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Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 1887.

From the Daily Colonist, March 10, 1887.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

Libel.

It is reported that the libel suit brought by Mr. Theo. Davie against the proprietors of the *Times* will shortly be brought on.

The Blockade.

A train from Kamloops connected with the Louise at Port Moody yesterday. It is not known when the road will be open for through traffic. Five thousand men are at work in the mountains.

Death on Chicken Stealers.

Ever since Officer Hoosen lost his choice ducks, he has been pursuing the chicken thieves with relentless footsteps, and yesterday arrested Ah Fook for being in possession of stolen chickens.

A Bad Chinaman.

Ah Kee is a vicious Chinaman, and has been wanted for some time past. He has been in the habit of exposing his person on View street, and yesterday Officer Hawton caught him in the act and run him in.

The Canadian Pacific Railway.

Advices received yesterday state that the Canadian Pacific railway is hopelessly blocked, and that west-bound and east-bound mails will be sent round by the Northern Pacific. All trains are cancelled indefinitely.

Garnisheed.

The deposit of $200 made with the sheriff, on account of T. B. Humphreys' candidature, has been garnisheed by Mr. Mills on behalf of Jacob Sehl, a creditor of the late candidate. J. Patmore Walls, solicitor, resists the garnishee and the matter will come before the court.

"War."

Mr. Walls, solicitor of Mr. T. B. Humphreys, has demanded of the proprietors of THE COLONIST the name of the author of the communication signed "One who Knows," which appeared in Sunday's COLONIST. The proprietors have refused to surrender the name of their correspondent.

Carrying Concealed Weapons.

The police had information that a passenger on the Sound steamer was carrying concealed weapons and had threatened an individual in this city. On the arrival of the North Pacific Officer Hoosen searched the individual and found a seven-shooter American bull-dog revolver. Gilmore was taken into custody and locked up.

Building at New Westminster.

Mr. G. W. Grant, architect, is preparing plans for a three-storey brick hotel, which Mr. W. A. Duncan will build at New Westminster this spring. The building will be modern in every respect, and will be one of the finest on the mainland. The same architect has also prepared plans for six two-storey residences for the Royal city, which will be proceeded with as soon as the weather permits.

The Mails.

Citizens are wandering when we will have another through mail. None has been received nor sent for some time, and there seems to be an impression that the blockade on the C. P. R. will not be raised for some time to come. If this is the case, mails should be forwarded by some other route, as it is a serious injury to business to be deprived of letter communication for so lengthened a period.

To the British Shore.

Quite a scene occurred this morning on the dock, says the Port Townsend *Argus*. A poor, seemingly demented, Hindoo was led down to the Starr by Vice-Consul Alexander and Sheriff Sheehan, with the hope of getting him over to the British shore, but he thought he knew best and declined to take passage as the boat could not go to Hongkong, which port he was desirous of reaching. He concluded to remain.

Bristoe Discharged.

The English dude Mowbray, or Bristoe, says the Seattle *Post-Intelligencer*, spoken of some time ago as having been arrested and put in jail for drawing checks on banks where they had never been a dollar to his credit, was taken before Justice Soderberg yesterday for a hearing. The prosecution was very weak, everybody realizing that the poor fellow did not have a dollar and it was like cruelty to animals to keep him longer confined in the lockup for an offense committed while under the influence of liquor. The result was that the justice decided that the evidence was not sufficient to hold him longer, and he was accordingly discharged. Mowbray claims to be well connected in England. That may be the case, if so, he should hasten to join his connections as he will never be looked upon here as much better than a thief, or a confidence man, to say the least.

A Curious Find.

J. Jolly, ex-reeve of Langley, says the *Columbian*, brought into the city yesterday a curiously carved stone which he found on his farm at Langley a few days ago. The stone was of a soft texture, and in its centre had been hollowed in the shape of a shallow cup, and had been used for the purpose, apparently, of computing medicine. At one side of the cup projected the figure of a bird, the features resembling those of a parrot, and on the outside of the cup were represented the bird's wings. The other side of the cup was carved into the shape of a wizard's head, and there was also the face of an Indian. This curious stone was probably used by the medicine man, and has been lost while some of the aborigines had been encamped in that region.

Saw the Devil.

