Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, MAY 20, 1887.

CANADIAN RAILWAYS AND CANALS.

From the annual report of the Minister of Railways and Canals we learn that the total distance between the terminal points of the Canadian Pacific railway, Callandar and Port Moody, by the route finally adopted via Winnipeg and Kicking Horse Pass is 2,847 miles, of which the company built 1,906 miles; from Callandar to Port Arthur 649 miles, Red River to Savona's Ferry 1,257 miles. The portions built by the government are Port Arthur to Red River 428 miles, Savona's Ferry to Port Moody 213 miles; total 641 miles. The distance between Port Moody by this line is 2,037 miles, and between Montreal and Port Moody 3,691 miles. The arrangements by which the company discharged its indebtedness to the government have been duly carried out, and the whole road is now the property of the company. The entire subsidy of $25,000,000 has been paid to the company, and the $30,000,000 loan liquidated. The several lines operated and maintained by the government during the past fiscal year were: The Intercolonial and its extensions, 866 miles; Eastern extension, railway, 80 miles; Windsor Branch (maintenance only), 32 miles; Prince Edward Island, 212 miles. The through ocean mail line from Point Levis, Quebec, to Halifax is 688 miles in length. The total loss in working these roads was $190,637.15. The total cost of the Intercolonial Railway and equipment chargeable to capital account at the close of the fiscal year 1884-5, was $43,626,608.99. The expenditure chargeable to capital account was $546,134.17, making the total cost up to 30th June, 1886, $44,172,743.16. The gross earnings for the year were $2,383,200.77, and working expenses $2,489,243.61. The earnings show an increase of $15,000 over the previous year. Though the loss on operation amounts to $106,042.84, no less than $115,000 have been charged against the earnings of the year for improvements of a character generally charged to capital and representing works over and above ordinary maintenance and renewal. There was a decrease in the quantity of lumber transported, and an increase in the quantity of coal. Comparison of the traffic returns of the road for the decade comprised in the fiscal years from 1876 to 1886 shows that the gross earnings have doubled, the amount of freight has increased one and a half times, and the number of passengers is larger by one-third. The canal receipts for the year were $364,456.40. The total amount expended for the fiscal year by the department was $12,522,772.15, of which $1,667,181.34 was on canals, and the balance on railways.

THE UNHAPPY CZAR.

Alexander III., Emperor of all the Russias, was born in 1845. He is the son of an emperor, his wife the daughter of a king, and his five children are known to the world as grand dukes or grand duchesses. He is the absolute ruler of nearly an hundred millions of subjects, the possessor of numerous palaces and abundant wealth, is in the prime of life and in excellent health, and yet he is not happy. In fact, so miserable and terror-stricken is he that not the humblest subject anywhere need envy him his high position. A little more than six years ago, he came to the throne suddenly at the death of his father, the late czar. He, too, had lived in mortal terror, and barely escaped frequent attempts at assassination for a period of years, and was at last, in the open street of St. Petersburg, horribly and fatally mangled by an exploding bomb. Alexander III. came to the throne under unfortunate circumstances. He found nihilism rampant, and was compelled by paternal regard, as well as his coronation oath, to bring the regicides to punishment. He was thus, at the very outset of his reign, brought actively into deadly controversy with the nihilists. Many of them have been executed, imprisoned or banished, but an ever recruiting army of assassins has dogged his footsteps. All the power of his armies and fleets and castles, all the wisdom of his counsellors, and all the zealous and watchful guardianship of thousands of police cannot give to him a feeling of security such as is possessed by the humblest citizen in this country. Like his father before him he fears to be seen, or even to reside in his splendid capital St. Petersburg. He has, since the late attempt upon his life, banished himself to Gatschina, a little town some miles distant. There he is surrounded by a triple line of defence. The place has been made as safe as it is possible against assault from without or treachery from within, and yet even there, while venturing into his garden recently, he was shot at and narrowly escaped his death. The empress, it is said, never leaves her palace, in which the husband, one of the mightiest of earthly rules, is a prisoner. He holds the power of life or death of millions of others, but his own life is in momentary danger from his enemies. Who would be a czar under such conditions? And what is to be the end of the controversy? It is dreadful to contemplate the reckless bloodthirstiness which continually hunts for the czar's life, but until liberty and constitutional government are conceded to the people who is there doubts that the attempts at assassination will be repeated? Or who doubts that in the end they will be fatal? The death of Alexander III. will not satiate the deep-rooted hostility which pursues him as it pursued his father. Nothing but an entire change of policy, an abdication of his absolute powers, and a concession of popular government can ever give stability to the Russian throne, or render the life of the sovereign secure.

FREEDOM ON THE HIGH SEAS.

