GREATEST MEN.

the Popular British Estimate Living Notables.

recently offered by the edi- sell's Saturday Journal for f the twelve greatest living ult was decided by the votes itors: and, as the poll was heavy, the following cata- distinguished names that be of general interest. It ated that Mr. Gladstone's place in about 90 per cent. papers. The figures below ber of votes given to each

. W. E. Gladstone...32,544
on Bismarck.....32,245
ennnyson.....23,064
ssops.....19,776
Viscount Wolsely...17,952
of Salisbury.....17,592
on Moltke.....13,963
on. John Bright....13,741
andolph Churchill...13,117
uskin.....13,389
rving.....10,560
tanley.....10,141
asteur.....10,116
Huxley.....9,108
H. Spurgeon.....8,232
perer of Germany....7,800
dison.....6,648
W. Beecher.....5,285
Cleveland.....5,280
l. the Prince of Wales.4,981
Millais.....4,885
Gounod.....4,680
arnell.....4,512
ton. J. Chamberlain..4,200
r of Russia.....4,152
ur Sullivan.....3,912
nness, the Pope.....3,744
of Hartington.....3,552
erick Leighton.....3,261
evry.....3,133
Frederick Roberts..3,070
Manning.....2,821
Dufferin.....2,659
ndall.....2,592
Newman.....2,437
Rothchild.....2,256
Wendell Holmes.....1,837
Farrar.....1,704
hop' Benson.....1,560
Browning.....1,188
stinguished man received a s.

DEN THOUGHTS.

l conversation are the best

akes the fewest persons un- st bred in the company.

ould appear at a cold colla- quires carving or cannot be

of a wife or husband is the thing that a man or woman upon.

ch your table napkins. A not soft and pliable is man- or its purpose.

never use your best plate, ; so shall you avoid much and irritation of temper.

akes the heart of host and onder; they relish one an- better for an interval of sep-

f dinners, it is said that "the keeps a good cooks is a gth to his party."

the mother of the world. It gdoms and fills cities and Heaven itself.

man is very pretty one new r dress and when the dress ng one forgets to look at the

be no surer proof of low orig- nnate meanness of disposi- be always talking and think- enteel.

the paradise of youth and e have turned forty we re- eariness and a delusion, and perhaps, as fit only for fools. m should be a series of together by a few suitable people, however, in their ing out their words, forget

lk be always adapted care- and place. Don't prate about o a doctor, or the blessings a young lady engaged to be

sh and pure, from the well he best writers and speakers the vehicle in which your conveyed, and the planer better.

jewlery. A man never looks tage than when he enters on with a jeweler's show love of charms, and trinkets survival of barbarism.

, be a gentleman; that is, fined, genial, just in the of motives, prompt to for- give, patient, humane, ten- s. If thou dost seek to real- excellences of the Christian humably strivest to imitate charity, patience, endurance, ice, then shall it be said of yson has said of his friend, m.

PULAR SCIENCE.

Wm. Dawson says is bitum- bod.

o Prof. J. Norman Lockyer, stronomer, the total number ch some knowledge can be e optical aid now available ,000 to 50,000,000.

necessary to have different in a current of electricity. acid and iron in sulphuric s being separated by a por- will give a current, one away while the other is

ade experiments at the Uni- nnsylvania, conducted by have shown that some of Mr. hotographic exposures were s of time varying from the ndth to the one five-thou- bond.

of the wonderful progress le in microscopical science d by the fact, as stated by of the British Association sults are now attained in mathematicians five years be impossible.

s been issued in Lower Aus- manufacturers and trades- kel-plated cooking vessels. at vinegar and other acid olve nickle; and that this, of one-seventh of a grain, g, and is even more poison- er.

a rival in an alkaloid ob- alia from the juice of *Eu- mondii*, which Dr. John verer, calls drumine. ne thetic is said to act almost alyzing, and does not ex- e genus of which the com- is a member, and nearly all crid juices.

raser of Randolph, Ohio, different remedies recom- e stings, I wish to say that lkalis, soda, ammonia, li- honey, rub with an onion, co, etc., and with thirty nce can say that a small of cinnamon, applied with a nd of knitting-needle or is worth more than all the a little, for it will blister.

of Paris has been doing rk in the photography of photographs of nebulæ by Henry mark one of the ests achieved by this meth- he fine new telescope for ted and brought into oper- e past year at the Paris Ob- been designed for their spe- ready they have achieved with it. It is hopeless to ab- pace with comets now. many watchers and instru- greatly improved that the en to swarm with these er- here has been a plentiful m during the past year, Barnard and Brooks being st notable, all of them es- opic.

Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1887.

From the Daily Colonist, Feb. 24, 1887.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

Vancouver.

A number of Chinese left for Vancouver this morning. The first train arrived in Vancouver yesterday afternoon.

Journalistic.

The old Quebec *Daily Mercury* comes to us in an enlarged and improved form, thus giving evidence of renewed vitality in the hands of Mr. W. J. Maguire, its youthful editor and publisher.