A chinaman employed at the Driard House was washing bottles in the kitchen Tuesday morning when, as he claims, the devil appeared to him. He was so frightened that he cut his hand with one of the bottles and immediately afterwards fainted. He describes the apparition as that of a little man devoid of all hair. Horns ornamented his head and a huge tail was appended to his diminutive body. He disappeared down the cellar steps as mysteriously as he had appeared. Yesterday morning at 6 o'clock the superstitious celestial would not go near the kitchen before the barkeeper had turned on every electric light in the room. The best of the joke is that all the Chinamen in the hotel believe their brother's story, and it was sometime before they could be prevailed upon to continue their work. The apparition is no doubt the effect of a disordered brain.

Hopelessly Insane.

John Ross, who went to work in the C. P. R. telegraph office at New Westminster a few days ago, attempted suicide. He had stated to his fellow operators on Tuesday night that he intended to suicide by cutting his throat, but it seems that he did not carry his intention out. Yesterday morning he tried to open a vein in his wrist with his knife, but was prevented and taken in charge. Medical men examined him and pronounced Ross hopelessly insane, and he was accordingly committed to the asylum. Some two years ago Ross worked in New Westminster and was always looked upon as a little "queer." On Tuesday night he telegraphed the Victoria operator good-bye and said he was going skyward. He then turned to his colleagues saying he intended to suicide, and thought cutting his throat was the best means of ending his life. Yesterday he expressed regret at not having accomplished his purpose on Tuesday night.

Don't Do It.

Don't rack and ruin your lungs with a tight, harrowing, distressing cough, when a few doses of Hagyard's Pectoral Balsam will loosen the phlegm, soothe the irritation, and heal the sore throat and bronchial pipes, and may avert that destructive disease, consumption. tu-th-sat-dw.

MARINE.

Steamship Idaho is due this morning from Port Townsend.

Ship Glory of the Seas has been chartered to load coal at Departure Bay.

American brig Selina was wrecked off Hilo, Hawaiian Islands on February 10.

Steamship Wellington passed up to Departure Bay for a cargo of coal for San Francisco.

British ship Shannon, Blinns, now in Esquimalt, will leave for the Inlet as soon as the Pilot arrives.

The wrecked ship Kennebec, at San Pedro, will be sold to-day, Thursday, at public auction in San Francisco.

Ship Sir John Macdonald has been chartered in San Francisco to load a return cargo of coal from Nanaimo.

Ship Challenger will complete her cargo of Vancouver Coal Company's coal to-day, and will leave Nanaimo at once for San Francisco.

Ship Carrollton, 1,390 tons register, sailed from San Francisco on Wednesday last for Nanaimo, to load and return cargo of coal.

Sealing schooner Triumph, Herrington, left for the west coast yesterday. It is expected that the schooner Wanderer will follow in a few days.

Ship Solitaire, Sewell, left for San Francisco yesterday morning, in tow of the Alexander. The Solitaire left Nanaimo a few days since, and after making the Cape was forced to put back to Esquimalt, on account of the strong west wind then blowing.

The following ships are at present loading or awaiting cargoes of coal. Nanaimo: ships Fannie Tucker, Greenleaf, Rosie Welt and Wilna; Departure Bay: ships Richard III., McIntyre, and Thomas M. Reed, Gearing; East Wellington: bark Bundaleer.

Chinese bark Kwong Tong was chartered last week to load coal at Departure Bay for San Francisco. This bark was sold recently at public auction in the latter port, having been deemed unseaworthy. Since then she has been repaired and placed inactive service.

The Cunard steamer Aurania, from Liverpool, which ran ashore in the mud, off Big Ridge, Long Island, late on Sunday afternoon, was got off on Tuesday morning and subsequently arrived at her dock. She had on board 508 passengers, 120 of whom were cabin, 47 second class, and 341 steerage.

WHAT SOME PEOPLE SAY.

That families that are constantly changing their servants and their horses are not apt to be well served. It is a grievous fault, but not always the fault of either the servant or the horses.

That Gen. Horace Porter said the other night that no description of a woman could be happier and juster than that famous one:—"Corporeal enough to attest her humanity, yet so transparent that the divine light shines through.

That now that bar-rooms and restaurants copy milady's boudoir decorations, invention must come to her rescue and devise something else to make the surroundings beautiful without the aid of samples of silk, or sections of embroidery flung over picture frames.

That it is related that recently when Patti was dining, some one complimented her because of her beautiful mouth. "It is a very good mouth," she said, laughing, "and as large as you please"—proving her assertion by closing her teeth over a large boiled egg in the shell, removing it a second afterward unbroken.

