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RICULTURE IN SCHOOLS.

HE EDITOR:—Allow me to direct attention to one phase of our ional system recently introduced, he teaching of agriculture from a ook to both sexes from ten years

not profess to condemn so highly tant a subject, nor to underrate its ness in the schools, but I in com- with many parents must deplore roduction in the common schools, ng the High school would be the place for such teaching, or at any hat it be not handled promiscu- s at present by children of tender and more especially girls who cupy their time far more usefully ilework.

here again I must disclaim any ion of wishing to criticise the de- ent, at whose head a very able and rly gentleman presides in the per- the Hon. Col. Baker, but merely w the notice of the authorities to t that there is great discontent in circles on the above subject, par- rly at the present time when other tant subjects are crowded out and thereby suffer.

ve heard talk from these little 10- ld children who have recently d the subject, which is simply lous, though they are hardly to when they find such illustrations nd to divert their minds in that el? Some children have actually sed their disapproval before their s, not from any dislike of the sub- ut that such cuts should be per- in a text book and circulated infants.

ACRE.

SPECTIVE COMPETITION.

HINGTON, March 16.—An interest- mplication is said likely to arise near future between the British sy and the Spanish legation here he filibustering steamer Bermuda. cent prolonged trip of the Ber- from Philadelphia to Bermuda ck to Fernardino is a mystery yet olved; but it is said to be certain he did not take on an army of rom the United States. If she en engaged in filibustering she have taken on her cargo and men high seas. As the Bermuda is a vessel she is believed to be liable their foreign enlistment act rather he American neutral law, it is ex- the British and Spanish diplo- here will exchange notes on the t. Last summer the British em- took away the Bermuda's register he representations of the Spanish ment but it was restored a few s ago at Halifax.

RRORS OF RHEUMATISM.

dy Which is Instantaneous and Per- nent in Effect—A Calgary Resident, plied for Three Years Becomes Strong n Athlete.

stble or mysterious force could be biraculous in its effects than is South on Cure in all cases of rheumatism. A. Anderson, of Calgary, N. W. T., at seven or eight years ago he be- afflicted with rheumatism, and for ears it made him a cripple, so that to use a stick to get about. In his rds: "I suffered untold misery, and treated by the best physicians in ntry, and I spent a term in the hos- covery seemed as hopless as ever. d recommended South American atic Cure. It gave help immediate- after the second bottle I threw away k. To-day I am as strong as an ath- rice 75 cents.

by Dean & Hiscocks and Hall & Co.

t once try Carter's Little Liver Pills eadache, biliousness or constipation, never be without them. They are vegetable, small and easy to take. reet this.

BIRTH.

D—On March 12, at 128 Richardson t, the wife of J. K. Worsfold, of a son.

On the 16th inst., at 15 Stanley avenue, wife of F. H. Coles, of a daughter.

DIED.

—On the 11th instant, at the residence of aughter, Mrs. H. Nixon Lampson street, umalt district, Thos. B. Tansey, a na- of Prescott, England, aged 55 years.

Jubilee Hospital, on the 16th inst., ander Hill, a native of Forfarshire, and, aged 47 years.

The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

THIRTY-NINTH YEAR. VICTORIA BRITISH COLUMBIA MONDAY MARCH 22 1897. VOLUME XXXIX. NO. 28.

UNMEASURED CENSURE

The Liberal Press of London Indignant at the Blockade of Crete.

"Black Sunday" the Title for the Day That Sees It Enforced.

LONDON, March 20.—The Cretan imbroglio remains the question of the hour, and the enforcing of the blockade of the island of Crete from to-morrow is expected to give rise to exciting incidents in the endeavors of the Greeks to run the blockade. The official London Gazette, organ of the government, publishes a special supplement to-day announcing that the blockade of the island of Crete by the warships of the powers will commence to-morrow. This applies only to vessels under the Greek flag. Vessels under neutral flags may land goods on the island, provided such merchandise is not intended for the use of the Greek troops.

