Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, MARCH 30TH, 1888.

THE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Proceedings of the Second Session of the Fifth Parliament.

THIRTY-THIRD DAY.

FRIDAY, March 23, 1888.

Mr. Speaker took the chair at 2:10 o'clock.

Prayers were offered by the Rev. Mr. McLeod.

PETITIONS.

The city of Victoria's petition for a private bill to alter a map was read and received.

The petition of ratepayers of Whonnock asked that a new municipality be formed, separating them from the municipality of Maple Ridge, was read and received.

REPORTS.

The reports of the squatters committee were presented by Mr. Martin and ordered to be printed.

WILD LAND TAX.

Mr. Orr asked the minister of finance: Has any portion of the wild land tax been collected by the government on wild land situated within any municipality?

Ans. No.

PRIVILEGE.

Mr. Allen said the *Times'* report of Thursday's proceedings, stating that the motion to adjourn had been placed in his hands, was incorrect. He hoped the reporter would endeavor in future to state the truth. He did not like to be misrepresented, and would not stand it.

SUPPLY.

On the consideration of the supply resolution, Mr. Higgins was called to the chair.

The usual resolution was moved by the hon. finance minister, reporting the resolution to the house, which was adopted.

Hon. Mr. Turner moved that the house go into committee of supply on Tuesday next. Carried.

LICENSES ORDINANCE.

Hon. Mr. Davie moved the second reading of the license ordinance act amendment bill.

Mr. Beaven objected to the clause placing the granting of the licenses with the superintendent of police.

After some further discussion as to the meaning of the act,

Hon. Mr. Robson said it was in a nutshell. The bill proposed to place wholesale and retail liquor licenses in outlying districts on the same basis, in order to avoid an evil which had sprung up owing to the granting of wholesale licenses in the same manner as a trade license.

Mr. Semlin considered that too much power was placed in the hands of an officer of the government.

House went into committee, Mr. Croft in the chair.

After considerable discussion, and passing several clauses, the committee reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

WORKMEN'S WAGES.

Mr. Orr moved that the second reading of the bill introduced by him be referred with the others to a select committee composed of Messrs. Bole, Anderson, Duck, Thompson and Orr.

COAL MINES REGULATION ACT.

Adjourned committee Coal Mines Regulation Act, Mr. Cowan in the chair.

Hon Mr. Dunsmuir said he had little more to say on the Chinese clause. The Chinamen were a danger or they were not. He had stated that he would not vote on the clause the other day, but since then he had reconsidered that decision and would cast his vote against it. Besides being the largest coal owner in the province, he also represented those who had coal lands, and who might work them some day. He considered that it was his duty in order to advance the progress of the country to see that fuel was produced at a cheap rate, for without that there would be little or no prosperity. If cheap labor could not be secured to do the same work as the Chinese were now doing, cheap fuel could not be produced, unless the miners' pay was cut down. By employing white labor to do the class of work that the Chinese were engaged in, competition with other localities would be impossible. He did not want miners to work for low wages, and by employing such cheap labor the coal owners could better afford to pay the miner the present prices for digging the coal. If the miners would take a proper view of it they would see that this cheap labor was an advantage to themselves, in that it would enable them to make the same wages as they do now. They had all hoped that the construction of the C. P. R. would bring cheap labor to replace the Chinese, but the fact was they were paying a higher rate at present than before railroad construction commenced. If he thought there was a danger of working the Chinese under ground, he would be the first to do without them, as the loss was very great to him when an explosion occurred. But Chinamen could not be blamed for these disasters. If the miners had based their grievance on anything else than that the Chinese were a danger he would have considered they were more sincere. The house might pass the Chinese clause or not. There was one thing, however, they could not do, and he might say it without being accused of threatening, and that was that they could not enact a law which would compel him to work his mines. Nor yet any action that the miners might take could force the owners of a mine to continue work simply for the coal digger's benefit.

Mr. Beaven said that since the late explosion the mines had been worked without Chinese. The white miners were leaving the country.

Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir—There are as many white miners in Wellington as there were before the accident.

Mr. Beaven said that it was a fact that the output of coal was not sufficient to supply the steamers owing to the scarcity of miners.

Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir—There is not a scarcity of miners. We are getting down as much coal as before, with the exception of the east level of No. 5. The reason for the deficiency is that they could not get labor to push the cars from the coal digger.

Mr. Beaven could not understand how the coal owner should oppose this Chinese clause, which he considered in their favor as well as in that of the miner, inasmuch as it was a protection of their property.

Mr. Bole was of opinion that the Chinese clause of the present act was not within the power of the house to pass, as it was unconstitutional. For the sake of cheap popularity he would not give himself to the making of bad laws. The other day he had voted against the bill legislating against Chinese pawnbrokers, for the reason that he considered it unconstitutional, and this opinion had been verified in the supreme court, where a judge had declared that the legislature had not the power to enact such measures. It was all very well for the house to exclude Chinese from employment on public works or on works aided by government monies, but when they commenced to legislate against trade and commerce it was quite a different thing. He would be compelled to vote against the clause, however desirable on other grounds it might be.

