The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

FORTY-SECOND YEAR. THE VICTORIA SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 1899. VOLUME XLIII—NO. 21

PLEA FOR THE FORESTS

Joint Commission at Washington Urged to Take Action for Their Preservation.

Lumber and Paper Industries and Fire Ravages Giving Them Too Quick Despatch.

General Public Interest Demands Some Present Action in the Matter.

By Associated Press.

New York, Jan. 24.—The American newspaper publishers' association have prepared a brief looking to the preservation of the forests, which will be presented to the joint high commission for the adjustment of questions between the United States and Canada, and of which the following is an abstract:

"We desire to direct the attention of the American members of the joint high commission to the urgency of a policy which shall protect and preserve our forests. The best authority in the United States on this subject says the denudation of our forests by pulp mills and saw mills in the four states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and New York is progressing at the rate of 1,700 square miles per annum. The chief bureau of forestry of the department of agriculture at Washington calculates that forest fires are causing an annual loss of $20,000,000. In considering the lumber problem, spruce wood constitutes a most important factor. There is no available spruce in the United States west of New York, except a limited amount in West Virginia, a patch of 50,000 acres in Michigan owned by the Niagara paper mills, and a similar area in Wisconsin. It is therefore fair to consider the question of preserving the spruce forests as applying mainly to New England and New York. In Maine there are 420 timber townships, but all of the townships accessible to large rivers are entirely denuded of their valuable timber. In New Hampshire at the present rate of cutting, the state forestry commission has said that the entire forest resources would be exhausted in 12 years. Others have fixed eight years. Lumbermen in that state cut everything down to six inches at the stump, so that there is no reproduction by growth. Vermont has already reached a point where it can barely supply its home demand.

"The state of New York by constitutional amendments has prohibited the cutting of timber of any kind in a territory covering 40,000 square miles, setting aside the Adirondacks park, which contains 2,807,760 out of 3,588,803 acres of the available spruce area in the state. An appropriation of one and a half million dollars has been made recently for the acquirement of additional forests.

"Forestry associations have been organized in the states of New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Colorado, Ohio, Kentucky, Minnesota, Texas, North Dakota, Wisconsin and South Carolina, and forestry commissions have been established in Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Colorado, California and Wisconsin. There are now thirty forest reservations, embracing an area of 62,000 square miles and extending over large portions of thirteen states and territories.

Three commission sin New Hampshire have reported that the present methods of lumbering if continued will entail baleful scenic, climatic and economic results, injuring health, property and occupation of all citizens, impairing the industrial development of the state and rendering intermittent the flow of the rivers, which are most important to agriculture and manufacture.

"The interests of the public generally as distinguished from those of a class—lumbermen—require the conservation of the forest resources. In view of these serious aspects of the situation we are confident that an enlightened self-interest will impel the treaty makers in dealing with Canada to follow that provident policy which shall keep our future wants in view and which shall not put a premium upon the destruction of great national treasures.

"The present wasteful methods will inflict upon the agricultural interests of the country an injury which will be felt in every part and which in the mountainous regions threatens to become disastrous and irremediable."

TO QUESTION DREYFUS.

Esterhazy's Statements to Be Submitted to the Exile in His Lonely Prison.

London, Jan. 24.—The Daily Telegraph publishes the following despatch from Cayenne, French Guiana:

"Fresh instructions to interrogate Dreyfus respecting the deposition of Count Esterhazy have been received here, in consequence of which the procurator has started for the Ile du Diable.

"The procurator says he has urged and is still urging that Dreyfus be allowed to return to France in consequence of the difficulty of replying by cable."

BROKERS' PROFITS.

They Are High in Montreal as Evidenced by Price of Seats.

Montreal, Jan. 25.—(Special)—A seat on the Montreal stock exchange board sold to-day at $10,000. J. Reid, of Meredith & Co., was the purchaser, and the seller was Barclay Stephens, of the Western Trust and Loan Co. The last seat sold at $6,700.

POLAR NAVIGATION.

Important Discovery Made by Two Long Lost Russian Engineers.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 24.—The Moscow engineers Oldendorf and Tokarioff, supposed to have perished while exploring the Polar coasts, have returned to Moscow.

They were sent out by the managers of the Moscow and Archangel railway with a view of discovering a place for extended navigation. While exploring the coasts of Mozon bay in the White Sea, about 150 miles northeast of Archangel, they found not only a place where navigation is open for more than four months of the year, but also discovered that owing to the flow of the Klui river into Mozon bay it is ice free throughout the year.

