretan imbroglio.

There was a lively interchange of telegrams between the European chancellors yesterday over the rejection by Greece of the proposals of the powers, and as to the measures to be adopted. The correspondent of the Associated Press learns that the admirals of the foreign fleets have suggested that the blockade should include Greek ports as well as Cretan.

As far as Germany is concerned there are some signs of a change of attitude. The National Zeitung and the Berlin Post contain statements, apparently inspired, to the effect that it will be impossible for Germany to hold out in her contention if the other powers show a disposition to give way in so far as to negotiate further with Greece or insist that Turkey also withdraw her troops from Crete. The National Zeitung reminds the government that Germany has no direct interests in the East.

The British minister at Athens has wired home his belief that a peaceable settlement can now be arranged.

San Francisco, March 8.—In response to queries as to the number of the Greek residents on the Pacific coast, ready and fit for active service, the president of the local Hellenic Society says: About one thousand Greeks are on the coast engaged in various business pursuits. Out of this number at least 600 are willing to serve their country, and are ready to leave for Greece or Crete at a day's notice. Several of these are married, but they will not interfere with their departure. One and all say they will make any sacrifice for their king and country."

Canea, March 8.—Turkish officials are allowing the Mussulmans to desecrate the cemeteries and monastries. Coffins are being forced open and the remains thrown into the fields, the object being to steal the valuables buried with the dead.

Constantinople, March 8.—In reply to the representations of Prince Mauroordato, the Greek minister here, on the subject of the interference of Turkish officials with a party of Greek engineers repairing a road near the frontier of Thessaly, Tewfik Pasha, the Turkish minister of foreign affairs, has assured the prince that orders have been sent to the authorities on the Turkish frontier to avoid any provoking incidents.

THE PINCH OF POVERTY.

A Mother's Desperate Effort to Secure a Little Money.

Buffalo, N. Y., March 8.—Mrs. Anna Simms, of this place, is willing to sell her body to a medical college or bind her life under an insurance policy for $50, to secure enough money to bury the remains of her son, who committed suicide a week ago by drinking rough on rats. The body has been lying in the house ever since he killed himself. Mrs Simms' eldest daughter is seriously ill and the family are entirely out of resources.

LARGELY ATTENDED

Funeral of the Late Hon. A. N. Richards Took Place This Afternoon.

Members of the Legal Fraternity Attended in a Body—Others Who Were Present.

The citizens of Victoria and the people of the other portions of the province, the latter through their representatives in parliament, this afternoon performed their last sad duty to the Hon. A. N. Richards, when they assisted at the funeral services. The benchers of the British Columbia Law Society, Victoria and Vancouver Bar Associations, attended in a body, marching from the residence to Christ Church Cathedral. His Honor, the Lieut.-Governor, Premier Turner and the members of his cabinet and the legislature, the members of the Dominion house, Chief Justice Davie, and many others who had been associated with the deceased as a lawyer, politician and citizen, were present. Others showed their regret at the loss sustained by the community and their sympathy with the bereaved family by sending floral offerings which were numerous and handsome. Among the floral pieces was a large and handsome wreath from the benchers, an anchor from the Victoria Bar Association, a cross from the Nanaimo Bar Association and a wreath from the Law Students' Association. The benchers and Victoria Bar Association met previous to the funeral and decided to send letters of condolence.

The courts, both high and low, and the legislature, adjourned as a mark of respect to the deceased. In moving the adjournment of the house until to-morrow Hon. Mr. Turner said that, as the members were aware, the province had sustained a great loss in the death of Hon. A. N. Richards and it was only proper that they should be given an opportunity to pay their last tributes of respect to the one who had occupied the highest position in the province. Hon. Mr. Richards played no unimportant part in the history of Canada. Previous to coming to this province and during his long residence here he had always been ready to work in what he considered the interests of the province. The province had lost an honest, upright, honorable citizen, and he was sure all the members would join in giving expression to their sympathy for the remaining members of the family. Mr. Semlin, in seconding the motion, said that his side of the house fully agreed with everything that had been said in reference to the late Mr. Richards. They had all appreciated his strict integrity and the services which he had rendered the country and province. The motion the carried.