Mr. Fry was glad to hear that the clause was unconstitutional, as it coincided with his own opinion. He did not think that it was desirable on other grounds that the clause should be inserted.

Mr. Orr, taking into consideration the petitions which had been received from Westminster, in justice to his constituents he would have to vote that the clause stand.

Mr. Bole said that if every man in the province signed a petition and it was not within the scope of the legislature to accede to its request, he would not comply with it.

Mr. Semlin favored the Chinese clause.

Mr. Duck said that they had the assurance of the largest coal owner in the province that Chinese were not a danger to the mines. A general statement was made in the petitions presented to the house that Chinese were dangerous, but the evidence submitted proved rather the reverse. The expulsion of Chinese would tend to cripple the coal industry. It had been claimed on the strength of other legislation against the Chinese, which had been declared legal, that the present clause was within the scope of this house to enact. The acts referred to had been to regulate who should be employed on works constructed or aided by government monies, with which they had a perfect right to deal. But when they commenced to deal with private enterprises they were certainly going beyond their powers, and could not constitutionally enact such a measure as that at present under consideration.

Mr. Humphreys spoke in favor of the clause.

Committee reported progress and will sit again Tuesday.

PRIVILEGE.

THE "TRIBUNE" CASE.

Hon. T. Davie corrected the report of his remarks on the previous day in THE COLONIST, wherein he had been made to say: "The unfortunate man, Henry Moore, and others, the pirates who had ran away with the steamer, had not stood their trial, but had cleared out and met their death at the hands of the Indians." He had used no such language in reference to Henry Moore. He had referred to the running off with the steamer as an act of piracy, but had connected no one's name with the act, and certainly not that of the deceased man.

House adjourned till Monday.

THIRTY-FOURTH DAY.

MONDAY, March 26.

Mr. Speaker took the chair at 2:20 o'clock.

Prayers were offered by the Rev. Mr. Beanlands.

REPORTS.

Col. Baker presented the report of the private bills committee asking that the standing orders be suspended to allow the introduction of the Victoria city private bill; a petition from Samuel Greer for a private bill; and that the time for receiving reports be extended till the 10th April next. Report received.

VICTORIA CITY BILL.

Mr. Duck asked leave to introduce a bill as petitioned by Victoria city.

Leave granted; bill read a first time and referred to the private bills committee.

RETURNS.

Hon. Mr. Robson presented a return of all papers in connection with the calling together of the legislature.

Hon. Mr. Robson presented a copy of the report of the commission appointed to consolidate the provincial statutes.

Hon. Mr. Vernon presented a return of all papers in connection with the claim of Geo. Murdock for lands in Eagle Pass.

LIQUOR LICENSE ACT.

