MALLANDAINE,
ARCHITECT,
, BANK OF B. C. BLDG.

is hereby given that application ade to the Legislative Assembly ovince of British Columbia at its on for an Act to consolidate ... g leases of ground situated in and ond Gulch, Atlin District of Bri- ubia and more particularly known em," "Lampman," "Will o' the Engelhardt," "Gordon," "Cousin ancashire Lad," "Louise," "Pure lda," "Clifford," and "Only together with other adjoinnig or properties that may hereafter be by the applicants into one holding mise thereof from the Crown for of 25 years from the final pass- Act with a right of renewal for period of 25 years and that the vileges and easements now held er acquired by the applicants and lay the right of diverting and 0 miners' inches from 4th July 00 miners' inches from Surprise 900 miners' inches from Moose akes be held, employed and enjoy- urtenant to the whole or any part d holdings; and to confirm to the s and their assigns the said con- leaseholds and water-rights, with carry any water that they may m Surprise Lake through the said d Elk Lakes for the use of the ap- and their assigns solely, and with usual, necessary or incidental owers or privileges as may be nec- incidental or conducive to the at- of the above objects or any of
HUNTER & OLIVER,
Solicitors for the Applicants.

SLOCUM'S
NOBLE WORK

Eminent Scientist
voting His Life to
the Cure of

ONSUMPTIVES.

Free Treatment To All Who Desire a Cure.

al the sick! To bring back health ength to the pale cheeks of men and suffering from that terrible disease, ption, is the life work of that Emin- entist and benefactor of the human Dr. T. A. Slocum. Dr. Slocum has his disease a life study, and no man medical world stands higher as an ty on all lung diseases than the hose name heads this article. Dr. says "no matter how many discour- ts you have met with this cure is certain and permanent." To prove uth of his statement the doctor is that every victim of Consumption ave a free trial of his famous reme- Here is his offer:—
or your sick friends can have a FREE of Treatment. Simply write to THE SLOCUM CHEMICAL CO., Limited, ing St., West, Toronto, giving post and express office address, and the edicine (The Slocum Cure) will be tly sent.
n writing for them, always mention aper.
ons in Canada seeing Slocum's free n American papers will please send mples to the Toronto laboratories.

. T. HARDAKER,
AUCTIONEER.

UCTION

lerooms, 77, 79 and 81 Douglas St.,
day Dec. 21 at 2 p. m.
sirable Furniture

W. Centre Table; Oak Centre Table, al Chairs, Rattan Chairs, Settee, Oak s; Good Rockers; Arm Chairs; Book What-Not; Inlaid Cabinet; Ext. Din- ble; 5 H. B. Chairs; handsome B. W. om Suite; Ash Bedroom Suite; and Double Bedsteads; en Wire, Box and Hair Top esses; Kitchen Tables Kitchen s; Bed Linen; Lace Curtains; Portiers, good Pictures; Music; Lamps and s; Glassware; Crockery; Blinds; Carpets; Glenwood Cooking Range; Cook Stove; Stove Pipe; Heating s; Clothes Baskets; Wash Tubs; s Wringer; Clothes Lines; lot of al- New Cooking Utensils, etc.

Ladies' Bicycle,
Lot of Glazed Sash,
Cases Jams and Jellies.

whole to be sold entirely without re- and goods delivered before noon on day. Terms cash.
WM. T. HARDAKER,
The Auctioneer.

House
EAL
supplementary
ATALOGUE
f goods suitable for
Gifts.
Fancy Goods. This
l
HE
great assistance to those having
and thorough satisfaction guar-
& Company
EAL.

The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

FORTY-THIRD YEAR — THE VICTORIA SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1900. — VOLUME XLIII.

Dewet For A Present.

What the Average Briton Would Like Santa Claus to Bring.

Nicaragua Canal Still Fails to Arouse Deep Interest in London.

School Board Disturbed Over Legal Decision Against Classes for Adults.

London, Dec. 22.—General Dewet would be far the most acceptable Christmas box to the average Englishman, though there seems little likelihood of the wish being granted. The desire for the suppression of this Boer leader, however, is accompanied by generous admiration.

"It would be unworthy of the British name," says the Times, "to refuse the credit that is due to a feat of arms as brilliant as the unexpected dash backward of Dewet and his men through the British lines."

