Weekly Colonist.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1885.

PARTY LINES.

The time is approaching when party lines will be closely drawn in British Columbia and when public men will range themselves on one side or the other of politics. Heretofore election contests in this province have been conducted more upon personal than party lines. A man's political creed has had less to do, generally, with his success or non-success than his individual characteristics or social qualities. Electors have looked more to the personal peculiarities of a candidate than to the principles he professed. It is a pity that it should be so; but it is true that politics in this Pacific province have been conducted in a happy-go-lucky, go-as-you-please sort of a way that, after all, was hardly inseparable from its isolated condition. The man who could talk the loudest and the longest or who could tickle people in their mental ribs till they roared again, was often elected to represent constituencies at critical periods in the history of the country. There have been worthy exceptions to this rule. All constituencies have not been moved to vote for a man for the simple and only reason that "He's a jolly good fellow, which nobody can deny;" or because he was "poor and wanted something, and why shouldn't he have a chance to get it?" Happily for this country the day when personal politics ruled is passing away. Soon things political will become here, as in the older provinces of Canada. A candidate will have not only to possess a code of principles, but he will have to show that he has the physical courage and mental capacity to urge them at all times and against all odds. Practically, so far as the Dominion is concerned, the country is without a grievance. The Macdonald government have met every reasonable demand upon them as rapidly as the resources of the Dominion would permit. They have pledged the credit of the confederation to keep faith with British Columbia; and in spite of a bitter and an unreasoning opposition they have achieved their object and made the union of the British North American States practical and definite where before it was only sentimental. For their successful efforts they are entitled to the support and approval of this people; and at the general elections in 1887 it is safe to predict, even at this distance, that all or nearly all the members returned for British Columbia constituencies will be adherents of the liberal-conservative government.

FAIR VS. FREE TRADE.

Lord Rosebery, so the dispatches state, is of opinion that the only cure for the trade depression in England's government-assisted emigration. There must be something wrong when one of the foremost men in England can stand before an audience and declare that the only salvation for the artizan and laboring classes is to scuttle out of the country as fast as they can. This declaration is a knowledgement of the complete collapse of the trade policy of the liberals. Great Britain is being free-traded to death. Nearly every article the country can manufacture is imitated by foreigners and allowed to enter British ports duty free, while it is sold under the British produce. The result could not be offered the workmen of Great Britain than to tell them they must seek in a foreign land that bread which the policy of the liberal government denies them at home. Lord Rosebery is a disciple of Mr. Gladstone and a sort of a democratic radical, if such a animal as the *genus homo* can be imagined. He sees the empty workshops and idle workmen, and the only remedy he can suggest is to get rid of the producers as fast as possible. He sees the revenue falling to a condition of appalling nothingness, and the only plan he can suggest to restore it to a healthy basis is lessening the number of consumers! The commission on trade depression is sitting almost daily. They have already collected a great mass of evidence, most of which tends to show that the only solution for the British manufacturer is fair trade. This is another name for reciprocity. The country that will permit British-made goods to enter its ports free of duty should accord the same privilege for its own goods in British ports; but wherever a hostile tariff shall meet British goods a similar tariff should be imposed at British ports. The Liverpool chamber of commerce have passed resolutions in support of fair trade, and we are inclined to think the country will accept the spirit of those resolutions rather than adopt the plan of depopulating the country proposed by Lord Rosebery.

LITERARY RUBBISH.

Principal Grant, who twice crossed the continent to British Columbia with Stanford Fleming, wrote a book on his travels entitled, "Ocean to Ocean," in which, mixed with a good deal of sound sense, were some very stupid reflections and statements on the people and resources of the province. Later, Mr. Grant contributed a number of papers to American magazines in the same way, in which he vigorously assailed the progressive policy of the Macdonald government. In the interval that has elapsed since those articles appeared the railway has become an accomplished fact; but Principal Grant is still discussing British Columbia and its affairs through an American publication. He "broke out" last month in the Century on the subject of Chinese cheap labor, remarking that "abundance of cheap labor is at present the one thing needful in British Columbia, and the Chinese are the only people who are likely to supply it on a large scale for many a year. Yet the native or other white population are persuaded that the prosperity of the country depends upon the exclusion of cheap labor. If Chinamen could only be kept out white people would come in, and wages would go up. Good prices would then be obtained for everything and every one would live comfortably. Several amusing instances are cited to show the natives' notion of good prices and comfortable living. One of the engineers of the railway described them as a "nice people," who "do cheerfully what you want, either for nothing or for an enormous price." Principal Grant and two others hired a wagon to drive twenty-five miles. For this they were charged the modest sum of thirty dollars. On another occasion a man was engaged to row out to a steamer on Burrard Inlet. He was occupied an hour and claimed four dollars. An individual wished to hire a team to haul some lumber. Fifteen dollars a day was demanded for the service. Chinese cheap labor must be a blessing to such a country. Dr. Grant is sorry to seem to reflect on the British Columbians. They were kindness itself to him. Their hospitality is beyond praise, but he is compelled to say that "when they charge you are like to remember the bill."

