FALL ASSIZES.

Grand Jury Find True Bills in All Indictments Presented Except the David Case.

Hon. Mr. Justice Drake Considers That the City Does Not Properly Regulate the Saloons.

Yesterday, at 11 o'clock, the Victoria fall assizes opened, Mr. Justice Drake presiding. After the usual preliminary formalities the following grand jury was sworn: F. Elworthy (foreman), James Baker, John E. Crane, John Earsman, James Hutchinson, Latham B. Hamlin, J. A. Lawrence, Thos. Matthews, A. Maxwell Muir, A. J. McLellan, A. W. More, John Pelletier, Chris. Spencer, John Turner, C. F. Todd, Louis Stemler, John Wilson and H. M. Yates.

The Crown was represented by Mr. P. Æ Irving.

In opening his brief and business-like address to the grand jury, Mr. Justice Drake remarked that the indictments to be presented for their consideration contained, he was glad to say, no charges of a very important character. Dealing with the cases of Aheren and Cook, His Lordship remarked that they showed the want of regulation of saloons in this town. The evidence would show the jury that there was practically no supervision and no regulation of such places, and undoubtedly if these matters had the proper attention of the municipal council they would not need to come before the grand jury at all. In Cook's case, the keeping of a disorderly house was charged, and this included a gaming house. His Lordship explained that a gaming house was one where there was an advantage given to one or other of the players, for instance where there was a banker. In Cook's saloon, the Beehive, it was stated that a number of people had engaged in a game called "Black Jack," in which the chances are not equal. His Lordship also briefly ran over the points of the other cases. Flynn, who has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment for supplying liquor to Indians and took the first opportunity to escape; David, stealing apple trees from Galiano island; George and Ucum, assaulting and beating a white man named McCabe; Buchanan, Burns, Stanton, Hunt and Harkins, breaking into a butcher shop and stealing meat; Hall and Smith, obtaining money under false pretences by passing a Confederate note; Aheren, stealing $330 from William Hussey.

By request of Mr. Irving, for the Crown, the grand jury were asked to first consider the Flynn, Ucum and George, David, and Hall and Smith cases.

The Jackson and McDonald indictments for keeping a disorderly house were not dealt with at this assize. The Crown, however, did not enter a nolle prosequi.

After a recess of half an hour the court met again at noon.

The grand jury brought in findings as follow:

TRUE BILLS—George and Ucum—assault.

Flynn—jail breaking.

Hall and Smith—obtaining money under false pretences.

Buchanan, Burns, Stanton, Hunt and Harkins—stealing and being in possession of stolen property.

Cook—keeping a disorderly house.

Aheren—stealing.

NO BILL—David, stealing.

ASSAULT—Regina v. George and Ucum. Mr. S. Perry Mills for the prisoners pleaded guilty to a common assault, and thought a small fine would meet the case.

To this the Crown agreed.

Mr. Mills explained that McCabe, who was one of those men who went about selling liquor to Indians, had really assaulted one of the Indians first by knocking him down. A fight followed, in which McCabe got the worst of it. His clients were under the influence of liquor at the time, but were as a rule good orderly men.

His Lordship—"Under the circumstances I will impose a fine of $15 each."

REGINA V. MICHAEL FLYNN—jail-breaking. The indictment showed that the prisoner having been sentenced last May to three months imprisonment, for supplying liquor to Indians, escaped from the provincial jail before more than a few days of his sentence had been served. The prisoner pleaded guilty.

"Six months additional with hard labor," was the laconic sentence.

REGINA V. GEO. HALL AND ROBT. C. SMITH—obtaining money under false pretences. The prisoners pleaded not guilty, and the following jury was empanelled:

E. D. Twiss (foreman), Geo. Lyal, M. Morriay, Michael Gleason, F. Galbraith, H. Dow, J. E. Thomas, G. H. Proctor, Wm. Norman, W. T. Marvin, Wm. Lilly, J. F. Silver.

Mr. S. Perry Mills appeared for the prisoners.

Mr. Irving, for the Crown, stated the case. It was to the effect that the prisoners, on Sunday, November 11, had taken breakfast at the Empire restaurant and had paid for it with a Confederate States $10 bill, receiving $9 60 in change.

Jacob Isaler, proprietor of the Empire restaurant, gave evidence as to Hall getting breakfast with someone else and paying with the Confederate bill, getting change to the amount of $9 60.

