ZERS!
Artificial Manures
It will pay you to use them
ble garden or a few flowers.
r 100 lbs.
For list of testimonials and
Co., Limited,
OUTER WHARF.

ortment of
riggs & Co's
rden Seeds
Packages
s & Co.
sh Grocers.

S SAWS
FFICIAL CONTESTS,
ING!
JARANTEED!
ardware Co., Ltd.
Victoria, B. C.

RDEN TOOLS
BLE & SINGLE,
l Hoes, Horse Hoes,
Cultivators, &c.
O., LD TY.
Kamloops.

ear
ription
he Semi-
Colonist'
duced to
ar to all
the Post-

Mineral Output Of the Dominion

Summary For Last Year Just Issued By Geological Survey Department.

Gold Output Shows Falling Off Through Diminished Yukon Yield.

The mines department of the Geological Survey of Canada has just issued a pamphlet containing a summary of the mineral production of the Dominion for the year 1903. Elfire Drew Ingall, M. E., who is responsible for the compilation, says that "although the figures given herewith are, as stated, 'subject to revision,' they may sti l be taken as a very close approximation to those which will be given in the fina' report.

In his remarks accompanying the various tables the compiler says:

The main features presented by the mineral industry of Canada as a whole consists in the decrease in the grand total of production of a little over one per cent in comparison with the figures of 1902. A comparison of the items for the two years shows the reason for this falling off. The shrinkage in the production of the Yukon placer gold fields accounts for $2,250,000 of the total diminishment of over $2,500,000 in the gold output of the country. This is augmented by over $1,000,000 decrease in the value of the output credited to others of the metallic class, viz: pig iron, silver, lead and nickel. To offset this, the copper, iron ore and zinc industries exhibit increases aggregating nearly $1,500,000, leaving a minus amount of a little over $2,000,000 against the metallic class as a whole, equivalent to nearly six per cent.

Advances were shown in several of the non-metallic class, notably in coal and coke., limestone, mica, salt, cement and in some of the clay products. The total growth in all the non-metallic showing increases, amounted to nearly $2,000,000, the advance in the coal and coke output accounting for over $1,600,000 of this. As against these non-metallic industries showing increases, decreases are exhibited in the values of the production in asbestus, natural gas, petroleum and a number of others aggregating about $300,000, leaving a net gain in this class of somewhat under $1,500,000, or a little over 5 per cent to offset the above-mentioned falling off in the metallic clas, the final difference in the grand totals for the two years amounting to nearly $660,000, or a proportional decrease of close on one per cent.

The per capita value of the total mineral products for 1903 was $11.29 as compared with $2.23 in 1886, the first year for which figures are available.

Gold.—A decrease of over two and a half million dollars is shown, of which two and a quarter millions is to be ascribed to the decreased output from the Yukon district, leaving approximately a quarter of a million falling of in the other provinces. The Yukon output for the year $12,250,000, is based on the receipt of Canadian Yukon gold at the United States mint at San Francisco and other receiving offices.

The contributors to the total as formerly were Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, the Yukon Territory and British Columbia.

Silver.—Silver production, according to present indications, shows a considerable decrease, over a million ounces, compared with last year's output. Over 90 per cent of the production is obtained from British Columbia.

Lead.—The production of lead in 1903 has been estimated at about 9,000 tons. The exports, according to custom returns, were 9,314 tons, valued at $426,436. The production is practically all the output of British Columbia mines, no returns having been received of production in Eastern Canada.

Copper.—The copper contained in ore, matte, etc., shipped from Canadian mines in 1903, was about 21,640 tons, an increase of 2,238 tons or over 11.5 per cent over the previous year's output. In Ontario and Quebec there was little change, perhaps a slight falling off, the increase being practically all in British Columbia. From the Sudbury district, Ontario, about 19,822 tons of high grade matte were shipped containing 3,576 tons of copper, besides further under nickel). In British Columbia shipments of ore from the Boundary district were approximately 623,000 tons in 1903, and from Rossland about 377,000 tons. For statistical purposes the copper is valued at the average price for the year of electrolytic copper in New York, viz: 13.235 cents per pound. This is an increase on the average price for 1902 of nearly 14 per cent.

Coal and Coke.—An increased production is reported from all the provinces in which coal mining is being carried on.

The Dominion Coal Company, the largest producing company in Nova Scotia, increased its output notwithstanding the serious check caused by the fire in Dominion No. 1 colliery in March. The Nova Scotia Steel & Coal Company also shows very largely increased output from their Sydney mines.

