{Local News}

(From Tuesday's Daily.)

Another Sawmill.—From an advertisement appearing in the Colonist, it appears quite likely that before long Victoria will have another sawmill, Messrs. Moore & Whittington having made application to the Dominion government for waterfront privileges at the end of Pleasant street. Should the application be granted, they intend erecting a mill having a capacity of 20,000 feet per days.

Citizens, Attention!—Citizens are reminded that the Christmas mail will be a heavy one and anyone desiring to send Christmas letters or cards to their friends in the city should send them through the post not later than Thursday, so as to ensure their delivery for Christmas.

Further Publicity.—The Tourist Association were advised yesterday by the editor of the "Sunset" Magazine that the beautiful illustrated article descriptive of Victoria and its surroundings, which had lately appeared in that magazine, had been republished in the Telegram, of Colorado Springs, Colo., one of the greatest tourist resorts on the continent.

Quiet Wedding.—Rev. J. P. Westman performed the ceremony which united in marriage Wm. John Roe, of Victoria, and Miss Marguerite Bierman, formerly of Nanaimo but now of this city, at the Centennial Methodist church last night. Only the intimate friends of the young people were present.

Accidental Poisoning.—A despatch from Cloverdale, B. C., dated Sunday, stated that Violet Harper, aged 18 months, accidentally poisoned herself near Cloverdale on Saturday by eating a dozen tablets of Ferrozone. She died an hour later during violent convulsions. The resident physician, Dr. Kendall, suspects strychnine.

Generous Donations.—W. Fernie, of Oak Bay, yesterday handed to Secretary Ellworthy, of the Provincial Royal Jubilee hospital board, donations to the hospital and several of the charitable institutions of the city. Of the $40 handed in, $10 is to go to the Jubilee hospital, $10 to the Protestant Orphans' Home, $10 to the Old Men's Home and $10 to the Old Women's Home.

Legal Business.—Mr. Justice Irving took a number of applications in Chambers yesterday. Mr. Bradburn, for the city, applied for and received directions as to service of notice on taxpayers in arrears under the provisions of the Tax Sale Bylaw. In Turner et al. vs. Clanton, an application by the plaintiffs for a declaration that they are entitled as devisees to certain land, was stood over until Wednesday. In the suit of the Horsefly Mining Company and Ward, an order for security for costs amounting to $300 was made on the application of the plaintiff. An order for discovery within ten days was made in the case of Cheney et al. vs. Harrison. Mr. Heisterman was granted probate in the estate of Constance L. Davie, deceased.

Coal Business Improving.—It is reported from Ladysmith that the coal export business, which during the early part of the month had been very dull, has taken a sudden spurt, and it is understood that in January, when the big contracts that the Southern Pacific railway entered into for Australian coal during the strike here shall have ended, there will be a great increase in the tonnage exported from here. There were no less than eleven vessels lying along the bunkers yesterday taking on coal. The Titania is back for cargo for San Francisco, and before Christmas more than 10,000 tons will have been shipped this week.

Benefit H. B. Company.—The London Financial Times, in a recent issue, had the following: Heavy buying of Grand Trunk railway junior issues has lately taken place on the prospects of an early commencement of construction of the Pacific extension. Undoubtedly this opens up a wide range of possibilities in the future, though we may remind enthusiasts that the new line will take a number of years to build. The construction of this new line is of more immediate interest to the Hudson's Bay Company. It will open up for settlement, section by section as the line is constructed, a vast new area in which this company has large land possessions, and will facilitate the sales of such land at good prices. The price has, of course, been appreciating for some time.

For the Holidays.—For the Christmas and New Year holidays the Esquimalt and Nanaimo railway are putting in effect excursion rates between all points, the tickets being on sale from Saturday, December 24th, until Sunday, January 1st, inclusive with final return limit Tuesday, January 3rd. The regular train service will be in effect with the exception that on Christmas Day, Sunday 25th inst., all trains are cancelled.

Veteran Association.—The annual meeting of the Vancouver Island Veteran Association will be held in the Pioneer Hall, Broad street, on the second Tuesday, 10th of January, 1905, at 8 o'clock p. m. This meeting will be the most important of any held since the organization of the association. A full attendance of the veterans resident in the city, and country, is an absolute necessity as matters of importance affecting the future of the association will be brought up for discussion and decision. The election of officers for 1905 and the financial status of the association to be considered.

