The Doctors' Difference

Dr. Ernest Hall Tells the Other Side of the Story.

Mr. Phil Smith States the Case from the Societies Stand Point.

THE DOCTORS' DIFFERENCES.

Sir: Not for the purpose of aggravating the present discord amongst the doctors, neither for the purpose of advancing any selfish interest which I might or might not have in this matter, but only in the interests of truth do I respond to your request to discuss this question, as expressed in the editorial columns.

1. With reference to your reporter's informant, whose communicability has far exceeded the limit prescribed by his medical code, I will only say that in using so freely the names of others and refusing to allow his own to be divulged, is guilty of cowardice unworthy of his rank, and in attacking a medical man who has done, and is doing, excellent work here, stigmatizing him as "the weakest," he descends to a level of which he should be heartily ashamed.

2. With reference to my withdrawing from the combine, which is after all the real question at issue, your informant, principally by his omissions, has, perhaps unintentionally, given a prejudiced view.

In order to be brief, I may say that after reconsideration of the matter, I endeavored to reopen the question for discussion in the medical society, and again and again urged the members to reconsider their action, which many of them admitted, when spoken to privately, was a mistake, and failing to obtain any satisfaction that my advice would be followed, I sent in my resignation, and at the special meeting called, I delivered the following address, which embodies my reasons for my action:

The President and Members of the Victoria Medical Society:

Gentlemen: My resignation is before you. I hope that this society will see fit to reconsider a matter of no little interest to itself, or grant the favor of accepting my resignation, as I cannot retain membership in a society whose course I consider is in opposition not only to the welfare of a large mass of the community, but decidedly detrimental to its own best interests. I am not engaged in a purely selfish undertaking, as many of you seem to think. I have not taken any agreement to which we have put our signatures, but I persist in the position taken, that when a mistake has been made in our policy we should at the earliest convenience proceed to rectify such mistake, and to readjust harmonious relations between ourselves and a by no means unimportant proportion of our constituency. If the endeavor to uphold the best interests of the medical profession in Victoria and to preserve to this society the patronage of one-fifth of the population of this city is treason, then call me a traitor; if championing the cause of fraternity and benevolence is an outrage, then brand me. I covet such action at your hands. If the endeavor to save this society from ridicule, which is facing it upon all sides, from many of the most influential of the citizens, is disloyalty to this society, then count me disloyal to all the obligations of the profession. Gentlemen, remember that we are dealing with a class that is rapidly becoming the ruling factor, a class by no means lacking in intelligence and enterprise, and a class that is determined to put into effect even a greater extent of co-operation, unless we are willing to meet their demands, which are by no means unreasonable. Our action has been represented as "class legislation," and the time has passed in the development of public sentiment, in the evolution of modern politico-economics, when any professional class can afford to trifle with the sentiments of those to whom they owe their living. The law society has been mentioned as a model of elegance and consistency. That society is to-day slumbering over a volcano of their own injustice and oppression, and legislation may be expected with reference to its action.

Another and most important matter must also be considered, and in this regard I am not without the advice of those in authority, that the action of this society has endangered our Medical Act. Democracy is present upon both sides of the house to such a degree that it would require but little influence to radically alter its most important sections. Force could be put in operation that, within the present session, would do away with our examination in primary subjects and make the entrance to British Columbia practice principally dependent upon the holding a diploma from a reputable university or medical college. Again, we must consider the possibility of the presence of a central dispensary, a cutrate drug store, which may follow the continuance of the policy of this society.

You may call me an alarmist because I make an estimate of the forces of the societies. We are face to face with a most important epoch in the professional history of our city, and to persevere in your course of obstinacy may lead to the ultimate jeopardy of some of the contracts at present held by nearly half of the members of this society. An amicable settlement is most desirable, and can be accomplished, as the local men will be preferred to outsiders.

I apprehend that certain concessions might be had from the societies, if required, viz.:

I. No attendance upon those whose property has an assessed value of $10,000 or over, or those whose income is above $1,200 per year.

II. Visits between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. extra.

III. Major surgery excluded. Rate per year of $3, not lower.

Gentlemen, my resignation is before you. A continuance of your policy necessitates your acceptance of such resignation, as I cannot continue membership in any society that unitedly stands antagonistic to the principles of progress and opposed to the genius of the age.

(Delivered before the Victoria Medical Society).

Thus it is clearly shown that there was no "hole in the corner" in connection with the matter, but a fair, open discussion in the medical society.

At a future time I will continue this discussion, taking up the several statements made by your informant, and also dealing with the general question of contract medical practice.