Floating in the Straits.

The lighthouse keeper at Cape Beale reports to Capt. Lewis, agent of marine department, large quantities of new planking washed ashore, marked "P. M. Co." It is either from a wreck or from the deckload of some vessel.

Chicken Thief.

Officer Carter arrested a Chinaman named Oh Jack yesterday afternoon, who had in his possession a bag containing several chickens. As Jack is an old offender the police magistrate will probably not spare him unless he came by the chickens in a lawful manner.

Rib Broken.

The many friends of Capt. Tom Harmon will regret to learn that he was the victim of an unprovoked assault last night and had one of his ribs broken. Dr. Renwick was in attendance and announces that his patient will be about again in a few days We learn that his assailant was not arrested. Why?

Accident.

A gentleman while crossing James Bay bridge on Tuesday night fell through the hole at the south end, and only escaped death by fortunately falling on the soft mud beneath the structure. He with difficulty gained solid ground and with the exception of a severe shaking up was uninjured.

Notification.

Mr. Geo. Hargreaves will be notified to day of his appointment as superintendent of construction on the new reservoirs, and be requested to prepare plans and specifications at once. The appointment is a good one and the work will no doubt be completed satisfactorily under Mr. Hargreaves supervision.

The Beautiful Snow.

The "unusual weather" seems to be making the best of its visit to this island. Yesterday was very disagreeable, as snow fell at intervals, with an occasional shower of rain. The moon changed on Tuesday night at 8 o'clock, and as the state of the weather has not changed so far the theory that we are to have a continuance of cold may be accepted.

The Collision.

The highly sensational telegram which was received from New Westminster concerning the collision between the Yosemite and Adelaide is denied in part by the officials of the former steamer, who say that there was not $10 worth of damage done. The Adelaide was running as usual yesterday. The Yosemite arrived here at 1:30 o'clock p.m. yesterday.

Prescatation at North Bend.

Mrs. Stamford, wife of Mr. J. Stamford, C.P.R. foreman carpenter, who built the Glacier Hotel, and is now engaged upon the dining hall and hotel at North Bend, was presented on Wednesday evening last with a diamond ring by the men working under her husband, as a token of their respect and esteem since they have been in the mountains.

A Disappointment.

The usual crowd of unemployed individuals who take in the police court proceedings were greatly disappointed yesterday morning when it was announced that there were no cases registered on the journals of the court. One old loafer was heard to remark, "Well! I never seed sich a dog-gasted town as this is! Why, where I come from back east, yer wuddn't be able fer to git near the dur of this kincern let alone get inside, after 'lection day."

Muirhead & Carter's Failure.

The above firm, which has judgments against it for a large total, and whose effects are now in charge of the sheriff, yesterday made application before Justice Walkem for $1000 from the assets under the "Homestead Act." This was opposed by Mr. S. Perry Mills, who represents several creditors, and by Mr. Taylor (Eberts & Taylor) for Boucherat & Co. The hearing was adjourned until to-day, when it will be continued.

Commendable.

The police are doing all in their power to break up a gang of Chinese thieves who have been until lately operating on hen-roosts, both in the city and districts. As soon as they are caught they are "vagged," and if warrantable are imprisoned for two or three months. This step taken by the police is one to be commended, as these heathens, who are no respecter of persons, can do no good at large.

Unsound Mind.

Alfred Adams, a young mechanic, aged 27 years, was taken into custody yesterday and charged with being of unsound mind. His condition is attributed to religious mania and from his talk it would seem that he is persecuted by certain people who he says have driven several members of his family to death. There seems to be no doubt that his brain is considerably unsettled, but as he is perfectly harmless the authorities will probably deliver him up to the care of his wife.

"The Royal City."

That is to be the name of a new steamship to be owned and controlled by our citizens, says the *Guardian*. Nine or ten who believe in the future of New Westminster have talked the matter over and the whole affair will be settled in a few days. The ship will be a powerful, fast sailer, and will make a trip to Victoria every day. It is also the intention of the boat owners to establish, in a convenient place by the river, a public market where farm produce of all kinds may be offered for sale. It is quite certain that our citizens will, in a very little while, have a boat of their own, a greyhound of the gulf, fast enough to go and return to Victoria every day. And there is another project under consideration—and that is another boat of our own that will carry freight and passengers to Tacoma, and from that port to this twice a week. These boats will bring us trade and afford great facilities to the rapidly increasing population on both sides of the Fraser.

The Late Christopher Lee.