John Barnet said Hall had tried to get him to change the bill the day before. N. Law and Jacob Isaacs, both storekeepers, also said Hall tried to pass the bill on them. Thomas Graham had seen Smith with a Confederate $10 bill in his possession. L. Craig, of the Bank of Montreal, said the bill was worthless and not redeemable.

Constable Perdue, who arrested prisoners, gave the substance of a confession of Smith, who said Hall had said he wanted to go and eat and asked for the bill. He had got $5 out of the change from Hall and said he paid Hall $2 50 for passing the bill.

The defence brought up two or three witnesses to show Smith's former conduct had been good.

Mr Mills for the defence raised the point that Hall had not made any remark when he gave the bill to Isaler; therefore there was no false pretence made; also it was not shown that the bill was not redeemable.

His Lordship held that on the first point the Canadian code did not confine pretence to words but had the qualification "or otherwise." As to the note, Mr. Craig's evidence as to its worthlessness had not been disproved.

The jury after an hour's absence brought in a verdict of guilty, with a strong recommendation to mercy.

REGINA V. BUCHANAN, BURNS, STANTON, HUNT AND HARKINS—stealing meat from Monk's butcher shop. When arraigned the prisoners pleaded in chorus not guilty. They had no counsel to defend them.

The following jury was empanelled: Moses McGregor (foreman), John Weir, Jas. Caldwell, Geo. Rutledge, David Campbell, Wm. Broderick, Robt. Selig, John Whitfield, J. H. Post, John Campbell, Wm. Murray, A. Lee.

There were two counts in the indictment, one of stealing; the other of being in possession. Evidence was given by E. J. Monk and constables Cameron, Palmer and Smith, who told of the finding of the meat in the men's cabin, and Burns' coat having brine and sawdust on it.

Asked if they had anything to say, Thos. Stanton, one of the prisoners, was sworn. He had gone home about 1 o'clock on the morning the meat was stolen. About an hour after Harkins and Hunt went out and returned with a bag with meat in it. One of them wore Burns' coat. He had asked Hunt and Harkins in prison to own up like men and clear the innocent, but they had said they knew nothing about the theft.

The jury after a short time found Buchanan, Burns, Hunt and Harkins guilty of receiving, and recommended Hunt to mercy. Stanton was acquitted.

Mr. Irving for the Crown asked that the Cook case go over till the next assize, two of the principal witnesses being out of the country at present.

The court adjourned till half-past ten o'clock this morning.

The noted Trade Dollar saloon case came up for hearing yesterday morning in the Assize court, when Joseph Aheren was put on his trial for stealing $330 from Wm. Hussey on October 23. Mr. P. Æ Irving represented the Crown, and Mr. A. L. Belyea the defence. The prisoner pleaded not guilty.

Some time was taken up in securing a jury, the defence challenging pretty freely. Finally the following jury was empanelled:

J. H. Warren (foreman), Wm. Broderick, J. F. Silver, W. C. Bryant, jr., J. Whitfield, John Barnsley, Geo. Lyal, Wm. Lindley, Wm. Murray, J. H. Post, F. Galbraith, R. Selig.

Mr. Irving then stated the case, the general outline of which has already been published.

Josey Edwards, of 127 Johnson street, was the first witness. She told of meeting Hussey and his friend Hounan at Joe Levy's restaurant, and going with them to 127 Johnson street about one o'clock on Tuesday morning, October 23. Hussey's friend went to sleep and Hussey took charge of his money, how much he did not know, but there were two $100 bills and other bills; about 4 o'clock she and Hussey went out; accused whistled to them on the street and they went into the Trade Dollar and had some drinks, supplied by accused; after that witness told how she and Hussey had gone to breakfast at Levy's; had drinks at the Telegraph and came back to the Trade Dollar; could only remember George Miller, the bar tender, of those who were there.

To refresh witness' memory she was given her deposition in the police court to read. She said in it, in speaking of the second time she went to the Trade Dollar, "I think the accused was there."

"Now who was there?" again asked Mr. Irving.

"I don't remember," replied the witness.

"You will have to tell the truth," said the Judge.