The shell fisheries have long availed themselves of this fact to reach the Polar sea.

MANITOBA AND NORTHWEST.

Ontario Man Killed in the Woods—Canadian Foresters High Court—Liberal Missionary Coming.

Winnipeg, Jan. 25.—(Special)—Arch. McPhail, a prominent farmer north of Brandon, has received word that his bother-in-law, Geo. Hart, has been killed and the body is at Dauphin. The deceased left here to work in the woods some time ago, and this is the first tidings his relatives have had from him. The young man leaves a wife and family in Ontario.

W. T. R. Preston, of Toronto, the new immigration agent, is here en route to the Pacific coast.

Wm. Mackenzie, the well known Toronto railway magnate, arrived from the East this morning.

The eighth annual session of the district high court of Manitoba, Northwest Territories and British Columbia of the Canadian Order of Foresters, is in session here. High Chief Ranger Elliott, of Ingersoll, Ont., is attending.

STEAMER ON THE ROCKS.

One of Fall River Fleet Comes to Grief in a Fog.

New York, Jan. 24.—The steamer Pilgrim, one of the queens of the Fall River fleet, which left this city this evening, ran on the rocks off Port Morris during a fog. At midnight she was still there. She was loaded to her full capacity with freight and carried a large passenger list.

NEWS OF THE CAPITAL.

Advisory Board Prepare Scheme for Canadian Display at the Paris Exhibition.

Lord Herschell Booked for Home—Gentlemen's Furnishings Store on Fire.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Jan. 24.—The department of trade and commerce has been advised that the ship Arcadia which left Quebec in September with the Canadian exhibit for the South African exhibition at Grahamstown, reached Capetown only last Thursday.

An order-in-council has been passed promoting Major Pinault, deputy minister of militia, to be lieutenant colonel.

Representatives of leading transportation lines met here to-day to fix summer rates.

Lord Herschell has taken passage for England for February 8.

Beament & Johnson's gents' furnishing store was badly damaged by fire originating in the basement this morning. Pittaway's photograph gallery above was also damaged by smoke and water. The loss is covered by insurance.

The advisory board in connection with the Canadian exhibit at Paris has concluded its preliminary sitting. Minister Fisher says the total space allotted to Canada is 40,000 feet, of which 15,000 is in the main building and 25,000 in the colonial building. All the space allotted must be paid for in the main building at 7s. 6d. per square foot, and in the colonial building at 10s. per square foot. These sums are not imposed by the French commissioners, but by the representatives of Great Britain, which country will supply all fittings, motive power, etc., to British exhibitors. The colonial building will be specially erected for the purpose and as other colonies are not taking an active part Canada probably will have the building entirely to herself. The total space allotted to Great Britain, including Canada, is 390,000 feet. The idea in arranging the Dominion exhibit is to make it purely Canadian. Hence there will be no provincial exhibits as such, but provincial governments will be asked to co-operate and to supply an educational display. A peculiarity of the coming exhibition is its division into classes, 120 in number. In one section therefore Canada's exhibits may be side by side with those of France, Austria or the States. It is proposed to make a splendid agricultural and mining display. Dr. Dawson has charge of the latter.

THE PRICE OF MEAT.

Prussian Citizens Complain if It and Ask Greater Freedom of Importation.

Berlin, Jan. 24.—At a convention of delegates from the cities of North Prussia, in session here to-day, the question of high prices and insufficient supply of meat was under consideration. The delegates unanimously agreed that there was serious reason for complaint as statistics for 50 cities showed conclusively the shortage and the high rates.

A resolution was adopted asking the government to relax generally its strict policy of meat exclusion and particularly in the case of countries where cattle disease was not prevalent.

WEST INDIES BANKRUPT.

Such Is Reported to Be the Condition of the Colonial Finances.

London, Jan. 24.—An official circular has been issued containing the report of the West Indies commission from Jamaica to Colonial Secretary Chamberlain. It estimates that the deficit at the end of March will be £172,000.

The commission regards the situation as extremely critical, and expresses the opinion that unless the revenue is greatly increased and the expenditure largely reduced, the colony will shortly be unable to meet its liabilities. The circular adds that Mr. Chamberlain informed the commission that negotiations for the conclusion of a reciprocity treaty between the British West Indies and the United States were in progress, but that he could express no opinion as to the prospects of their success.