The late Christopher Lee, says the *British Columbian*, was born at Grassington, Yorkshire county, England, in the year 1819. When ten years of age he came to America with his father and settled in Brownsville, Pa., in which place he was apprenticed as a machinist in the "Showdrius" iron works. After having learned his trade he removed to Pittsburgh, where he held the position of foreman of a machine shop. In 1850 he traveled overland to California and entered the employ of the Southern Navigation company as an engineer, in which capacity he remained until 1868, when he emigrated to this province and became engaged as chief engineer on one of the Fraser river steamers. In 1859, in company with the late Capt. Irving, he made the first successful trip by steamer to Yale, on the steamer Governor Douglas. In 1860 he took up his residence in this city, where he remained until his death. During his residence here he has acted as an engineer on all the river steamers of any note, and was first engineer on the government snagboat. At the same time he made many friends both in the city and district, who deeply mourn his demise. He leaves a widow and daughter to lament his death. He was buried in the Masonic cemetery on Sunday last, many following the remains to the grave.

THE LOCAL LEGISLATURE.

Proceedings of the First Session of the Fifth Parliament.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 23rd.

Mr. Speaker took the chair at 2:20 p.m. Prayers were read by Rev. W. W. Percival.

Hon. Mr. Robson brought returns asked for at previous sittings.

PRINTING.

Mr. Beaven complained the printing department was constantly increasing in expense and decreasing in efficiency.

Hon. Mr. Robson, in replying to the attack of the leader of the opposition upon the printing department, said the honorable gentleman should remember that the work of the department had doubled since he was in office.

THE ALASKA BOUNDARY.

Mr. Turner moved that a respectful address be presented to his honor the lieutenant-governor, requesting that his honor may be pleased to represent to the Dominion government the urgent importance of an early settlement of the boundary between Canada and Alaska, and asking that British Columbia may be represented upon any commission which may be appointed for that purpose.

The mover said every gentleman on the floor of the house must see the necessity for this delimention in view of the constantly increasing population of that part of the country. "The hardy miner was already turning his eyes to the north, and very soon, he believed, we would see this indomitable class pursuing their calling in these parts. The fisheries in the north are very valuable. By a recent return he saw that 109,000 cases of salmon had been shipped from Alaska last year, one cannery having packed 46,000 cases. The lumber resources were also of great extent, and in view of these facts it would be seen that it was of the utmost importance that we should know where Alaska begins and where British Columbia leaves off. This was of little importance twenty years ago, but even shortly after that our smart Yankee cousins were turning their eyes longingly towards the land, and evidently determined to get all they were entitled to and with a lurking idea they would get a great deal more than they were entitled to if they could cajole or bluff John Bull, as they have done on all previous boundary questions. It is evident that this condition of things must be detrimental to trade and commerce, and urgently requires settlement. We fortunately have an authority which we believe definitely settles the point. It is the convention between Russia and Great Britain in 1825. We have, however, compilers who profess to give the text of the convention, the text being McCulloch's commercial dictionary, published in Philadelphia, in 1852. This gives the text of the convention signed by Nesselrode and Canning. This indicates the line as starting from the southern point of Prince of Wales Island, in latitude 54.40 north, running northerly up the channel to where it strikes the 56 deg. of north latitude; thence along the summit of mountains till it intersects 141 deg. of west longitude. Other authorities add words not in McCulloch's work, and give the line as running northerly from Prince of Wales Island up Portland channel. Now, on reference to the map this line will be found important, as Portland channel is thirty miles to the eastward of Prince of Wales Island. Another authority says eastward to Portland channel, thence north up the channel to the 56th degree north latitude. But the Portland channel does not reach to 56 degs. north latitude. The head of Portland channel is swampy land, and is some sixty miles from the coast. It would be necessary to run a line due west from that point, crossing a range of mountains, in order to reach the mountains that are within 10 degrees of the coast. These authorities do not therefore agree with natural objects, and no doubt a geographical line laid down overrules any line simply by name of the surrounding country. He urged the duty of an early settlement, and said we must not back down quietly. If British Columbia had been represented when San Juan was ceded to the United States we would not have lost that valuable island. The ownership of 5 million acres was involved in this question. On concluding he was loudly applauded.

Mr. Ladner moved in amendment that, at the same time, steps be taken to endeavor to secure the transfer of four square miles of territory belonging to the United States, situated near the mouth of Fraser river and which can be only reached through British territory.

It having been pointed out that the amendment would interfere with the resolution the introducer withdrew it.

Hon. Mr. Robson said from the manner in which the hon. gentleman had introduced this important resolution it was clear that he had well considered this question and appreciated the important interests involved in it. The question was one of the most important to which the government of British Columbia could turn its attention. The fact that three or four hundred miles of American territory ran along the sea coast cutting off our outlet to the ocean from that part of British Columbia was something which did not reflect much credit on British statesmanship. It was indeed the most stupid looking thing he had ever seen on a map. It was particularly important that this question should be settled at this time when large numbers of Newfoundland fishermen were knocking at our doors seeking to come in and develope our sea farm.

Mr. Grant claimed that he had frequently called the attention of the house to this question at previous sessions.

Resolution passed.

ASHCROFT BRIDGE.

Mr. Semlin moved, seconded by Mr. McLeese, that an order of the house be granted for copies of the following papers, etc: Specifications for the construction of the Ashcroft bridge, contract to correspondence between the government or any member thereof and the following parties, namely: The bridge company, the provincial superintendent of construction, or any other person relating to the construction of said bridge.

