AN ADVENTUROUS LIFE

"Bob" Ridley Who Landed in California Sixty Years Ago Passes Away.

Followed the Mining Excitements From Mexico to Northern British Columbia.

Genial, kind-hearted "Bob" Ridley, a pioneer of pioneers, died yesterday morning at 9 o'clock at his residence, Herald street, of old age. Thus is removed another of the few remaining old-timers who were pioneers on the Pacific coast before it was even suspected that gold existed in the streams which flow into the Western ocean, for it was the summer of 1838—May 10, to be exact—when Robert Ridley first set foot in that country now comprised in the state of California. It was purely accidental, the deceased having left his home in Bristol, England, with 480 other passengers on a ship of which his father was master, intending to go to Australia. Instead of remaining in Australia, as did the other passengers, Mr. Ridley took passage on the ship Gilbert Anderson for San Francisco, then a village of not more than 50 houses. The ship was wrecked on an island on the coast of California, but without loss of life, passengers and crew making their way to the mission post on the site of what is now San Francisco. The deceased remained there but a short time, becoming shortly after his arrival a member of the crew of a Spanish vessel bound for the East Indies. She afterwards entered the opium trade, which took her to the coast of China. It was during one of these trips that Mr. Ridley left the Spanish merchantman at Singapore to join the British navy. His ship was H. M. S. Dido, which he joined on condition that he could secure his discharge at the conclusion of the war with China. He served during the war, and also went on the Dido to Malayan waters to suppress piracy and join at Sarawak Rajah Brooke, the young Englishman who threw up his commission in the British army to suppress piracy, was successful and became the ruler of Brunei. Brooke had already frightened the pirates off when the Dido arrived, so that ship returned to Singapore, where Mr. Ridley left her and proceeded to California. This was in 1840, and although gold had not yet been discovered, there were fortunes to be made in trading and transportation, and Mr. Ridley went into that business, operating a schooner of his own along the California and Mexican coasts, and running pack trains to interior points. In this way he learned a great deal about the waters along the coast, as well as the land routes. This knowledge stood the United States government in good stead at the time of the war with Mexico, the then sailor and packer being engaged to guide the New York volunteers from Monterey to La Pas, Mexico, and afterwards as pilot in the United States navy. At the close of the war, the trading and transportation business was disorganized, so after travelling through Mexico, where he was married, he returned with his wife, who survives him, to San Francisco, intending to settle down.

Soon, however, came the news of Marshall's find of gold at Sutter's mill, on the Sacramento river. For most of the now old pioneers on the Coast this was the commencement of their adventures; in fact it was the magnet that drew a large majority of them from their quiet homes in all parts of the world. "Bob" Ridley was one of the few who had been "through the mill," as the saying is, but he was only too willing to try again. He was one of the first to start up the river after the receipt of the news, and for close on ten years he followed the little stampedes from creek to creek in the mining regions of California, principally, however, in Eldorado county, and with varying success.

Again he had made up his mind "that a rolling stone gathers no moss," when those who had failed to make or keep fortunes in California were started north by the receipt of news of the Fraser river finds. "Bob" Ridley was among them and on August 2, 1858, he landed in the city of Victoria, even then, forty years ago, a man who had experienced more adventures than fall to most men in a lifetime. He went to the diggings and like he had done in California followed the stampedes and through his own explanations caused them, making and losing fortunes. After a few years' mining and prospecting on the Fraser he returned to Victoria and organized in 1861 an expedition to proceed to the headwaters of that river. He with two, three in number, had, like himself, been sailors. They engaged twenty canoes and Indians to paddle them, and loading them with provisions started on the long trip. Before the destination was reached but two canoes were left, the others having met with disaster, and the Indians returning home. All the tributaries were prospected, gold being found in large quantities, but running short of provisions the little party had to retrace their steps, leaving behind them what proved afterwards to be on of the world's richest mining districts. The next year it was swarming with prospectors.

Mr. Ridley spent the season of 1862 in the Cariboo country and the following year operated a pack train from Victoria to Leach river. For a few years he lived quietly in Victoria but the spirit of adventure was still in him and in 1871 he joined in the rush to Omineca. He did very well there mining and trading and in the fall of 1872 he started from the headwaters of the Skeena with a considerable amount of gold and a canoe load of valuable furs. Coming down the river the canoe was upset and the last of the many fortunes which "Bob" Ridley made during his adventurous career sank to the bottom of the river or was carried to sea by the swift waters. There were eight men in the party, three of whom were drowned. The others without food and with scanty clothing made their way down the river as best they could, finally reaching Port Essington barefooted, bareheaded and coatless. They were cared for by the residents of Port Essington and sent to Victoria on the steamer Otter. Other mining excitements followed, but the now old man realized that he was no longer able to stand the hard work that the miner and prospector is called on to do and he settled down in Victoria. For a few years he worked on the government dredger and afterwards was appointed caretaker of Pioneer hall, where for many years he could be found among the relics of early mining days, never tiring of imparting information to visitors.

