THE MILL OF JUSTICE.

Magistrate Macrae Spends a Busy Morning—Mrs. Ahern's Fear for Her Life.

Convicted Sneak Thief Acknowledges Police Attentions—Family and Friends Desert.

A number of interesting cases which had been announced for hearing at the police court yesterday morning attracted an unusually large audience, but the sensational evidence anticipated was not given, the magistrate deciding to adjourn two of the trials to future dates and to shut the public out from a third.

HIS WIFE OBJECTED TO BAIL.

Joseph Ahern, the man who made matters so exciting for a short time in St. George's Hall on Wednesday morning, pleaded not guilty to the charge of aggravated assault preferred against him by Mrs. Pellow. He was represented by Frank Higgins, who asked for an enlargement of the case and that bail be named for his client. The request was granted, and bail fixed at $100. Mrs. Ahern protested against her husband being allowed his liberty at any cost, as he had threatened to kill her before and might do her some injury if released. The magistrate warned the prisoner to keep away from the woman in the meantime and he promised that he would.

TOO ILL TO APPEAR.

Marie Schneider, proprietress of the London Hotel, charged by John Sandycox with the theft of $95, did not appear. Her counsel presented a medical certificate to the effect that she was too ill to attend court, whereupon Sandycox seemed pleased, and jumping to his feet exclaimed "she ought to be sick." The case was adjourned until next Tuesday.

It was on last Monday night that Sandycox claimed to have been robbed. He says he was drinking in the London house and fell asleep with $95 in his pocket. When he awoke he was broke. He reported his troubles to the police, but after looking into the case it was decided that there was no evidence on which to arrest the accused. The accuser then swore out an information and concluded to conduct the prosecution himself.

BOTH HEART AND POCKET TOUCHED.

Walter Montgomery, late of Winnipeg, admitted that he had stolen $50 in cash, some jewelery and other small articles from A. Watson on Tuesday night. When Montgomery departed from Winnipeg he left none too good a reputation behind him. He is possessed of good address and an agreeable manner, and with these advantages he cultivated the acquaintance of Mr. Watson in Tacoma. Both left for Victoria on the same boat, and as the acquaintance ripened, Montgomery gave his confidence to his new found friend. He had come west to improve his fortunes and left a widowed sister, who was dependent upon him behind. He had no money and was at a loss to know how to exist until he obtained work.

Mr. Watson, who has a very generous disposition, was touched by the story. He took Montgomery to his hotel, paid for his breakfast and promised to see that he did not go hungry as long as he could help it and he also invited him to share his room, and at night left his door open so that his guest might come in at any time. Montgomery did not fail to accept all the hospitality offered him. He went to the room and found his friend asleep. He did not disturb him, but quietly went through his pockets and took out all the money and valuables he could find. Then he went to the Trilby theatre and made a good fellow of himself among the danseuses, spending money on wine and bestowing rings and brooches on his favorites. Mr. Watson did not know what had hapened to his pockets until after he had eaten breakfast the next morning. He had only $10 left and this he believes would also have been gone had Montgomery known where to find it. The police were notified and Detective Palmer and Officer Redgrave were detailed to locate the thief which they did in short order. He had but $10 and some small change left when he was found and was asleep on a chair in a saloon.

The magistrate commented on the extreme meanness of the case, but let the prisoner down with a sentence of six months in view of the fact that he was a stranger to the police of this city. Mr. Watson, after telling his story to the court, said he wished to express his thanks for the treatment he had received from the police. Detective Palmer and Officer Redgrave had been very attentive to his case.

SENTENCE IS DEFERRED.

Albert Earle, the ten-year-old boy who was found drunk on Yates street Wednesday afternoon, was with two companions, named Kominski, charged with breaking into the C.P.N. Company's bonded warehouse on Thursday afternoon, and stealing therefrom three dozen bottles of liquor. Young Earle admitted the theft, while the Komiski boys, who acknowledged that they had been associated with him in the theft, attempted to acquit themselves of any blame in the matter. The court heard the evidence, excluding the public the meanwhile, and decided not to deliver sentence until the parents of young Earle were heard from. None of his relatives have been to the police station since his arrest, and this the magistrate thought rather strange.

A. M. Weinrobe, who on Wednesday swore out an information charging Henry Hutber with assault, asked to be allowed to withdraw the charge. The defendant had confessed that he was sorry for hitting him and he did not want to prosecute. The case was dismissed.

Kwong Hing was charged with breach of the wash-house by-law. He pleaded guilty and promised to tear down the objectionable structure, which was a clothes-dying rack, built near to a sidewalk in the open air.

TRADE OF THE WEEK.

