Weekly Colonist.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 1885.

SUPPLEMENT

Local and Provincial News.

From the Daily Colonist, January 20.

Municipal Council.

MONDAY, Jan. 19, 1885.

The first meeting of the newly-sworn council was held last evening, His Worship Mayor Rithet in the chair.

Present—Couns. McKillican, Robertson, Smith, Earle, Teague, Braden, Grant, Ward and Warner.

THE MINUTES.

The minutes of the last regular and adjourned meetings of the council were read by the clerk.

Moved by Coun. McKillican, seconded by Coun. Robertson that they be adopted.

Coun. Smith said that in reference to the sidewalks in the minutes he thought the bylaw only allowed a four foot sidewalk.

Coun. Robertson said that for the past seven years three plank longitudinal sidewalks had been laid.

Coun. McKillican said for cheapness the council had been in the habit of laying three plank longitudinal sidewalks.

Coun. Robertson said that the sidewalk bylaw had gone the way of all other bylaws and been quashed.

Coun. Smith—That's all I wanted to find out.

Coun. Ward wished to know if the $2500 voted for the taking over the electric light by the old council was binding upon them.

Coun. McKillican said that it was a true copy of the minutes and they would have to pass on them or rescind such portion as they did not wish to assent.

Coun. Ward said that he merely wished to know what position he would take if he voted for the minutes as recorded in the book.

The mayor said that he thought it would be binding upon them if they passed on the minutes of the previous council.

Coun. Ward said that he did not wish to vote on the minutes until he was aware what nature the agreement was between the electric light company and the city. He would move in amendment that the minutes be read again and passed in detail.

Coun. Grant seconded the motion and said he would like to know exactly the position of the council.

Coun. Braden said that he did not see how they could reject any portion of the minutes, but would have to adopt all and reconsider any item.

The amendment was put and carried.

The various items in the minutes were then read section and passed upon until the item taking over the electric light was reached.

Coun. Robertson said that the electric light had been taken over by resolution of the council.

Coun. Grant said that he would defer his vote on the question of the electric light payment until he knew more of the matter. He would like to see how the Electric Light Company had carried out their contract, and thought a committee should be appointed to inquire into the matter.

Coun. Ward said that the best way would be to defer the matter, and take it up further on when the question of lighting the city came up.

Coun. Robertson said that the reason it was not taken over in July was because the mayor would not sign the check.

The mayor said it was a pity it was deferred until the last meeting.

Coun. Robertson—It was a legacy of the previous council.

Moved by Coun. McKillican, seconded by Coun. Teague, that the matter of the electric light be deferred until two weeks from Wednesday next. Carried.

The minutes were then passed as amended.

RULES OF ORDER.

The mayor said that they would have to adopt the old rules of order, which on motion were carried.

CITY OFFICIALS.

Coun. McKillican moved, seconded by Coun. Smith, that the clerk, treasurer, assistant clerk, water-works engineer and city surveyor be the same as at present. Carried.

COMMUNICATIONS.

From the city health officer, reporting upon a cesspool complained of by Dr. Davie, on Courtenay street, stating that it was the cause of a number of cases of typhoid fever in the vicinity, and that the use of earth-closets should be enforced.

It was moved that the parties be served with the usual notices, and that the orders be to abate the nuisance forthwith.

From the city surveyor, complaining that Bishop Hills was erecting a fence six feet on the street at Church Hill. Laid on the table for future consideration.

A number of accounts to the amount of $250.50, were read and referred to the finance committee for payment.

THE MAYOR'S SPEECH.

The mayor said that it had been usual before appointing the committees for the mayor to make a speech, but he would not do so, as there was no doubt that every member of the council fully understood the requirements of the city at the present time. All he would ask was that they should all work in harmony, so that the best interests of the city would be secured.

MORE SIDEWALKS.

Coun. McKillican said he wished to have a small piece of sidewalk added to those already agreed on by the old council. The piece was from Mr. Shears' house to the Dallas road. Seconded by Coun. Smith and carried.

COMMITTEES.

His worship then appointed the following standing committees for the year:—

Finance—Ward, Grant and Teague.

Street—Earle, Smith and Warner.

Water-works—Smith, Braden and Robertson.

Police and Pound—Robertson, Earle and McKillican.

Fire Wardens—Warner, Ward and Grant.

Sanitary—Braden, Smith and Warner.

Cemetery, Park and City Hall—McKillican, Teague and Braden.

Electric and Street Lighting—Grant, Ward and Robertson.

Assessment Roll Revision—Teague, Earle and McKillican.

Drainage System and Street Level—Earle, Smith and Teague.

His worship said he wished to explain that on the latter committee, it being probably the most important one, he had appointed the councillor who had obtained the highest number of votes in the ward he represented.

The committees as read were then adopted.

It was decided that all notices of motion be posted on the bulletin board in the corridor.