Other papers take the same view, comparing the ride to Springhaan's Nek with the charge at Balaklava. In fact the admiration for the extraordinary daring displayed by the Boers on this occasion predominates. Reverses have become the expected. Last Christmas society almost went crazy over plum puddings and chocolate hampers sent to the soldiers on the veldt; this year they are not mentioned. In fact, the public is unutterably weary of the long drawn out struggle, whose only interesting features are the sensational successes of Dewet. This in no way affects the government, whose determination to fight it out to the bitter end is evident from its decision to reinforce the already huge army in South Africa. Several members of the cabinet, however, would be heartily grateful were the Boer leaders to sue for peace.

The Nicaragua canal still fails to arouse any really deep interest here, as it is thoroughly understood that Great Britain will take no action in the near future, and the Chinese negotiations are regarded more in the light of a monotonous farce than a serious problem, thanks to the absurd misunderstandings which have arisen between the powers themselves. The only quarter in London where the performance is thoroughly enjoyed is at the Chinese legation, to which Sir Chi Chen Lo Feng Lu, the minister of China, is reported to be in a state of perpetual chuckle eve the attitude of Christendom.

The announcement that the Netherlands does not consider itself bound by the Paris-Venezuela commission decisions, and is guarding the Anglo-Dutch frontier, is not regarded by the foreign office as being of any importance or as likely to form the basis for international friction. The Dutch boundary is a comparatively minor matter, on which the colonial office has been engaged for some time. The Netherlands ministers' action is regarded as a step to ward off a contingency which, however, Great Britain has not contemplated.

The decision of the court of Queen's bench, declaring it to be illegal for the London school board to spend the ratepayers' money for teaching science and art at evening classes for adults, has created perturbation. Some 90,000 pupils are affected, and the whole of London's educational system must be reversed if the House of Lords upholds the verdict. The Speaker declares it is the most serious disaster which has befallen education for some time. Columns of comment appear on the subject in the dailies. Other large cities are seriously concerned, as they all have classes similar to those in London. The head masters of expensive schools appear of approve of the decision that the school board is enmaintaining the existence of the secondary schools.

GOLF IN ENGLAND.

Nichols of Boston, Beaten by James Braid.

London, Dec. 22.—In a 36-hole golf match on the Romford links today, Jas. Braid beat Bernard Nichols of Boston, Mass., by nine up and seven to play. The contest was spoiled by a prevailing fog, but Nichols, who was strange to the course, did not show to advantage. He was seven down on the first round, and the home man completed the first round with the score of 77.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that application will be made to the Legislature of the Province of British Columbia at its next Session for an Act to incorporate an association to be known as "The British Columbia Mining Association," the said association being founded for the following purposes, namely: First, to promote the arts and sciences connected with the economical production of valuable minerals and metals by means of meetings for the reading and discussion of technical papers and the subsequent distribution of such information as may be gained through the medium of publication. Second, the establishment of a central reference library and a headquarters for the purpose of this organization. Third, to take concerted action upon such matters as affect the mining and metallurgical industries of the Province of British Columbia, and to encourage and promote these industries by all lawful and honorable means.

Dated at Rossland, B. C., December 15th, 1900.
DALY & HAMILTON,
Solicitors for Applicants.

FOR SALE—Sheep farm, 320 acres. Address "Farm," Colonist office. d21

NOTICE is hereby given that I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a lease to prospect for coal on the following described land, situated on the southeast branch of Telqua River, Coast District:

Commencing at a post on the bank of the Telqua River, about five miles above its junction with the Bulkeley River, said post being the northwest corner and adjoining with the northeast corner of James Thompson's coal prospecting claim; thence due south 80 chains; thence due east 80 chains; thence due north 80 chains; thence due west 80 chains to the place of commencement, and containing 640 acres more or less.
B. W. POWELL.

UNLUCKY BOXER.

Young Man Dies of Injuries Received in a Contest.

Philadelphia, Dec. 22.—Frank Barr, 19 years of age, died to-night in a hospital here, following a boxing contest at the Philadelphia Athletic Club. Joseph Kelly, who was Barr's opponent, and Frank Henderson, the referee, were arrested.

OVERCOME BY GAS.

Family in Fort William Narrowly Escape Death From Deadly Fumes.

Fort William, Ont., Dec. 22.—The family of Mr. Daniel Campbell, five in number, living on May street, were all overcome by coal gas last night, and two of them are in a critical condition as a result.

DEADLY TROLLEY.

Two Cars of Christmas Shoppers Come to Grief in Lebanon.