Chinese Conspiracy Case.—In the Police court yesterday the preliminary hearing of the charge of conspiracy to secure the conviction of Wong On and Wong Gow for murder, which has been preferred against Wong Fook, Charley Fook, Sai Quan and Lo Yuen, was heard. Warrants had been issued for the arrest of the Chinese since the trial of other Chinese for the same offence, and they surrendered themselves. The evidence heard yesterday was similar to that advanced at the previous trials, when the prisoners were committed for trial. Judge Harrison will set a date for their trial today. The Chinese who were before the police magistrate yesterday were remanded until this afternoon, when the preliminary hearing of their case will be continued.

Was Getting Ready.—Skidegate Tom is an Indian; he lives at Skidegate. Not long before the steamer Tees left that port on her last trip the native had placed himself in communication with one of the correspondence schools which educate all those who are willing to pay by mail. The Indian had read that those who took the course earned eighteen dollars a week thereafter, so he read the advertisement. He wrote to the effect that he wanted eighteen dollars a week. The school sent Tom a card which he was to fill out and return. He was asked to give his name ,address, present and past occupations. This is what he wrote: Name, Skidegate Tom; address, Skidegate; present occupation, "getting ready for Christmas"; past occupation, housekeeping.

(From Wednesday's Daily.)

The Chinese Case.—The Chinese conspiracy case was resumed yesterday afternoon, when all the evidence submitted at the preliminary hearing was heard. The case was adjourned until this morning, when it is expected the accused will be committed for trial.

Christmas Excursions.—The local agent of the C. P. R. states that arrangements have been made for excursions to and from Vancouver during the Christmas holidays. A special rate of $3 for the round trip will be charged, good leaving Victoria on December 24, 25, 31 and January 1, the final date for return being January 4.

Will Visit Liner.—The Board of Trade has been invited by the local agent of the Great Northern railway to visit the steamer Minnesota when that vessel anchors off this port on Thursday. K. J. Burns, local agent of the company, yesterday addressed a letter to the Board of Trade formally inviting the members to join a party which he will take on board the steamer Otten, chartered to convey those invited to the liner.

Precious Berried Holly—Local florists say that it is years since berried holly was so scarce in Victoria. The commodity has been exceedingly difficult to procure at any price. As to the reason for the failure of the crop this season, some are inclined to think that the open winter of 1903-04 has had a good deal to do with it, as the holly needs, like the peerless apples of Ontario, a good hard pinch of Jack Frost's fingers to come to perfection.

Legal Business.—Mr. Justice Irving heard several applications in Supreme Court chambers yesterday. An appeal from an award of fence viewers in Webster vs. Bowker was taken by Mr. Elliott on the ground that the fence viewers had exceeded their authority. His Lordship decided to view the ditch over which the dispute arose. Mr. Gregory was granted probate in the estate of W. A. Franklin, deceased. A motion for an order to take accounts and for foreclosure in Bryden vs. Helmcken was refused.

Exhibition of Paintings.—Miss Eleanor F. Jackson has now on view in the vacant store at the corner of Government and Broughton streets thirty-five water colors, mostly copies of pictures exhibited at the Royal Victoria and the Tate Gallery in London, by David Cox, Birket Foster MacWhirter, Whittaker, Karl Heffner, Mackintosh, Fred Walker and other noted painters. The exhibition opened yesterday morning and will close today at noon. The studies are well worth a visit. Although most of the works are copies there are some originals, and all show painstaking zeal in the difficult art of depiction and coloration. The views comprise studies in England, Scotland, Wales and the continent of Europe, and they are being sold at suitable prices.

Mr. Hamilton Missing.—Some alarm is felt in Vancouver at the continued absence from his place of business at Van Anda of Mr. William Hamilton, who suddenly disappeared on the night of Wednesday, December 14th. It was reported that he had gone on board the steamer Cassiar to see a friend off for Vancouver, but no one saw him come off again, and enquiry of the members of the crew elicited no information of a definite nature. If this should meet his eye, he is urgently requested to communicate with his anxious wife and family at Van Anda.

