The Colonist.

FRIDAY, MAY 24TH, 1889.

## EXCITED AND UNREASONING

Our neighbors in California have taken the alarm because the British Government have at last seen it necessary to fortify so important a naval station as Esquimalt. They themselves have been complaining that Congress has apparently forgotten the Pacific Coast, and have been growling about the exposed condition of San Francisco and other cities and towns on the Pacific seaboard. Canadians did not construe these complaints and lamentations into threats. They believe it but natural that the inhabitants of a large and rich seaport would feel a certain degree of alarm at seeing themselves completely at the mercy of any maritime nation with which their country might be at war.

The United States is beginning to find that it is not altogether disconnected with the great nations that are regarding each other with jealousy and unfriendliness on the other side of the Atlantic. The influences which keep them armed to the teeth and constantly on the alert lest war come upon them when they are unprepared, are not altogether unfelt on this side of the Atlantic. The Samoan difficulty showed our neighbors that war with Germany was not by any means an impossibility, and the fishery disputes on both sides of the continent caused them to feel that war with Great Britain though a very remote contingency was not to be looked upon as altogether improbable. United States statesmen most likely see that events in Europe may take such a turn that it may be impossible for their country to remain altogether neutral. Disputes may arise in which it may be necessary to back their arguments by a display of physical force, or not having the physical force to display, they may be compelled to submit to injustice or indignity, and occupy a position exceedingly humiliating to a proud and sensitive people sixty millions strong. This, we think, is why the American government has of late occupied itself with creating a navy, and there are indications that the time is not far distant when it will consider it expedient greatly to enlarge its military establishment.

Canadians have not felt in the slightest degree alarmed when they saw the Americans launching cruiser after cruiser, or when they heard that preparations were being made to build first-class armored ships. They saw that it was only reasonable that their neighbors should take these precautions. They indeed wondered that they were so long neglected. They never considered that the possession of a powerful fleet by the United States was a menace to Canada, or that we in the North were in any way injuriously affected by the call made in many places for coast defences.

While these preparations for defence were being made on the other side of the line not a soldier was added to the Canadian force, either militia or regular, and nothing was done to strengthen any point along the three thousand miles of frontier. Although there were disputes and disagreements between the two countries, Canadians exhibited the utmost confidence in the common sense and the spirit of fairness of the American people. They acted all along as if they were certain that the questions in dispute between them and the United States admitted of an equitable and an amicable adjustment, and that before very long they would be so adjusted. But now when the news comes by cable that a few sappers are to be sent to British Columbia to do for Esquimalt what the San Francisco newspapers say should be done for their city, those newspapers get excited and affect to believe that to fortify Esquimalt is to threaten the whole line of the United States' western sea coast.

We gave our San Francisco contemporaries credit for more common sense than they have displayed in this matter. The question of fortifying the coaling stations on the Pacific coast and elsewhere has long been agitated in Great Britain, and the Government has been severely condemned by many for neglecting so important a duty so long. Our excited neighbors should remember that there are other nations in the world besides the United States, nations, too, with which Great Britain is far more likely to go to war. It is not so long ago that war between Great Britain and Russia was almost hourly expected. Every morning for quite a considerable time the first thing the readers of the daily papers in Canada did was to look at the cable telegrams to see whether war had been declared, and no one would have been at all surprised to find that hostilities had commenced. In the event of a war with Russia the fortification of Esquimalt would have been a necessity. And who knows but the probability of such a war was one of the things which the British Premier had on his mind the other day when he told the people of Bristol that there were subjects which might be thought about, but on which it was wise to be silent. To jump at the conclusion which the Call does that the Esquimalt fortifications "are intended for service against the United States" and to say that "they cannot be used against any other nation" and "that they area provocation of war" is, we are compelled to say, exceedingly silly. It shows either a lamentable lack of intelligence on the part of our contemporary or an equally lamentable disposition to pick a quarrel with Great Britain. We trust that on second thoughts and when they get a little cooler, the San Francisco newspapers will see that the fortification of Esquimalt is one of those necessary precautions which in the natural course of events was certain to be made sooner or later.

## SUNDAY BUGGY DRIVERS.

TO THE EDITOR:—It may be well to warn country residents, about the town cigar and stove-pipe hat class of persons who sometimes drive and hang about suburban churches and if opportunity offers, to paint the country red, add-ess rowdy remarks towards unprotected ladies and children, going or coming from church.

COUNTRY GENTLEMAN.

Five sudden deaths have recently occurred in the Mooney family, of Ulverton, Me.