Encouraging Features in all Lines Shown by the March Reviewers —The Variations in Price.

Toronto, March 24.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly statement of trade in Canada says: The trade situation in Montreal is not materially changed since a week ago. Country letters, especially from off rail points in this province, report some interference to business and collections from the breaking up of country roads and also in some cases from damaging freshets, due to the late rapid thaw, but considering the season, there is really little cause for complaint as regards general trade. City retail dry goods trade is improving and the wholesale trade report travellers and mail orders as still coming in freely, though the bulk of spring goods are now forwarded. The boot and shoe factories are still well employed, some of them working overtime and being obliged to decline further business. There has been a decline of half a cent in hides and this has led to some slacking off in the demand for leather, but prices are very steadily held it being claimed that leather values are still relatively higher than hides. The movement in groceries is a moderate one. Sugars and teas are both comparatively quiet and values generally have not been subject to any recent change. The March sales of American raw furs in London show a general improvement upon the prices realized a year ago and the advance of January last is well maintained. The London sales now show quite an advance in prices in the last series and local importers of raw wool are as a consequence endeavoring to get something in the way of better prices from woollen manufacturers, but not with much success, so far. In pig iron and other lines of heavy metals there is no great activity, but country stocks of paints, oils, glass, etc., seem pretty well depleted as the wholesale trade report numerous requests for the early dispatch of spring orders. Turpentine has receded a cent from the strong advance of last week.

The money market shows no special variations. The general rate for call funds is still 4½ per cent. though one of the banks has been calling in some of its loans at this figure.

The wholesale trade at Toronto has undergone little or no change. The demands of retailers continue good and the movement is active for the season. In dry goods and hardware reports are more satisfactory and the volume of business for the month will exceed that of corresponding months for many years. All seasonable lines are in demand and manufacturers find it difficult to keep up with orders. Imports of dry goods are heavy while the export trade of the Dominion for the eight months of the fiscal year has never been exceeded. The large and increasing railway traffic reflects the activity in general commerce. In groceries the movement has slightly increased while the leather trade is good. There has been another decrease of half a cent in hides in sympathy with the Western States market. Payments are reported as satisfactory and no failures of prominence are recorded. Money is firm with call loans negotiable at 4½ per cent. Failures for the week were 31 against 50 for the same week of last year.

Another snap, 100 pairs ladies' last year Oxford ties, black, tan and ox blood at $1.00;also a small line of slippers for 25cts., at Geo. H. Maynard, 85 Douglas street.

Mr. W. Blaylock, who recently returned from the Klondike, left for the gold fields again on the steamer Tees last night. He is accompanied on his return trip by James Morrison, late of Weiler Bros., and Chet. Cunningham. They take with them a hydraulic dredge with which they intend to operate on the Salmon river.

A large number of people called at E. J. Saunders & Co.'s, 41 Johnson street, yesterday, and sampled the delicacies cooked with La Mont's crystallized egg. The visitors were unanimous in their opinion that if there was the slightest difference between the taste of crystallized eggs and those taken fresh from the shell it was in favor of the former on account of the exquisite manner in which the cooks, Mrs. Atkins and Miss Carrol, who are in charge, had prepared the eatables.

"I like your city," said a Klondiker to a Colonist reporter yesterday. "Apart from the outfitting advantages which the merchants offer, I don't know of a more attractive spot on the continent. But," he continued, "there is one institution here which has disgusted me, and that is the public library. It is not kept in fit shape to make a visitor feel comfortable and besides I would not find a paper on file, but what was too ancient to be read. Nor are the Y.M.C.A. reading rooms much better."

H. M. S. Sparrowhawk's minstrel troupe gave a successful entertainment at the canteen music room, Esquimalt last night. There was a crowded audience, including Captain Kerby, of H. M.S. Phaeton, and many officers of the ships in port. The choruses were extremely well rendered, and the corner men evoked roars of laughter. In the second part F. Croxford received a deserved encore for his charming song, "The Soldiers of the Queen," and W. Croft for a very clever impersonation of "The Judge." T. Pedrick was loudly applauded in his tenor solos, "When other lips" and "Alice where art thou." C. Fletcher danced the Sailor's Hornpipe in true sailor fashion and was loudly cheered. Mr. W. R. Parsons, R. N., acted as president of the troupe and Lieut. Harvey, R.M.L.I., played the accompaniments. It is intended to repeat the performance in a larger hall when the Sparrowhawk returns from Comox.