In conclusion, allow me to state that this is the third time that I have come into collision with certain conditions, and twice I have triumphed in the interest of humanity and justice. I refer to the opening of the wards of the Jubilee hospital to the medical men of the city, and to the revelation of the necessity of more scientific treating of the inmates of our provincial asylum, both of which carried no small amount of antagonism with those whose so-called "interests" were touched.

And now I again champion the cause of freedom for freedom's sake, and say to those who would place restriction upon the legitimate exercise of liberty—"Come on, McDuff."

ERNEST HALL.

DOCTORS AND SOCIETIES.

Sir: In response to your editorial, inviting a discussion upon the merits of the present controversy between the medical association and the fraternal organizations of the city, I would submit to your readers a few facts bearing upon the question when viewed from a society standpoint. The underlying principles in fraternal organizations is a provision by the members against the ills that flesh is heir to, a small contribution in health providing for proper attention, medical and otherwise, in sickness. This provision on the part of organized bodies has relieved the doctors and hospitals of much of the gratuitous work, and the assertion may here be made that it is a rare occurrence for society members to become public charges. This principle has been recognized as one of national import, and in the old country a superintendence has been made of society affairs by appointment of an officer by the government. It is true that medical practitioners in the old land have given their services at a much lower remuneration than is given on this continent, but the services of penny doctors may be secured outside of the secret societies, the learned professions there having to stand more on their merits.

In this city the remuneration to the medical officers of societies has never been a question, and the sum of $3 a year for every member in good standing has been admitted by them as satisfactory. If representations had been made to the societies that the sum paid was insufficient, committees would have been appointed and the question fully investigated.

It is a strange coincidence that the present agitation against societies was inaugurated by the members of the medical profession who were not in attendance upon society members. It has been frequently represented to the societies by the lodge doctors, and including the doctor on Yates street, that society practice was one, when figured up, of fair remuneration and without loss, at least to those engaged in the work; it has been further represented that pressure has been brought to bear upon them by the medical association so that a continuance of such work would place them in isolation, as far as their brother practitioners were concerned. It was in consideration of this, and this only, which led to their abandonment of the work.

Illustrating the desire of some of the practitioners for this service, it may be stated that the election of a medical attendant in Court Vancouver, A.O.F., a few months prior to the combination, five doctors were, by consent, nominated for the position of court surgeon.

It must not be inferred that every member of a secret organization is compelled to receive the services of its medical attendant—that is a privilege; many of the members still avail themselves of the services of their own family physician. The action, however, of the medical association will tend in the future to alleviate a certain amount of sentiment in support of a principle.

It has been asked, but not yet answered, why should societies be singled out for this attack, when contract work is still persisted in by the members of the medical association? Will the doctors declare war upon the management of the Wellington and Vancouver collieries, municipal, Provincial and Dominion appointments?

But enough of this. What are we to do? What are the societies asking for? To repeal the Medical Act, giving the medical association the whip hand against the introduction of more doctors, by allowing duly qualified practitioners from recognized universities to practice in this province without qualifying for residence or re-examination by the medical association; failing this, the appointment by the government of medical examiners, who will act without fear or favor. The societies will then assay the task, through the agency of their Grand lodges, of providing themselves with proper medical attendance, if necessary, thus removing from one class the power of indiscrimination against another.

In regard to the Jubilee hospital, society men contend this is a public institution, the resident doctor a public appointee, and as such he is bound to show the same courtesy, giving the same assistance, if necessary, to the society doctors that is given by him to the other members of the medical profession.

PHIL R. SMITH,
Federated Societies Board.

MR. HELMCKEN REPLIES.

Sir: I observe in this morning's issue a statement made to you, as follows:

"As to the hospital, they had had complaints from the lodge doctors that they were not treated as well as they might be."

This statement is similar to one which appeared in the issue of the Times of the 10th instant, and as the Times kindly inserted a letter from me in answer to that, I trust that you will also be good enough to afford me sufficient space to make the following answer, viz.: that if any person has a grievance in connection with the management of the Provincial Royal Jubilee Hospital, the board of directors will only be too pleased if the party complaining would be good enough to forward the complaint in writing to the secretary of the board, when it will be promptly handed over to the committee in charge of these matters, and be enquired into, and the grievance, if any, remedied.

H. DALLAS HELMCKEN,
President P. R. Jubilee Hospital.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

THE CHINESE QUESTION.