Considerable activity has been displayed in the operation of the mines in the Northwest Territories, especially on the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains in the district about Blairmore.

In British Columbia the output of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company exceeded that of 1902 by 49.8 per cent and the company has made substantial progress in the development of their properties. On the Coast the Western Fuel Company are actively operating and developing the properties formerly worked by the New Vancouver Coal Mining and Land Co. The Wellington Colliery Company have been opening up a seam of anthracite coal from which it is expected shipments will soon be made.

CONSUMPTION CURABLE.

Good Blood Makes the Lungs Strong and Expels Disease.

The time to cure consumption is not after the lungs are hopelessly involved and the doctor has given you up. Consumption preys upon weakness. Strength is the only measure of safety. Do not let the blood become thin and watery. This is an open invitation to disease to take possession of your system. Dr. Williams's Pink Pills are the best tonic and strength builder known to medical science. The record of this medicine proves conclusively that taken when the symptoms of consumption develop it builds up, strengthens and invigorates the patient to a point where the disease disappears. Here is a bit of positive proof. Miss Blanche Durand, St. Edmond, Que., says: "While out boating in September, 1901, I got my feet wet and took cold. I treated the cold in the usual way, but the cough seemed to cling to me. As several months passed by and I was not getting better, I went to a doctor in January, 1902, and he told me that my lungs were affected and I was in consumption. Returning home, a friend in whom I had much confidence, strongly urged me to take Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. I began taking the pills and soon found they were helping me. The cough grew less severe my appetite improved and my strength began to return. I continued taking the pills for about two months, when I found my health fully restored and I have not since experienced any weakness. I am sure Dr. Williams' Pink Pills saved my life."

Such cases as these prove the power of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. They make new, rich, red blood, and in this way cure all diseases due to bad blood and weak nerves. You can get these pills from any medicine dealer or by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for $2.50, by writing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

THROUGH JAPANESE SPECTACLES.

A Student From the Island Empire Analyzes the Americans.

All Japanese love poetry and the fine arts ,and though they are a thrifty people, they profess to despise money and the money-makers. In this respect they greatly differ from the Chinese, who, with all their professed philosophy, are frankly avaricious. The following extracts fro man essay written by a Japanese student at an American university shows how the restless activity of life in the great republic jarred upon the sensibilities of the dreamer from the land of the chrysanthémum. This youthful critic called the essay:

"THE PRACTICAL AMERICANS.

"An American does not want to be a painter, sculptor, poet or rhetorician, but a rich man. Wealth is the sole object of ambition of the people at large. * * * * So-called American business men, who constitute a large portion of 'the life and blood' of American society, have seemingly no souls, for they are exposed for sale, if not always exchanged, for hard cash. When their souls are disposed of they receive the millions of money they desire, but what is to be done with it?

"Without sympathy, without frankness and generosity of feeling, despising human nature, they have no more use for their riches than the Peruvians had for theirs before the Spaniards came to rob them. Some men find delight in the exercise of the benevolent and social affections; but they have no relish for these. They can no more detect beauties in them than a savage can appreciate all the intricate combinations of harmony in music. As to religion, they consent to pay their pew rent and to be bored by an occasional sermon on Sunday for appearance sake, but their real churches are their counting-houses, their real Bible their ledger, and last of all, their real god is not Almighty God, but the almighty dollar. * * * In their eagerness to educate all the young persons to be practical they almost neglect their moral training. Man is both an intellectual and a moral being. He must be so educated as to develop both these capacities. If his intellect is trained more than his moral nature, he will be a dangerous man, for his power for evil will be increased beyond measure."

To Relieve the Siberian Line

A Proposal to Ship Heavy War Material By Way of Arctic Ocean.

Date of First Serious Operation In Far East Fixed For June.

Paris, March 20.—According to the Tokio correspondent of the Petit Parisien, official information has been received of the destruction of the Russian torpedo boat destroyer Skori at Port Arthur by the explosion of a submarine mine. The correspondent says the Mikado yesterday bade adieu to 495 officers who are leaving for the front.

A special dispatch from St. Petersburg says the project is favored of conveying heavy war material by transport from Croustadt to the mouth of the Yeneesei river and thence by barge to the Irkutsk depot and Lake Baikal, leaving the railway free for the conveyance of troops.