The question of cleaning the sidewalks from snow was discussed and the street committee was instructed to employ men to clean the sidewalks within the fire limits and James Bay bridge until such time as they know what the council would do to compel the citizens to clean snow from the sidewalks in front of their property.

His worship said he would call the attention of the fire wardens to the fact that there were large quantities of hay stored within the fire limits, and would ask them to report at the next meeting.

The council then adjourned until Wednesday evening next.

THE COMMON VERDICT.—At a public meeting in Victoria, Mayor Carey tried excuse himself, and proved that he was incompetent, quite unfit to be the Chief Magistrate. He said no reliance could be placed on newspapers that advocated the expenditure of $800,000 for drainage. He belongs to the past. Councillor W. A. Robertson made a long speech and attacked the Chief Justice and his lawyers. He used strong expressions with reference to what he calls "the gentlemen's ticket." Is it a crime to be a gentleman? The citizens of Victoria say "No," and have elected R. P. Rithet to be mayor.—*Port Moody Gazette.*

THE NEW MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS.

They are Sworn into Office, And Hold Their First Meeting.

About eleven o'clock yesterday morning, the mayor and councillors elect appeared before the chief justice at the supreme court room for the purpose of taking the oath of office. Following are the names of the gentlemen:

Mayor—R. P. Rithet.

COUNCILLORS.

Yates Street Ward—Thos. Earle, John Braden, John Grant.

Johnson Street Ward—John Teague, W. A. Robertson, Orlando Warner.

James Bay Ward—A. J. Smith, W. D. McKillican, Robert Ward.

Mr. R. P. Rithet, mayor-elect, first subscribed to the oath, and was followed by Messrs. Earle and Braden, two of the councillors-elect for Yates street ward.

When Mr. John Grant's turn came to be sworn he repeated the oath as far as the declaration that he is not now nor will he have any interest, directly or indirectly, in the said:

Your lordship, excuse me, I should like to explain for a moment.

The Chief Justice—You decline to take oath?

Mr. Grant—I should like to explain.

The Chief Justice—Well, then, sit down for a moment and let the next councillor-elect take the oath.

Mr. Teague was then called and the remainder of the councillors were sworn in.

The Chief Justice—Now Mr. Grant, what have you to say?

Mr. Grant—Up to the present time we have been doing some service for the corporation.

The Chief Justice—We? Who are "we?"

Mr. Grant—The Times—I am interested in the Times, and we have been printing advertisements for the city.

The Chief Justice—The Times? Ah! The Times! There is a very influential paper here and I did not think that a Times would find an opening. (Great laughter).

Mr. Grant—We have inserted advertisements for the corporation, and when I heard the oath administered to Mr. Rithet it occurred to me that perhaps I was not qualified to take the oath.

The Chief Justice said that to render service at the present time might be illegal.

Mr. Grant explained that the service was in the form of advertisements.

The Chief Justice—Is the Times a valuable property (laughter)—I mean is the service rendered a valuable one?

Mr. Grant said that he had raised the question as he did not wish to be placed in a false position.

The Chief Justice said he did not like to decide off-hand on so important a matter. The election of this particular councillor might be null and void. If there was anything in the objection Mr. Grant was disqualified.

Mr. Grant—Not before I take the oath?

The Chief Justice—Suppose a lady had been returned under the belief that she was a gentleman, would not her election be null and void. It may be so in your case (laughter). If you think proper take the oath. That would not make the election good. Why didn't you assign your interest before standing, then no one would be injured?

Mr. Grant replied that he had not regarded it as a possible disqualification until he came forward to take the oath.

The Chief Justice—By taking the oath you may be depriving your partners of the value of these advertisements. I have known similar questions to arise here. This is a small place and nearly everyone is directly or indirectly interested one way or another in everything. Have you any contract with the city government?

Mr. Grant—No. The services are only rendered from time to time.

The Chief Justice—That is no disqualification at this time. If the services are continued it might be. A coal dealer or a grocer would not be disqualified for supplying coal or goods before election. He might be for doing so afterwards. Take the oath.

Mr. Grant then complied.

PRESENTING THE SEAL.

His worship, Mayor Rithet, then came before his lordship to receive the official seal of the corporation, and the chief justice in presenting it said:

Mr. Mayor, whilst I have pleasure and congratulate you on your election, and whilst handing you this seal, I hope that you will not convert it to dollars—that it may not be used simply for vouching for the payment of bills. I wish you and the council a happy and prosperous year, because your prosperity means prosperity to me. We are, as it were, a joint stock company in that respect.

His worship, the mayor, thanked his lordship for the seal, and the newly elected retired with the mantle of office authoratively clothing them.

Supreme Court.

(Before Sir M. B. Begbie, C. J., Mr. Justices Crease and Walkem.)

MONDAY, Jan. 19.

Livingston vs. Attorney general—Appeal dismissed, the court intimating that it was the appellant's duty to account for all moneys received and that for any claim or set off his remedy was by petition of right. Mr. Yates for appellant, Mr. A. E. B. Davie, A. G.