The Liberal newspapers continue their protest against Great Britain taking any part in the blockade, and one paper puts its announcement of the blockade in the strong terms: "The devil's work begins on Sunday," while another paper dubs to-morrow "Black Sunday."

It is understood that the Greek gunboats which have been hovering around Crete and which are now coaling at Cerigo will be ordered to keep outside the ten-mile limit or be rammed by the foreign warships.

The pamphlet of the Rt. Hon. William E. Gladstone on the Cretan question is said by his opponents to have done little good and his ideas are repudiated even by some of the Liberal newspapers. The Daily News for instance says: "When we turn to the pamphlet for guidance we are not sure he will command universal agreement. If Mr. Gladstone advocates the simple abstention of Great Britain, we fear that the only result will be impotence. If he wants isolated action it means the imminent risk of a great, perhaps universal war."

These remarks are from the official organ of the Liberal party—the Conservative newspapers naturally denounce Mr. Gladstone's so-called "interference" in measured terms.

From various quarters comes the statement that the comparative clemency of the powers and their slowness in applying coercion to Greece is due to Russian influence. It was the Marquis of Salisbury, it is understood, who prevailed upon the powers to agree not to apply coercion to Greece first, but to await the effect of the Cretan blockade.

The Paris Figaro even asserts that this insistence of Lord Salisbury's caused a slight ruffling with the other powers and the paper mentioned also affirms that the British premier wishes to enter into negotiation with King George, with a view of determining upon the Turkish evacuation of Crete, when Greece could recall Col. Vassos without great sacrifice of her amour propre.

In the meanwhile all the powers are increasing their naval forces in the Levant. The Austrian squadron will shortly be increased by three torpedo boats, and more British warships are ready to leave Malta eastwards.

Some details of the secret organization known as the Helniki Heteria, or National League of Greece, which is playing an important part in Hellenic politics, have been published. At first the organization consisted merely of a small secret committee of adventurous officers, but it has since grown rapidly, until in 1896 it showed its power by fomenting trouble in Crete and Macedonia. It now counts 1,900 out of 2,000 officers of the Greek army among its members, besides nearly the entire Greek nation.

Its extraordinary development was greatly facilitated by the Olympian games, which aroused considerable patriotic feeling. The Helniki Heteria is divided into four degrees, and the members of each obey the others of a superior degree without knowing where they emanate. It is stated that King George doubted the power of the league until some of its leading members told him plainly that if he did not march resolutely at the head of his people, the Helniki Heteria would depose him. It is believed in many quarters that this organization will really decide whether there will be war with Turkey or not.

NOT AT ALL DISTURBED.

LONDON, March 20.—A petition promoted by Rev. Dr. Kennedy Moore will be presented at the coming Presbyterian synod against Rev. Dr. John Watson (Ian Maclaren), on the ground of hetrodox (heretical) teaching in "Mind and Matter" and the "Bonnie Brier Bush." Dr. Moore, in reply to a communication on the subject, says:

"The petition directs the attention of the synod to the fact that Dr. Watson has not repudiated the public charge that his teaching tends to Unitarianism. If the business committee of the synod rejects the petition, the promoters intend to raise the matter and force a discussion.

Dr. Watson in an interview says: "I am quite prepared to answer any charges. All I can say now is that it is a matter on which I am not gravely concerned."

CARRIED NO PASSENGERS.

BREST, March 20.—Later advices received here to-day show that the Dutch steamer Utrecht which is supposed to have foundered off Ushant, wreckage having been washed upon the French coast marked "Utrecht," did not carry passengers. The steamer was bound for Java from Rotterdam, and had a crew of 36 men.

LONDON PRESS OPINIONS.

LONDON, March 20.—Most of the weekly newspapers commenting [illegible] President McKinley's p[illegible] Speaker says: "The tariff bill shows in at least wool and sugar that the prime object is protection." Continuing the Speaker asks if the duties on sugar are intended as "payment to the trusts for support during the campaign."