Lebanon, Pa., Dec. 22.—Two trolley cars on the Lebanon street railway, crowded with Christmas shoppers, collided today between this city and Annville. A number of persons were injured, some seriously. An 18 months old baby was trampled on by the panic-stricken passengers and is not expected to recover.

AS CANADIAN DELEGATE.

Sir Charles Tupper Will Be Asked to Accompany Premier to Australia.

Ottawa, Dec. 22.—(Special)—Most of the ministers have left town to spend the Christmas holidays at home.

Local merchants say that the Christmas trade is the best in many years.

It is stated that the government undoubtedly will ask Sir Charles Tupper to accompany Sir Wilfrid Laurier to Australia as one of the Canadian delegates at the opening of the Commonwealth parliament.

Coal Fields Of Salt Spring.

Examination of the Coal Lands Made by Mr. Wm. Brewer.

Mining Engineer's Opinion of Property which is Being Developed.

W. M. Brewer, M. E., returned last evening from Salt Spring Island, where he has been making a cursory examination of the coal measures at present being prospected there. He states that the northern portion of that island is undoubtedly within the coal measures, its geological formation being one of sandstone shales and conglomerate.

He found an outcrop of coal on the west coast of Salt Spring, at Vesuvius Bay, about eight miles across the channel eastwardly from Ladysmith. This seam, which cropped out on the beach on Mr. Bittencourt's land, was about 18 inches thick, and from samples seen at the wharf, was of an excellent quality. Some years ago a shallow shaft had been sunk, probably about 20 feet, and a small quantity of coal taken out. The strike of this vein is about southwest and northeast, and its dip nearly vertical, the little incline being towards the north.

More recently a Vancouver syndicate had started to sink at a point about a mile inland and some 500 feet above sea-level. The point selected was nearly at the height of a ridge which runs about northerly, but a depth of 700 feet was reached before shales were met, and the drilling operations were suspended. A few days ago, however, a second attempt was undertaken; this time an experienced coal driller, Mr. W. Hamilton, who has just returned from the Omineca, being in charge. After examining the land over which the syndicate's option extends, he fixed upon a point near Mr. J. T. Booth's wharf, and there the plant has been taken, but is not yet set up. The point selected is in one of Mr. Booth's fields, not far from one of the salt springs which gave their name to the island. At this low level it was thought that the seam would be found by a shallower bore. Here, too, the measures approached more nearly to the horizontal, the dip being but about 30 degrees, and that towards the south.

At the extreme northwest point of the island, coal again crops out, this time about 10 inches thick. From a cursory examination the measures appeared to be considerably faulted, dipping towards Galiano island, similarly to those at Vesuvius Bay. Thus there is a big fault somewhere, but Mr. Brewer had not opportunity to examine at all closely into it. Between Mr. Booth's and Vesuvius Bay a considerable ridge runs down from the north end of the island in a nearly southerly direction.

Around St. Mary's lake the shales are found almost horizontal, and run so throughout what is called the Central Settlement until Ganges Harbor is reached, where once more they are almost vertical.

Mr. Brewer had no opportunity to examine the adjoining shore of Vancouver Island, but the area covered by these measures, so far as he could trace them, was one of about three by nine miles.

FRENCH SHORE TROUBLE.

Newfoundland Modus Vivendi Expires at the End of Present Month.

St. John's, Nfld., Dec. 22.—On the last day of December the Anglo-French modus vivendi respecting the Newfoundland treaty coast expires, and this, it is expected, will create serious complications between these powers.

It is highly unlikely that the Newfoundland legislature will consent to renew the present arrangements, in which case grave friction will ensue, unless Great Britain makes another agreement with the French.

The colony's position, however, is so strong with the British public that such arrangement must be decidedly favorable to the colony.

Little News From Africa.

But What there is Shows Best For the British Troops.

Boers Have Been Beaten Off at Standerton and Lost Heavily.

London, Dec. 23.—Since Lord Kitchener's despatch of Wednesday last, reporting the crossing of the Orange river into Cape Colony of two bands of Boers, nothing official concerning events in South Africa has reached the public. Last night the news was most meagre. Reports were received from Capetown that the railway had been torn up in three miles north of De Aar. A column of 500 of all arms, under command of Major Shute, left Colesberg on December 18 by the Philipstown road to relieve a post of 20 Yeomanry who were invested on a farm at Hamelfontein. The Boers had been beaten off by the Yeomanry before the relieving column arrived. Two wounded Boers were captured. They stated that their party had lost 2 killed and 12 wounded.

