A Derelict Sloop Picked Up

Queen City on Her Return From Coast Finds Waterlogged Craft.

H.M.S. Icarus Arrives From Behring Sea--Sealers Homeward Bound.

With a derelict sloop on deck and a good number of passengers on board, the steamer Queen City returned from the West Coast yesterday noon, having completed the shortest of her monthly trips. The sloop was picked up in the straits three miles this side of the Race. It was submerged and drifting with the tide and at first appearance suggested a wreck. Such too it might have been, but the probabilities are that the high tides of late have simply torn it from its moorings and carried it out to sea. The crew of the Queen City hold this theory, as they found the sloop without rigging and without painter, and the plug missing from her bung hole. She is an old craft, bearing no name, and has been patched and repatched, until she is almost beyond service. She is drab color, about two tons register and 18 feet long. On the steamer's arrival the boat was put ashore and is now in the C. P. N. Company's yard. Of the passengers brought to Victoria by the Queen City, M. McGregor is the only arrival from the new and growing town of Port Hughes. He expects that his new hotel at that point will be completed and ready for occupancy in three weeks. It is a building of 14 rooms. Port Hughes has now a regular mail service, which it did not have a few months ago, and its prosperity has lately been augmented by another gold discovery closer to the town. S. J. Spencer and Miss Spencer arrived from Alberni en route to the old country; Geo. Logan, J. G. Ross and W. Wilson form a party who have been down to Seriatis, looking at some mineral property; J. W. Jones comes from Sidney inlet, where he had ex-Lieut.-Governor Dewdney to see some quartz propositions a few weeks ago. Rev. Father Brabant, W. Woodward, J. J. Baird, H. Stokes, H. E. Newton, C. Coates, E. H. Fletcher and son, Wm. Lorimer, Mrs. McDonald, L. Marks and A. and J. Young were passengers embarking at the many other ports at which the steamer called. As freight the Queen City had a part of the plant of the Alberni Consolidated Mining Company consigned to the Bank of Montreal. Captain Hughes reports the weather as very foggy on the coast. He saw no sealing schooners excepting one off the Race yesterday, which he could not identify. When at Ahousett he was told that the Dora Sieward was becalmed off port. Her Indians were ashore, and according to them she had a catch of 1,200 skins. The Dora Sieward spoke the Idaetta in mid-August, the Indians said, and the catches of the two vessels were then nearly a tie—over 700 skins each. It was generally thought when the schooner left the sea that the Umbrina would be top-liner. Captain Hughes looks for the immediate arrival of a number of the schooners, as he says yesterday was the first day they have had a westerly wind.

A FAST PASSAGE.

British Ship Waterloo Completed Her Voyage From Liverpool Yesterday Morning.

It was 2 o'clock yesterday morning when after protracted manoeuvring in order to enter port the British ship Waterloo anchored in Esquimalt harbor. Her voyage from Liverpool was a very speedy one, being made in just 124 days, a performance which though good was beaten by the same vessel some three or four years ago when the ship brought a somewhat similar cargo to this port. On her present voyage she reached the Horn in 71 days from Liverpool and there encountered very rough weather as also off the river Platte. Her cargo, of which 1,000 tons will be discharged here, includes a large quantity of naval stores and freight for the fortifications at Esquimalt.

WINTER SERVICE BEGINS.

An Empress Only Once a Month—The Umitilla Leaves for California.

The R. M. S. Empress of India sails for the Orient on Tuesday, one day later than schedule time, because of delayed mails. She will inaugurate the winter trans-Pacific services of the C. P. R., there being hereafter but one ship a month instead of a vessel every three weeks. The next one due to arrive is the Empress of Japan, which should reach Victoria a week from Tuesday.

Steamship Umatilla sailed last evening for San Francisco, carrying the following passengers from Victoria: Capt. Geo. Fritch and wife, C. and A. P. Barthelemy, H. B. Young, J. W. Todd, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Lewis, Miss Norma Cantell, Mrs. J. L. Anderson, Miss Dickinson, Miss Hagell, Mrs. Hagell, J. G. Anderson, H. A. Vivian, A. B. Moore, A. W. Martin, C. Reichenbach, E. Rutherford, E. W. Turner, W. H. Cope, A. P. Graham, A. E. Burbridge, S. Macy, D. W. Morrison and Chas. Lund.

BACK FROM BEHRING SEA.

British Patrol Ship Icarus Returns from Season's Engagement in the North.