The Statist maintains that the past deficits were mainly caused by "the disorder of the currency which led to two panics," adding, "if the currency is restored to order confidence will revive, trade will improve and the revenue will augument. Unless the new bill greatly differs from that of 1890, sooner or later it will create general dissatisfaction and will lead to another tariff agitation. The bill, if passed, will not have the results expected by Mr. McKinley. If the war alarms abate, the currency is restored to order and trade throughout the world revives, then the United States will share in the prosperity without a tariff bill."

TRADE AND THE TARIFF

The Liberal Ideal of an Impost for Revenue Only Still Far Distant.

A Readjustment Rather Than a New Policy in the Coming Legislation.

OTTAWA, March 20.—(Special.)—The new tariff measure is nearly ready and when brought down will be found to be far from approaching the Liberal ideal of a tariff for revenue only, as the government, when they got down to bedrock, found that their catch cry would not work. The bill will be found to partake generally of the nature of a readjustment—while some duties will be lowered, in many cases there will be increases.

PEOPLE OF PROMINENCE.

Mr. Watson Crosby, Patron member of the Manitoba legislature for Dennis constituency, died yesterday morning. The deceased had resided at Virden, but was taken ill after his arrival for the sessional duties at the Prairie capital. He was unmarried, aged 40, and a native of Prince Edward Island. It is hinted that Hon. Hugh John Macdonald may contest the vacant constituency as represented by a Conservative up to the last election, when a triangular fight occurred, Crosby the Patron being elected by a small majority.

Sir Donald A. Smith, high commissioner for Canada, returned to Montreal yesterday morning. He does not know how long he will remain in Canada, but will probably go to Ottawa to-day to have an interview with the premier. Canadians in London, he says, are very anxious that Hon. Mr. Laurier should visit England this summer.

F. A. Heinze, proprietor of the smelter at Trail, is in Montreal. He has bought the controlling interest in the Columbia and Kootenay property at Rossland, capitalized with 21,500 shares at $100 each.

The report is current in Winnipeg that General Superintendent White of the Western division of the C.P.R., may succeed General Superintendent Abbott of the Pacific division.

The second anniversary of Archbishop Langevin's consecration to the see of St. Boniface was celebrated yesterday in St. Boniface. Yesterday morning high mass was celebrated in the cathedral, and last night there was a reception in Tache academy.

Hon. Justice Osler will succeed to the chief justiceship of the Ontario court of appeals, while Charles Moss, Q.C., will secure the vacant judgeship.

John Grant, steward to His Excellency the Governor-General, and poet laureate for the Haddo club, goes to Scotland as emigration agent for the Dominion. Grant came over to Canada with Lord Aberdeen.

Judge Tachereau emphatically denies the report published by the government press that he is going to resign from the supreme court bench.

DOINGS OF THE DOMINION.

TORONTO, March 19.—According to the provisions of the new joint stock company's bill now before the legislature, directors and promoters of such companies will be held responsible for the contents of any prospectus issued by them, and may be held liable for damages sustained by reason of any untrue statement regarding such company published while they act as directors.

TORONTO, March 19.—The private bills committee of the legislature this afternoon granted the request of the Kingstonians to be allowed to bonus an elevator to the extent of $25,000. The building will be immediately erected at a cost of $100,000.

WINNIPEG, March 19.—The agitation for the speedy completion of the Manitoba and Northwestern railway is being revived in Saskatchewan.

TORONTO, March 19.—The sale of the Jumbo mine for $500,000 is reported as an accomplished fact. This is about the par value of the shares.

WOODSTOCK, March 19.—Miss Ada Lindsay, aged 20, of Seora, drove into town yesterday with her affianced, David Thompson, to purchase her wedding garments and to procure a license for the wedding on the 30th instant. On the way home the horse ran away and both were thrown out. Thompson was badly hurt, but will recover, while Miss Lindsay had her skull fractured and her death is expected at any time.

BRITAIN'S POSITION.

