PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Third Session of the Seventh Parliament.

SEVENTEENTH DAY.

THURSDAY, March 4, 1897.

The Speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock. Prayers by Rev. W. Leslie Clay.

Mr. Booth presented the following report from the private bill committee:

"Your committee recommend that the time for the reception of reports upon private bills be extended for two weeks from the 8th day of March." The report was read and received.

Mr. Forster asked the Hon. the Minister of Finance:

Whether the deposit of J. W. Carey, who ran in opposition to Hon. D. M. Eberts for the District of South Victoria in the provincial election, 1894, was forfeited?

If not, why not?

The Premier—"Yes, the sum of $200 was paid into the treasury on the 20th August, 1894."

Hon. G. B. Martin presented the return relating to the Burnaby small holdings.

A note appended to the return states that 61 of these blocks or small holdings are at present under lease. The report of the assistant government agent for the New Westminster district shows that 50 of the lessees have resided and made improvements upon their holdings, and that the lessees of the remaining 11 blocks have either not improved or not occupied the land. On June 26, 1895, one lessee paid rental from September 1, 1894, to August 31, 1895. No other payments have been made by any of the lessees. A notice calling their attention to the fact that the rentals were due, was sent them in December last, but no payment has been made. The settlers in their replies all regretted their inability to make payments. The report of the agent referred to above is of a detailed and thorough inspection which he and Mr. Robson, of New Westminster, made with a view to ascertaining the nature and extent of the improvements made on the various small holdings. The report gives the number of acres held by each settler, what kind of house is upon the land, the buildings, the extent of clearing, what ditching has been performed, and other and minor matters. Reporting generally the agent says he found the settlement well improved the buildings, particularly dwellings being substantial and, in some instances, equal to the average of the neighboring cities. The clearings have been well done, and made under the trying conditions inseparable from such work in a locality where large stumps are the rule, not the exception. Attention is called to the excellence of the fencing and of the ditching, but the necessity for more of the latter is apparent in several places. In almost every instance the settlers have in the past been clearing up their frontages, all more or less heavily timbered, and the government agent predicts that in future the work of clearing may be expected to proceed more rapidly than it has done in the past.

The debate on Dr. Walkem's motion "that in the opinion of the house a tax upon mortgages is one which bears unduly upon different members of a community," was adjourned till the next sitting.

The adjourned debate on Dr. Walkem's motion, "that an order of this house be granted for a return of the copy of the securities stated by the Hon. the Provincial Secretary to have been deposited with the government on the 10th January, 1891, and regularly renewed, for the faithful performance of the duties of official administrators of intestate estates—vide Journals of the B.C. House of Assembly, 1895, page 87," was next take up.

The Attorney-General, in continuing the debate, explained the circumstances in connection with the Blakaway estate, which Dr. Walkem referred to the other day. J. P. Planta, of Nanaimo, was made administrator of the estate in question, explained the Attorney-General, on Dec. 18, 1891, but only under the usual letters of administration that can be applied for to the courts, and not as official administrator. As official administrator Mr. Planta had given securities for the due performance of his duties in 1890 and in 1893 these bonds were renewed as required by law. When the investigation and arrest of Planta came, in 1895, it was impossible to renew the bond because Planta was at that time suspended. The government had pressed the charges against Planta as strongly as they were able.

Dr. Walkem, in closing the debate, said that while he did not say that the government were wholly to blame in the matter because they had had complete confidence in Planta, and for that matter so had everyone else, yet his returns were too loosely made, and what he (Dr. Walkem) wanted to know was whether the government was ready to make good to the helpless orphan of Blakeway the money that Planta had not accounted for.

The resolution was carried.

On consideration of the report of the bill to amend the "Lillooet, Fraser River and Cariboo Gold Fields, Limited, Act, 1896," Mr. Macpherson moved to add the following as new sections:

"2: This act is passed upon the express understanding that no Chinese or Japanese shall be employed in or about or concerning any works or services authorized by this act, or required by the company to be done or performed. In the event of any Chinese or Japanese being employed by the company, the company shall be liable, upon summary conviction before any two justices of the peace, or functionary having the power of two justices of the peace, upon the oath or affirmation of one or more credible witness or witnesses, to a penalty not exceeding twenty-five dollars, nor less than ten dollars, for every Chinese or Japanese employed; and in default of the immediate payment of the penalty, the same may be levied by distress and the sale of the goods and chattels of the company; and in the event of any Chinese or Japanese being employed by any of the company's contractors or subcontractors, contrary to the provisions of this act, then any such contractor or subcontractor shall be liable, on summary conviction as aforesaid, to a penalty not exceeding twenty-five dollars, nor less than ten dollars, for every Chinese or Japanese employed; and in case of default in immediate payment of such last mentioned penalty, the same may be recovered by distress and sale of the goods and chattels of the offender; and in default of sufficient distress, the offender may be committed to any jail or place of confinement situate within the territorial jurisdiction of the convicting justices, and there imprisoned for any term not exceeding thirty days; and any director or officer of the company who causes or procures any Chinese or Japanese to be employed, contrary to the provisions of this act, or permits or connives at such employment, shall be liable, upon summary conviction as aforesaid, to the like penalties as hereinbefore in this section provided, recoverable in manner secondly hereinbefore mentioned.

"3. The offender shall be liable to separate and successive penalties for each and every day during which any Chinese or Japanese shall be employed.

"4. The word 'Chinese' wherever used in this act, shall mean any native of the Chinese empire or its dependencies not born of British parents, and shall include any person of the Chinese race; and the term 'Japanese,' wherever used in this act, shall mean any native of the Japanese empire or its dependencies not born of British parents, and shall include any person of the Japanese race."

At the request of Mr. Rogers the debate was adjourned.

At half-past three, His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor arrived and assented to the following bills:

"An Act for the Speedy Incorporation of Towns."

"An Act to specifically correct an ambiguity in the B. C. Southern Railway Aid Act, 1894."

The private bills committee recommended that the rules be suspended to allow the presentation of the petition of the Yukon Trading Co., for a private bill for the incorporation of a railway at Taku inlet.

The report was read and received.

The standing orders were suspended to allow Mr. McGregor to present a petition for the introduction of a bill to incorporate the Alberni-Nanaimo railway.

The petition was read and received and referred to the private bills committee. The house then adjourned till Monday to give the private bills committee and railway committee time to consider and report on some of the bills before them.

LEGISLATIVE NOTES.

Dr. Walkem has a case in regard to the action of the former official administrator at Nanaimo calling for the sympathy of all, but the difficulty is that if his request were complied with and the province should make good to the heir the squandered estate, there is no telling where that sort of thing would stop. It is enough for the legislature to provide means whereby people may be protected in their rights. The safeguarding of these rights must be left to individuals.

Mr. Macpherson's amendment to prevent the employment of Chinese by the Lillooet-Fraser River and Cariboo Gold Fields Company looks like a piece of special legislation, and will be unjust to that company if it is not followed by a general law on the subject putting all companies on the same footing in this respect.

Three cities were born yesterday when Governor Dewdney came down and gave his assent to the bills incorporating Nelson, Rossland and Grand Forks.

The gubernatorial assent was also given to the British Columbia Southern ambiguity bill.

In order to give the private bills committee a chance to catch up with its work the house has adjourned over until Monday.

G. A. MEIGS KILLED.

G. A. Meigs, formerly owner of the Port Madison mill, was killed on Wednesday night at the foot of Spring street, on the water front. He was found lying on the deck of the steamer Rapid Transit, his head in a pool of blood. It was evident that he had gone off the end of the wharf in the darkness, and struck head first. No one saw him fall, no one heard him cry out, but that death was accidental is indicated strongly by the fact that a magnificent gold watch with a diamond push, and a long, solid gold chain, in addition to money were found on his person. His identity was not established until he was taken to Butterworth's undertaking rooms, where a man who knew him said that there was no question about it being the Madison mill man. The watch also had the initials "G. A. M." A pass, issued by the Northwest Steamship Company and signed by H. F. Jackson for the year 1897 and addressed to G. A. Meigs, was in his vest pocket. Letters, one of which was from Battle & Shipley, in regard to the libel recently filed against the steamer Detroit, which is owned by Meigs, shows his identity to be Meigs.

There seems to be no reason for supposing that Mr. Meigs' death was strange and mysterious. He probably accidentally fell off the wharf and struck his head on the deck of the Rapid Transit. That is the plain, straight theory to be deduced from what is known, and it is the theory believed by Deputy Coroner Yandell.