H.M.S. Icarus, the British patrol ship for Behring Sea during the sealing season just over, arrived home last evening, dropping anchor at Esquimalt at 6 o'clock. She left Ounalaska four days later than H.M.S. Pheasant, now home over a week, and had quite a rough trip returning. One boat was stove in by a sea as it hung in the davits and the ship received a bad shaking but was not damaged otherwise. She is the forerunner of what will likely be many arrivals from Behring Sea within the next week. The sealers are all on their way home, one, the Dora Sieward, which the Queen City brought news of yesterday, as off Ahousett, being reported in the Straits.

GOSSIP OF THE WATER FRONT.

Though tenders for the purchase of the old government steamer Douglas are all to be in by the 1st of the month time has been extended in order to admit of two other tenders being received, to till the 1st inst. only one tender has been received.

Steamer Willapa will replace the Queen City on the next West Coast voyage in order that the latter may be made ready for winter service.

Letters to the Editor.

A MISSED OPPORTUNITY.

Sir: I was one in the audience at A. O. U. W. hall last night to listen to the addresses of the honorable the ministers of Justice and of Agriculture. The former, it appeared to me, made the best he could of a very bad brief. At the same time he neglected an excellent opportunity to render Victorians a service that they would have much appreciated. He is an accepted authority on constitutional law and practice. Might he not then give us his opinion upon the constitutionality of the dismissal of the Turner ministry; or the, at present more pertinent, legitimacy of a lieutenant-governor continuing to accept the advice of a ministry that he knows to be discredited and without a majority of the electorate at its back. Perhaps it is not yet too late for him to oblige?

B. C.

PORT ANGELES FERRY.

Sir: In all the communications to you upon the subject of the proposed Port Angeles ferry I see none whatever touching upon the benefits to be derived from having the steamer built in Victoria and operated by a Victoria company. It has been repeatedly stated that a connection of this kind with Port Angeles would be of immense value, commercially, to Victoria, but why bonus a foreign company; who are only too anxious to connect with Victoria; to build and equip this line?

As for the building of the boat at least, there are iron works right here and taxpaying mechanics also quite capable of the task.

VICTORIA MECHANIC.

AN ILL-TIMED HOLIDAY.

Sir: What can the representative of the crown in Canada be thinking of that he has named October 19 as Thanksgiving Day? Does he not know that turkeys are not available thus early in the season? The crop in British Columbia does not commence to be harvested out of the cold storage so soon, and after all, what is Thanksgiving without turkey? But perhaps it is the turkey's turn for a Thanksgiving—in which event he is undoubtedly most thoroughly correct.

GOBBLER.

A LONG TRIP AHEAD.

Boston Lyric Company Close Here Today—Bound for Honolulu

A large audience greeted the Boston Lyric Opera Company at the Victoria theatre last night for their production of "Il Trovatore." It was an enthusiastic audience as well, and as the familiar numbers followed one another in pleasing succession the applause that rolled up to the footlights made the artists feel that they were indeed welcome visitors.

In Leonora, Miss Nellie Andrews added new laurels to those gained in "Cavalleria Rusticana." Her powerful yet sweet soprano seems peculiarly adapted to the music of the part, and in the tower scene she achieved a veritable triumph. Scarcely less in favor was Miss Leekly. Her characterization of the gipsy Azucena was a splendid bit of acting. Mr. A. L. Parmley as Manrico made a much better impression than on his first appearance, and his duets with Leonora and Azucena were warmly applauded. Mr. Rockwell was in good voice, and "the Tempest of the Heart" was the best vocalization he has yet given Victorians.

The company closes its engagement in Victoria with two performances to-day. At the matinee "Trebizonde" will be the attraction, and with the clever comedians Col. Thompson has on his roster should be one long laugh from beginning to end.

Exchanges credit Messrs. Kunkel and Henderson with having invested their roles of Cabriola, the circus manager, and Tremolini, his clown, with a new dress and up-to-date specialties, that keeps the audience in a continual uproar of merriment.

Miss Katherine McNell, the clever contralto, has a prominent part in the piece.

For the last appearance here before their long trip to Honolulu and Australia, the management has reserved "Carmen," one of the most notable of operatic creations. A specially strong cast is promised for tonight, "Carmen" enlisting the services of both prima donnas.

Miss Stanton is cast for the title role, and those who have witnessed her dainty acting and have listened to her altogether delightful singing, the mere announcement will be a guarantee of an enjoyable evening. In the role of Micaela, Miss Andrews should find a splendid opportunity for her magnificent soprano.

Mr. Rockwell as the dashing Toreador, and Mr. Hallam as Don Jose, complete the cast. Mr. Hallam is said to give a particularly strong impersonation.

The company leaves to-morrow on the Victorian for Portland, their last engagement before crossing the Pacific.

YACHTING.

Recent Local Contests.