The services at Christ Church Cathedral were very impressive, being conducted by Bishop Perrin, assisted by Rev. Canon Beanlands and a full choir. The church was crowded. The pallbearers were: Sir H. P. P. Crease, Hon. C. E. Pooley, Hon. D. M. Eberts, Hon. Mr. Justice McCreight, Hon. Senator Macdonald, Capt. McCallum, Major Dupont and Forrest Angus.

AMBASSADOR HAY.

He Will Assume His Duties in London at Easter.

London, March 6.—Col. John Hay is expected to assume his duties at the United States embassy at Easter. He has taken the Earl of Clarendon's house, 5 Carleton House terrace, from April 6th. This is next to the residence of Mrs. John W. Mackay.

GREAT SNOW STORMS.

Unprecedented Storms in North and South Dakota.

St. Paul, Minn., March 8.—North and South Dakota has had snow every day for a month. Sunday's storm was the greatest in many weeks. Railroad trains are tied up in every direction and many small branch lines have been abandoned. The legislature at Pierre, which adjourned sine die on Friday night, are tied up as tightly as if under a strike. General Superintendent Russell Hastings, of the Great Northern, speaking of the snow, said: "In all my career I never saw anything like it. A conservative estimate places the snow in North Dakota as three feet on the plains. There is probably near four feet on the level. The snow is not all down yet, as the telegrams indicate another storm soon."

Church cars are a recent Russian improvement. They are intended for the Siberian railroad. The cars look like ordinary first-class carriages, but the windows are shaped like those of Byzantine churches. One-third of the space, shut off by the holy gates, is devoted to the priests, the rest is for the congregation.

As far as calculation can decide, the temperature of comets is believed to be 2,000 times fiercer than that of red hot iron.

UNDER THE BAN OF THE CHURCH

Evils That Threaten Free and Independent Electors of This Glorious Dominion.

Bishop Gravel, of Nicolet, Takes a Decided Stand—Election in Wright on the 23rd.

The Crow's Nest Railway—Hon. Mr. Scott Contradicts a Lying Rumor.

Ottawa, March 8.—Bishop Gravel, of Nicolet, is taking a hand in the Dominion election in Bonaventure in terrible form. He has issued a pledge, and is asking Guite, the Liberal candidate, to sign this pledge or else a mandemant will be issued on Sunday next placing him and all his supporters under the ban of the church. This pledge is to denounce the Laurier-Greenway school settlement, and asking him to vote against it and do as the bishope direct him. Bishop Gravel has done this despite the cable from Rome to stop all proceedings pending investigation. A crisis is pending. A cable received here on Saturday says that the pope's private secretary is a delegate to Canada to settle this matter.

The election in Wright to replace Mr. Devlin takes place on the 23rd inst. Telesphore Madore, of Hull, will be the returning officer. The Champlain election will likely be held on the 27th inst.

Hon. R. W. Scott, interviewed by your correspondent relative to the statements attributed to him through press dispatches from this city anent the Crow's Nest Pass railway, gave an emphatic denial to them. The hon. gentleman stated that he did not give utterance to any such views as he had been charged with.

The sub-committee of the executive—Sir Oliver Mowat, Hon. Mr. Blair and Hon. Mr. Sifton—are grappling with the matter of the Crow's Nest Pass project, and are being waited upon by the management of the Canadian Pacific railway. A great many misleading statements have been circulated as to the government's policy on this subject. That grave difficulties present themselves is undeniable. Yet the belief is general that these can be easily and satisfactorily overcome. There is no intention on the part of the government to postpone or in any way delay a commencement being made on the project at the earliest possible date.

