

Britain Will Support China

Important Announcement Made the British House of Commons.

No Power Will Be Allowed to Interfere With the Railroad Contract.

London, March 9.—In the House of Commons today the parliamentary secretary of the foreign office, the Right Hon. William St. John Broderick, replying to a question on the subject, said Her Majesty's government had not modified its undertaking to support China against a power committing aggression in China, because the latter had granted British powers the right to make or support a railroad or public work, but, he added, the government did not expect that a question of this description would arise with respect to the British contract, for the northern railroads.

The foregoing question and answer arose from the Russian protest against the British railroad contract, and the statement of the British minister at Peking, Sir Claude M. MacDonald, that any attempt to repudiate the contract would be regarded as a breach of faith meriting retributive measures. At the same time he recalled Lord Salisbury's assurance of support for China, if another power should attempt to force her to repudiate the contract.

POPE LEO'S CONDITION.

His Holiness is Reported To Be Making Rapid Progress Towards Recovery.

Rome, March 9.—An examination of Pope Leo's wound was made today by Dr. Mazzoni, who found it was making excellent progress. His Holiness hopes to recommence his receptions shortly. The fact that Dr. Lipponi has again raised the rumor of the Pope's death, and that the Pope is suffering from a severe cancer, but his physicians unequivocally deny this. They say the patient has a good appetite and is recovering rapidly.

ARMING THE FILIPINOS.

An American Traveller Says Arms Are Supplied by a Firm in Shanghai.

Cincinnati, Ohio, March 9.—Mr. H. M. Shoemaker, of this city, an author and traveller, has returned from a year's tour through India and the Philippines. He spent the greater part of the month of January in and about Manila, where he made a study of the Filipinos. He says self government by the Filipinos will be impossible, and that the natives would soon relapse into savagery. They are, he says, naturally a treacherous and unscrupulous race. They used the iron rule of good government to keep them within the bounds of civilization. The half-caste class in Manila, corresponding to the Mulatto, are the most intelligent.

Speaking of how the insurgents procure arms, Mr. Shoemaker says that a firm in Shanghai, consisting of five brothers, furnished arms, and escapes the responsibility by representing that each one is a resident of a different country, so that if one nation objects the blame can be laid on some other country.

INSPECTION OF UNITED STATES TROOPS.

Valletta, Island of Malta, March 9.—The United States transport Sheridan from New York on February 19 for Malta arrived here yesterday. By permission of the governor of Malta, General Sir Arthur James Lyon Freemantle, the American troops, consisting of 2,000 men, landed today and the governor attended by his staff, inspected them on the Florida parade grounds. Subsequently the Americans marched past the American troops, accompanied by a band of the Mediterranean station, and Major-General Lord Conington, commanding the infantry brigade, with their staff, were present. There was also a large attendance of naval and military men, and an immense concourse of people as spectators.

DEWEY'S HEALTH.

Washington, D.C., March 9.—When his attention was called to the statement that Admiral Dewey is breaking down and cannot last a month longer, Secretary Lamb said that he had no information whatever on this point. The stories of the admiral's ill health have been in circulation with more or less persistence for the past four months. They are all traceable to private reports, and though the officers of the navy who have returned recently from Manila state that Dewey's health so far as it could be gauged from his appearance, is about the same as it has been for the past year, they agree that the private reports probably have a basis of fact. Dewey will be 62 years of age on December 31, and for many years has not been a strong man physically.

He has been afflicted with rheumatism for fourteen years and nothing seemed to give him any relief. I was able to do almost all the time, but constantly suffering. I had tried everything I could get hold of, and at last was told to try Chamberlain's Pain Balm, which I did, and was immediately relieved and in a short time cured. I am happy to say that I have not since returned. —Josh. Ed. Bennett, Monticello, N.Y.

PAPAL NUNCIUS DEAD.

Rome, March 9.—Mr. Clari, the Papal nuncio here, who was stricken with apoplexy yesterday, is dead.

CONTINUES TO IMPROVE.

New York, March 9.—Kipling continues to make steady progress toward recovery. His sleep is better and more refreshing, lasting several hours at a time. His brain power is still impaired, but that is only a temporary condition resulting from extreme physical sickness. Only one nerve remained in Mr. Kipling's room last night, and there were no calls for her services. Mr. Kipling was removed at 11 o'clock this morning to another room in the hotel. The new room is larger and has a more cheerful outlook. It is hoped the change will do the patient good. Mr. Kipling is very much improved and took a breakfast of beef tea, oysters and eggs. Little Elsie is sitting up in bed and on the high road to recovery.