Mayor Redfern has posted on the bulletin board in the city hall a motion which he will recommend at the next meeting of the council. It reads as follows: "Whereas certain judgments have been given against the city in the Point Elice bridge cases; and whereas pending appeal to the Privy Council the amounts of said judgments have to be paid into the Supreme court; and whereas in the event of the Privy Council deciding adversely to the city the amount of any judgments obtained will have to be paid at once: It is resolved that the municipal council request the government to enact such an amendment to the Municipal Clauses act as will enable the corporation to borrow the amounts required to be paid into the Supreme court pending the decision of the Privy Council and costs, without being required to repay them before the end of the year; also for authority to enable the council, in the event of the Privy Council deciding against the city, to pass a by-law to borrow on the credit of the municipality any money that may be required to pay all judgments and costs that may be given against the city in the bridge cases, such by-law to be introduced without petition and without the assent of the ratepayers."

The death of Mr. W. J. Tippins, who had been ill for some time past occurred at the late residence, Carey road, on Wednesday morning. The deceased came to Victoria as an officer on board the British warship Boxer at the time of the Crimear war, when it was thought necessary to have protection at this point against the Russian fleet which was at that time stationed at Sitka, Alaska. The funeral will take place on Sunday under the auspices of Columbia lodge No. 2, I. O. O. F., of which deceased was an old member.

A rich claim on Walsh creek has been located by Mr. W. H. Burkholder, of this city. In a letter which has been received from him recently he states that he and forty others happened to be camped for the winter a short distance from Walsh creek, when news of a rich strike there reached them. All left immediately for the scene and staked claims. Mr. Burkholder found on his claim coarse gold on the surface and in the gravel nuggets about the size of peas.

IN EASTERN PROVINCES

Faster Pacific Mail Service Looked for by the Admiralty—Armament for Peterson Ships.

Ontario Pastor's Scheme for New Utopia—Newfoundland's Governor and Ministers.

A communication from the Admiralty office dated May 6th, 1897, states that it has been necessary to modify the plans of the proposed Atlantic fast mail steamers to make provisions for the construction of sponsons suitable for carying quick firing guns at the height of the lower promenade deck. These sponsons are bulging projections, or platforms from the side of the vessels, so that guns may be trained fore and aft. The communication adds: "It was explained to Mr. Peterson that the narowing of the superstructure, which accompanies the adoption of the turret type was disadvantageous to the installation of the armament. Both objections would be practicaly removed by the construction of suitable sponsons. Mr. Peterson, however, adheres to the view that while meeting the Admiralty requirements, he would prefer to adopt this novel type and subject to these requirements being fulfilled, the Admiralty can of course raise no objection."

Another feature of the correspondence is the intimation given by the Under Secretary of State in May last to the Canadian government, that the Imperial subsidy of £50,000 is intended to aid the accomplishment of a fast Pacific, as well as a fast Atlantic service, as follows: "They (the Imperial government) are anxious that it should be clearly understood by the Dominion government that no further subsidy in addition to that now offered is to be looked for from the home government towards the improvement of the Pacific service, and that the sum now promised is to be regarded as in aid of the accomplishment of the Pacific no less than the Atlantic section of the Ottawa scheme."

PACIFIC CABLE.

At a recent meeting of the Ottawa Board of Trade a resolution was passed favoring the early construction of a telegraph cable from British Columbia to Australia, and authorizing the board to appoint a committee to co-operate with the Vancouver Board of Trade in bringing subject before parliament at the present session. In seconding the motion Mr. Garland pointed out the profit of fostering the Australasian market, which already is taking large quantities of harvesting manufactures, cottons and clothing from Canada.

A NEW UTOPIA.

Rev. R. A. Burris, pastor of a church in Bowmanville, proposes to establish a religious colony in the Rainy River district, near Fort Francis. The minister has arranged for a large number of settlers from various portions of the States to accompany him to the district named, where they will establish a little Utopia all their own. They are starting at once, and have asked the Ontario department of crown lands to survey a new township for them. Their request will be considered so soon as it is seen whether the number of colonists warrants such a course.

M. Raoul Rinfert, C.E., of Montreal, who leaves shortly for the Yukon with the Slaven-Boyd party, has been commissioned by Minister Sifton to organize a meteorological service in the Yukon country, as well as to make certain surveys for the Interior Department.

Judgment has been given in favor of the Bank of Toronto against the insurance companies, who resisted payment, for the $219,000 of insurance carried on the stock of the John Eaton Company.

The suggestion of the Toronto Presbyterian ministers who have been studying the "restlessness" question is that a presbyterial committee shall sit on applications for or by vacant charges and shall make appointments as its wisdom dictates.

A CAUTIOUS GOVERNOR.

