The Colonist.

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HONOR TO THE PREMIER.

"Old Belleville Boys" Telegraph Congratulations to Sir Mackenzie Bowell.

A great banquet is to be held to-night at Belleville, Ontario, the home of the Premier of Canada, Sir Mackenzie Bowell. It has been arranged under the auspices of the Belleville Board of Trade, as a method of congratulating the Premier on the honors that have come to him after his long service in the interests of his country and of the Conservative party of Canada. No fewer than six of the members of the Dominion Cabinet will be present, besides a number of senators, members of the House of Commons, and men of prominence in all walks of life in the Bay of Quinte district.

There are a number of "old Belleville Boys" at present citizens of Victoria who would have wished to be present to do honor to the veteran statesman did not distance forbid, and instead they have joined in a congratulatory message, which was sent forward last night, as follows:

Thomas Ritchie, President Belleville Board of Trade, Belleville, Ont.:

"Old 'Belleville Boys' in Victoria, British Columbia, send hearty congratulations to Premier Sir Mackenzie Bowell, coupled with earnest hopes that he may long continue in health and strength to lead the grand old party to victory."

The above telegram was signed by as many of the Bellevillians as were readily available yesterday, and was forwarded last night.

The "boys" include City Assessor W. W. Northcott and his brother J. Northcott, William Powell, W. J. Taylor, Thomas Brownlee, A. S. Potts, Samuel Post, and a number of others.

REBUKE FROM THE WRONG QUARTER.

(From the Boston Herald.)

While it has been our opinion all along that the influence of the United States in Hawaii, as exercised by President Harrison and the American representative at Honolulu, was a deplorable instance of interference, and while we think that the Hawaiian people have good reason to assert that the American assertion that all men are free and equal is merely a sentimental utterance which we do not believe in and which we do not propose to have control our actions, it seems to us that it hardly lies in the mouth of the English newspapers to find fault with us on this ground. The London Telegraph asserts that "the spectacle is a sorry one for Christian morality, and is a bitter lesson of what feeble races may expect when the interests of civilized powers come into collision." But it would be well if our London contemporary would permit itself, when indulging in this train of moralizing, to reflect upon the number of times that its government has set these precepts at defiance. If there is one nation on the face of the earth that in America, Asia and Africa has deliberately trodden down native races for the purpose of advancing its own interests, that nation is Great Britain. We have sinned in the case of Hawaii—that is, we have aided and abetted in the extinction of the political rights of the native people—but it is almost our only offence, if the American Indians are taken out of the count. With England, on the other hand, these offences are to be numbered by the score, and hence it is a little bit verging on the insufferable to have censure of this particular sort come to us from that source.

UMATILLA INDIANS.

WASHINGTON, March 9.—The Secretary of the Interior has requested the Secretary of War to send troops from Walla Walla to the Umatilla reservation if the agent there makes a request by telegraph. Agent Harper advised the interior department from Pendleton, Ogn., that Judge Fee holds up his decision in the habeas corpus case of "No Shirt" and "Young Chief," Umatilla Indians, as if they were released he feared trouble. The agent did not state what the difficulty was with the Indians.

ST. JOHN, N. B., March 9.—At a meeting of Liberals last night Charles W. Weldon and John V. Ellis were selected as Liberal candidates.

Relief in Six Hours.

Distressing Kidney and Bladder diseases relieved in six hours by the "GREAT SOUTH AMERICAN KIDNEY CURE." This new remedy is a great surprise and delight on account of its exceeding promptness in relieving pain in the bladder, kidneys back and every part of the urinary passages in male or female. It relieves retention of water and pain in passing it almost immediately. Sold in Victoria by D. E. Campbell.

BLOODY TRAGEDY.

Murder of Two Employes of the Montreal Cotton Mills Company.

Thirst for Gold the Motive of the Coolly Calculated Crime.

Details are to hand of the bloody murder committed at Valleyfield Q, on the night of Friday, March 1, by a young man named F. V. Shortis, in which two men lost their lives and several others were injured. Shortis is a young man about twenty years of age, who for some time was in the employ of the Montreal Cotton Mills Company as secretary to Mr. Simpson, the manager. When he was superseded he asked and obtained permission to work in the mill, to learn the business, on the plea that he intended to put money in it when his "ship came in." He was, therefore, familiar with the place. Everything was quiet in the building that night. The immense weaving rooms and workshops were deserted, except for the two watchmen, Maxime Lebœuf and Delisle Bezan. They made their rounds about every hour, and, no doubt, Shortis timed himself accordingly. He took supper at the Windsor hotel, where he was boarding, and afterwards went to visit a lady named Miss Anderson. From her house, which he left much earlier than usual, he went straight to the Montreal cotton mill. There he knew his friends were working. That morning Mr. George W. Snannon, the express agent, had delivered the money which was used to pay off the hands. It was about $13,000.