BATTERY "C" AGAIN.

Our intensely sectional friend of the Columbian is still pegging away in the highpressure style peculiar to him about Battery "C." Like the man who told an untruth so often that he at last began to believe it, our contemporary has iterated and reiterated his faith in the location of the battery at some out-of-the-way place on the mainland until he actually questions the official declaration of Messrs. Caron and Langevin in the house of commons so late as July last and drags into the controversy the report of Col. Holmes favoring Coal Harbor and the endorsement of General Middleton. But the Columbian resolutely shuts his eyes to a very important fact. The report and the endorsement were made in 1884. The official statements of the minister of militia and the minister of public works locating the battery at Esquimalt were made in 1885! After deliberating over the documents for a twelvemonth the militia chief decided in favor Esquimalt. What more remains to be said, except to point our contemporary to that portion of the speech of the governor-general at the Victoria banquet, where he announces that Esquimalt is to be made the *place d'armes* of the British possessions on the North Pacific! We know that these facts are like unwelcome guests to the Columbian; but however much he may ignore them, they will not "down at his bidding," and few will believe that he is ignorant of their existence or that he has not wilfully suppressed dates to prop up his drooping cause.

A POLITE INVITATION.

The following invitation appears in the Seattle papers:

To the Citizens of Seattle and Vicinity: Arrangements have been made for a grand torchlight procession and anti-Chinese demonstration at Seattle on October 24, 1885. A committee has been selected from the three committees appointed at the anti-Chinese congress, lately held at Seattle, and mass meetings to make all necessary preparations, and by them the citizens of western Washington are invited to participate with us. An invitation is extended to each and all of the city officials of King county, to each of the secret orders, militia companies, fire departments, churches, schools, trades people, and all citizens who consider that Chinese coolie labor is disgraceful to our nation, dangerous to our people and degrading to the working classes of America. It is the wish of the committee that each branch of labor be very largely and properly represented. A very large body of special guards will be in attendance, with authority to arrest *promptly* anyone causing the least disturbance, either by word or deed. Perfect quietness and order are guaranteed. Any persons endeavoring to in any manner violate the laws of the city or territory will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. A cordial invitation is extended to all to join the procession, which will form on Mill street at 7 p. m., sharp. Ladies are especially invited to join in the parade.

GEO. VENABLE SMITH, Chairman.
LOU. E. BEACH, Secretary.

A RAW RECRUIT.

At Dublin on the night of October 13th a curious scene occurred at the city nominating convention. After the nomination of Mr. Clangy had been accepted by the convention, Mr. Parnell made a short speech proposing Sir Thomas Henry Grattan Esmonde, Bart., of Ballynastra, county Wexford, for the remaining seat. Mr. Michael Davitt, who was present as a delegate, arose with a scowl upon his face, and opposed the nomination. He said that Sir Thomas was a landlord, and it was impossible for a landlord to be a true patriot. A long and excited discussion followed, during which Mr. Parnell vouched for the patriotism of Sir Thomas. From time to time there were loud calls for the proposed nominee, and at length Sir Thomas appeared upon the platform. He made a strong and ultra-national speech, apologized for being a landlord, and fiercely denounced the landlord class as the greatest curse of Ireland. This caused an entire revolution in the feelings of Mr. Davitt, who jumped to his feet saying he was delighted to express his entire approval of Sir Thomas as nominee. The question of his nomination was then put and carried by acclamation, Mr. Davitt's voice being the loudest in the enamoured chorus of "Ayes." Sir Thomas Henry Grattan Esmonde is twenty-three years old, is the eleventh baronet of his line, and is the great-grandson of the Right Hon. Henry Grattan, whose services in behalf of Irish freedom a hundred years ago are still remembered with grateful reverence throughout Ireland.

THE INDIAN RESERVE.