The relations between the governor, Sir Herbert Murray, and the Newfoundland ministry, over the railway bill, were for a second time strained. At the request of the Colonial Office a supplementary bill, declaring that the Anglo-American Telegraph Company's rights were not affected by the railway bill, was enacted, and the Governor refused to sign the railway bill until the telegraph company's counsel should say the protection was sufficient. The ministers chafed at awaiting such an answer. They say the Governor has no right to consult persons outside the council. After several days' suspense the Premier was notified by the colonial office that the telegraph bill was satisfactory, and he forthwith signed the railway measure.

THE RAILROAD WAR.

Heavy California Trade Developing—Dissatisfied Travellers Condemn the American Roads.

The Pacific Coast Steamship Co.'s steamer Umatilla, arriving from San Francisco last evening, had 48 first saloon and 141 second cabin passengers for Eastern points who will travel over the C.P.R. A large crowd of Californians also arrived on the City of Puebla some few days ago for the same purpose, and as time advances the travel from the south of the Canadian road is expected to increase. From points in the East competition is also tending to enlarge the railroad's business, and on one train alone leaving Toronto a few days ago 810 settlers for the Northwest took their departure.

That the C.P.R. is going to make an interesting and hard fight in the big railroad war inaugurated a month or so ago would seem evident from the above and many more similar indications, and the effect of so many Californians passing through the city is bound to be of benefit to Victoria. Some of the parties who have lately arrived here from Quebec over the American roads and en route to the Klondike are loud in their condemnation of the treatment they received.

Some have even gone so far as to leave signed statements of their dissatisfaction, to be forwarded to Eastern papers as a warning to prospective travellers not to come West as they have come. Among these parties are two composed of French-Canadians, one headed by R. F. Robertson, which is staying at the Dominion, and the other, under the leadership of Mr. Sehl, stopping at the Wilson.

The statement to which the first party has affixed its endorsement says that the party was promised in buying their tickets for the West via St. Paul, a through sleeper to Seattle. When it reached St. Paul, however, the Great Northern refused the sleeper, and the party was forced to take an ordinary car. It was in this for a day, when a second change was made—the party being put this time in a car in which for two days no drinking water could be obtained. The party, which numbers twelve, left Montreal on Tuesday, March 15, and arrived here on the City of Kingston Wednesday morning.

The second party, numbering twenty-two came West on a special car, but has other grievances to make.

NEATLY AND EXPEDITIOUSLY.

Tony Jerryowich Returns to Victoria For a Brief Visit, But May Remain a Few Months.

A daring robbery and a prompt and clever piece of detective work were executed in the city inside of two hours yesterday.

Tony Jerryowich, who left Victoria about two years ago after being mixed up in a theft case, returned from Seattle by the steamer City of Kingston yesterday morning, evidently with the intention of scooping up considerable of other people's property and then departing. He was armed with about a dozen skeleton keys, all of different sizes and shapes. He had not been in the city very long when he was met on the stairway of the Vernon house by the landlady who questioned him about his business there. He replied that he was looking for a friend named Byloff, and passed on without giving the woman much chance to size him up.

Ten minutes later the landlady was informed by Mr. G. A. Strazza, a guest, that he had been robbed. He had left his roo to take a bath, and being clothed in a bathrobe he left all his clothes in his room behind him, locking the door when he went out. When he returned his watch, money and some other valuables were gone.

The police department was at once communicated with and Detective Palmer was detailed to look into the mystery. The landlady gave him a brief, but indefinite description of the man whom she had met on the stairs, and with this as his only clue, the detective started out to hunt for the thief. He encountered Jerryowich in the rotunda of the Driard. He was wearing more the air of a man who had made a million in Klondike than of one who would be guilty of robbing a man of his watch and money. This did not throw the officer off his scent, however, and quietly taking Jerryowich to one side he informed him that he was wanted by the authorities and what for.

Jerryowich was astonished, but probably more at the promptness of the arrest than the accusation. He denied the charge and was quite willing to show everything he had on his person. Had the detective been satisfied with evidence of this kind his prisoner would have easily established his innocence, for he had not a single article of the missing property on him. The detective, however, was not satisfied and escorted him to the police station. A search of the prisoner's room in a city hotel afterwards revealed Mr. Strazza's watch, a very valuable one, and a few more keys besides those which were found in the prisoner's pockets.

A pair of marine glasses were also found in the prisoner's room, but whether they are stolen property or not the police do not know.

The case will come before Magistrate Macrae this morning.

YANKEE SHARP PRACTICE.

Even Port Townsend a Trifle Ashamed of the "Corona's" Cheap Theatrical Play.