The movers, Mr. McLeese and Mr. Semlin stated that the bridge was unsafe.

Hon. Mr. Robson said the cement around two of the piers had been found to be imperfect, but this having been remedied and the foundation improved he thought there would be as good a bridge as could be desired.

Mr. Beaven said this was all owing to a system inaugurated by the present government of allowing contractors to prepare and submit their own plans and specifications with their tender.

Mr. McLeese said it was the general opinion that the contractor had had too much of his own way. The work had been done in such a manner that no one could help protesting against it.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

Resolution passed.

Mr. Croft introduced a bill to amend the "Bash fire act, 1874."

Bill read a first time.

Mr. T. Davie introduced a bill intituled "An act to abolish the attachment of wages."

Bill read a first time.

Hon. Mr. Davie introduced "An act to amend the jurors' act, 1883.

Bill read a first time.

PROVINCIAL RIGHTS.

The petition of the Okanagan & Shuswap railway company, asking the legislature to confirm privileges already granted by the Dominion parliament and for the right to operate steamboats, was read.

Mr. Beaven said this house was the proper place for a company to come to ask the privilege of constructing a line of railway, or telephone, or telegraph lines. The Dominion government were granting charters for railways within the province which he did not believe they had power to do.

Mr. Orr—The house should take some steps to have the powers of the province defined.

Hon. Mr. Davie said the proposed railway was doubtless regarded as a branch of the Canadian Pacific, and, therefore, a matter for the Dominion government to deal with.

Mr. T. Davie claimed that the petition was out of order. He pointed out the danger of such an interference with Provincial rights.

Mr. McLeese would stand up for provincial rights, and would not admit the right of the Dominion to grant charters for railways in the province. If this principle were admitted, the federal government could appropriate lands for railway purposes in any part of the province.

Mr. Grant believed the terms of union, and the provisions of the British-America act gave us power over our own lands and the right to refuse to ratify railway charters granted by the Dominion government.

Mr. Speaker said the company came before the house to ask it to confirm a charter which they have obtained from the Dominion government, so that practically they were admitting the insufficiency of the privilege granted them by the Dominion government. If the company had come to this house the bill would probably have been over-ruled. The petition, he believed, was in order.

Hon. Mr. Robson said the house should not sanction a right wrongly acquired.

Mr. Bole moved the adjournment of the debate. In doing so, he considered that it was of vital importance that the question should be settled upon a firm basis. Adjournment carried.

The house adjourned at 5.15 till Thursday.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

Mr. Bole will introduce a bill entitled "An Act to Amend the Law of Evidence in certain cases."

Mr. Bole will ask leave to introduce a bill to amend the law relating to the recovery of wages.

Mr. Bole will ask leave to introduce a bill to amend the law relating to the heirs of mechanics and others.

Mr. Bole will ask leave to introduce a bill to amend the license ordnance of 1867.

Mr. Ladner will move—Whereas that piece of land situated south of the 49th parallel of north latitude and known as Point Roberts, containing about four square miles of territory is so isolated from the territory of the United States that the only means of communication by land is through British Columbia, and whereas during the summer great numbers of Indians and others congregate on this piece of land and cause great annoyance to the settlers in the vicinity of Fraser river, B. C., Therefore, be it resolved, that his honor the lieutenant-governor be respectfully invited to have the adjustment of this matter placed before any commission that may be appointed to enquire into and settle the Alaska boundary with a view of acquiring the aforesaid Point Roberts.

Mr. Vernon will ask leave to introduce a bill entitled "An Act for the Better Protection of Certain Animals and Birds."

Mr. Beaven will ask leave to introduce an act to amend the Companies Act, 1878, so as to prevent Chinese from incorporating under its provisions, to prohibit their employment by an idcorporated company and for other purposes.

NOTICE OF QUESTION.

Mr. Ladner will ask—What amount, if any, is now due to the estate of the late J. C. Hughes as coroner for New Westminster district?

Mr. Ladner will ask—Has any crown grant been applied for by the late J. C. Hughes, or his administrators, for the S. W. ¼ of section 16, Texada island? If so what amount of money has been paid as purchase money?

THURSDAY, Feb. 24th.

Mr. Speaker took the chair at 2:15 p.m Prayers were read by the Rev. W. W. Percival.

ISLAND RAILWAY EXTENSION.

Mr. Thompson moved that an humble address be presented to His Honor the lieutenant-governor in council, praying His Honor to urge upon the Dominion government and through it the Imperial government, the policy and duty of undertaking the said extension as a national work, or at least granting such liberal aid as will enable it to be carried out without imposing an undue burden upon the province.

The mover, in so submitting this resolution said it might properly have formed part of one submitted a few days ago respecting the coast defences. But, apart from this consideration, it would open up a large tract of country which must otherwise remain undeveloped.