We have never had any doubt, says the San Francisco *Call*, how the administration would decide the Alaska fishery question, though we have been amused at the persistency with which paper after paper on this coast has been deluded into publishing dispatches stating that the treasury department had resolved to maintain the unlawful monopoly of the Alaska Commercial company. We hear now that the government at Washington, having been compelled to admit that English fishermen migh fish in the open waters of Behring Sea without molestation, has decided that American fishermen were entitled to the same privilege. It seems odd that there ever should have been a question on the subject, but there are many odd things in the departments at Washington, and a powerful corporation which has done business with them for years is apt to have a good many friends at the desks. The decision appears to be causing a good deal of anguish to some New York furriers, who predict, in a melancholy way, that the fur seal will soon become as rare as the buffalo, and will some day be as extinct as the dodo. We take pleasure in assuring these gentlemen that their apprehensions are groundless. So long as the islands of St. Paul, St. George, Cooper and Behring are preserved, poaching prevented thereon, and the number of seals which may be killed limited by law, there is no likelihood of any diminution in their number. They are increasing very fast; all the fishermen British Columbia and San Francisco can send out to kill them on the high seas will make little impression on their numbers. Last year it was estimated that 7,000,000 fur seals were gathered together on St. Paul and St. George; all of these, at the usual season, swam from the Southern Pacific through straits in the Aleutian group, and made their landings on the islands; the females brought forth their young, and the entire party resumed their travels, swimming through the same straits and coming down the coast of California into the unknown locality which is their winter turning point in the Southern seas; there was quite a fleet of sealers afloat trying to kill them, yet the total catch was something like 30,000 skins. The fur seal became extinct in the Southern Pacific because it was limited in its breeding place, and males and females, pups and full grown animals were slaughtered indiscriminately. If the seal islands were thrown open to fishermen without restriction, there might be some ground for alarm; but as these islands are likely to be preserved there seems little danger; when the Alaska lease terminates the catch allowed under it may be doubled with safety. There is a Mr. Schayne in New York who is distressed lest the throwing open of Behring sea should diminish the food supply of the seals. Mr. Schayne, who is a furrier, evidently knows more about furs than about fish. He would probably be surprised to learn that if all the fishermen in the world did nothing but fish all the year round in the North Pacific, they would not make an appreciable impression on the myriads of cod, halibut and other fish that inhabit that ocean. It was once said by a jocose traveler that if the cod did not eat each other there was some danger of their multitudinous swarms shoaling a sea which is already too shallow for comfort. They are like the sands on the seashore.

THE TARIFF CHANGES.