Murdorf vs. Dougherty—Motion by plaintiff to change the venue of an action from Clinton to Victoria. The court held that the motion was irregular, and that application should be made to the chief justice in chambers to vary or discharge the orders already made. Mr. Drake, Q. C., for plaintiff, Mr. Wilson for defendant.

Attorney-General of Canada vs. the Chief Commissioner of the Lands and Works, was partly heard and adjourned till to-morrow.

Mr. Drake for plaintiff; the attorney-general for defendant.

Clearing Snow.

The question of the legality of enforcing the bylaw making it necessary for citizens to clean snow from sidewalks in front of their property was discussed in the council last night. The condition of the streets is such at present that the council decided to clean the sidewalks within the fire limits, and to ascertain what could be done to compel the ratepayers to do so in future. As it is at present walking is rendered laborious, and in some cases dangerous, by the presence of snow and ice on the walks, and if a means could be adopted to have them cleaned on the occasion of a fall of snow it would no doubt be acceptable to the majority of our citizens. Such a law is enforced in all other towns and cities, and we think that it could be carried out here.

LOCAL TALENT.—Messrs. T. N. Hibben & Co. have on exhibition an oil painting, the work of Captain Vidler. The painting represents a view of the outer harbor. In the fore-ground may be seen a portion of the road which passes the outer wharf leading to Beacon Hill. In the back-ground is depicted the Metchosin Hills and several of the largest points. The faithful delineation of the scenes surrounding that part of the harbor shows talent on the part of the artist which is creditable to him. The painting has been on exhibition for several days and attracts much attention.

THE BLOCKADE.—Mr. C. W. Murray, wife and their three children, arrived at the Occidental Hotel Sunday, having been among the delayed passengers. Mr. Murray had gone to Portland from Port Moody to meet his family, and after hearing of the detention, made the perilous passage over the ice and snow to the train. Here the whole family were almost starved and the little ones were taken sick with the measles, and on arriving in Portland a rest had to be made for a week to recover. All are looking well and will leave for home this morning.

MESSRS. JAMES BETHUNE and William Johnston, both prominent reformers, and both engaged in the argument on different sides of the validity of the Dominion License Act before the supreme court, died before judgment was given.

FOURTH PROVINCIAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THIRD SESSION.

MONDAY, Jan. 19.

The House met at 2 o'clock.

Prayers were said by the Rev. Mr. Percival.

MOTIONS.

Mr. Allen moved for a return of all road correspondence in reference to the work in Lillooet District for the year 1884. He understood that the leader of the government had received a communication on the subject, and that other correspondence had been sent in.

Hon. Mr. Smithe said there could be no objection made to have a return of the correspondence. The hon. gentleman made a mistake when he stated that he had been written to in reference to the matter, but some parties had spoken to him. He held all the correspondence and would be happy to show the hon. gentleman the correspondence should he call at the lands and works office.

Mr. Allen said it was the people of the district who wished the correspondence printed.

The question was put and carried, Mr. Dingwall seconding.

Leave was granted to Hon. Mr. Robson to introduce a bill to consolidate the "Public Schools Act," which was ordered to be read a first time and placed on the orders for Wednesday.

Mr. Helgesen moved for a return showing the lands and owners thereof in New Westminster District in the neighborhood of Burrard Inlet.

Hon. Mr. Smithe was astonished that the hon. gentleman should have submitted the resolution to the house without explaining his reasons for doing so. He said that the government could not obtain the information asked for, and the hon. gentleman might have suggested how it could be done. He could make certain returns, but could not possibly return the names of persons who had not registered and were owners. If the hon. gentleman had any definite object in view, the government would be glad to aid him, but it was entirely beyond the prerogative of the house to do what the resolution called for.

Mr. Allen, who seconded, said he had not seen a copy of the resolution before it was put on his desk.

Mr. Drake said the hon. gentleman who moved the resolution could get information from the land and registry office. Further than that it was private interests that was being investigated and the house had no right to aid in any such object.

Hon. Mr. Davie said as far as the land registry office was concerned the government had no power to search the records. If the mover wished to obtain such information he could procure it as a private individual, and by paying his fee could have a search made. Further he could not go.

Mr. Galbraith said that he thought the land registry office as much the property of the public as any other, and if the hon. mover would strike out the latter part of the resolution he thought the government should give all the information in their power.

Mr. Helgesen said that what he wished to know was the quantity of land there and the owners thereof, and as there was a quantity of land to be given away, he thought the information should be laid before house. He did not think his resolution an unreasonable one.

The resolution was put and lost, 12 to 7.

Mr. Raybould moved, seconded by Mr. Dingwall, that an order of the house be granted for a return of all correspondence in reference to the Indian troubles on the north west coast.

The mover said that he thought all the correspondence should be returned leading to the appointment of the commissioners.

Hon. Mr. Robson said three was no objection to the resolution, but there was certain correspondence which it would be inadvisable to submit until later on.

Hon. Mr. Smithe said that there was no wish to keep the correspondence from members of the house, but it would be unwise to make it public.