Taking for a text the Washington despatch as to the Treasury's action in the Corona case, the Port Townsend Call publishes the following: "From this it is plain to be seen that poor old confiding good natured Uncle Sam has had his leg artistically pulled by the steamship company for, on the face of it, it appears ridiculous that, were the Corona in need of any assistance whatever, the owners, practical steamship men themselves, should appeal to the government for the help of a vessel which could hardly be expeted to more than take care of herself in anything of a storm. The Perry was never famed as a racer, and like most of the old time cutters, has little more power than is necesary to keep her from going astern against a strong tide.

"It looks to a man up a tree as though the owners of the Corona anticipated some difficulty when they came to 'accidently' slip the hawser of the British tug Lorne which was towing them into a British port where all sorts of real and imaginary complications awaited her, and thought that the presence of a United States vessel, no matter how unimportant she was, would preclude the possibility of any protest being made by the towing people under John Bull's flag.

"In reporting to the collector of customs at Victoria, the matter of being given the slip by the steamer, the Lorne's skipper lays particular stress upon the fact that the 'U.S. ship Perry was present at the time and remained in the immediate vicinity until the Corona was well over the imaginary line in the staits and into American waters.'

"While no true American will criticise or condemn the Corona people for having, in true Yankee fashion, escaped from whatever there might have been in store for her in a British port, it certainly seems that these sons of Uncle Sam did not show proper respect for the old man in allowing him to advertise the fact, as he does in the above despatch, that, as a result of his kindness, 'one of his legs is longer than it really ought to be.'

"Whatever grudge the Victorians may harbor against the Corona will have to be 'harbored' indefinitely, for it is announced on very good authority that she has seen her last service on the northern route or in truth on any route that would give the Britishers a chance to seize her or otherwise make trouble. When the Corona has been repaired she will return to the Southern California run she left to go on the Alaska route, and her place here will be taken by one of the company's numerous vesels now being operated south out of San Francisco. The company's new vessel, the steamship Curacao, will not, as was originally intended, be sent north, but will at once go into the Central American-Mexico route.

"Work is progresing splendidly at Union dock with the discharging of the Corona, and it is expected that she will get away on Thursday (to-day). She will go direct to Quartermaster harbor, where she will be put on the drydock for repairs, and the length of time necessary for her to remain there is at present an uncertainty.

All of them good, but Griffith's Norwegian Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil is superior to all others. Our bottle is equal in medicinal value to at least two of any other Emulsion and it also has the additional value of the Iron and Manganese which are the two most essential elements of pure rich blood. Sold by all Druggists, 50cts., and $1.00.

200 pairs men's tweed pants, $1.25 pair. B. Williams & Co.

GRAHAM'S WATER BILL

The Legislature Kills It on the Second Reading After a Long Discussion.

Master and Servant Bill Amended so as Not to Discriminate Against Canadians.

THURSDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

The legislature yesterday spent a somewhat quiet afternoon, after the excitement of the previous evening. Mr. Helmcken's Alien Labor bill came up again on second reading, but the debate was further adjourned. Mr. Graham's Water Clauses Amendment bill was killed on second reading by 17 to 12, and the women's franchise petition was read for the edification of the members.

The house was opened with prayer by Rev. J. B. Haslam.

ENFRANCHISEMENT OF WOMEN.

The petition presented the previous night by Mr. Helmcken, asking for the extension of the franchise to women was read and received. It is as follows:

"Whereas, the women of British Columbia compose a large proportion of the entire population, and in their various spheres and occupations contribute to the growth and upbuilding of the province; and whereas, in the homes and schools of British Columbia, in the great movements of philanthropy and all moral reform, women have labored unceasingly to inculcate the highest and noblest principles of human conduct, thereby promoting the purest patriotism; and whereas, in mental and moral power, educational attainments, and industrial effort, the average woman equals the average man, and in all that constitutes true and natural citizenship, viz., intelligence, industry, love of home and country, the power to produce wealth, and to share the national burdens, the average woman has proved herself equal to the average man—and whereas, the school and municipal suffrage granted to the women of our province have been attended with most beneficial results; therefore, the undersigned petitioners hereby declare their conviction that woman's disfranchisement should cease; that the test of sex in citizenship is a gross injustice to half the people and a direct violation of the principles of representation by population; therefore, your petitioners humbly pray your honorable body to pass a measure providing that the rights of citizenship shall not be abridged or denied on account of sex, but that the right to vote at elections for members of the Legislative Assembly? shall be extended to the women of the province."

RETURNS WANTED.

Dr. Walkem moved for correspondence between the Provincial Board of Health and the municipal authority at Nelson. In doing so he said that the board had informed the town authorities that they had to dispose of their sewage in some other way than by allowing it to drain into the Kootenay river. He claimed that the system wanted by the board was expensive and that no harm would result from allowing the city to drain the sewage into the river.