We incline to the opinion that in selecting a site on the Indian reserve for the immigration sheds the Dominion government have acted without due consideration of the legality of their action. The reserves are held by the Dominion government in trust for the Indians. If at any time a tribe in possession of a reservation should be "improved off the face of the earth," the land would naturally revert to the provincial government. Now, then, can the Dominion government, to whom the land has not been conveyed absolutely, who have not extinguished the Indian title, and who can lawfully administer it in no other interest than that of the natives, alienate any portion of the reserve for immigration purposes? If the case is pressed (we propose it will not be, because Indians make the worst possible use of a reservation), the result cannot be doubtful. The Dominion will have to retire from the reserve and remove or abandon the marine hospital as well as the immigration sheds.

Taxation of Church Property.

Oct. 19, 1885.

To THE EDITOR:—I wish to make an inquiry with respect to church property. In the United States all ecclesiastical property is exempt from taxation. I remember reading several years ago a passage in one of Grant's messages to congress, in which reference was made to this fact, and all the church property in the country was estimated at more than a thousand millions of dollars. No change has been made in the law since that time. The question I would like to have answered is: Does the same rule hold in the Dominion? I am aware that churches (the edifices) and cemeteries are exempt from taxation; but does this exemption extend to all property held by religious bodies?

By answering this enquiry in your paper you will oblige several of us who are not well-informed on this matter.

Yours, etc., W.

[The Dominion government at confederation parted with the right to impose taxes on real estate; therefore, there is no Dominion taxation of church property. The laws of the different provinces vary somewhat. In Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia "every place of worship and land used in connection therewith, churchyard or burying-ground," are exempt from taxation. In Nova Scotia and New Brunswick there is a similar law. It will be understood that the exemption does not extend to *all* church property, such as buildings held for rent or land, improved or unimproved, that is not attached to a place of worship, etc. In Quebec the exemptions are greater, but how far they extend we are not aware.]

Nanaimo Items.

Mr. James Abrams has up and near completion, a very fine cottage near his tannery, on Mill street.

We are to have another brewery, under the proprietorship of Messrs. H. Rosewell & Hopkins, who have already under way a large building, on a site suitably adapted to their intended business.

Mr. Alvah Kearney, formerly owner of a stage line between here and Wellington, left here yesterday for New Brunswick, where he intends spending a few weeks in visiting his relatives and friends.

In order to facilitate his business and supply the wants of his numerous customers, Mr. John Mahew has commenced the erection of another building adjoining his brewery. With this addition his premises present a striking appearance of prosperity.

Smith Tompkins and John Berthram are negotiating the purchase of a lot of land where they intend putting up a cottage the design of which will be after eastern architecture.

Riel's Hope Gone.

The British privy council has dismissed the appeal of Louis Riel and unless his sentence is commuted he will be hanged on the 26th inst. Much sympathy is felt for Riel in Quebec; but it is not believed that the government will spare his life.

IMPROVEMENT.—The additional story which is being added to Marvin & Tilson's and Strouss' warehouses on Wharf street will add materially to the appearance of the street, and it is to be hoped the good example will be followed by the other merchants on the block, so that a uniformly substantial look may be given the warehouses.

OUR ENGLISH LETTER.

Prince Bismarck and the Roumelian Question.

Discussion of English Political Questions.

General Gossip of the Old World.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

LONDON, Oct. 3rd.

Prince Bismarck has not yet spoken on the Eastern Roumelian difficulty, and all Europe is at this moment waiting for his "say" and watching for his "move." It is not now with Germany as it used to be, and that not long since—when she had no concern with affairs in the east and when the very name of Prussia, except in connection with that of Frederick the Great, was all but unknown on the Bosphorus. In drawing up the treaty of Paris little Piedmont even played a much more important part than did what has in the meantime become the dominant power on the continent of Europe. Among the eastern revolutions, the diplomatic ones are not the least unworthy; and Bismarck is no longer of the humor to ridicule the idea of an eastern policy for Germany. For Germany the eastern question is a religious question; and that is a momentous fact too much ignored by those who are given to step lightly forward with their pill for the malady.

There is an awful possibility that the Mahdi

MAY NOT BE DEAD AFTER ALL.

Colonel Colvile, who, perhaps, is better able to form an opinion than anyone else, is very doubtful on the point. It will be remembered that Colonel Colvile's mission was taken at the express desire of the Gladstone government, and that it brought him in close contact with the natives, while he is at this moment in constant communication with friendly messengers from the interior. Of course the death of the Mahdi does not imply the death of the Mahdi movement, for that, as Professor Darmsteter has shown, is inherent in the Fetish of Mohammedan peoples. The more important fact is that he is far enough south to be out of the political field. Nobody is deeply interested in the internal politics of El Obeid.