The Figaro's correspondent in Berlin telegraphs that a German officer, who has just arrived there from Manchuria, says serious operations in the Far East will not be begun before the end of June. The principal obstacle to Russian victory, according to this officer is the fact that 40,000 Chinese troops, well equipped with German and Japanese instructors, are menacing Russia's line of communication. Russia, with the support of Germany, will protest against the concentration of the Chinese troops.

According to a despatch to the Rappel from its Shanghai correspondent, the Japanese navy is utilizing an instrument invented by a British engineer by means of which the slightest sound proceeding from an enemy's vessels is made audible, thus enabling a ship to know of the approach of an enemy.

The correspondent of the Matin in Tokio says the Japanese cabinet has held a meeting for the discussion of important finance. During the last two months it is stated $12,500,000 gold has left the country.

NO OPIUM IN CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY.

There is not the least danger in giving Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to small children as it contains no opium or other harmful drug. It has an established reputation of more than thirty years as the most successful medicine in use for colds, croup and whooping cough. It always cures and is pleasant to take. Children like it. For sale by all druggists.

ANOTHER WAGE REDUCTION.

Pittsburg, March 19.—The demand of the manufacturers for a reduction in the sheet and tin plate wage scales has been conceded by the general executive board of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers. The new scale for sheets calls for a reduction averaging about eight per cent, in addition to the ten per cent. cut that went into effect on January 1. There are many idle union sheet plants in the country, but it is expected that most of them will be put into operation under the new terms.

AFFECTS LAKE TRAFFIC.

Toledo, March 19.—The conference in this city between the dredge and tug owners of the great lakes and the licensed tug men, has developed radical differences of opinion on three points, the right to discharge, a reduction in hours and the demand for a scale of wages based on that ruling on Lake Erie for all the lakes. These matters have been referred to a committee.

YOU TAKE NO CHANCES.

All druggists and dealers guarantee every bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and will refund the money to anyone who is not satisfied after using two-thirds of the contents. This is the best remedy in the world for la grippe, coughs, colds, croup and whooping cough, and is pleasant and safe to take. It prevents any tendency of a cold to result in pneumonia.

PLAYING WITH MATCHES.

Montreal, March 18.—Playing with matches was responsible for fire this morning in the residence of Dr. J. Camille Bernier, St. Denis street, as a result of which his little daughter Marie will probably lose her life, while her little brother, Marcelle, was very seriously burned. The mother went out of the bedroom for a minute leaving the little ones alone, and it is supposed that during her absence they got hold of matches and accidentally ignited one of them. The flames spread to the bedclothing, and when the mother returned in answer to the shrieks of the children, the room was a mass of flames. She managed to get the children out, as well as the baby, which was in its cot, but the little girl was horribly burned.

SUITS! Half Price For Cash

B. Williams & Co.

Budget of News From the Yukon

White River Stampede Turns Out to Be a Fine Fake.

Capt. John Irving Explains Suspension of Work on the Arctic Chief.

Mail advices to March 4th were received from Dawson yesterday.

The White river stampede was a pure fake. No gold more than the merest colors was found there, and the country is being abandoned as fast as the men can get out of it. This is the verdict of a party of thirteen old-time Klondikers who got back from the White river stampede.

W. A. Temple, on the official roster as government mining expert and diamond drill specialist, left on the White Pass stage for White Horse. No one could be found in official circles who knows why Mr. Temple is journeying southward at this particular stage. During the last several weeks Mr. Temple has been engaged in helping compile the new mining code intended for Yukon territory. Whether or not he is going to White Horse to gather data for further work on the code or for some other purpose remains for the public to find out.

The report that pay running fifty cents to the pan has been found on discovery claim on Mainto creek was brought by a party of five from Duncan. A somewhat similar report was received some time ago, and now that the report comes again the corroborative side seems to be gaining. The report was brought by Miss Mary Gatton, who came in with C. O. Binet and four others. They were five days making the trip. Much trouble, Miss Gatton reports, is still being encountered on Duncan with water. In No. 104 the operators have been drowned out at a depth of 120 feet while using three boilers.

Major Z. T. Wood, commander of the Northwest Mounted Police of the Yukon territory, left in a police rig for a trip into the new White Horse diggings and the Canadian territory on the Dalton trail. The major will visit the Dalton trail district because of the late adjustment of the international boundary in that district, and will direct any alterations that may be necessary in the locality. However, the report has come from the United States officer commanding at Haines that the Pleasant camp post of the Northwest Mounted Police is just within the territory awarded to the Canadians and no change will have to be made as to location. One of the chief purposes of the trip of Major Wood into the country is to select three points for new police detachments. The major announces that each detachment will be provided with a light, yet warm, portable house. This scheme is to be followed so that should the stampeding into the new country eventually call for the removal of the posts, the houses can be removed without difficulty.