On this subject "One of the Boys" thus writes to the Colonist: "Having seen an article by Bobstay in the Times of October 4 re the local yacht race, please allow me to correct statements which I consider to be unjust in the extreme. I may state that I have been an interested spectator of more than one of the series of races. It has been stated that the first and second races were won by Vrill and Noreen respectively. Mr. Bobstay claims the Gee Whiz won the third. Now the Gee Whiz, I believe, was not entered until the third race and was withdrawn before the fourth. On the other hand she was disqualified by rounding the Brotchie ledge buoy to starboard when the rules distinctly state that it must be rounded to port. Nevertheless the owner of Noreen, like a true sportsman, gave the race to Gee Whiz, which the owner of Gee Whiz, like a gentleman, rightly refused to accept, the result thus giving Noreen two firsts and Vrill one first and one second. Now for the fourth race, which Bobstay claims was won by a fluke. I witnessed this race from the start and followed to the outer wharf, remaining there till the yachts returned, and I wish to inform Mr. Bobstay that the Vrill was practically out-sailed by Noreen before reaching the outer wharf, the Noreen having a lead of about a quarter of a mile to windward, and the Vrill fouling the kelp in no way altered the result of the contest, Noreen being a sure winner. I noticed also that the Noreen did not cut across the kelp by raising her centreboard, which, in my opinion, would have been unwise, seeing that she was close hauled, but sailed clean round, and the Vrill keeping too close got tangled up, causing a delay of two or three minutes, which no doubt will be a lesson to her skipper in future. Now, sir, it is my opinion that throughout the series the Noreen was sailed in a true sportsmanlike manner, and if the owners of the contesting yachts are satisfied (and I believe they are), I do not see why this Bobstay has any right to interfere."

Will be found an excellent remedy for sick headache. Carter's Little Liver Pills. Thousands of letters from people who have used them prove this fact. Try them.

Liberalism Expounded.

Hon. Messrs. Mills and Fisher Address a Frigid Gathering at A.O.U.W. Hall.

Alaskan Boundary Question as Viewed by the Minister of Justice.

Hon. Sydney Arthur Fisher, who holds the portfolio of argiculture in the Dominion cabinet, joined his colleague, the Minister of Justice, in Victoria last evening, where he, too, will remain until to-morrow. His visit, more then that of Hon. Mr. Mills, has a direct business object, for inasmuch as the supervision of quarantines is somewhat curiously attached to his department, he is intending to pay the William Head station a visit to-day; in order to acquaint himself with its condition and facilities for safeguarding Canada against the introduction of bubonic plague or other of the scourges of the Orient. He anticipates that important improvements will necessarily have to be made to the facilities of the station, and gives the assurance that nothing requisite to ensure full and adequate protection will be left unprovided for.

Hon. Mr. Fisher has been a somewhat conspicuous figure in the political party with which he is identified during the past fifteen years or more. He was born in Montreal in 1850, and after receiving a liberal education at the High school of his native city, McGill and Trinity College, Cambridge, he returned to Canada to devote himself to the life of a practical agriculturist and the study of public affairs and political economy in his native land. Alva Farm, owned and worked by him, is known as one of the finest in the Eastern Townships, and he has also contributed acceptably to the practical literature of the industry with which his lifetime has been most concerned.

His first appearance in politics was during 1880, when he unsuccessfully contested Brome in the Liberal interest. At the general election of 1882 he was more successful, winning the seat, which he continued to occupy until 1891, when he was defeated at the general election, remaining out of parliament until 1896. Then he retrieved his lost honors with a majority of 333 over the Conservative candidate, Mr. G. G. Foster. On the formation of the Laurier cabinet in July, 1896, he became minister of agriculture. Mr. Fisher has been identified with the temperance movement, and for years has been vice-president for his native province of the Dominion Alliance.

It was a grim commentary on Senator Templeman's assertion that he fully believed the Liberal cause in Victoria to be stronger to-day than ever before, that the very limited accommodation of the A. O. U. W. hall was not more than two-thirds occupied for the public meeting last evening; nor was endorsement found in the fact that during the addresses of Hon. Mr. Fisher and of Senator Templeman the departure of the audience in twos and threes and half dozens left but an insignificant proportion of the original attendance present at the close. Mr. C. E. Renouf, vice-president of the local Liberal Association, was chairman, while with him on the platform in addition to the visitors were Messrs. F. B. Gregory, Dr. G. L. Milne, Alexis Martin, R. Hall, M.P.P., W. H. Langley, Gordon Hunter, Hewitt Bostock, M.P., T. W. Paterson, E. V. Bodwell and Senator Templeman.