A few weeks ago deceased was removed to the Jubilee hospital and it was believed even that that the end had come, but he rallied and after a few days' treatment returned home and was able to be around the house. Yesterday morning Mrs. Ridley having prepared breakfast went to call her husband but during her absence in the kitchen he had passed away, death having evidently overtaken him in his sleep. He was between 80 and 90 years of age.

The funeral will take place on Friday morning. The members of the Pioneer Society will attend.

A man's health is the rope by which he climbs to success. If he can keep his health he will go on to success. Yet his health is the very thing he neglects more than anything else. It is easier to keep health than it is to regain it. When a man feels himself running down, when he realizes a loss of vitality and energy, he must call a halt. The strands of his rope are parting rapidly. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery has helped thousands of men in just this condition. It makes health, it makes pure, rich blood, it forces out impurities and kills germs. It doesn't make any difference what name you call your trouble by—dyspepsia—kidney disease—rheumatism—consumption—skin disease, the "Golden Medical Discovery" will cure it absolutely. None of these diseases can retain hold on the body when it is full of rich, pure blood.

Send 31 one-cent stamps to cover cost of mailing only, and receive free a copy of Dr. Pierce's Medical Adviser. Address World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y.

PRETTY HOME WEDDING.

Mr. William McNeill and Miss Minnie Munsie United in Marriage.

At the residence of Mr. William Munsie, 226 Johnson street, last evening a large number of friends of the family gathered to witness the marriage of that gentleman's third daughter, Miss Minnie Jean, to Mr. William McNeill, manager of the New Westminster Sun. The house was very prettily decorated for the occasion with chrysanthemums, and the couple were married under a wedding bell of the same flowers. Rev. Dr. Campbell, of the First Presbyterian church, officiated, and Mr. Burnett, organist of St. Andrew's church, presided at the piano, rendering wedding marches. The groom was supported by Mr. J. Sharpe, while the bride was attended by her sisters, Miss Alice as bridesmaid and Miss Florence as maid of honor. The bride was attired in a handsome costume of silver white duchesse satin, trimmed with pearl passementerie and Brussels lace, with court train and orange blossoms. She also wore a tulle veil and wreath of orange blossoms supported by a pearl and diamond tiara, the gift of the groom. She carried a bouquet of white chrysanthemums and English fern. The bridesmaid's dress was of pale blue duchesse satin, trimmed with white mousseline de soie, and she carried a bouquet of pink and white chrysanthemums, and wore a pearl crescent broach, the gift of the groom. Miss Florence Munsie made a charming little maid of honor in a pink silk dress and carrying a basket of white carnations. Her present from the groom was a ring set with pearls.

The wedding was a very pretty one, and the friends in attendance and the large number of handsome wedding presents, which included a check from Mr. Munsie, a silver set and sealskin sacque from Mrs. Munsie and a check from Mr. John McNeill, of London, England, testified to the popularity of the couple.

After the ceremony the party sat down to a wedding supper, the usual speeches following. Among those who spoke were Senator Templeman, Mr. Sharpe, Mr. McNeill, Mr. McCandless and Mr. E. K. Johnston, of New Westminster.

Mr. and Mrs. McNeill left on the steamer City of Seattle last evening en route to Portland, where the honeymoon will be spent. Upon their return they will take up their residence at New Westminster.

TRIBUTE TO OKANAGAN FLOUR.

Recommended by a Hygienic Authority Because of Its Absolute Purity.

S. Miller, M.D., in American Journal of Health.

Sermons need not be preached when it comes to warning the public against inferior grades of flour. The thoughtful and truly conscientious caterer selects food products for the family on the one inviolable principle that purity alone can possibly win her favor, will indignantly reject the spurious brands which the hygienic press collectively condemns, and which are the most deadly agents of disease. The community has no more insidious foe than impure or low grade flour. For on account of the very truth that we cannot sit down at the family board without ingesting flour in a greater or lesser quantity, the corresponding influence upon our health cannot not be overestimated. It will be either an influence for evil or an influence for good. Nothing which enters the system, in no matter how small a quantity, but has its power of affecting the general result, and when the principal constituents of our daily food lack the quality they should possess, the magnitude of the consequence goes without saying. We infallibly suffer.