The Leader of the Government Replies to the Earl of Kimberley's Recent Address.

England's Duty to Maintain the Federated Action of Europe For Peace.

LONDON, March 19.—The Marquis of Salisbury in the House of Lords to-day complained of a speech of the Earl of Kimberley, the Liberal leader in the house, made recently before the meeting of the National Liberal Federation at Norwich, claiming that Lord Kimberley misrepresented his remarks by declaring that he had referred him to the speeches of M. Meline, the French premier, and M. Hanotaux, the French minister for foreign affairs in the chamber of deputies, for an explanation of the policy which the government of Great Britain had followed in regard to the Cretan question.

Lord Salisbury said he considered Lord Kimberley's action in the matter to be something of an outrage. Lord Kimberley, he continued, had not asked him for a personal statement of the policy which the government intend to pursue, but his lordship had questioned him as to the course the powers had decided to adopt with respect to Crete and he (Lord Salisbury) had replied that the only fact not formally known to the house was that the admirals had been instructed to blockade the island of Crete, adding that beyond that an admirable statement of the policy of the powers would be found in the speeches of the French statesmen mentioned.

Another statement of Lord Kimberley's, continued the Premier, was that he had found from the statement made by M. Hanotaux, that the policy of the powers was to maintain the integrity of the Ottoman empire, and that he refused to accept a policy with that end in view. This, said the Premier, was a momentous statement, and if made at all should be made in Parliament. Lord Kimberley himself, the Marquis of Salisbury added, was a member of the government by which the integrity of Turkey was made part of the law of Europe. He (Lord Kimberley) had held office repeatedly since then, and the Marquis of Salisbury was not aware that he had ever repudiated the policy which his chief and government had adopted.

It was true, the Premier said, that the Sultan had been [illegible] adopted policy was to be abandoned because the Turkish government had committed acts deserving of deepest condemnation, he thought the policy referred to had either been very lightly adopted, or had been lightly abandoned. Lord Kimberley might possibly again hold the position of foreign minister, would he then announce that he was pledged to disregard the policy which had been so solemnly adopted? A graver statement could not be made, and he deprecated it.

The Premier also said that Lord Kimberley had dealt a heavy blow to the policy of the government, and added: "For the first time a man who has been a foreign minister, and will probably be so again, has declared in the face of Europe that he disregarded an engagement and would tear it up, if it wish to sever myself from that declaration. I do not hold that the doctrine of the integrity of Turkey could not be modified in the future, but it would be with the consent of the powers who believed that if international law was not kept the peace of Europe was worth a very few years' purchase.

"I feel, therefore, that it is the duty of England to sustain the federated action of Europe, which has suffered from the somewhat absurd—same honourable Federated action is the sole hope of escaping from constant terror of the calamity of war and the constant pressure of the burden of armed peace. Treaties must not be created like waste paper, to be torn asunder at will. They must not be overthrown by the mere will of an outside power. Whatever measures the federation of Europe may in the future think right to make with respect to the integrity of Turkey, England will not be a party to a violation of her integrity, as it is by the most solemn congresses and negotiations, which should have impressed their value upon every mind, that the policy England had persistently pursued was founded."

Lord Kimberley in reply disclaimed having intentionally misrepresented Lord Lalisbury. He added that the different governments forming the concert of powers might accede to a course upon which they were all agreed on different grounds, and, he explained, he was disappointed at being referred to M. Hanotaux and M. Meline, whose statements after all were only a declaration of the policy of the powers generally, and of France in particular. He admitted that his statement regarding the integrity of Turkey was very grave, but he made it with a full sense of his responsibility, because he meant to disassociate the Liberals plainly and distinctly in the future from a policy upon which, no doubt, their course respecting Turkey was based in the past.

Several provinces, he continued, had already been severed from the Turkish empire and it did not follow, necessarily, because it was said the policy of Great Britain should not be based upon the integrity of Turkey, that they ought to tear Turkey to pieces. But he believed the time had come when it was the duty of men who thought as he did, to disconnect Great Britain from the policy of protecting the integrity of the Turkish empire.