There was at the time a light in the big office on the main floor, and four men were making up the pay. These were John Lowe, the paymaster; John Loy and Hugh Wilson, clerks, and Lebœuf, a brother of the watchman. Shortis came in with his walking stick in his hand. They knew him well and allowed him to get behind the big counter. He chatted with them and partook with them of some oranges they had. He is very fond of fruit and sweets, and spent a good deal of money on them. Another thing he was exceedingly fond of was firearms, especially revolvers, and on that account, it was not considered in the least strange that he should ask Lowe to let him see his five-shooter. Lowe, however, well knew how careless Shortis was in handling such things and insisted on unloading the weapon before he gave it to him. One revolver was always kept in the office and with it about thirty rounds of ball cartridge. It was a thirty-two calibre. Shortis kept on talking as he cleaned the weapon. He afterwards returned it, when Lowe reloaded it and put it back in its place. Afterwards Shortis asked for it again, but his request was refused. It was then about eleven o'clock and the clerks were thinking of going home. Lowe went in the vault and as he turned the bolt, he saw Shortis again reaching for his revolver. He told him to leave it alone, but Shortis took it notwithstanding. For a moment he handled it, and then a shot rang out, and Wilson dropped.

Lowe rushed to his aid and held him up, and Loy, thinking it was an accident, ran into the telephone box presumably to call for medical assistance. He rang up the Central, and the ring was heard in the telephone office, but no reply was received to the operator's call, and the operator left the room, wondering what was the matter, but utterly unconscious of the terrible cause. No sooner had Mr. Loy rung the call than Shortis turned and fired at him, the bullet entering his brain. The telephone receiver dropped from Loy's nerveless hand and he fell to the floor a corpse. Shortis now turned again and shot at Lowe, but the bullet missed the man it was intended for and presumably struck Wilson. Lowe now realized the terrible danger, both for himself and the interests of the company. He let Wilson down on the floor, convinced that he was dead, and began to think of the best means of saving his life and the $13,000 entrusted to his care. The murderer, for fear of being surprised by outside aid, rushed to the telephone box and tore down the receiver, destroying at the same time the connection.

Poor Loy was lying dead at his feet. The dead man had not even had a chance for his life, though he had a loaded revolver in his pocket. Shortis never gave a look at the corpse. In the meantime, Lebœuf, Maxim's brother, had rushed into the vault, trying to hide from the desperate man outside. No sooner had Shortis destroyed the telephone, than he turned again to Lowe and told him that if he moved, he would shoot him. Lowe, however, decided to take a desperate chance. With one sweep he gathered in the money, and rushed into the vault, pulling the door after him. This enraged Shortis very much, and he raved and stormed up and down and made all sorts of attempts to entice Lowe out. The latter's clever retreat had quite upset his calculations. With Lowe away, Loy killed and Wilson presumably dead, he counted on easily getting the better of the younger Lebœuf, and after that he would only have the watchman to deal with if they disturbed him. He called upon Lowe in the name of their friendship to come out.

"I don't want to hurt you," he said, "we have always been good friends."

But Lowe knew better, and held on with might and main to the vault door. Shortis even made a bluff at burning them out, and broke his walking stick into bits attempting to set fire to it near the entrance of the vault. Lowe, however, was too clever to be caught by any such a ruse, and the culminating point of his strategy was when he contrived, as related, to have himself and his companion locked in by the murderer. Shortis asked him to give the combination, and professing to be willing to accede to his request to come out Lowe said to him: "Turn the knob and you will be able to open the door." Shortis did so, and thus placed an unsurmountable barrier between himself and the men whom he wished to silence for ever.

Finding that he had balked himself, he hunted around in vain for means to retrieve his lost advantage. In his temporary absence Wilson, who had been left for dead, came to, and managed to crawl into the private office of the manager.