That since the succession to the Presidency of the United States was vested in the cabinet instead of in the senate, the women of Washington have been trying to settle the question of the relative ranking of the two official bodies. The wives of four members of the cabinet recently met to discuss the matter, but arrived at no conclusion as to the proper order of precedence.

PERSONAL.

T. Fell, Reginald Nuttall, and F. Brown, Vancouver, were passengers by the Louise last night.

George Kyle returned on Tuesday from a lengthened trip to the East. After visiting old friends and scenes he is glad once more to be on the Pacific slope. He left for Vancouver this morning.

We regret to hear of the severe illness of Mayor Fell, who was confined to his bed yesterday. Mr. Fell's condition is not supposed to be dangerous, but he requires the best of care to ensure his speedy recovery.

George H. White, of Sussex, N. B., is at the Clarence. He is one of New Brunswick's most prominent citizens, and a most popular resident of the Vale. He came west on a pleasure trip *via* New Orleans and has been luxuriating for some time in Southern California. Mr. White is enjoying his visit to Victoria, notwithstanding the rain, and will return home by way of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

MOCK PARLIAMENT.

Defeat of the Muir Ministry by a Large Majority.

The election of members to the mock parliament, which took place in the Y.M.C.A. rooms last evening resulted in the defeat of the Muir ministry. The meeting opened at 7:30 o'clock with Mr. N. Shakespeare, M. P., in the chair. A large number were present, among whom were several ladies. Addresses were delivered by the several candidates, many of which would have done credit to gentlemen who seek higher honors than a seat in the mock parliament. The speeches were concluded shortly after nine o'clock, when the poll opened amid much enthusiasm. The voting was by ballot. Following is the result:

Government.		Opposition.
COMOX—1.		
W. J. Ledingham	32	R. P. McLennan 56
CASSIAR—1.		
John Fullerton	38	J. M. Duval 44
NEW WESTMINSTER—1.		
Robert Prowse	29	F. W. Robson 55
VANCOUVER—1.		
J. N. Muir	43	W. G. McKenzie 39
KOOTENAY—1.		
George Ledingham	30	J. B. Ferguson 57
ESQUIMALT—2.		
James Hutcheson	42	A. B. Erskine 46
Dr. W. J. Quinlan	34	D. McPhadden 36
LILLOOET—2.		
W. M. Brown	40	B. Williams 57
J. E. Crane	33	
NANAIMO—2.		
N. Shakespeare	57	W. F. Patten 44
W. H. Burkholder	40	
COWICHAN—2.		
R. A. Anderson	58	A. Grant 52
W. E. Loscombe	36	
CARIBOO—3.		
James Hogarth	36	John Jessop 48
J. W. Martin	31	D. Ballantyne 52
R. W. Roper	35	E. Rendell 44
YALE—3.		
T. G. Raynor	43	R. C. Fawcett 45
W. C. Douglas	38	Albert Clyde 48
W. G. Archer	37	
VICTORIA CITY—4.		
R. T. Williams	39	Jas. Hastie 59
A. C. Flummerfelt	32	C. Spencer 56
		A. S. Shopland 49

The following members were elected by acclamation: Victoria District, J. H. Baker and Thomas Brengan; New Westminster District, J. O. Turnbull, A. Gonason and J. F. Clark. The late government was constituted as follows: J. M. Muir, Premier and Attorney-General; R. A. Anderson, Commissioner of Lands and Works; R. T. Williams, Provincial Secretary, and H. Baker, Treasurer. Mr. Hastie, leader of the opposition, will be called upon to form a government.

NEW WESTMINSTER ELECTION.

Sheriff Armstrong Declares the Official Return. A Protest Entered.

NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C., March 9.—The official declaration of the poll in the recent election was made by Sheriff Armstrong at noon to-day, as follows:—Dr. Chisholm, 533; T. J. Trapp, 238—Majority for Dr. Chisholm, 295. A protest has been entered on the ground that the time allowed by the returning-officer was less than the act requires, and that there were other irregularities.

REMEMBER, T. N. Hibben & Co. are sole agents for the Calegraph, most rapid type-writer in the world.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

The regular weekly meeting of the council was held last evening at 8 o'clock. Present: Couns. Grant, Styles, Harris, Braden, Pearse, Higgins, Vigelius, Coughlan, and Barnard. Owing to the absence, through illness, of His Worship Mayor Fell, Coun. Pearse was voted to the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted.

COMMUNICATIONS.