Sir: I have seen in your paper the account of the outcry made in Vancouver over a statement on the Chinese question attributed to the Bishop of Columbia. I am not aware whether that statement was really made or not, but if it was I wish to say that my experience leads me to much the same conclusion. The statement continually made by the papers, by some of our members and by others who pretend to represent public opinion here, "that the great majority of our community wish to put a stop to Chinese and Japanese immigration," is, in my opinion, not founded on fact. I am sure many of those who make that statement are perfectly aware of this and would themselves be the last to wish to see exclusion carried out. I do not pretend to speak for anyone but myself, but I am vain enough to think that a majority of those outside the wage earning class and their parasites take more or less the same view of this matter as I do. I would first guard myself by saying that none would be more averse than I am to the idea of seeing our province overrun by Asiatics coming to settle here and monopolize the labor market, or to seeing the wages of white men driven down to starvation point; but, I would ask, can either of these evils be said to exist here? The Chinese, we know, do not, as a rule, settle here; they do not bring their families, but return to China when their circumstances permit. The position taken by the anti-Chinese on this characteristic is amusing. First, Chinese come here and we don't want them; second, Chinese come here, but they don't stay in the country. (See wolf and lamb.) I am, of course, familiar with the point often raised that they rob the country by taking their money away with them, the obvious reply to which is that they cannot take away with them the value of their work done here. Again, as to wages, it is a well known fact that Chinese, as a rule, will not work for very low wages, but cease to emigrate to any country where wages go below a certain point. What they will do, however, at a low rate is contract work, but why? Because they will work continuously and for long hours, and will beat any white man with whom I have to do, except perhaps the Basques.

Now, sir, I am not arguing that the state of affairs here with regard to this question is an ideal one. For my own part, speaking selfishly, I am well satisfied, because after an experience of over forty years and having had at one time or another to do with them of almost every nationality in Europe, I consider the Chinese the best colonial servants I have ever tried. There are, however, other considerations above one's own private tastes, and I admit that it would be more for the welfare present and prospective, of our province that the labor market should be supplied by men and women of our own race who would settle and remain in the country. I should myself be glad to see such a state of affairs. When and how shall we arrive at it? I think not until Englishmen are content to work here for wages at which it will pay people to employ them, until they do an honest day's work for those wages and until they learn to distinguish between a proper independence of character and intolerance. The truth, I think, is that if exclusion was carried out we sould come to a standstill. The wages demanded by Englishmen prohibit employment, and their maintenance does more than anything I know of to retard our progress. Take the farmers. They cannot afford to employ any but Japanese—not even Chinese, much less English. Take the few manufactories we possess. I know very well that they could employ three times the number of men they do if they could get them at a reasonable rate, but as things are they cannot compete with the East, etc. I have in my time been a fairly large employer of labor, both English and foreign, and I think I know something of the strong and weak points of our countrymen of that class. To say they have their own failings and their own sterling qualities is only another way of saying they are human beings. I was taught to try at least to deal fairly with every man, and to show them that I had some consideration for them; in fact, not to use them as machines. I had many difficulties with them—quarrels, fights against combinations, etc.—but, on the whole, taking the lowest possible view, I found fair treatment and consideration pay, while, taking a higher view, some of my best and truest friends have been of that class. I but trouble you with this lest you should think I am one who wants to tramp down the wage-earner. I should be glad if wages could remain as they are, but the thing is impossible unless we build an impassable wall round the province; otherwise progress in the ordinary industries will cease, or Asiatic labor must take the place of white. I wish the wage-earner could be brought to see this. Surely there are sufficiently patent examples of it all over the world; but his greatest curse is his weakness in being led away and hoodwinked by professional politicians who want his vote, and trade union parasites—loafers who make an easy living out of his unhappy credulity. How any reasonable man can think that wages can be maintained at their present abnormal rate is a problem. The Japanese question is a much more serious one than the Chinese, but this letter is already too long for me to go into it. My opinion is, then, that the best way for the workingman to fight the question of Asiatic immigration is to be more moderate in his demands, to do better work and mend his manners.

EDWARD MUSGRAVE.
Duncan's Station, July 11.

VICTORIA'S BUSINESS BUILDINGS.

Sir: Now that we are hearing so much through the press anent our duty to make Victoria attractive to visitors, did it ever strike you, Mr. Editor, that a little painting of our business premises would be quite an improvement? If you take a walk of inspection through our leading thoroughfares you cannot but be impressed with the fact that the stores and buildings wear an air of neglect and general murkiness, which certainly cannot fail to strike any visitor and give him or her the "blues." Of course, there are exceptions—one I would like to quote being that of a store on the east side of Government street, recently painted, and as we always judge things by comparisons, so in this instance do the surrounding buildings loom up in all their unlovely exteriors. Suppose we start a painting and decorating crusade right now, and let these remarks apply with equal strength to residences. We have our beautiful gardens, which are a theme of wonder and delight to any visitor; let us augment this by suitable coloring of our houses, and the difference will amply repay the expenditure. In conclusion, I would respectfully state that I am not in any way interested in any decorating or painting establishment.