The resolution was carried.

Mr. Grant moved, seconded by Mr. Duck, that an address be presented to the lieut.-governor asking for the establishment of two new polling places in the district of Cassiar.

The mover said that on account of the great distances between polling places he thought that two new places should be located at Port Essington and Lorne Creek, as the recent discoveries of gold at these points would draw a large number of workmen to each who would vote and it was only just to the interest of the people of that part of the country to have the polling places asked for.

The resolution was carried.

Hon. Mr. Davie was granted leave to introduce an act to amend the jurors act, 1883, which was read a first time and placed on orders of the day for Wednesday next.

Leave was also granted to introduce an act relating to inn keepers, and that it be placed on the orders of the day for Thursday next.

Hon. Mr. Robson asked for leave to introduce an act to consolidate laws relating to coroners. Leave granted and placed on orders for Thursday.

Mr. Duck asked if in address had been presented to the lieut. governor for the transfer to the city of Cedar Hill as a public park.

Hon. Mr. Robson said that it had not been done, but it was the intention of the government to do so as soon as they could see their way clear. The question of title had not yet been cleared up.

Mr. Duck asked the provincial secretary under what authority did the provincial government sell the lots in James Bay ward, and under what statute did they grant titles to the same.

Hon. Mr. Robson replied that it was by an order-in-council and under authority of the land act, 1884.

Mr. Grant asked the attorney general if any provision had been made for a resident constable at Lorne Creek and at the Forks of the Skeena.

Hon. Mr. Davie replied that no provision had been made, but the house would be asked to consider the subject when the estimates were submitted.

Mr. Grant asked the provincial secretary if any steps had been taken for the registration of voters at Fort Simpson, Port Essington and Lorne Creek in the district of Cassiar.

Hon. Mr. Smithe moved the adjournment of the house until Wednesday at 2 o'clock.

On suggestion of the leader of the opposition it was changed to read Thursday.

After various discussion about the prompt transaction of the business of the house it was carried.

PETITION.

Mr. Martin said that he was late in arriving, and asked permission to present three petitions bearing on the one subject to the house that day.

The speaker said that they could be placed on file and read at the first sitting of the house.

House adjourned at 2:50.

Marine.

The new iron ship Troop, lately arrived from Rio under charter for wheat, is the first iron ship owned in the British possessions in America. She hails from St. John's, N. B., and is a fine-looking vessel.

Steamer Idaho, from Alaska, arrived at Port Townsend on Saturday.

Steamer Mexico sailed at noon yesterday for San Francisco.

Steamer G. W. Elder sailed Sunday from San Francisco for Victoria.

What Some People Say.

That a broken plank in front of Mr. Craft's dry goods store is dangerous to the limbs of pedestrians.

That Cowichan will shortly apply for the benefits of the Scott Act.

That there has been no change in the Lion Brewery partnership.

That it is feared General Grant has a cancer on the tongue, the outgrowth of excessive smoking.

That an English court has decided that dentistry is not one of the necessaries of life. We never supposed it was. Dentistry, like plumbing, is a luxury if the bills are any criterion.

That an Oregon man committed suicide. He was troubled with an eye complaint and left a request that the doctors should take out the eye to see what was the matter with him.

That a New York man had suffered 30 years from loss of memory. His friends had spent hundreds of dollars for its restitution. Not long ago he was taken to a new physician and his case was explained. After careful thought the new doctor said: "Try a minstrel show." It was a bright thought. They took the sufferer to the next minstrel show that came along. The end man's first gag acted like magic. The poor man gave a start, clasped his hands to his head, and gasped: "Merciful heavens, where am I? That voice! Those jokes! Ah, I remember! Thirty years ago I was a boy." "Saved! saved! saved!" sobbed his family.

That when Jimpkins got married for the fourth time and his friends teased him about it, he said he could not help it, as he had Benedicted to it for some years.—*Siftings.*

That Gen. Grant has very perceptibly aged with the last few months. His hair and beard are almost white, his former erect bearing has given place to a slight stoop, and he walks with the slow and infirm step of a man many years his senior. The hardships he underwent during the war made no apparent impression upon his vigorous frame, but since the fatal crash of the house of Grant & Ward the change in his personal appearance is sadly noticeable.

That a little girl of 7 exhibited much disquiet at hearing of a new exploring expedition. When asked why she should care about it, she said: "If they discover any more countries, they will add to the geography I have to study. There are countries enough in it now."

That an astronomer said to a bright-eyed girl when talking of rainbows: "Did you ever see a lunar bow, miss?" "I have seen a beau by moonlight, if that is what you mean," was the sly rejoinder.

That a man has been arrested in Philadelphia for pretending to be a doctor. He must have inadvertently acknowledged that he did not know what ailed a patient.

That reports from London credit the Madhi with having died. He is still six deaths and a consciousness behind Gordon. The Mahdi should brace.