From H. R. Selleck, calling attention to the digging down of a bank on John street, and asking that the repairs to John street be perfected as a great deal of damage had been done to his property. Referred to street committee with power to act.

From one hundred and two ratepayers, asking that Birdcage walk be opened up, making a continuous road from Government street to Beacon Hill Park. Referred to street committee.

From Louis Willie, asking that he might be permitted to use a portion of Johnson street for building purposes. Granted.

From Willis Bond, asking permission to use a portion of Douglas and Herald streets for the purpose of moving a house. Granted.

From Geo. Hargraves, asking for further instructions in order that he could proceed with the high and low level reservoirs. Referred to the water committee, and that the engineer be instructed as to the capacity and site of the reservoirs.

The clerk then read the communication to Mr. Hargreaves in which nothing was said about instructions.

From A. Henderson, asking permission to remove a quantity of earth on Yates street opposite the public schools. Referred to the street committee with power to act.

From P. Dempster, asking that a ditch on the northeast corner of Oswego and Niagara streets be filled in, as he wished to build. Referred to street committee with power to act.

From R. Mason, suggesting that the earth on the southeast corner of Johnson and Cook streets be removed, as it was in the way if a sidewalk was to be laid down. Referred to street committee with power to act.

From Turner, Beeton & Co., explaining their position with regard to the water pipes and claiming that an injustice had been done them. Referred to waterworks committee for report.

CITY CHARTER.

Coun. Higgins moved that a committee be appointed to frame a charter for the city of Victoria. Seconded by Coun. Coughlan and carried, committee to consist of Couns. Harris, Pearse and the mover.

JAMES BAY BRIDGE.

P. J. Leech's communication was then read, in which he stated that he had notified Mr. Braden and Mr. R. T. Williams that their bonds for Mr. McDonald, the contractor for James Bay bridge, had expired.

A letter was also read from Mr. Theo. Davie, stating that Mr. Braden had expressed surprise at receiving such a communication from the city surveyor as he (Mr. Braden) was not a bondsman. Laid on the table.

STREET COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The committee reported, recommending that a six-foot sidewalk be laid from King's road to Bay street; also, that a six-foot sidewalk be laid on Herald street to Blanchard, and stating that the time contract for the completion of James Bay bridge had expired, and that a new contract had been entered into with the contractor. Report adopted.

Coun. Higgins said that the new bondsmen were Messrs. Croft & Angus. It was only owing to the bad weather that the contract had not been carried out. With regard to the suppression of the letter of the 17th January they were exempt from liability.

Coun. Grant said that he considered no contractor could have carried out the work owing to the unusually severe weather since the contract had been let. With regard to the suppression of the letter of January 17th he advocated awaiting the presence of the mayor.

Coun. Higgins stated the clerk had said that the mayor had refused to sign the new bonds and he would press for the adoption of the report and request the council to instruct the clerk to affix the corporation seal to the said bonds in the absence of the mayor through sickness.

It was then moved and seconded that the city clerk be ordered to affix the seal.

POLICE COMMITTEE.

The police committee reported that they had heard the evidence in the investigation of the charges made by John Vrooman against Superintendent Bloomfield, and said they had found considerable negligence on the part of the police, but the charges laid were not sustained. Report received and adopted.

SANITARY.

Coun. Harris asked if Pickering & Crompton had furnished tracings with their plans for sewerage?

Mr. Clerk—No tracings were furnished.

On motion of Coun. Higgins the plans were ordered to be traced.

Coun. Harris said that the cost would be $50. Resolution carried.

Coun. Higgins said the city was badly in need of a sanitary officer, and recommended the appointment of one as soon as possible.

WATERWORKS.

Coun. Harris suggested that $200 be expended to remove the rock already blasted at the site of the proposed reservoir. Water committee empowered to remove the rock at a cost not exceeding the figure above-named.

APPOINTMENT OF CIVIC OFFICIALS.

Coun. Coughlan moved that the council proceed with the election of the inside officers of the corporation.

Coun. Higgins nominated Mr. Jas. D. Robinson for city clerk. No other nominations were made.

Discussion here took place as to whether the chairman had a vote.

Coun. Grant claimed that he had.

Coun. Higgins produced the Act of 1886, which provided that the mayor, chairman, or presiding officer should have the casting vote and no other.

Chairman (rising and standing to one side)—Well, I do not intend to lose my vote, and I vacate the chair.