The two prisoners in the vault, Lowe and young Lebœuf, were now destined to go through a heart-rending experience in a tragedy equally horrible as that which had preceded—intensified, too, by the fact that the victim was the brother of one of the prisoners, who, though they could hear everything that occurred, were powerless to aid or save the victim. The time had come for Maxime Lebœuf's usual round. He had been eating his lunch on a bench in the weaving room nearest the office, and had left half of it to make his rounds. His measured step could be heard approaching. Nearer he came and nearer, and when he arrived near the door which led into the office, Shortis could be heard exclaiming, "Hello, Maxime; what is the matter?"

"Nothing, nothing," was Lebœuf's reply. Then came a shot, a yell and the fall of a heavy body, and another had fallen. Whether he was killed outright or not is not known, but the two men in the vault, in the course of their imprisonment, heard many more shots. When poor Lebœuf's body was examined there were found three bullet wounds, one in the cheek, one behind the ear and one in the left arm. How the subsequent dark deeds were done only the murderer can tell. But to make sure, however, of his last victim's death, Shortis beat out his brains with the telephone receiver and then tying a piece of suspender about one of the wrists of the corpse dragged it to the bottom of the first stairs outside of the office, which leads to the basement.

While this bloody work was going on Wilson is supposed to have regained consciousness again. His own statements of his experiences are not any too clear thus far and his deposition has not been taken. At present no one is allowed to see him, but sufficient information was gathered from him on Saturday to make it plain that he, when in the mill, realized that something had to be done to save his own life and that of his companions, of whose fates he was not aware. He pluckily crawled from his hiding place through the office into the adjoining weaving-room, and from there into the next. He did not take the usual way, the shortest way to the engine-room, where he expected to find help, but dragged himself along the opposite side. When he had gone half way he was exhausted and hid under a work bench near the wall.

The murderer, having dispatched Lebœuf to his own satisfaction, now began to hunt for Wilson. He finally found him in his hiding place. The poor fellow was apparently dead, but Shortis wanted to make sure. He lit several matches in the attempts he again made to shoot Wilson. They gave some light, but it was not sufficient and he deliberately went for a lantern with which to finish his work. He returned, shot Wilson again and then left him. The terrible agony poor plucky Hugh Wilson must have suffered can best be imagined. Shortis now renewed his attempts to get at Lowe, young Lebœuf and the money. He professed contrition and spoke in a whining voice. "For God's sake," he cried to Lowe, "come out. Poor Wilson is bleeding to death, and I want you to come out and help me carry him away."

"Where is Loy," Lowe asked.

"He has gone out," Shortis retorted, "to get a doctor."

But Lowe was not to be caught. He would not give the combination, and the murderer's entreaties were kept up at intervals.

Notwithstanding what he had gone through, Hugh Wilson had still some life and a great deal of courage left. He crawled along through the weaving room, and crawled again till he reached the bottom of the fire room stairs and then he fainted once more. It was there he was found by Mr. Begin, who had just set the machines in motion and was afraid Wilson had been hurt by the wheels. He rushed out to get a doctor. When they returned the brave boy regained consciousness and told his tale of blood to the horror-stricken men. They decided to investigate, and being warned by Wilson of the desperate character of the murderer, armed themselves with the first iron tools that came handy and went to seek Shortis. When they reached the office door they stood one at each side of it and looked in. Shortis saw them and knew the game was up.

Throwing up his hands, he said, "I give up." He continued: "I give up. I have shot those men, but I do not know why I did it." He said little else. Help was sent for, and Mr. Smith, the secretary-treasurer of the mill, released Lowe and Lebœuf at two o'clock, after three hours of almost intolerable incarceration. When they came out, Shortis, addressing them, cried, "Shoot me, shoot me, I am better shot than alive!"

That was all the sign of contrition he gave. Additional aid was hastily sent for and Wilson carefully removed. Shortis was searched and the revolver and a chisel were found on his person. How many shots he fired is hard to tell. Certainly, more than a score, perhaps two score. Lowe's cartridges had nearly all disappeared, and some of those found in the bodies of the dead and wounded were proven by the calibre to have come from the murderer's own revolver. About the only other thing he said was, when he was being searched, to the effect that he much objected to having his shirt cut in the search for his weapons. But his objection availed him but little. He was finally turned over to the chief of police.

In the gloomy, vault-like rooms of the cotton mill lay the bodies of the murdered victims, stark and rigid in death, in pools of half-clotted blood; in the narrow cell of the local prison slept the prisoner, calm and childlike and undisturbed, as if he were resting from an honest day's toil, instead of having ruthlessly sent two as good, upright, lovable men as ever lived into eternity.