A NEW WAR AT HAND

Thirty Thousand Filipinos Under Arms and Ready to Commence Hostilities.

President's Commission Regarded as a Ruse to Gain Time for Gathering Forces.

Aguinaldo Proclaims His Republic and Sets Free All the Spanish Prisoners.

By Associated Press.

London, Jan. 24.—The Filipino junta here to-day received a cable message from Agonicillo, Aguinaldo's representative at Washington, declaring that the prospects were improving though the work was difficult.

The absence of direct news from Manila and the receipt of secret intelligence from Washington is causing the gravest anxiety among the Filipinos here. The arrest of Filipinos by Major General Otis and the news that numbers of Filipinos have fled are regarded as most serious occurrences. It is pointed out by the Filipinos that this is exactly what happened in 1896 under General Blanco, when the Filipinos on the following day attacked the Spaniards and the revolution broke out. The members of the Filipino junta in this city say they are so anxious to avert war that they cabled to Manila to-day urging the Filipinos "not to start hostilities if there is the remotest possibility of averting trouble."

New York, Jan. 24.—A despatch to the Herald from Manila says: Aguinaldo proclaimed the Philippine republic at Malolos yesterday. There was no public demonstration at Manila.

"The Spanish civil prisoners are to be set free by the insurgents.

"The rival native authorities at Zebu are reported to be fighting and the town is endangered.

"Aguinaldo's government cannot maintain order in the interior of Luzon, and native authorities are often murdered. If Aguinaldo commences hostilities against the Americans the northern provinces will probably attempt to shake off the yoke."

Manila, Jan. 24.—The Independencia to-day issued a supplement containing a despatch purporting to come from Malolos, the seat of the rebel government. It comments upon the appointment of the commission and says: "The Filipinos naturally suspect this is a new attempt to humbug. The Filipinos are disillusioned. They believe the commission is a ruse to gain time, till the Americans have accumulated formidable forces, when, America, abusing her strength, will begin a war to ratify her sovereignty."

Reports from the interior indicate that Aguinaldo's authority is now generally recognized. Every available male is being recruited and depots are being established at large towns. The surrounding country is being levied on for supplies and the Filipino troops are living on the fat of the land while the native villagers are compelled to subsist on rice. It is estimated that there are fully 30,000 Filipinos under arms and it is said that there are nearly 50 Maxim guns at Malolos, some of them having been recently acquired. The Filipino military authorities are convinced, they say, that the Americans will be unable to work effectively outside of Manila in the event of hostilities, hence they feel confidence in the future. Many of the Filipino officers complain of alleged discourteous treatment upon the part of Americans at Manila.

Madrid, Jan. 24.—The minister of war, Gen. Correa, received a cable despatch to-day from Gen. Rios, the Spanish commander in the Philippines, announcing that all the sick and maimed civil and military prisoners were released by the Filipinos to-day.

Hongkong, Jan. 24.—The members of the Filipino junta here have issued the following statement: "The purchase by the American authorities at Hongkong of a number of steam launches for river work in the Philippines is high handed, unnecessary and vexatious.

"Domiciliary visits throughout Manila are exasperating the Filipinos. Their suspicions are arousued by such actions. The arrival of thousands of reinforcements is incompatible with peace and the appointment of a commission is only a pretext to gain time.

"The American secret police is acting offensively toward the Filipinos at Hongkong, who are British subjects.

"The Filipino congress at Malolos has unanimously vetoed annexation."

VANCOUVER AND VICINITY.

Cause of Trouble at Cranbrook—School Board Raises Head Teachers' Salaries.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, Jan. 25.—The police are driving a great number of vagrants out of the city.

Bullock Webster, provincial constable, returned from Crow's Nest pass to-day. He reports that the trouble which caused his visit was a delay in paying off men, who were kept six days in Cranbrook, and becoming restive, made threats.

The school board to-day decided to appoint eight new teachers and raised the salaries of principals and first and second assistants. There is no change in third assistants' salaries.

H. J. Forrest of the C.P.R. freight department has resigned his position.

The 140th anniversary of Robt. Burns was celebrated by a supper at the Metropolitan hotel to-night.

The opening of the Conservative rooms on Westminster avenue will take place on Thursday evening. The speakers will be C. Wilson, Q.C.; Dr. Wilson, Mayor Garden, G. A. Walkem and Angus McAllister.