G. A. Meigs was a venerable old man, and by many he was called the pioneer sawmill man of Puget Sound. For more than forty years he has been one of the best known men on the Sound. At one time he was considered very wealthy. He had full charge of the big mill and owned ships. It is said, however, that he suffered in common with other business men in late years, and that his wealth, in part, at least, had melted away.—Post-Intelligencer.

NICARAGUA CANAL.

WASHINGTON, March 3.—The President to-day sent to the Senate the correspondence on file in the department of state relative to the Nicaragua canal. Probably the most important part of the correspondence is a communication from Mr. Baker to Secretary Olney, dated Feb. 3, 1896, in which he details an interview with President Zelaya, of Nicaragua, in which the latter stated that he had taken the opinion of a commission of three lawyers, who agreed that the Maritime Canal Company had forfeited its concessions by its failure to do any work for many years. Mr. Zelaya then expressed to Mr. Baker the hope that the United States government would take up the enterprise. He said it could be very easily arranged to have the contract transferred to the government of this country as he had reached the conclusion that only a great government could put the work through.

[From THE DAILY COLONIST, March 5.]

THE QUEEN VS. PUEBLA

An Unsuccessful Attempt Made by the Former to Lower the Latter's Record.

Chinamen Brought by the Mount Lebanon Refused a Landing at Victoria.

A factional feeling pervaded the crew of the steamship Queen when she arrived yesterday afternoon, resulting from the behavior of the ship on the voyage and through the fact that a mixed crew was aboard. Captain Debney, of the City of Puebla, the flyer of the Pacific Coast fleet, which vessel the Queen is now relieving, was aboard as were also his regular assistant officers. But in the engine room every man from the chief to the firemen were the Queen's and they were strongly of the opinion when leaving the Bay City that if wind and sea were favorable the voyage would throw the record trip of the Puebla into the shade. Captain Debney had his doubts about the ship's capabilities for an enormous sum had but a few months ago been expended in renewing and improving the vessel's machinery. Notwithstanding he was determined on giving the ship a fair test, conseling himself at the same time with the belief that when the Puebla re-entered service she will be swifter than ever before. The Queen accordingly was faced North with her engines developing their topmost speed. The weather continued fine but the Puebla people though a little faint-hearted at first soon learned that their good ship was not to be beaten. Instead of coming into port a few hours ahead of the Puebla's time of arrival, the Queen did not reach Victoria until 2 o'clock, nearly four hours behind the Puebla's record. In the Queen's engine room has the greatest change in her recent overhaul been effected. Her machinery is entirely new and is much more compact than the old plan, saving nearly 200 tons in measurement. It is economical, too, in the use of coal, and in smoothness of running the change is as noticeable almost as in any other way. Rolling chalks have been placed on the ship's bottom, which give her a much steadier motion than heretofore. The steamer brought for Victoria besides a good number of passengers over 112 tons of freight.

REFUSED A LANDING.

Fourteen Chinamen, who were brought across the Pacific on the O. R. & N. steamship Mount Lebanon, which arrived at Portland last week, have had difficulty in landing at Victoria, their destination. They were sent on here without certificates of health, and without anything to show that their $50 head tax had been paid. The steamship company's Chinese agent would have nothing to do with them, and Collector Milne, after a good deal of worry and bother, decided to reject the men. After going back to the Sound, and spending a day at the Diamond Point quarantine station, the Chinese were reshipped to Victoria, but this time everything was in readiness here for their reception. There is no United States quarantine officer at Portland, and inspections are there made by a local or state officer. This was done in the present instance, and the Chinese were sent over to Tacoma in charge of two customs officers, who delivered them over to the charge of Inspector Dorsey, on the City of Kingston. The fact that they were sent over by the authorities may have been prima facie evidence that they had been regularly inspected and had passed quarantine, but their baggage did not bear the official mark of quarantine. The poll tax of the men had been settled for with the steamship agents at Hongkong, and this matter was found all adjusted for the customs officials by the time the Mongolians returned from the Sound.

THE WHALING AND FISHING INDUSTRY.