## AN ENGLISH ESTIMATE.

It is a little surprising to see how philosophically intelligent Englishmen regard the American Revolution. Not a trace of the old bitterness remains. They have not a word of reproach for the revolutionists. Their sympathies seem to be altogether with the rebels. They do not appear to regret that Great Britain lost a possession of very great value. They appear rather to rejoice that the mistakes of the Home Government resulted in the establishment of a great nation. The comments of the London Times on the Washington Centenary will strike most Canadians as being exceedingly liberal. It says:

American independence was not the feat of a single man. In one and the most essential sense it was nobody's doing across the Atlantic. There it made itself; or it grew out of the narrowness and blindness of British statesmanship. With the deliberate theory entertained here of the natural and inherent subordination of colonial interests to those of the mother country, it is inconceivable that the North American plantations should not, at the stage they had attained, have broken the bond. King George and his Court and trusted Councillors could never have been influenced by public English feeling to reform their policy in a way to reconcile the colonies to subjection for the plain reason that the Executive in its folly represented faithfully the dogmatic opinion of the middle and lower as well as the ruling classes. A mistaken British point of view was the primary cause of the American Revolution, though none, whether Americans or Englishmen, desire to give it an apotheosis in a jubilee."

The Liverpool Morning Post says:—

"Looking at the resultant war of Independence through the narrowing vista of a hundred years, it does indeed seem strange that statesmen of the sagacity of North and Fox could have for a moment conceived the possibility of keeping such a vigorous offshoot in subjection a day longer than the people cared to bend their necks to the yoke. There are probably few people who entertain a single regret that the event was brought to issue in that earlier period of the American history, when there were fewer combatants to involve in a life and death struggle and the commercial interests to be doomed, or at least dislocated, were on a comparatively narrow scale."

These extracts from leading British newspapers show that time has done wonders on the other side of the Atlantic in changing the opinions of the people as to the nature and results of the American Revolution.

## THE DUST NUISANCE.

The patience of the citizens of Victoria has been sorely tried by the way in which the watering of the streets is mismanaged. The dust is from every point of view a nuisance. It is in the first place exceedingly disagreeable. To walk the streets while clouds of dust are flying is as unpleasant as anything we know. To be out in the pouring rain is a pleasure and to face a snow storm is exhilarating by comparison. The dust is most injurious to the eyes and to breathe air impregnated with it does more harm to the lungs than most people are aware of. The dust, too, is most penetrating. It works its way through every crevice, and is deposited on furniture, clothes and everything that the house contains, and as to leaving a window or a door open while there is the lightest breeze, no matter how hot the weather is, it is not to be thought of. Then the dust does harm to merchandise of nearly every kind. The fine fabrics that are exposed to it are irreparably injured in a very short time. The loss which the merchants sustain every year, because the dust is not kept down, must be very considerable in the aggregate.

There is therefore every reason why the Corporation should exert itself to keep down the dust. Health, comfort, and the preservation of valuable property in houses and stores require that the streets should, in the dry season, be well and frequently watered. Watering carts should be on every street all day long.

Watering carts are not necessarily expensive, and in emergencies they could be easily and quickly improvised. A clever mechanic could mount a molasses puncheon on a truck and provide it with a sprinkler in a very short time. It would not be handsome, but it would do the work required of it quite as well as the unwieldy machines that are now used, and which it appears are so often out of repair. This kind of watering cart could be drawn by one horse, and a half a dozen of them could be kept in readiness to be used whenever they might be needed. The expense would be comparatively trifling and they would more than repay their cost and the expense of working them in a single season. It is not according to the eternal fitness of things that the inhabitants of Victoria should be choked by dust and should allow it to be the nuisance that it is both indoors and out. A little energy and a little ingenuity on the part of the corporation would cause it to disappear almost entirely, and along with it the unpleasantness and the loss that it occasions. If ever "a kick"—a general and a vigorous kick—on the part of householders is justifiable and even necessary for self preservation it is in this matter of the dust. If the citizens declared unanimously and energetically that dust must go, it would go pretty quick.

## EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

It is to be hoped that the hint which the grand jury gave the "women of the town" will be taken and acted upon. They have of late been making themselves too conspicuous altogether. It is not pleasant to see them dressed to kill flaunting their finery on the streets and in places of amusement, to the annoyance of respectable women, and by their grandeur and gayety leading poor, honest girls who have to work hard for a pittance, to believe that virtue is a failure. It is not. Very far from it. But the unthinking who judge by outside appearances, seeing these fallen women apparently so gay and having always the best of everything are often led to this conclusion. Their being allowed unrebuked to advertise themselves in the way they do has no doubt a demoralizing effect. The "social evil" is everywhere most difficult to deal with, but if it cannot be abolished, it certainly ought not to be encouraged. The civic authorities should take steps to prevent its existence being obtruded on the notice of the citizens whenever they walk the streets or attend a public entertainment. This is the very least they can do.