The increasing interest being taken in quartz properties about Dawson is resulting in preliminary development work that may prove some of the rock to be very rich. Wilson Foster, president of the Dawson City Quartz Mining Company, Limited, states that work has been resumed on this company's properties, located just north of and adjoining the northern city limits. "An incline 106 feet in length," Mr. Foster states, "will be extended for another fifty feet or more in depth on the Matilda claim. A similar incline shaft is now being driven on the Alaska claim, which the company purchased last year from Miss Richardson. I intend to have at least two mill tests made from the property before leaving for the fair. I will take 100,000 shares of the treasury working stock of the company to St. Louis with me to sell, if possible, and raise capital enough to install an immense stamp mill on the Klondike at the mouth of Thomas gulch. Millions of tons of low-grade gold-bearing quartz and porphyry are now in sight on the Dawson City group."

Heavy spring freighting to the Klondike creeks is expected to begin in considerable volume within the next few days. Credit Manager Lindsay, of the Northern Commercial Company, who is in touch with the creek trade perhaps more closely than any other man in town, says that big operators and smaller operators are beginning to feed about and are placing some of the first of their heavy spring orders. "The heavy traffic to the creeks," says Mr. Lindsay, "is due to begin at once. When it gets well under way, which it should by the middle of March, if not earlier, the community will have loosened up to no little extent, and business will begin to move at a lively gait. In fact the first symptoms of revival already are manifest. The wise buyers buy before the rush gets under way, and have their supplies out before the freighters are overdone with rush orders. Stocks are hauled out over the snow to last until the roads become good after the spring thaw."

The great spring movement of steamboat men from the outside world into the Yukon basin to take charge of the different portions of the fleet of fifty or more steamers that operate on the 2,500 mile artery of commerce, will be under way within a few days. The forces already are beginning to mobilize for the influx. Agents for the big companies have been busy outside for some time arranging exactly for the crews which are to have charge of the craft this season, and it is now pretty well understood in the offices of the respective companies who will be the men on each of their steamers. Within four to six weeks the work of getting the steamers ready in the positions on the ways, where they are wintering, will be begun. Some of them need considerable repairing.

The fact that White Horse needs more facilities to operate its copper mines profitably is told in a letter over the signature of Captain John Irving, one of the best known men having interests there. The White Pass has made a low rate on copper in crude state to the coast and the nearest British Columbia smelter, but something more is needed, and this is told in plain words in a letter by the captain. The following extract from a letter written by Captain John Irving to the manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce explains the reason why work has been suspended on the Arctic Chief copper-gold proposition:

"I have been figuring on the cost of this shipment for freighting, sacking and loading on cars, and I find that it comes to not less than $10 per ton. Now, this means a loss against proper appliances of $9 per ton, and is not business.

"I have, therefore, decided to close up the mine until I can make arrangements to handle and mine the ore by having proper machinery and a tram line, as what I lose on this shipment represents the interest on $20,000 capital.

"You can readily understand that I don't want to throw away the profit of the ore in the present way. I merely mention this as there may be some queries why I am shutting down, and you will be in a position to explain.

"Yours truly,

"JOHN IRVING."

Boils were so painful could not sleep at night.

APPEARED ON NECK, LEGS AND ARMS.

Burdock Blood Bitters CURED THEM.

It is well-known to all that bad blood is the direct cause of all skin diseases and it is necessary for the blood to be cleansed before the eruptions will disappear. For this purpose there is nothing to equal Burdock Blood Bitters as the thousands of testimonials we have on hand will testify.

Mr. Willard Thompson, McNeill's Mills, P.E.I., writes us as follows: "I wish to state to you what Burdock Blood Bitters has done for me. Some time ago my blood got out of order and many boils appeared on my neck, legs and arms. They were so painful that I could not sleep at night. After having tried many different remedies without any success, I finally decided, on the advice of a friend, to use Burdock Blood Bitters. Before I had quite used two bottles the boils had completely disappeared, and I wish to emphasize the fact that I think Burdock Blood Bitters the best blood purifier on the market to-day."

CHINAMAN CAUGHT STEALING SOLDER

Was Captured Last Sunday at Steveston But Broke Jail.