"CHEIL."

BLACK WALNUTS.

Sir: Referring to Sir Henri Joly's remarks about the cultivation of black walnuts in this province, I remember, some twelve years ago, when on the staff of the Montreal Gazette, reporting a lecture delivered by Sir Henri, in the McGill college rooms, on the preservation of our forests. The Gazette gave a fairly full report of the lecture, and I remember the subject struck me at the time as being so interesting and full of practical information that I gave it a place in my scrap-book for future reference. I lent that particular scrap-book to Mr. George Kennedy, of the Columbian, and it must have been destroyed in the big fire at Westminster.

If Sir Henri has his notes of that lecture, and if he could be induced to deliver it here, I think it would do incalculable good. The lumber trade is one of our great industries, but anyone who has travelled around this province cannot but be struck with the evidently wanton waste and destruction going on in connection with our lumber resources. From my recollection of the discourse in question, it was full of food for reflection on the part of the lumberman as well as the scientist. I know it was a positive treat to listen to Sir Henri, who made his subject charmingly interesting, and I also remember Sir William Dawson, at that time principal of McGill, and a man who never wasted words, saying at the close of the lecture that it was an immense treat to him to listen to Sir Henri, and a privilege to be present at the meeting.

OSCAR O. BASS.

MUNICIPAL TAXATION.

Sir: I am of opinion that the majority of the taxpayers of Victoria will strongly disapprove of the very large increase proposed by some of our aldermen in the taxation of this year. A rate of one mill to pay interest on the loan to pay the sufferers by the bridge accident is, no doubt, necessary, which would bring the rate up to twenty mills, but there the increase should cease. Burden after burden is cast on the ratepayers, which is neither wise or considerate. Rents are not higher, business is not better this year, and there is nothing to justify increased taxation. We would all like to have paved streets and concrete sidewalks, but we cannot have all we would like, and prudence should lead our aldermen to consider previously the bearing of all questions affecting all classes of the community. The present proposal of our aldermen demands an early expression of opinion by the ratepayers, and the mayor should be petitioned to call a public meeting for that purpose.

RATEPAYER.

The Mother Lode Group

Large Amount Spent by B.A.C. On the Property in Boundary.

By End of Year Will Reach Nearly Half a Million.

The Greenwood Times states that the cost of the Mother Lode group and all plant, machinery, development work, management and all incidental expenses has been approximately $200,000. Before the end of the current year, the new plant being meanwhile installed by the B. A. C., and development work being continued without interruption, the total outlay in connection with the purchase, equipment and development of the Mother Lode group, and the incorporation and management of the company will have reached a total of not less than $300,000. Nor is this all, for the company's smelter, the accounts of which are kept separate from those of the mine, had by June 1 reached a total of $70,000, whilst a further expenditure of $60,000 to $70,000 will, it is estimated, be required to complete and fully equip this establishment, and this additional outlay has already been provided for. Summarizing the foregoing details, the following position is arrived at: The total actual outlay on the Mother Lode group to June 1, ultimo, has been $200,000, and on the smelter, $70,000; total, $270,000. The further outlay the company is already committing to for the fuller equipment of the mine and its continued development to the end of 1900 is approximately $100,000, and to complete and equip the smelter $60,000. Thus the aggregate outlay will by the end of the current year have reached the large sum of at least $430,000.

Work was commenced on the Mother Lode in September, 1896, under the management of Mr. Frederick Keffer, M.E., who first closely watched the development of the property through its preliminary eighteen months of careful prospecting, and has since, for more than two years, efficiently directed the opening up of the mine. The number of feet of work done in underground development now exceeds 4,200. At the 200-foot level one shoot of ore has been of payable grade, proved to be from 80 to 90 feet wide along a distance of at least 450 feet, with good indications that further exploration will show it to continue on its course beyond the cross-cuts already run. The limited amount of work as yet done at the 300-foot level has disclosed the existence at that greater depth of an 18-inch vein of considerably higher grade ore than that met with at the 200, but so little work has as yet been done at the lower level, the opening up of this having only late'y been commenced, that the workings are not yet anywhere near where the main body of ore may be expected to be found. The result of the work done to date has been to prove that so far the ore has lived down and, too, has increased in value with depth. More cannot now be said with certainty, but there is every reasonable prospect of the Mother Lode proving to be a productive, payable and permanent mine. If this promise be not realized it will not be the fault of the management, which includes men of large experience in mining and smelting in other parts of the American continent.