Whalers and cannery vessels are commencing to fit out for their Northern voyages, says a San Francisco dispatch. Business ventures in the Northern seas will be more numerous this year than usual. The steamer Jeanne has left for some unannounced place in Alaska, where she has taken materials for a new salmon cannery, as well as stores for the season. The cannery is to be established by the Pacific Steam Whaling Company, which is fighting the Alaska Packers' Association in the salmon business. The rivalry between the two companies has resulted in quite a fight to secure the services of the best fishermen on the coast. The Pacific Steam Whaling Company is paying $15 a month for each man, 5 cents each for salmon and 7 cents each for king salmon. The Alaska Packers' Association is paying a bonus of $50 to each fisherman for the trip, 4 cents for each salmon and 10 cents for each king salmon caught. It is estimated that the two companies will take from 2,000 to 2,500 men off to the front. This includes whalers, sailors, salmon fishermen and Chinese cannery hands.

FULL COURT.

The appeal in Kinney v. Harris, affecting the ownership of the Slocan Sovereign mining claim, was before the Full court yesterday. This case was an adverse mining claim to the ground located by plaintiff as the Slocan Sovereign and by the defendant as the Omega. On March 11, 1896, Judge Spinks, sitting at Kaslo, gave judgment establishing the right of plaintiff to the ownership of the ground. Defendant yesterday made an application to allow an appeal from the judgment. Notice had been given by the defendant of an appeal within the required time for the sitting of the Full court next after Judge Spinks' judgment was given, but the appeal was not set down owing to the impossibility of proving the notes of the judge who tried the case. The court refused the application with costs, holding that defendant should have applied for an extension of time for setting down the appeal at the sitting of the court next after notice had been given. Mr. Robt. Cassidy for appellant (defendant); Mr. L. P. Duffy for respondent (plaintiff).

The Full court heard the appeal in McLennan vs. Millington yesterday. This was an appeal from the decision of Judge Forin giving $100 damages against defendant for not letting plaintiff in possession of a store in Kaslo under a lease to commence at a future day. Defendant had sold the property before the time at which plaintiff was to have entered into possession under the lease. The writ in evidence in the agreement was contained in a receipt from defendant to plaintiff for $15, stated to be one month's rent at the rate of $15 per month. Defendant in appealing claimed that an action did not lie, that the agreement was not in writing within the meaning of the statute of fraud, and there was no evidence of damages. The appeal was allowed without costs. Mr. Robt. Cassidy for appellant (defendant): Mr. A. L. Belyea for respondent (plaintiff).

THE CITY.

THE Provincial Board of Health have brought in force clauses 9 to 27 of the sanitary regulations of 1896 in Vancouver city, and clause 3 in the city of Kamloops.

MESSRS. Peter Morrison and Alexander McKinnon, of Wellington, have been gazetted as members of the board of licensing commissioners for that town. Mr. Frederick Billings, barrister, is a member of the license commission for Vernon.

MR. W. A. CARLYLE, mineralogist, will give an hour's talk on the most interesting subject occupying the minds of every one that has the interests of the province at heart—the mines of British Columbia—in the Sir William Wallace hall, on the evening of the 19th inst.

HERBERT KING was arrested by Officers McDonald and Perdue last night on a charge of criminal assault committed at Spring Ridge. The alleged assault took place about 10:30 o'clock last night. The prisoner, it transpires was suspected of being connected with an assault of a similar nature at Oak Bay last week.

THE city medical health office has been requested by the city board of health to inform Dr. Watt, that in future no person employed at the quarantine station, William Head, will be allowed to enter the city without a certificate from him (Dr. Watt) that the said person's clothing and luggage have been properly fumigated and that he has been newly vaccinated."

THE regular monthly meeting of the Maternity Home committee was held yesterday afternoon when accounts to the amount of $66.35 were ordered paid. Subscriptions to the Home during the month were $60.75, leaving flow a balance on hand of $178.69. Donations were received with gratitude from Mrs. Galletly, Mrs. Pemberton, Mrs. Patton, Mrs. Cunness, Mrs. Ramsdale, and Mrs. Woolaston. The visitants appointed for the ensuing year Mrs. Higgins and Mrs. Aspland.

MR. D. R. HARRIS' residence was wholly in the possession of the ladies of the Reformed Episcopal church and their friends last evening. A large gathing was present and all were a unit in their appreciation of their entertainment. Contributing to the programme of the evening were Herr Freimuth, Mandolin club, Mrs. Richard Jones, Mrs. D. R. Harris, Miss Hibben and Mr. A. F. Goward, Mr. George Jay and Mr. F. H. Laundy.