That Sitting Bull is now so far advanced in esthetics that he is brought to believe the napkin to be the basis of civilization, and when he comes to the dinner table he carefully spreads his napkin on his chair and solemnly sits down on it.

That the Times objects to being referred to as a "he." Does it prefer to be regarded as a "neuter" or is it a "she" that he adores?

Snow-Balling.

On Sunday afternoon Douglas street was the scene of a most disgraceful proceeding. About one hundred boys and young men were gathered on the corner of Cormorant and pelted every Chinaman that passed. One in particular was most shamefully treated, and though he stood his assailants out for a long while, was at last compelled to run for safety up Cormorant street, followed by a gang of boys. At this juncture two policemen came on the scene walking as leisurely as though they were at a funeral and, of course, no one was arrested, though some of the young men richly deserved it. One gentleman who interfered on behalf of the Chinaman with the hoodlums, as we must call them, was threatened with the same treatment if he did not shut up. This mob held the corner of the street for about half an hour, interfering with the passage of pedestrians, and occasionally some of the latter would be hit. There was a time when a crowd of this description was contrary to law, but that day seems to have passed, and the roughs are allowed to do pretty much as they please. We sincerely trust our police will do their duty in this matter, not only for the protection of the inoffensive Chinese, but also to convince the rowdy element that seems to be growing large, that they will become amenable to the law for such disgraceful conduct. Among those participating in last Sunday's occurrence were a number of boys ranging in years from eight to twelve, and the allowing of them to go unchecked in these wicked propensities will have a very evil effect upon their future.

From Cassiar.

DEASE CREEK, Dec. 10, 1884.

This district is blessed with abundance of everything but the needful—the returns from the mines growing smaller by degrees. Our stores are well supplied, our waters are full of fish, our forests are full of game, and so tame that the nimrods of the town shoot them on the street of the once lively and humming town of Laketown. What changes a little time brings! A princely native does not traverse his hunting grounds, nor does a petticoat grace our village—only those that are on the shelf and for sale. Had the village a running stream, a hawthorn bush and a few geese, Goldsmith's poem would now truthfully apply.

Dec. 3, 1884.

Mr. Sylvester has just arrived from his trading posts. He reports some commotion amongst the northern Indians, and some as having lost their lives. Also that two miners, coming from his lower trading post to McDames,—Robert Wilson, J. P., and John Beardsell—came near perishing from starvation. They were six days without food, a tin of pepper being all they had left; this they used in water. It is thought strange, having a gun and game so plentiful, that they could not kill any. Some say the pepper was the cause of this, the game smelling it. Others say this could hardly be, as it was Victoria pepper, and it does not smell much—some has scarcely any smell.

Insulting the Opposition.

The Guardian (Opposition) offers the following impertinence to Mr. Galbraith and his friends on the opposition side in the house:

"On Wednesday Mr. Robert Galbraith appeared in the house as 'leader of the Opposition.' He complimented the government and declared himself a prophet. In fact the leader of the Opposition looked more like a deserter than a leader. Mr. Smithe complimented him and agreed to adjourn the consideration of the gift to be given for the extension of the railway to Coal Harbor. In ten days that question will come before the house, and then we expect to hear the 'new leader' and his party, like a lot of pet lambs, crying, Maa! Mr. Wilson said, 'he was astonished by the harmony that prevailed in the house,' and the vast majority of the people will be astonished too. There is no opposition. Heaven is ill, and there is no other man in the house fit to lead."

MORE ENCROACHMENTS.—The Bishop of Columbia is having a fence erected along the line of Burdett avenue which encroaches six feet on the street. This is a matter which the new council should inquire into. Judge Gray's decision in the Crowther-Beaven suit is very clear. We have often called attention to these encroachments; but nothing has ever been done to check them except in the solitary case of Mr. Russell on Government street.

A Strange Proceeding.

About 11½ o'clock yesterday morning a hack in which were seated a policeman, a Chinaman and a Chinawoman was observed to drive down to the outer wharf where the steamer Mexico, which was about to sail for San Francisco, was lying. After alighting from the hack the Chinaman and woman held an excited conversation while the policeman stood off at some distance. The woman was observed to weep and offer the man—an ill-looking scoundrel—some money, as if to compensate him for allowing her to stay on shore. But the man pointed to the policeman who narrowly watched the pair, as much as to say, "If you don't go on board I'll call him and make you." At last the cry of "All aboard," rang out, the Chinaman threw the woman's baggage on board and hustled her (still crying) along the gang plank after her traps. He then rejoined the policeman and the pair reentered the hack and drove off to town. The policeman is described as a tall young man with a mustache. There is something dark and mysterious about the affair. It looks as if the policeman had been employed to do some foul work for the Chinaman and that the uniform was worn to overawe the poor wretch who was sent away against her will. Here is a piece of work cut out for the new police committee. If the police are employed as kidnappers it is time the fact was made known so that the ratepayers may understand the class of men who are drawing salaries from the civic treasury under pretence of being guardians of the public peace.