Another long cross-cut tunnel has been started at the Vancouver mine, Slocan district, says the Silvertonian. Thi stunnel, when completed, will be over 700 feet long, the longest cross-cut tunnel yet undertaken in this district, and as it is to be used as a main working tunnel, and will have to be driven through the hardest kind of rock, it is an undertaking of some magnitude. The tunnel will tap the Vancouver vein over 200 feet deeper than the No. 3 tunnel, or 500 feet below the surface croppings of the ledge. It is believed by the management that this tunnel will strike the vein deep enough to settle the question as to whether there is a body of galena ore underlying the bodies of zinc ore encountered in the Vancouver vein. This property is again sending down ore for shipment to the smelter.

Losing no time: "Bixley is working like a dog over there in New Jersey." "What's he doing?" "Training Jersey farmers to look like Chinese Boxers for a series of biograph battle-pictures taken on the spot."—Cleveland Plaindealer.

"Oh, my little daughter!" (to a little girl of six), "you should not be frightened and run from the goat. Don't you know you are a Christian Scientist?" "But, mamma," excitedly, "the billy-goat doesn't know it."—Trained Motherhood.

Gee, whiz, exclaimed the first microbe, you look fierce. I replied the crippled one. I don't I, replied the Philippine war veteran soldier and his beer gun.—Philadelphia Press.

Key to the Chinese Puzzle

A Handy Reference List of Names and Places in China.

Gives Just the Kind of Information All Newspaper Readers Want.

The following alphabetical key should be kept for reference during the Chinese crisis.

Alexejeff.—Russian Vice-Admiral on the Far Eastern station.

Bendemann.-Rear-Admiral Bendemann commanding the German squadron in the Far East.

Boxers.—The Boxers, or the "I-Ho-Chuan,"—"I" meaning righteous, "Ho" uniting, and "Chuan" defending with the fist—are one of China's many secret societies. They originated in Shantung the native hostility to the Germans, and have spread all over North China. They are bitterly anti-foreign and anti-Christian, and the endorsement of their views and agitation by the Chinese government has led to the present intervention of the Powers.

Bruce,—(Rear-Admiral John Andrew Thomas), second in command, China station. Has seen no active service except on the Niger River in 1876. He is fifty-one years old.

Chang-Chi-Tung—The Viceroy at Hankow, is a man of great influence among the Chinese; he has always been an advocate of China for the Chinese, and has tried to introduce foreign methods with Chinese administration and Chinese capital, with most disastrous results. Chang-Chi-Chung is at present out of favor with the Emperor.

Chang-Yi.—The Director of Mines for the province of Chi-hi-li, and Assistant Director of Northern Railways, a man of great wealth, is rising in prominence. He is a favorite of the Dowager-Empress, as well as of the Emperor, and of YungLu. He is progressive and in constant touch with foreigners, but very cautious; he is likely to rise to higher positions.

Chao-Shu-Chaio. —A Chinese, is a recent adition to the Cabinet. He is a Commissioner of the Railway and Mining Bureau, and is a strong conservative, anti-foreign, anti-progress, and anti-anything but himself, and asserts a very bad influence.

Chee Foo, (or Chifu).—One of the Treaty Ports, is the only open port between the mouths of the Yangtse and the Pei-Ho. It has the most suitable climate for Europeans of any of the Chinese ports, and is visited as a sanitorium by persons from the southern ports. It is close to Wei-Hai-Wei, on the northerly extremity of the Shantung peninsula.

Chekiang (Central Sea).—Province containing Sanmun, Italy's coveted base.

Chi- Li.—Northernmost province containing Pekin.

Cologan.—M. de Cologan, Spanish Minister to China, the "doyen" of the corps.

Conger.—Mr. Edwin H. Conger, United States Minister to China.

Corvejolles.—Rear-Admiral, commanding French squadron in the Far East.

Creagh.—(Brigadier-General O'Moore), commands a brigade of the Indian contingent. Now commanding the troops at Aden. Served in Afghanistan under Lord Roberts. He won the V. C. for defending the fort in the Khyber Pass, against an overwhelming force of tribesmen in April, 1879.

Foreign Settlements.—Districts allocated in certain chief cities to foreigners, according to nationalities, wherein the residents live under the control of their own elected municipal council. Consular authority is usually supreme therein, but not always so, and the residents maintain an entirely independent attitude with respect to the local Chinese authorities.

Formosa.—Japanese island southeast of China.

Fu.—A prefecture.

Fuchsima.—General commanding the Japanese force.

Fukien.—Province southeast, opposite Formosa.

Futai.—The Governor of a Province.

Gaselee (General Sir Alfred), commanding the Indian contingent. He has been quartermaster-general of the Indian army since July, 1898. Has had much experience in frontier warfare, and was the only general to materially enhance his reputation during the Tirah campaign, where he never neglected a precaution and never lost a man unnecessarily. A K. C. B. He is 57 years old.