Hon. Mr. Robson said that in moving the second reading of this measure he realized the responsibility that rested upon him. The necessity for legislation in this direction would, he thought, be admitted on all hands. During his thirty years' experience in British Columbia he was not aware of any legislation having been more loudly called for by the people. During several years petitions praying for some measure of the kind had been sent in to the house. During the present session petitions bearing some three thousand signatures had been presented,—one from this city alone being signed by some twelve hundred and ninety persons, from the Bishop of Columbia down; and in addition to these there had been appeals from influential ecclesiastical bodys and from temperance organizations. He also referred to petitions, protests and appeals from outlying districts asking either for restriction or prohibition. One of these petitions sent in a year or so ago, was from the district of Cassiar, praying for total prohibition, and one notable feature of that petition was that it was signed by every person in that district holding a license to sell intoxicating liquors! There could be no doubt as to the necessity for such legislation and the desire of the country for it. He felt that it was unnecessary to dwell upon the evils and cost of the traffic. Indeed the whole subject had been so fully and ably discussed that he felt he could advance nothing new, shed no fresh light upon it. The traffic was proved to be the cause of nine-tenths of the crime and misery in the world, and we knew even from our own experience in this province how enormously it increased the cost of the administration of justice. Whatever might be his own personal views on the subject of prohibition, he did not propose legislation upon that line at the present time. It was not proposed to take any extreme step, and he contended that the present measure was a very moderate one as compared with those from which it had been chiefly compiled. He invited the attention of hon. members to some of its leading provisions. As stated on a former occasion, its governing principles were local option, limitation, regulation and higher license fees. The principle of local option was one which he felt assured would commend itself to every fair-minded person in and out of the house. It was in accordance with our system of government that the majority should rule; and if, in any community a majority were averse to the introduction of a licensed house it should not be in the power of anyone to force it upon them. As to the policy of limitation, he thought it was equally incontrovertible. Take, for instance, a community only sufficiently large for six saloons to do a paying business by legitimate trade in intoxicating liquors. Double that number, and what will happen? They will simply be driven to do business on illicit lines, and he instanced a case in point, where one of the dealers came out in the public newspapers, and frankly admitted that as there were more licensed places than could possibly live by legitimate trade, they were compelled to resort to illegal means, such as gambling and selling to Indians. In this respect also, the present measure was extremely moderate. In the city of Toronto, for instance, there was only one liquor license to every eight hundred of the population. By restricting the number of licenses and imposing a high fee, this traffic would be gradually confined to more responsible and respectable men, and thus the evils arising from it would be lessened. Another important provision of the measure was that which prevented the supplying of liquor to minors or habitual drunkards. He was quite sure everyone would reprobate the giving of liquor to boys or girls under age, and the practice of selling to habitual drunkards was equally reprehensible. He knew more than one community where this was done, where men, in every other way estimable and lovable, had so completely yielded to the appetite for strong drink as to give themselves completely up to it and literally beggar their families. There were instances even in this city, where the poor wife had with tears, implored the dealer not to supply the maddening cup to the husband, but in vain. He was glad to believe there were noble exceptions—liquor dealers who would not supply liquor to such persons; but, unfortunately, there were others who would. It was surely proper, it was our duty to put a stop to such a heartless, such an unbrotherly practice. The bill proposed limiting the hours of sale during week nights, and prohibiting the the sale on Sunday. Without rising to the higher plane of morality and religion at all, surely it would not be denied that to rest one day in seven was good. It was good for both man and beast; and surely it must be good for those engaged in liquor traffic. He felt confident that a majority of those in the trade would really prefer absolute rest from their business on the Sabbath, if the closing of the licensed houses were uniform and universal. The difficulty in the way of Sunday closing in towns and cities only was this, the trade would be carried on outside the city limits, and dealers naturally objected, but if Sunday closing were enforced throughout the province, this objection would be removed and the dealer would enjoy his day of rest like other people, at church or in the bosom of his family. He felt confident that if it were put to those in the trade it would be found that a large majority would favor Sunday closing, provided it were uniform throughout the country. He made a strong and feeling appeal to hon. members to meet the wants and expectations of the country by passing a moderate measure like the present; and, after a trial of a year or two, a further advance might be made. (Applause).

Mr. Beaven read clauses from the B. N. A. act, which provided for the manner in which such bills should be introduced. He claimed that the message from the lieutenant-governor should have "recommended" the bill and not merely consented to it.

Mr. Speaker said he was not prepared to give an answer to the question off-hand. He was not prepared to admit that it came under the provisions quoted. He would ask leave of the house for time to consider the question and submit his decision in writing to the house.

Mr. Beaven said it was a tax act.

Hon. Mr. Davie said that no conceivable point of order arose that he could see. The bill was perfectly in order and required no message from the lieutenant-governor. It was not a government measure in any sense. It was a great pity that instead of trying to burk the bill by a side wind, the hon. leader of the opposition did not come out squarely and oppose it on its merits. The section from the British North America Act quoted by the leader of the opposition had no application to this bill. It was section 54, and provided that the house should not pass any vote, resolution, address, or bill for the appropriation of any part of the public revenue, or of any tax or impost to any purpose that has not been first recommended by message. It would be observed that what was referred to here was the "appropriation" which was the governing word. Many of the bills introduced related in one way or another to taxes, but it was not because they simply affected taxes that they must therefore be brought down by message. It was only when they proposed to "appropriate" the revenue to any particular object that the section applied. The reason for its provision was obvious. The government estimated its expenditure, based upon the revenue, and to allow private members, who were not aware of the government estimate, to bring in bills to apply the revenue to different purposes would be to land any government in confusion. Estimates could never be framed if such were the case. The provisions of this bill provided merely for the general carrying out of the retail liquor license system, and was not different in principle from the wholesale license bill which had been introduced on a previous day without a message.

Mr. Grant claimed that the bill did appropriate the revenue.

After some further discussion the Speaker said he would decide the point on Wednesday.

Col. Baker, in moving the second reading of the "Crow's Nest and Kootenay Lake Railway Bill," said it's chief object was the providing a means for opening up a market for the large coal deposits in Kootenay district. The company asked merely for a right of way.

House went into committee, Mr. Anderson in the chair.

Mr. Beaven raised the point that it was not possible to commit the bill on the same day it was passed to a second reading, as no private bill could be advanced more than one stage in a day.

Hon. Mr. Davie claimed that going into committee was not advancing the bill an additional stage. A bill had only three stages—it's 1st, 2nd and 3rd readings, and the dealing in committee with a bill was only a portion of its second reading. But whether so or not, the house having decided to commit the bill it was not competent to raise this point in committee, as the effect of so doing would be to make the committee superior to the house. That whether the house was in order or not in ordering the bill to be committed, it had so decided and there was an end of the matter.

The chairman decided that the house having committed the bill it was not competent for the committee to question the regularity of that course.