A Standerton despatch, dated December 18, says a sharp encounter took place with two parties of Boers near Kaliksspruit, ten miles south of the railway. The Boer parties numbered 300. Both were routed after obstinate resistance. One retired in the direction of Groblesaar's Drift and the other towards Villiersdorp. It is supposed that they lost severely. The British force lost two wounded, and captured a quantity of live stock and forage.

Many people of all classes gathered about the war office last evening, anxious for the welfare of friends engaged in the war, and especially for that of those connected with the regiments which were engaged in the Nooitgedacht battle. At a late hour a list of casulties to non-commissioned officers and men was posted, showing that 60 had been killed and 162 wounded.

JAPAN'S OPINION.

What They Think of the Allied Troops in China.

London, Dec. 22.—The Daily News publishes the following from its Shanghai correspondent, dated yesterday:

"Chang Chih Tung announces the receipt of an edict authorizing the opening of Wu Chang, opposite Kanker, to foreign trade. Wu Chang is the centre of an important trade and the site of the terminus of the Canton railway. The Chinese papers assert that the anti-dynastic rebellion in the province of Ksu Su is becoming serious, and is likely to compel the court to depart."

The Tokio correspondent of the Times in the course of a long letter, gives the views of Japanese observers upon western military methods in China, especially the conduct of the troops with regard to the graver crimes of robbery, incendiarism, murder and outrages.

"The Japanese agree," he says, "in declaring the American troops free from all these excesses. The Germans are second on the list, and the British third, the latter being charged only with petty pilfering, and being fully acquitted of murder, arson and outrage. The French who are fourth on the list, are given to loot and outrage, but not to murder. Of the Russians, the Japanese speak with horror as combining ferocity with lust and the love of plunder."

ARRIVED FROM SKAGWAY.

Steamer Victorian Reports That City of Topeka Will Soon Be Floated.

Vancouver, Dec. 22.—(Special)—The steamer Victorian arrived from Skagway this morning with 45 passengers, most of them from Dawson. There was $30,000 worth of gold dust in the purser's cabin, most of it belonging to the Armee brothers, of Seattle.

When the Victorian passed the City of Topeka the stern was under water, but the stranded vessel would be high and dry at low tide. Men were bulkheading and cementing her, and expected to get her off in a few days.

From a passenger it was learned that the Bear creek strike, in the Porcupine district, was quite authentic, and that arrangements were being made to take in machinery for the hydraulic claims on the United States side of the Porcupine district.

Another passenger was Mr. Pound, in charge of the Atlin ballot boxes. Atlin gave Maxwell 56 and Garden 59; Surprise gave Maxwell 7 and Garden 0. At Discovery Maxwell's majority was 13; at Bennett Garden got 14 and Maxwell 10. Mr. Pound says the trail from Log Cabin to Atlin should be improved. It is almost impassable. The Gleaner mine, at Taku Arm, is showing up well.

The shipmasters are petitioning the Dominion government for the following aids to navigation: Lightship to replace the light on the flats at the mouth of the Fraser river; lighthouse at Portier's pass, Gabriola island; light at Maude island, Seymour narrows; lighthouse at Scarlet point, Galiano island; and fog signals at all the leading lighthouses.

At a special meeting of the city council last night, Messrs. Wilson & Senkler's offer to put on a line of steamers between here and Skagway, better than any running the same route on the Coast, provided the city guaranteed 5 per cent. interest on $200,000 for five years, was referred to a special meeting called for Friday next to further consider the matter. Messrs. Wilson & Senkler offered to pay for the submission of the by-law.

REMOVED FROM OFFICE.

Governor Roosevelt Dismisses New York District Attorney.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 22.—Governor Roosevelt announced tonight that he had removed from office Colonel Asa Bird Gardiner, district attorney of New York county, on charges preferred by Deputy Attorney J. H. Hammond, and had appointed Eugene J. Philbin of the state county charities, a Democrat, to fill the vacancy.

AT NANAIMO.

Business Brisk at the Coal City—Strike at Alexandria Mines—School Closing.

Nanaimo, Dec. 22.—(Special)—The Dominion Express Company reports the best business in parcels this season from Nanaimo since the office opened here.

A strike is on at the Alexandria mines, the men stating that the manager refuses to allow for turning places, that the miners' ton of coal will be increased to 2,800 pounds from 2,352 pounds, and that the enforcement of the new rule will mean the reduction of wages 20 per cent. below standard. The mine is now closed, the mules have been brought up, and preparations made for a prolonged spell of idleness. The miners are holding conferences on the situation.