Godown, a place for storing goods.

Haikwan, Chinese maritime customs.

Hsu-Ching Chen, vice-president of the board of works, ex-minister to Russia and Germany, and at present receiving £4,000 per annum from the Russian Eastern railway. Member of the Tsung-li Yamen.

Kang-Yi, a Manchu, the president of the board of war, and a Chinese minister, is a strong Conservative and very anti-foreign; he is influential, and is a bad adviser to the Emperor.

Kang-Yu-Wei, the exiled leader of the Chinese reform party at Singapore.

Kaingsu.—Northern sea province, containing Shanghai.

Kwang-Su, the present Emperor, and son of Prince Chun, now dead, who was younger brother of the late Emperor, Hsien-Fung, the Dowager Empress' husband. Kwang-Su has no issue.

Kwanei.—Province bordering Tonkin.

Kwantung.—Southern province containing Canton.

Kwei-Chun, the viceroy of Szechuan, a Manchu, is not violently anti-foreign, but he has not been very successful in keeping his province quiet.

Li, a Chinese mile, equals one-third of an English mile.

Li Hung Chang, acting viceroy at Canton, who is well known in Europe, where he has acted both as envoy and minister. Now very old. He has often been in disgrace, but is a trusted friend of the Dowager Empress.

Likin, an inland tax imposed on foreign goods in transit.

Liu-Kunyi, viceroy at Nanking. He is a trusted alley of the Dowager Empress, but getting old.

Macdonald.—Sir Claude Macdonald, British minister to China, who, it is understood, is resigning in consequence of ill-health.

Newchwang.—This flourishing port, which has a British concession, is the chief seaport of Manchuria, and is 190 miles north of Port Arthur. There is an immense and increasing export and import trade, which is mainly in the hands of the English, Americans and Japanese. The Russians have laid out a new town three miles above Newchwang for the terminus of their new railway.

Nishu.—Baron Nishu, Japanese minister to China.

Nganhwei.—Inland province.

Pei-Ho (North river) rises beyond the Great Wall, and, flowing past Pekin and Tien Tsin, debouches into the Gulf of Liao-tung, the last eight miles of its course being through mud flats. At its mouth are the Taku forts. From Taku to Tien Tsin the course of the river is very tortuous, yet it is navigable up to Pekin, 100 miles from the mouth. About November the river begins to freeze over.

Pekin, the northern capital of China since 1260, a very old, evil-smelling town, stands in the middle of an extensive plain twelve miles north of Tung-chow on the Pei-ho and 160 miles from the sea. It is surrounded by walls fifty feet high and fifty feet wide and is entered through strong gates, all of which are closed at night. Here is the palace and here are the legations. The popuace is anti-foreign with an intensity which is barely conceivable. The estimated population is 1,300,000.

Pichon.—M. Pichon, French minister to China.

Port Arthur, now the Russian naval base in the Far East. It was leased to Russia in 1898, with the adjacent seas and territory to the north, the whole forming the province of Kwangtung. Port Arthur is reserved as a naval port for Russian and Chinese warships, and closed to other nations. By Russian efforts it has become a very powerful and important base.

Prince Ching, a Manchu, Lord Chamberlain of the court and commander of the Pekin field forces. Member of the Tsung-li Yamen.

Prince Li, the senior member of the cabinet (pronounced Lee), a Manchu, is an hereditary prince, belonging to a distant branch of the imperial family; he takes no part in foreign affairs, but is much trusted in imperial family matters.

Pu-Chun, the present Emperor's heir, nominated by the Dowager Empress. He is the grandson of a brother of the Emperor, Hsein Fung and Prince Chun, and first cousin once removed to the present Emperor.

Shantung.—Province bordering the Gulf of Pechili to the south. Contains Kiao-chau and Wei-Hai-Wei.

Sheng, the administrator of telegraphs and of railways, the dead of the Imperial Bank of China and of the China Merchants' Steamship Co., is a most influential man, and is in constant relations with foreigners. Those who have tried to do business with him so far have found him more than a match for them; the control of the whole of the telegraph system of China and considerable wealth, gives him great power, and he is always a man to be reckoned with in the future. Squeeze, general term of extortion; the secret commission which every Chinaman makes on any transaction with a foreigner.

Stewart (Brigadier-General Sir N. R., is in command of a brigade of the Indian contingent.

Szechuan.—Province bordering Tibet.

Tael, equals 1 1-3 oz. of silver in weight.