MAIL BAGS RECOVERED.

London, March 9.—Six mail bags belonging to the Dominion line steamer Labrador, which was wrecked about four miles from Skerryvore, off the coast of Scotland, on March 1st, while on her way from St. John, N.B., to Liverpool, have been recovered.

HER HEAD CRUSHED IN.

Murderous Assault by an Unknown Man in New York—He Used a Brick.

New York, March 9.—Apparently for some trivial reason a man crushed in a woman's skull with a brick early this morning at Thirteenth street and Fourth avenue. The police are trying to find the man who fled after the assault, leaving the woman unconscious on the sidewalk. Kitty Costello, 19 years old, is at the Bellevue hospital, and will probably die in a few hours. The man and Kitty, evidently strangers to each other, met at the street corner this morning. What started the quarrel is a mystery.

DR. RAFFAELI'S SUCCESSOR.

Washington, March 9.—The state department has been informed that Dr. Raffaeli has sailed from Germany for New York en route to Samoa. He has been named by the German government to replace Dr. John Raffaeli, the late president of the municipal council at Apia, who has just arrived at San Francisco on his way back to Berlin.

SPERM ON BLACK SEA.

St. Petersburg, March 9.—A hurricane raged over the Black Sea for four days and numerous casualties among shipping have been reported. Two English steamers are ashore near Pott, a Turkish steamer has been wrecked and a sailing ship bound for Theodosia has been sunk. The crew of the latter perished.

ELECTION IN ENGLAND.

London, March 9.—In the election yesterday in Eland division, west riding of Yorkshire, for a successor in parliament to Mr. Thomas Wayne, Liberal, resigned, the Liberal candidate, Mr. Charles P. Trevelyan, was elected by a majority of 984. At the last election the Liberal majority was 306.

MOB LAW IN MISSOURI.

Missouri City, Mo., March 9.—This morning sixty masked men battered down the jail door and seized Odit Summers, who was locked up on a charge of vagrancy. They took him to the public school ground, stripped him, tied him to a tree, and lashed him forty times with a twisted grass rope. He was then released and warned to leave Clay county and never return. The mob afterwards secured Jim Jackson, Jesse Yates, Jr., Jos. Ashby, Dennis Stevens and Ben Monkers. The five prisoners were taken to and demolished to leave Clay county. The victims declare that they do not know why they were punished.

VICTORIA BATTALION.

List of Promotions Among the Officers of the Local Battery Announced To-Day.

Ottawa, March 9.—(Special)—The writ has been issued for the election in Lewis. The nomination takes place on the 22nd and the election on the 20th instant. The following officers were gazetted to-day: Fifth British Columbia Regiment, 1st battalion, to be major, Lieutenant J. P. Hibben; to be captain, Lieutenant B. H. T. Drake; to be 2nd lieutenant, provisionally, H. McA. Graham; to be surgeon-major, E. C. Hart, M. D., vice G. Dunne, M. D., retired. Lieutenant-Colonel Otter, Lieutenant-Colonel Hon. M. M. Gibson, Hamilton, and Lieutenant-Colonel Irwin, Ottawa, have been appointed honorary A. D. C.'s to Lord Minto.

ANOTHER BIG NUGGET.

Weighing Over Twenty Pounds in Western Australia.

San Francisco, March 9.—The steamer Alameda brings news of the finding of a gold nugget in Western Australia weighing twenty and a half pounds, and valued at \$20,000. The strike was made early in February by McEneaney, and a man named Parkes, about twenty miles from Marble Bar, in the Filbar gold fields. The massive slug, together with 200 ounces of smaller nuggets, was uncovered just two miles north of where the Pantomine nugget, weighing 94 pounds, was found by a man named Boyle nine years ago.

A FATHER'S GRIEF.

Committed Suicide Because His Daughter Was Arrested.

New York, March 9.—Ralph Seither killed himself in his room in Newark today because his 14-year-old daughter had been arrested for stealing \$15. In the police court to-day, when the judge heard of the father's suicide, he remitted a fine of \$15 he had imposed and allowed the fatherless girl to go free.

Protecting Her Majesty

Extraordinary Precautions Taken by Government to Guard the Queen.

British Sovereign Will Proceed to the Riviera Through Lines of Soldiers.