Coun. Higgins—Put me in the chair, and I won't shirk. I'm not afraid to let people know how I vote.

Coun. Grant—Hoped Coun. Higgins wouldn't smash the furniture (laughter).

Coun. Higgins—If I do I'll send a carpenter in (laughter.) Will the chairman do his duty?

Coun. Pearse—I will not lose my vote—I must leave the chair. I'll vacate.

Coun. Braden—I move Coun. Higgins take the chair.

The Clerk—I don't think that would be legal.

Coun. Higgins—Where's your authority.

The Clerk—It's never been done.

Coun. Braden—We'll do it now.

Coun. Higgins—All right—I'll take the chair (laughter).

Coun. Grant—Oh, then I'll retire (laughter).

Couns. Grant, Barnard, Vigelius and Pearse bolted for the corkscrew and left the council without a quorum, amid roars of laughter from councillors and spectators.

Free Trade.

The reduction of internal revenue and the taking off of revenue stamps from Proprietary Medicines, no doubt has largely benefited the consumers, as well as relieving the burden of home manufacturers. Especially is this the case with *Green's August Flower and Boschee's German Syrup*, as the reduction of thirty-six cents per dozen, has been added to increase the size of the bottles containing these remedies, thereby giving one-fifth more medicine in the 75 cent size. *August Flower* for Dyspepsia and Liver Complaint, and the *German Syrup* for Cough and Lung Troubles, have perhaps, the largest sale of any medicines in the world. The advantage of increased size of the bottles will be greatly appreciated by the sick and afflicted, in every town and village in civilized countries. Sample bottles for 10 cents remain the same size. wly

A FULL assortment of Weale's Series of Mechanical, Scientific and Engineering Works, at T. N. Hibben & Co.'s.

THE LOCAL LEGISLATURE.

Proceedings of the First Session of the Fifth Parliament.

WEDNESDAY, March 9.

Mr. Speaker took the chair at 2:15 p.m. Prayers were read by the Rev. Dr. Reid.

Mr. Bole, chairman of the committee appointed to enquire into the disposal of timber lands in the province, reported to the house.

Mr. Bole introduced a bill intituled "an act to amend the law relating to the recovery of wages." Bill read a first time.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE.

The honorable attorney-general moved that a select committee be appointed for the purpose of preparing a congratulatory address to Her Most Gracious Majesty on the occasion of the fiftieth year of accession to the throne, such committee to consist of Messrs. Beaven, Baker and the mover.

The mover regretted that he whose duty and privilege it would have been to move this resolution was unable to be present in his seat in the house. He referred to the marvelous development of the British empire under the beneficent reign of our queen and to the excellent record as a constitutional sovereign she will hand down to future generations. Above all things which endeared her majesty to her subjects throughout the British Dominions were those domestic virtues which adorned her reign.

Mr. Beaven, in seconding the resolution, repeated the regret that the hon. leader of the government was unable to be present to move this resolution. It was a matter of great congratulation throughout the whole of the British empire that our queen had reached her fiftieth year in her accustomed good health. She had been a constitutional monarch, none more so, and her domestic virtues were equally as conspicuous.

Mr. Bole would be second to none in his desire to present a suitable address to her majesty, to whom we owe a loyal, unswerving allegiance. Since Queen Victoria had ascended the British throne the world had witnessed unexampled strides in arts and science and the general advancement of the human family. Telegraphy afforded an excellent illustration of this advancement. Only a few months ago New Westminster had sent congratulations to Old Westminster, and had received a reply in six minutes, time and space being virtually annihilated. Reference was made to the international exhibitions founded by the prince consort, and to the great good which they had accomplished. The Union Jack had triumphed everywhere on land and sea; the confederation of the British American colonies was accomplished and are now bound together not only by bands of iron but by the stronger ties of blood and interest. Our good Queen, besides being an exemplary wife and mother, had been a constitutional sovereign who had commanded the respect of the whole civilized world, and when the proper time came he did not believe our American cousins would be found wanting in their congratulations. As he had not been able to take his seat regularly in the house he was unaware that this question was coming up or he would have endeavored to have said something further upon it, but nevertheless he felt that coming from a city named by her majesty he could not sit silent and neglect to tell that the hearts of the people of that city beat in loyal sympathy with their gracious sovereign.

Mr. Grant told of a little incident to show how the sympathy of the Queen extended to people in the lower walks of life. This was the secret of Her Majesty's name being revered by her people in all parts of the British empire.