Hon. Mr. Mills, the first speaker presented, was cordially received, and devoted himself primarily to a glowing picture of present Canadian prosperity from ocean to ocean, and a recognition of the fact that to develop the Dominion's vast resources, population must be had. He passed from immigration to the subject of the government's anti-election pledges pointing out that while he always had stood as an advocate of economy, economy was not so much to be defined as retrenchment of expenditure, as seeing that the expenditure was made only where a proportionate measure of advantage to the country might accrue. For example, he held that the cost of inaugurating and maintaining the administration of the Yukon had been money well spent. From the secret information at command of the government, it had been led to believe that a large body of men had entered this new gold region, impressed with the fact that the boundary question was in so uncertain a position that they might at an opportune moment take possession of the territory in behalf of the country whence they came. The government had acted on the principle that prevention is better than cure, and had been ready for any possible emergency. Besides, while the government of the Yukon had cost in the neighborhood of $750,000, the district had returned to the revenue of the country $1,500,000, which he regarded as a certain test of the success of the government's policy. As to the statement that the Liberal expenditure would reach $60,000,000 for the year, the statement bore only a semblance of truth, for charges against capital account had been unfairly associated by critics of the administration with current expenses. The fair proportion of such items chargeable would be only the interest and year's proportion of sinking fund.

It was also no more than proper that expenditures should increase, inasmuch as Hon. Mr. Fielding had a largely increased revenue at his command, something like $46,000,000, in comparison with the $34,000,000 available to his predecessor in the office. After criticizing the Senate for interference with the redistribution bill, he continued that while much had been said as to the usefulness of the Senate—with a considerable portion of this he could not agree. He considered the maintenance of the two houses desirable, regarding it as extremely doubtful if parliamentary government could be carried on in Canada with a single chamber. For this reason the government would persist in its endeavor to reform the Senate, without destruction of its admitted usefulness.

Passing next to the Alaskan boundary question, of which he has made a special study, Mr. Mills pointed out that there had been no dispute between Russia and Britain as to the territory to the south of 54.40—all that was admittedly British.

And all that the treaty of 1824 did was to provide for the definition of a boundary between what was admittedly Russian and what was admittedly British territory to the north of this latitude. The treaty in question provided that the boundary should begin at the southernmost extremity of Prince of Wales island, thence following the Portland channel northerly until it struck the 56th parallel. Now, Portland channel did not proceed northerly from this point of commencement, and from other evidence it was clear that it was not Portland channel that was meant at all—but Clarence channel, which complied precisely with all the conditions and provisions of the treaty. Apart from this, the boundary was to follow the summit of the Coast range of mountains, which meant the range nearest the coast—this being the defining line even in the event of the mountains coming to the seashore itself. Only where the mountains lay more than ten leagues from the coast was it provided that ten leagues inland should be the boundary. There were naturally in the interested territory numerous arms of the sea that cut through the bounding range of mountains, and it was a ridiculous proposition in international law to say that where such should occur the boundary should follow the indentations of the coast line—it should, on the contrary, pass from crest to crest of the mountains, preserving the general and clearly expressed intention of the treaty that the mountains should be the boundary. Again, by the treaty each of the interested nations was to have the right to trade between ports in the unsettled waters, or to enter upon them for purposes of repair. Now, if the American contentions were to be accepted as the boundary, going round the frequently occurring arms of the sea, there would be no meaning in this portion of the treaty, for the reason that there would be no water and no ports in the British territory.

The United States had now declined to arbitrate or to compromise. Their representatives said in effect: "We are in possession, and will do neither, as the result of arbitration might probably be that we would be compelled to withdraw." They declined to apply the same principles that they had so strongly urged upon Great Britain in the Venezuelan matter, although it was difficult to see wherein their rights and possessions should be judged any more sacred than the British rights in the Venezuelan case. What the United States offered appeared to be that if all their claims were admitted they would arbitrate the remainder. The American claim narrowed down to one of squatters' claim, and while Canada had no wish to hold territory not properly her own, the Dominion would never abandon her own merely in recognition of a short-term squatters' right.

When in years ago an open effort had been made to have the boundary of the state of Maine so adjusted as to retain to Canada a community or Canadians who had believed themselves within the boundaries of their own country, which country had administered government for them, the great American statesman Webster had ruled equivocally against the entertainment of the proposition—and this ruling if sound, applied with equal force now as to the squatters' community of Americans on the border of British Columbia.

In closing, the Minister of Justice expressed his pleasure at being in Victoria, to become acquainted with its citizens and its conditions, and prophesied for Canada that during the life of the present generation, the Dominion would possess a population of upwards of twenty millions, and become a very conspicuous and important part of the British Empire that all Canadians love so well, and which he hoped would endure while the world lasts.