After some pressing witness acknowledged that she thought Aheren was there; there were six or seven people in the room; only remembered that Hussey paid for drinks supplied, she did not know by whom; two $5 bills, a $10 and a $20 were paid and no change given; Aheren on Wednesday afternoon told her Hussey had lost his money, and advised her to go to Seattle till this trouble was over; he promised her money to return; Hussey gave her $45 altogether on Tuesday.

Cross-examined at some length by Mr. Belyea witness stated that on Thursday morning she went on a spree and sent to Aheren for money, but he refused and sent back word that she owed him $5 for drinks; she and Hussey were at the Trade Dollar from about 9 o'clock in the morning until 4 o'clock in the afternoon; she would not swear that no change was given to Hussey. The rest of her story was practically the same as in the police court.

William Hussey, the next witness, and the man who claims he was robbed, didn't seem to recollect anything very clearly of what went on that day; he claimed that he had been drinking the night before, but had no drinks at the Johnson street house; when he went to the Trade Dollar in the morning he might have been a little under the influence of liquor, but he recollected nothing after the morning drinks there; had a hazy idea that he went to the drug store and the doctor's in the afternoon; he had a sleep in the Trade Dollar and next remembered himself at 127 Johnson street the same afternoon; he denied having spent any money after breakfast or giving Josey the $45 she claimed.

Cross-examined by Mr. Belyea—Must have had over $300 in his pocket when he went to the druggist's in the afternoon, as he had not spent it; did not remember buying champagne; didn't know why he went anywhere that day.

"Well, just let us hear what took you to the Telegraph," inquired Mr. Belyea.

"The hack, I suppose," answered the witness innocently, amid some merriment.

To every question witness kept saying, "I don't recollect"; he thought that the morning drink was what upset him.

Nellie Preston, keeper of the house 127 Johnson street, stated that Hussey, Hunnan, Aheren and a friend of the last named were at her house early on the morning in question. She repeated her story told in the police court, saying that Aheren had remarked as Hussey and Josey left the house, "He's got stuff and we'll stay with him."

Dr. Frank Hall stated Hussey had called on him for a prescription the afternoon in question.

Richard George saw Josey pay $5 for a round of drinks, and E. J. Marsden stated that Josey gave Aheren $10 for two rounds of drinks for the room and got only $1 change. Then she paid $5 for another round of drinks, and later put down $10 for another round and got $5 back. While he and witness were alone in the wine room Hussey felt in his pockets for money and said "I have been robbed."

Several other witnesses were examined for the prosecution, including Sergt. Walker and Constable Cameron, who were engaged on the case. This closed the case for the prosecution.

The first witness for the defence was Wm. Jackson. He was in the Trade Dollar in the forenoon of the Tuesday and Hussey treated the crowd continually. Between two and three o'clock in the afternoon Josey treated; she first put up a $10 bill; Aheren told her she already owed $4 and she told him to take it out of that; she got back some silver and bills.

Samuel Steel stated he and others had drinks with Hussey, who paid for them; saw Aheren change a $100 for Hussey and the barkeeper handed back, he thought, $92, the other $8 to pay for drinks; about three o'clock saw Josey outside the wine room putting a roll of bills in her stocking; it was after that Josey "blew herself" in the bar; change was given back to her every time; Aheren was tending bar.

J. T. Mennie was present at the treating and saw money paid over the bar and change returned.

After some further evidence the case was adjourned till to-morrow morning at 10:30. The accused was admitted to bail, himself in $500 and one surety of $500.

During the afternoon the meat thieves were brought up for sentence. His Lordship gave Buchanan, Burns and Harkins two years in penitentiary, and Hunt, who was recommended to mercy by the jury, twelve months in jail. Stanton was discharged. Hunt begged to be sent to the penitentiary, too, for two years, so that he could learn to do something. His Lordship replied that Hunt could learn some honest calling without going to the penitentiary and refused to change the sentence.

Harkins remarked, with an impudent toss of his head, as he was led away, "Well, I won't go scaling for two years anyway."

The Grand Jury brought in true bills in Regina v. Jackson and Macdonald, keeping a gaming house. The cases will go over until next assize.

The presentment of the grand jury was handed to His Lordship, who thanked them and dismissed them from further attendance.

The presentment reads as follows:

May it please Your Lordship:

We, the foreman and members of the grand jury, having regard to the grave matters brought before us at this assize consider it our duty on behalf of the public good and in the furtherance of the interests of morality in this community to recommend:

"That the suppression of gaming houses be general and that the existing laws regulating disorderly houses and saloons be strictly enforced. Unanimously adopted this 21st day of November, 1894."