Col. Baker could only add his feelings of intense loyalty in voting for this resolution. He referred briefly to Her Majesty's long constitutional reign and to the many virtues of her private character.

Mr. Semlin, as a native Canadian, could state that in no portion of the British empire had Her Majesty more true and loyal subjects than in the Dominion of Canada. (Hear, hear.) He could well remember at a time when a portion of her dominions were in danger with what alacrity the young men came forward and volunteered their services. Certainly, no sovereign was more deserving of that loyalty, and in no part of the empire was it more cordially extended. He could only repeat what other members had said expressive of their regret at the absence of the premier. Resolution passed.

TIMBER LANDS.

Mr. Cowan moved, Mr. Mason seconded, that in the opinion of this house the timber lands in the mining regions of Cariboo district should not be disposed of by sale, by lease, or in any other manner. His reason for moving this resolution was because he had seen the B. C. mining & milling company's report that it was their intention to apply for 640 acres of timber lands. If this were done and the request were granted, it would act very injuriously to the general mining interests of Cariboo. Mining could not be carried on without timber, and if the latter fell into the possession of a few it would be ruinous to miners in general.

Mr. Semlin supported the resolution.

Mr. Grant was of opinion that in the interest of the mining industry it was advisable to extend the provisions of the resolution to every mining district in the province.

Mr. Vernon quite agreed with the object of the resolution. It would be a very unfortunate thing if speculators obtained possession of the timber lands in the vicinity of the mines in his district, but he would like to see something more definite than the words "mining regions" in the resolution.

The Attorney-General reminded the house that even if application were made for timber leases the government were not compelled to grant them. Resolution passed.

BIENNIAL SESSIONS.

Mr. Dunsmuir asked leave to introduce a bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Constitution Act, 1871,' so as to provide for biennial sessions of the Legislative Assembly."

The question being put the house responded with a large number of "Noes."

Mr. Beaven said that it was pretty well established that a bill dealing with the constitution could only be brought forward by the government.

Mr. Dunsmuir—Well, you say that I am the government (laughter and applause).

Mr. Beaven—In the absence of any official notice of the honorable gentleman's position in the government, the question to be decided is can the bill be introuced?

Mr. Speaker said he would reserve his decision until Thursday.

PUBLIC RESERVES.

Mr. Anderson asked is there any land in the Lake District reserved for public purposes? If any, where, how much, and for what purpose?

Hon. Attorney General—Section 42, containing 86 acres, is recorded upon the official map of Lake District and in the district land register as a "government reserve" without mentioning any specific purpose. Section 74, Lake District, forms part of Hyde Park, Mount Douglas reserve.

ABSCONDING DEBTORS.

Mr. T. Davie's bill to be entitled "An act respecting absconding debtors," was read a third time and passed.

EVIDENCE.

On motion that the report of committee on Mr. Bole's evidence bill be adopted, Mr. Higgins pointed out that the bill was imperfect inasmuch as it provided that a husband should have the benefit of his wife's evidence while the wife would not have the benefit of the husband's.

After much discussion the bill was recommitted and amended.

TRESPASS.

House went into committee on Mr. Anderson's trespass bill, Mr. Mason in the chair. The bill was strenously opposed by the opposition. After a great deal of discussion committee rose and reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

DELTA RAILWAY.

The Delta railway incorporation bill (Mr. Orr) passed the second reading.

MARRIED WOMEN'S PROPERTY.

The adoption of report on Mr. Davie's married woman's property bill being called, Mr. Ladner moved that it be referred back to committee and that a clause be inserted providing that one third of a husband's property shall be vested in his wife, free from any debts or encumbrances that the husband may incur without her consent.

After a good deal of discussion unfavorable to the bill Mr. Ladner consented to withdraw it rather than have it too badly defeated.

House adjourned till Thursday at 2 p.m.

THURSDAY, March 10.

Mr. Speaker took the chair at 2:20 p.m. Prayers were read by the Rev. Dr. Reid.

READ A FIRST TIME.

Mr. Beaven introduced a bill intituled "An Act respecting the 'Mineral Act, 1884,' and the 'Mineral Amendment Act, 1886.'" Bill read a first time.

Mr. Stenhouse introduced a bill intituled "An Act to amend the 'Lien Act, 1879.'" Bill read a first time.

POLITICAL PERSECUTION.