Taku forts, situated at the mouth of the Pei-ho, consists of three main forts, the North, South and New. At the time when they were captured by the allied forces of England and France in 1850 they mounted about 300 guns. Behind the forts there extends for twenty miles inland an intricate system of moats. Defended by modern artillery and skilful artillerists, they would be practically impregnable. They were taken by the allied forces on June 17.

The Grand Council.—The Emperor and Empress Dowager are assisted in the government by a cabinet or grand council, consisting at present of eight members, and these are undoubtedly the most influential statesmen for the time being.

Shanghai, the largest and most important of the Chinese treaty ports. It is situated twelve miles from the mouth of a branch of the Yangtse-kiang, in the province of Kiangsu. The population is nearly four millions, including over 3,000 foreigners. It was declared a treaty port open to the world in 1842. The British government established the supreme consular court and court of appeals for all China and Japan at Shanghai.

The Tsung-Li Yamen.—serves the Chinese government as Minister of Foreign Affairs. Till the war of 1860 all foreigners were treated as belonging to dependent or tributary nations, and on this basis all foreign affairs had been conducted by a special department of the Board of Ceremonies. The war, however showed that the nations of the West could not be treated as tributary tribes, and to meet the emergency, Prince Kung invented the Tsung-Li Yamen as the most suitable method of dealing with foreign ministers. It first had three members, but the number has been increased to ten. Its members do not constitute a separate department in the ordinary sense of the term; they are selected from the six boards and from the grand council (cabinet). The Tsung-Li Yamen, as a body, has no power to act, and except in most unimportnat cases will give no decisive answer. They receive requests, demands and protests, and acknowledge the receipt. As a Board of Obstruction, it is a gigantic success. All interviews are taken down verbatim, and with copies of the despatches are laid before Grand Council (Cabinet), and by it reported to the Emperor.

Tien Tsin.—One of the Treaty Ports, is on the Pei-ho and seventy miles from Pekin. It is a very busy place when the river is free from ice, but when the last steamer has left and the river is closed up, the foreign community, consisting of about 230 Europeans, have nothing to do but amuse themselves till the end of March. Tien Tsin has now been isolated and the foreign settlement is in a state of seige since June 17.

Tuan (prince), the father of Pu Chun, the heir-apparent and first cousin of Kwang Su, the emperor, and now leading the ultra-anti-foreign movement at the palace.

Tze-Hsi, the Dowager Empress, now sixty-five years old, widow of the Emperor Hsien-Fung, who died in 1861. No blood relation to the present Emperor, who is the son of Hsien-Fung's brother, the late Prince Chun.

Wang-Wen-Shao, a Chinese, is president of the board of revenue, a member of the Tsung-li-Yamen, and a commissioner of the railway and mining bureau. He is the most liberal member of the cabinet and the least anti-foreign.

Wei-Hai-Wei (Liukuntao was leased to Great Britain by the Chinese in 1898. One hundred and thirty thousand pounds was provided by the military works bill of 1899 for the defence of Wei-Hai-Wei. The garrison consists of one company of Chinese garrison artillery, two companies of British infantry, six companies of Chinese infantry, and the necessary contingents of Royal Engineers and departmental staff. It has a large and safe anchorage, but to properly defend it would require a force of from ten to fifteen thousand. Admiral Bruce announces that he is making Wei-Hai-Wei a base of operations.

Woosung. — Seventeen miles from Shanghai, on the Yang Tse, where there are strong forts.

Yamen, an official residence.

Yu-Lu, the viceroy of Chi-Li, is a timid man, but by no means anti-foreign. He has influence at court.

Yung-Lu, a Manchu, the commander-in-chief of the Northern armies, is probably the most influential man in China. He has great power, and is a favorite of the Empress Dowager. He is somewhat progressive, and inclined to lead the Empress into the paths of Western progress, also a member of the cabinet.

Yunnan.—Most westerly province.

WEEKLY WEATHER SYNOPSIS.

Meteorological Office,
Victoria, July 4 to 10, 1900.

On the fourth, the weather was showery over Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland, while between the Ranges an abnormally heavy rainfall occurred; this was by the passage of an ocean low area across Northern British Columbia to the Territories. From the fifth to the seventh, the weather gradually cleared and became warmer as the barometric pressure increased along the Coast and spread inland over the province. This fine spell, however, was of short duration; as on Sunday, the 8th, another low barometer area moved across Northern British Columbia from the ocean; it caused more rain in the Upper Fraser River Valley and strong westerly winds over the Straits and Sound. Rain again fell in the Cariboo and Kootenay districts on the ninth, followed by fine hot weather on the tenth. In the Territories during this week there were numerous showers and thunder storms, while in Manitoba a much needed heavy rain occurred. Winnipeg reported over two inches of rain in less than two days.