Mr. Higgins seconded.—He said that within the past few years railroads had come to be looked on as pioneers instead of followers of civilization and settlement. He could well remember when such highways were never built until a country was settled. Now, the railways were built first and settlement followed. This road was an essential not only from a provincial but from a dominion and an imperial standpoint. As a short and speedy avenue to Alaska, and as a means for the settlement of the island and the mainland coast opposite, it would be an important factor. As a means of defence in case of foreign invasion by way of Seymour Narrows it was necessary, as by it a force from Esquimalt could reach the northern end of the island in a few hours. The length of the line would be about 175 miles and the cost $5,000,000. The distance from Vancouver island to the Queen Charlotte group was 125 miles, and the distance from the northernmost harbor on Queen Charlotte was 240 miles. This line would traverse a country rich in mineral, fossil and forest wealth while the waters that laved the shores presented the best deep sea fisheries in the world. At this moment a tide of immigration was beating on our shores. Should it be allowed to recede without leaving behind it the slightest evidence that it had ever reached us? Or rather should we not adopt means to allow the tide to come in and dam it up after it had entered? He rejoiced that this country had as yet no occasion to waste its substance or its men in expensive wars or in preparations for wars, and that every penny of its surplus wealth and every ounce of its muscle were available for material development. As this railway would be one of the steps to that development of which the country stood so much in need, he gave the resolution his hearty support.

Mr. Stenhouse said it was with peculiar gratification that he rose to support the resolution of his honorable friend the junior member for Nanaimo. He rejoiced for many reasons that the honorable gentleman had seen his way to move in this important matter. The issues involved are not confined within the limits of Nanaimo or of Comox. An iron highway such as is now proposed from south to north of this island bulwark of the Dominion would bring about a concentration of homesteads within easy reach of these vulnerable points where the approach of an enemy is most to be feared. And, sir, he continued, multiplying homesteads you multiply their defenders, and thus from Nanaimo, from Comox, from the north, your railway would hurl its important legions against the first point from which their possessions or their interests were assailed. All this would oppose a barrier to invasion such as no other arrangement can possibly secure. And though unaccustomed as yet to arms the men of Comox, he was confident, will be found in the van should the occasion unhappily arise. The martial spirit may be dormant, but it is there. The fact, curious enough and sometimes to be deplored, is yet abundantly proved and daily exhibited, he might say, in this house, that the English tongue is inseparable from the spirit of war. Wherever our language is spoken there is valor, and by the stress of service the rawest materials are quickly transformed into veteran troops. This consideration of military expediency is the one argument which, as he believed, will have the greatest weight with her majesty's Dominion government, and from that point of view he thought the case was admirably presented in the resolution before them.

Hon. Mr. Robson said the resolution was one of Dominion and as well as provincial importance. For purposes of defence there could be no question of the necessity of this work especially in order that our vast coal mines might not in the event of war be captured and become a factor in the operations against. The imperial government could not fail to recognize the importance of this work, providing as it would also a part of a scheme of coast defence.

Col. Baker said if there was any population to attack at the point to which the railway would run it would be one of strategical importance. However as the junior member for Esquimalt had pointed out the population follows instead of preceds the railway. As to the desirability of national aid being granted he thought the same might be asked for railways equally important on the mainland. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Croft said the road would open up what he knew to be a considerable quantity of agricultural land, land which could not now be cultivated without it as there was no market for what it would produce. From a military standpoint he considered it one of great strategical importance.

Mr. Beaven supported the resolution. It was the policy of the Dominion government in the eastern provinces to grant subsidies to railways and if the representatives went unanimous for this work he did not think there would be an difficulty in securing it. Indeed, he hoped the Dominion would before long be induced to grant subsidies to railways on the island and mainland. (Hear, hear.) In the construction of a railway to the northern part of the island the alienation of 60 miles of territory beyond Nanaimo and Comox interposed a marked difficulty. He referred to the few beneficial effects which were to be seen except in Chinatown of the expenditure of large sums of money on railways in this province and attributed it to Chinese being employed.

Mr. Dunsmuir said if the honorable leader of the opposition wanted the great giveaway he could have it, one half for fifty cents per acre, and the other half at one dollar per acre. He could also have the railway for what it cost. There need be no fear of an injunction being placed on a railway going through the island railway lands. He would only be too glad to give the right of way free. If there was any give-away about the island railway it was to the country. He way paying out money every day in operating the road, the income not being sufficient some days to pay for the coal consumed. If he had known before what he knew now he would never have accepted "the great give away" and never have built the road. There was no doubt if Chinese had not been employed on the construction of railways in the province wages would be much lower than they are. Either the laborers would have remained in the province and kept the wages down or would have gone and taken the money with them.

Mr. T. Davie pointed out that the present leader of the opposition had been willing to grant to an irresponsible company several thousand acres of land more than "the great give away" for the construction of this road. He had also failed to make provision in the bill framed at that time for the non-employment of Chinese. He twitted the honorable leader of the opposition on being a member of a company which employed Chinese.