Portrait of a Dog.—In the Fort street window of Mr. D. E. Campbell's drug store is a painting that should interest all sportsmen. It is a study in oils of Mr. Campbell's favorite Irish setter dog Flash, which departed this life about a year ago, deeply lamented not only by his master, but by all who had the pleasure of Flash's exceedingly genial acquaintance. Miss Helene Beygrau has succeeded in producing from a photograph of the old sport a picture of which any dog-lover might well be proud. Flash is taken seated, and calmly surveying the world through his two deep brown eyes, with that wise and sober look that makes many people incline strongly toward the theory that dogs have souls. Miss Beygrau has caught the expression admirably, while the treatment of the fur and the characteristic pose of the fine animal are all done to the life. The portrait is life-size. It will be one of Mr. Campbell's most treasured possessions.

The Christmas Windows—Never have the shop windows of Victoria looked brighter or better on a Christmastide. Government and the other main thoroughfares are ablaze with illumination until a late hour every evening, while happy throngs promenade the sidewalks and also take their turn inspecting the heaps of pretty, useful and valuable articles to be found on the counters within. Most of the storekeepers report a very good Christmas business, some indeed that it is the best for many seasons. There seems to be a feeling of confidence in the immediate future, consequent, no doubt, on the incoming here of the C. P. R. and the still further prospect of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company beginning work on the coast. Those are important factors in influencing trade, even in the retail section. No one should miss the opportunity to pay a visit to the leading stores and see the fine displays, which are even finer than they were last year.

Farmers' Institutes. — The Rural Northwest of Portland, Ore., of December 15th says: "Prof. E. R. Lake of the Oregon Agricultural College has been addressing a number of agricultural institutes in British Columbia this month upon the invitation of Mr. J. R. Anderson, deputy minister of agriculture for that province. In no other portion of the Pacific Northwest has the work of Farmers' Institutes received as much attention as in British Columbia. The Farmers' Institutes there are organized societies which hold regular meetings. The regular meetings are arranged by the deputy minister of agriculture in series and able speakers are provided. Prof. Lake has favored us with an interesting article upon the beautiful Okanagan country in British Columbia."

(From Thursday's Daily.)

Sidney Mill Sold.—The mills and yards belonging to the Sidney Lumber Company were sold by auction by the sheriff on Saturday for $000.

Gone, But Not Lamented.—Yesterday afternoon all those ancient wooden buildings which added picturesqueness to the southeast corner of Government and Humboldt streets, disappeared, and it was to the old resident whose eye looked for them, as if Victoria had lost something. The vacancy that now reigns there is a distinct modern improvement.

Legal Business.—Mr. Justice Martin heard several applications in Chambers yesterday. In Solomon vs. the Victoria Logging Company an order was made for judgment with costs on the County Court scale, leave being granted defendant to set up a counter claim, with a stay of execution of judgment for one week. In Pardonnet vs. Duval motion for foreclosure a decree nisi was granted.

Doing Good Work.—In response to a call from the corner of Humboldt and Government streets the patrol wagon made a smart trip from headquarters to accommodate an obstreperous member of the Work Point force, who had been laying down the law and "several other people" in one of the houses of entertainment near by the post office. The unceremonious manner in which the unruly offender was bundled into the wagon made many passers-by smile.

Ladysmith is Flourishing.—Mr. John W. Coburn, mayor of Ladysmith and managing director of the Ladysmith Lumber Company, Limited, was in town yesterday, and in reply to a question from a Colonist man said that Ladysmith was enjoying its full share of prosperity, also that the prospects of the town were never better. The mayor, council and citizens of Ladysmith are looking forward to phenomenal development of the ambitious little city during the coming year. Mayor Coburn, who was here on business, returns to Ladysmith this morning.