Hon. Mr. Fisher, who was introduced as the first practical farmer to administer the agricultural department, referred to the prevailing ignorance in the East with reference to British Columbia's agricultural resources, and complimented the farmers of the province upon their showing at the New Westminster exhibition, predicting a rapid development of the industry at no distant date. He also asserted the general and unprecedented prosperity of the Dominion, and stated that Victorians needed not to be told that they have prosperity in their pockets. He then proceeded to cite figures at considerable length touching the growth of trade and revenue. The Yukon charges were dealt with, Sir Hibbert Tupper being assailed for having spoken for six hours on one occasion and for seven hours at another, and not having taken upon himself the burden of a public prosecutor. He held that the Liberal accession to power had been not only of great advantage to Canada, and had in the re-adjustment of the tariff, the advocacy of penny postage, and the furtherance of the Pacific cable, admirably promoted the Imperial union scheme.

While promising not to make a speech (as he noted a general movement in the direction of the doors) Senator Templeman took occasion to refer to the Chinese question as still a very lively one in this province, and to suggest that the two ministers while here should not forget to pay a visit to the quarter, and learn for themselves why British Columbia does not look upon the Orientals as desirable acquisitions.

He then recalled that in the last Labor Day speeches one gentleman had asserted that the government had repudiated its promises to consent to an increase in the head tax. His own declaration in the matter was that the government had not promised to grant the increased per capita immediately, and since Labor Day he had written Sir Wilfrid Laurier and had received his reply to the effect that the head tax on Chinese would be increased. He moved a vote of thanks to the ministers for their addresses.

This was seconded by Dr. Milne, with a few words of compliment to the government for having redeemed its promises on the Manitoba school question, and the audience broke for the doors without waiting for the acknowledgment that Hon. Mr. Mills advanced to give.

FRAUDS ON CUSTOMS.

American Merchants Alleged to Have Sent False Invoices to the Klondike.

Seattle, Oct. 5.—A scandal has been unearthed by Canadian Customs Collector Davis at Dawson, who alleges that a number of the heaviest shippers on Puget Sound have been sending out two different sets of invoices in order to evade the Canadian customs. He received one of the falsified invoices for $22,000, the real value of the goods being $28,000. The discovery was quite accidental, being due to the ignorance of the consignee of the existence of a false invoice. He presented the bona fide invoice and Davis at once saw through the attempted fraud. Roy M. Pike, a customs broker, at Dawson, brought news of the alleged frauds to Seattle yesterday. He says that Collector Davis has sent copies of the false invoices, with a voluminous report and the names of the firms concerned, to Ottawa, and that the Canadian government has ordered an investigation. Pike made the statement that thousands of dollars worth of American goods escaped duties at Dawson in this way, since the goods have been bonded through to Klondike on July 15 last. The news of big seizures of goods sent North on falsified invoices, he says, will come down on the next northern steamers.

If sick headache is misery, what are Carter's Little Liver Pills if they will positively cure it? People who have used them speak frankly of their worth. They are small and easy to take.

Hon. David Mills In Victoria

Minister of Justice and Student of Constitutional Law and Practice.

Well Informed on the Alaskan Dispute -- Hon. Sidney Fisher Coming Too.

Two members of the Dominion cabinet are guests of British Columbia's Capital City to-day—or rather one notable member of the federal government is now here, while his colleague in the administration is to arrive this evening, and both will probably remain until Saturday morning.

Hon. David Mills, who with Mrs. Mills and his private secretary, Mr. J. D. Clarke, arrived by last evening's Islander, is a gentleman who has won distinction outside the pale of politics, as a profound student of law and an eminent authority upon constitutional questions, first of his own country and secondly of those countries by geographical location or community of interest brought into direct touch with Canada.

He is a man of positive and vigorous individuality—an assertive man who would make his impress upon the life of any country, more particularly a young and growing one. Of Puritan and United Empire Loyalist stock, he illustrates in himself many of the rugged characteristics of the stock from which he springs. He himself is a native son of Ontario, having been born in Kent county in 1831, and beginning life as a school teacher. Subsequently he became superintendent of education in his native county, an office he filled until 1865, two years prior to his first election to the Commons—the first parliament of Confederated Canada. That seat he has held practically continuously ever since, his first signal defeat in the field being at the general election of 1896, when the Conservative standard-bearer, James Clancy, had the high honor of lowering his colors. Shortly after this reverse Mr. Mills was called to the Senate by his Liberal co-workers, who at the same election that had retired him from the Commons, acceded to the control of the affairs of government. Senator Mills was called upon to accept the portfolio of justice upon the retirement of Sir Oliver Mowat to accept the lieutenant-governorship of Ontario. He had previously held a Dominion portfolio, having been a colleague of Alexander Mackenzie as minister of the interior from 1876 to 1878.