To obviate all such disastrous consequences, and the sufferings they thus entail, the American Journal of Health watches without intermission the successive introductions of the market brands of flour. And it also urges upon the consumer the use of those whose established excellence is sufficient safeguards against the universal claims of other brands. There is another consideration which obtains its due weight with us; the reliability of the manufacturers. We have found such condition fulfilled to our satisfaction in "O.K." flour offered by the Okanagan Flour Mill Company, of Armstrong, B. C., Canada. This is a truly pure product, marketed by a firm which enjoys the most enviable reputation for the production of only first-class goods. The resources of our analysis were brought into requisition for the thorough testing of this flour. An an exhibition was thereby made which conclusively established the great nutritive worth which is claimed for it because of its richness in gluten; its suitability for persons of weak digestive organs, owing to its possessing no excess of starch; its consistent uniformity of quality, and its eminent virtues as a bread-maker. It would be impossible, we do not hesitate to say, that the Okanagan Flour Mill Company's "O.K." flour could disappoint when used for baking purposes, for it does not sour; it is uncommonly light in bread, and also preserves a beautifully white color.

That day will be hailed with satisfaction and relief by the physician and hygienist when the prevalence of stomach troubles arising from fermentation caused by bad flour, and cases of dyspepsia arising from the same source, will be reduced. The coming of that time will be perceptibly hastened by the excessive use of pure flour, for which the hygienic press can give an endorsement equal to that here bestowed upon "O.K." flour of the Okanagan Flour Mill Company. Let the public cease to deceive itself; the evils just mentioned will continue to distress humanity so long as want of discrimination in flour use continues. We have at stake the welfare of all our readers, and they will prove to be their own best friends by laying this lesson to heart. The "O.K" flour of the Okanagan Flour Mill Company is endorsed for their use in the plainest language we can employ.

If you are tired taking the large old-fashioned griping pills, try Carter's Little Liver Pills and take some comfort. A man can't stand everything. One pill a dose. Try them.

CONVICTION QUASHED.

Certiorari Proceedings in Supreme Court Result in Favor of Mr. Sauer.

Trial for Selling Liquor on Plebiscite Day Could Not Be Summary.

The conviction by the magistrate of G. C. Sauer for selling liquor on plebiscite polling day was quashed yesterday by Mr. Justice Martin. As stated in the judgment, the application was in the form of a summons for a certiorari to remove into the Supreme court a conviction by Police Magistrate Macrae made on October 13 last, whereby G. C. Sauer was convicted for that he did, on the 29th day of September, 1898, "unlawfully sell, give or otherwise provide in the Bank Exchange saloon spirituous or fermented liquor or other strong drink," the day being polling day under the prohibition plebiscite act.

In his judgment Mr. Justice Martin says:

Section 6 of this act provides that the Dominion elections act shall apply mutatis mutandis to itself "and the rights, obligations, liabilities, qualifications and disqualifications of judges, officers, electors and all other persons, and with respect to offences and the penalties which may be incurred." By section 83 of the Dominion elections act, "No spirituous or fermented liquors or strong drinks shall be sold or given at any hotel, tavern, shop or other place within the limits of any polling district during the whole of the polling day at any election for the House of Commons, and any one who violates the provisions of this section shall be liable for every such offence to a penalty of $100, and to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months in default of payment of such penalty."

A number of objections were taken to the conviction, but in the view I take of the matter, it is only necessary to consider one, which is that the proceedings in question were misconceived, and that the informer should have sued for the penalty under section 106, instead of proceeding summarily before a magistrate, as was done here. It will be noted that section 83 provides its own punishment, which is a penalty of $100, and in default of payment imprisonment not exceeding six months. Section 106 enacts that "all penalties and forfeitures (other than fines in case of misdemeanor) imposed by this act shall be recoverable or enforceable with full costs of suit by any person who sues for the same by action of debt or information in any court of competent jurisdiction," etc.; and there is an important proviso in the section to the effect that "no action or information for the recovery of any such penalty or forfeiture shall be commenced unless the person suing for the same shall have given good and sufficient security to the amount of $50 to indemnify the defendant for the costs occasioned by his defence, if the person suing is condemned to pay the same."

Used in the above relation, the word "information" is synonymous with an information qui tam, and the whole section contemplates civil proceedings; another section, 110, provides for costs and recognizances in a "criminal" court.