F. ELWORTHY, Foreman.

THE EMPRESS ARRIVES

With One of the Most Valuable Cargoes Ever Brought Across the Pacific.

Hard Experiences of Three Victoria Sealers—Summary of Late Oriental News.

The C.P.R. ss. Empress of China, Captain R. Archibald, R.N.R., completed a fast trip from Yokohama to this port yesterday, bringing one of the largest and most valuable cargoes that has ever crossed the Pacific. Included were 1,245 bales of raw silk, while the remainder of the consignments were proportionately large and valuable. Of the passengers there were in the first cabin Mr. Julian Ralph, of Harper's, who has been spending some little time in the Orient; Mr. Deakin, the Yokohama curio dealer, and about a score of others. Eight passengers crossed in the intermediate and 135 in the steerage, a large number of the latter being for this city. The full list of saloon passengers is as appended: Mrs. Arai, Mr. and Mrs. and Mr. Earle Deakin, Mr. and Mrs. England and family, Mr. M. H. R. Harris, Captain Hepworth, Mrs. Kellog Cravens, Miss McIntosh, Dr. Malcolm, Mr. Moore, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Murray, Mr Noro, Mr. Julian Ralph, Mr. O. G. W. Ready, Mr. A. P. Simpson, Mr. James Wilkinson, Mr. Yamanaka and Mr. S. Yamanaka.

No less interesting passengers, although they did not travel in the first cabin, were three distressed seamen—Joseph Morrell, Charles Leclaire, and Joseph Cashin. It is safe to say not a person on board the Empress was more glad than they at the sight of Victoria's roofs and spires. The three left here last spring on the sealing schooner May Belle, from which they were lost in one of the boats early in July. The fog settled down like a great wet veil soon after they left the schooner, hiding the vessel from them and them from the eyes of their shipmates. All night they were in the boat, with nothing to eat save their noonday lunch. In the morning they succeeded in making a landing on Copper island, where they were a few days later picked up by the famous Zabiaka—which has, however, a new commander now. On board the Russian gunboat they shared the rude fare and miserable quarters of the crew for a month and five days, when they were landed on the beach at Petropaulovsky, the warship proceeding south. At the Siberian port they were given employment by Mr. Greenwall of the Commercial Company, and fared not too badly until H.M.S. Daphne called, and their troubles were at an end. Both on board the British gunboat and at the hands of the British consul in Yokohama their treatment was all that men could ask.

Mr. Julian Ralph has little to tell of the war in the Orient. "In fact," he said in conversation yesterday, "you in America know more about the progress of affairs than do the residents of the Orient, where every scrap of information is zealously guarded by the authorities." In Japan, the announcement from Shanghai that Major Richter had accepted employment from the Japanese government at 2,000 yen a month is ridiculed. The Major was formerly on the staff of the Chinese military academy, and apart from the peculiar circumstances under which he recently visited Hiroshima—just before coming on to Victoria—there is nothing at all to lead to the conclusion that he has entered the Japanese service. He would, it is said, be valuable to Japan only if he would place at the disposal of his new employers the military secrets of China, and as an officer and a gentleman that is exactly what he cannot do.

Aside from the war news the Empress brings word that at about 8 o'clock on the night of October 31 some ten or more assassins attacked and murdered Kin Kwak Wu, Korean vice-minister for justice, in his residence at Seoul. Two guests who happened to be there at the time were wounded. The assassins escaped and are still at large. The assassination is believed to have been at the instigation of some high personage.

A deputation of the inhabitants of the districts of Akita prefecture, which suffered from the disastrous inundations of August last, are now in Tokyo for the purpose of laying before the government a report of the serious injury inflicted upon the districts flooded, and applying for government assistance for the repair of the public works destroyed or damaged. The deputation has furnished the following statistics of the estimated damage done:

	Yen.
Rice fields devastated	2,000,000
Other cultivated land devastated	380,000
Forest land devastated	150,000
Houses washed away	2,000,000
Damage to houses flooded	1,000,000
Damage to various other property	5,000,000
Damage to various mines	200,000
Damage to crops	1,010,000
Damage to bridges and roads	1,120,000

Other matters of interest touched upon in the Japanese news budget are in connection with the visit of Prince Giwa, the Korean heir apparent, to Japan; the renewal of their piratical operations by the Malays of Tanjong Katong, and a terrible case of burglary and murder in which seven people were massacred and another severely wounded in Saitama prefecture.