The Premier had no objection to the resolution, and explained that the government had already been asked by some of the towns interested to send up an engineer to enquire into the best system to be adopted. This engineer would be sent at once and he believed a plan would be devised satisfactory to all concerned.

The resolution was carried.

The leader of the opposition moved for a return of the opinion of Hon. Edward Blake on Koksilah v. the Queen. This was agreed to.

Mr. Sword introduced a bill to incorporate the Portland & Stikine railway, and the bill was read a first time.

Mr. Helmcken asked the Attorney-General: "Having regard to the decision of the privy council in the case of 'The Attorney-General for the Dominion of Canada vs. the Attorney-General of the province of Ontario' (A. C. 1898, p. 247), with reference to the appointment of queen's counsels, is it the intention of the government to introduce legislation at the present session dealing with the question?"

The Attorney-General—"The matter is being considered."

Mr. Kellie asked the Minister of Finance: 1. Did the Dominion government agree to co-operate in equal amount with the Provincial government in 1894-5 in the protection of the river bank at Revelstoke, upon representation made by the Provincial government? 2. Did the Dominion government last year put an appropriation in their estimates of $10,500 for this protection work, contingent on the Provincial government contributing a like or equal amount? 3. Upon what ground was the offered co-operation declined? 4. Does the Provincial government still hold to the ground upon which it declined to assist or co-operate? 5. Is the Provincial government now doing this work alone? 6. How much, if so, is it to cost, and how has provision been made for it?

The Hon. Mr. Turner replied: 1. Yes. There was a mutual agreement for the expenditure of $10,000to be advanced equally by the Dominion and the province. This sum was to be spent during the year 1895, for the purpose of the protection of the bank at Revelstoke. 2. Not last year. In the year 1896 the Dominion government placed a sum of $10,500 on the estimates, to be spent in protecting the river bank at Revelstoke. This vote was contingent on the province voting a similar amount for the same purpose. The Provincial government was not communicatd with before the vote was placed on the Dominion estimaes, and the Provincial government had no knowledge of the vote until the month of January or February, 1897. 3. The Provincial government placed no sum in the estimates for the year 1897, as they were of the opinion that such work was such as devolved on the Dominion government, and had only joined with the Dominion in the year 1895, as above stated, on account of the extreme urgency of the case, and that unless such work were done during the spring of 1895 more dire results would follow, on account of the impending erosion of the river banks. 4 Yes. 5. Yes; on account of the urgency above mentioned. 6. Cannot say what it would cost. Provision wil be made in the estimates. Meantime, a special warrant will be issued."

Mr. Higgins asked the Attorney-General: Has your attention been called to an alteration in the "Land Registry Act," sec. 42, Con. Stat., 1888, by the insertion in sec. 50 of the "Land Registry Act," Con. Stat, 1897, of the words "in writing"? If so, is it your intention to introduce a bill during the present session to restore the section to its original form?

The Attorney-General to the first question answered: "Yes," and to the second said the act was to be amended this session and the matter could then be considered.

Mr. Higgins' reason for this question is that the words "in writing" inserted in Con. Stat, 1897, by the commissioners are calculated to prevent the consummation of some sales in the absence of the owners who do not always leave their instructions "in writing" as to a particular piece of property, but are merely given a general power.

The Premier in answer to Mr. Semlin said the government had received a petition for the construction of a bridge over the Fraser at Chimney Creek.

ALIEN LABOR BILL.

Mr. Kidd resumed the debate on the second reading of Mr. Helmcken's Alien Labor bill, and supported it on the ground that it was advisable to keep this country as much as possible for the Anglo-Saxon race. Lord Kelvin when he was here had in the course of a speech said in speaking of the province that "paramount was the growth of the British race." Mr. Kidd's deduction from this was that by the propagation of the white race only could this be done.

Mr. Rithet had understood the last time the debate was adjourned that it was for the purpose of learning what disposition the Governor-General would make of the similar bill passed last year. To enable the information to be brought down, he moved for a further adjournment.

The leader of the opposition would not consent to an adjournment of the debate unless some definite time could be fixed.

The Premier recalled that one clear year had not elapsed since the last act was passed and the government were taking steps to ascertain how the matter stood at Ottawa.

Mr. Helmcken in view of the information hoped there would be no objection to the adjournment of the debate.

Mr. Forster precipitated a little discussion by claiming that it was by the advice of the members of the executive that the Lieutenant-Governor withheld his assent from last year's bill.