The house then adjourned.

HAMILTON, March 20.—Special.—Charles Curran, a Grand Trunk switchman, died in the hospital to-day of injuries received in the station yard.

THE PAPAL ABLEGATE.

An Interview Causes Considerable Comment—His Views of the Manitoba School Question.

Sir Donald Smith Expresses a Good Opinion of the Pope's Choice Of a Man.

MONTREAL, March 19.—The interview with Monsigneur Merri del Val, the Papal ablegate to Canada, cabled from London by the Associated Press has caused much comment here. His criticisms upon the action of the Manitoba legislature though laughed at by some, are well-founded in fact. The judgment of the Privy Council was simply that the Dominion government had power to redress the grievances complained of by the Manitoba minority caused by the act of 1890 abolishing separate schools, and establishing a union or public schools system. It was held that the act admitting Manitoba to the confederation had guaranteed certain privileges to the minority in regard to their schools.

The judgment of the privy council, however, in carefully chosen words stated that it was not in their province to suggest the means to be adopted to redress these grievances; it simply held that the Dominion Parliament was competent to adopt measures of redress. The act now being passed by the Manitoba legislature embodies a basis of compromise, redressing these grievances agreed upon by the Manitoba government and the Dominion government by enacting this compromise into law. The Manitoba government, it is held by constitutional authority there, will effectually debar the Dominion government from interfering further in the school laws of Manitoba, no matter what ground of complaint the minority may have. The papal ablegate, however, will still have the question of the interference of the bishops in elections and with the civil rights of their flocks to adjudicate upon. The signs of revolt against the iron rule of the bishops are observable on all hands. Sir Donald A. Smith, Canadian high commissioner to England, who reached home to-day, in an interview said:

"I have heard something of the new papal ablegate before I left London. Everyone speaks of him as a man eminently fitted for the task which has been assigned to him, and I believe he will prove to Canada determined to investigate the school question, and to do something which will give satisfaction to every one. I do not know whether they thoroughly understand the Manitoba school question over in England, but then that is not to be wondered at, for they have a school question of their own over there which keeps them busy all the time. I am sure, however, that the Roman Catholics there, and a certain section of the Church of England, would be only too glad to get the concessions which have been made to the minority of Manitoba by the agreement."

FLEEING IN THE DARKNESS.

OMAHA, March 19.—Special telegrams to the Bee from all points in the Northwest indicate that the bonds of winter were simultaneously broken up yesterday and the streams that have been bound in from ice for months have suddenly turned to raging torrents. The most reports come from South Dakota. Along the Missouri last night the settlers fled in the darkness from the rapidly increasing floods, and nothing definite can be told further. The snow that capped the state lay from four to six feet deep on the level. Two days of warm weather with two nights of rain have set all this running to the rivers.

At Pierre, the Cheyenne and Red rivers; at Chamberlain, the White; at Yankton, the Big and Little Sioux rivers, and the Floyd at Sioux City, are pouring their torrents onto the ice in the Missouri, which has not yet broken. The lowlands are flooded and the rivers are rising with frightful rapidity. The Platte river is over its usual spring height and is rushing into the Missouri, carrying with it the debris of wrecked bridges and farm yards in its valley. The Elkhorn adds its flood to the Platte, and all the valleys seem to be afloat. From Iowa come stories of ice gorges on the Des Moines river at Fort Dodge and Madrid, flooding miles of the bottoms and doing great damage. So far as is known only one life has been lost—Harry Favill, a farmer of Dixon county, who was drowned while trying to cross a bridge over a swollen stream.

CALMING THE KAISER.

BERLIN, March 19.—Chancellor von Hohenlohe's influence succeeded in calming the Kaiser and averting a ministerial crisis after yesterday's discussion in the reichstag. There is no doubt that a majority of this body will adopt the resolutions of the budget committee and refuse most of the new warships. In consequence, however, of Hohenlohe's circumspection, the government will take matters quietly. There will be neither dissolutions nor a ministerial crisis, but the government is resolved to construct all the warships even though refused by the reichstag.