The city schools closed for the Christmas holidays on Friday afternoon. They will re-open early in the new year.

FRIENDLY HELP.

Ladies Busy Brightening the Christmas of the Poor.

Yesterday morning the ladies of the Friendly Help Association were very busy distributing the parcels that had been kindly donated. In the afternoon the ladies paid a visit to the grocers and butchers in order to supply their poor people with a good Christmas dinner. All cash donations will be acknowledged later. The other donations not previously acknowledged are: Mrs. D. R. Kerr, pies; Ruby Smith, sugar and meal; Juanita Sears, cakes; Edward Sears, vegetables; Maudie Ledingham, Roy Ledingham, Gordon Ledingham, Ella Hagenbuck, jam; R. Porter & Sons, meat; Mrs. Gillespie's children, toys; Annie Roche, new hats, gloves and toys; Mrs. Herbert Carmichael, two new garments; Mrs. J. Yorke, package new clothing; Mrs. Dr. Wilson, four new garments; Miss Warlock, three new garments; Mrs. Gore, three new garments; Mrs. Raymur, two pairs stockings; Mrs. Solley, new shirt; Mrs. Gooch, two new garments; Mrs. Leiser, groceries and clothing; Master Fred Wood, two pair gloves; Mrs. M. J. Thompson, 100 pounds rolled oats; Erick and Thelma Thompson, groceries; Mrs. McTavish, meat.

The Boers Reinforced.

Enemy Crosses at Zoutspan to Aid those Occupying Phillipstown.

Evening Standard has a Report That Kimberley is Threatenod.

Capetown, Dec. 22.—The invaders are commanded by Generals Heretzog, Philip Botha and Haarbrock. Besides the commands already reported a force has crossed at Zoutspan to reinforce the Boers occupying Philipstown.

London, Dec. 22.—The Evening Standard says it hears a report has reached London that Kimberley is seriously threatened by the Boers.

None of the leading South African firms interested in Kimberley has received information tending to confirm the Evening Standard's report.

The war office, in the announcement issued last evening, says 3,000 extra horses, beyond the usual monthly supply, have been contracted for.

Kingston, Ont., Dec. 22.—Principal Grant is out of accord with the British military authorities for annexing the Orange Free State. He approves of the stand Dewet and Steyn and their comrades are taking.

THE COAL CITY.

Juvenile Depravity Causes the Police a Lot of Trouble.

Nanaimo, Dec. 2 .—(Special)—What has been known as a cause celebre for a long time—the dispute between William Beaumont and the city as to possession of a portion of the fire hall property—was amicably settled this week, thus saving further litigation and expense.

That will be a splendid team that Ladysmith and Extension will send down to Victoria for the match against the Victoria seniors on Christmas Day. Many of them will be from the Scotch miners who came out recently, and as they have had a good chance to pick up their old Scotch playing form, they may be expected to put up good ball.

Thirty-one pupils wrote at the examination for entrance to the High school, which was concluded a few days ago. Mr. Hunter, the principal, who examined for competency, has forwarded the results to the education department.

During the hurricane on Wednesday evening the electric light wires were blown upon one another, forming what is known as a short circuit. This caused the overture of electricity to burn out the armature in the power-house, leaving the city in total darkness, especially the up-town streets, all night. The gale was the fiercest experienced here in years.

The police are becoming seriously concerned over the increase of juvenile depravity in this city. On Thursday morning three young lads belonging to respectable families were arrested on a charge of stealing two boxes of oranges from one store, a large box of candles from another, and various other articles from other stores. The stipendiary magistrate made some caustic remarks upon the responsibilities of parents, and the desirability of having the reformatory completed as quickly as possible. This is the second serious case of youthful wickedness the police have had to deal with this month.

The final session of the royal commission of enquiry into the claims of the settlers within the E. & N. railway belt was held in the court house here on Wednesday evening, when Commissioner Judge Harrison examined Mr. Marshal Bray, government agent, as to titles and other technicalities. The report of the commission is expected to be very voluminous, and if the legislature meet in February, as is expected, it is very improbable that the report can be got ready in time for that date.

Wants Men From Canada

Chamberlain Asks For Thousand Recruits For Baden-Powell's Force.

Free Transportation To South Africa and the Pay Is Good.

Ottawa, Dec. 24.—Lord Minto has received a cable from Mr. Chamberlain, asking for one thousand recruits from Canada for Baden-Powell's Transvaal force at five shillings per day.