A great deal of interest was displayed as well in the other provinces of the Dominion as in British Columbia, as to what changes would be made in the tariff. Expectation has been set at rest and the tariff as wired from Ottawa is, on the whole, complete. There seem to be a few inaccuracies doubtless, due to errors in transmission such as are always liable to occur. For instance in several cases the same rate per cent. is given for different articles under last year's and this year's tariff. This will be remedied when the returns are received from Ottawa. As a rule there is a gradual raising in the various articles which can be manufactured in Canada, though these cannot be said in the main to be very excessive. It may be interesting to note some of the changes: Paper, calendered or not, was 22½ per cent. and has been raised 2½ per cent. Writing paper not calendered was 20 per cent. and has been increased 5 per cent. The duty on both is now the same, viz: 25 per cent. Labels for fruit, vegetables, meat, fish, etc., and also tickets, posters, advertising bills and folders were under the old tariff 10 cents per lb. and 20 per cent., and are now 15 cents per lb. and 25 per cent. Cigars and cigarettes were $1.20 per lb. and 20 per cent., but are now $2.00 per lb. and 25 per cent. Potatoes have been raised 5 cents per bushel. Coarse and fine salt, formerly free, has ben raised 10 cents per 100 lbs. in bulk, and in bags or barrels 15 cents per 100 lbs. Earthenware, stoneware, Rockingham, white granite, iron, stoneware, etc., have been raised 5 per cent., being now 35 per cent. In buggies, farm wagons, farm railway or freight carts, pleasure carts or gigs, the tariff has been as a rule raised, railway carts especially so. Table glassware, which was 30 per cent., is now 10 cents per doz. and 30 per cent., a heavy increase. Sole leather has been slightly reduced, the tariff being 3 cents per lb. In an invoice yesterday of 20 soles the difference between the old and new tariffs was $2.40. The reduction will of course be corresponding by greater or lesser amounts on finer articles. Japanned, patent or enamled leather has been raised 5 per cent. being now 25 per cent. Floor oilcloth was 30 per cent. and has been raised 5 cents per square yard and 20 per cent. Other oil cloth under item 318 has been raised 5 per cent. School slates have been raised 1 cent. each. Valises, satchels, carpet bags, pocket books and purses were 30 per cent. and are now 10 cents each and 30 per cent—a raise of 10 cents each which is quite a consideration in those small articles. Twine of all kinds, except those used in the fisheries which are on the free list, formerly 25 per cent. are now 1 cent. per lb and 25 per cent. There is a raise on tomatoes (green) of 20 per cent. and on other vegetables of 5 per cent. Item 475, including all fabrics composed wholly or in part of wool worsted, the hair of the alpaca, goat or other animals upon which there was a duty of 22½ per cent. *ad valorem* has been repealed. They now go under item 473: "all fabrics wholly or in part of wool, worsted, hair of alpaca, goats, etc.," upon which there is a duty of 7½ cents per lb. and 20 per cent. Shirt collars, before 30 per cent, are now 24 cents per dozen and 30 per cent—a heavy increase. Cuffs, before 30 per cent, have been increased by 4 cents per pair. Gas meters have been raised 5 per cent, being now 30 per cent. Mucilage has been considerably raised. The minister of customs, who has a practical knowledge of the ills under which newspapers suffer, has put a duty of 25 per cent on newspapers partly printed. This will have a tendency to keep out holiday periodicals and advertising sheets. Linen or cotton shirts have been raised $1 per dozen, being formerly 30 per cent. Colored fabrics, before 20 per cent, are now 25. The duty on maccaroni has almost been doubled. There is a considerable reduction in the rate on oranges and lemons. An immense raise is noted in the duty on chopping axes, being before 30 per cent and now $2 per dozen and 10 per cent. Broad axes, adzes, etc., have been raised to $3 per dozen, and 20 per cent. All others and knives and five-pronged forks, $2 per dozen and 20 per cent. Hoes and garden rakes are a notable increase, indeed in all these lines of goods the results of the changes in the tariff are most apparent. These latter are $1 per dozen and 20 per cent. Bar iron has been raised, being now $11 per ton. Wire of spring steel is now 12½ per cent. and was before free. This is used in making mattresses. Boiler and other iron plate is now $10 per ton. Hoop, band or scroll or other iron, eight inches or less in width and thinner than No. 20 guage, $13 per ton; a large increase. The same thinner than No. 20 guage 12½ per cent. Rolled channels and angle and T iron is a new item, the duty being 12½ per cent. Iron bridges and structural iron work $25 per ton, provided that the duty shall not be less than 30 per cent. This is a raise of 5 per cent. Malleable iron castings and steel castings have been raised 5 per cent. Plates, sad irons, tailors' irons, etc., have been raised 5 per cent. Iron or steel axles, axle bars, etc., without reference to the stage of manufacture, $30 per ton, but not less than 35 per cent. This is an increase of 10 per cent. Locomotives and other steam engines, boilers and machinery, composed wholly or in part of iron and steel, 30 per cent., being a raise of 5 per cent. Locomotive tires of Bessemer steel in the rough are a new item, the duty being 10 per cent. Boiler tubes or flues, or stays of rough iron or steel, a new item, 15 per cent. Safes have been raised 10 per cent. Scales, formerly 20 per cent., are now 30 per cent. Wire, except for submarine cables, is the same as before. Sledges, track tools, wedges and crow bars of iron and steel are rated at 1½ cents. per lb and 30 per cent., an increase of 1½ per cent. Carriage hardware 35, and all others 30 per cent. Cut nails and spikes of iron formerly ½ cent. per lb and 10 per cent. are now 1 cent. per lb, a heavy raise. Fire brick on which a duty of 20 per cent. was formerly levied is now on the free list. Anthracite coal, now free, was under the old tariff 50 cents. per ton. Bituminous coal remains as it was, 60 cents. per ton. Jeans 25 per cent., a raise of 5 per cent. Printed or dyed cotton fabrics formerly 27½ per cent. are now 32½. Demijohns or jugs, churns or crocks, have been raised 1 cent. per gallon holding capacity, being now 3 cents. Gold and silver leaf have been raised 5 per cent. Sewing machines under the new tariff $3 specific duty and 20 per cent. have been raised $1 each. Plated knives before 30 per cent. are now 50 cents per dozen and 20 per cent, all other electro-plate ware 30 per cent. Manufactures of plumbago have been raised 5 per cent, being now 25 per cent. These are the principle articles in the tariff in which any appreciable increase can be noted, though in some of the minor items the tariff makes radical changes. It will be noticed that great protection is given to iron and steel manufacture, and it is only for our wealthy men themselves to say whether or not they will take advantage of the government's action. The object of protection is to conserve home industries and there is ample scope in this province for the building of factories and investing money now lying idle. Of course in the changing of tariffs individual cases of hardship will occur, but these can be remedied against. We heard of a case in point yesterday. It will be noticed that the duty on cast iron pipe of every description is $12 per ton. The new tariff will make a difference of about $3 per ton, so that several gentlemen who have made large contracts will be heavy losers. Had a clause been inserted in their contracts providing for such a contingency, such a result would not have happened. On the whole, we think, the country may feel well satisfied with the tariff changes, and it is very evident the government have an eye single to the good of this young and promising Dominion of ours.

THE FRANCHISE ACT.