With the dawn came the public anouncement of the awful deed. It went from house to house like wildfire. People could not believe their ears till they were convinced that the news was only too true. Threats of lynching were openly expressed and they grew louder as the day wore on. There was no one to take the lead, however. Had there been, nothing could have saved Shortis. Late in the afternoon he was conducted to the mill with the jury, to view the bodies. He had nothing to say. At times he manages to look exceedingly sleepy and he did so when he was brought face to face with the bodies. "Open your eyes well and look," he was told; and in a matter-of-fact way he replied: "Oh, my eyes are open all right." Afterwards, in the office of the mill, he was permitted to send a message to his friend, Mr. George Bury, of Montreal. Later on he received a reply to the effect that the latter had cabled to his parents. Shortis is their only son.

At the inquest the prisoner was the most remarkable feature of the affair. A cooler, more unconcerned man never faced so heinous a charge. He was brought in between two constables, his wrists handcuffed together behind his back. They came with the prisoner at a shuffling gait. His long blonde hair was straggling over his forehead from under his hat, his steel blue eyes had a sleepy expression; his lip stuck out in a sort of a pout, and, on the whole, he was a miserable object to look at. When he first entered the room he seemed somewhat nervous. He trembled a little as he stood up and heaved several sighs, but these were about the only signs of emotion he gave. In the early part of the evening session he was asked if he had anything to say. He thought for a while and then said in a clear voice and with a flash of his steel blue eyes: "I have got a telegram from a friend of mine in Montreal, and he advises me not to say anything till I again hear from him." After a moment's pause he continued: "If you don't mind, gentlemen, it would perhaps make no difference if I was handcuffed in front. The way my hands are now fastened behind my back hurts me considerably."

The verdict of the jury was that Lebœuf and Loy had come to their deaths at the hands of the prisoner, who paid no more attention to it than he had done to the evidence. His spirits were somewhat ruffled at certain reports in the Saturday afternoon papers. He denied that he was a drinking man, and said the company did not owe him any money. He was employed for some time in Mr. Simpson's office, "but," he continued, "I left because I had not time enough to learn the business, and I wanted to learn it thoroughly." In reference to his surrender he said: "I had been waiting all night for the police to come and take me." When an artist was making a few notes of the surroundings he cried as soon as he noticed it: "Hello, are you sketching me? That isn't fair, you know, trying to sketch a fellow without his coat on. Wait till I get dressed. I am sure the Chief of Police will let me out into the corridor and give you a chance to sketch me there."

The murderer was born in Waterford, Ireland, in 1875, and received a good education, his father being a wealthy, active and leading business man, who had sent his son out to Canada so that he might enter a useful calling. He was regarded as lacking in mental stamina, and was addicted to the use of cocaine.

THE LIBERAL POLICY.

(From the Montreal Gazette.)

Liberal speakers throughout the country continue to prate to the people about the advantages of British free trade and cheap commodities. The experience of the mother land is hardly calculated to induce Canadians to copy her fiscal system. More than three million acres of land have been thrown out of cultivation in Britain by the policy of free imports, and dire distress has fallen upon the agricultural interest. Since 1889, her foreign trade has suffered a decline of £60,000,000, and the industries of the land are in a state of serious depression. Under free trade, the average price of wheat in Great Britain has fallen in twenty years from 55s. 9d. per quarter to 22s. 10d. per quarter, or by 60 per cent., a reduction relatively greater than has occurred in Canada. Addressing the Farmers' club, in London, on February 4th, Mr. Martin J. Sutton stated that "the situation was worse than figures or statistics indicated, and in every direction they were confronted with the magnitude of the present depression," and he added that unless war or a great discovery of gold ensued he saw no prospect of any change for the better in English farming. Lord Hampden, writing to the London Times on February 9, protested against the doctrine which Canadian Liberals have made their shibboleth, namely, that the cheapness of commodities is in itself an infinite blessing to the great mass of people, irrespective of the question whether the price of such commodities is below the cost of production. Cheapness, as Lord Hampden points out, is of no advantage to the man who, having no employment, has nothing wherewith to buy the necessaries of life. At a recent meeting of the Royal Commission of Agriculture Mr. H. Biddell, of Ipswich, sketched this picture of the condition of British agriculture under a system of free trade:

"At the present time there was want of work, or, rather want of money to pay for it. More and more land was going out of cultivation; on the better soils fields were laid down to grass; on the poorer farms fields were left to produce such herbage as, when left unploughed, was indigenous to the soil. This had a very serious effect in the diminished demand for labor. The state of cultivation was getting worse every year; the fertility was greatly deteriorated; on the cultivated land the deterioration in fertility and cleanliness amounted to from £3 to £4 an acre, or 2½ millions sterling in the county of Suffolk. There was great difficulty in finding tenants; witness knew of five farms of 1,000 acres each all on the landlords' hands; 20 years ago he could have secured ten offers for each one. He had no doubt that unless a rise in prices took place at no distant date there would be a very serious crash in the agricultural industry."

Mr. Treadwell, a large tenant farmer of Aylesbury, gave similar testimony before the royal commission. a serious was the present state of affairs that he thought that unless there was an improvement in prices many arable farmers would be ruined in two years, and the mixed land farmers would be forced to retire. Farmers could not go on losing for ever. British farmers could not compete with the low cost of production in foreign countries. Speaking in the British House of Commons last month, Right Hon. Mr. Chaplin declared that the government must either do something to stop the fall in prices or else stand by and witness the ruin of the greatest industry in the country; and Mr. Balfour, on the same occasion, expressed the opinion that "we were face to face with a financial, an agricultural and a commercial crisis." Even so staunch a free trade advocate as the London Times, in its issue of 8th proximo, said that the unemployed of Great Britain are far more numerous, especially in the large towns, than they ought to be if the community were economically in a healthy state, and that the depressed condition of agriculture is not, unfortunately, a temporary phase likely to disappear with some movement of trade.

Now, this distressful state of British agriculture is confessedly the consequence of the policy of free imports, the like of which the Liberal party proposes to apply to Canada. The English farmer has been brought to ruin by the bounty fed products of the cheap labor of Europe, South America, India and Australia. The Canadian farmer is invited to support Liberal candidates in the approaching elections because the establishment, through government aid, of steamship connection between the Dominion and Australasia may enable the cheap meats and dairy products of the latter colonies to enter Canada in competition with our home commodities. But, if the former has reason to dread the consequences of steamship connection, how vastly greater must his fear be lest the Liberal policy of food imports should come into operation? At present he can regard with equanimity the increasing outpus of cheap food stuffs in other parts of the world, so far at least as his home marked is concerned, because he has in the protective system a sure barrier against their importation into Canada, and the assurance that if existing duties prove inadequate to safeguard him they will be made so. British farmers, after fifty years of free trade, are crying aloud for protection. Their home market has been overrun by foreign competitors, and the cheap commodities which they are asked to regard as compensation for free imports are found to be dear at the price, simply because they have not the money wherewith to purchase. The example of Britain may well deter Canadian farmers from favoring a fiscal policy which has brought ruin to their fellows in the only country in which it has been adopted.

Catarrh Relieved in 10 to 60 Minutes.—One short puff of the breath through the blower supplied with each bottle of Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder, diffuses this Powder over the surface of the nasal passages. Painless and delightful to use, it relieves instantly, and permanently cures Catarrh, Hay Fever, Colds, Headache, Sorethroat, Tonsilitis and deafness. 50 cents. At Langley & Co.'s

To search out impurities and drive them from the system is the Work of Burdock Blood Bitters; thus B. B. B. cures dyspepsia, constipation, bad blood, biliousness and all diseases of the stomach, liver, bowels and blood.

THE PIANIST'S FINGERS.

How to Properly Strengthen Them and Gain Expansiveness In the Hands.

A writer in the London Lancet gave not long ago a detailed account of gymnastic training for the strengthening of the fingers, his theory being that the weakness of the ring or third finger is not a mechanical defect to begin with, but a physiological one—that is to say, that it is not due to the connection of the extensor tendon with that of the little finger, and sometimes also middle finger, but to want of development of the muscles acting upon the ring finger through want of use in early life, so that it thus falls a long way behind the other fingers, not excepting the little finger, in strength.

The editor of The Etude, in criticism of the foregoing, says: Every device which works from the outside inward is of more than questionable worth. No exercise should be worked at long enough to produce much if any fatigue, for when carried to the point where the members ache it may be taken as a sign from nature that harm is being done, a warning to desist until the parts can recuperate by a rest more or less protracted. A far better form of strengthening the weak fingers is to practice the Mason two finger exercise, that demands an accent on the second tone of the motive with a snapped under finger, the quick snap furnishing exactly the exercise necessary to develop strength, and with the increasing strength will come on, as much to be desired, improved flexibility.