Hon. Mr. Mills' career in the law dates from 1883, his admission to the bar being at London, Ont., where he was for some time a member of the firm of Parke & Purdom, although he has practised more recently in partnership with his son. He has served the state in a professional capacity upon many occasions, and has also gained distinction as a writer for the press upon economic, legal and other questions, being the author also of numerous poetical and other contributions to the magazines of high literary standard. His direct acquaintances with active newspaper work was formed in the latter seventies and early eighties as editor of the London Advertiser—his successor in the editorial chair, Mr. Clarke, being now associated with him in a secretarial capacity.

Upon his arrival last evening Hon. Mr. Mills was met at the dock by a deputation of prominent local Liberals and escorted to the Hotel Driard. Later in the evening the Minister and Mrs. Mills were driven to Government House, where they will remain during their short stay in Canada's westernmost city. To-day and to-morrow Hon. Mr. Mills will be at the new post office building from 10 a. m. until noon, when anyone desirous of interviewing him upon departmental matters will have opportunity of doing so. To-night he will be joined by Hon. Sidney Fisher, minister of agriculture, and both will be present and deliver addresses at a public meeting to be held in the A. O. U. W. hall to-night. To-morrow Mrs. McInnes will hold a general informal reception at Government House from 3 to 6 o'clock, to which all desirous of meeting Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Mills are cordially invited. To-morrow evening the minister of justice will be banquetted at the Mount Baker hotel by the members of the Victoria Bar Association, and the following morning he starts upon his return journey—sincerely regretting, as he told a Colonist reporter last evening, that the time at his disposal will not permit him to see more of this Pacific province, of whose great wealth and resources and bright future the world has latterly been hearing much. Not that the prosperity and advance of British Columbia is unmatched in the Dominion. Hon. Mr. Mills maintains that the westernmost province is merely enjoying its share of the general prosperity, an equal measure of which has fallen upon her sisters in the confederation. Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and the Territories—each is finding fresh fields for the agriculturist, new mineralized areas for the miner, hitherto unthought of opportunities for the manufacturer. In no section is the general prosperity more apparent, indeed, than on the prairies, where Hon. Mr. Mills had the pleasure of seeing garnered a part of the greatest harvest of wheat and oats the wonderful western fields have yet produced. His travels took him as far northward as Yorkton, and he had opportunity of seeing both the Doukhobors and the Galicians at home, finding them all that could be desired in the way of sober, industrious citizens, of whom a new country can scarcely have too many.

The Galicians, he says, appeared to be a class more rapidly adapting themselves to the country, its language, methods, and conditions; while the Doukhobors present an admirable object lesson in cleanliness of person and morals, frugality, industry and integrity. They are vegetarians, strict and uncompromising, and it will be interesting to note whether or not the rigors of their new home will ultimately induce them to partially amend their creed in view of the superior heat-producing qualities of a part-meat diet. Hon. Mr. Mills does not anticipate, with the employment available to them at $1.75 per day in the railway building to Dauphin which Mackenzie & Mann now have in hand, that there need be any apprehension of distress among these new citizens from alien shores during the winter that is now at hand. What the Minister does anticipate is that the Doukhobors as well as the Galicians will become contented and prosperous citizens, and that very many of their countrymen will follow them to their new homes. He further looks for a steady increase in the tide of immigration from the United States where Canadians are learning to realize that there is no land better than their own; and Americans to realize that the supply of public land is becoming small and the wheat-exporting capacity of the country each year more contracted.

It is of splendid interest to British Columbians to remember Hon. Mr. Mills as a public man who devoted his best thought to the problems involved in the Alaskan boundary question long before it came before him in his present capacity as the legal representative of the crown in Canada. It is still a question in the determination of which he feels the deepest concern, and chatting of it to the Colonist last evening he very forcibly illustrated the justice and the soundness of the fundamental features of the Canadian contention. With reference to the American interpretation of the treaty of 1825, for example, he points out that it would be just as common sense to hold that the break in the bounding mountain chain by some insignificant canyon should carry the line indefinitely winding around the country, as to assume that the intention is to follow each insignificant bay and inlet—besides which the arrangement for a reciprocal enjoyment of trading and anchorage-in-distress rights between the British and the Russians further emphasizes the force of the Canadian position.

It is quite possible that Hon. Mr. Mills may avail himself of the opportunity to speak to British Columbians in further detail upon this very live issue, at the banquet to-morrow evening in his honor.

THE RESERVATION TRAGEDY.

Reward of $500 For the Apprehension of the Fiend—No Fresh Developments.

Whatever the police have done in their endeavor to locate the fiendish murderer of Mrs. Agnes Bing just one week ago, must remain undisclosed for the present, as publicity is not desirable during the progress of the case.