A DELEGATION representing the Victoria District Fruit Growers' Association waited upon the members of the city council at a special meeting convened in the committee room of the city hall yesterday afternoon. All but three of the council were present, and a lengthy discussion took place on the request of the delegation for the appropriation of four stalls in the city market for the association's use. No decision, however, was arrived at by the council.

A CHINAMAN who refuses to give his name was handed over to the city police last night by William McGregor, hardware merchant of Johnson street, charged with stealing a bucksaw. About 7 o'clock last evening Mr. McGregor saw the Chinaman pick up the saw from near the shop door and take to his heels. McGregor shouted to him and the thief dropped the saw and redoubled his efforts to get away. "Pat" Deasy, one of Victoria's sprinters happened to hear the row and gave chase, soon overtaking his man. He handed him over to McGregor, who took his prisoner down to the city police station, where he now awaits a hearing before the police magistrate.

Telegraphic advices have been received from Australia stating that the British bark Villalta, Captain Harland, lumber laden from Tacoma for Freemantle, Australia, has gone ashore within 60 miles of her destination. The advices also state that the skipper was drowned. The Villalta sailed November 9, with 738,039 feet of lumber, valued at $5,895, from the St. Paul & Tacoma mill for Freemantle. She was a steel vessel of 866 tons register, owned by Captain Barrett, of Liverpool. The craft was built at Port Glasgow in 1833 and her dimensions were: Length, 199.5 feet; breadth, 32.7 feet; depth, 20.3 feet; moulded depth, 21.75 feet.

THE adjourned hearing of Regina v. Jones was resumed in the Provincial court yesterday before the police magistrate. Hallett Bayley, a clerk in the employ of Erskine & Wall, was the first witness called, and testified to having sold goods to accused to the amount of $111.80, between December 24 and January 30. The goods in court were similar to goods sold by him to accused with exception of some jam, salt and hops. He could not positively identify any single article as having been sold by him to accused, and never put up sugar in a sack for Mrs. Jones, like that produced in court. He had had similar sugar in stock in the past two months. The tea and coffee produced in court were exclusively carried by Erskine & Wall. The tea in the broken canister was not as sold by the firm though the canister was. J. E. Cowan, bookkeeper to Erskine & Wall, was the next witness called. He knew accused by sight but had no personal dealings with her, though he had seen her receive groceries. He made the entries from the day book into the ledger against Mr. Foote. Mr. A. Martin objected to the witness giving evidence of the amount before the sale and delivery of goods was proved, and the objection was upheld. Other witnesses not being on hand an adjournment was made until this morning at 10 o'clock for medical evidence to be brought forward to show the reason why Wm. Foote could not attend court.

A FRANK CRITICISM.

New York Newspaper Administers a Severe Rebuke to American Tuft Hunters.

An Unflattering Picture of the Eagerness to Run After Titled People.

About a year ago a modest and very young man, who happens to be a duke, came to this country to marry somebody. In literature, in congress, on the stump, in the pulpit, by, in fact, every means of exposition and publicity known to us, we give out that the American view of a duke is that he is just like anybody else; that "rank is but the guinea's stamp, the man's the gowd for a' that." Consequently America ought to have been the place in the world where a young duke would be most obscure and unnoticed. There is nothing we profess to hate as much as a "snob," and we sometimes think of going to war to punish "snobbery"; that is, the practice of paying court to or admiring people on account of rank or fashion. There is nothing by which an American minister in London, say, excites so much wrath as preferring, or seeming to prefer, the society of English peers to the society of American Boys.

Our young duke ought, therefore, were our theory and practice harmonious, to have passed quiet and almost monotonous days while here. Far from this, however, his coming threw the town into almost more excitement than would result from the appearance of a hostile fleet in the lower bay. Many people passed sleepless nights in arranging plans for just looking at him. Our friends the press detailed a swarm of reporters to dog him, to watch under his windows; to catch him on the stoop, to pursue him in the park, and follow him to the theatre. He had not the slightest conception in England, under a monarchy, what a devil of a fellow he would be in America under a republic. All other news in the world—battles, seiges, fortunes, earthquakes, the fall of statesmen, and the wreck of politics—faded into insignificance beside the news of what the duke ate, what he wore, what time he got home, and what he said to Mrs. Jones over his muffins. One night he went to the horse show. It was called the "Duke's night." The crowd was alarming. He had to retreat from the front boxes, and sit far back with a policeman at his side. There he looked like an ingenious bank clerk of small stature. But thousands gazed steadily at him by the hour, as if he had been Gladstone, or Bismarck, or Julius Cæsar.