## CAPITAL NOTES.

### Intelligence Bureau for Fishermen at Halifax.

### The Free Admission of Mining Machinery Again Urged.

### Parties Undertaking the Delivery of Letters in Cities Where Drop Letter Rates Apply Will be Prosecuted.

(From our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, Ont., May 20.—The minister of fisheries has decided to establish an intelligence bureau at Halifax for the purpose of supplying fishermen with information relative to the government's various food and bait fisheries.

Surveyor Pearse starts out this week with a party to examine the lands rejected by the Canadian Pacific Railway as not fairly fit for settlement.

Ritchie, an Ohio capitalist, interviewed the government to-day. He urged the free admission of mining machinery. His company is greatly interested in the iron mines of Ontario.

The post office department will prosecute parties undertaking the general delivery of letters in cities where the drop rate applies, the statutory penalty being twenty dollars in each case.

## SPRING ASSIZES.

Before Mr. Justice Crease.

SECOND DAY.

Tuesday, May 21.

Court opened at 10 o'clock.

After the jury list had been called, Mr. B. W. Brown was fined $50 for absence.

The first case called was that of Chau Ah Heung, charged with the murder of the Chinese girl You Cum.

Mr. Charles Wilson appeared for the prisoner, and asked that the case be laid over until the next assizes, as the defence was not yet prepared.

His lordship, after mature consideration stated that the interests of justice would not be furthered by so long an adjournment. He would prefer, he said, to adjourn the assizes for a few days to allow the counsel for the defence time to prepare their case.

QUEEN VS. WO AH LUN.

In this case the prisoner, through his counsel Mr. F. G. Walker, pleaded "Not Guilty" to the charge of larceny preferred against him by Num Lung.

The evidence given in the police court when the case came up in December, 1888, was again gone over.

After hearing the evidence, the jury returned a verdict of "Guilty," and the court adjourned.

(Before Sir M. B. Begbie, C.J.)

QUEEN VS. MCQUILLON.

In this case the defendant, Frank McQuillon, postmaster at Alberni, was charged with arson.

Mr. D. M. Eberts appeared for the defendant and stated that he was not quite prepared to go on. In making application for an adjournment, he stated that the defendant was arrested and given a preliminary hearing before Mr. Planta, S. M., of Nanaimo, who dismissed the case against him. It was afterwards stated that the alleged offence was committed in the judicial county of Victoria and hence the present action. He (Mr. Eberts) had applied to Mr. Planta for copies of the original depositions, which would be down by two o'clock. He asked for adjournment until Wednesday morning.

Mr. M. W. T. Drake, Q. C., who appeared for the Crown, contended that the depositions referred to had no connection with the present case; and urged that the case go on without any further delay.

Mr. Eberts claimed also that he had an incomplete panel to select his jury from; and asked that his objection to the case going on immediately, on this point, be noted.

The following jurors were duly sworn: John L. Beckwith (foreman), John F. Deans, Henry Howarth, G. F. White, James Lyon, Alex. Watson, jr., Wm. Ogilvy, Wm. G. Cameron, Josiah Jacques, Joseph Cosnell, George A. Knight and Richard Roper.

The defendant pleaded "Not guilty" to the two counts of setting fire to a house owned by Mr. J. C. Mollett and another, on the 14th of July, 1888.

In opening the case, the counsel for the crown stated that Mr. Mollett had incurred the enmity of the accused in the capacity of a Justice of the Peace; the accused having been brought before him at various times. Before the fire, the accused had openly threatened to be even with Mr. Mallett; and had offered to employ a witness who would be put in the box, to set fire to Mr. Mollett's house. A witness would also be produced who would swear that he accompanied the prisoner, and saw him set fire to the house.

J. C. Mollett deposed to being a Justice of the Peace at Alberni. In his official capacity, the prisoner was brought before him five times, and convicted of the offences charged on four out of the five occasions. Had also been Government agent at Alberni since 1883. Was a part owner of a house on lot 16, which was built in 1887. After the house was built it was put in a fit state for occupation. The house was an ordinary log house, about 15x18. A bundle of dry ferns, which had been used as a bed by witness and his sons, was left in the house after it was cleaned, and the windows nailed up. The house was well floored, but had no ceiling. It was destroyed by fire in July, 1888. Went to the scene of the fire as soon as he could get away, after hearing that the house had been destroyed. Found nothing left but a few blackened logs and the remains of some tools left in the house.