At Victoria there were over 55 hours of bright sunshine; .07 inch of rain; maximum temperature, 66, on the 7th; and a minimum temperature of 50, on the 10th.

New Westminster had .36 inch of rain; the highest temperature 82, on the 7th; and the lowest 48, on the 9th.

Kamloops reported .82 inch of rain; maximum temperature, 82, on the 10th; and minimum, 52, on the 7th.

The following is a summary of the weather for June:

RAINFALL.

Victoria	1.61 inch.
Victoria Water Works	2.78 inch.
Goldstream Lake	4.44 inch.
New Westminster	5.60 inch.
Garry Point	3.68 inch.
Vancouver	5.42 inch.
Alberni	4.95 inch.

The highest temperature at Victoria was 77.4, on the 13th; and the lowest, 45.3, on the 7th.

The monthly record of bright sunshine was 190 hours 54 minutes.

The total number of miles of wind recorded on the anemometer was 4,829, which is considerably below the average. The direction was as follows: North, 117 miles; northeast, 78 miles; east, 96 miles; southeast, 128 miles; south, 1,116 miles; southwest, 1,412 miles; west, 1,694 miles; northwest, 138 miles.

MOVING PICTURES.

From the London Mail.

Before long Londoners will be able to indulge in a new sensation—that of being biographed. The old-fashioned "still life" photography is to give way to the photographic living picture.

Hitherto only the brave and the fair have been "biographed" and "mutoscoped." Tramping soldiers and dancing actresses have held full sway. That is to be altered. The Biograph and Mutoscope Syndicate is about to open a studio of biography in Regent street. There anyone will be biographed who so desires, just as one is photographed at present at the photographers.

The biograph studio will be fitted up in the most fashionable style. The operating room will be spacious and elegant, lighted by arc lamps equal to 100,000 candle power. The great difficulty in "biography" is the elimination of shadows—that has been perfectly arranged. The quick-firing camera will work at the rate of more than forty pictures a second, and will go on just as long as may be desired.

There are evidently great things possible in the future for this novel form of photography.

"I think the biograph studio will be very popular indeed," said Mr. Smedley, the manager of the syndicate, to a Daily Mail representative yesterday. "At present, a photograph shows an individual, or a group of persons in only one attitude, and it is obvious that it misses many characteristic poses. What we shall do is to photograph people in motion, so as to catch every gesture and movement. How much more interesting to have a moving photograph of your friends than one showing them in a single pose!

"There will be no limits to the operations of the studio," he continued, "save those which regulate the usual high-class photographer's. Anyone who wishes, or a number of persons, may be photrauhed doing just what they like. Bridal procession? Certainly, if they wish it. The bride and bridegroom, bridesmaids, best man, parents, sisters, cousins, aunts—they can all walk round the studio, and be 'biographed, for private circulation.

"Young ladies and gentlemen may meet in front of the 'machine' and send reels of the living pictures to their friends. In fact, anyone may come and walk, dance, receive one's friends, or anything in reason, and have a faithful reproduction of the scene sent home.

"There will be no difficulty about showing the biograph pictures to friends," Mr. Smedley explained. "We supply stands for the drawing room, and all you have to do is to put the wheel on a spindle and turn the handle. Or you can have a 'Kinora,' a small machine for the table. The great advantage over the ordinary cinematograph is that our reels consist of finished pictures, not of combustible film. There will be unlimited amusement, and no danger."

The studio will also provide a readymade supply of magic-lantern slides. By an ingenious device, which simply requires the addition of the lens of an electric lamp to the ordinary mutoscope machine, the living pictures taken at the studio may be thrown on to a screen for the delectation of family parties.

WAGON HILL.

Ladysmith, January 6th, 1900.

Drake in the North sea grimly prowling,
Treading his dear Revenge's deck,
Watched, with the sea dogs round him growling,
Galleons drifting wreck by wreck.
"Fetter and Faith for England's neck,
Faggot and Father, Saint and chain—
Yonder the devil and all go howling,
Devon, O, Devon, in wind and rain."

Drake at the last off Nombre lying,
Knoking the night that toward him crept,
Gave to the sea dogs round him crying
This for a sign before he slept;
"Pride of the West! What Devon hath kept
Devon shall keep on tide or main;
Call to the storm and drive them flying,
Devon, O, Devon, in wind and rain."

Valor of England, gaunt and whitening,
Far in a South land brought to bay,
Locked in a death grip all day tightening
Waited the end in twilight gray.
Battle and storm and the sea dog's way,
Drake from his long rest turned again,
Victory lit thy steel with lightning,
Devon, O, Devon, in wind and rain."

—Henry Newbolt, in the Spectator.