Again, a few weeks ago, a private lady and gentleman determined to give a fancy ball. They had a perfect right to give it if they were so disposed. But the announcement seemed to throw the town into convulsions. The newspapers all over the country took the matter up and gave from four to ten columns a day to it. First, there was a long discussion whether the givers of the ball had a right to give it on economical grounds, or whether the giving of fancy balls was not one of the means ordained by Providence for the relief of the poor. This question was much debated. Some of our ablest minds engaged in a discussion, but seemed generally to come out of the door by which they went in. Scores of pulpits made it a text on the first Sunday of the excitement. Then the portraits and pictures of the dresses began to appear. More space was given to it. No battle or revolution received more, if as much. As the day drew near the thrill deepened and the pictures grew bigger. It spread all over the country. Chicago throbbed with the same emotion as New York. The police got their reserves ready and the militia came near being called out. Had the sensation lasted a little longer, there seemed no reason why it should not reach Europe and break up the concert of the powers or dissolve the Triple Alliance.

Now, although the newspapers did most of this work—that is, made manifest to the world through what Sturm and Drang we were passing—the editors would not have done it if the public was not waiting eagerly to hear what they could tell them. Thousands of men and women in the forties, fifties and sixties were waiting with trembling eagerness to hear how Mrs. Tomkins looked as Madame de Maintenon, or how Harry Lorrequer, of the Shoe and Leather Bank, would figure as Richard Cœur de Lion. The newspapers, that is to say, would not have told the world what children we were if we were not anxious to have it known. They do not go crazy and become childish for nothing. They would not be so silly if it did not pay. When you see an editor jumping about like a lunatic over a duke or a fancy ball, you may feel sure he is thinking more of "sales" than of costumes, more of newsdealers than of dukes. But what an impression must the world get of us! Hoops and marbles and roller skates when our currency is in disorder, enormous masses of our population discontented and menacing, lawlessness spreading, many of our public men playing the buffoon, corruption rising like a flood, religion struggling for existence, and missions asking dubiously what is right and what is wrong. Can the intelligent foreigner who looks at our newspapers to-day help concluding that we are a state constructed, for the first time in the history of the world, by minors, who are trying to show that the seriousness and austerity of the elder world were wholly unnecessary, and that affairs succeed just as well by means of laughter and buffoonery and child's play, as by experience and gravity and sense of duty?—New York Post.

A PRODUCING MINE.

At the Arlington dock yesterday a consignment of 780 sacks of copper-gold ore was received from the Van Anda mine by way of Victoria, brought over by the steamer Rosalie. This ore is transhipped by rail from Seattle by the Great Northern to the Everett smelter, where all the ores of the Van Anda are reduced. A regular semi-weekly line of steamers is soon to be established between Victoria and Texada island, where this copper mine is located, and arrangements are being made for weekly shipments of first-class ore from this property, which is the first mine in British Columbia to ship by way of Seattle. This property is improving with depth and is making an excellent record as a producer. A magnificent sample weighing 150 pounds, the finest ever seen in the city, is proudly shown by Edward Blewett at his office in the Bailey building.—P.-I.

ELECTRICITY WITHOUT HEAT.

Willard E. Case, who for ten years past has been making electricity a special study, has discovered a means of producing electricity from carbon without heat, other than the use of zinc, as in the case of the galvanic battery. He discloses his process before the New York Electrical Society at Columbia College last night. The experiments with which he illustrated his lecture were of a character to satisfy the electrical experts present that the potential energy in carbon can be transmitted into electricity without waste, a fact which, when practically worked out, will furnish a new motor force which will replace steam. As yet Mr. Case's discovery is without immediate commercial value.

"It is not along that line that I have been working," he said. "The chemicals used are too expensive for general use. My endeavor has been to show that we can transform the potential energy of the carbon into electricity without waste. There are many agents which can be used, and, with experiment, will come the discovery of some agent cheap enough for general use. Then the solution of the problem given here will be practically applied and steam will become a thing of the past. At present we have only crossed the boundary line. Ahead lies tremendous results."