Mr. Beaven explained.

Mr. Higgins said that the leader of the opposition was a director in the Foster Co. when the Chinaman was engaged, although he might not have been aware of the fact.

Mr. Beaven said that he was unaware of the man having been engaged. He had introduced a clause into the bylaws of the Foster Co. to prevent Chinese being employed.

Mr. Higgins—And I voted for it.

Mr. Beaven—Yes, you did—you were the only one besides myself.

Mr. Dunsmuir—I will settle the controversy. I will buy the leader of the opposition out. I will give him par for all his shares, and no one can then say he employs Chinese. (Cheers and laughter.)

Mr. Turner said as a strategic work the railway would be more important to Burrard Inlet and New Westminster than to the island, as, at present, a foreign foe might enter the straits at the northern end of the island, and arrive at the mainland towns without any warning of their approach. A railway and telegraphic line would prevent anything like this. He looked upon this work as for the benefit of the whole province.

Mr. Grant supported the resolution. Nothing could be done towards opening up the country without railways.

Mr. Prior thought the honorable leader of the opposition had been a little premature in stating that Messrs. Dunsmuir & Co. should grant a portion of their lands between Nanaimo and Comox for the proposed extension. He (Mr. Beaven) should know first whether it was the intention of that company to build the extension to Comox. Agreed with all that had been said of the necessity of railroads for opening up the country. He objected to the time of the house being wasted in the discussion of such foreign matters as the leader of the opposition had begun.

Resolution passed.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Hon. Mr. Robson introduced a bill to amend the Public Schools act.

THE FIREMEN'S FUND.

Mr. T. Davie presented the petition of Loshe, Phillips and others, for a private bill respecting the distribution and disposition of the firemen's charitable fund.

C. P. R. LAND GRANT.

Mr. Bole asked—Is it the intention of the government to introduce, during this session, legislation to cancel the crown grants numbered 91 and 98, issued to Donald A. Smith and Richard B. Angus, and dated 13th February, 1886?

Hon. Attorney-General—It is not.

COURT HOUSE.

Mr. Bole asked—Is it the intention of the government to place a sum on the estimates for building a new court house at New Westminster?

Hon. Attorney-General—It is not.

MAINLAND ROADS.

Mr. Bole asked—Is it the intention of placing adequate sums on the estimates to put in repair the following, roads namely, the road from New Westminster to Port Moody, and the road from New Westminster to Vancouver?

Hon. Attorney-General—The matter will be duly considered.

IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.

Mr. Bole asked: Is it the intention of the government during the present session to bring down a measure for the abolition of imprisonment for debt?

Hon. Attorney-General—The subject is under consideration.

TIMBER CLAIMS AND LEASES.

Mr. Semlin asked: What is the number of timber claims which have been applied for to date? How many such applications have been granted and to whom? What amount of revenue has been obtained from timber leases and what amount from stumpage? How many timber inspectors have been appointed under the Timber Act, 1884; the name of such inspectors so appointed, and the districts for which they have been appointed?

Hon. Attorney-General—There are eight applications for timber leases and two applications for timber licenses which been granted. The particulars of the leases and licenses which have been granted will be found in a return presented to the house on Tuesday, the 15th instant. Revenue from timber leases for 18 months ending 31st December, 1886—$3,432.96; revenue from licenses and dues for the same period—$600.94. Two inspectors have been appointed, viz: W. S. Gore, surveyor-general of Vancouver island, and Mr. Chas. Warwick, assistant commissioner for New Westminster district.

A HEARTY CHEER.

Premier Smithe here entered the house and took his seat. He was received with hearty and prolonged cheering from all parts of the house.

PROVINCIAL RIGHTS.

The adjourned debate on the motion to receive the petition of the Shuswap and Okanagan railway company was resumed. This was the measure on which a discussion had taken place at a previous sitting respecting provincial rights. The motion that the petition be received was carried.

BENEFIT OF CREDITORS.

Mr. T. Davie moved the second reading of a bill respecting executors, trustees, and assignees, for the benefit of creditors. Bill read a second time and reported from committee without amendments.

ABSCONDING DEBTORS.

Mr. T. Davie moved the second reading of a bill respecting absconding debtors. Bill was submitted to committee of the whole. Committee reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

House adjourned till 2 p.m. on Friday.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

Mr. T. Davie will ask leave to introduce "An act to repeal the homestead act, 1873," and to make other provisions in lieu thereof.

Hon. Mr. Robson will ask leave to introduce a bill intituled "An act respecting the sale of intoxicating liquors and the issue of licenses therefor."