To Mr. Eberts: I am not a justice of the peace now. I was prescented with a petition asking me to resign that position. I did so to oblige my wife and my friends. The prisoner was convicted by me four times. On the first occasion he was convicted of trespass. He was first charged with stealing harrow teeth from a man named Little. This conviction was not set aside. I believed that he thought the harrow teeth were his. On the third conviction the prisoner was charged with selling liquor without a license. In this action I was the plaintiff, and not the justice presiding. On the fourth occasion the prisoner was convicted of staking off a piece of land occupied by Mr. Little on which to build a store for Mr. Taylor. The supreme court of British Columbia afterwards decided that the land belonged to Mr. Taylor. Remember stating on oath at Nanaimo that nothing inflammable was left in or about the house. When I visited the scene of the fire found no smoke. Ferns were growing on the spot where the house stood, and from their height I should judge that the fire had been extinct about two weeks. Sayward's store, where McQuillon lives, is about 22 miles from the scene of the fire. The contract price of the house destroyed was about $70. The defendant is postmaster at Alberni, and has been in the employ of Mr. Sayward for the past four or five years. He has had charge of Mr. Sayward's store, and two fishing stations.

Mr. Eberts read over a long list of names, and asked if the witness knew the parties.

The witness said that he knew them all, but could not say that they were all good men. He referred to the easy matter of getting people to sign any petition or recommendation, and afterwards regretting their action.

His lordship endorsed the remarks made by the uselessness of petitions.

The court then adjourned until 1:30 p. m.

Alexander John Mollett, son of the the last witness, corroborated the evidence given by his father in regard to visiting the scene of the fire.

Thomas Patterson sworn, said that on the night before the fire, he heard prisoner say in speaking of Mr. Mollett, "Wait until this time to-morrow, and I'll get even with the —— of a ——." He was talking about Mr. Mollett, and was planning to get even with him. A man named Bristow was also present.

To Mr. Eberts—I was at one time convicted before a Justice of the Peace, of giving liquor to an Indian. I owe McQuillon about $40.

John P. Bowditch, clerk in Mr. Saywards store, said, on oath, that the prisoner did not occupy his room on the night that Mr. Mollett's house was burned.

To Mr. Eberts—Hennesy was doing the cooking at the house about the time. I did not see him in the store on the night of the 14th of July.

To a juror—I did not see McQuillon in bed that night. I could not swear that McQuillon was not in bed.

William Leeson, sworn, deposed to seeing the smoke from the fire, while he was on his way home from Nanaimo.

To Mr. Eberts—I remember hearing Bristow say that if he told all he knew about this case he would get into trouble.

Walter Watt was called by the crown.

Mr. Eberts objected, as the name was not upon the indictment.

Walter Watt, sworn, said that the prisoner had talked to him about Mr. Mollett. The prisoner had asked him to set fire to Mollett's house. This was before Mollett's house was burned. After the house was burned, the prisoner asked him to go up to the road and wait for Mr. Mollett—to shoot him, or something.

To Mr. Eberts: Prisoner did not offer me any money to set fire to Mr. Mollett's house. I owe McQuillon over $100. I may have said last summer that I would send McQuillon to h—l. I remember talking to a man named W. T. Dunstan. Do not remember telling Dunstan that there was a conspiracy to get McQuillon out of Alberni.

To the foreman: The prisoner told me himself to go and shoot Mr. Mollett.

Christian Saul deposed that the prisoner asked him to burn Mr. Mollett's house on the claim adjoining his. The prisoner again asked him to burn the house, and he refused. Finally agreed to accompany the prisoner while he set fire to the house. Went with him, and lit a match while the prisoner broke off the boards over the window, and got in through the window. The door was locked. It was not very long before he came out again, and ran away in a hurry. When witness and prisoner got about 150 yards away, saw the flames coming through the shingles. Prisoner after coming out of the window, said: "I will have to get home pretty quick," and started on a run.

To Mr. Eberts: I was born in Germany. Never was in the army, and never deserted from it. I came away before I was in the army. I was drafted, but did not wait. I did not mention about the fire for seven months, until I told Mr. Huff.

To a juror—McQuillon asked me if I would burn Mollett's house.

This closed the case for the Crown.

Mr. Eberts briefly reviewed the character of the evidence offered by the Crown, and called Thomas Hennessey.

Thomas Hennessey, sworn, said that he remembered the night of July 14th. He was with the prisoner until about 11:30 p. m. They were busy getting a list of things ready to go up on the steamer Rose. Bowditch came in that night and asked McQuillon to let Saul go up to work for him for a few days at the lake. On the morning of the 15th was up before McQuillon and got breakfast ready. Could remember the day perfectly well by refreshing his memory with a notebook containing daily entries. Remembered being in the Half-way House, between Alberni and Nanaimo, and heard Mr. Huff telling Bowditch and Patterson to "swear to Saturday." Patterson and Bristow came to me and asked me to tell them where they were and what they were doing on the 1st and 4th of July. Patterson was at one time on very bad terms with Mr. Mollett.