Mr. Henry Murray, the local manager of the Federation (lighthouse) cannery at Steveston, came over to visit the principals in this city, Mr. Parker of George road, and his associates and told a Colonist reporter the following facts concerning an attempted robbery of solder at the cannery last Sunday afternoon:

Mr. Murray has occasion to go to the cannery building, and happened to see a pair of Chinese legs disappearing through a trap door in the ceiling two or one of the rooms. Knowing that no Chinaman had any business in the building at the time, Mr. Murray slipped out and got Chief of Police Murchison and two or three others, so that all the exits from the building could be watched. Meanwhile the chief and Mr. Murray entered the building, and, after a good search, found the Chinaman in the solder room, which was locked and the key in the possession of Mr. Murray. He was calmly appropriating bucketsful of solder, which, at the present market price, is worth twenty cents a pound. He had already thrown out onto the mud ninety pounds, and had sixty pounds more when caught red-handed. The chief handcuffed him and locked him up in the jail. The jailer, Godfrey McKay, was with him until about 2 a.m. Monday morning, and then laid down to have a sleep himself. Whether he did or not the fact remains that the prisoner pulled the iron bars out of their sockets from the small window in his cell and made his escape, taking with him a very good pair of blankets which the worthy jailer had lent him for a covering.

The escape was not discovered until daylight on Monday, and the chief went off at once in a buggy and traced him as far as Granville street bridge at Vancouver. He then returned to Steveston to find out, if possible, where he usually put up at the Terminal City.

Before the chief left on his quest after the escaped prisoner, he searched his trunk after being told by his landlord that he was out sawing wood. "I guess so," said the chief, "and I see he has taken the trouble to relieve me of my saw set," as he unearthed the article in question from the trunk.

The Chinaman only arrived from Vancouver on the day before he committed the robbery, and it is thought that he must at one time or another have worked for the cannery company to be so conversant with the whereabouts of the solder. It was considered a clever capture on Sunday, as a great deal of solder is stolen annually, and it is a means of causing very serious loss to the cannery companies, and the police authorities felt very sore when the escape became known.

The Chinaman has just served a term for theft and his identity has been fully established, so it is hoped that he will be easily recaptured.

SOUTH AFRICAN MANAGER ANHEUSER-BUSCH BREWING ASSN. CURED OF A SEVERE COLD BY CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY.

"During my trip in the Transvaal I contracted a heavy cold. I am pleased to state that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy gave me prompt relief and after continuing its use for a few days was entirely rid of the distressing indisposition," says Mr. Albert E. Stiasny, manager of Anheuser-Busch Brewing Association, Cape Town, Africa. This remedy has a world-wide reputation for its cures of colds and can always be depended upon. For sale by all druggists.

AN OFFICIAL DENIAL.

Johannesburg, March 18.—The report that Lord Milner, the British high commissioner in South Africa, has cancelled the permit issued to William T. Stead, the English writer, to travel in South Africa, owing to the character of the speeches recently delivered by Mr. Stead, is officially denied.

An Eye Witness Describes Fight

Correspondent at Port Arthur Gives Graphic Account of Action.

Further Details of Astonishing State of Affairs in Russian Squadron.

A Japanese exchange, received by the C. P. R. liner Tartar, contains the following account of the first attack on Port Arthur by an eye-witness on board a vessel at the mouth of Port Arthur harbor:

On the 8th instant, at 11:30 p.m., we were lying in quarantine outside of the entrance. The Russian fleet was lying in three lines outside us, and on the eastern side of the entrance there were also a few ships, gunboats, training ships and torpedo boats cruising in the same line with ourselves, making a fourth line. Suddenly we felt a heavy submarine explosion, with two more in quick succession. The Russian fleet then began firing from the outer line with light guns, their drums beating to quarters, while the searchlights of every ship were turned on. Steam launches and torpedo boats began rushing about, but in a few minutes the firing died down and we thought it was only some night manoeuvre. We were about to turn in again when the firing broke out afresh. Between half-past twelve and one o'clock the two Russian battleships passed in and took up a position right across the narrow entrance, while one of the larger cruisers took up a position close to the entrance under the lighthouse. It seemed to us a strange manoeuvre for such large ships at night time, so we stayed on deck to watch further developments. As it was cold, however, and things became a trifle slow, we turned in about 2 a.m. At 2:35 a.m. we were called out again as two very excited naval officers boarded us, and, in a mixture of French and English asked our names, etc. We got no news from them as they left in about a minute. At 5:30 a.m. another naval officer boarded us, and we learned that the viceroy had ordered that no ship was to leave or enter the harbor until further notice. After that I remained on deck with one passenger, and at daylight we made out that one of the battleships was all down by the head and another by the stern, while the big cruiser had a heavy list to port, all of them having, we learned later, been torpedoed and now resting there. Turning round and looking seaward, we saw outside the fleet a ring of torpedo boats, and farther out we saw some of the Russian cruisers that we knew to the westward, while several masts showed on the horizon above them. These we judged to be cruisers looking for what had disturbed them the night before. Between six and seven o'clock the inner cruisers came back and took up their old positions with the fleet, and those hull down came skurrying into sight (they were three two-funnelled cruisers) and lay in line, stern on, about six or seven miles off. Then we noticed numbers of men on the forts overhead, looking out to sea, while the decks of the stranded cruiser were crowded with men, all looking in the same direction. About 7:45 a.m. the three cruisers turned and slowly steamed across the front of the Russian fleet, to the eastward, and probably about six miles off. At 7:55 I saw distinctly with the telescope that the Rising Sun of Japan was flying from their masthead gaffs. It was like an electric shock to us and we understood at once the meaning of the night manoeuvres, though we had been looking on for nearly two hours, thinking that, as the Chinese on board said, there had been a bad collision amongst the fleet the night before. The whole Russian fleet was now weighing slowly and clumsily, and by 8:20 were under way and steaming after the Japanese cruisers, but farther in shore, towards Dalny. In a few minutes the Japanese were out of sight to the S.E., and, about at 9:15 a.m. the Russian fleet returned to anchor, actually dropping the same great mooring anchors, although it had taken them so long to get them up before. They were perfectly certain, and said so openly, that the Japs would never dare to attack Port Arthur. Afterwards they sent a couple of cruisers out scouting in the direction in which the enemy's cruisers had disappeared. At 10:50 a.m. we were cleared from quarantine and at the same time one of the cruisers returned at great speed, firing heavily astern, the others having returned previously. We were then ordered to shift our berth for the training ship, but were not assigned to any special position. We started to weigh anchor and moved to the westward, close to the steamer Ningcoota, which had only just got in, having slipped in close in shore round the promontory, from the westward. At 10:55, or just as we took up our berth, we saw the Japanese fleet, sixteen ships in number, coming up full speed from the eastward. The battleships were leading, then came the armored cruisers, with the remaining cruisers in the rear, all in single file. The Russian fleet were weighing anchor slowly, washing their chains and trying to get their great wooden-stocked mooring anchors fished, instead of slipping them and getting their ships under command. It was really amazing, the Japanese fleet being almost on top of them.

About 11:15 the first Japanese shell—a 12-inch one—dropped among the Russian battleships right off the entrance and close to where 17 torpedo boats were lying together, about one-third of a mile away from us. The torpedo boats, training ship and a small gun vessel wheeled and went into the harbor, while those on the big ships continued washing their chains and trying to get their anchors secured, the answer of shell in the meantime beginning to thicken. We started to weigh, having for pleasant companions a three-funnelled battleship and the small cruiser Novik. The former, abreast of us, distant about 300 yards, was throwing beds and bedding and lumber of all sorts through her amidship gun ports as she got her headway on her, while we raced close in shore away to the westward. At first this battleship also hauled to the westward abreast of us, but about a mile further out, with the Novik a little ahead of her, while the forts were over our head. Thus being directly in the line of fire, the shells fell thick in the water around us, on the beach, the hillside and over the forts.

Looking back, the fleet was bunched together and fairly helpless, as until then, with the exception of our three-funnelled friend, only the cruisers had got properly under way, though they were all firing their heavy guns as they were able. A Russian volunteer ship, armed as a cruiser, got under way as soon as any of them, and passing out through the battleships and half a mile beyond, found things so hot that she turned and passed back inside them again, though how she escaped, while broadside one, is a marvel.

Just then I saw a shell burst right at the stern of a battleship, when they were still washing the anchor and some twenty men were trying to drag a heavy fish-hook forward to the anchor. It blotted out everything in dense, black smoke, and before the smoke cleared away she was down by the nose in line advancing, so we could not see the damage done. Then another battleship was struck broadside, abreast of her forward funnel, and then another on her port quarter, and the cruiser Askold had her after funnel and main topmast carried away. These were all heavy shells bursting on the outside, and were plainly noticeable from the volumes of black smoke which they sent up. Of course, we could not see those which penetrated and burst inside, though doubtless many that struck the water alongside must have hit the vessels as well. The cruisers, strange to say, fought most of the time outside the battleships and on the wing, but retired on them towards the end of the action.