Col. Baker will move, whereas a railway connecting with the Canadian Pacific railway at Golden City, in the Kootenay district, and running from thence along the Upper Columbia and Kootenay valleys to a point at or near Joseph's Prairie, by St. Mary's river, would be a means of opening up a vast region exceedingly rich in mines and valuable timber, and would also open up to settlement the extensive agricultural and pastoral lands of the Upper Columbia and Kootenay valleys. Be it therefore resolved, that an humble address be presented to his honor the lieutenant-governor praying this house to urge upon the Dominion government the policy and duty of undertaking the said railway as a national work, or at least granting such liberal aid as will enable it to be carried out without imposing an undue burden upon the province.

Hon. Mr. Robson will move on Monday that the house do immediately resolve itself into a committee of the whole to consider a certain proposed resolution respecting the sale of intoxicating liquors.

NOTICES OF QUESTION.

Mr. T. Davie will ask—Is it the intention of the government to cause a sidewalk to be laid to Ross Bay cemetery in continuation of the sidewalk already laid by the corporation in that direction as far as the city limits?

Mr. Orr will ask, have any, and what proceedings have been taken by the government since the 25th January, 1887, to enforce the payment of the C. P. R. company's bond for $250,000, dated Nov. 26th, 1885.

KOOTENAY AND ATHABASCA RAILWAY.

The following has been forwarded to THE COLONIST for publication:

Minutes of a duly convened public meeting held at the Columbia house, Farwell, B. C., Feb. 18th, 1887, to consider the Kootenay and Athabasca railway bill, so far as known by the newspaper accounts of the same.

Mr. Wm. Brown was elected chairman, and Mr. J. B. Kerr secretary of the meeting. The following resolutions were carried unanimously:

1. That the surveys for the line south from Farwell shall be commenced forthwith. That the construction of the line from Farwell to the head of Kootenay lake be commenced within one year from the passing of the act by the provincial legislature, and be completed within three years.

2. That any land grant given north of Farwell should be granted in alternate sections, and only if the railway be extended northward from Farwell and then only in proportion to the actual construction of the said line northward from Farwell.

3. That a copy of the bill be obtained forthwith, and that careful regard be given to any timber or other proposed privileges.

That a copy of these resolutions be sent immediately to Col. Baker, M. P. P.

WM. BROWN, Chairman.

J. B. KERR, Secretary.

ITALIAN EARTHQUAKES.

Over Fifteen Hundred Killed in One District.

Three Hundred Perish After Taking Refuge in a Church.

Hillside Villages Toppled into the Valleys—Widespread Confusion and Dismay—People Without Shelter and Food.

(Special to THE COLONIST.)

Terrible Loss of Life.

ROME, Feb. 24.—Details have been received this morning of the results of the earthquakes yesterday, showing that the effects were far more serious than were at first thought. The loss of life and destruction of property is learned to be terrible. Most of this morning's news came from Genoa. In the Riviera over fifteen hundred persons were killed in that district. At the village of Bajardo, situated at the top of a hill, a number of inhabitants took refuge in a church when the shocks were first felt. Subsequent shocks demolished the church and three hundred people who were in it were killed. The destruction of property in sections of Italy visited by the earthquake was immense and widespread.

Reports of the disaster continue to arrive. The total number of deaths reported to the present time are about 200. Shocks were felt at Parma, Turin and Cosenza. Undulations of the earth were noticed at Catamia, in Sicily, at the foot of Mount Aetna. The director of the Turin observatory telegraphs that the Seismic instruments are quiescent. No further disturbances are feared.

The Earthquakes in Italy.

LONDON, Feb. 24.—Further dispatches concerning the earthquakes in Southern Europe state that there have been no further shocks. At Nice the panic has not yet subsided. Fugitives are fleeing in every direction, people are afraid to re-enter their houses and hotels, and last evening the heights at the back of the city were crowded with refugees. Two thousand English, American and Russian visitors were camped out during the night on elevated ground. Six thousand persons have left the city and started for Paris. The son of Albert N. Hathway, American consul at Nice, was seriously injured. There has been no further disturbance at Monte Carlo. The place is filled with thousands of refugees from Cannes, Nice, Mentone and San Remo.

It is difficult to find shelter for the great number of people and last night many of them were compelled to camp out. A more confidential feeling, however, prevails to-day. Gaming has been suspended and the band is playing on the terrace for the purpose of restoring confidence to the frightened people.

Another shock was felt at Mentone today. It was so severe that the houses were shaken. No one was injured. Additional details concerning the damage done by yesterday's shocks say that in some cases villages built on mountain sides were toppled into the valleys. Three railway trains have been dispatched with food. Numbers of soldiers have been sent to assist them.

PARIS, Feb. 24.—Two slight shocks of earthquake were felt to-day at Nice and Cannes. No injury. Yesterday's disturbances killed two persons and injured ten at Nice, killed four and injured ten at Bar, killed two and injured twelve at Bollene. At Chateau Neuf many were injured. At Savona two houses fell killing nine persons and injuring fifteen. The whole population of Savona are bivouacked about the town.

NICE, Feb. 24.—Sixty houses here are tottering and ready to fall from shatterings inflicted by yesterday's earthquake. Many others are much damaged. The Prince of Wales remains at Cannes. Forty persons were injured at Mentone and one killed. King Charles and Eugene Olga of Wurtemberg remain in their villa at Nice.