OTTAWA, March 20.—(Special)—The Royal Canadian infantry at Fredericton are to exchange with a company of the Berkshire regiment at Halifax, for instructional purposes.

"Success is the reward of merit" not of assumption. Popular appreciation is what tells in the long run. For fifty years, people have been using Ayer's Sarsaparilla, and to-day it is the blood-purifier most in favor with the public. Ayer's Sarsaparilla cures.

AFTER HALF A CENTURY.

MONTREAL, March 19.—The golden wedding of the ex-principal of McGill college, Sir William Dawson, and Lady Dawson, was quietly observed today by a gathering of his eight children and thirteen grandchildren at the home. The old scientist was, however, the recipient of many telegrams and cablegrams of congratulation of scholars of note, personal friends, and former students both in America and Europe, and many prominent citizens called to extend their good wishes, while thousands of symbolical yellow daffodils and tulips were sent. The governors of McGill sent a deputation with an address and a beautiful double inkstand on a solid gold tray, one showing the two homely buildings of McGill a century ago in the midst of fields, and the other the extensive groups of buildings forming the university of to-day.

FATHERLAND EN FETE.

Subjects of the Kaiser Gather at Berlin From Far and Near,

To Do Honor to the Memory of "The Old Emperor."

BERLIN, March 20.—Berlin is already crowded with strangers who have come here to view the three days' celebration of the centennary fetes. According to the expressed desire of the Emperor the centennary celebration in honor of his grandfather, the late emperor, will last three days. On the 21st special divine services will be held in every church in the empire, and all the school children are to be bidden to attend them.

The unveiling ceremonies will take place during the forenoon of the 22nd, the programme having been drawn up under the personal supervision of the Emperor. The exercises will begin at 10:30 under a magnificent tent which is to be erected in front of that main portal of the Schloss, facing the monument. The unveiling will be of a great national monument erected to the memory of William I, on the Schloss Freiheit, directly opposite the royal castle at Berlin.

Among the royal personages attending the ceremonies will be the Empress, Empress Frederick, the kings of Saxony and Wurtemberg and the prince regent of Bavaria, besides the grand dukes of Baden, of Hesse, etc. The Emperor will briefly review the troops and then lead a select body of them, bearing the colors and flags, to the place in front of the monument. He will then take his position on horseback directly in front of the royal tent facing the monument, and will order the unveiling and as soon as this is accomplished the troops present will file past the Emperor, concluding the ceremony.

During the ceremony the monument will show, on both sides, the colors and flags taken in 1870-71, and these will be surrounded by a circle taken from the French, ornamented with oak leaves.

In the evening there will be a gala performance at the opera house of a dramatic legend by Wilder Bruch, entitled "William the German." Music especially composed by Hummel will be played for the first time; all the royal personages will attend, and the audience will be invited guests of the emperor, all in gala attire. A series of festivities have been arranged for by the municipal council board and a committee representing the citizens.

The city will be decorated and illuminated, particularly in the case of municipal buildings during the three days, all citizens having been required to take part in this display. The city, at an expense of 12,000 marks, have fitted up a triumphal way "unter den linden," and jointly with the citizen's committee, the municipal council have made arrangements for a large procession on the 23rd. The Emperor will review it from the foot of the unveiled monument.

On the evening of the 23rd a large torchlight procession will be formed by the students of all the academies and universities of Berlin, who will parade before the Emperor past the castle.

Germans in foreign parts are sharing in the festivities, and wreaths from those in the United States, Central America, Canada, South Africa, Brazil, Colombia, Australia and elsewhere will be laid at the foot of the monument.

LOYAL TO LABRECQUE.