The witness was cross-examined by Mr. Drake, but the cross-examination did not bring out anything new.

To a juror—It was between 11:15 p. m. and 11:30 p. m. when I parted from McQuillon.

W. T. Dunstan, sworn, said that he was in Nanaimo on the 21st of January. Met Walter Watt there. He (Watt) informed the witness that there was a conspiracy to get McQuillon out of Alberni, and that Bristow was one of the ringleaders. Watt also informed him that he had had a quarrel with McQuillon over some money that he couldn't pay. On the night of the 22nd, he (witness) was concealed in the room occupied by Patterson, Bristow, Saul and Watt. Heard the three first named come in. All were drunk. Watt was upstairs, and Saul went upstairs to bring him down, as he was afraid, he said, that "Some one would get hold of him." When Watt was brought down stairs Saul said to him "You'll be giving the whole d—n deal away." Watt replied, "I'm too smart for that; I'll have McQuillon in jail to-night."

To Mr. Drake—I concealed myself in the room as I had been engaged by friends of the prisoner to find out anything I could about the case.

Charles T. Haslam, sworn, stated that Saul had informed him that he left Germany on account of having struck an officer of the regiment to which he belonged, with a sword. Tenasse Joe was working on McQuillon's ranch on the 12th of July.

To Mr. Drake—Saw Saul and Joe on the 14th. Did not see McQuillon that day. Did not see the fire.

To a juror—Saul and Indian Joe and his klootchman were all living together.

Tenasse Joe deposed that he worked for Mr. Leeson for a while last summer. Remembered when Mr. Leeson went to Englishman's river for cattle. When he came back he (Mr. Leeson) asked witness if Saul was home. Told him no. Saul went away from McQuillon's on Saturday at six o'clock. Saw the smoke on the same day that he was talking to Mr. Leeson.

On the conclusion of the evidence of this witness, a juror requested permission to retire.

His lordship replied that it was strange to him that men when they got on a jury couldn't sit still for half an hour. They could sit for hours at the play, or they would sit for hours to watch a game of baseball, but as soon as they got on a jury they became just like a lot of little boys at school, with their "please may I go out."

The court was adjourned for one hour and a half.

Court resumed at 7 p.m.

W. P. Sayward, sworn, said that Frank McQuillon was still in charge of his store at Alberni.

Mr. Eberts here rested the case for the defence, and briefly addressed the jury.

Mr. Drake, having summed up for the Crown, his Lordship charged the jury, and they retired to consider their verdict at 8:30 p.m.

The jury returned in ten minutes with a verdict of "Not Guilty."

The jury was then dismissed, to meet again when called on.

### Big Strike in McKeesport.

PITTSBURG, May 16.—Two thousand men employed in the National Tube Works at McKeesport struck to-day for a 10 per cent. advance in wages. About 6,000 more of the company's employees threaten to join the strikers.

## CABLE NEWS.

### Rochefort Bound Over to Keep the Peace.

### The Strike of Coal Miners in Westphalia to be Renewed.

### Proprietor of the Field Club Fined $500—Naval Defence Bill Passed—Collision in the Channel.

#### The Regent Street Episode.

LONDON, May 20.—The encounter between M. M. Rochefort and Pilotel on Regent street last Saturday evening, is the sensation of the hour. Both gentlemen have been besieged by interviewers to-day and their statements concerning the affair are widely at variance with one another. M. M. Rochefort gave the following version of it: "I was walking along Regent street about seven o'clock Saturday when suddenly I saw Pilotel walking towards me. He stopped in front of me and struck a pugilistic attitude, at the same time threatening to "punch" my head. Pilotel continued his threatening language, and merely for the purpose of frightening him I drew a revolver and pointed it at him. The pistol was in a leather case, tightly clasped so that I could not possibly have fired it had I wished to do so. When Pilotel saw the harmless weapon he dropped his hands and ran away, bellowing "murder." In spite of the serious view taken of the affair by the police and bystanders they could not control their laughter at the fellow's cowardice any more than they could conceal their contempt for his conduct." The version given by M. Pilotel denies in almost every part the statement of Rochfort. He insists that the pistol was not only without a cover, but that it was cocked. M. Pilotel indignantly denies that he ran away, and strictly speaking, he did not, for he had scarcely turned his back upon his antagonist and started to run when he was seized by the police. Belief is general that the magistrate before whom the two will be brought to-morrow will treat both prisoners, and especially Rochefort, with all the severity warranted by the circumstances.

#### Rochefort Bound Over.

LONDON, May 21.—Rochefort, who was arrested Saturday on a charge of assaulting Pilotel, was arraigned in the police court this morning and bound over to keep the peace for six months.