Financial Notes.—The directors of the British Columbia Canning Company, Limited, have recommended a dividend of 5 per cent for the year ended May 31st last, placing £500 to reserve (making that fund £9,500), and carrying forward £66. There has been an advance recently in the shares of the B. C. Electric Railway Company, and also those of the Vancouver Power Company, on the London Stock Exchange. The preferred shares of the former are two points higher at 100 to 105. Vancouver Power Company's 4½ per cent. debentures are one point higher at 98 to 101.—The Canadian Land and Ranche Company, Limited, was registered at Somerset House on November 25th to acquire the undertaking of a company of the same name. The capital is £20,000 in £1 shares. The directors are A. F. Eden (chairman and managing director), J. Rathbone, A. D. Fairbairn and D. H. Andrews (manager).

Santa Came.—The Elk Lake schoolhouse was packed on Saturday evening last by the parents and friends of the scholars who rendered a well arranged programme of recitations, songs and dialogues to mark the closing exercises, under their excellent teacher, Mr. Frederic Wood, whose faithful and energetic work, since his appointment last August, was quite apparent. This school's reputation for entertaining was amply demonstrated by the large number of visitors present. Trustee H. Tanner, M. P. P., filled the position of chairman very acceptably. Mr. Fred Richardson delighted the audience with a number of comic songs. Santa Claus arrived about 9:30 p. m. and soon spoiled the appearance of the Christmas tree to the delight of the small boy. A liberal supply of cake and coffee was then served to all, after which a vote of thanks to the chairman was given. Cheers for the teacher and school terminated a pleasant evening's entertainment.

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Along The Waterfront

Minnesota Will Arrive Today—Preparations to Meet the Liner.

Aorangi Expected Today From Australia Yangtsze Comes for Cargo.

(From Thursday's Daily.)

Elaborate preparations are being made at Seattle for the reception of the new liner Minnesota, which is expected to arrive here this afternoon from San Francisco. The steamer Otter has been chartered to convey a party of Victorians to the steamer on her arrival. The steamer will take the Chinese crew, which has been awaiting here, to William Head, where the Orientals will be put on board the vessel. Then the Otter will return to embark the guests of the Minnesota's agent, Mr. K. J. Burns. The Board of Trade and municipal council and many representative business men have been invited to inspect the steamer. When the Minnesota arrived at San Francisco Captain Truebridge had an uncomfortable few minutes owing to an earthquake shock which occurred coincident with the arrival off San Francisco. Captain Alex. Swanson was the pilot who brought the Minnesota into port at the Golden Gate. The weather was thick, and, preferring to take no chances with J. J. Hill's $3,000,000 floating hotel, Swanson decided to come to an anchor until morning. Eleven fathoms of water the lead line showed, and pilot and skipper went to sleep with easy minds. At 7:07 a. m. the sleepers were aroused by a rumbling noise, to the roar of which the big liner trembled and shook.

Before the shaking ceased Swanson had the Minnesota's crew heaving leads in all directions and was relieved but still mystified to learn that his judgment had not erred, and that the bottom was still eleven fathoms below the surface.

"Guess we swung against a wreck, captain," said Swanson, "or a mighty big whale has been massaging himself with the keel."

Captain Truebridge said nothing, but he was plainly worried, and neither he nor his pilot cheered up until at quarantine they were told of the earthquake.

After Victorians have viewed the big liner she will sail for Seattle early on Friday morning, arriving there at noon. The Minnesota will be met off West Point by the flotilla with the Chamber of Commerce representatives on one of the boats, probably the Umatilla, which will be the flagship of the squadron, commanded by Captain J. B. Patterson, port captain of the Great Northern Steamship Company's fleet. The flotilla will be drawn up in a double line with the Umatilla opposite the lighthouse.

When the Minnesota approaches the flotilla a salute will be fired from all the guns on board the fleet, and as the vessel passes the line the boats will turn outward from the wake of the Minnesota in order to avoid the danger of collisions which might result from turning in. As the flotilla, led by the Minnesota, approaches the harbor, all the whistles along the docks will be set to blowing. The Minnesota will land at the Oriental dock.

The Minnesota will sail January 21st on her first trip to the Orient. Her cargo is nearly all booked. It includes all kinds of merchandise usually taken by the Oriental liners, flour, provisions and machinery being the important items. Several passengers are also booked.