From the North.

The steamer Otter arrived from the north yesterday afternoon. She brought down 150 barrels of salt salmon and 12,000 feet of lumber.

An Indian prisoner was sent down from Inverness in charge of the purser, committed for trial for robbing about $200 worth of goods from Turner, Beeton & Co's store at that point.

Mr. R. Cunningham was the only passenger and reports business as very quiet at the Forks. About twenty miners are making preparations to visit Lorne creek mines as soon as the weather is favorable. Some of them are among the number who were in during the past year and are very sanguine of large returns during the coming season.

Mainland Weather.

(Special to the Colonist.)

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C., Jan. 19.

The weather turned cold yesterday, the thermometer during the day dropping to 20 above zero. It now stands at 29, about the highest for two days. Ice formed in the river last night and moved up and down with the tide in a solid mass, until about 5 p. m., when it broke up. The steamer Teaser arrived from Victoria at 5 p. m. and fearing a freeze up left at six o'clock on the return trip, and reports having met with ice in Woodward Slough.

Personal.

Mr. and Mrs. Baker, M. P., Mr. Gordon, M. P., and Mr. Homer, M. P., sailed for Ottawa yesterday via San Francisco.

Dr. Helmcken is nearly well, and Mr. E. G. Prior is out of danger.

Mr. John Stevens, of Lake, is desperately ill.

Mr. James Cunningham, M. P. P., has quite recovered from his recent indisposition.

SNEAK THIEVES.—Sheriff McMillan's house was entered early yesterday afternoon and an overcoat taken from the hall and bedding from an adjoining room. We have been informed that a number of thieves are now in the city and would advise all our readers to take precautions to prevent their property from being stolen. The police should arrest all suspicious characters, and either have them committed as vagrants or ordered to leave the city.

The sugar firm of Messrs. Mezritoch, Vienna, has failed; liabilities $600,000. The failure was caused by the stoppage of the Bohemian Land Mortgage Bank.

From the Daily Colonist, Jan. 21.

SURRENDERED.—Mayor Rithet has accepted the surrender of the civic property from the ratepayers who discharged Drake & Jackson's bill and the articles were packed back yesterday. Dear old Jumbo will again enjoy his oats and the civic seal will perform its functions as of yore.

THE STRANGE PROCEEDING.—Officer Hough desires us to say that he is the policeman who was concerned in the alleged kidnapping at the outer wharf, and that he courts the fullest investigation.

THE sale of the furniture of the late Ld. Lowenberg will commence at eleven o'clock to-day.

The little mission ship Glad Tidings made the trip to Port Simpson in a little over a week, having called at the different mission stations on the way. It had a stormy time, but she crossed the sounds all right. She rides the sea steadily and safely and promises to be a very economical little boat with a speed of about eight miles an hour. She will be of good service to the several missions in helping to forward the material improvement of the villages, as well as carrying the mission-aries. It was a great day of rejoicing at Simpson on her arrival. Cannons were fired and flags were raised in all parts of the town and the brass band was out and did well. Peace prevails among all the people.

SALE OF THE MOORE ESTATE.—Mr. J. P. Davies auctioned the above estate yesterday morning. A goodly number were present and much interest was manifested. The following were the purchasers:—Capt. J. D. Warren, lot 1281 and house, $2,800; Chas. Provost, lot 1280 and house, $3,550; Capt. J. D. Warren, lot 1290 and wharf, $1,100; Pilot Thompson, lot 1276 and house $1,850.

FINANCIAL.—Mr. Thos. D. Tims, who is at the Driard, came through from Ottawa in seven days' traveling time. He speaks very highly of the Northern Pacific railway. Mr. Tims will remain for a week or ten days in Victoria.

THE DRY DOCK.—A number of men will leave on the Enterprise with tools and derricks for Salt Spring Island to get out stone for the drydock. The stone will be freighted to Victoria by the barge C. L. Taylor.

Is Mr. Grant Disqualified!

The Post asks this question respecting the *status* of the junior councillor for Yates street ward, who, it turns out, is one of the owners of the Times newspaper. The Post puts the case very temperately and, it seems to us, fairly; but we do not think its conclusions are altogether correct. For instance, we do not think Mr. Grant was disqualified at the time of his election, or that he is disqualified now; but should he perform any service for the corporation while he is a member of it he will be liable to lose his seat and heavily fined as well. A similar case was discussed many years ago and legal opinion taken upon it, the result being that the party who proposed to stand for councillor did not do so because if elected he would have been prevented from publishing advertisements for the corporation. Mr. Grant has three courses open to him. One is to resign; another is to, *bona fide*, sell his shares in the newspaper; the third is to decline to insert corporation advertisements.

Marine.

Steamship Barnard Castle for Departure Bay passed yesterday afternoon.

The Alexander towed down ship Belvidere coal laden, from Departure Bay for San Francisco and anchored her in Esquimalt. The ship will proceed to sea to-day.

BY ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.

EXCLUSIVE DISPATCHES TO THE COLONIST.