On motion of Mr. Duck it was resolved for the committee to rise and refer the question to the speaker.

The chairman having explained the point

Mr. Beaven in further explanation said that the chairman had decided that no point of order could be taken in committee.

Hon. Mr. Davie—He decided nothing of the kind.

Mr. Beaven—Then what did he decide.

Hon. Mr. Davie explained, after which Mr. Speaker ruled that the committal of the bill was part of the second reading, and not an additional stage and that even if it had been an additional stage the house had full power to depart from the rule against advancing a private bill more than one stage at a time, and the house here having ordered the bill by a unanimous vote to be committed this afternoon, no point of order arose.

The committee resumed consideration of the bill and discussed its provisions until about a quarter to 6, when the committee arose and reported progress.

Mr. Higgins asked when evening sessions were to be held. The house had been sitting two months and had transacted but little business.

Hon. Mr. Davie said that it was proposed to adjurn on Wednesday for the Easter holidays, until the following Wednesday. If convenient to hon. members night sessions might be held on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings so as to finish up as much work as possible before recess.

House adjourned until 2 o'clock to-day.

THIRTY-FIFTH DAY.

TUESDAY, March 27.

Mr. Speaker took the chair at 2:10 o'clock.

Prayers were offered by the Ven. Archdeacon Scriven.

PROVINCIAL ENTOMOLOGY.

Hon. Mr. Turner presented the report of the honorary entomologist (Rev. G. W. Taylor).

LOCAL MINES ACT.

House went into committee on the coal mines regulation act, Mr. Cowan in the chair.

Hon. Mr. Humphreys said if there was a feeling in the minds of the New Westminster members and especially of the city member that he impugned a lack of consistency or sincerity in their positions, he withdrew the remarks. He again referred to the clauses in the coal mines act prohibiting the employment of boys under twelve or girls or women of any age in support of his contention that the present Chinese clause was constitutional. He thought this proved conclusively that the clause would be constitutional. The president of the council had stated that an infamous society, the Knights of Labor—

Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir—I never used any such words. The hon. member for Comox is endeavoring to put words into my mouth.

Hon. Mr. Humphreys—Well, you said that they would throw powder into houses.

Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir—I never made such a statement. I said it might be done. It had been done at Nanaimo, but that was before he ever knew of such an organization as the Knights of Labor.

Hon. Mr. Humphreys continued and stated that if the hon. president of the council desired to employ white labor instead of Chinese, he would suggest that he employ the crofters.

Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir—I want none of your suggestions.

Hon. Mr. Humphreys said, however, he would give them. He read a letter from Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir, in which it was stated that he would be glad to do without Chinese in the mines, provided he could secure other labor—in the event of which he would do away with twenty per cent. every three months. He would ask the hon. president of the council if he was prepared to stand by his letter?

Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir said he would answer his workmen that question—not the hon. member for Comox.

Hon. Mr. Humphreys continued, advancing a variety of arguments in favor of retaining the Chinese clause, claiming that it was demanded by the miners, and was necessary for their protection.

Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir thought they had had enough clap-trap during the past few days, but it seemed as though it was never going to end. Six years ago he had stated that he would be glad to do without Chinese, but it had never been possible. The letter the hon. gentleman had quoted he had written in good faith, and was prepared to carry out its statements. But what had the miners done? The letter was written on Friday morning. A meeting was called on Saturday evening and on Monday morning the Chinese were turned out of the mines, and would have starved had he not assisted them. The hon gentleman had read a letter. He would also read a letter just received from Wellington, which stated that the meeting there on Monday afternoon was a poor affair. The Nanaimo men had had used strong names against the Wellington miners, and were greatly displeased with the latter's action. He granted that there was an agitation, but it was not among his own men. It was entirely to agitators at Nanaimo. He wondered at the change in the sentiments of the hon. member for Comox, who at the time of the last strike, came to him and wanted him to place Chinese altogether in the mines.

Hon. Mr. Humphreys said that statement was incorrect, and related what he claimed were the circumstances which led to his assenting to procure some sixty or eighty Chinese to go to Nanaimo.

Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir—Well, Mr. Chairman, all I can say is "shame." The hon. gentleman should be ashamed to utter such false statements.

Hon. Mr. Davie—What about the champagne flowing on Cormorant street.

Hon. Mr. Humphreys—Did he say that?

Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir—You surely don't forget the time you took me down to the corner of Cormorant street, and the Chinese opened a case of champagne, and [drawing back his arm as though pulling a cork] they opened it for you! (Laughter.)

Hon. Mr. Humphreys—Well, the hon. gentleman—I don't know—I can't—ah, yes, now I do remember they did open some champagne for you, and you drank it. (Laughter.) The hon. member gave what he said was the truth of the matter. That it was Mr. Dunsmuir who had asked him to go to Chinatown.

Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir—Well,

Mr. Chairman said this sort of discussion must end. Hon. gentlemen must confine themselves to the question.

Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir—Well, I should be allowed to reply. He was aware for the first time that there was a literal descendant of Ammanias in the house. (Laughter.) The plain truth is that when the trouble arose at the mines, the hon. member of Comox came to him and said if he was in his (Mr. Dunsmuir's) place he would fill the mines altogether with Chinese. He said he could get them, and he might as well earn the commission as anyone else. (Great laughter.) He did not find fault with the hon. gentleman for endeavoring to secure the commission, what but he could not understand was the wonderful change which had come over the opinions of the hon. member for Comox.

There was considerable angry discussion, during which Hon. Mr. Humphreys denied the president of the council's statement, saying he was unable to tell the truth.

Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir said the present postmaster could substantiate his statements with reference to the hon. member's connection with Chinese contracts. As for his capacity for truthfulness in comparison with that of the hon. member for Comox, he would leave that to be decided by the people of Victoria. The class for which the hon. member claimed he was acting at the first opportunity would be glad to prevent him from again coming to the house. He had no desire to say anything more on the subject—he considered the remarks of the hon. gentleman sheer clap-trap.

Col. Baker considered it a poor defence to say that, because they could prohibit children of tender age, and girls and women from working in the mines, that it was also within their power to exclude Chinese. It was one of their constitutional privileges in the case quoted, but was not in the present instance. He had been one of the committee to inquire into the evidence submitted, and had carefully considered it, but his conclusion was that the Chinese had not been proved a dangerous class.

Mr. Bole stated his opinion that the clause proposed was not within the power of the house to pass. For the purpose of securing a cheap popularity he could not lend himself to favor legislation that was not within their province. He would exercise his judgment in all matters, and when his constituents differed with him, they could vote for him to stay at home.

Mr. Ladner favored the retaining of the Chinese clause. In view of the petitions that had been presented to this house he could not do otherwise.

Mr. Beaven thought that every honorable gentleman had a perfect right to express his opinion on the matter, and he (Mr. B.) would not accuse them of insincerity. The honorable gentleman referred to the exclusion of Chinese from voting; to the prohibition of the sale of liquor to Indians, and that preventing the employment of girls and boys underground in support of the clause. He did not think that the opinion of a lawyer was worth any more than that of any other member, for this simple reason that such opinion was not paid for. He referred to the position taken by the provincial secretary on the question of Chinese voting, when about every other member of the house claimed the contention unconstitutional, but it had proved otherwise. He would appeal to the house on behalf of the miners, of their wives and children, to grant the measure of protection sought to be given in this Chinese clause.

Hon. Mr. Robson said the debate had brought to the surface some peculiar facts. They had seen the hon. gentleman from Comox posing as a moralist, and knew how well he was entitled to do so. It was not necessary to be a lawyer to understand whether the clause was constitutional or otherwise. The fallacy of the contention in regard to the exclusion of boys and females from mines had been clearly shown up. There was a great deal of difference in this than in legislating a whole race out of the mines. The clause referring to the exclusion of persons from responsible positions in mines who did not speak English did not mean Chinese, but all nationalities who did not understand the English language. The hon. leader of the opposition's statement that because they had power to forbid the sale of liquor to Indians, they had also the right to exclude its sale to Chinese was foolish. That hon. gentleman knew that Indians were wards of the crown, and in the eyes of the law were minors, and the house had the right to prohibit the sale of liquor to them as they had in the case of whites under age. He (Mr. B.) had on several occasions referred to the fact that the house had acted constitutionally in excluding Chinese from voting, and this was also proof of their power to exclude them from the coal mines. This was absurd, for the house had power to direct who should and who should not be allowed to exercise the franchise. With regard to the taunts of the opposition that the government had failed to bring in a measure for the protection of the miners as promised, it would be seen on referring to his honor's speech, that no definite promise was made. It had at first been proposed to incorporate the English act, but the whole matter was submitted to the miners, and the introduction of the bill was undertaken by the hon. junior member from Nanaimo, a quite appropriate selection. The taunts of the opposition were altogether uncalled for. The constitutionality of the clause he would not discuss. He did not consider that the Chinese had been proved a dangerous class; there had been fewer accidents attributable to Chinese according to numbers than to whites, and his knowledge proved such to be case. He believed if the matter was placed fairly before the miners of Nanaimo and Wellington, without any undue pressure being brought to bear, that they would almost to a man favor the employment of Chinese in the mines. They had voluntarily taken the Chinese into their employ, and found that they could make a good margin of profit from that labor. It would be in the interest of the miners themselves if the Chinese clause was eliminated from the measure before them.

Messrs. McLeese and Humphreys spoke in favor of the clause.

The Chinese clause being put was lost by a vote of 16 to 7, as follows:

AYES—Beaven, Semlin, Grant, Humphreys, Ladner, McLeese and Thompson.