Hood's Sarsaparilla, acting through the blood, reaches every part of the system, and in this way positively cures catarrh.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

First Session of the Seventh Parliament.

SIXTH DAY.

WEDNESDAY, November 21, 1894.

The Speaker took the chair at 2 p.m.

Mr. Cotton presented a petition from the Mayor and Corporation of Vancouver praying for amendments to the city charter.

Mr. Williams presented a petition from the quarterly board of the Methodist church of Mount Pleasant.

REVISION OF THE STATUTES.

HON. MR. DAVIE moved: "That this house do resolve itself into a committee of the whole for the purpose of considering the introduction of a bill intituled 'An act to authorize the revision of the statutes.' The mover explained that it is not intended that the proposed revision shall have its full effect at once, or that the result shall be presented to the house next session or even the session after that. The practice in other legislative bodies has been to revise the statutes once in every ten years, and as the last revision here was in 1888 the next would, applying that principle, be due in 1898. Without wishing to detract from the merits of previous revisions, he might remark that those in this province up to the present time have been of a rather preliminary and perfunctory character, and not such as those which have been made for the Dominion of Canada or for Ontario. They have been largely of the nature of a consolidation merely, the several acts bearing upon the same subject having been brought together and classified. What is now proposed is something very different, being a revision which shall be the result of carefully comparing one act with another, of taking up each section separately, and considering its bearings in relation to the common law and in relation to other provisions of the statutes. Those engaged in the work will in fact make a comprehensive summary of the law with a view to meeting its entire meaning and purpose. This will not be the work of a week or a month, or even a year, but from its commencement will require constant application and thought. He cited several examples of the confusion which may arise from consulting the statutes as at present consolidated, mentioning the elections regulation act, the Supreme court act, and others, besides the large number of amending acts passed since last revision. The cost of the revision, it is provided, shall be paid from time to time from moneys voted for that purpose by the legislature, which from year to year will be furnished the particulars of the work done up to that time, and for which payment is asked.

MR. SEMLIN did not oppose the proposition, but suggested that there be some safeguard against any dispute as on last occasion, about the compensation to be paid.

The house then went into committee, Mr. Booth in the chair, and the resolution was reported.

ADVERTISING VOTERS' LISTS.

MR. KITCHEN, rising to a question of privilege, complained of having been abused in an editorial in the Vancouver World, in connection with his statements relating to the advertising of the voters' lists, when the mis-statements of which he was accused really occurred in the public accounts.

HON. MR. DAVIE said it seemed to him that the hon. member had only himself to blame, having taken advantage of a quibble, a clerical error apparently in the book, to make an uncalled for attack.

HON. MR. TURNER suggested that in future the member should, before making such wild charges as that the accounts are cooked, make inquiry as to any items which appear to him to be fit subjects for such inquiry. The vouchers are always at his disposal in the treasury department.

JUDGE FOR VANCOUVER.

MR. WILLIAMS asked: "What action, if any, has been taken by the government towards securing the appointment of a Supreme court or County court judge resident at Vancouver?"

HON. MR. DAVIE: "The government have forwarded the resolution of the house recommending the appointment of a County court judge to the Dominion government, and have by departmental correspondence urged such appointment. The government have not asked the appointment of a Supreme court judge as it is not deemed that the judicial requirements of the province demand the appointment of a sixth Supreme court judge."

TENDERS FOR BOOKBINDING.

MR. SEMLIN asked: "Has the government called for tenders for the government bookbinding since the close of the last house—April, 1894?"

HON. COL. BAKER—"Yes; tenders were invited."

WORKMEN'S WAGES.

HON. MR. DAVIE moved the second reading of the workmen's wages bill (No. 1). Its object he said is to secure the payment of their wages to workmen at fixed periods, either weekly as provided in the bill as submitted, or bi-weekly, monthly or otherwise as the house might decide. He thought all would agree that it is in the interest of business men and the whole community that there should be no long periods between the settlements between workmen and their employers, and that the times of settlement should be so fixed that the storekeeper giving a workman credit might know when he could reasonably expect to get his money. This bill has nothing whatever to do with the mechanics' lien bill also on the order paper, which is intended to make provision for giving a lien for material and larger amounts than the weekly wage.