ENGLAND.

LONDON, Jan. 19.—Great excitement was caused yesterday by the unusual occurrence of a council at the war office on Sunday, greatly increased to-day by the government deciding to resist any attempt on the part of Turkey to occupy any portion of Egypt, or to land troops in that country. Considerable bustle and excitement at the war office to-day. Orders have been sent to Chatham, Portsmouth and Woolwich, which caused much activity at those great naval statigns. Another battalion of troops at Malta has been ordered to embark at once on the steamship Poonah for Alexandria. Other troops are under orders to be in readiness to move at a moment's notice. Indications all point to stirring events in Egypt. There is no doubt that the ministry is determined not to allow Turkey to interfere in Egyptian affairs by placing an armed force in any part of Egypt.

LONDON, Jan. 19.—Eleven persons who were in the missingboat of the ill-fated packet Admiral Moorson have been rescued in an exhausted condition. They had been in the boat since Thursday night.

The Earl of Milton is dead.

LONDON, Jan. 21.—Cabinet council met to-day at three o'clock. All members were present except Chamberlain and Earl Spencer. Gladstone looked vigorously. The cabinet did not separate until 7:30. Another council will be held to-morrow to finally decide on points at issue between England and the Continental powers regarding the future management of Egyptian affairs.

LONDON, Jan. 20.—A brilliant audience welcomed Mrs. Langtry at Princess Theatre, her re-entry on London stage as Princess George. The comedy was well mounted, but failed to interest.

ITALY.

LONDON, Jan. 19.—A dispatch from Rome states that the Pope is confined to his bed with fever and rheumatism.

ROME, Jan. 20.—Villages in the highlands of Piedmont and Savoy have been devastated by avalanches. Three villages in Piedmont, including the important village of Nrassino, have been buried under an avalanche. The town of Chaumont, in France, is partly overwhelmed with snow and many people were killed. Another fatal avalanche occurred at Sparones, a few miles south of Terrea; 15 persons are known to be buried under the snow. Villagers who have been made homeless are in great distress.

AFRICA.

BERLIN, Jan. 19.—Baron Lambermont's report to the Congo conference, embodying English proposals regarding neutrality, and laying down formalities to be observed by powers annexing African territory, is considered a further step to England's advantage.

LONDON, Jan. 20.—Advices from Durban say three Russian men-of-war are at anchor off Cape Town and others are expected.

INDIANA.

GRANVILLE, Ind., Jan. 20.—The police shot and killed two chicken thieves early morning. They had been out in the suburbs and had a large number of fine chickens in bags on their backs. The men attempted to resist the officers with clubs.

IOWA.

SIOUX CITY, Ia., Jan. 20.—The lard rendering tank of the pork packing house of J. E. Booge & Co. exploded this morning tearing down a portion of the building. Very few men were about the tank but of those John A. Warrall, Joseph French and John Keller were instantly killed. Another man named Jos. Brenner will probably die. The factory employs 270 men and had the accident occurred ten minutes later the loss of life would have been terrible. Damage to building, $25,000.

EASTERN STATES.

PITTSBURG, Jan. 20.—Oliver Brothers' statement shows their liabilities to be $1,508,000; assets $2,319,000. The Oliver and Roberts Wire Co. show liabilities $902,000; assets $1,266,000.

NEW YORK, Jan. 20.—The World continues to publish articles calculated to show that New Orleans exposition is a gigantic fizzle.

NORFOLK, Va., Jan. 20.—Steamer Chesapeake of the Virginia oyster navy captured seven schooners engaged in illegal dredging for oysters. The schooners and crews, sixty-eight men, were turned over to the sheriff. One schooner was brought to by a shot.

COLUMBUS, Jan. 20.—Reports come from Hocking Valley to-night that a large number of men were seen drilling near Long Stretch yesterday and an outbreak is feared in a day or two. A dynamite bomb was exploded at Long Stretch to-night, but no damage resulted.

GALVESTON, Tex., Jan. 20.—Conductor Fraser of the International Railway was shot yesterday by tramps and died today.

THE WEATHER.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—Pacific Coast generally fair weather, followed in Northern Pacific by clouds and local rains.

CENTRAL AMERICA.

PANAMA via Galveston, Jan. 20.—The condition of affairs in political circles here is greatly disturbed and civic war is imminent. On Sunday night the American men-of-war Alliance landed a force of marines with a gatling gun at Aspinwall to guard the railroad and canal property. Their landing created great excitement among the natives.

GERMANY.

BERLIN, Jan. 20.—The members of the west African conference were entertained at a dinner to-day by Bismarck in his palace. The host was very jovial and festivities were thoroughly enjoyable. After dinner guests passed an hour or two in social intercourse and political conversation.

CHINA.

PARIS, Jan. 20.—Advices from Tonquin report the arrival of more reinforcements of French troops. A general forward movement of invading forces is expected to begin at the end of the present month.