Mr. Tyrrell, government geologist, is en route North from Vancouver.

The Norwegian ship Ragnar is loading lumber at Moodyville mills.

Another packed house greeted the Grau opera company last night, the performance being more pleasing than on the first night, and Manager Jamieson is all smiles and good nature. For the first time since its history the opera house is a paying venture. There is a lot in good management. Before the company arrived every seat was sold for six days in advance.

Ernest Howison, a native of Maple Ridge, died yesterday. He was 22 years of age and very much liked in Westminster.

Jim Lee, a Chinaman, returned to Westminster to-day with $12,000 in nuggets, the result of twelve months' work in the Omineca river. Prospectors returning from Omineca say that numerous Chinamen have made big hauls in the country.

NOTES FROM THE CAPITAL.

Paris Exhibits to Be Taken at Government Expense—Minister Fisher to Be Banquetted.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Jan. 25.—To-day's militia orders give new commanding officers to five Ontario battalions, the 10th, 27th, 29th, 41st and 56th.

The Dominion government will defray all expenses of Canadian exhibits at Paris from the port of shipment and return to such ports. All expenses at Paris also will be paid except actual space charges.

The special trains with the Doukhobors on board passed through Ottawa this morning. They got a new supply of provisions here.

Mr. Fisher will be banquetted at Waterloo to-morrow. Several ministers will attend.

SHARP SHIP BROKERS.

Took American Money for Colliers and Delayed Delivery Until Neutrality Prevented.

Now Sued in London for Return of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollar Deposit.

Claim That They Could Not Get Ships Ready in Four Days Available.

By Associated Press.

London' Jan. 25.—In the Queen's bench division of the high court of justice today, the trial began of the suit of the United States against elly Bros., ship brokers, for the recovery of £5,300, paid them on April 21, 1898, on two 600-ton colliers by Lieut. Sims, then acting naval attache of the United States embassy here.

Lieut. Sims testified that the ship brokers signed a contract at midnight on April 21 to deliver the colliers for £53,000. He added that the contract stipulated that they were to be delivered as soon as possible, and said the ship brokers promised verbally that one of them was to be ready to sail in 24 hours and the other in 48 hours. The Lieutenant gave them a cheque for £5,300 at midnight, but they failed to deliver the ships before the neutrality proclamation of April 26, and claimed they were unable to get the colliers ready in that time. Lieut. Sims said the cheque beat the records in going through the clearing house, as the brokers secured the money at noon on the morrow, intimating that when they cashed the check they were expecting war, and they did not intend to deliver the boats. Sims further testified that the colliers were to have joined the United States fleet at Key West.

Expert shipmen testified that the colliers could have been ready to sail in the promised time. The defence to-morrow will be that the brokers were unable to fit out the ships before war was declared.

LADY DRUMMOND WANTED.

She Married Heir to Earldom but Had a Hard Time in New York.

London, Jan. 24.—The romance of the earldom of Perth has been revived by an inquiry for Lady Drummond, in connection with certain property left by her second cousin, Mrs. Mary Cowdry of Peabody avenue, West London.

Lady Drummond, now Mrs. Masters, was a governess in a viscount's family when she eloped with a son of Lord Drummond, who was heir to the earldom of Perth. They went to New Ylork, where young Drummond was employed at manuel labor. A daughter was born to her. When the father died Lady Drummond was a waitress in an ice-cream saloon on 8th avenue. The widow married a Mr. Masters, and when last heard from they intended to go south or to California.

SPAIN'S DESPISED COLONISTS.

Americans Have Spoiled Them Already by Condescending to Argue the Point.

Madrid, Jan. 24.—A distinguished general who was formerly governor of the Philippines has been dilating, in the course of an interview, upon the difficulties the Americans must experience there. He admitted that Spain would have required an army of 100,000 men an expenditure of £40,000 to conquer the Philippines, but the American commander, he insisted, had committed an irreparable mistake in parleying and humoring the rebels, thus seriously damaging the prestige of the whites by teaching the natives that they could dispute and despise a supremacy which had never heretofore been challenged.

MYSTERIOUS BILLY WINS.

New York, Jan. 24.—At the Lenox athletic club to-night Mysterious Billy Smith met and defeated Billy Edwards of Australia in 14 rounds of hard fighting.