Several Dominion members appear to be animated with a desire to tinker at the Franchise Act. The cost of preparing the voters' lists last year was something enormous to the country according to the returns brought down, and probably as much again has some out of the pockets of the politicians. Many members, Conservatives as well as Reformers, would not be sorry to see the act wiped out of existence altogether, while others are convinced that manhood suffrage is not far distant. The great stumbling block in the way of manhood suffrage for the entire Dominion is the Quebec contingent, and it would spoil Sir John's argument for a symmetrical franchise throughout the Dominion, although, by the way, it is not quite symmetrical, if he were to propose universal suffrage for Canada, and exclude Quebec from its provisions. It is understood that Mr. Laurier will bring up a resolution shortly affirming the necessity of repealing the Franchise Act, and then we shall have the old tonic thrashed out again. Meantime Mr. Edgar has introduced a bill which seems likely to go through, its provisions being on the whole acceptable. One clause is to ensure greater secrecy of the ballot, by providing that the ballot paper to be used in future must be thicker in quality in order that pencil marks may not be seen through. It is further proposed to make the law clear by inserting a clause in the act affirming the right of deputy returning officers to vote, and with regard to the oath which a deputy returning officer has to make as to the secrecy of his proceedings in preparing the statement of the poll, it is provided that he can make this either before the returning officer or a justice of the peace, as hitherto, or before the poll clerk, so that there will be no excuse for keeping the ballot box open until a magistrate can be obtained.

TRANSCONTINENTAL FREIGHT RATES.

Trade Review: During the week we were shown a telegram from a city house doing considerable trade with British Columbia, cancelling, for the present, at least, certain orders which were in process of completion. The reason given for this was that, in connection with their arrangements necessitated by the passage of the interstate commerce bill upon the other side the lines, the Canadian Pacific railway company had fixed their rates as almost to prohibit trade with Montreal, whose Pacific Coast trade bids fair to be diverted to San Francisco. The rate per 100 pounds from Montreal ex-warehouse has been put at $4.80, while ex-ship at the Montreal wharves it is only $2.10. Thus goods can be brought from Britain and Europe to British Columbia at far cheaper rates than from this city. We direct the attention of the railway company and our merchants to this injurious anomaly.

The full reports of the recent gold discoveries in the Transvaal, if unexaggerated, show that the new Sheba mine is one of the richest in the world. The reef, as these South African miners call a ledge, yields from ten to thirty ounces of gold to the ton, and the supply of this rich quartz is inexhaustible. But an even richer mine than this is the Thomas reef, samples of quartz from which weigh 3,000 pounds yielding 148 ounces of gold. The mines are in the De Kaap valley, and already a new town of 8,000 people has sprung up there. Six months ago there was not a sign of life. The American consul at Cape Town warns American miners of small means not to venture to the new mines, as like the Kimberly diggings this new camp is a costly place to reach.

The British American Bank Note Company have in course of preparation a new issue of $2 Dominion notes. This series is to be issued from Ottawa, (like the $4 issue,) and is to have two printings on the back as well as two on the face, and may be called the jubilee issue, as judging from the approved designs they will be handsome enough to frame.

"IN LIMBO" UNTIL DOOMSDAY.

To the Editor:—In the Journal of the legislative assembly of the province of British Columbia, session 1887, (p. 13) we find the following entry;

Monday, February 7th.

Mr. Martin asked the hon. attorney-general the following questions:

1. How long has J. B. Hill been confined in gaol at Kamloops?
2. For what cause?
3. Who pays for his maintenance?
4. If the provincial government, how much?
5. Has any money been paid by the private prosecutor; and if so, how much?

The Hon. Mr. Davie replied as follows: Mr. Hill is detained under civil process. He was, as I am informed, delivered into custody of the Kamloops gaol on the 11th of May, 1886, by virtue of two writs of *capias*. The province, as is usual in such cases, pays for the maintenance of the debtor. No moneys have been paid by the plaintiff.

Here, then, we have the case of a man deprived, for more than a year, of his liberty under a civil process! Is this procedure correct? If so, the simple order of a judge, in a civil process, suffices to imprison a man for a period indefinite, yea, until the end of his natural life!

And yet we are told that imptisonment for debt has been abolished in this province for nearly a quarter of a century.

Assuming the defendant in question to be a malevolent debtor with means to pay but seeking to cheat and abscond,—why is he not subjected to trial for an attempt at fraud?

No less in the interest of a fair administration of justice than in the interest of the prosecuting creditor, such a debtor should be put upon oath regarding his means, visible and invisible, to liquidate the debt. Should he, by making false statements, commit perjury, he would become amenable under the criminal code and, if outside of the province, he could be reached under extradition creaties.

On the other hand, were he to swear truly to not possessing any means whatsoever, to being penniless—by what right could the government continue to keep him—where they have now kept him since the 11th May, 1886—in gaol?

And the prosecuting creditor—what protection or benefit results to him by the imprisonment of a debtor who is insolvent and who pines away in gaol—jubilee year or no jubilee year—whilst the expense of maintaining him is borne by the public treasury, i. e. by the tax payers. H. J.

LITERARY GLEANINGS.

Professor Huxley's biography of Hume—in the English Men of Letters Series will be published next month.