Liberated.

Mee Ah Gong, the Chinaman who is accused of stabbing a brother Celestial, was discharged yesterday by Judge Johnson, who said there was not enough evidence to convict the accused.

ELECTION NEWS.

Conservatives Have a Majority of Thirty.

The Toronto "Globe" Concedes a Majority.

"Mail" and "News" Look For Another Election Within a Year.

All the Ministers Returned—Defeat of the Champion Slanderer—Latest Returns—Jones Elected for Halifax.

[From our Own Correspondent.]

OTTAWA, Feb. 23.—Latest returns give the government twenty-nine majority, counting all ten nationalists as reformers and reckoning British Columbia and Northwest Territories ministerial. Ten places are yet to hear from which will probably prove equal.

All the ministers are elected, a rare occurrence.

The conservatives are jubilant at the defeat of M. C. Cameron, the champion slanderer.

Sir Charles Tupper's tremendous effort retained Nova Scotia to the government.

10:10 p. m.—Latest returns are: Montcalm, Therier, conservative, 60 majority. Queen's, N. B., King, liberal, 61 majority; Jolliette, Guilbault, conservative, 6 majority.

Corrected returns places Jones instead of Stairs for Halifax—a liberal gain.

Charlotte retains Gillmor.

It is generally admitted here that the government's majority will be about thirty.

The Toronto *Globe* concedes a working majority for the government. The *Mail* and *News* each look for another election within twelve months.

TERRIBLE EARTHQUAKE.

The Italian Riviera in Ruins and the Loss of Life Enormous.

Fears for the Prince of Wales' Safety Happily Allayed—Immense Damage to Property.

ROME, Feb. 23.—Two shocks of earthquake were felt at Nice at 6 o'clock this morning. The houses rocked, walls cracked and, in some cases, frail tenements were thrown to the ground. The people rushed from their houses and fell upon their knees in the streets praying for deliverance from sudden death. Visitors to the city became frightened and are leaving the place. Many persons were injured by the falling debris. There is much alarm lest there be a recurrence of the shocks. The Prince of Wales, who was in Nice a few days ago witnessing the festivities which precede the Lenten season, had taken his departure and was safe at Cannes. The shocks were also felt at Monaco at which place they were so severe that rocks were detached from cliffs and precipitated into the sea. The disturbances extended as far as Genoa.

LONDON, Feb. 23.—A dispatch from Nice dated at noon to-day says: "Many casualties were caused by the earthquake this morning. The people are panic-stricken and the entire populace is in the streets. The railway station is besieged with visitors who are anxious to leave at the first chance that is offered. Two houses were destroyed by the earthquake, and three persons were buried in the ruins."

NICE, Feb. 23.—At the time of the earthquake this morning the Riviera was crowded with English and American tourists and persons of distinction. When the first shock occurred the streets of Nice were fairly thronged with people, in ball-room costumes, returning to their homes from the last carnival of the winter season. Two of these earthquake shocks came with peculiar terror. The shocks were felt with great severity at Savannah, near Genoa, and a number of houses were wrecked and eleven persons were killed at that place. The Prince of Wales being at Cannes, the Queen became exceedingly anxious concerning him. When she learned of the earthquake, her majesty at once telegraphed him. The prince immediately telegraphed a reassuring reply, saying he was well and uninjured.

LONDON, Feb. 23.—The government, in consideration of the popular concern about the safety of the prince, have requested him by telegraph to return to England as soon as he can conveniently, to allay the public anxiety.

ROME, Feb. 23.—The earthquake this morning devastated the whole of the Italian Riviera at Nolai, on the Gulf of Genoa, and not far from Savona several houses fell and 45 persons were killed and 30 injured at Onegli, also on the Gulf of Genoa. At Dianomarino, near Onegli, scores of people were killed and a hundred were injured. Fully one-third of the town was destroyed.

A second, and this time a severe shock of earthquake has occurred in Genoa, Pavia, Lucia, Cuco, Albissala, Reho, Maurizio, Onegli, and Nolin. At Savona eight persons were killed and fifteen others injured. Immense damage was done to property.

CONDENSED DISPATCHES.

Advices from Zanzibar state that Portuguese men-of-war, by order of the governor of Mozambique, have seized the Sultan's steamer Kilva at Tonqui and towed her to Mozambique.

The results in seventy election districts at Berlin are known. In twenty-two districts new elections will be necessary. In twelve districts the contests will be between the Socialists and Septennists.

From present calculations, Bismarck will barely obtain a majority for his Septennate bill. He required forty votes and he has already won twenty. The remainder are almost certain to go, so that the government will not obtain a majority sufficient to adopt the monopoly bills.

Herr Windthorst has been re-elected. The Progressists are demoralized. They have met with unexpected defeat, and have already lost seventeen seats. They have only gained one seat. The Soc