For gaining a wider expansion nothing is so good as playing the arpeggio of the Diminished Seventh for one octave, holding each key down as long as possible until the finger is wanted to strike its key again, playing both up and down. It greatly increases the value of this exercise to change the notes as given in the XV changes by Mason in the volume devoted to arpeggio playing, volume 3. A very little gain of expansiveness in the hand largely increases the ease with which chords and octaves can be clearly played. It is like a fan. The fraction of movement at the joint is multiplied at the extremity. Whatever the hand gains from the exercise of its own muscles by direct act of its inner nerves, muscles and tendons is a gain of value, but when outside appliances are used the hand is as liable to get harm as permanent good from their use.

Dressing a Flowerpot.

Here is a new wrinkle in decorations from American Gardening:

To make a flowerpot presentable for the table or drawing room stand, make for it a petticoat of plain silk, of the color of the blossom of the plant or in leaf green. The silk should be half a yard in length for a smallish pot—long enough to allow for both cut edges to be turned back an inch and a half to form a ruffle or frill, and wide enough to be tastefully full. When the shirs at both top and bottom are drawn around the pot, to form a puff, usually two widths of silk not overwide are required. If a rubber cord is used for the drawstrings, the "puff" adjusts itself smoothly and sungly to the pot. The frill at both top and bottom can be made wide or narrow to suit the taste of the maker. Of course the toilet of the plant, trimmed and watered, should be made before the silk cover is put on.

Lace Ruches and Collars.

It is safe to wager a vast amount that there exists not a lady's wardrobe in the whole United States that is not enriched by a lace frippery or two. Fashion insists upon the addition of lace and chiffon to every house costume; consequently one sees all sorts of delightful contrivances for decorating the neck. The collar, the fichu, the ruffle, are all to be found under the most delightful aspects. There are indeed dainty trifles, over which the heart of the maiden rejoices infinitely, and, by the way, the maiden who is unfortunately the victim of a bony neck may be cordially advised to adopt one of the new chiffon ruches to be worn with evening dress. It absorbs a vast amount of chiffon, and can be had in pink or blue or white or black or indeed any color. Occasionally the soft chiffon is interspersed with rosettes of colored velvet, and then again they are to be found quite simple and decorated at the back with a bow.

A NEW LACE COLLAR.

The new lace collar, with full shoulders, is not only useful in transforming a low bodice into a high one, but in making dressy the plainest of high waists.

Housekeeping Brevities.

No breakfast at this season is complete without some kind of griddle cakes.

There is a fad for Chinese dishes, among them rice, citron and raisins boiled together.

It will be well to boil the molasses to be used for gingerbread, or at least heat it very hot, before beating up the cake, and it will be greatly improved.

Before laying a carpet wash the floor with turpentine to prevent buffalo bugs.

One of the gastronomic conundrums is why buckwheat cakes and sausages go together.

Heat the knife before cutting warm bread or cake.

Brighten tinware with a damp cloth and soda.

In a north room yellow shades are indispensable. They impart an effect of glowing sunshine that is as cheerful if not as warming as the real article.

CABLE ITEMS.

Merry Celebration of the Anniversary of the Prince of Wales' Marriage.

Ten Thousand Shoemakers on Strike—Naval Development—Honors for Bismarck.

LONDON, March 12.—This morning merry peals were rung out from the parish church at Sandringham, where an exhibition drill and parade was given by the military stationed at the London barracks, in celebration of the thirty-second anniversary of the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales. For many years the anniversary was celebrated throughout the country by the ringing of bells and hoisting of flags and holidays for the school children.

The Duke of York held a levee to-day representing the Prince of Wales in his absence on the Reviera. Ambassador Bayard was present.

Lord Rosebery went to Windsor to-day for an audience with the Queen.

In the house to-day Civil Lord of the Admiralty Robertson said since the beginning of 1894, seven battleships have been started in the course of construction in England, one in France and none in Russia.

Over eleven thousand bales of wool were offered to day. The good clothing merinos sold readily to Americans. The market is firm but no further advance in prices is expected.

Under Foreign Secretary Grey states that the government is awaiting the result of the investigation of the Venezuelan government of the recent arrest and imprisonment of members of the British Guiana police by the Venezuelan authorities before deciding what reparation shall be demanded.