NOES—Robson, Dunsmuir, Davie, Turner, Vernon, Martin, Allen, Croft, Fry, John, Anderson, Duck, Baker, Mason, Higgins, Bole.

The committee reported progress, and as it was six o'clock Mr. Speaker left the chair.

EVENING SESSION.

Mr. Speaker took the chair at 7:40 o'clock.

House went into committee on the coal mines act, Mr. Cowan in the chair.

After a discussion lasting until 10 o'clock the committee rose and reported the bill complete with amendments.

Report received and ordered to be considered at the next sitting of the house.

ASSESSMENT BILL.

House went into committee on Hon. Mr. Turner's assessment bill, Mr. Semlin in the chair.

Committee rose and reported bill to the house. Bill read a first time; second reading to-day.

House then adjourned.

THE SMITH-LAFLIN FIGHT.

The Bruiser From New York Knocked Out In the Second Round.

Sporting circles have been much interested in the Smith-Laflin prize fight, and it was reported on Monday that it had actually taken place on Sunday morning near Henley's. Investigation proved the affair a "hoax." The Seattle *Post-Intelligencer* says: For the past week the sporting fraternity has been all agog over the prospects of a mill between Smith, the Seattle bruiser, and Laflin the fighter from New York. The men were in training and the arrangements for the match and providing for the finances was left to Tommy Clancy. Excursion tickets to the number of one hundred were sold at $5 each to the select few who were to be allowed to see the fight. This few included lawyers, real estate men, actors, telegraph operators, bar keepers, saloon keepers, clerks, store keepers and reporters. The steamer Clara Brown was chartered, and it was understood among knowing ones that she would leave Colman's wharf at 4 o'clock Sunday morning for Joe McGrath's picnic grounds on Bainbridge Island, where the fight was to take place. At the hour of sailing, 4 o'clock, a large number of excursionists were on board, but the fighters did not show up. The steamer had steam up and was blowing off at a great rate, and the cooks and stewards were busily engaged in preparing breakfast for the sleepy crowd which had remained up all Saturday night to see two men smash each other in the face on Sunday. Still the fighters did not come. Directly a wheezy voiced boy came down to the wharf and shouted: "The fight is off, Laflin has taken water." The story was disbelieved at first, but when he told his authority it was believed. The crowd then filed up to Clancy's saloon, and found Tommy paying back the money to all who had purchased tickets. The only excuse offered for the disappointment was that Laflin, the New York fighter, had "squealed."

The next day the purser of the Clara Brown went up town to see what could be done in the way of securing pay for the trouble and expense the steamer had been put to. Clancy and Smith were willing to pay what was right, but Laflin objected to paying anything. The purser undertook to reason with him, when Laflin, the fighter from New York, hauled off and knocked him down, cutting him badly over the eye. This was the first round.

Second round—The purser, after a short breathing space, recovered from the shock, and though a small man by the side of the fighter from New York, he made a rush for the pugilist, knocked him down and literally wiped the floor with the fighter from New York. The fight was decided a victory for the purser, and Laflin was declared knocked out in the second round.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

CABLE NEWS.

Hundreds of Villages Submerged and Many Lives Lost—Sultan of Zanzibar Dead.

The Coronation of King Frederick and Queen Victoria of Prussia Next June.

Gen. Boulanger Placed on the Retired List—Lord Stanley's Departure for Canada.

Parliamentary Notes.

LONDON, March 27.—In the House of Commons this evening the debate on Balfour's bill to expedite business in the Irish land courts was resumed. Lord Randolph Churchill agreed in favor of a substitute for the bill, which should be a larger measure and bring the machinery of the land litigation of Ireland in one body, actuated by one policy, to deal with the purchase of lands and valuation of rents. He decided to present a system which, he said, found favor with nobody.

L. W. Russell said that Lord Churchill's speech would be very effective in Ireland. The tenants would consider the chief secretary's proposals as a desperate effort on the part of the government to undo the work of the land commissioners, which has been fixing fair rents. Unless the measures were withdrawn parliament would hear about it in very severe terms.

Gladstone approved of the introduction of the bill without, however, pledging his approval of the measure. At a later stage the bill was read a first time and the house adjourned until April 5th.

Will Sail for Canada.

Lord Stanley of Preston, the newly appointed Governor-General of Canada, will leave here for Canada about the 1st of June.

Abyssinians Advancing.

The Abyssinians advanced to Saati yesterday. The Italians formed in order of battle, but they were not attacked. A column of Abyssinians has already passed the north of Saati. This morning Abyssinians are steadily advancing on the Italians and it is expected that they will concentrate at Dongal, cutting off communication by road and telegraph.

O'Brien Getting into Trouble.

Wm. O'Brien having got safely away from Youghal intends to speak at Fermoy on Thursday. The usual row which is a feature of a meeting held in defiance of the prohibitory mandate of the Irish executive is expected to occur, and there is a well founded expectation that the defiant editor will be arrested. It was not the intention of the government to arrest him at Youghal last Sunday unless it should become absolutely necessary.