John G. Whittier has written an introduction to the forthcoming volume of essays written by the late E. P. Whipple.

The Century Company have purchased *The Southern Bivouac*, a magazine devoted to war papers and southern character sketches.

John H. Douglass, M. D., General Grant's physician, is preparing a complete history of his late patient's case, which will soon be published.

The only surviving Plenipotentiary of the Congress of Paris, Baron Hübner, now residing at the French capital is writing a volume of reminiscences, which, it is expected, will prove very interesting.

LET 'ER GO, GALLAGHER.

The Funny Story Told in Ottawa About a Well-Known Winnipeg Butcher.

There was great fun here yesterday with an old chap named Gallagher, from Winnipeg. He is a wealthy cattle man, a most devoted admirer of Sir John, and he comes down once a year to pay his respects. Yesterday forenoon he went around among the members, and finally took a seat in the commons chamber. Thence he surveyed the place, the speaker's chair, the galleries, the glass roof and all the appointments. Heaving a deep sigh, he said:

"Oh, dear! Some of these days Sir John will die, and then this country and the house, and the whole business will go to the devil together."

Mr. Scarth pointed out that while Sir John was a very great man, yet other great men had died and their places had been filled. Mr. Fleming, too, said that though it could hardly be expected that Sir John's place could be readily filled, yet there sat a man at his right who could nearly fill it.

"Who's that?" asked Gallagher.

"Sir Charles Tupper."

"Sir Charles Tupper! he fill Sir John's place! Tupper is about as near to Sir John as Pontius Pilate was to Christ!"

Then Gallagher went off to where the cabinet were in session, and sent in his card to Sir John, demanding an immediate audience. The Premier came out and Gallagher grabbed him by both hands. Then he presented him with a magnificent pair of gold-mounted spectacles. Then he got hold of Sir John's hand again, and in broken tones begged him not to die and not to go out of the ministry, for if he did "that Judas Iscariot Blake" would get in and the country would be ruined. He wound up by kissing Sir John's hand three or four times and fervently invoking Heaven's choicest blessings on his head. John Lamb, of Toronto, who was present, was so overcome that he went into a corner and shed tears, while A. R. Boswell borrowed Secretary Pope's handkerchief and went out into the corridor. Gallagher started for home to-night, and as he went off in the 'bus the crowd shouted, "Let 'er go, Gallagher."—*Toronto World*, May 2.

WILLIAM O'BRIEN

Reaches Montreal and Meets With an Enthusiastic Reception.

Montreal, May 11.—Wm. O'Brien, editor of *United Ireland*, arrived here this morning. His journey was without incident. At St. John's, Quebec, a deputation from the Montreal National League boarded the train. An immense crowd was present on the arrival of the train in this city, who cheered lustily as Mr. O'Brien stepped on the platform. An address of welcome was read by the president of the National League of Montreal. Mr. O'Brien, in reply, thanked his fellow countrymen for their hearty reception and predicted from their auspicious beginning a great success to his mission. He then went on to say: "I came not to offer offense to any section or class of the Canadian people. Quite the contrary. I come not to meddle in Canadian affairs, but to deal with the career of Lord Lansdowne, not as a governor-general, but as an exterminator of 500 human beings. This being a free country we cannot expect everybody to agree with us, but I believe that we have such strength, justice and truth on our side, that when all have heard our story all will be convinced, and that the Canadian people will stretch out their hands and save the lives and properties of these 500 poor tenants of Luggacurran, for both are at this moment at your mercy and in your hands." There was a tremendous rush to shake hands with Mr. O'Brien at the conclusion of this speech. His first regular campaign speech will be delivered this evening.

SHEARER'S TRIAL.

The Jury Decide He is Competent to Make a Defence.

During Tuesday afternoon witnesses were called to give evidence as to the prisoner's sanity.

Dr. Trow, being sworn, stated he had examined the prisoner and had a conversation with him. The prisoner told him he had lived both in the United States and Mexico. Prisoner came to Port Moody about four months ago. Prisoner was constantly the victim of delusions. Prisoner expressed himself that he was frightened lest somebody should try to kill him. Prisoner, during the conversation, seemed much depressed and frequently broke into tears. Prisoner had an insane idea that Murne meant to kill him when he saw him standing on the wharf, and had killed Murne in self-defence. He was of opinion that prisoner was of unsound mind.

Dr. Bentley, being sworn, stated he had examined the prisoner and concluded he was the victim of an insane delusion that some one wished to take his life.

Many other witnesses were called who knew the prisoner and stated that he had acted strangely at times.

The jury decided that the prisoner was competent to make a rational defence.

The court opened Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. The charge was read over to the prisoner, and he pleaded not guilty. The impaneling of a jury was then proceeded with. Mr. Atkinson, for the defense, challenged each juror selected.

DOMINION RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

Annual Meeting in Ottawa—Officers Elected.