While in Seattle the Minnesota will undergo some slight repairs to her machinery. She will not be drydocked because she does not need it, according to Mr. Sutherland. Concerning the repairs he said: "The repairs and improvements to the Minnesota's machinery are slight. Every new vessel finds on the first trip that some of the machinery works with a little friction, and it is always necessary to remedy trivial defects, or rather, to make slight improvements which will enable the machinery to operate with perfect ease."

SEEKING SUBSIDY.

American Steamers Plying to Victoria Seek Federal Aid.

The United States government is being asked to subsidize the United States steamers engaged in service between Puget Sound and Victoria and Vancouver. A provision to this effect is made in the bill for a merchant marine commission, which, if it become law, will be of advantage to the Sound steamers, which have felt the competition of the local vessels. There is some question as to whether the bill's provision will be carried as the proposed bonus to the Sound steamers has many opponents at Washington. When the scheme was discussed at a meeting of the United States merchant marine commission, it was held by opponents of the plan to subsidize the vessels engaged in the carrying trade between Puget Sound points and Victoria and Vancouver that these steamers were ferries, as distinguished from steamships engaged in trans-oceanic trade. The argument was advanced, however, by those interested in having the subsidies to ocean going vessels extended to these craft, that the trips between Seattle and Victoria and to other ports in British Columbia did not differ in any material respect from trans-Pacific trips except in the length of the voyage.

NOT A FAILURE.

Allan Line Turbine Vessels Are Not Satisfactory.

The agents of the Allan line at Glasgow deny the statement from Glasgow December 5, to the effect that the trials of the Allan line steamer Victorian, the largest turbine vessel yet built, have been so disappointing as to raise serious doubts among the Clyde shipbuilders as to the value of turbines in the case of large ships. The officials also deny the statement made in the same despatch that all the efforts made to get the Victorian near contract speed were futile. The officials of the Cunard line deny the statement made in a Glasgow despatch of December 5 that the construction of the turbine engines intended for the new Cunard line steamers has been suspended pending developments.

THE LINERS.

Aorangi Expected Today—Kanagawa Maru Leaves Yokohama.

Steamer Aorangi is expected to arrive today from Australia, via Brisbane, Suva and Honolulu. The Aorangi left Honolulu for Victoria on Wednesday last. Yesterday the steamer Kanagawa Maru sailed from Yokohama for this port and Seattle. She has a full cargo of Oriental freight, including a shipment of about 100 tons for Victoria. Her passengers, principally Chinese and Japanese, number 200. The steamer Empress of Japan will follow the Kanagawa, sailing for Victoria tomorrow. Being a faster vessel than the Kanagawa, the Empress is expected to be the first to arrive. The steamer Keemun, which sailed on Monday, is also on the way from Yokohama to Victoria. The steamer Iyo Maru, of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha line, is now about half way to the Orient from Seattle and Victoria. It is expected that another N. Y. K. liner will follow the Kanagawa Maru about the first week in January, as the Japanese line is anxious to have its steamers resume service on their old schedules. This provides for a fortnightly sailing.

SOUND SHIPPING.

Invermark to Load Cargo at Blakeley—William Bowden at Port Hadlock.

Port Blakeley, Dec. 20.—The British bark Invermark, Capt. Bolderstone, arrived in port this afternoon from Tacoma to take on a cargo of lumber from the Port Blakeley Mill Company. She is under charter to J. J. Moore & Co., to carry cargo to Fremantle. The Invermark arrived on the Sound November 28th from Port Los Angeles with about 1,500 tons of cement from Antwerp for Balfour, Guthrie & Co., which she discharged at Tacoma.

Winslow, Dec. 21.—The American schooner William Bowden will tow to Port Hadlock today to load a cargo of about 900,000 feet of lumber for Mollendo, she having been chartered for that voyage by Parrott & Company, of San Francisco. The Bowden is commanded by Capt. Peterson, and has been in port here since the 2nd of this month, having arrived on that date from Chou.

Finance Minister Home From Eng.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow Back in Victoria After a Three Month's Visit.

Interest in British Columbia as a Field for Investment Continues Strong.

(From Thursday's Daily.)