Stocking the Measures.

A meeting of liberal leaders to discuss the local government bill, held to-day, decided that the main features of the measure were satisfactory and determined to hasten its second reading and push it to the committee stage by every possible means.

Easter Recess.

Gladstone will spend Easter recess in the south of England.

Sultan of Zanzibar Dead.

The Sultan of Zanzibar is dead. It is said Khalf will succeed to the Sultanate of Zanzibar.

Want an Amendment.

To-day's meeting of Liberal leaders, over which Gladstone presided, besides supporting the leading principles of the local government bill, decided to endeavor to obtain an amendment making county councils entirely, instead of partially, elective.

Anxiety for Stanley.

The news received from the Congo country to-day, bearing date of January 27th and being full of details regarding the state of the country, makes no mention of Stanley's presumed fate or whereabouts. The opinion is expressed, however, that the first news of him will reach Europe by way of Zanzibar. The continued absence of even rumors concerning the explorer, increases the anxiety felt, and the belief is growing stronger daily that he has succumbed to the almost unbearable climate of the interior or the attacks of savage tribes.

The Emperor's Condition.

BERLIN, March 27.—Emperor Frederick's sleep was almost unbroken last night. His physicians have decided, in consequence of the continued bad weather, which forbids his going outdoors, not to subject his legs to the massage treatment as a substitute for the walks denied him.

The improvement of the Emperor's condition is due to the removal from his throat of a large piece of diseased cartilage, of such a nature as has never been known in cancerous disease. The cartilage removed will be microscoped and examined by Professor Waldeyer.

The Coronation.

It is expected that the coronation of King Frederick and Queen Victoria of Prussia will take place at Konigsburg in June.

Disastrous Floods.

BERLIN, March 27.—The banks of the Elbe are overflowed for a distance of many miles. Hundreds of villages are submerged. Enormous amount of damage has been done and many lives has been lost.

On the Retired List.

PARIS, March 27.—President Carnot this morning signed a decree placing Gen. Boulanger on the retired list of the French army. The President did this at the proposal of Gen. Logerot, minister of war, after the consideration of the subject by the Council of the Cabinet and upon the unanimous advice of the officers, who composed the court martial that tried Boulanger.

An Editor Dead.

DUBLIN, March 27.—Edmund Dwyer Gray, member of parliament and editor of the *Freeman's Journal*, died to-night.

Waiting for the Word.

ROME, March 27.—A dispatch from Massowah says: The Abyssinians have concentrated at Janqus, the Italian outposts being almost within gun-shot of those of the enemy. King John is at Sabarquma and a battle is imminent, but the Italians will not force the fight.

THE FISHERIES CONTROVERSY.

Salisbury's Instructions to the British Commissioners.

LONDON, March 20.—In the House of Commons yesterday afternoon Mr. Edgar asked when the papers relating to the Fisheries Conference would be brought down. Mr. Edgar had secured a copy of certain fisheries documents not published on this side of the Atlantic. Among these are the Queen's instructions to the British plenipotentiaries. After reciting all the circumstances leading to the appointment of commissioners, Lord Salisbury says: "While I have judged it advisable to offer for the subject of your deliberations the question of the fisheries of the Atlantic coast, it is not the wish of Her Majesty's government that the discussions of the plenipotentiaries should necessarily be confined to that point alone. The question of the fisheries of the Behring's Sea has not been specially included in the terms of reference, but you will understand, if the United States plenipotentiaries should be authorized to discuss that subject it would come within the terms of reference, and that you have full power and authority to treat for the settlement of the points involved."

NEW YORK'S POLISH JEWS.

People Whose Rules of Life Resemble Those of Bible Times.

On Sunday is the best time to see this colony, because then it offers the strangest and strongest contrast with the life that surrounds it. East Broadway is the main thoroughfare in the colony. The once grand avenue of the rich Quakers of forty years ago, the street that led to the houses of the progenitors of Henry Bergh and Bob Wall and the now aristocratic Roosevelts. The solid big houses are there yet, with their high stoops and brown fronts and mansion-like appearance, but how changed, how sadly changed! Pillows and carpets hang from their upper windows, what were once the dining rooms and parlors are packed thick with workmen and workwomen making clothing, and the windows and walls are lined with bales of the cheapest coats and trousers imaginable. Queer, blousy women in greasy wigs and very odd-looking men in long beards are running hither and thither. The roadway and gutters are full of refuse and waste, the air is heavy with bad odors, the breath on all the window panes is the breath of squalor, neglect, and indifference to appearance and comfort. Very strange signs are over the doors. The characters are Hebrew. The only words we can read are the proper names, nearly all ending in the "letters "sky" or "ski." Sunday to these folks, as to all but the liberal Hebrews, is as Monday is to us. There is only one way in which they observe our Sabbath. This is by closing their theatres. They do this because the laws forbid their being opened. Without entering any one of a dozen flights of steps we can step from New York to modern Asia Minor, almost to ancient Judea. It is in the synagogue that this change confronts us. They are bare, forlorn places—mere rooms full of benches—but they are highly important to this strange community. Here the rabbis preside, and the rabbis, as he used to be, the chief source of authority and wisdom. He preaches here on Saturdays, teaches school all the week, holds court perpetually as a judge before whom all dissensions and disputes are brought, marries, christens, confirms, blesses, advises, exhorts, chastises, and in a word, guides and controls his flock. Like nearly all the men he wears a velvet cap, and like all he refrains from shaving his beard. His language is sometimes Hebrew, but in most cases he uses the tongue of his people, a singular mixture of Hebrew and Polish, or Hebrew and the tongue of whatever other Slav race he belongs to. All about the neighborhood are bookstores, and the books are all printed in one polyglot or another corresponding with the talk of the people.