EXPANSION MEANS RUIN

Democrat in Congress Finds Courage to Stoutly Oppose the Popular Movement.

Champions of President's Policy Decline to Forecast Destiny of the Philippines.

Aguinaldo's Representative Demands Purpose of Troops' Move to the Islands.

By Associated Press.

Washington, Jan. 25.—Not since the stirring days before the declaration of war last spring has the house witnessed such an exhibition of excitement and scenes of unbounded enthusiasm as occurred to-day when two Republicans, Mr. Johnson of Indiana and Mr. Dolliver of Iowa, locked horns on the question of expansion. The army bill, which was under debate, was swallowed in the broader question of future national policy.

Mr. Johnson secured time from the Democratic side to attack the position of the administration. It was not the first time he has broken away from his party on public questions. He denounced the proposition to annex the Philippines as subversive of every tradition dear to the American heart in the past and the inauguration of a policy that would end in the downfall of the republic. He said the ratification of the treaty by the senate would sound the death knell of all the efforts of those who were trying to prevent the country from rushing on to suicide, and declared if he were a senator he would rot in his seat before it should be ratified. He denounced the President as the slavish follower of public opinion but he warned him that the tide would recede and the voice of the people would in time rebuke him.

When he had finished Mr. Dolliver came to the defence of the administration. He described how the President had been fairly driven into war by those who now sought to embarrass him before peace was definitely obtained, and his eulogy of the President patiently meeting all the perplexing problems which beset him as the great events of the last year moved on, aroused his side and the galleries to cheers.

The highest pitch of excitement was reached when Mr. Johnson and Mr. Dolliver got to close quarters towards the end of the latter's speech. Mr. Johnson pressed the defender of the administration to disclose the President's ultimate purpose regarding the Philippines, but Mr. Dolliver for some time adroitly evaded a direct response. At last he contented himself with declaring that this was not the point at issue, that the first thing was to end the war by ratifying this treaty. The future of the Philippines was a question for the future.

Washington, Jan. 25.—The presentation to the state department yesterday of the communication from Agoncillo, Aguinaldo's representative as he styles himself, has not changed the attitude of the department towards him and there is not the slightest probability that he will be officially recognized by the President or by the department. It is conceded that the document is cleverly phrased with the intention to put the United States government in the wrong in the estimation of the world, and it is suspected from the half concealed arrogance of the demand to be informed of the purpose of the United States government in sending reinforcements to the Philippines that this communication may mark the adoption of a new line of policy by the insurgents in the Philippines. The first manifestation of this in case it be decided to resort to open hostilities probably will be the sudden departure of Agoncillo and his staff from Washington and from the limits of the United States.

B. C. DEVELOPMENT.

Statement Made to the Shareholders of the Association at Their Annual Meeting.

At the annual ordinary general meeting of the British Columbia Development Association (Ltd.) which was held at the London office lately, the chairman, Mr. R. Byron Johnson, in the course of his address to the shareholders stated the policy intended to be followed by the directors. From his address the following is taken:

We have in hand and unrealized the following property: (1) £10,000 six per cent. debentures in the White Pass Railway; (2) £53,000 shares in that company, which Messrs. Close Brothers and Co. have the option to redeem up to July 31 next for £26,500, and interest at 5 per cent.; (3) our interests in the land and wharf at Skagway; (4) £33,000 shares of the Incorporated Exploration Company of British Columbia. On the other side of the account we have our capital of £20,000 (which I presume everyone wishes to keep intact), and we owe our bankers and other creditors on the balance sheet about £2,500. The amount due to our bankers has been borrowed upon the personal security of the directors, who have not hesitated to go out of their way to give this guarantee for the benefit of the company, in order to supply the funds necessary for the completion and improvement of the wharf at Skagway. This, at any rate, can hardly be stigmatized as an ultra-conservative policy or as adverse to the shareholders. As stated in the report, a provisional agreement in regard to the wharf has been made with the railway company. This should give the practical monopoly of the whole wharf trade at Skagway into the hands of ourselves and our co-owner, Captain Moore; and when the spring traffic sets in we hope to receive large returns from this property. For some months in the spring of this year large receipts took place, but these were devoted by Captain Moore to extensions and improvements. Now, from the foregoing you will see that the cash balance against us being about £2,500, we have no funds in hand out of which to pay a further dividend until some of our assets can be realized; and we desire it to be understood that both now and in the future this board absolutely refuses to sanction the policy, which some of the shareholders would apparently like to see adopted, of paying dividends out of capital or borrowing money in order to pay dividends. We put our foot down firmly and say that so long as we remain on the board we will not sanction that policy. Let that be understood once and for all. Your directors are large shareholders. Amongst them they own about a fourth of the entire share capital of both classes of the company; and they would be quite as glad as any other shareholders to receive large dividends. Indeed, they have every expectation of doing so during next year, and very probably during the early months of it. Everything depends on the realization of our assets, and the amount of the yearly income which may in the future be derived from our investments. At present no income is derivable, except the interest we are receiving upon the £10,000 debentures and on the £26,500 not yet paid by Messrs. Close Brothers and Co. If those debentures can be sold at a fair price, or if the shares are redeemed, there will be, after paying the company's debts, and making due provision for maintaining its capital, a very large sum available for dividends.