Hon. R. G. Tatlow, minister of finance, returned last evening from his visit to the United Kingdom, after an absence of three months. During his visit to the motherland, Hon. Mr. Tatlow informed a representative of the Colonist last evening, he visited a number of places in England and Ireland, and spent a considerable time in London. The trip was of a private character, but he had many opportunities of doing some good work in the way of giving information as to the possibilities and prospects of the province.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow visited Hon. Mr. Turner and found him in very good health. Mrs. Turner was just recovering from the effects of a somewhat severe operation, but was making excellent progress, as her many friends in British Columbia will be delighted to learn. Mr. Turner is doing very good work on behalf of the province. He seems to have gained the confidence of the people around him, not only as immigration and general agent for British Columbia, but also as regards consultations by persons who are looking toward this province as a field for investment on a large scale. He is frequently consulted on such matters by persons representing very important interests. From his long experience of the province he is peculiarly well informed on all that concerns this part of the Dominion, consequently his advice is sought after and highly valued by all who are contemplating investment here.

Through Mr. Turner, Hon. Mr. Tatlow was able to meet many persons who are prospecting in this province, and Hon. Mr. Tatlow was able to tell them all they wanted to know about actual conditions as they exist at the present time. Hon. Mr. Tatlow said he had hopes that not a few of those inquirers would think well of the information given them, and make investments here.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow saw Lord Strathcona regarding the immigration question, and laid before the High Commissioner a complete statement of British Columbia's complaint as to immigration matters. From what Lord Strathcona told him, the Minister of Finance is confident that there is no discrimination being used against British Columbia. Lord Strathcona expressed himself as very favorably impressed with this province and its resources, and said that he would do everything in his power to help forward the development of the province on the best and safest lines.

Speaking on the subject of general trade and industrial conditions in England, Hon. Mr. Tatlow said that while things were undoubtedly a little quiet, there was little ground for the alarmist reports in which some newspapers were indulging, as to the decline of British trade. The general adoption of newer and more improved methods of manufacture and of business, coupled with the wonderful vitality and power of recovery which the British industries have always been able to show after any depression, made the Old Country a factor of the first importance for her rivals to reckon with in the race for industrial and commercial supremacy. There had been, of course, and it was admitted on all hands, serious invasions of the commercial territory formerly possessed by Great Britain, but beyond question the British people were now grappling with this competition in a manner that was bound to bring them into the first place again, if, indeed, they had ever lost that place to any nation, competing in this contest of commerce.

Hon. Mr. Tatlow's return trip across the Atlantic was marked with very severe weather. The Minister of Finance expressed pleasure at being home again, and was warmly welcomed by his many friends in the city on his arrival last evening.

BANNERMAN GOES FOR CHAMBERLAIN

Political Campaign of the Fiscal Education Grows Acrimonious.

London, Dec. 20.—The political campaign of education on fiscal affairs, which is now being vigorously carried on throughout the United Kingdom by both parties, while affording little that is new in proposition or argument, shows evidence of increasing acrimony and more personal feeling between leaders. Mr. Chamberlain, in addressing a public meeting in the East End last week, hit out even more sharply than usual and showed no little feeling in reference to Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the former Liberal leader in the House of Commons, who had said of Mr. Chamberlain, "At least he might try to be a gentleman."

Sir Henry made a speech in the same hall and before an audience equalling in numbers and enthusiasm the one addressed by Mr. Chamberlain the night of December 16th. He dwelt at the outset at some length on the subject of the unemployed of London, which now threatens to become a serious question, and advocated the government at once inaugurating large works, and Sir Henry then began in reply to Mr. Chamberlain: "It is not those who are forever mouthing the word 'empire' and using that word to cover their own shabby acts and their own policies who are the best friends of the Empire."

Continuing, the speaker challenged Mr. Chamberlain's right to speak for the colonies and asserted that Mr. Chamberlain spoke only for himself and "his tariff commission," but the self-governing colonies had not authorized him to speak in their name.

OFFICIAL CHANGE.

Toronto, Dec. 21.—W. H. D. Miller has resigned as manager of the transportation department of the Manufacturers' Association to accept a position with the William Davis Company. His successor will be John R. Marlow, chief clerk to W. B. Bulling, assistant traffic manager of the C. P. R.