It is sufficient to say that all are working well, and that certain red-stained garments that were taken to the station yesterday, being found in a cabin on Humboldt street, may or may not be found to have a material connection with the case.

Yielding to the general demand that a suitable reward should be offered to assist in the apprehension of the master criminal, the provincial government has offered a reward of $500, and this fact will possibly bring a number of private detectives as well as amateurs of Sherlock Holmes proclivities into the field.

While practically all of the best men of the local force are engaged in the pursuit of the criminal in this case, as of the assailants of the late Michael Powers, the patrolling of the city is left to a reduced force of some eleven men.

Although they have not yet done so, it appears to be the unanimous opinion of the citizens that this force should be increased by the departmental heads, at least temporarily, in order that the protection of citizens from further crimes may be assured.

The present of all times would seem to be inopportune for a reduction of the preventive force.

LOCAL NEWS.

General Leave.—The crew of H.M.S. Phaeton were on general leave yesterday and enjoyed themselves in true sailor fashion.

Got Ninety Days.—A court-martial on H. M. S. Phaeton yesterday sentenced Bryant, a stoker, to 90 days for refusing to obey the orders of an officer.

Death's Hand.—The death occurred at the Jubilee hospital yesterday of James Austin, a street car conductor. He was a native of England and 24 years of age.

Again in Trouble.—Fred. Stoddart was arrested last night by Detective Perdue and Constable Walker on a charge of burglarizing the jewellery store of his father, Mr. S. A. Stoddart, on Yates street.

Lamp Exploded.—A conflagration was narrowly averted at the residence of Mr. W. Bryce, corner of Blanchard and Kane streets, early yesterday morning. A lamp which had been placed on the floor exploded without any apparent cause. Mr. Bryce smothered the flames with a quilt but in doing so he had his feet burned.

Seamen's Institute.—The manager of the Seamen's Institute acknowledges with thanks donations of reading matter during the month of September from the following: Mrs. E. Reilley, Mrs. Malpas, Mr. Yeo, Miss Woods, Bishop of Columbia, B. C. Board of Trade, Colonist and Times, daily papers, and other anonymous donors.

May Play Here.—There is a possibility of the Toronto lacrosse players, who came to the Coast to meet the Westminster team, playing a match here on Monday with the Victoria team. A Victorian now in the Royal City is endeavoring to arrange the match and wired down last evening asking whether a team could be got together. A decision will be arrived at to-day.

Happily Wedded.—Two quiet weddings occurred on Wednesday, the contracting parties being Mr. John T. Muirhead, eldest son of Mr. James Muirhead, of Muirhead & Mann, and Miss Minnie F. Dowdall of Ottawa; and Mr. O. L. Charlton of Ruskin, B.C., and Miss Annie Chapman, third daughter of Mr. Richard Chapman of Oaklands. Rev. J. C. Speer officiated at the marriage of Mr. Charlton and Miss Chapman.

Chilliwack Railway.—The supporters of the Victoria-Chilliwack railway and ferry scheme have arranged for a series of public meetings at which the proposal will be discussed. The first meeting will be held in Semple's hall, Victoria West, on Thursday next, and the second at Johns Bros.'s hall, Douglas street, on Friday evening. Meetings will be held during the following week at Spring Ridge and other sections of the city.

Coming Attraction.—The lovers of well produced comedy-drama have much to look forward to in the engagement of "Yon Yonson" at the Victoria theatre on Tuesday evening next. The tour of this favorite play is being directed this season by Messrs. Thall and Kennedy, two of the most enterprising of the younger generation of theatrical managers, and it is promised that the presentation which they make of "Yon Yonson" is better than it has ever been before. The company which they have engaged is headed by Arthur Donaldson, Annie Mack Berlein, Beatrice Norman and E. J. Mack. It is promised that there will be many novelties introduced in the presentation of the play and there have been many new features added. Included in the company are Grace Hazard, Edith Hall, E. Guy Spangler, Clifton Maynard, Sidney Craven, George Lund, William Konst and the celebrated Lumbermen's Quartette.

Cattle Men From Calgary

Strong Demand for Beef Created by Kootenay and Klondike Wants.

One of Last Month's Earthquake Shocks Felt In Cassiar.

A few of the last stragglers from the notorious Edmonton trail are now registered at the Dawson in a party composed of E. C. Keighley, H. Robinson, A. E. Longard and J. H. Brown, all from Athabasca. The party have spent the last summer prospecting on the Liard river. Mr. Keighley says that all in destitute circumstances are now, he thinks, out of the country. The Hudson's Bay posts are at any rate well stocked and starvation may not be again looked for. His own souvenir of the terrible experience passed through were frozen feet. Between McDame and the lower Dease he felt the earthquake which on September 10 shook Skagway. His party had just sat down for lunch under a big tree when the peculiar sensation overtook them, making the trees sway as in a storm. Mr. Keighley says the Cassiar Central Railway Company is taking sail means possible to open up the country.