If this number is recruited in the Dominion, then ten captaincies and fifteen lieutenancies in the Imperial army will go to the Dominion militia.

Free transportation will be given from Canada to South Africa for the recruits.
vWYr.A kkmo

FATHER O'DONNELL DEAD.

Montreal Priest Dies Suddenly in the Prime of Life.

Montreal, Dec. 22.—Rev. Father O'Donnell, of St. Mary's, a leading Catholic priest in Montreal, died suddenly yesterday, aged 48.

Cottage City From the North.

Steam Schooner Tillamook is Two Weeks Overdue at Juneau.

City of Topeka Can Be Saved—What Miners are Doing.

Steamer Cottage City arrived last night from Skagway, Juneau, Sitka, Killisnoo and other mail points of the North, after a very stormy voyage. She had 40 passengers, seven of whom were for Victoria, including Mr. Grant, a barrister of this city, who has been practising in the North. Other passengers were Judge Henry States, the first commissioner for Alaska, from Juneau; Henry W. Mellen, a former Juneau judge, who is now a mine operator, owning one of the richest copper properties on Prince of Wales island; and H. A. Bauer, a mine operator from Sitka. There was not much Klondike or Atlin gold on board the steamer, but she had treasure, bringing $75,000 in bullion from the Treadwell mines, near Juneau.

News was brought by the Cottage City that all Juneau is worried over the safety of the steam schooner Tillamook, which was running from Juneau to Ounalaska via ports along the western peninsula. The Tillamook, a vessel of from 500 to 600 tons, was over two weeks overdue at Juneau from Ounalaska when the Cottage City left Juneau—on the morning of December 20, and much anxiety was expressed for her safety. The missing steamer is owned by the Alaska Mail S. S. Co., and was to have made but one trip to Ounalaska with the mail, the steamer Aloha being commissioned for the other four trips to be made this season. There was not the slightest clue regarding the long detention of the overdue steamer.

Capt. Wallace of the Cottage City is of the opinion that the wrecked steamer City of Topeka will be saved from where she lies if the weather continues good for any length of time. It was beginning to moderate when the Cottage City left the North, and hopes were entertained of finer weather. With good weather the work of raising the steamer should not be difficult. A salvage crew has gone to her with pumps, wrecking gear, etc., on the steamer Flossie, and work was to begin at once when the Cottage City left the North.

F. J. Mulligan, who arrived from Atlin by the Cottage City, reports that when he left, in company with thirteen others, some of whom are on the Cottage City and some coming on the Danube, the company of which Mr. J. Bathesemhaugh is manager, were engaged in moving their five-stamp mill to Munro mountain. There was little mining development going on, the season being quiet. The recent election has been exciting in Atlin, and the voting was spirited. At Atlin proper, said Mr. Mulligan, there were 115 votes polled, and there Mr. Garden got a majority of three. At Bennett, where 24 votes were polled, he got a majority of four. At Surprise Garden lost the majority thus gained, all the votes polled, seven in all, being for Maxwell. Discovery gave Maxwell a majority of 13. Thus Atlin was carried by the government member by 13.

Messrs. P. E. Scharschmidt and H. Price were reported to have arried out from the Gleaner mines on Taku Arm in time to take passage by the steamer Danube, with their half ton of ore, in regard to which Dr. Scharschmidt has a bet with a Skagway man that it will go $24,000 to the ton.

Judge Mellen, who arrived on the Cottage City, says that his mines on Prince of Wales are ready to ship some promising ore. Had the company's tram not broken down, they would have been shipping ere this. Others miners report that much development work is being done on Dall island, and considerable activity is being manifested on the east side of Prince of Wales island, on ledges bearing gold, galena and copper.

H. Steven, one of the few mushers from Dawson on the steamer, says that things have been very quiet in the interior of late. With the exception of Cheechako hill, where there is considerable activity, there is little work being done on Bonanza, one of the best creeks in the Klondike, which was crowded with men last winter. B. S. Chesnut, from Livingston creek, in the Big Salmon district, reports that he saw twelve pieces of gold taken from lower discovery valued at $2,463. Government Surveyor C. W. McPherson, in an interview, speaks highly of Livingston and Cottoneva creeks.

May creek, May gulch, Martin creek and Mendocino creek are also later discoveries which have been but little prospected, though all have produced coarse gold wherever opened up.