Speedy Trial Is Commenced

Judge Harrison Hearing Evidence in the Chinese Conspiracy Case

Eight Chinamen Being Tried on the Charge—An Array of Counsel

The speedy trial of the eight Chinamen charged with having conspired to secure the conviction of Wong On and Wong Gow for the murder of Man Quon, manager of the Chinese theatre, on January 31 last, by procuring false evidence, commenced before Judge Harrison, of the County Court, yesterday. Of the eight prisoners, four were committed for trial yesterday morning and these followed the example of the other four and promptly elected for speedy trial.

Mr. H. Dallas Helmcken, K. C., appeared for the crown and Mr. Geo. Powell with Mr. Moresby for the defense. Mr. W. J. Taylor, K. C., with Mr. Twigg, counsel for Wong On and Wong Gow, watched the case in the interest of their clients.

The Chinamen being tried are Loo Gee Wing, Lee Sam, Dai Bo, Haw Fat Chung, Wong Fook, Sai Quon, Charlie Lee Fook, and Wong Yuen.

The court was crowded with Chinese interested in the case.

In opening the case for the crown, Mr. Helmcken briefly outlined the history of the case. He said that on the 4th of May last, at the Victoria Spring Assizes, Wong On and Wong Gow were tried for the murder of Man Quon, found guilty and sentenced to death. The case was taken to the Court of Appeals, which ordered a retrial on a technical point, namely, an omission from the direction to the jury by the trial judge. In the present case the prisoners were charged with having conspired together to suborn witnesses to swear that Wong On and Wong Gow had been present when Man Quan was killed, and that they had taken a prominent part in the attack which had ended fatally; whereas new witnesses would now testify that neither Wong On nor Wong Gow had been present on the occasion. It also would be shown that the leading men in the fight were Wong Tong and Lum Yuen. Evidence would be produced to show that Loo Gee Wing had actually bought off three men, Gin Duck, Lum Sam and Lum Sing, from testifying to the truth. Wong On and Wong Gow had both stated on being arrested on the charge of murder that they had not been present at the row at the theatre, so that their story fitted in with the allegation against the prisoners.

The first witness called was Lum Lock, who testified that, on Sunday, May 1, a few days before the trial of Wong On and Wong Gow had commenced, Loo Gee Wing sent for him and asked him to bring Lum Sing and Lum Sam. Witness did so, and Loo Gee Wing offered these men $100 each to swear that Wong On and Wong Gow had been present at the fight in the theatre. Loo Gee Wing on Tuesday gave each of the men $30 and witness $50 down. Loo Gee Wing on the latter occasion told the witness to attend the trial and hear the evidence given by another witness and repeat this story when their turn came to be examined.

The witnessed was cross-examined by Mr. Powell at considerable length, and the hearing was adjourned until this morning.

BOUGHT DREXEL'S YACHT.

London, Dec. 21.—It is stated that Russia has bought Anthony J. Drexel's fine steam yacht Margareita, paying $650,000.

LADYSMITH SHIPPING.

Wharves and Harbor Presented a Busy Scene—Social Function.

Ladysmith, Dec. 19. — (Special)—Today was a busy day along the water front at this port, for the wharves were crowded from early morning until late at night, with vessels, ranging in size from the smallest tugs to the largest colliers afloat. The coal trade is picking up again, and the prospects for steady work in the mines are very bright.

The hulk Richard III., with 1,800 tons of coal aboard for the Treadwell mines, was towed to sea this morning at 9 a. m. by the tug pilot. The steamer Leelanaw is unable to supply the big demand for coal in the north and consequently the old Richard has again been chartered.

The barge Georgian left for Comox with coal aboard in tow of the tug Escort No. 2.

The big collier Titania arrived in port last night. The steamer Tottenham, which was due early this morning had not arrived from Vancouver. If the Tottenham does not arrive by 9 o'clock tomorrow morning, the Titania will go under the chutes.

The tug Muriel arrived this morning, and after taking on fuel departed again for the south.

The tug Lorne reached here today from Vancouver. The Lorne took on fuel and left again for Vancouver, from which port she tows the British ship Pallas, lumber laden, to sea.