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A. F. Mannear, W. Grant Mackay and Geo. Sage, of Calgary, are at the Driard, having arrived last evening after a leisurely trip to the coast. They attended both the Ashcroft and New Westminster exhibitions and at the former place were particularly surprised on finding some of the choicest fruit they had ever seen. One of the two owned until a short time before coming to the coast, a large cattle range, and consequently was a contributor to the immense shipments constantly going forward to the old country and latterly to the Kootenay. The stock is generally bought in Manitoba, when a year old taken to the ranges and kept there until they become full grown and ready to kill, and it is these which bring the ranchers from $38 to $50 apiece. Mr. Sage said last evening that this fall there is very keen rivalry in cattle buying about Calgary between a big Manitoba firm and Pat Burns, the two representing the old country and coast markets respectively. The northern and Kootenay markets are creating a better demand for the stock and prices which last year were somewhat low have improved, being now on an average of about $45 a head.

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Victoria hotels last evening accommodated a number of the up-country visitors to the fair at New Westminster, who came down to visit the Capital before returning home. There were staying at the Dominion G. T. Mallery, Geo. E. Welsh, J. N. Moore and Otis Meyers, of Kamloops; W. Hault and J. Brown, Revelstoke; M. M. Woodward, of Lower Nicola, and Mrs. and Miss King of Calgary.

Mrs. W. B. McLennan arrived from the Sound yesterday to rejoin her husband, who has just returned from Dawson. Both are guests at the Queen's.

J. E. Mullindx, newspaper man of Walla Walla, and his bride are spending their honeymoon in Victoria and are guests at the Queen's.

Dr. D. E. McGillivery, of Toronto, has come West to locate in Victoria. He is a guest at the Dominion.

Capt. J. S. Gibson, of the Chemainus mills, registered at the Victoria yesterday.

E. P. Brown, the owner of a saloon in Nagasaki, is staying at the Dominion.

W. R. Robertson, M. P. P., of Cowichan, is a guest at the Victoria.

FAME'S PATHWAY.

The recent reinterment of the followers of John Brown around the grave of their leader at North Elba, in the Adirondacks, was accomplished almost entirely through the efforts of Miss Katherine McClellan, who is one of the greatest admirers of the old abolitionist.

The new director of the St. Petersburg is Lieut.-General Schilder. Thirteen years ago Schilder published a life of General Todleben, and he is now at work on a monster biography of Emperor Alexander I., of which four volumes are completed and 16 more are to follow.

No successor to Dr. E. E. Hale in the pulpit of the South Congregational church of Boston has yet been chosen, nor is it likely that a selection will be made this year. Dr. Lyman Abbott will fill the pulpit in January, Dr. T. R. Slicer on October 29 and Dr. De Normandie and Dr. Hale himself on other dates.

Miss Annie Russell Allen of St. Louis, who has married the Duke of Montefeltro, an Italian nobleman, is the lady who about six months ago broke her engagement with Count Paul Festetics of Hungary, when she learned that he had been making a private but unusually thorough inquiry as to the extent of her fortune.

Twenty-seven years ago Booker T. Washington left Charleston, W. Va., a penniless colored boy and walked to Hampton to try to get an education. When he returned to Charleston recently as the guest of the city he was received by the mayor and officials and was greeted at the opera house by 2,000 enthusiastic admirers.

Dr. John Archibald Fairlie has been appointed lecturer on municipal administration at Columbia university. He was born in Glasgow in 1872, and was graduated from Harvard university in 1895, where he spent two years in post graduate study and as an assistant in history. He received the degree of Ph. D. at Columbia in 1898, and during the present year has served as secretary of the special committee appointed by Governor Roosevelt to determine the future policy of the state in regard to canals.

Healthy, happy children make better men and women of us all. A little care and a little planning before birth is often more important than anything that can be done after. On the mother's health and strength depend the life and future of the children. A weak and sickly woman cannot bear strong and healthy children. Most of the weakness of women is utterly inexcusable. Proper care and proper medicine will cure almost any disorder of the feminine organism. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription has been tested in thirty years of practice. It is healing, soothing, strengthening. It is perfectly natural in its operation and effect. By its use thousands of weak women have been made strong and healthy—have been made the mothers of strong and healthy children. Taken during gestation, it makes childbirth easy and almost painless, and insures the well being of both mother and child. Send 31 cents in 1-cent stamps to World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y., and receive Dr. Pierce's 1008-page "Common Sense Medical Adviser," profusely illustrated.