MR. SEMLIN asked that, as he had not had time to confer with those principally interested in this bill, its consideration should be further postponed, if this would not inconvenience the government.

HON. MR. DAVIE said there was no doubt some other business which could be gone on with, and at the desire of the hon. leader of the opposition he would not press his motion for second reading.

REPRESENTATION OF EAST LILLOOET.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Davie the house went into committee on the East Lillooet election bill, Mr. Kellie in the chair.

The bill was adopted with amendments, including the provision that the Speaker's warrant for the new election shall be issued between the 1st and the 15th of May next.

LICENSE ACT REPEAL.

HON. MR. DAVIE moved the second reading of the license act repeal bill (No. 4). He explained that by an oversight, and in consequence of two members having introduced bills relating to the same subject, two acts with the same object and in almost identical terms appear on the statute book. This bill is to repeal one of them.

Bill read a second time.

THANKSGIVING DAY.

HON. MR. DAVIE moved that the house at its rising stand adjourned until 2 p.m. on Friday.

MR. KITCHEN suggested that it would be well to adjourn over until Monday.

MR. COTTON, in the absence of the leader of the opposition, objected to adjourning until Monday, but ironically suggested that the house might adjourn until after Christmas, so that the government might be prepared to go on with the business.

HON. MR. DAVIE said the hon. gentleman showed remarkable assurance in making his objection, as the suggestion of the long adjournment came from his own side, while as to the business the government is perfectly prepared to go on, and had only to-day put off an important bill at the request of the opposition. There was enough business on the order paper to keep the house going for a week, and there will be some more before that is done. If the opposition will only not obstruct the proceedings the house may be prorogued before Christmas.

MR. WILLIAMS—The government don't anticipate that, when they head all their bills 1894 95.

HON MR. DAVIE—If the printer has put that on the government is not responsible; and that is easily changeable.

Motion agreed to.

STIPENDIARY MAGISTRATES BILL.

On motion of Hon. Mr. Davie the house went into committee on the bill (No. 3) extending the jurisdiction of stipendiary and police magistrates to proceedings for the collection of small debts and otherwise; Mr. Smith in the chair.

The committee rose, after making considerable progress.

HON. MR. DAVIE presented a message from the Lieutenant-Governor transmitting a bill authorizing the revision of the statutes.

The house adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

THREE BIG "M'S."

Music, Mirth and Minstrelsy Reign Supreme at the Victoria Theatre.

The Amateur Minstrels Delight a Crowded House and Cover Themselves With Glory.

The Victoria Amateur Minstrels gave their first of three performances at The Victoria theatre last evening, to a crowded house, and now the notes of interrogation that have been flying in the air whenever the minstrels have been mentioned, are replaced by exclamation points. It was a great tournament of merriment and music; the small boy from the gallery expressed tersely and completely the sentiments of all when he gave as his judgment that "dat show's a corker and no mistake." And he intended no reference to burnt cork, either. From the moment the curtain rose—sharp on time, too, it may be noted—and the music of "The Minstrel King" floated across the footlights, until it descended amidst a tumult of applause to shut the cake-walk from view, everything was good. The general success was of course made up of many contributory successes—there was notably good stage management; the music was new and sweet and plentiful; the settings were rich and the costuming appropriate; the jokes and stories were funny and required no explanatory footnotes; the dancing was particularly and especially pretty and graceful—in fact everything was good and the performance moved easily and smoothly throughout.

After the opening chorus it was W. Ralph Higgins, from the bones corner, who started the fun. He wanted to know if the interlocutor, Mr. Egan—these minstrels have introduced the desirable custom of giving the proper names in the dialogue—had heard about the post office strike.

Of course he had, and he was very sorry indeed for the poor postmen.

But had he heard about Postmaster Shakespeare sending for all the Victoria Cricket Club the day the men left work?

"Sending for the members of the Victoria Cricket Club," inquired Mr. Egan in surprise, "Why, what do you mean?"

"Oh yes, he did—he sent for all of them, Mr. Pooley and Bryan Drake and Dr. Helmcken and P. Æ. Irving and Foulkes and all of them."

"Why, whatever could he want them to do," and the interlocutor waited.