Ottawa, May 4—At the annual meeting of the Dominion Rifle Association, the president, Hon. G. A. Kirkpatrick, in the chair, the report spoke of the continued successes of the Canadian team at Wimbledon, also of the results achieved at the annual meeting at the Rideau range, the first occasion on which every province of the Dominion was represented. The balance sheet shows the total receipts from all sources for the year to have been $17,108.28, which, with the balance of $1,319.71, from last year, makes a total on the credit side of $18,427.99. The expenditure amounted to $16,367.63, leaving a balance of $2,070.36 in favor of the association. The expenditure connected with the Wimbledon team this year amounts to $5,977.51, as against $6,235.25 in 1885, being $257.74 less than last year's. Lt.-Col. Kirkpatrick was re-elected president, and Hon. W. J. Macdonald was elected vice-president for British Columbia. A resolution was moved by Col. Otter and carried, inviting a British team to come to Canada and take part in the matches. At a meeting of the council Lt.-Col. Ouimet was re-elected chairman.

CANADIAN PACIFIC.

A Threat to Build a Connecting Line to Chicago.

New York, May 9.—The threats of the Canadian Pacific company to build a line through the Michigan peninsula to reach Chicago are believed to be for the purpose of influencing Vanderbilt's interests in favor of the proposed traffic agreement with the Michigan Central and Canada Southern. The only obstacle in opposition is the Boston & Albany, which fears competition in its New England business. In case this is made the Canadian Pacific will abandon the idea of an independent Chicago connection. It was learned yesterday that no definite conclusion had been reached at the recent conference in Detroit, but it is the impression of well-informed Vanderbilt people that the deal will be completed ere long. On the subject of the proposed attempt to reach Boston, it is understood that the Canadian Pacific will probably secure a satisfactory agreement with the Boston & Maine, whose recent acquisition establishes its system as the chief competitor with the Central Vermont.

A ROW IN STORE.

Toronto, Ont., May 8.—The loyal and patriotic union is preparing a counter demonstration to O'Brien's lecture. There will probably be the biggest row ever seen there.

LATE CANADIAN NEWS.

ONTARIO.

The election of Dawson, for Algoma, is protested.

Veterans of the Fenian raid waited on the government for recognition of their services in '66 and '70. Sir John said he would lay the matter before the queen, from whom all honors came.

In an interview with Sir John he emphatically denied the statement that he would be raised to the peerage. It was the last thing to be thought of, his only desire being to work for the Canadian people.

Dunn and Brown, Peterboro, were fined $50 each for violation of the Scott Act, and Roddy $100 for a second offence.

Bell, M. P., for Addington, has become violently insane, and has been placed in the Rockwood asylum for treatment. The doctors fear the case is almost hopeless.

QUEBEC.

The Royal Canadian Academy has closed. The greater portion of the paintings have been sold, the proceeds reaching over $4,000. Sir George Stephen was the largest purchaser, buying $2,500 worth.

The recent scandalous disclosures in the Quebec *Mercury* libel suit regarding the way contractors have been bled by politicians, have led to a demand for a royal commission enquiry.

The 7th instant being the 50th anniversary of the meeting at St. Ours, which was the starting point of the '37 rebellion, was celebrated at Quebec by the survivors attending mass and a banquet.

A drowning disaster by which three persons, Loneway and his daughter and Fleury, employés in the Magog point works lost their lives, is reported from that village.

News has been received of the sudden death of Thos. Guerin, Q. C., at Ottawa, where he was employed in the government service.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Dr. Duncan, formerly resident physician of the St. John hospital, has gone west a little sooner than his friends expected. There is said to be a woman, a female patient, in the case.

George Moffat, brother of Robt. Moffat, late member for Restigouche, has accepted the conservative nomination for the constituency. If Mr. Moffat succeeds, he will be the third member of his family who has sat for the county. It is thought that he will, as Restigouche is the preserve of the Moffat family.

The Maritime bank, says the St. John *Sun*, is not likely to pan out very liberally. The creditors who cast their ballots for liquidators at the meeting proved claims to the extent of some $968,000. Absent creditors would run the total over $1,000,000. The St. John *Globe*, on the authority of persons well qualified to judge, puts the bank's available assets at not over $200,000. Add to this the face value of the stockholders' double liability $322,000, and the deficiency is practically half a million dollars. But who imagines that the double liability will realize any considerable fraction of $322,000?

The *Trade Bulletin* says that at a meeting of the Montreal creditors of Thomas R. Jones & Co., of St. John, N.B., held here, a statement submitted showed the liabilities to be $166,000 and assets $160,000. An offer was made of 62½ cents on the dollar at four, eight, twelve, and sixteen months without security, but the creditors preferred to investigate the true state of affairs before accepting the offer. The flood in the St. John river, at first looked upon as a curiosity, is now regarded as the direst calamity that has ever befallen the province. The water has risen ten inches, and is now two feet higher than was ever known before. The city of Fredericton is in total darkness, the gashouses having been invaded. The Nerepis bridge, which cost the province nearly $20,000, was swept away. At Westfield great waves dashed over the tracks of the New Brunswick railroad. The overflow at South Branch has increased to almost three thousand feet. At Rothsay, Riverside and Lakeside the Intercolonial railway track is undermined. Heavy winds are prevailing, making matters worse.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Among the names mentioned as successor to Bishop Binney are Rev. John Ambrose, of Digby; Revs. Drs. Hale, Partridge and Murray, of Halifax; Dr. Nicholls, of Liverpool; Bishop Jones, of Newfoundland, and Rev. John Langtry, of Toronto.