Dr. Walkem in response to this statement called out: "The hon gentleman knows better than that."

Mr. Hunter quoted parliamentary authorities to show that the Lieutenant-Governor was exercising his prerogative in referring the bill to Ottawa and had done so without any interference from the government.

Mr. Sword saw no reason for an adjournment. The chances were that the bill passed last session would not be assented to and the house might just as well proceed with this one.

The second reading of the bill was further adjourned.

The house went into committee on the Master and Servant bill, Mr. Huff in the chair. A discussion rose at the outset, on section 2, Dr. Walkem stating an objection against the whole bill, which would not, he said, meet the objects for which it was aimed.

The Premier, too, objected that the bill was unpatriotic and against the whole principle of confederation as it legislated against other parts of Canada and would be calculated to arouse sectional jealousies. He moved that the bill be amended to apply only to contracts made outside of the Dominion of Canada.

Mr. Semlin took the same stand that he had on the second reading, that the bill was really in the interests of the eastern laborers and would prevent them from being brought under false representations to British Columbia.

The Premier's amendment it was claimed by Mr. Cotton and others would alter the whole character of the bill and could not be admitted in committee, the house having already adopted the principle of the measure.

The chairman ruled the amendment in order and his ruling being questioned the speaker was called in and appealed to, the chairman's ruling being sustained. Committee was then resumed, the amendment carried, and the committee rose, reporting the bill complete with amendments.

WATER CLAUSES BILL.

On the second reading being reached of Mr. Graham's Water Clauses Amendment bill, Mr. Speaker gave his ruling on the question raised some days ago as to whether the water rights referred to in the bill were Crown property. He ruled that the bill did not affect the rights of the Crown and was therefore in order.

The provisions of the bill were to repeal section 41 and insert instead:

"41. Any municipality shall from time to time where a sufficient supply of unrecorded water is not available within reasonable limits of distance and expenditure, have, subject to the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, the right of expropriation over recorded water and all works in connection therewith to the extent deemed necessary by the municipality to obtain a proper and sufficient source of water supply for ordinary purposes.

"(a.) The provisions of this section shall apply to recorded water held under previous acts.

"(b.) In expropriating such water, when it has not been used for a period of five years prior to such expropriation, the arbitrators shall take as the basis of their valuation, the amount which would be required to construct such works as may exist at the date of such arbitration, and the condition in which the works are in at such date, and shall not allow anything for the value of such recordded water."

Dr. Walkem opposed the bill, as it was in his opinion merely an excuse for confiscating the water record of one particular man.

Mr. Smith also took strong ground against the bill, as it was an infringement of privtae rights.

The Attorney-General maintained that the bill did nothing more than to legalize confiscation. It was a general bill, apparently brought in for no other purpose than to take away the private water rights of one particular man. When the Water Clauses Consolidation bill was brought in last year, great care had been taken not to injure previously existing records. Now, however, it was proposed to extend the present municipal powers of expropriation insofar that water might be taken, not only for household purposes as described in the present act, but under the very vague term of "municipal purposes." On these grounds he certainly opposed the second reading.

Mr. Sword claimed that the only additional power given in the main section was that municipalities could expropriate water for any municipal purposes.

Hon. Mr. Pooley did not know whom the person was that the bill intended to deprive of his water, but he certainly objected to such a bill being brought into the house. A man had a right to his own property, and it would be very wrong to permit what was practically confiscation.

Mr. Cotton claimed that the only difference between this bill and the Water Clauses Act of last year was the extension of the power of expropriation for all municipal purposes.

The second reading was lost, 12 members voting for it and 17 against.

The house then adjourned.

FREE TO LADIES.

We will give one lady in each town or village a full sized $2 case of LUXURA, the only Toilet article in the world that will develop the bust or any part of the female form, remove wrinkles, etc. Write to-day for it G. M. WIGGIN, 12 NW 3rd and Street, New York.

Following is the return presented in the legislature of the number of voters in the province at the 31st of January last:—

	Voters.	Applicants.
Comox	547	52
Cowichan-Alberni	669	20
Esquimalt	478	34
Nanaimo	972	76
Nanaimo N.	702	12
Nanaimo S	314	18
Victoria City	5,762	292
Victoria N	357	15
Victoria S	635	40
Cariboo	566	33
Cassiar (Stikine)—No returns.		
Cassiar (Skeena)	199	97
Kootenay E. (Donald)	580	10
Kootenay E (Ft. Steele)	133	22
Kootenay W. (Revelstoke	600	744
Kootenay W.(Trail Ck)	312	286
Kootenay S.	1,383	484
Lillooet E.	273	15
Lillooet W.	208	21
Westminster City	1,493	12
Vancouver City	3,949	81
Delta	1,136	7
Chilliwack	743	41
Dewdney	818	52
Richmond	964	11
Yale N.	958	109
Yale E.	1,480	53
Yale W.	562	80
Total	26,793	2,718

The Provincial Secretary yesterday presented returns of correspondence under the Water Clauses Act.