St. German creek was only discovered late in September, but coarse gold has been found in its bed, which is another splendid indication that the country will develop into a very extensive mining district, as it enters the south fork of the Big Salmon about two miles below Cottoneva creek from the west side, which is the opposite side from where the other creeks enter.

Many people are going to winter there and next summer great activity may be expected, as every one owning property there believes the district to be rich.

M. Owen, from Dawson, reports a sad occurrence on Sulphur creek. Ed. Welbon was cleaning gold from sand by means of a quicksilver retort, and his wife, sister and little son were present watching him. They were all made sick by the gaseous fumes from the retort, and the child died next day. Mr. Owen said the mother was also very low when he left on November 20.

Mrs. Manson, who is serving a sentence of three years at Dawson for stealing dust and nuggets from St. Mary's hospital, attempted to hang herself at the prison on November 20. Fortunately a mounted policeman found her in time to save her.
vWYr.A kkmo

ESQUIMALT SCHOOL.

Interesting Closing Exercises Held at Esquimalt on Friday.

Christmas closing examination was held in the Esquimalt school room on Friday afternoon, and was well attended by both parents and children and a good number of visitors, also Mr. John Oliver, chairman of the school board, who occupied the chair who was ably assisted by Rev. C.E. Sharp, Miss M.C. Campbell, the teacher, and Mr. C. H. Hammond of the trustee board. The teacher put the pupils through several exercises in which they acquitted themselves in a very creditable manner, showing good progress in all their studies.

After this began the songs, dialogues and recitations, of which there were many. The school room was very neatly and appropriately decorated with Union Jacks and other flags and bunting, and handsome portraits of the Queen and of Lord Roberts. At the close of the examination Rev. C. E. Sharp presented the teacher with a beautiful dressing case in the shape of a heart in fine plush, the gift of the pupils to their teacher as a token of their high esteem and love of her. The scholars were all presented with books by the trustees and teacher as Christmas boxes, after which the pleasant and most successful closing examination ever held in Esquimalt school was brought to a close by singing the National Anthem, all joining heartily.

Successful Candidates.

Those who Passed Normal School Exams at Victoria, Vancouver & Kamloops.

Returns Have Not Yet Been Received from Nelson Examiners.

The names of those candidates who were successful in passing the examination for entrance to the Normal school on the 17th and 18th instants, at Victoria, Vancouver and Kamloops are now known. The returns from Nelson have not as yet been received by the education department, owing to the failure of the train to connect with the boat on Friday afternoon. The names under the several stations are arranged in order of merit. In this connection it might also be interesting to note that the two candidates from Kamloops have made higher marks than any of the candidates at either Victoria or Vancouver, Miss Bell leading the province in this respect.

The Normal school will open in the High school building in Vancouver on Wednesday, January 9, at 9:30 o'clock.

The successful candidates are:

Kamloops—Ettie L. Bell, Mable Beattie.

Victoria—Leonard F. Spragge, Laura E. Simpson, Fannie M. Strachan, Eleanor C. Loat, Marion E. Camp, Colina Black, Mabel R. Clarke, Mabel Holt, Ethel Robertson, Lena Sexsmith, Louisa J. Carter, A. Dora Crawford, Florence U. Nicholles.

Vancouver—Arthur Mennell, Roberta Stevenson, Margaret M. Frame, Annie Haney, Daisy M. Webb, Emily Bradley, John A. McIvor, Donald McIvor, Grace E. Ross, Wilhelmina Murgatroyd, Andrew Tolmie, Isabel Haarer, Annie Currie, Ethel B. Park, Marguerite McTavish, Laura J. Snowden, Janet Charman, Maggie E. McDowell, Norma E. C. McCannell, Margaret Ramsay.

SERVICES APPRECIATED.

Address to Major Williams Read by Mr. Ian St Clair.

At the closing exercises of the Girls' Central school Mr. Ian St. Clair read the following address to Major Ben Williams:

Pemberton Gymnasium, Victoria, B. C., 21st Dec., 1900.

Major Williams, 5th Regiment C. A., Honorable Colonel First Girls' Battalion, Queen's Brigade.

Sir: On behalf of the officers, non-commissioned officers and boys and girls of my commands, I have the honor to thank you for your great kindness in acting as inspection officer during the term.

I thoroughly appreciate the value of the time you have devoted and the interest you have displayed in the performance of these duties.

I congratulate you, sir, not only upon the manner in which you praised without giving rise to jealously, and condemned without causing discouragement, but also upon the good effect you have produced by your public spiritedness.