In consequence of the National Federation of Bootmakers notifying their operatives to stop work March 16, owing to a complicated dispute concerning the use of machinery, the Shoe Operatives' Union has called out all the operatives not obliged to give a week's notice. Ten thousand quit Saturday.

The Prussian council of state has decided that the proceedings of its coming session shall be strictly private.

It is reported that Emperor William, accompanied by his sons, intends to go to Friedrichsruhe on April 1st to congratulate Prince Bismarck on his 80th birthday, and also to make his title of prince hereditary.

The Belgian government will join France in her protest against the action of Venezuela in expelling the French and Belgian ministers.

It is reported that the German government is sending two warships to Guayara to enforce the payment of the unpaid guarantee on the construction of the Central Venezuelan railway built by Germany.

Worth the famous dressmaker died in Paris this morning.

Cesar Cantu, the Italian historian, is dead.

A newspaper of Leipsic recently asked a number of literary and political men for an expression of opinion upon the idea of making Prince Bismarck an honorary citizen of the German empire by an act of parliament, and almost all approved the plan. The conservative, national liberal and anti-semite members of the reichstag will celebrate Bismarck's birthday by a committee of members and will go to Friedrichsruhe together on April 7 to deliver an address to the ex-chancellor.

Prince Christian of Hohenlohe-Oehringer was the guest of Prince Bismarck at Friedrichsruhe on Sunday and Monday last. The latter spoke of his waning strength and Dr. Schweninger's positive instruction not to excite himself and receive large crowds. In addition Prince Bismarck expressed grave doubts as to whether he would be equal to the task of celebrating his 80th birthday as the people wished him to do, publicly and with all kinds of demonstrations. The Emperor will personally participate at the celebration.

Rt. Hon. A. J. Balfour made his reappearance in the House to-day, having recovered from his illness, and was loudly cheered.

The Captain-General of the Phillipine islands has made an urgent appeal to the Spanish government for troops to quell a rebellion of the Scolocs. A battalion of marines, held ready at Ferrol to embark for Cuba, has been ordered to Manila.

M. Lockroy made a vigorous attack in the French Chamber of Deputies on Monday upon the administration of the French navy, comparing the English and French navies, much to the detriment of the latter fleet. The Chamber evidenced its distrust of the Admiralty and sympathy with the speaker.

This official dispatch from Havana has been given out: "The insurgent band from Baire has been again defeated and has been finally dispersed. Only forty members are now at large, and they are believed to be seeking terms. The troops will attack tomorrow the only remaining band in the Santiago district."

Six large vessels, ten smaller ones and fifteen smacks were wrecked in the storm off the coast near Cadiz on Sunday.

The Daily Chronicle's correspondent in Vienna learns that Prince Cantacuzene, Russian minister in Washington, will be appointed ambassador to Russia.

The crew of the British bark Cairnichill mutinied on Sunday at Diamond Harbor, River Hoogly. A Hindustanee assaulted the pilot and shot the captain in the wrist. The officers quelled the mutiny after firing a dozen shots and wounding two men.

Great Britain will send her Channel squadron to represent her at the Kiel naval parade with which the North Sea and Baltic canal will be opened in June.

The Grand Duchess of Hesse has given birth to a daughter at Darmstadt.

It is reported that the coronation of the Czar will take place in Moscow in the latter half of May.

The Daily News, Lord Rosebery's organ, is silent as to the renewal of the Tory rumors of the Premier's contemplated retirement.

Rev. Dr. Greeves, president of the Wesleyan conference of 1884, is dead in London of pneumonia.

The body of the young Grand Duke Alexis Michaelovitch arrived in St. Petersburg on Monday and was taken direct to the catafalque, where it will remain until the burial.

A dispatch from Lima, Peru, announces that the insurgents defeated the Peruvian troops in a pitched battle at Cabanillas, in which 300 government soldiers were killed.

SWEETSBURG, March 11.—Wilson, Howatt, Jennie and Kelly, who were tried last week, charged with attempting to murder C P. R. Agent Smith, were convicted to-day of common assault and sentenced to one month's imprisonment. The jury disagreed at the former trial.

Heart Disease Relieved in 30 Minutes.—All cases of organic or sympathetic heart disease relieved in 30 minutes and quickly cured, by Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart. One dose convinces. Sold in Victoria by D. E. Campbell.