Mr. Taylor contended that the conviction was covered by the reservation contained in the words of section 106 above quoted, "other than fines in cases of misdemeanor," and that the offence aimed at in section 83 was a misdemeanor and the penalty a fine. But a careful perusal of the act shows that where the legislature intended the offence to be regarded as a misdemeanor, it has said so in plain language, in for example, section 82, which immediately precedes the one in question and deals with a large number of offences. One of these offences declared by section 82 to be a misdemeanor is the furnishing by a candidate, or other person at his expense, of a "drink or other refreshment." Section 83 is likewise directed against the supplying of liquid refreshment, but it is not declared to be a misdemeanor. Take another instance: By section 77, battery on election day within two miles of a poll is declared to be "an aggravated assault, and shall be punished accordingly." Again, section 84 has a long list of corrupt acts which are declared to be misdemeanors, and in addition anyone guilty of them "shall also forfeit the sum of $200 to any person who sues for the same with costs;" and sections 85, 87, 100 and 104 all declare certain offences to be misdemeanors; and section 102 declares stealing or transferring with election documents to be a felony. Sections 89 and 103 are examples of another class of sections, which declare offenders to be liable to a penalty and also to imprisonment, but it is unnecessary to discuss the effect of this dual punishment, for this dual element is absent from section 83, where imprisonment only follows when the penalty is not satisfied.

I have not been referred to any reported case on the exact point under discussion, but my attention has been drawn to newspaper reports of certain proceedings in Montreal of a like nature, before Mr. Justice Desnoyers and another judge. I cannot regard these notes as an authority, but in default of a regular report I might say that the procedure apparently followed there was of the nature which I am of the opinion should have been followed here. In arriving at a decision in this matter, I have been largely assisted by, among others, the cases of R. v. Carter (1884), 5 Ont., 651; Bradlaugh v. Clarke (1883), 8 App. ca., 354; Attorney-General v. Bradlaugh (1885), 14 Q. B. D., 667, and Regina v. Hall (1891), 1 Q. B., 747. None of these cases is on all fours with the present, and the statutes on which they are decided differ materially. The statute in question is peculiar in the wording of its various clauses, some of which must be read together and others distinguished, and the only way I have been able to arrive at a conclusion satisfactory, to myself at least, is to consider all the clauses in their relation to one another, and by applying the general principles laid down in the cases cited, thus endeavoring to ascertain what was contemplated by the act as a whole.

The application for certiorari must be granted, and the quashing of the conviction will follow as of course.

Mr. S. Perry Mills for the application; Mr. W. J. Taylor against.

Windsor Salt
Pure for Table and Dairy. Never cakes.

VICTORIA DISTRICT FARMERS.

Organization of an Institute—Arrangement for Frequent Meetings.

The organization meeting of the Victoria District Farmers' Institute was held at Metchosin public hall last Thursday evening. There was a good attendance, and those present, including some from South Victoria, showed great interest in the work. Mr. W. H. Hayward was called to the chair, with Mr. J. H. Smart as secretary.

After Mr. J. R. Anderson, deputy minister of agriculture, had addressed the meeting on the benefits to be derived from the institutes, and upon the rules and regulations concerning them, the meeting proceeded to the election of officers. Those elected were: President, W. H. Hayward; vice-president, J. Brethour; secretary-treasurer, J. H. Smart; directors, R. Layritz, J. Witty and T. E. Oldershaw.

Mr. R. M. Palmer having been asked by the president to address the meeting, did so in a short and pithy manner, his subject being fruit culture, which elicited quite a discussion. The meeting passed a motion that the quarantine regulations of the provincial board of horticulture having proved of great value to the fruit growers of British Columbia, should be continued and strictly enforced.

It was decided that supplementary meetings be held monthly at different parts of the district, and it is hoped that the farmers in districts surrounding Victoria will take the earliest opportunity of joining by sending 50 cents to the secretary, whose address is Metchosin, B. C.

YOUR DANGER NOW

Is from the overworked condition of the liver and kidneys, which are unable to expel impurities from the blood. This causes rheumatism. Hood's Sarsaparilla has been wonderfully successful in curing this disease. It neutralizes the acid in the blood and permanently cures the aches and pains which other medicines fail to relieve. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the best winter medicine because it purifies, enriches and vitalizes the blood. It gives help just where help is needed. It tones the stomach, stimulates the liver, and arouses and sustains the kidneys. It wards off pneumonia, fevers, bronchitis, colds, coughs and the grip.

THE RETAIL MARKETS.

Large Volume of Business, but Few Changes Reported by Grocers.