"Oh, he just wanted them to tend wickets!"

Then Dave Patterson sang his song, "The Lime Kiln Club," and sang it well, too. Afterwards Mr. Alf. Hood's sympathetic tenor was heard in "Whose Little Girl Are You," a sweetly pretty little melody, which with the excellent chorus effect thoroughly merited the hearty applause accorded. W. R. Higgins had as his solo the rousing minstrel song, "Do, Do, My Huckleberry Do," which he gave with gusto and effect, holding his audience right with him as he did in all his many "turns" during the evening, for he is one of the hardest worked men in Victoria while these minstrel shows are on.

Of course the three solos were not all together. They were sandwiched in with a running fire of nonsense, which kept the house in one continuous smile.

Ernest Pauline, also one of the bones brigade, had a story. He started it by telling of the great success he was having ever since he started in the insurance business.

"De people done jess fall ober demselves comin' to dis chile," he said. Not only did the general public walk right up, begging him to write their policies, but all the other agents—Drury, Sam Mateson, Louis Jenns, all the big men in the business. Everything and everybody came his way.

The interlocutor was just beginning to congratulate him on his good fortune when he interrupted,

"But I done had one piece o' hard, hard luck yes'tday," he said

"And what was that?"

"Why, you see, Premier Davie he came to me and he says Pauline, he say, I want you to ensure my life."

"And of course you did,"—this from the interlocutor.

"No," and Bones shook his head mournfully. "No—I couldn't make out his policy no way."

Mr. Frank Sehl's powerful bass was heard in "The Little Woman"; Mr. Pilling gave "The Soldier's Sweetheart," which was indeed a gem as he presented it; and Messrs. McIntyre and Fred Richardson sang "Hooroo for Casey," acting the incidental "business" with all the ease and dash of old professionals. Mr. Richardson on the tambo end did good work all night, his comicalities being many and neat; everything being done gracefully and nothing overdone.

"I would like to have a little light on this sewer business," remarked the wise man from the middle of the stage. "I'd like to know where all this money's gone to that we voted to build the sewer on Fort street."

"I know, boss!"—this from Dave Patterson.

"Well, where has it gone, Mr. Patterson?"

"Oh, it's in the pockets of the rate payers."

"And how do you make that out, Mr. Patterson?"

"Well, it's in the hands of the council, isn't it?"——!!

Interlocutor Egan had a funny "Dago" story a little later; Norman Macaulay and Fred Richardson each had his little joke, and there were lots of other good jokes besides. George Powell told about his barn that was insured and burned (because he needed the $900) and rebuilt by the insurance company (although he didn't want the barn—he wanted the $900). He told of his experience of life insurance on a similar line, and all his stories were fully appreciated, because he told them all well, and has that easy self-possession that holds an audience attentive and deeply interested.

"When the Pilot Takes Command," was the last of the first part solos, sung by Mr. Brownlie. It is a delightful song and one eminently suited to the singer's rich, robust and much enjoyed voice. Fred. Richardson's "Polly McGilligan's Band" was an instantaneous hit, because Fred. and his bandsmen all entered into their work heartily and the leader sang his funny little song just as it should be sung. All the songs of the first part were with first-class chorus, the concerted singing throughout being very skilfully and effectively handled. It will be noted that the majority of the songs are new, and those who heard them last evening will agree that all are good.

The second part brought a sketch, "A Public Meeting," in which some funny dialogue work was given by Messrs. Egan, Higgins (W. R.) and Powell. The minstrel quartette "favored with a few choice selections." The quartette—Messrs. W. R. Higgins, Hood, Sehl and Robertson—sing well together, and made admirable choice of subjects. Their work during the latter part of the evening and especially in the Chinese imitation was delightfully tuneful, finished and generally meritorious. "Tommy Atkins" by Gunner Ayton and men of the R. M. A., was good and encored vociferously; the brave soldiers appearing were Gunners Lyons, Osborne, Butler, Davis, Bournen, J. Osborne, Llewellyn, Richardson, Wallis, Creed, Sherwood and Bombardier Kelly; the cake walk was also excellent, calling for cool and capable stage direction, which it had. The feature of the second part was, however, beyond a doubt the skirt and serpentine dancing by seven young and charming gentlemen—Messrs. "Charlotte" McIntyre (premiere danseuse), "Georgie" Powell, "Harriette" Austin, "Tommy" Dowlen, "Daisy" Patterson, "Henrietta" Howard and "Ernestine" Brammer. This particular part of the show is indeed "worth going miles to see."