#### O'Brien Before the Commission.

LONDON, May 21.—O'Brien testified before the Parnell commission. The fact that his testimony was to be given, drew crowds to the court. Witness was listened to with great attention. Owing to Mr. O'Brien's weak condition, the result of his long imprisonment, he was allowed to remain seated. In a low, weak voice, which it was difficult to hear beyond the counsel's table, witness gave a detailed account of the agrarian outrages perpetrated in the county Tipperary, prior to the formation of the national league in that district. The league, said the witness, after it was established prevented a wholesale famine and fearful war in western Ireland in 1879. The witness declared no murders had been committed in Tipperary since the league formed a branch there. Mr. O'Brien described the wretched condition of the people in Tipperary and other counties prior to the formation of the National League. The poor tenants were in debt up to their necks, and had absolutely no redress against oppressive and brutal landlords. Witness said the trouble that came on after 1870 arose from a universal movement made by the landlords to take advantage of the "two years" clause allowed by the act of 1870, to get rid of small tenants and thus save paying them the compensation due them. The witness described the condition of County Mayo at the time that Mitchael Davitt formed a branch of the league there as appalling. "Wholesale famine and bankruptcy seemed inevitable," said he, "the farmers sold everything at a dead loss, and the landlords did not lift a hand to help them, but on the contrary denied that any distress existed."

#### The Naval Defence Bill Passed.

LONDON, May 20.—The naval defence bill passed the third reading in the House of Commons to-night by a vote of 183 to 101.

#### Closed on Sunday.

PARIS, May 20.—Parisians are greatly annoyed at the fact that the American and part of the British section of the exhibition was closed on Sunday.

#### The Great Strike Ended.

BERLIN, May 20.—The striking miners of Westphalia will resume work tomorrow at increased wages, and the strike is therefore over. The strikers' committee, however, will remain on permanent watch to see that the agreements of the employers are carried out, and the strike will be renewed if faith is not kept.

#### The Old and the New.

PARIS, May 21.—Ex-Minister McLane was received by President Carnot. Mr. McLane presented his letters of recall. The President will receive Mr. Reid, the new minister, to-morrow.

#### The Shah in Russia.

ST. PETERSBURG, May 21.—The Shah arrived to-day at Rostar, where he was received by the military and the city authorities of St. Petersburg. It is expected that the Czar will meet the Shah of Persia when he arrives at a place just outside the city limits and will conduct the visiting monarch to the Gatschina Palace. The former plans of giving the Shah a grand reception at St. Petersburg have been abandoned, owing to the fear of Nihilistic plots.

#### The Raid on the Clubs.

LONDON, May 21.—Further hearing was given to-day to the case of the persons arrested at the Field Club for gambling last week. Mr. Seaton, the proprietor of the club, was fined £500. The others were discharged. It is denied that the mother of Lord Dudley, who was among those arrested, gave the police the information which led to the raid. The authorities aae determined to suppress the numerous gambling clubs of London.

#### The Primrose League.

LONDON, May 21.—In an address before the Primrose League to-day Lord Salisbury declared that the alliance between the Gladstonians and Parnellites was slowly but steadily breaking. The Primrose League was destroying the professional politicians and increasing the security of the country.

#### Collision in the Channel.

LONDON, May 21.—The steamers Beresford, bound for Hartlepool, and the German Emperor, for London, collided in the channel this morning, and the German Emperor sank, but the Beresford succeeded in keeping afloat, and made for Gravesend, where she arrived in a damaged condition. She has on board twenty-two of her own crew and twelve of the crew of the German Emperor. Six men belonging to the latter are missing. The rest were saved.

#### Government of Samoa.

LONDON, May 21.—The Post's Berlin correspondent says that the chief points of the final protocole of the Samoan conference are: First, the government of Samoa to be arranged upon a tri-parti basis, England being accorded a position similar to that of arbitration. The second point of importance is that dealing with the land commission. England will have a large influence in the appointment of a supreme judicial functionary.

#### Floods in Bohemia.

LONDON, May 21.—Details of the floods in Bohemia are now coming in, and confirm the worst reports received. The country in the vicinity of Pilien is one vast lake, and the crops are hopelessly ruined.

#### The Miners Resume Work.

BERLIN, May 21.—The striking miners of Dartmund, Bochum and Esser have resumed work.

#### A Hitch in the Conference.

LONDON, May 21.—Dispatches from Berlin state that the negotiations of the Samoan commissioners have received a check, owing to the United States delegates insisting upon the restoration of Malietoa as king. This proposition is objected to by the German delegates.

#### The Prussian Strikes Renewed.

BERLIN, May 21.—The Dortmund miners have represented to the strikers' committee that the mining managers are not fulfilling the promises lately made to the miners as an inducement for them to resume work. The committee has therefore ordered the strikes to be generally renewed. An immense meeting of miners was convened by the committee this afternoon.