Mr. Orr moved, Whereas the election of members to the legislative assembly took place on the 7th of July last, and the Hon. John Robson, provincial secretary, minister of finance and agriculture, and minister of mines, was a candidate for election to represent the district of New Westminster; and whereas the documents submitted by the public accounts committee show that the said John Robson acted as chief commissioner of lands and works, and gave orders for the expenditure of large sums of public money upon the roads and bridges throughout that district, during the time he was traveling through the constituency soliciting the votes and support of the electors, and that such orders were recognized by the lands and works department, and the money was paid out of the treasury. This house is of opinion that the said John Robson has been guilty of using undue influence in order to procure his election to this assembly, and has acted in the capacity of chief commissioner of lands and works without the authority the statute provides, and has proved himself an improper person to act as a member of the executive council and an adviser of his honor the lieutenant-governor.

The mover claimed that the provincial secretary had illegally authorized the expenditure of money upon public works, and had let contracts for these works without tenders. Undue influence had been used by him with the electors, to say nothing of direct promises made, to obtain votes. The provincial secretary's actions were illegal according to the Act of 1880; he had no authority for assuming the functions of commissioner of lands and works.

Mr. Ladner would not tire the patience of the house with an account of the manner in which the provincial secretary carried on his canvass. At one place he talked roads and politics and at other places politics and roads. (Laughter.)

Hon. Mr. Robson said that if the only consideration involved in the resolution now before the house were those persons, (the mover and seconder) parliamentary etiquette compelled him to designate his "honorable colleagues," he would have treated the whole affair with silent contempt it deserved; but he perhaps owed it to honorable members in the house and the public outside to offer a few words in explanation. In doing so, however, he felt as if an apology were due the house for the time occupied in the discussion of matters connected with the election in his district. But the responsibility of that rested with his two colleagues (Messrs. Orr and Ladner) who appeared to conceive their sole mission to be to villify, misrepresent and persecute him. The honorable gentleman then proceeded to explain the circumstances under which he arranged road work in his district last summer, showing that the very same course was pursued as on previous occasions, with this difference that last year he carefully abstained from promising anything till after the election was over. He met the settlers and openly discussed their wants, and did his best, in company with the road superintendent and surveyor, to ascertain where and how the appropriations could be spent to secure the greatest good to the greatest number, and he felt confident the great bulk of the settlers were satisfied with the result, and would not thank his colleagues for the course they were pursuing—a course assuredly not in the true interest of that important constituency. He concluded (amid cheers) by exposing the true inwardness of Mr. Orr's personal rancor, and administered to that gentleman a scathing he is not likely soon to forget. (Loud applause.)

Mr. Bole said if there were any grounds for these charges the resolution was a proper one to bring. The speaker proceeded at considerable length in questionable language to denounce the provincial secretary; frequently using such words as "lie," "liar," "thief," "blackguard," "pig," "grunt," "squeal," etc. He accused the honorable gentleman of having been removed from the position of paymaster of the C. P. R.

Hon. Mr. Robson—The position of paymaster of the C. P. R. was abolished. When that was done I was paid a bonus of $900 over and above my salary (applause).

Hon. Mr. Davie said, however much we might differ in our political opinions, it certainly should not go so far as to display the personal animosity and bitterness which had been shown on the floor of the house to-day. It might be considered that he was prejudiced in the view he should take on this matter, but he certainly thought the charges were unjustifiable and inexcusable, and unworthy of the member who made them. He pointed out that the honorable provincial secretary, as a member of the district and one of his honor's ministers, was perfectly competent to speak with the settlers of his district respecting improvements which they desired. He quoted Judge Ritchie as authority to show that there was nothing improper in promises made by a minister seeking election, so long as those promises were not limited to only those who support him. If he did that he would be leaving the proper path but in all the charges put forward nothing like this had been suggested. He was very sorry that a resolution of this kind had ever been brought forward in this house, and he thought it unworthy of the honorable gentleman who introduced it. (Applause.)

Mr. Grant thought the provincial secretary ought not to be condemned. Mr. Duck had stated at last session that all the dry dock money had been spent while the provincial secretary had stated in his canvass that there was $102,000 to be expended upon the mainland yet.