London, March 9.—The Queen has postponed her departure to the south of France until Saturday next, in consequence of a storm in the channel. The postponement of Her Majesty's departure is a striking illustration of the extreme care and of the precautions with which she is surrounded. Instead of going in her own yacht to Cherbourg, as usual, she decided to avoid the long sea trip and go from Folkestone to Boulogne-Sur-Mer in a special passenger boat, which has been chartered for the eighty minutes' trip. All sorts of stabling and platforms had been erected at Folkestone, where Rear Admiral John Fullerton, aide-de-camp to the Queen, who has been in command of the royal yacht Victoria and Albert, since 1884, and a host of court officials, have been superintending the arrangements. Two trial trips have already been made and everything was in readiness to-day.

At Boulogne-Sur-Mer, in addition to the large force of gendarmes and custom house officials, two battalions of infantry were in readiness, while the entire railroad line to Nice was guarded by soldiers, posted at intervals, supplementing the usual force of railroad employees detailed for duty in such emergencies.

The French government is taking unusual precautions on account of the supposed hostility of a portion of the people to the Queen.

All these arrangements in France were upset by a dispatch from Rear Admiral Fullerton postponing the journey on account of the weather prevailing in the channel. He classed as a "storm" whereas only a moderate sea was running.

BRITAIN'S ONLY POLICY.

Lord Charles Bessford Thinks There Will Be War Unless the Open Door is Maintained.

London, March 9.—A representative of the Associated Press interviewed Lord Charles Bessford on his return from a tour around the world. Lord Charles reiterated his well-known views on the subject of the "open door" in China, as the only policy of Great Britain. He said, "It is impossible to estimate the importance of the Chinese market, a single province of which was worth the whole of Africa from a commercial point of view. The Admiralty also said that there would be war unless the 'open door' policy should be adhered to. In an interview with a Daily Mail reporter he insisted that if all the powers began grabbing land in China, it could only result in quarrels and war. 'It is absolutely necessary,' he said, 'to keep China on her feet. Better stand up now for the open door than venture upon the dangerous course of spheres of influence. I do not suggest a cut and dried alliance. I do not trust America will join an alliance. But America, Britain, Germany and Japan might agree to work together to maintain the open door. The provincial rulers are more progressive than those of Peking. They all favor the open door policy and only want to save China's face, but they think we are afraid of Russia.'

ONLY BRITISH NEED APPLY.

Pekin, March 8.—Sir Claude M. McDonald, the British minister, has informed the officials of the Chinese foreign office that any attempt to repudiate the railroad contract will be regarded as a breach of faith meriting retributive measures. At the same time the minister has received Lord Salisbury's assurances of support for China if any other power attempted to force her to repudiate the contract.

POSTMASTER ARRESTED.

He is Held on a Charge of Tampering With the Mails.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., March 9.—Edward F. Bogard, postmaster of Wilkesbarre, was arrested to-day charged with tampering with the United States mails. About two months ago several complaints were lodged with the postal authorities at Washington that the mail was disappearing, or that which they received bore evidence of having been opened by a steaming process. Detectives found the postmaster seated at his desk on which were three letters addressed to prominent business men of this city, and all of them open. Mr. Bogard, besides being the editor of the Evening Leader of this city, is a member of a large number of lodges and for the past ten or twelve years has been an active member of the baseball association. The news of his arrest has created a sensation.

ROYALTY TO VISIT THE STATES.

Prince Henry of Prussia and His Wife Will Return From China by Way of America.

Berlin, March 9.—It is stated that in pursuance of the Emperor's order, Prince Henry of Prussia and his wife, the Princess Irene, who are both in China, will return in the spring of 1900 by way of America, going with three first-class warships around Cape Horn. They will visit the Eastern cities of the United States. It is the Emperor's idea thus to complete the friendly entente with the United States, which he is cultivating.

EXTRADITION REFUSED.

Lothbridge, N.W.T., March 9.—An interesting case was concluded here to-day. David Eckley, an American citizen, charged with burning in April last, in Butte, Montana, a building which cost a quarter of a million dollars, belonging to the Alaska Copper Mining Co., was brought to the object of the arrest was to extradite the prisoner, and the case was argued before Judge Rouleau and an extradition commissioner. Mr. Gerny appearing for the state of Montana, together with Mr. Conroy, C. C., of Lothbridge. Mr. Harris, of Macleod, defended the prisoner.

The commissioner gave a lengthy summary of the case, and finally decided in favor of the prisoner, chiefly upon the following grounds: The prosecution failed to show that the charge was laid by the state of Montana, no delicto was proved, and there was no important evidence to show his guilt; the most damaging evidence having been given by a woman of no acknowledged religion and not corroborated.