Fancy stocks are in greatest demand this week. In staples the market appears firm, excepting that eggs are showing a tendency to fall in price. The first lot of Eastern poultry is expected to reach Victoria to-day, a carload being en route for local and Vancouver merchants. Grocers are now handling a great deal of the Fry Bruhn bacon that is being put up at Seattle. It is sold for about two cents less than either the Armour or Lipton brands of Chicago. Retail quotations:

Flour—Ogilvie's	$8.00
Lake of the Woods (Hungarian)	5.00
H. B. (Hungarian)	6.00
Three Star	5.25
Premier	5.50
Snowflake	5.25
Hungarian (Armstrong)	6.00
XXXX (Armstrong)	6.00
Graham, per 10 lbs	33
Wheat, per ton	26@30
Buckwheat, per 10 lbs	40
Straw, per bale	60@70
Onions, per lb	2½
Oats, per ton	20@24
Barley, per ton	28.00@30.00
Bran	18@20
Middlings, per ton	20@22
Ground feed, California, per ton	28@30
Chop feed, B. & K.	23@25
Corn, whole, per ton	26.00@28.00
Corn, cracked, per ton	27.00@28.00
Cornmeal, per 10 lbs	35
Oatmeal, per 10 lbs	40@45
Rolled Oats, 7 lbs	35
Citrons, per lb	8
Cabbage, per lb	2@3
Potatoes, per cwt	90
Tomatoes, per lb	04
Cheese, per lb	20
Red peppers, per lb	15
Hay, baled, per ton	12@14
Eggs, Island, per doz., strictly fresh	50@60
Eggs, imported, per doz	25
Butter, fresh, per lb	25
" Dairy (Eastern), per lb	25
" B. C. Creamery, per lb	35
Hams, Canadian, per lb	16
" American, per lb	15@18
Bacon, American, per lb	16@18
" Rolled, per lb	14@16
" Long clear, per lb	12½
" Canadian, per lb	14@16
Shoulders, hams, per lb	12½
Meats—Beef, per lb	06@15
Sides, per lb	7½@8
Veal, per lb	10@13
Mutton, per lb	10
Carcass, per lb	08@10
Joints, per lb	10@15
Pork, fresh, per lb	06@12½
Venison, per lb	08@10
Grouse, per brace	1.25
Ducks, Mallard, per pair	75
" Teal, per pair	40
" Brant, per pair	1.00
" Widgeon, per pair	50
" Pin Tail, per pair	50
Fruit—Apples, per box	$1.00@1.25
Apples, Island, per box	1.00@1.25
Lemons, California, per doz	25@35
Oranges, per doz	20@35
" Japanese, per box	75
" Naval, per doz	60
Pears, per lb	5
Bananas, per doz	25&30
Salmon, per lb	10@12½
Halibut, per lb	12½
Rock cod, per lb	06@08
Smelts, per lb	08@10
Flounders, per lb	08@10
Ling cod	08@10

The People's Faith

Firmly Grounded Upon Real Merit—They Know Hood's Sarsaparilla Absolutely and Permanently Cures When All Others Fail.

Hood's Sarsaparilla is not merely a simple preparation of Sarsaparilla, Dock, Stillingia and a little Iodide of Potassium. Besides these excellent alteratives, it also contains those great anti-bilious and liver remedies, Mandrake and Dandelion. It also contains those great kidney remedies, Uva Ursi, Juniper Berries, and Pipsissewa.

Nor are these all. Other very valuable curative agents are harmoniously combined in Hood's Sarsaparilla and it is carefully prepared under the personal supervision of a regularly educated pharmacist.

Knowing these facts, is the abiding faith the people have in Hood's Sarsaparilla a matter of surprise? You can see why Hood's Sarsaparilla cures, when other medicines totally, absolutely fail.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the best—in fact the One True Blood Purifier. Sold by all druggists. $1; six for $5.

Hood's Pills are the best after-dinner pills, aid digestion. 25c

THE MESSAGE DEBATED

London Press Satisfied That It Indicates Intention of Friendly Dealing.

Naturalization of Reconstructed Wrecks—Missouri Senator Opposes Colonial Expansion.

By Associated Press.

Washington, Dec. 6.—The first note of the anti-expansionists was sounded in the senate to-day by Senator Vest, of Missouri, who introduced a joint resolution declaring that under the constitution the federal government had no authority to acquire colonial possessions to be governed as such; but all territory acquired by the government except such as may be necessary for use as coaling stations, correction of boundaries and similar purposes, may be acquired with the purpose of organizing territories suitable ultimately for admission into the union as states. Mr. Vest announced his purpose to address the senate on the resolution at an early date.

A brief discussion of the navigation laws was precipitated by the consideration of a bill amending those laws by the addition of a provision that foreign built vessels wrecked in the United States, purchased by citizens of this country and repaired to the extent of three-quarters of their value, shall not be subject to forfeiture if they engage subsequently in the coastwise trade of the United States.

PARIS COMMENT.