Mr. Theodore Davie said that if the honorable the provincial secretary had not had a single friend in the house before the commencement of this discussion, the tirade of untruthful abuse to which that honorable gentleman had been subjected this afternoon, would have enlisted every right thinking man in the house as his advocate. The charges were unsupported by even a shadow of evidence, and those making them had evidently no belief in their truth, any more than the voters for the district—any of the needy of whom—could have exacted from the gentleman attacked a penalty of $500 for bribery by substantiating a prosecution for bribery, at which no doubt the philanthropic member for New Westminster city, who was a lawyer, would have given his services *gratis*. All that was charged against the provincial secretary was that he had caused needed public works to be undertaken in the district for which he was a member, and if that was undue influence or bribery all that he (Mr. Davie) could say was that he wished a little more of that kind of corrupt practice had been adopted in the district of Victoria city. The members for New Westminster city and district were making a rabid attack upon his honorable friend for causing the expenditure of public moneys in that section, and well might the constituents of these gentlemen cry to be saved from such friends as they. Mr. Davie ridiculed the junior member for New Westminster, sitting by and supporting the leader of the opposition, a gentleman whom he despised not a whit less than he appeared to hate the provincial secretary. (Applause.)

Mr. Beaven, in a moderate speech, said the facts set forth in the preamble of the resolution had been established. He claimed that the proper course had been taken in bringing this matter before the house.

Mr. Dunsmuir observed that a great deal of vindictiveness had been shown in bringing up this resolution. Every member who represented a country district had to give a large amount of attention to the roads, and it was not to be wondered at if the people of New Westminster having a member of the government representing them should expect more attention than otherwise. He would be the last to favor the provincial secretary if he believed that he had bribed the electors, but he was sure nothing of the kind had been done, as the electors themselves would testify if asked to do so.

Mr. Semlin said all the charges had been fully proved, but the mechanical majority were always ready to "whitewash" any member of the government.

Mr. McLeese told how the provincial secretary would not buy his flour when he was paymaster for the C. P. R., because he was in sympathy with the Walkem-Beaven government. (Laughter.)

Mr. Martin pointed out that personal grievances of the members of the opposition were at the bottom of this discussion. The grievance of the junior member for New Westminster was that he could not get a few lots that he wanted at Granville. (Applause.) The grievance of the member for Cariboo was that he could not get clear of a little second-hand flour. (Loud laughter.) As to election promises he had heard Mr. Humphreys making some very loud complaints. Some years ago when an election was coming off at Yale, Mr. Humphreys was sent up to try and win the seat, the government of the day agreeing to pay his expenses.

Mr. Beaven—I call the honorable gentleman to order. I did not. I never paid a dollar for such a purpose.

Mr. Martin—You "did not." That was the very thing "Tom" complained of! (Loud laughter and applause.)

Col. Baker was of opinion that the courts offered all the machinery required for testing a matter of this kind. That was the proper course to have pursued instead of asking the house to waste its time in a discussion of this kind.

Mr. Orr, in closing the debate, said he was informed by a person now in the city that the attorney-general would not have secured his election had he not promised the construction of a bridge across the Fraser where it would benefit only a few people.

Hon. Mr. Davie asked if the honorable gentleman would be kind enough to give the person's name.

Mr. Orr—I am not compelled to give it.

Mr. Allen said so far from a bridge being promised Mr. Davie had stated he did not think the bridge could be built for some time.

The resolution on being put to a vote was lost, the eight members of the opposition only voting in its favor. All the other members with the exception of the premier, who was absent, voted against it.

Mr. Davie presented a report from the railway committee.

House adjourned till 2 p. m. on Friday.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

Mr. Martin will move on Monday—Whereas, owing to the scarcity of water for the purpose of irrigation, a very large area of agricultural land on the mainland of British Columbia, to the east of the Cascade range, cannot be brought under cultivation, and the irrigation of such area of land is beyond the means of individual holders. And whereas, a large population would be introduced and corresponding revenue secured if such land were settled upon and cultivated; be it therefore resolved, that a respectful address be presented to his honor the lieutenant-governor, praying his honor to take into consideration the advisability of offering a bonus for the successful raising of water in quantities sufficient for agricultural purposes.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

The Fugitive Forger.

The transcript of the proceedings in the examinations of Benjamin Hagaman, Jr., says the San Francisco *Bulletin*, who is wanted in Ontario, Canada, on a charge of forging the name of Sir William P. Howland, Jones & Co., have been sent to Washington, and the necessary documents for his return to Canada are expected in a few days.

Provincial Appointments.

Hon. A. E. B. Davie, Attorney-General, was yesterday gazetted as having been appointed by the lieutenant-governor President of the executive council during the illness of Hon. W. Smithe.

George E. Manuel, Esq., of Donald, has been appointed a corner for