On the 23rd of this month a masquerade ball will be held in the Fire Hall, and promises to be a very enjoyable affair. The firemen's masquerade on the day following Christmas, judging by the preparations now in progress will eclipse all previous local efforts in this line. Great interest is being taken in the event, the city and all the business houses and offices have liberally donated prizes for the different characters, and everything has been done that will go toward making the affair a great success.

THE SUNDAY COLONIST.

The Special Christmas Issue Will Be Well Worth Reading.

Readers of next Sunday's Colonist will have an intellectual feast. In recognition of the gladsome season and of the fact that the day of issue will be Christmas Day itself, no pains have been spared to make the Colonist Sunday supplement on this occasion well worthy of Victoria. The paper on that day will be replete with splendid Christmas articles and with matter of the highest class dealing with current events in the world's news.

The corps of special writers who have been brightening the supplement's columns will have an extra fine array of articles prepared, with a view both to Sunday and Christmas reading.

There will be also many articles dealing with local and general topics, and the whole issue will be illustrated with many cuts specially prepared for the Colonist. No one should miss next Sunday's Colonist, for it will contain something of interest to persons of every class and of every shade of opinion.

Next Sunday's Colonist will meet the requirements of all who desire to send to friends abroad a newspaper worthy of Victoria's unique position as a Western progressive city. No better substitute could be found to take the place of the letter home or to the distant friend, for this number of the Colonis will be filled from first page to last with matter descriptive, statistical and reminiscent. Non-subscribers should place their orders early for the Christmas Colonist, for the issue will not remain long on the counters.

Sunlight Soap will not injure your blankets or harden them. It will make them soft, white and fleecy. 1B

THE POULTRY EXHIBITION.

A meeting of the Victoria Poultry and Pet Stock Association was held at Levy's restaurant last evening, there being a good attendance of members.

The secretary, Mr. W. A. Jameson, reported that prospects for the annual exhibition, to be held from January 11 to 14, were most favorable, and he expects that 1,000 birds will be exhibited.

By an oversight the classification of pet stock was omitted from the list, but prizes will be awarded all the same.

A considerable amount of routine business in connection with the forthcoming show was transacted.

An interesting feature of the show, and one which will be of great value to poultry raisers, will be the practical demonstration of caponizing, which, it has been arranged, will take place each night.

TOOK A SEVERE COLD.

It Settled In The Kidneys.

Pain In The Back The Result.

Catching cold and having it settle in the back is often the cause of Backache—the primary cause of kidney trouble. When the back aches it is a warning that the kidneys are liable to become affected.

Heed the warning: check the Backache, and dispose of any chance of further trouble.

If you don't, serious complications are very apt to arise. Mrs. E. Williams, Hamilton, Ont., caught cold, and it settled in her kidneys. She used

DOAN'S KIDNEY PILLS,

and is thankful for the immediate relief they gave her. She writes us as follows: "It is with pleasure that I add my testimony in favor of Doan's Kidney Pills. Some time ago I took a severe cold, which settled in my kidneys. The soreness and pain in the small of my back bothered me greatly. After suffering for some months, and finding numerous remedies fail, I procured a box of Doan's Kidney Pills, and received immediate relief from my sufferings.

Doan's Kidney Pills may be procured at all dealers, or will be sent direct by mail on receipt of price—

50 cents per box, or 3 for $1.25.

THE DOAN KIDNEY PILL CO., TORONTO, ONT.

YOUR WINTER READING

	Regular Price.	Clubbing Offer.
Colonist Semi-Weekly to 31st Dec., 1905	$1.25	$1.00
Madame the great ladies' journal	1.25	
Colonist Semi-Weekly to 31st Dec., 1905	1.25	1.50
Farmer's Advocate Winnipeg, Weekly	1.85	
Colonist Semi-Weekly to 31st Dec., 1905	1.25	1.50
Metropolitan Magazine one year	1.50	
Colonist Semi-Weekly to 31st Dec., 1904, and Family Herald & Weekly Star		.25

We want boys and girls in all parts of the Province to canvass for THE COLONIST, and offer extra inducements to good workers. Write for particulars.

The COLONIST
Victoria, British Columbia.