Paris, Dec. 6.—The Liberte, referring to President McKinley's message to congress, says: "The message, which under the circumstances was awaited with natural impatience, satisfied all curiosity. It constitutes a true manifesto of the new imperial policy of the United States. The American republic, which has hitherto been voluntarily isolated, enters with wings fully outspread into the concerns of the powers, and intends henceforth to be heard and will make its intention felt wherever it seems good to do it."

SPAIN'S SORE FEELINGS.

Madrid, Dec. 6.—The semi-official Liberal regards President McKinley's message as "an additional affront by a discourteous conqueror," and adds: "The whole country will protest against the repetition of the calumny in regard to the Maine."

LONDON SATISFIED.

London, Dec. 6.—The afternoon papers express satisfaction at President McKinley's message, with the exception of some allusion to the Nicaraguan canal, which to the minds of the editors does not show sufficient appreciation of British treaty rights.

The Pall Mall Gazette says in language which leaves no room for doubt of its meaning that the President foreshadows the fixed determination of the government to stand by the policy of the "open door" in the East. "That declaration," it says, "brings the United States into line with us if ever the time comes to speak with unity in the 'open door way.'"

"Referring to the 'open door,' the Gazette remarks: "While fully admitting the validity of the President's claims for the complete protection of the commerce of the United States, we may be permitted to point out that British interests are no less entitled to consideration, and the government at Washington is bound by definite obligations. We are convinced, however, that when it comes to this there will be no disposition in the United States to question the position of the friendly equality of the two countries in this matter."

The St. James Gazette says: "The message will be read with pleasure. The President faces new issues in a broad-minded way and suggests a solution of their problems on large, generous lines."

The St. James' Gazette reads the Nicaraguan canal and friendly relations with Great Britain sentence of the message together and draws the inference therefrom that President McKinley recognizes the binding character of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty.

"It would be strange," the Gazette continues, "if in the opportunity just now offered by the Canadian negotiations we did not reach in the near future a comprehensive understanding between the two great branches of the English-speaking race, not merely on broad or general lines of commercial interests, but on such closely related details as the creation and guarantee of an inter-ocean waterway."

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.

Washington, Dec. 5.—The following are some of the opinions expressed by members of congress upon the President's message:

Representative Hitt, chairman of the house committee on foreign affairs, said: "The President has summarized and solved in an able and felicitous manner many of the questions in men's minds. His simple proposition to let the new possessions alone under just and firm government by the military arm which conquered them, gives us time for plenty of discussion of all the propositions for their permanent government. The problem of governing the Cubans, he deals with fully, and every body will wish that his forecast of stable government there be realized sooner than ever yet has happened to a Spanish-American population."

Representative Walker, chairman of the committee on banking and currency, said: "I am asked what I think of the currency and banking features of the President's message. I do not see that it has any such features. It contains only one recommendation as to the currency, repeating the substance of a former message to change the United States legal tender notes into gold certificates, which would have no effect on the banking currency situation, but would add to the burden of taxation without in any degree favorably affecting the banking situation."

Mr. Grosvenor of Ohio: "The message is not along the beaten path. It is written in a very attractive style. The contributions to history in the elaborate recitation of the events of the war are in good taste and devoid of boasting or vanity. The message is able and eminently satisfactory, and I believe will be generally endorsed at home and abroad."

Representative Bland of Missouri: "The message so far as the currency question is concerned is very brief and contains nothing new and nothing beyond former recommendations. I might remark that on one of the great leading issues, which is and will be a paramount question, the free coinage of silver, the message is ominously silent, but no proposition on the money question can be considered without at the same time considering that question."

Representative Cummings (Democrat) of New York: "It is a clear concise statement of facts, without speculation, suggestion or recommendation. I have an idea that the real message will be sent in hereafter."

Mr. Richardson (Democrat), Tennessee: "The President makes a most interesting and satisfactory review of the Spanish war, but it is disappointing that he failed to tell us what we are to do with these new possessions."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

"GOLDEN TEXADA."

Sir: In your report of the recent trip to Texada island, after mentioning a few mines, you go on to say other mines are, etc., and mention about ten. This would give outside capitalists an idea that that was about all there were on the island, and the object of this letter is to inform you that on inquiry in the proper quarters I find there are to-day nearly 400 claims on Texada island in good standing, on many of which a considerable amount of work has been done, and in most at least two or three years' assessment work. One requires to spend at least a fortnight on the island, and then cannot see nearly all there is to see. I recently spent four days there, walking about 18 miles a day, and saw but little of what is there; but I saw claim after claim with prospects that would make a miner's heart glad. I used to advertise Texada as the richest spot in British Columbia. I am of the same opinion still.

THOMAS KITCHIN.

GALIANO ROAD OUTRAGE.