A Martyr's Death.

Rev. Father Victorien, a Catholic Missionary Murdered With Revolting Cruelties.

Savage Chinese Torture Him Barbarically—Details of the Atrocity.

China has been the scene of the death of many missionary martyrs, but it is doubtful if any have been so cruelly tortured as was the latest to give his life for the promulgation of the gospel among the heathen—Rev. Father Victorien, a Catholic missionary at Hwei-Pei. The China Mail gives the particulars of the murder and horrible mutilation of the reverend father. For some time past there has been a feeling of enmity against the Catholics smoldering among the evil disposed, and this at last came to a head in the case of what the Chinese converts call Shih-Kushan. Father Victorien at first made his escape, but was so unfortunate as to be caught by a roving band of rioters, who, after beating him cruelly and stripping him almost naked, tied him on a board and brought him in triumph back to his former home, where a large band of rioters were assembled whose evil passions had been stirred up by the burning out and slaying of converts in which they had been indulging. In sight of his late home they tied the poor priest up to a tree, and here I would gladly draw a veil over the rest of this ghastly scene, but that I feel that the world should know of what the Chinese, in their hour of triumph over a defenceless foreigner, are capable, and I would warn all readers who are inclined to be ungenerous, to read no further, or to turn away their eyes from what follows. "As this poor man hung from the tree to which he was tied, pieces were cut from his thighs and eaten by his tormentors. From the state of his poor body it was evidently plain that he had slugs were fired into non-vital parts. Finally his body was cut open from the chest to the bottom of the abdomen, he was disembowelled, and the various organs were taken out and eaten by the semi-civilized people, who at the same time drank his blood. He was also mutilated in a way that cannot be described, and his head cut off, there being no room for mercy in the slaughter. Enough to put one's fist in. The head, which I may add is entirely cleaned out of the brain, etc., is easily recognizable, bearing the small brown moustache which he wore. One eye was evidently gone out.

"Now, first, as to how these particulars are known. The poor remains tell their own tale to begin with and I have seen, and they are entirely correct, that they would manifestly result from such treatment as I have described. In addition to this, details are gradually leaking out through native eye-witnesses, who are not only connected with the mission and have absolutely nothing to gain by exaggeration."

The doctor who examined the remains upon their arrival at Ichang, writes: "I wish I could bring home to some of those benighted statesmen who will fatuously insist on regarding and treating this nation of China as a civilized or a half-civilized people. What I saw—and the horror of it will remain fresh in my memory for a long day—was all that was left of what but little more than a month ago was a fine, enthusiastic young Roman Catholic priest, who came out some 18 months ago to bring light and religion to a people who have done him to death in a manner that could not be surpassed by the wildest African savages. Father Victorien was a Belgian, not quite 29 years of age, and was appointed by his bishop some two months ago to Roman Catholic station at Shih-Kushan, in the Patung district, about 100 miles from Ichang."

THE ANDRE-BOREY.

Russian Explorers Return With No News of Missing Aeronauts.

The following telegram has been received at Stockholm from Baron Reuterskjold, the minister of Sweden and Norway in St. Petersburg. "The Governor-General of Irkutsk, at present in St. Petersburg, has received a telegram from the Governor of Yeniseisk, dated Krasnojarsk, February 10, evening, stating that the reports of the discovery of the remains of Herr Andree and his companions have received no confirmation."

The mining inspector for the northern Yeniseisk district, who is an energetic and intelligent man, has made an exhaustive search on the Upper Pit river, and the ski-runners whom he sent out found no traces of the expedition."

A VILLAGE WIPED OUT.

Berne, March 9.—The village of Rolde, in the Bernese Alps, was totally destroyed by fire last night.

The Situation at Dawson

In Two Months Time Hundreds of People Will Be Without Food.

Relief Committee Is Compelled to Suspend Operations Owing to Want of Funds.

Washington, March 9.—The United States consul at Dawson, Mr. J. C. McCook, under date of January 4th, informs the department of state concerning the condition of the people there as follows: "The situation as to persons who will be out of food in a couple of months is becoming very serious. Many hundreds will be taken care of by the relief committee and by the local authorities, the latter seeing the necessity of taking a hand in relief work. The destitute child, while many of them are not paupers in the strict sense of the word, being temporarily without funds, are compelled to call on the relief committee and finally pay when they receive remittances from the outside. The relief committee at this place is unable to extend any more aid as all funds collected have been exhausted, and they are some two thousand dollars in debt.