#### The Irish Viceroyalip.

DONDON, May 21.—A meeting of unionists peers and members of the commons held to-night adopted a memorial to government requesting the abolition of the office of Viceroy to Ireland, and the transfer of the functions of that office to the secretary of state. The memorial also asks that a royal residence be maintained in Dublin.

## UNDULY ALARMED.

### 'Frisco Journals Protesting Against Esquimalt's Fort.

### The "Chronicle" Proposes to Meet Cannon With Cannon.

### The "Call" Talks About the Treasury Surplus and Enlisting All the Able Men for a War.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 20.—Two morning papers have editorials on the despatch from London giving the debate in the House of Lords upon the defences of Esquimalt, at the southern extremity of Vancouver Island. The Chronicle says: "We are certainly quite as much interested in the Straits of Juan de Fuca as Great Britain and Canada can be, and if the British fort at or near Esquimalt can command those straits, Puget Sound will become a close sea in the strictest sense of the term should we ever have war with Great Britain. Is it our place to sit quietly by and see a foreign nation fortify its frontiers without taking steps to meet fortifications with fortifications, and cannon with cannon. If it is necessary for Great Britain to fortify, is it not equally necessary for us to do the same thing." The Call says: "The Esquimalt fortifications are intended for service against the United States. They cannot be used against any other nation, and they are naturally an invitation to and a provocation of war. It is a good time, now that we have a cash surplus in the treasury, and that there are men in our great cities, who would like no better employment than enlisting for a war, to ask our ally and neighbor whether these works at Esquimalt are not really intended to do us a mischief some day; and if they are, whether wise foresight does not require that we should protest against their further construction.

## CAPITAL NOTES.

### Royal Marine Artillery En Route to Victoria.

### New Rules and Regulations for Steamboat Boilers.

### Tenders to Be Invited for New Public Buildings at Vancouver—Thos. Skinner Coming to B. C.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, May 21.—It is understood a despatch has just been received from the Imperial authorities relative to the fortifications at Esquimalt now under consideration by the government. The corps of Royal Marine Artillery is actually en route, but the Dominion government will not have to pay for their maintenance.

The department of public works intend to call for tenders for the new public building at Vancouver forthwith.

The board of steamboat inspectors is drafting new rules and regulations relative to the inspection of boilers on steamers.

Thos. Skinner, proprietor of the London Canadian Gazette, the new director of the Canadian Pacific, is here to-day. He will visit the Pacific Coast in company with Van Horne.

## ESQUIMALT'S FORTIFICATIONS.

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer publishes the following telegram from Ottawa: "The Canadian Government has received a cablegram from the Imperial authorities, stating that work on the Pacific coast defences will be begun this summer. The home government has always been keenly alive to the importance of the fortification of the Pacific coast, especially at or about Esquimalt, the terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railway, as well as the arsenal of the British navy on the Pacific coast. Last year the British Admiralty detailed an officer to make a careful examination of the coast of British Columbia between Vancouver and Esquimalt, with the object of deciding upon sites for the erection of batteries commanding the entrance to Puget sound and protecting Esquimalt. Recommendations were made, but nothing was done until lately, when the British Government, stirred up to activity by the renewal of negotiations by the government at Washington regarding the Behring's sea question, decided that work on the coast defence should be begun at once.

Hon. G. E. Foster, minister of finance, speaking to a reporter to-day regarding a statement published in a San Francisco paper to the effect that the British government was contemplating a scheme for the transformation of the entrance of Puget Sound into a second Gibraltar, said the expression, "a second Gibraltar," was too strong, but it was the intention of the Canadian and Imperial authorities to make great improvements in the defences of the Pacific seaboard ports, especially Esquimalt.

"If the Americans object," he said, "to our establishing batteries commanding the entrance to Puget Sound, why let them build forts on the opposite side of the straits."

## CANADIAN NEWS.

### Monument to Major Short and Sergt. Wallack.

### Loss of Two French Fishing Vessels with All on Board.

### The Railway Portfolio Not for Chapleau—An Impudent Robber—Sultry Weather in Montreal.

#### A Cool Robber.

MONTREAL, May 21.—While the clerk of a wholesale firm was trying to make a deposit in the Bank of Montreal this afternoon, a stranger approached him and asked if a two dollar bill in his hand was good. The clerk looked at it, and when he turned round again he found all his money and cheques, which were to be deposited, had disappeared, only his bank book being left. Over $3,300 was taken; but as $2,000 was in cheques, payable to the bank, the loss will be about $1,300. No clue to the robbers.