Sir:—Galiano island has suffered at the hands of the Semlin government, a gross injustice to the settlers having been committed by the lands and works department. The following is an instance: In the spring of this year a new wharf was built on the island and it was generally understood at the time that the most direct road would be made to it, to connect with the main road in order to accommodate the settlers living in the centre of the island. Such road was laid out and nearly completed, when owing to one of the settlers objecting to the route taken a surveyor was sent up to overlook the work and report. The surveyor failed to see what objection should be made to the proposed road and the work was allowed to proceed. Nearly $300 was spent in carrying out this undertaking. Directly the new government took hold of things the road boss was fired without an explanation, another road foreman appointed with instructions to make an entirely new road to the wharf, the course to be taken to follow along the water's edge, thus making it a matter of an extra mile and a half for the majority of the settlers to get to the wharf, as well as being a long and winding road, which if drawn out upon a map would closely resemble an old cow trail. It is said that the new road foreman is of opinion that the road to the wharf as already laid out was the most suitable as it would accommodate the greatest number of settlers, who would have to make use of such road, and is the shortest road. A protest meeting was held, and a petition was prepared and signed by every one of the settlers with four exceptions, praying that the matter of road construction be re-considered and a private letter to Mr. Semlin himself was forwarded, asking that some consideration might be shown to those settlers who would be the ones to travel over the road; but to no avail. Had Mr. Semlin at this stage of the proceedings caused a halt to be made and instituted rigid enquiries into the whole proceedings, the settlers would have been perfectly satisfied to abide by any decision arrived at, but the abrupt manner he disposes of the whole business, without causing this enquiry, leaves no room for doubt but that he has allowed himself to become a victim for wirepullers. Surely the government represents the people and have we not that right to vote according to our opinions? In this case, however, it is a matter of dividing the spoils among the few, because we happen to return to parliament a man who is not a follower of the present government. The other day at a Flockmasters' Association meeting held at Cowichan, Mr. Semlin addressed the audience and spoke of the great signs of prosperity in the several branches of industries and the opportunities thus offered to the farmer to dispose of his produce, and wished them all success, etc. If Mr. Semlin attempted to manufacture such eloquence and force it into the ears of the people here he would be received with jest and derision for his high-handed act in ordering the road on this island to be taken a certain way, against the wishes of the settlers; he has plainly shown that he does not study the interests of the farmers, his ill-advised instructions being considered by the majority to be detrimental to the interest and welfare of the island.

CHAS. GROTTO,
LEVAN CULLISON,
On Behalf of the Settlers.

Sir: I write to tell you I am another martyr at the hands of the Semlin government. The work of revolutionizing the various departments is going on, and I got my walking ticket as road foreman on Galiano island without any ceremony. In fact, my successor was aware of his appointment long before I got fired. Who recommended him the settlers are at a loss to know. He was thrust in upon them before they had time to realize there was a change of government.

I was considerably surprised at receiving my relief ticket, as only a week before that I was in Victoria and had the pleasure of seeing Mr. Semlin on road matters in our locality, and he promised to aid me in every way possible, and gave me a Judas-like shake of the hand at parting. Some blame our defeated candidate as the principal worker in this good cause of firing the road boss, but I will not believe it. Anyway, the following inscription will be suitable to put across my slab:

"In memory of Roadmaster James Warnock, one of the victims of the Semlin beheading machine, who quietly submitted to the operation on November 9, 1898.

"Our persecutors are swifter than the eagles of the heaven; they pursued us upon the mountains; they laid wait for us in the wilderness.—Lamentations, iv., 9 verse."

JAMES WARNOCK,
Galiano Island, B. C.

FALLEN ON EVIL DAYS.

What a Few Months of Irresponsible Misrule Has Brought About.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 7, 1898.

Dear Colonist:

I enclose a letter just received; one of the many which come to me, because I suppose I have been fool enough to advertise this country with my pen.

Will you send the good fellow what he wants? I don't know who he is, but he does not date from Winnipeg, so I suppose it is no good sending him elsewhere. I cannot help him. I used to get pamphlets or information from Mr. Gosnell, or Col. Baker, or Mr. Forbes Vernon. Yesterday I looked for our librarian, but was told that Mr. Gosnell was librarian no longer—Mr. Scholefield occupied the position—a very charming boy, but I wanted a man with an old head full of statistics. Further inquiry elicited the fact that the new agent general was a secretary to a real estate firm in London—a fair combination surely for the appointee of a party which objects to public persons having business interests, directorates, etc.!