Wm. Smith, ex-deputy minister of marine and fisheries, died on Saturday afternoon after one week's illness. He has been suffering from general debility, and was in feeble health for some months back. Mr. Smith was deputy minister before Confederation, and up to one year ago, when he was retired, Major Gourdeau taking his place.

Attention is called in the annual report of the interior department, just issued, to an alarming increase of intemperance amongst British Columbia Indians.

The railway mail service branch of the post office department goes into existence April 1. Everything relating to the postal car operations and carriage of mails by railways will be under this branch. The clerks at Vancouver, who check postal returns, will hereafter be dissociated from the inspector's branch, and will take orders from the superintendent, as each chief railway mail clerk will now be designated.

Three Rivers, March 8.—At a Liberal convention held here Louis Polette was chosen a candidate to oppose the present Conservative member, M. Normand, at the approaching provincial election.

Quebec, March 8.—The official gazette contains a proclamation declaring the legislature dissolved and fixing the general provincial elections for May 11th, except for Gaspe, Chicoutimi, Saguenay and Magdalen Islands, polling in which constituencies will take place later.

Halifax, March 8.—John F. Stairs, ex-member of the house of commons, has been appointed president of the Conservative Association of Nova Scotia. He will be nominated as one of the Halifax candidates for the house of assembly.

Montreal, March 8.—Under the heading, "Instructions From the Holy See," La Patrie says: "We are in a position to state that instructions have been given by the Holy See to the bishops to cease all agitation on the school question until the court of Rome has had an opportunity of pronouncing with a knowledge of the case upon the politico-religious situation in Canada. We give currency to this grave news after being assured by the authorities at the Vatican that we will be permitted to publish it. Let us hope that this event will produce in all minds the beginning of a healthy pacification. On taking the direction of this journal, our first advice to readers of La Patrie was an appeal to moderation and prudence. We renew this appeal to-day. There is nothing humiliating for the episcopate in the fact that representations made to Rome by sincere and devoted Catholics have been heard. The instructions which came from the Vatican are the cause of the hurried departure of Mgr. Begin. If His Grace makes this voyage with the intention of opposing the sending of a papal delegate to us, we express respectfully but firmly the hope that his mission will not be crowned with success. La Patrie is not at liberty to say more to-day, but it is well posted on the whole situation."

EXCITEMENT IN RIO JANEIRO.

Band of Fanatics on the Rampage—Soldiers Killed.

London, March 8.—A dispatch from Rio de Janeiro by way of Paris says that a band of fanatics, led by Conselheiro, have killed Col. Moreire Caesar, three officers and 200 soldiers in Bahia. There is much excitement in Rio de Janeiro, where the populace pillaged and burned the offices of the monarchist papers, Liberaude and Gazeta Datarde.

McKINLEY'S APPOINTMENTS.

The Men Who Have Been Chosen for Important Positions.

Washington, March 8.—Among the earliest appointments the most important already decided upon by President McKinley are the following:

John Hay, of Ohio, ambassador to England; General Horace Porter, of New York, ambassador to France; Gen. William Draper, of Massachusetts, ambassador to Germany; William R. Merriam, of Minnesota, minister to Austria; Charles G. Dawes, of Illinois, controller of the currency (when Mr. Eckels' term expires); William M. Osborne, of Massachusetts, consul-general at London; John K. Gowdy, of Indiana, consul-general at Paris; Bellamy Storer, of Arkansas, possibly minister to Mexico; William H. Hahn, of Ohio, marshal of the district of Columbia; Colonel Russel, of McKinley's Ohio regiment, commissioner of pensions; Perry S. Heath, of Indiana, an important secretaryship.

It is understood that Harrison G. Otis, proprietor of the Los Angeles Times, is slated to be assistant secretary of war, to succeed General Joseph E. Doe.

INDIANS OBDURATE

West Coast Indians Are Still Holding Out for High Wages—The Tees Returns.

Second Mate of Sapphire Supposed to be Lost—A Bottle's Long Ocean Voyage.