#### No Chance for Chapleau.

MONTREAL, May 21.—A politician stated this morning that there is no chance for the Hon. Mr. Chapleau to get the portfolio of Minister of Railways, as his English-speaking colleagues will not allow a department commanding so much patronage to pass into the hands of a Quebec French minister, especially when the portfolios of public works and militia are already in the hands of two French ministers from this province. "The only reason," added this gentleman, why the late Hon. Mr. Pope was allowed to keep the portfolio, although representing Quebec, was because he was English-speaking."

#### The New Postal Arrangements.

MONTREAL, May 21.—The new postal arrangements have now been in force for a week. The post office authorities say the only effect has been to largely increase the sale of postal cards, also the number of letters sent to the dead letter office, which have been insufficiently stamped and refused at the addresses to which they were directed. The registration fee of 5 cents has not so far caused any reduction in the number of letters registered.

#### Heiress to Millions.

MONTREAL, Que., May 21.—French society is excited by the news that Mrs. Hortense Leduc, of this city, has fallen heir to over $4,000,000 by the death of a French merchant. Mrs. Leduc was born in Montreal, and is well known in musical circles. She married F. Jehin Frumme, a Belgian violinist, from whom she has been divorced, reports say, owing to her fall from grace. She went to Europe, and there met Mr. Hedall, who took her under his protection, and it is from him that she got her millions.

#### Sultry Weather.

MONTREAL, May 21.—According to the observatory returns, Saturday was the warmest May day in 15 years. The temperature was 88 against 84 on May 21st of last year, and 61 in 1881. During the whole of last summer the thermometer only went one degree higher than Saturday.

#### Dissatisfied.

MONTREAL, May 21.—The Irish Catholics are beginning to grumble at their lack of representation in the Mercier cabinet, and there is talk of a lively agitation to remedy the evil.

#### The Recent Quebec Fire.

QUEBEC, May 21.—Several temporary buildings are going up in the burned district of St. Sauveur. A effort is being made to prevent as far as possible the erection of wooden structures. No assistance towards re-building will be given by the relief committee if wood is used. Nine hundred dollars have been subscribed for the sufferers by the Banque Nationale.

#### Monument to the Dead Heroes.

QTREEC, May 21.—Opinion is general that a monument will be raised to the memory of Major Short and Sergt. Wallack. Capt. Bernier, in whose building they met their end, is anxious to give the piece of land where they lost their lives for the monument.

#### Went Ashore in a Fog.

QUEBEC, May 41.—The Donaldson steamship "Escarlora," from the Mediterranean, left here last night for Montreal. She went ashore in a fog, and is in a bad position. She is full of water and may be a total loss.

#### Fishing Vessels Lost.

HALIFAX, N. S., May 21.—A cablegram from St. Pierre, Migeton, states that two French fishing vessels, the Elk and Four Brothers, which left France some time ago for the Newfoundland fishing grounds, with 175 men aboard, have been lost and all hands drowned.

## CENTRAL AMERICA.

### Renewed Interest in the Nicaragua Canal—Steamship Line Between Valparaiso and British Columbia—The Nicaragua Railway Project Well in Hand—Reports of Yellow Fever Pronounced to be False.

SAN JOSE DEL COSTA RICA, May 20.—With the stoppage of work on the Panama canal, public interest in the Central American states is turning to other schemes for uniting the two oceans, and especially to the Nicaragua project.

The initial number of the El Canal De Centro Americ, a daily journal, made its appearance yesterday. It champions the cause of Central American union; is jubilant over the prospects of the Nicaragua canal being constructed, and urges submission of all questions in dispute between Costa Rica and her sister republics to the President of the United States of America for settlement. It is published as the organ of the liberal party. Many believe its leading articles are inspired, if not actually written, by Don Ascension Esquivel, the acting-president of the republic, recently called to serve out the unexpired term of General De Solo, and the unusually bold and independent manner in which they treat of public questions is significant.

As northern influence begins to loom up, the British push their commercial interests with increasing vigor.

It is announced that the Anglo-Japan steamship company will shortly put on a line of steamers to run between Valparaiso, Callao, Panama, the west coast of Central America, San Francisco and British Columbia, connecting with the Canadian Pacific railway. The company are anxious to secure a line promising faster and cheaper transportation facilities than now received at the hands of the Pacific Mail company. Several of the Central American Republics have already made liberal concessions to the new line.

A special engineer of the River Plate Loan and Trust company of London and Buenos Ayres, is here, charged with making a thorough study of the country and its resources in view of a financial backing which his company contemplate rendering Minor Keith's Nicaragua railway enterprise, work upon which will begin at an early day.

Reports sent out of Panama of the prevalence of yellow fever and small pox in Central America are pronounced false by the press, the authorities and the medical faculty.

H. R. H. Princess Beatrice has given birth to a son.

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