All this time we were racing along the beach to the westward, while the shells were falling thickly around us, but fortunately falling in the water. One heavy shell that burst aft covered our stern with smoke and spray, so that looking from forwards, I thought our stern was blown away. A second later one burst under our bows and sent a shower up forward, and so things went on, the concussion taking away our breath and shaking the ship like a leaf, looking fore and astern, we could see the shells plainly going for the forts. One large shell that passed close over us must have been nearly spent, as it zigzagged from side to side, changing its course as it went; but when it struck the base of the hill and exploded it shifted a pile of sand and stones.

It was principally owing to the cruiser Novik that we came in for such a hot time, as the battleship returned to the rest of the fleet shortly after the fight began, and they never went out any distance, but foundered about, as it seemed very much in each others way, under the guns of their heavy forts. The commander of the Novik, on the contrary, handled his ship very pluckily, having advanced far outside the others to the westward along our line of retreat. He kept dodging at great speed backwards and forwards, while his guns were served well and quickly. I was afraid, however, they were too light to have much effect on the battleships they were opposed to, and at that end of the line, towards the finish, he drew such a concentrated fire from the heavy ships that he had to retire amidst a regular storm of shell, one of which burst right at the stern, but without apparently hitting the Novik directly.

It was lucky for us that the range was long and the lighter guns little used, or we could never have gone through it. At 11:43 we cleared the fire zone, and by 1145 the action had practically ceased, as the Japanese fleet had turned nearly before, every ship in her own place, and steamed across the Russian front, the cruisers then leading, with the armored cruisers next and the battleships bringing up the rear.

It was impossible to see what damage the Japs suffered. It should, of course, have been much heavier than that of the Russians, seeing that they were under the fire of so many heavy forts, as well as of the Russian fleet. Yet we saw nothing to lead us to suppose that they were badly damaged, and they left in the same perfect order as they came. Nor was any ship of the Russian fleet sunk during the time that we were present, though several sustained considerable damage. For the Japanese had failed to draw them from under the guns of the forts and the assistance that the stranded ships were able to give with their heavy guns.

The Russians had engaged: Five battleships, five cruisers and one volunteer cruiser, and they had also two battleships and one large cruiser aground. The Japanese fleet consisted of sixteen ships, rating unknown, but I think there were four battleships, three armored cruisers and nine cruisers.

Could scarcely get up or down without help.

Had a severe pain in the small of the back.

Was treated in the Hotel Dieu, Kingston, but not cured.

Kidney trouble was the trouble.

Doan's Kidney Pills

Cured Mr. George Graves, Pitts Ferry, Ont., of a very bad case of kidney trouble.

He tells about the cure in the following words: "I cannot recommend Doan's Kidney Pills too highly. I never took anything that did me so much good. I had a severe pain in the small of my back and could scarcely get up or down without help. I could hardly urinate, but when I did the pain was terrible. I was in the Hotel Dieu, Kingston, last winter and when I came out I was some better but not cured. It was then I saw Doan's Kidney Pills advertised. Since taking them I have been completely cured and have not had any trouble with my kidneys since."

Doan's Kidney Pills, 50 cts. per box or 3 for $1.25, all dealers or

THE DOAN KIDNEY PILL CO., TORONTO, ONT.

CELLAR AND CELLULAR.

"Now, Mr. Ramble," said the professor, "you may tell us the difference between the cellar and the cellular forms of life."

Mr. Rambler thought for a moment.

"One lives in a house," he ventured, "and the other lives in a flat."—Judge.

LITHOGRAPHERS STRIKE.

Rochester, N. Y., March 19.—Between 375 and 400 artists, pressmen, transferers, proofers, engravers, designers and apprentices members of the local lithographers' unions, which are combined in a central alliance, failed to report for work this morning. The men say that they were locked out when quitting time came last night, while the employers prefer to characterize the shut-down as a strike.

Mr. Bourassa Makes a Fuss

Objects to Union Jack Flying on the Parliament Buildings.