Board of Health, $7,500.

Superannuation allowances are made to G. Cowan, $240; C. H. F. Blake, $300; T. H. Giffen, B. Evans, $480; J. D. Campbell, $360.

IN CASE WE SHOULD FALL.

The tight-rope performerin the show is not likely to fall, but if he does, there is the net to catch him. Down he goes into it, bounces two or three times like an india-rubber ball, and then picks himself up again with whole bones and unscratched skin. No doubt the knowledge that he is safe makes him all the more fre and easy as he cavorts about over our heads.

Let me ask you, then, "Is it not the matter of living, and finding money enough to keep things going, a good deal like a tight-rope performance for most of us? Indeed it is—with an important difference. When we fall, through accident or illness, we fall to the ground; there is never a net to save us. By reading the following letter you wil see more clearly the force of the comparison.

"In April, 1892, my health began to give way. I didn't understand the nature or the cause of my ailment. I can only say vaguely that I felt as if some strange thing had overtaken me. My ambition and power to do good work were suddenly gone. I felt heavy and weak, and was easily tired. In my mouth there was a foul taste, something like addlet eggs, and I was constantly spitting up a sour fluid that seemed almost to burn my throat.

"From having been a hearty eater my appetite fell away until I no longer had any relish for food. After taking what I could manage to eat, I had great pain and weight on the chest, and a sensation of gnawing in the stomach, as if some living thing were setting to work to devour me inwardly. I fancied also that my kidneys must be disordered as the secretion from them was thick and highly colored.

"The effect of all this upon my nerves was one of the most distressing elements of the case. I got scarcely any sleep, and dark spots seemed to float before my eyes. I had dreadful pains in my head, and cold, clammy sweats used to break out all over my body. Like the great majority of men, I earned my living by my labor, and now during this illness, I was obliged to leave my work time after time—occasionally for weeks together. What this means to a person in my situation, any worker will understand without further explanation. The doctor whom I consulted did his best, but proved unable to help me.

"My cure finally came about as thousands of others have done in this country. While I was still weak and miserable, having, so far as I could see, no chance of ever being well again, a small pamphlet was left at our house describing Mother Seigel's Syrup and its peculiar virtues in complaints like mine. The book contained letters and statements from people who had been cured by this medicine after every other kind of treatment had turned out to be of no avail. In plain words it showed how most of the diseases are really the consequence of indigestion, and that it is the stomach that needs to be set right in order to have all the other organs of the body come right. And my experience taught me that it is a true doctrine.

"Briefly, then, I got a bottle of the Syrup from Mr. Doubleday, the chemist at Bingham, and after taking it I felt great relief. My appetite was better and my food agreed with me. The pain in my back left me and I knew nothing more of any trouble with my kidneys. When I had taken three bottles of the Syrup I was completely cured, and have enjoyed good health ever since. I desire to express my thanks to you for what your great remedy has done for me. (Signed) Charles Laughton, Hawksworth, near Bingham, Notts, March 20th, 1895."

Across this printed page the writer holds out his hand to Mr. Laughton and congratulates him on two things—his recovery and his manliness in furnishing the foregoing short account of it for publication. It will, I am sure, be especially welcome to the great host of men and women whose income stops when work stops; that is to say, those who have no soft place in the shape of a fixed income to fall on when their hands lie useless on beds of pain. People who are rich or well-to-do have nothing but the illness to bear; but they are comparatively few. With the rest of us the dreadful combination is pain and poverty. We must keep in health, if possible; but when we are laid up it is a comfort to know Mother Seigel's Syrup is ready to rebuke disease and enable us once more to answer the call of duty.

BY WAY OF VARIETY.

He had been boasting of his family tree, and Miss Cayenne interrupted with the inquiry:

"Isn't it something like the orchard?"

In what respect?"

""All branches and no doots."—Washington Star.

Returned traveller—One of the sailors lost both legs when the boier exploded.

Friend—Poor fellow! Did the passenger take up a collection for him?

Returned Traveller—Oh, yes! Quite enough to put him on his feet again.—Brooklyn Life.

She—It seemed so funny to-day to see young men in deercoats taking young ladies in to treat them to ice cream.

He—Y-ees. Too bad I left my overcoat at home.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"Yes," said the professional pugilist, "I began at the foot, and have gradually

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.