"The greatest evil, however, will be the large number of people who will have exhausted their supplies and who will fall to succeed in getting paying claims.

"I know it is not customary for a citizen to provide for destitute citizens of their own country, still I feel it my duty to put this matter before you to take whatever action you deem best."

ATTEMPTS TO ESCAPE.

St. Schoeniague, Que., March 9.—Preparations are almost complete for the double execution of Cordelia Vian and Sam Parslow, the murderer of Isidore Poirier, the husband of the woman. They will hang to-morrow morning and Radcliffe will be the executioner.

A sensation was caused this morning when it became known that Parslow had succeeded at midnight in getting out of his cell in an attempt to escape. He was searched by the warden, Mr. J. Bennett, and wife, F. Holland and wife, Mrs. Morrison, Thos. and Miss Tugwell, who go to Log Cabin, De Forest Yates, Dr. Kinloch and party of ten, Messrs. McDonald, Warwick and Baxter, J. Bennett, of the Victoria Truck and Dray Company, and a party of five Victorians, to Port Simpson, C. H. Ameline and a party of prospectors who are bound to some extent to the upper part of Skerna, the whereabouts of which none of them will divulge. The expedition is a most mysterious one, and each member claims that he has been sworn to secrecy. The majority of the passengers on the Amur, and those who intend sailing on the Danube, are bound to the Atlin district.

SALISBURY HAS A COLD.

London, March 9.—Lord Salisbury is suffering from a cold. He was unable to attend the cabinet meeting yesterday.

INCREASING THE BRITISH NAVY.

London, March 9.—"We understand," says the Times, "that the navy estimates will show an increase for the ensuing year of nearly £3,000,000 over last year's, and will reach almost £28,000,000. It is proposed to add between 4,000 and 5,000 men. The largest share of the increased expenditure, however, is for shipbuilding, repairs and the like."

The same paper commenting editorially upon the foregoing, says: "It is pretty clear that Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, chancellor of the exchequer, will have a admirable opportunity to display his powers as a constructive financier, and we only hope he will rise to the occasion. But he positively must not seek to escape from his difficulties by a further increase in the already oppressive income tax."

A TUG SUNK.

Newport News, March 8.—The German steamship Albino, which has arrived here, reports the sinking of the tug James Bowen with twelve persons on board. The Bowen, having the mud barge Admiral in tow, was caught in a gale and sprung a leak outside of the Cape. The Albino sighted the barge in distress, and after a hard battle with the waves succeeded in taking off the captain and crew of the sinking barge. The second mate of the Albino was washed overboard while making the rescue.

CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH-REMEDY.

This remedy is intended especially for coughs, colds, whooping cough and influenza. It has become famous for its cures of these diseases, over a large part of the civilized world. The most flattering testimonials have been received, giving accounts of its good works; of the aggravating and persistent coughs it has cured; of severe colds that have yielded promptly to its soothing effects, and of the dangerous attacks of croup it has cured, often saving the life of the child. The extensive use of it for whooping cough has shown that it robs that disease of all dangerous consequences.

For sale by Langley & Henderson Bros., wholesale agents, Victoria and Vancouver.

A special to the Times from Nansimo says: "Fire was discovered in the engine room of the steam-freighter Selkirk about 5:30 o'clock last evening. With the assistance of the fire brigade and the steamer Joan the fire was extinguished with little loss to the cargo. The loss to the boat will amount to about five hundred dollars. No insurance."

The Selkirk is a late addition to the fleet of steam-freighters which make this port their headquarters. She was built for her present owner, Capt. Wm. Grant, about a year ago, and is commanded by Captain A. Bissett. Of late she has been carrying freight between Vancouver and Nansimo.

Thomas Montague Morrison Wilde, third Baron Truro, grand nephew of the celebrated Baron Truro, former Lord Chancellor of England, died yesterday at Mentone in his 43rd year.

Along the Waterfront.

Capt. Gaudin, agent of marine and fisheries, returned last evening from Nelson, where he has been conducting an investigation into the cause which led to the wreck of the steamer Ainsworth on Kootenay lake last winter. As will be remembered, the steamer was caught on her side and sank with awful suddenness. Nine persons lost their lives in the disaster; six of the crew, the mate, steward, cook, two firemen, and one deck hand and three passengers. The evidence of Captain Gaudin, and the second mate, two deck hands, two passengers, the builder and three who at one time or other were owners of the lost vessel, was taken by Capt. Gaudin, and is now being typewritten for submission to Ottawa. There was nothing in the evidence to throw any more light on the disaster. The steamer, it was shown, was swamped, and falling on her side filled and sank. One thing was proven, however, and this was that had there not been so great a hurry to leave the lost river steamer, without doubt loss of life would not have resulted. The drowned men, it seems, swamped the boat, in which they might have found safety, in their haste to leave the steamer.