In making his experiment Mr. Case used a cell of his own invention. Plates of tin and platinum formed the electrodes, and the carbon being oxidized by contact with chemicals, electricity was produced, as was shown by attaching the wire from the cell to a motor. A thermometer applied at various stages showed that no heat was generated; hence, practically the entire energy of the chemical charge was converted into electricity. Having concluded this experiment, Mr. Case said:

"We certainly have a most wonderful example of the conversion of potential energy of carbon directly into work in the animal economy, which is developed at the expense of the oxidization of the material supplied by the food, with an efficiency twice as economical as in the case of the steam engine. One-fifth of the potential energy is converted into work; four-fifts is converted into heat. In this battery carbon is completely oxidized at normal temperature by oxygen, which is held in loose combination. So it is done in the human body, and we know that to be a very efficient machine. Therefore I see no reason to think that it is necessary for us to use high temperatures. Keep without the second law of thero-dynamics, search for a suitable carrier of oxygen or some cheap source of oxygen supply and hydrogen or carbon, or a carbon compound easily oxidized."—N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.

A STORY 3,000 YEARS OLD.

You know the ancient story about Penelope, the wife of Ulysses? No doubt for it has been told over and over for the last 3,000 years. Nevertheless let us have it once more—cut short. Ulysses went off to the wars and left Penelope at home. A very long time elapsed and he didn't come back. People tried to persuade her to marry again. She said she would as soon as she finished a piece of cloth she was weaving. All right they said, thinking they should have her married again before the new moon was old. But they were disappointed. Determined to await the return of her husband she picked apart every night as much of the cloth as she had woven during the day.

"A very obvious device," you say, "yet what of it?" A good deal of it. It made the old Greek vagabond happy on his return, and it furnishes me with a neat and effective illustration. Kindly read the following letter and you will see the point for yourself.

"In the spring of 1886 I began to suffer from illness. I felt weak, languid and tired. My appetite was very poor, and what little food I took gave me great pain at the chest, sides and back. After every meal I was sick, *my stomach being unable to retain my food*. I dieted myself, taking only plain and simple food, but this made no difference.

"As time went on the pain at my chest and side increased, until it was like a knife cutting me. In this way I continued until October, 1889, when I was obliged to give up my situation. At this time I was in service at the Rectory, Tetsworth.

"I returned to my home, where I finally became so weak that I could not lift a knife to my mouth. I was fed on slops, but even this light nourishment gave me intense pain and distress. I got little or no sleep at night, and *wasted away so much* that I did not think I should live.

"During my illness I was treated by several different physicians, but their medicines did me no good. In March, 1890, my mother persuaded me to try Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup. After taking one bottle I found relief. The sickness left me and my food gave me no pain. After having used three bottles I was cured, and have never had a day's sickness since. My mistress and others asked what had cured me, and I told them it was Mother Seigel's Syrup. I am willing that this statement should be published. (Signed) Mrs. Agnes Sadler, Coombe Wood, Cuddesdon, near Wheatley, Oxfordshire, February 2nd, 1894."

In Mrs. Sadler's letter you will observe parts of two sentences set in italics by the printer. Be good enough to read them again. The idea is that the lady's stomach rejected food, and that she wasted away. Why? Because the human body is like the web or cloth which Penelope was weaving and unravelling, so long ago. The food we eat weaves it bigger, and wear and tear pick it to pieces. This happens every day—all the time. When the weaving equals the unravelling you are well; when the unravelling is more than the weaving, you do what Mrs. Sadler did—you waste away.

The weaver (or builder) is the stomach and the other organs of digestion. Our correspondent suffered from a failure of these organs to do their work. Her food lay and fermented in her stomach. Hence all her pain and sickness. Unless one can *digest* it is worse than unless to *eat*. Because, instead of making you feel strong, courageous and ambitious, food turns against you; becomes sour, rotten, and scatters the seeds of suffering in every part of your body reached by the corrupted blood; and that is everywhere. This is indigestion and dyspepsia—the bane and curse of all life, civilized or savage, since man appeared on the earth. Read Mrs. Sadler's letter again to learn how it begins, how it advances, the horrors of being a slave to it, and (best of all) how to cure it.

Homer made Penelope famous in a poem but through their letters and words of thanks for rescue from suffering, the women of England have conferred a better renown on Mother Seigel and her great discovery.