It is an honor to us all—and a great pleasure besides to myself—to have you, the officer second in command of the 5th Regiment C. A. associated with us in our work. I am, sir, your most obedient servant,
Physical Director Victoria Public Schools.
I. ST. CLAIR.

All Sign The Note.

Last Obstacle Removed and Yesterday the Envoys Affix Their Signatures.

Demands will be Presented to Li Hung Chang in a Few Days.

Troops Investigate Reported Troubles and Find All Quiet.

Pekin, Dec. 22.—The last obstacle having been removed, the joint note was signed to-day by all the foreign ministers, including the envoy from the Netherlands, who arrived only recently. The note will be delivered to Li Hung Chang and Prince Ching, the Chinese plenipotentiaries, as soon as the former shall having recovered from his illness. The Chinese close to Li Hung Chang still prefer to believe, despite the signing of the note, which they did not believe would take place, that the principal negotiations must take place in Europe or America. They resent the British modification of the note, for, as they say, some power or powers might not be satisfied until the indemnity has been paid in full, which would mean the occupation of Pekin for an indefinite time, as it cannot be expected that China can raise what would be required all at once; as a matter of fact, it will take several years.

Li Hung Chang's condition is reported to-day to be so much improved that he was able to be out of bed for a short time.

The cavalry and infantry detachments which have been investigating the reported troubles near Ho Shi Wu have returned, and report that there is nothing to cause alarm. All the trouble, they say, is on the other side of the river, which the allies are not protecting. It was discovered that a party of Catholic Christians had started on an expedition, but its whereabouts is not known.

Berlin, Dec. 22.—The following despatch from Field Marshal von Waldersee, dated Pekin, Friday, December 21, has been received here:

"A column despatched from Pao Ting Fu, commanded by Major Haine, engaged a force of Chinese regulars on December 15 at Yung Ting Sien, 100 kilometers northeast of Pao Ting Fu. Our losses were one officer and two non-commissioned officers wounded. The Chinese losses were considerable.

"A column was sent December 19 from Tien Tsin, commanded by Col. Gruber, to Yu Tien Hsien, 100 kilometers northwest of Tien Tsin."

New Minister In Manitoba.

Robert Rogers has Received the Portfolio of Public Works.

Special to the Colonist.

Winnipeg, Dec. 22.—Mr. Robert Rogers, M. P. P., has been given a portfolio in the Manitoba cabinet, making five members in the provincial government with portfolios. Mr. D. H. McFadden has given place to Mr. Rogers, who was sworn in yesterday as minister of public works. Mr. McFadden becomes provincial secretary and municipal commissioner.

A by-election in Manitoba will be necessary in consequence of the change in the cabinet. The writ has been issued, fixing December 31 for nomination, and election the following Monday.

Frank Luce, a Swan river settler, was drowned in Cedar lake while trapping. He had been missing several weeks. His parents reside at Komoka, Ont.

Belleville, Ont., Dec. 22.—Henry Corby, M. P. (Con.), in a letter published this evening announces that in consequence of ill-health he will retire from political life, and will place his resignation in the hands of the Speaker as soon as the house has been organized. Corby has represented West Hastings since 1888.

DEATH OF A. C. MUIR.

Chief Engineer of the Dry Dock Passed Away Yesterday Morning.

Archibald Connell Muir, chief engineer of the Esquimalt drydock since its completion, and government inspector during construction, died Friday morning at his residence at the naval village. The deceased had been ill for some months, paying a visit to California in the hope of benefitting his health, but without avail. Mr. Muir was a native of Ayrshire, Scotland and about 55 years of age. He came here in 1874, and for some time was engineer on the steamer Pilot, which was operated on the east coast of the island in opposition to the late Joseph Spratt's line of steamers. In 1877 he was appointed inspector of the Esquimalt drydock, the construction of which had just been begun by the Walkem government. After the completion of the work he was appointed chief engineer, which position he held at the time of his death. A wife, four daughters and four sons survive. The eldest son, W. J. Muir, was his father's assistant at the drydock.

Mr. Muir was a past master of United Service Lodge A. F. & A. M., B. & R., Esquimalt, and the funeral will take place on Sunday at 3 o'clock under the auspices of the order, from the Masonic Temple, Douglas street.

Mr. Worsley Taylor, Conservative, has been elected to represent the Blackpool division of Lancashire in the House of Commons in succession to Sir Matthew White-Ridley, who, according to parliamentary usage, recently relinquished his seat in the lower house on being elevated to the peerage, with the title of Viscount Ridley.