If you like to answer Mr. Julseth, do so. I am ashamed for the present to invite settlers to a country which will let itself be kicked by any little alien bully; which will let its constitution be tampered with, its public service prostituted to secure party votes; its medical men and magistrates insulted, and tried men of experience replaced by alien experiments. British Columbia I know, a country opened up by Scotch and English; Ontario the brave old heart of Canada I know and the Eastern sea board which listens to the waves that old Europe taught its forefathers but it seems to me that although no doubt many excellent Britishers live there, I've heard too much lately of Manitoba with its "Siftings of the Nations," its Gallicians and Huns and Russian refugees; its mixed races and school questions and noisy legal adventurers.

Yours,
CLIVE PHILLIPPS-WOLLEY.

If you will send pamphlets, I'll answer Julseth's main question.

More Petty Thieving.—Complaints are again being made of petty thieving around the city. Mr. P. Winch, of Caledonia avenue, has lost eight ducks during the last few days, and Mr. Kirkpatrick, of Rockland avenue, has lost a nickel watch, a gold ring and scarf-pin from his residence.

Service of Intercession.—In Christ church cathedral to-morrow morning at 11 a service of intercession on behalf of the Local Council of Women will be held. An address will be given by Bishop Perrin.

Paid the Rent.—The $200 owing for rent of the Y. M. C. A. rooms having been paid out of the proceeds of the sale of the piano presented by the late Premier Robson, and which brought $190, and part of the library, the other chattels will not be sold for a couple of weeks.

Civic Elections.—Ald. Humphrey has a formal notice on the bulletin board at the city hall, arranging the dates and polling places for the election of mayor and aldermen for 1899. He will move that the nominations be held at the city hall on January 9, and the elections on the 12th. For mayor the polling will take place at the city hall, and for aldermen for all wards at the city market. Mr. W. W. Northcott is named as returning officer. The naming of the deputies will be left until the motion is submitted to the council.

Sits Early.—Some of the litigants were rather late yesterday at the sitting of the Small Debts court, because it does not seem generally known that the court sits at 9 o'clock on Wednesday, instead of 10:30 a. m., as formerly. His Honor Judge Lampman sets quite an example in early rising, and being of an energetic nature, likes to tackle his work vigorously and polish it off as promptly as possible. Daniel Webster used to be cited as a model for the young in early rising.

Disputed Accounts.—H. J. O'Leary sued R. McDonald in the county court yesterday for $300, claimed to be due plaintiff as the balance o his share in the sale of the Mirror saloon. The saloon was sold for $1,000, and plaintiff, who was an equal partner with defendant, received $200, defendant, as a result of a dispute over the accounts of the business, declining to pay the rest of the money, claiming that plaintiff was responsible as manager for certain losses not accounted for. Mr. Justice Martin held that as the plaintiff and defendant were equal partners, the loss should fall on both alike, and the registrar was directed to take accounts to see how the matter stood. Mr. Frank Higgins for plaintiff; Mr. A. D. Crease for defendant.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

CURE

Sick Headache and relieve all the troubles incident to a bilious state of the system, such as Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Distress after eating, Pain in the Side, &c. While their most remarkable success has been shown in curing

SICK

Headache, yet Carter's Little Liver Pills are equally valuable in Constipation, curing and preventing this annoying complaint, while they also correct all disorders of the stomach, stimulate the liver and regulate the bowels. Even if they only cured

HEAD

Ache they would be almost priceless to those who suffer from this distressing complaint; but fortunately their goodness does not end here, and those who once try them will find these little pills valuable in so many ways that they will not be willing to do without them. But after all sick head

ACHE

is the bane of so many lives that here is where we make our great boast. Our pills cure it while others do not.

Carter's Little Liver Pills are very small and very easy to take. One or two pills make a dose. They are strictly vegetable and do not gripe or purge, but by their gentle action please all who use them. In vials at 25 cents; five for $1. Sold by druggists everywhere, or sent by mail.

CARTER MEDICINE CO., New York.

Small Pill. Small Dose. Small Price.

FIRST-CLASS OPENING—To one who can afford to wait a little. Let or sale very cheap. $2,000. The Cowichan Lake Hotel, Vancouver Island. Has warranted a good rent ($1,000) for several years, and will again, when the logging starts. Charter for railway applied for. Good opening to combine stock farming, having 160 acres, with lots of feed. Apply L.D., 33 Birdcage Walk, Victoria, B.C. n16

FOR SALE CHEAP—Leaving the country. One of the most beautiful homes on Vancouver Island; on the Quamichan Lake; two miles from railway (Duncan); 60 or 115 acres, as desired; nearly half cleared; 13-room house (hot and cold water); large double barn and other buildings; close to first-class trout and salmon fishing, shooting, etc., also to good tennis club. Apply to L. D., 33 Birdcage Walk, Victoria, B.C.

Oct. 30.