As was surmised by a number of sealing men, the promises which the Indians made to ship for two dollars per skin are not being kept, and consequently several of the sealing schooners are anchored in the harbors on the West Coast, while the masters are trying to induce the Indians to come to terms. According to reports brought by the Tees, which returned yesterday morning, the Zillah May, Capt. Balcom, arrived in Hesquoit, but the captain found the Indians were not ready to carry out the promises which they had made to him some two weeks before. Capt. Balcom went down then to arrange for a crew, and the Indians explicitly stated that they would sign for two dollars a skin. When the captain arrived with his schooner, however, he found that the siwashes had changed their minds. They would sign to hunt on the coast for $3 a skin, but refused to sign at any price for Behring sea. Capt. Balcom was so disgusted that he left them and sailed for Quatsino with a view to securing Indians there. Captain Balcom's experience was similar to that of almost every other sealing captain down on the West Coast. The only exceptions reported were the schooners San Diego and Otto. It was reported that they secured Kyoquot Indians for $3 a skin for the coast and $2 for Behring sea. Those schooners which went out earlier in the season have had very hard luck, and their catches are small. The Triumph and E. B. Marvin ran into Ahouset to escape heavy weather. Their catches were 36 and 35 skins respectively. The Sapphire was at Clayoquot with 68 skins. Capt. Bucknam, who made the round trip on the Tees, met the C. D. Rand, of the Boscowitz fleet, at Euchulet. She had 155 skins. These skins and those of the Marvin, Sapphire and Triumph were brought up by the Tees. The Rand left again for sea. Some of the schooners had trouble with their white men. The cook on the Triumph was brought before two justices of the peace at Clayoquot and charged with refusing duty. He was fined $5 and costs. The cook left the schooner and returned to Victoria by the Tees. The second mate of the schooner Sapphire, an ex-man-of-war's man named Cole, deserted the schooner at Clayoquot and started out to walk along the coast to Victoria. He has not been seen since. Inquiries were made of the settlers along the coast, but they saw nothing of him, and it is supposed that he lost his way and perished in the woods. Cole was about 34 years of age and a native of England. Besides the sealskins, the Tees' cargo included 10 tons of ore from the Consolidated Alberni. The company are not sure that they are getting the full results from the stamp mill, and are sending this ore to San Francisco for the purpose of securing a thorough test. Should it turn out as high as the company expect, additional machinery will be placed in position at the mine. Among the Tees' passengers were Capt. Buchnam, J. J. McKenna, of the provincial police, J. Stanton, F. Jacobson and wife, Capt. Kelly, W. Ralph, Mrs. Spain, Rev. Father Van Nevel, T. White, Mrs. White, J. C. Anderson, F. McCurdy, W. McCurdy, E. B. Hill.

While sealing off the Oregon coast on Feb. 21 Captain William Cox, of the schooner Sapphire, picked up a bottle enclosing a blank for recording the position when found. The bottle had been dropped by the Norwegian ship Albert Richmeres, Capt. George Waneke, on October 8, 1895. The vessel was at that time on her way from Yokohama to Portland, Oregon. The bottle was dropped in 43:28 north latitude and 178:24 west longitude, and was picked up by Captain Cox in 47:29 north latitude and 124:53 west longitude. The paper in the bottle requested the finder to record the position where found and forward the same to the nearest Norwegian consulate.

The Northern Pacific Steamship Company has made traffic arrangements with the Natal line, running steamers from China and Japan to South Africa, to connect with its boats at Foo Chow, China.

The bark Melrose, prop laden for Santa Rosalie, will be towed to sea by the Lorne this evening.

Daubigny's "Banks of the Oise" was sold to an American for 78,000 francs at the recent Verver sale in Paris. This is the highest price yet obtained for a Daubigny at auction. Three Corots sold for 32,000, 30,000 and 28,700 francs, and a little Meissonier 6¼ by 4½ inches brought 94,000 francs.