VIENNA, Jan. 20.—It is reported that China is sending German officers to the frontier to report on the means necessary to prevent Russian agressions.

EGYPT.

LONDON, Jan. 20.—The St. James Gazette hears that England will solve the Egyptian troubles by assuming for a certain period entire administration of lower and middle Egypt, together with all financial responsibility, giving to the Sultan upper and equatorial Egypt, with any port or ports on the Red Sea and the Mission of Hassan. Femi Pasha, Turkish minister of justice, is believed to be connected with the scheme for the partition of Egypt.

LONDON, Jan. 20.—Gladstone will come to London to-morrow to attend a cabinet council. It is expected he will remain in London a few days. Another council was held at the war office to-day on the Egyptian question. Orders have been sent transports at Suez to convey troops to Suakim.

CALIFORNIA.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 20.—John C. Platt, son of H. B. Platt, the California pioneer who died some time ago leaving a large property, has absconded, owing fifteen thousand dollars to his mother and brother which it is stated he has dissipated.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 20.—The Chronicle's Washington special says: Speaker Carlisle said of the Spanish treaty: It is wholly objectionable. There is not a single redeeming feature in any of the abstracts of the treaty that I have seen published. Its effect is to cut off three million dollars of revenue without any return.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 20.—The chamber of commerce at its annual meeting to-day passed a resolution protesting against the confirmation of the Spanish-American treaty, and strongly urging the ratification of the Nicaraguan treaty.

A further resolution was adopted reaffirming the necessity of congress, in the interest of the Pacific coast, taking such steps as will enable the United States government to pay its proper share of the cost of carrying the United States mails to and from New Zealand and Australia.

CANADA.

NEW YORK, Jan. 20.—A St. Paul special to the Tribune says: It is stated that there are extensive deposits of coal at different points along the western division of the Canadian Pacific railway in Manitoba. While digging wells, instead of water the drill penetrated subterranean gas tanks in several instances, and operations were suspended. Lighted matches were held at the surface of the wells and the escaping gas ignited at once, and has been burning ever since, without interruption or sign of cessation. It is the general impression that immense beds of coal and deposits of petroleum will soon be developed in that region, especially in the vicinity of Saskatchewan river.

KANSAS.

WICHITA, Kas., Jan. 20.—In court today Nellie C. Bailey was acquitted of the charge of murdering a wealthy Englishman named Bothamley with whom she was traveling in the Indian territory about a year ago. Defendant maintained that Bothamley shot himself, and there were no witnesses to the affair. The case was quite sensational, and defendant has a romantic history. She is a handsome woman, well educated and figured as a society belle at eastern watering places. She has written a play, and during her confinement has been engaged in writing a novel. She has had three husbands.

CANADA.

MONTREAL, Que., Jan. 20.—Justice Mathieu rendered judgment to-day in the case of Geo. Stephen vs. Bradly Barlow. The amount involved is a million a half dollars. The court condemned defendant to pay, with interest.

GERMANY.

BERLIN, Jan. 20.—The Reichstag today, after a long debate, adopted naval estimates. The leader of the center and German liberal parties assented to the naval budget, but declared that their doing so did not prejudice their attitude towards the government's colonial policy which they said had exceeded the limits mentioned by Bismarck in June last.

IRELAND.

DUBLIN, Jan. 20.—Prince Albert Victor will be created Knight of St. Patrick at the coming anniversary of Ireland's patron saint. Preparations for the event are being made on a scale of unusual splendor.

AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, Jan. 20.—The anti-socialist bill, introduced into the Reichstrath to-day, far exceeds the German anti-socialist measure in the severity of its provisions. It forbids the formation of clubs, and provides for government control of charitable societies in order to prevent the covering up of socialist plots; empowers authorities to forbid any public meeting, and confiscate socialist pamphlets either printed in Austria or abroad, and makes innkeepers, librarians, etc., liable to punishment if such pamphlets be found in their possession. The last clause of the bill provides that persons accused of socialistic offences shall be tried without jury. The act, if passed, will remain in force five years. An explosive bill was also introduced to-day. It allows punishment by death where culprits could foresee the fatal effect of their deeds, and imprisonment for from 9 years to life for various offences, such as selling or using explosives without authority.

VIENNA, Jan. 20.—A box containing sixty pounds of dynamite has been seized at a frontier railway station. Two persons to whom the dynamite was consigned were arrested and sent to St. Petersburg.

CHILI.

VALPARAISO, Jan. 20, via. Galveston.—A parcel containing three pounds of powder with an arrangement of match heads and hammer was delivered at the president's house addressed to "H. E." The president endeavored to open the parcel, but was suspicious of its contents. The minister of the interior addressing the house on the subject said, "I submit this matter without comment to universal execration and disapprobation."

EGYPT.

PARIS, Jan. 20.—Debates publishes under date of Khartoum, Nov. 15, a letter to Soudan merchants in Alexadria, saying that Gen. Gordon remains in an entrenched quarter of Khartoum and only has a supply of food for the gar