THE CZAR'S PROJECT.

London, Jan. 25.—Russia, says the Rome correspondent of the Times, has spontaneously invited the Pope to send a representative to the forthcoming international conference on the limitation of armaments.

ANARCHIST PLOT.

Madrid, Jan. 24.—A report is in circulation that a serious anarchist plot has been frustrated, two foreign anarchists having been arrested but the rigor of censorship prevents the giving details.

LUMBER FOR A CLUB.

United States Millmen Confess That They Must Have Canadian Logs at Any Price.

Canadian Ministers Now Have Means of Procuring Concessions Hitherto Denied.

By Associated Press.

New York, Jan. 25.—A Washington despatch to the Sun says: "The rate of duty to be charged on Canadian lumber coming into the United States is said to be the principal thing now remaining to be settled by the Anglo-American commission. When it it disposed of, a speedy conclusion of the labors of the commission may be expected.

"A delegation of Michigan lumbermen reached Washington to-day and will go before the American commissioners tomorrow to urge them to agree to a compromise at the rate of $1 per thousand. One of them said: 'There are 27 mills on the eastern shore of Michigan with an average annual capacity of 20,000,000 feet of lumber. If some arrangement is not made by which they can secure logs from Canada they will have to close. Three-fourths of their product goes through planing mills and box factories, and these must close, of course, with the mills.

"'If the present condition continues nine months there will be a lumber panic in the United States, and prices will go up $4 per thousand. There are indications of it now. Buyers have been in Bay City recently looking for a certain grade and quality of stuff that has hitherto been obtainable in the usual methods, and could not find a carload of it in all the yards.'"

Washington, Jan. 25.—When the attention of Lord Herschell was called to an Ottawa despatch to the effect that he would sail for England February 8, he said it was his present intention to leave for England at that time. When asked if he thought it probable that the high joint commission would complete the work before it at that time, he said he hoped so, but did not make any definite statement. Sir Wilfrid Laurier had nothing to say. The statement was made a few days ago that the commissioners expected to finish their labors in about two weeks, and an intimation was made that an agreement would be reached. Upon the subject of an agreement Lord Herschell gave the answer that such was his hope.

TRAVELLING IN STATE.

U. S. Commisioners to Philippines Moving Westward in Private Car.

Toronto, Jan. 25.—Prof. Worcester, of the University of Ann Arbor, Mich., and one of the United States commissioners to determine the future of the Philippines, passed through the city to-day en route to Hongkong via the C.P.R. and steamers. Prof. Worcester will be joined at North Bay by Prof. Schurman, of Cornell University, another commissioner, and the two will travel across the continent in a private car.

THE ALIEN ACT AND THE SILVER-LEAD INDUSTRY.

From the Rossland Miner.

It is now a foregone conclusion that the Alien Miner's bill will be passed by the legislative assembly and will soon become law. The Miner is opposed to the measure, believing that it will operate against the permanent development of the more remote districts.

With aliens debarred from the right to locate placer claims in British Columbia, the number of gold-seekers from Seattle, Tacoma, Portland and San Francisco will be very greatly diminished. Another result will be the withdrawal of the numerous American passenger and freight steamers now plying on the northern coast route. There can be little doubt but that the effect of all this will be a severe blow to the trade of the American coast cities as far south as San Francisco.

Vancouver and Victoria will benefit in business to some extent in this restriction, but it is doubtful if this gain will compensate the province for the setback that must inevitably be experienced in the development and consequent permanent settlement of the mining districts.