Appended is the complete muster roll of the minstrels, who will again hold the boards this afternoon and evening:

First Tenors—Messrs. Shedden, Pilling, Mallandaine, Sherbourne, Hood, Herbert Pauline and Kingham.

Second Tenors—Messrs. Bert Powell, Clarke, Howard, R. Robertson, Brammer and Jackson.

Baritones—Messrs. Paul Higgins, Goward, Pritz, Austin, Dowlen, McIntyre, H. Robertson, and Mitchell.

Basses—Messrs. Sehl, Brownlie, Frank Higgins, Greenwood, F. Cullin, Oliver and Wilson.

Executive Committee—W. E. Dowlen, Frank Higgins, Norman Macaulay, W. Ralph Higgins, Martin Egan, Thomas Corsar, and W. J. Burnes.

Treasurer—Ernest Brammer.

Secretary—George Powell.

Musical Director—John M. Finn.

Stage Manager—Frank Higgins.

Managers of Properties—Messrs. A. J. Dallain, H. E. Courtenay.

Interlocutor—Martin Egan.

Bones—W. Ralph Higgins, Ernest Pauline, Dave Patterson.

Tambourines—Fred Richardson, Norman Macaulay, Geo. E. Powell.

TORONTO TOPICS.

TORONTO, Nov. 20.—(Special)—The News publishes a statement purporting to be made by the officers of the Toronto Telephone Co., to the effect that they had been asked for $3,000 to secure a franchise from the city council in 1891. T. G. Harris, one of the promoters of the new telephone company, is given as authority for the statement that several aldermen were paid sums aggregating some hundreds of dollars to secure their support.

The Ontario crop report shows a decrease in the fall wheat production of over a million bushels, and in spring wheat of nearly 20,000 bushels. Barley shows an increase of over a million bushels. Oats have increased over 11,000,000 bushels. Buckwheat increased 200,000 bushels, and corn nearly two million bushels. Hay decreased nearly a million and a half tons.

Alderman Stewart, found guilty by Judge McDougall of boodling, has handed in his resignation. He still contends that he is not guilty of wrong-doing.

F. Fullerton, Q.C., has been appointed city solicitor in succession to Chief Justice Meredith.

A cablegram from Canada says: Rev. G. H. Barrow, Baptist missionary at Marsapatuan, died on Sunday of fever. When last heard from he was in excellent health. He had fully acquired the language and was doing excellent work among the Telugus.

Eseljay's Liver Lozenges are pleasant to take. They are laxative but strengthening. *

GERMANS IN EAST AFRICA.

BERLIN, Nov. 20.—The government is in receipt of information that the Germans in East Africa on October 30 stormed and took possession of the town of Kuirenga, the capital of Wahehe territory. In the fight hundreds of natives were killed. The Germans lost one officer and eight soldiers. The victors found in the town a large quantity of ivory, many rifles, large herds of cattle and a great quantity of ammunition, etc. They also liberated fifteen hundred male and female slaves.

Is your tongue coated? Take Eseljay's Liver Lozenges. They will work off that bilious condition. *

PORT HOPE, Nov. 20.—John Smith's livery stable was practically destroyed by fire last night. Five horses were burned to death and several sleighs and cutters much damaged.

BIRTH.

FALCONER—On Nov. 17th, at 234 Fort street the wife of J. H. Falconer of a son.

DOVE—On November 14th, at Mount Tolmie, the wife of Douglas D. Dove, of a daughter.

MACABE—In this city, on the 20th November, the wife of T. B. Macabe, of a son (still born).

WALKER—On the 16th inst., the wife of H. W. Walker Esquimalt Road, of a daughter.

DIED.

FLEWIN—At the family residence, 36 South Park street, on the 19th instant, Jane T., the wife of Thomas Flewin, a native of Bexley, Kent, Eng., aged 61 years and 6 months.

RIDEHALGH—In this city the son of T. J. Ridehalgh, at 64 Herald street, aged six and half months.

WAKE—On the 20th instant, near Esquimalt, B.C., Adelaide Maria, relict of the late Captain Baldwin Wake, R.N., aged 63 years. R.I.P.