Sir Frederick Borden Introduces His Amendments to Militia Act.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, March 17.—Mr. Bourassa raised a fuss today because the Union Jack was flying on the Parliament building and wanted to know the reason it replaced the red ensign. Premier Laurier said he could not gratify the fastidious curiosity of Mr. Bourassa. Hon. Mr. Sutherland explained that the Dominion flag was recognized only for the Canadian merchant marine. The Union Jack was the proper flag for public buildings.

Hon. Mr. Sifton said the Yukon hydraulic report has not yet been presented to the government.

Mr. Roche was informed that the government has no advices of the location of the Grand Trunk Pacific west of Winnipeg yet.

Sir Frederick Borden introduced a bill to amend the militia act regulating the appointment of the officer to command the militia. It gives Canadian officers status over the Imperial officers in Canada when the former is senior in rank. An increase in the permanent force to 2,000 men and an increaset pay of the force all around is also asked for, and provides for the extension of the cadet system and that the permanent force should preferably be called out in aid of the civil power. Mr. Hughes objected to the latter provision and also the severing of the link with the imperial army in the appointment of the G. O. C's, otherwise he warmly approved the measure.

The Japanese Diet have authorized the transfer of Hon. Mr. Nosse from Montreal to Ottawa.

A trade and labor delegation will see the government with the view to protecting the men on the new transcontinental railway from the hardships endured on the Crow's Nest line during construction.

Dragimiroff is Not Overconfident

Speaks With Less Assurance of Ultimate Success of the Russians.

Repeats His Misgivings as to Yalu River and Its Floods.

SPECIAL CABLE TO THE LONDON TIMES AND VICTORIA COLONIST.

Paris, March 19.—A report from St. Petersburg of considerable authenticity gives an interesting interview with General Dragimiroff, the hero of the Russia-Turkish war, who, although continuing the tactics of Admiral Alexieff at the seat of war, was recently summoned to St. Petersburg to give his counsel to the Czar. General Dragimiroff spoke with much less assurance in regard to the conflict with the Japanese than have some other Russian officers and was not especially sanguine of the outcome. With reference to the Japanese army, he pointed out certain weaknesse, notably that in regard to the cavalry arm. He thinks the numerical superiority of the Russian cavalry will give constant trouble to the Japanese. As regards the Russian army General Dragimiroff has his misgivings concerning the operations about the Yalu river.

"Let our troops," said he, "not forget that this stream, the Yalu, is surrounded with high mountains and when the thaw begins it becomes very wide and produces innundations, let them be careful. It is all well enough to cross the Yalu, but in case of need they must be able to come back again.

"They have insufficient provisions and ammunition to avoid being cut off by the enemy in case they are compelled to retreat. There must be built on the left bank of the Yalu a bridge solid enough to withstand the floods.

"However, to judge of all the conditions which Russians have to contend with I must be on the spot, so do not attribute to me the acts of a strategist in giving my view in regard to the situation. There is, moreover, no precise news upon which to form a serious opinion."

PROTECTING FOREIGNERS.

Baron Komura Declares That All Aliens at Fusan Will be Cared For.

Washington, March 18.—The following report has been received at the American state department from United States Minister Griscom, dated Tokio, February 20: "In view of the fact that there are some twenty American missionaries in Fusan and they are unable to communicate by telegraph with Mr. Allen in Seoul, I deemed it advisable to mention the matter, informally, to Baron Komura. In reply to my inquiry Baron Komura stated that ample measures were being taken to protect all foreigners in Fusan, and the Japanese consul had been instructed to use every effort to this end. Additional number of Japanese police are being sent to Fusan to be at the disposal of the consul. In view of these precautions it seems hardly likely that the foreign residents at Fusan will be liable to any ill-treatment other than that to which all non-combattants near the scene of the war are subjected to."

ROYAL LIFE SAVERS.

Emperor William and King Alfonso Save a Young Life.

Berlin, March 20.—The Emperor and King Alfonso figure as life savers in a story told in Das Kleine Journal. According to the paper, the two monarchs were cruising about the harbor of Vigo on the gunboat Nimez De Balboa, when, owing to the awkward manoeuvring of a fishing steamer, the two vessels collided. A twelve-year-old boy fell between the vessels and would probably have been crushed only for the intervention of the monarchs, who personally dragged him to the gunboat. The Melilton was seriously damaged and it is considered almost a miracle that her boiler did not explode which, in view of the position of the two craft, would have been extremely dangerous to the gunboat.

You won't harden or shrink woolens with Sunlight Soap. The purity of the oils and fats and the absence of free alkali prevent that.