Steamer Amur sailed from Port's wharf at noon for the north, carrying a large number of prospectors, the greater part of her accommodation being taken up. A partial list of the passengers, which, as will be seen, includes a number of Victorians, is as follows: F. Dickinson, E. P. Colley, F. Ewart, W. J. B. Cowell, James McNamee, H. C. McLeod, J. Abernethy, F. Broderick, A. McKay, Mrs. Chivilianson, A. B. Edg, G. Thorne, James Smith, William Smith, C. Gardiner, C. E. Gardiner, J. H. Watson, P. E. Jarson, O. Graham, J. Ball, C. Rivar, C. W. Dellgren, E. Larsen, J. Tracey, F. Laver, C. Chonoy, D. McCrimmon, J. K. Conde, W. McGill, B. C. Howell, James Hogg, H. M. Wilson, J. R. Noot, J. Marshall, J. A. McLean, W. H. Thomson. The company there were also 14 equine and 26 canine passengers. The hold was well filled with freight, mostly supplies for the northern merchants. The Danube will follow the Amur to Lem canal at ten o'clock this evening. She will be well filled with freight, including big shipments of lumber for the river steamer being built at Lake Bennett by Captains Irving and Armstrong. Those ticketed to sail on her up to the time of going to press were for Skagway, Capt. John Irving, who goes to Bennett to look after the construction of the river steamer Mr. and Mrs. Melvieux and daughter, Mr. Lodi and wife, F. Holland and wife, Mrs. Morrison, Thos. and Miss Tugwell, who go to Log Cabin, De Forest Yates, Dr. Kinloch and party of ten, Messrs. McDonald, Warwick and Baxter, J. Bennett, of the Victoria Truck and Dray Company, and a party of five Victorians, to Port Simpson, C. H. Ameline and a party of prospectors who are bound to some extent to the upper part of Skerna, the whereabouts of which none of them will divulge. The expedition is a most mysterious one, and each member claims that he has been sworn to secrecy. The majority of the passengers on the Amur, and those who intend sailing on the Danube, are bound to the Atlin district.

The old rumor that the Canadian Pacific Navigation Company would shortly place a good sized steamer on the coast route from Vancouver, was revived in local shipping circles this morning by the arrival of the steamer, which already has steamers on the west coast route, and business men of Victoria have recently strongly advocated steamer accommodation up the inner channel, claiming that a good deal of the trade of some very promising mining camps would then go to Victoria. Mr. Vincent, of the C. P. N. Co., says that the placing of a steamer on that route has been spoken of from time to time, but it is not likely that any action, at present, at least will be taken. The trade up the coast has increased greatly since last year, so much so that the Union Steamship Company find it necessary to place their steamers on the route, and a still larger and more commodious steamer is, it is said, to be put into service. Mr. Darling, manager of the Union Steamship Company, has returned from San Francisco, whither he went, to if possible, purchase a steamer suitable for this service, according to the Province. This mission did not prove successful, and he is now having a steamer somewhat larger than the Comox built probably in Vancouver. Just when the new steamer will be ready for work it is difficult to say, but it is understood that work will be resumed in a few days, and is here being overhauled and repaired.

The Transportation Bureau of the United States War Department has decided to allow British ships to compete with American vessels in transporting freight from the Pacific Coast to Manila. This has been brought about by the efforts of the San Francisco shipping combine to exact exorbitant charter rates from the government. The British vessels are to be given the freight if they put in the lowest bid. They will be allowed to keep their own flag, and no change of masters or crew will be demanded. A despatch from Washington says that Col. Bird, chief of transportation, in an interview said the government is asking for bids for 7,000 tons of freight now stored at San Francisco and for large quantities of hay and feed. If British ship owners get the contract for transporting this freight to Manila, it they bid the same as American owners the American ships will be given the preference. Col. Bird denies that the government has been negotiating privately for British bottoms.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

Albany, N.Y., March 9.—Mr. Maher's bill abolishing capital punishment, on the order of third reading, was made a special order for Monday evening in the assembly.

A GARD.

Reverend A. H. Macfarlane, Frankfort, Ont., advises all men who are weak and who desire a speedy and perfect cure to write to

DR. G. N. ROBERTS,

252 Woodward Ave., Detroit, Mich.