BEHRING'S SEA FISHERIES.

Correspondence Refer to the Seizures of British Columbia Sealers Brought Down.

Ottawa, May 13.—The correspondence in reference to the seizure of British Columbia sealers in Behring's Sea was brought down in parliament to-night. The Canadian government has demanded reparation from the U. S. for the seizures, but in the latest reply, dated in January, Secretary of State Bayard, said he could not come to a decision until certain papers reach him from Alaska. In the meantime he gave instructions for the release of the schooners. Since then the captains of the vessels have put in large claims for damages. British Minister West, in conversation with Bayard, presented to him the unjustifiable nature of the seizure. Bayard contended the U. S. had obtained the right to Behring's Sea from Russia. West then pointed out that when Russia had Alaska the U. S. government contested claims similar to these they were now making, which Bayard admitted. West, however, in his despatch to the Imperial government, says Bayard was very conciliatory.

BERNHARDT GUYS

An Omaha Audience Because it was Small, and Gets Hissed.

Omaha, May 8.—The Bernhardt season of three performances closed last night with an unexpected burlesque on "Froufrou." The audience was small and Bernhardt got mad and refused to play, but after considerable talk was induced to go on by the manager of the opera house. She took revenge by giving a burlesque performance. She guyed the actors, who appreciated the situation and joined with her in her plan. Bernhardt introduced a thunder act, herself banging the artificial thunder with a vengeance. Frou-Frou died behind the scenes and was brought before the audience on a stretcher, and other similar innovations were introduced. The audience finally "caught on" and hissed and hissed. Owing to the delay in starting, the performance was not concluded until after midnight.

Bernhardt's receipts for two nights and a matinee amounted to less than $3,000, the smallest she has played to in the United States. She plays to-morrow and Tuesday in Kansas City and then leaves for San Francisco.

FASHIONS FOR SPRING DAYS.

Some of the new bonnets have a slight face trimming of fine flowers just inside the top of the brim.

A leading style in sleeve buttons is a knot of platinum and gold, heavily chased or in contrasted finish.

Both wool and silk materials of all weights and qualities show various styles of weaving in one fabric.

Some very beautiful toilets are made with skirts of rich faille Francaise, and the perfect-fitting corsage is of velvet of a deeper shade.

English dressmakers are using very long and ample skirt draperies upon spring dresses, and decided contrasts in color are also noted.

Some of the new sateens have as designs hennis implements, oars crossed, snowshoes, toboggan figures and the like, upon dark grounds.

That three chancel windows of richly painted glass have been put in St. Paul's church, Buffalo, in memory of Dr. William Shelton, who was rector of the parish from 1829 to 1882.

True repentance is never too late; but late repentance may not be true.

CONDENSED DISPATCHES.

Ice formed half an inch thick at Susanville, Cal., on Thursday night. The entire fruit crop is killed.

The sale of crown jewels began at Paris on Thursday. Ten lots were disposed of, realizing 505,700 francs. Among the articles sold were a diamond necklace for 161,250 francs and a pair of epaulets for 64,000 francs.

A. A. Baker, convicted of a felonious assault on an eleven year-old girl at San Francisco, was Thursday sentenced to twenty years imprisonment at San Quentin.

A denial is made by the *Diarero* of the city of Mexico that the officers concerned in the Nogales affair were shot.

Col. F. P. Hord, a prominent and wealthy citizen, and Captain Geo. Redmond, were indicted Thursday at San Antonio by the federal grand jury on the ground of conspiracy to defraud the government.

Mrs. W. F. Roselle threw vitriol in the face of Chas. Petrie at a boarding house in Los Angelos on Thursday by instructions received from her husband, who said Petrie had insulted her. Petrie's sight has probably gone for ever and his face is a terrible sight.

All members of the Chicago Builders' and Traders' Exchange now working men have been ordered by the executive committee of that organization to stop work immediately. It is estimated that 40,000 men may be affected by the order and that 15,000 will be idle by night.

The Southern Utah line will soon be extended from its present terminus to Los Angelos.

Cardinal Simeoni, charged by the pope to examine the situation in Ireland, recommends his holiness to advise the Irish bishops to abstain from associating themselves with the agitators.

President O'Shea proposed at a meeting of the Nationalists of Limerick held on Thursday, that the Irish boycott the Cunard line if it is proved that the Umbria's captain is implicated in the action of the English mob in insulting O'Brien.

The breach in the personal relations between Gladstone, Hartington and Chamberlain is now complete.