The young girls are more or less fair and pleasing to the eye. The majority are swart, but some are very fair blondes with golden tresses. All the married women look alike, however, for all have shaved their heads and wear wigs—of black hair, proceeding in their looks from little stems like horse hair. It is said that this mechanism of the wig does not show when they are new, but I never saw one that did not show its secrets any more than I ever saw a Chinaman's queue that was not lengthened with black thread or horse hair. These married women are made to look less attractive by their fashion of wearing their waist bands almost under their armpits. The strongest predilection is of red dresses, and their next strongest is for wearing them for lengths of time exceeding human belief. Their wigs serve instead of other head covering, so the one is next to never seen in a hat or bonnet, no matter where or how far she goes. Even on railroad journeys they go bare headed. They are not allowed to cover while in church, where they sit apart from the men, and I have heard that among the strictest of the orthodox the women may not cover in the presence of their husbands. However, a perusal of Deuteronomy and Leviticus (which I believe to state are books in the Bible) will show exactly what the strictest rules of the race were, and, in the main, remain to-day.—*Cor. Providence Journal.*

How They Marry in India.

At Trichur, in the East Indies, a town inhabited chiefly by Nairs, the landholding class of the coast, divorce seems to be as simple as marriage is easy. The Nair lady is a very independent person. Some one offers a cloth; that is the proposal. If she accepts it, that is the marriage. If she gets tired of her husband, she gets rid of him and takes up with another, and is not held to have behaved disgracefully in so doing. To give a cloth as a present is a very common thing in India. By cloth is meant the garment worn by women in the East, and it may be very plain and cheap or very rich and costly. But here, whatever kind of cloth it be, to give one is very significant, as a distinguished visitor to Trichur found when he offered one to a Nair lady in whose house he had received some civility. Whatever opinion may be held from a moral point of view of these marriage relations, they result in manly males and for the most part comely and very often beautiful females.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

—A Kentucky sheriff who had been a dancing master, so far forgot himself, that when two men who had been concerned together in a murder were on the gallows, he called out, as he cut the rope, "Swing partners!"—*Tid-Bits.*

The Time to Act.

If you are threatened with Headache, Constipation, Biliousness or weakness, procure at once a bottle of Burdock Blood Bitters and use it according to instructions. Prompt action is necessary in order that your trouble may be cured before it becomes chronic. tt-th-sat-dw

Joseph W. Drexel, the banker, died at his residence in New York city, of Bright's disease, at the age of 58 years.

CAPITAL NOTES.

Lord Lansdowne to Leave Canada the Last of May.

The Banquet to be a Grand Affair—No Executive Council for the Territories—Middleton to Continue in Command of the Militia—A Liberal Elected at Last—Speeches on the Debate.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

OTTAWA, March 27.—Lord Lansdowne leaves Canada for England during the last week in May and Lord Stanley of Preston, will assume the position of Governor-General about the same time. The farewell banquet to Lord Lansdowne promises to be the grandest of the kind ever seen in the Dominion.

Sir John says the Northwest Territories have a holy horror of responsible government, and that consequently no executive council will be created under the bill relating to the government of the territories.

The Imperial authorities have given permission for General Middleton to continue the command of the Canadian militia two years after his present term expires. He will become a permanent resident here.

Meigs, Liberal, was elected for Missiquoi to-day by one hundred majority. This makes no change in the position of the parties.

The speakers on the debate to-day were Ferguson, Bechard, Hudspeth and Landerkin.

AMERICAN NEWS.

$10,000 for Ireland.

NEW YORK, March 27.—The executive committee of the Irish parliamentary fund association at its meeting last night decided to forward $10,000 to Parnell immediately.

Leaving for the High Lands.

SIOUX CITY, (Idaho), March 27.—The people of Jackson, Neb., are leaving their farms and lands and seeking shelter on the hills, fearing that when the great gorge at Cottonwood hill breaks everything will be swept away. The lower