QUEBEC, March 20.—Bishop Labrecque, of Chilcoutimi, who recently placed L'Electeur, L'Soleil, Le Cultivateur and La Patrie under the ban, has received an address signed by all the priests of his diocese, expressing their satisfaction at the firm action taken by His Lordship with regard to the question of Manitoba schools, and the vigorous campaign which he has inaugurated against those newspapers, and assuring him of their perfect unanimity of ideas on the subject both in words and actions.

CASTORIA
For Infants and Children.
The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.

WINNIPEG, March 20.—(Special)—White & Co., general store, Sault Ste. Marie, assigned to-day to J. G. Hay, Toronto. The liabilities are about $20,000, and there will be a deficit of about $7,000.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER
Absolutely Pure
Celebrated for its great leavening strength and healthfulness. Assures the food against alum and all forms of adulteration common to the cheap brands. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

THE FATHER OF WATERS

Barriers Go Down at Memphis Before the Rush of the Mighty Mississippi.

Rivers Throughout the Northwest Overflow Their Banks, Causing Great Havoc and Fatality.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., March 19.—Rumors of a sensational nature are afloat to-day as to the breaking of the levees above and below this city, and of considerable damage to property and stock. So far these reports have not been verified in full, but sufficient is known to warrant the statement that before nightfall an additional 200 square miles of territory will be submerged. In the territory covered by the relief steamers under supervision of the citizens relief committee of Memphis, appalling facts came to light this morning. Drownings of colored men, women and children are officially reported until the list now numbers half a hundred. The relief committee have thus far ample funds to feed and clothe all the afflicted now in the city, but the work is necessarily slow because of the difficulty in controlling the ignorent refugees and preventing them from spreading over the city, soliciting alms of individuals. Telegrams from points 65 miles south of this place asked for steamers to rescue people left by the last trip of the boats. Two steamers were despatched post haste, and are expected to return at midnight with several hundred persons and a lot of stock, if the time can be spared to rescue the latter. The government is aiding the city in the work of rescue.

READY TO SHAKE HANDS.

CARACAS, Venezuela, March 19.—The resumption of diplomatic relations between France and Venezuela is being vigorously pushed, the government here being favorably inclined towards the renewal of friendly relations with France. Notwithstanding the suspension of friendly relations between the two countries, Dr. Jinan Pietrie, who was recently appointed Venezuelan minister to Great Britain, was received by M. Hanotaux, the French minister of foreign affairs in Paris, who gave him a memorandum containing the basis on which France is willing to negotiate the resumption of diplomatic relations. Shortly after his arrival in Caracas, Dr. Pietrie was received by the President and cabinet and there read the proposals. It is stated that the clauses proposed by the French government have been accepted by the Venezuelan government.

MONTANA'S STOCK RANGES.

HELENA, Mont., March 19.—Nothing could have suited the stock men of Montana better than the Chinook which has just passed over the state. Away up north range matters are in a deplorable condition. As regards stock, they could hardly be worse. It is something awful. The losses already entailed by stock dying have been enormous, and will continue to increase at a rapid rate unless the present warm spell continues for some time. During the past few weeks cattle on ranges have been dying by the hundreds of actual starvation and cold. State Land Agent J. M. Page said the situation is hardly appreciable by any but those who are acquainted with the ranges and live by the stock industry. According to his idea, at least 30 per cent of the cattle on the ranges have perished since last fall.

MUTINOUS PRISONERS.

LONDON, March 20.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Madrid, dated the 19th, says that there was a revolt among the prisoners in the Bilibid jail, near Manila, on Thursday. They killed the keeper of the prison, seized all the arms that were available, and rushed into the street, but only to meet a strong body of soldiers. A stubborn fight ensued, in which several mutineers were killed.

MANCHESTER AND MONTREAL.

LONDON, March 19.—The regular fortnightly service between Manchester and Montreal commences the opening of navigation in the St. Lawrence. The steamers engaged are the Cynthia, Straits of Menai, Antwerp City, Baltimore City, and Ripon City. Canada, it is said, must benefit by the competition between Liverpool and Manchester.