Parnell, who is unfit for prolonged work, returns to London on urgent pressure from Parnellites.

Morley has proposed that he and Gladstone confer with Parnell and Dillon in order to arrange for a concerted action in the matter of amendments to the Crimes Bill. Gladstone is opposed to purely obstructive tactics.

It was stated in the city council at Toronto yesterday afternoon that the council has information that a breach of peace would occur if O'Brien lectures in Toronto. The council will refuse to allow the hall to be used for the lecture. On the whole O'Brien's reception is very chilling.

ABANDONED.

The Ship Ocean King Abandoned with Seven Feet of Water in Her Hold, off Cape Blanco—The Captain's Story.

(Special to The Colonist from Our Own Correspondent.)

Port Townsend, May 13.—The public journals are again called upon to chronicle the loss of another fine vessel. The ship Ocean King, Captain C. H. Sawyer, which was towed from Nanaimo on April 27th by the tug Alexander, coal laden for San Pedro, was abandoned on last Sunday morning with nearly eight feet of water in her hold, fifty miles off Cape Blanco.

Captain Sawyer arrived at Port Townsend Thursday night and related the following account of the unfortunate event to a Colonist representative:

We left Nanaimo on Wednesday, April 27th, in tow, and arrived at Cape Flattery on Friday following. With gentle westerly winds the weather was all that could be desired. On Sunday night a heavy southeast gale struck us, and later the ship was reported leaking. The pumps were immediately manned, with the donkey engine attached. The seas were running mountain high. For five days the pumps were kept continually working. On Friday they became so disabled that the engine could not work them. Then the men themselves manned the broken pumps. The gale had moderated slightly that day, and along in the afternoon it came on again with an increased velocity. The waves carried the pumps away, it was finally recovered and lashed on, and between the waves the men would rush forward and pump for a few minutes, then recede and await another opportunity. On Saturday, May 7th, the gale was still furiously blowing. The men lashed themselves to the pumps and were working for dear life. Sounding the water in the hold it was ascertained that she had seven feet. It was then plain to all that it would be an utter impossibility to keep her above water. At 4 o'clock Sunday morning a sail was sighted five miles to the westward, which bore down upon and offered assistance. She proved to be the sealing schooner Angel Dollie. Taking advantage of the invitation I lowered a boat, which was immediately smashed. The schooner then sent a boat to us, and within a couple of hours had taken all of us off the ship. We were at that time fifty miles off Cape Blanco.

On Friday we perceived a full rigged ship about twenty miles to the westward going south. Through the glasses she appeared to be making good headway. The schooner took us, twenty-six all told, as far as Cape Flattery when we fell in with the United States steam launch Cosmos, belonging to the steamer C. P. Patterson, which kindly brought us to this port, at which we arrived at 11 o'clock Thursday night.

The four masted ship Ocean King was built in Kennebunk, Maine, and is owned by Henry Sears, of Boston, she measures 250 feet in length, 42 feet beam, and 30 feet in depth. The last survey held was in San Francisco in October, 1886.

BAPTISTS DROWNED.

Several Lives Lost in the Mississippi River.

New Orleans, May 8.—Several colored congregations of the Baptist churches in this city have long made it a practice to baptize their members in the Mississippi river at certain selected points, both in the upper and lower districts of the city. The swift current of the river has always made the custom more or less dangerous, but the chances of mishap have until to-day been thought to have been reduced to the minimum by the care exercised in selecting the places for the ceremonies where there were shallow waters. To-day, however, an accident happened at which seven lives are known to have been lost. The Mount Zion Baptist Church has been baptizing its converts at the foot of District street beside a large wharf which extends into the deep water. This morning the congregation gathered at that spot for the usual ceremonies. A large crowd assembled on the wharf, and in the midst of the exercises the railing surrounding it gave way and fully fifty people were precipitated into the river. Around the wharf were a number of skiffs and into them many of the people were thrown, overturning several boats and adding to the number struggling in the water. The occupants of those skiffs which floated set to work and rescued all of those who could be reached. As stated, however, seven are known to have been drowned, and it is believed that from five to eight more perished. Roselina Williams (colored) when she went into the water had a child in her arms. She struggled until she came to the surface and held the child up until one of the rescuing skiffs reached her and the infant was seized and taken on board, and then the mother sank and was carried away by the current. An unknown white woman was drowned under similar circumstances and the rescued baby is held by the police for identification. Many other people were injured, but none seriously.

That Lincoln's Bible, which he read in the White House, has been given by his son Robert to the Lincoln Memorial Episcopal church.

FULL LIST OF THE ALTERATIONS IN THE TARIFF.

Following is the complete list of tariff changes, wired Hon. Collector Hamley on Thursday night:

Shoe blacking, 20 per cent.
Harness and leather dressing, 25 per cent.
Laundry blueing, 30 p. c.
Add to item 97, "illustrated price list, advertising calendars and almanacs," and to item 98, the words "not illustrated;" to item 5—"Braces, &c.," 35