If the government were really desirous of assisting the mining industry of this province, it should have taken cognizance of the present unfortunae condition of the silver-lead mines of British Columbia before introducing the Alien Miner's bill.

The British Columbia silver-lead industry is of infinitely greater importance than all the placer mining of Canada. A great effort is being made by the Canadian members of the High Joint Commission to assist this industry by endeavoring to have abolished the United States import duties on lead ore and lead bullion. The prospects of this being accomplished have never been very promising, but it can scarcely be calculated that the American members of the commission to acquiesce the more readily when they learn that the trade of the American Pacific coast has been severely effected by legislation of the very province that seeks concessions in United States lead duties.

The Miner suggests that the Alien Miners' Act be abolished, provided the United States will agree to admit the importation of Canadian lead ore and lead bullion free of duty. This is well worthy of the attention of the members of the High Joint Commission. The Canadian members of the commission may rest assured that our interests will in no way suffer from the repeal of the Alien way suffer from the repeal of the Alien Miners' Act, and the American commissioners should readily see the trade advantages from which their Pacific coast cities are deprived is worth more to them than the fostering of a lead trust.

LONDON BANK ROBBED.

London, Jan. 24.—Bank notes to the value of £60,610 have mysteriously disappeared from the Paris Bank, Limited, in Bartholomew lane, London. It is supposed that they have been stolen.

STARVED ON SHIPBOARD.

Forty-Seven Soldiers Die on Way Back to Spain—Others in Desperate Condition.

Madrid, Jan. 25.—The Reforma is making revelations concerning the abuses aboard the Spanish transatlantic steamers bringing troops back to Spain, which are exciting intense indignation throughout the kingdom.

Among other occurrences the paper tells of an incident on board the steamship Cachemiere, which has just arrived at Barcelona. The troops were so ill-provided with food that most of the time they were on the verge of starving. Unable to stand the situation any longer the famished men killed a bullock, the flesh of which they ate raw. After they had finished their meal they quietly returned to their quarters.

The Reforma says that forty-seven men died of starvation on the voyage and 124 others were landed at Barcelona in a critical condition from the same cause.

WHEN THE DAY IS DONE.

Murmur at nothing; if our ills are reparable, it is ungrateful; if remediless, it is vain.—Cotton.

Men possessing minds which are morose, solemn, and inflexible, enjoy in general, a greater share of dignity than of happiness.—Bacon.

We should often have reason to be ashamed of our most brilliant actions, if the world see the motive from which they spring.—La Rochefoucauld.

The little mind who loves itself will write and think with the vulgar; but the great mind will be bravely eccentric, and scorn the beaten road, from universal benevolence.—Goldsmith.

As small letters hurt the sight, so do small matters hurt him that is too much intent upon them; they vex and stir up anger, which begets an evil habit in him in reference to greater affairs.—Plutarch

PECULIAR AND PERTINENT.

Only one man in 203 is over six feet in height.

The average amount of sickness in human life is nine days out of the year.

It is estimated that about 2,000,000 bicycles have been made in Europe and America.

A healthy baby increases to treble its weight at birth in the course of the first three months.

Two thousand families, it has been calculated, are living in London on about $5 a week.

LIGHTS AND SIDELIGHTS.

An Arkansas farmer who was a delegate at a recent convention in Little Rock was greeted by a fellow-farmer and delegate the morning after his arrival and asked how he felt.

"Mighty poorly," was the reply; "didn't sleep a wink the whole night through."

"Why, what's was the matter?" asked the other.

"There was a goldarned light shinning right in my eyes all night long."

"Why didn't you get up and blow it out?"

"Blow it out?" was the reply. "How could I blow it out when the blamed thing was shut up in a bottle?"—New York Tribune.

"Have you met Mr. Woolly, the western millionaire?" asked the sharp-faced young lady.

"Oh, yes," replied the plum one; "he took me in to dinner at Mrs. Hytone's last night. He was quite gallant, and remarked upon my birdlike appetite."

"Indeed, dear! Well, he's a good judge. You know he runs an ostrich farm in California."—Catholic Standard and Truth.

His Suggestion.—Young Author—Well, how do you like my play? Have you any suggestion to make?

Manager—There is one suggestion I would like to make. Instead of having your hero lynched by a mob in the last act, I think it would be well to have the mob hang all the characters early in the opening scene.—Chicago News.

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