Dover house, Whitehall, is the mansion which Mr. Gladstone looked at some months ago, with a view of making it his headquarters during the remaining months of his premiership. The idea, however, was never carried out, and now the fine, if rather dingy, pile is to be occupied by the new head of the west Scotch office. The diplomatic hodmen from the foreign office have been busy furnishing in the shabbiest possible fashion. Lord Rosebery's wife, all for luxury in Downing street, and his own apartments were furnished in sumptuous style. With Mr. Gladstone came a return to simpler furniture, and the tradition has apparently been maintained. Linoleum and stained deal are to be the rule at the new Scotch office, which is about as low as we have got in the furniture line. In a little time, perhaps, we may come down to mere deal benches at the brokers, and then Wardour street chairs and tables will replace the elegant articles in deal.

THE PUZZLE OF EGYPT

has written a long letter to the Times in reply to Mr. Chamberlain, controverting the latter's statements at Inverness about the decline of prosperity in the Highlands. His opponent has this advantage over Mr. Chamberlain, that he has known the case in hand all his life; whereas the ex-president of the board of trade is compelled by the circumstances of his position to become perfect master of a great many subjects in a very short time. Perhaps he may get one of a ship to the driving of a crown or Highland plow. His grace quotes the English tourist Pennant in proof of his allegations that the Highlands were incomparably worse off in former times than they are now. "This tract," says Pennant, describing a Highland glen in 1772, "seems the residence of the sloth; the people almost torpid with idleness and most wretched; their hovels most miserable, made of poles wattled and covered with thin sods. There is not even enough ground to cover half the grass of the inhabitants," etc. The contemporary tourist describes is generally the most untrustworthy of witnesses, when facts have to be brought under their way; and the greater the authority attaching to his name the greater the mischief he is apt to work as a misleader. The Duke of Argyll is of the sort that ought to know this. There is Dr. Johnson, for example, whose unworthy prejudices blessed his eyes to the great forests of great antiquity flourishing beyond the border, and caused him to give to the world an authoritative description of Scotland as a treeless waste. That description of his gathered in time all the strength of a proverb, which would have endured till this day had it not been for Cook's excursions.

HERE IS A DESCRIPTION

of English living as it was said to be in the 16th century. But even the Duke of Argyll would scarcely give to a truthful account of the general condition, notwithstanding that it was given to the world by the learned Erasmus as the fruit of his own experience. "The floors of English houses," says Erasmus, "are made of nothing but loam, and are strewed with rushes, which, being constantly put on fresh, without removal of the old, remain lying there in some cases for twenty years, with fish bones, broken victuals and other filth, sometimes spilt, and impregnated with the urine of dogs and men."

There has been a rumor of intention on the part of the government to postpone the general election. I do not believe there is any foundation for this. Except another quarter's salary, a consideration too paltry to have any weight, there is no advantage to be gained by the government in playing such a trick upon the people. On the contrary, the earlier the time is braved the better are the conservative chances. I believe we shall find the general election all over by the 5th of December.

The persons who placed implicit reliance in Mr. William Jackson's inventive powers, and though utterly unable to swim, plunged into the waters of the Thames on his assurance that they would not sink, seem to have put their trust in a good quarter. The appliance by which, instead of being submerged they were able to float comfortably, consists of a costume which, while presenting no conspicuous peculiarity of look, is nevertheless, owing to the fabric being interwoven with fine threads of cork, capable of rendering the wearer perfectly buoyant.

The war waged during the past few days

AGAINST OVERCOATS

has received the support of the Lancet. The argument of our medical contemporary is to the effect that the outer garment worn by people in chilly weather on going out of doors arrests the evaporation of warm vapor from the body. It follows as a consequence that on coming into the house again and taking off the overcoat precisely at the moment when muscular activity is suspended, a "rapid cooling by evaporation" takes place, liable to produce colds, attacks of lumbago, and the malaise popularly known as a "chill." As an antidote to this evil, the Lancet does not, however, dwell on the recently vaunted merits of fur collars, fur vests, and the like. The writer simply suggests that instead of the ordinary overcoat people should wear "coats of different thicknesses, according to the weather and conditions generally," replacing, when in the house, the thicker garment by a thinner one. The coat saturated with moisture would be thus removed and dry off the body instead of on it, avoiding the perilous results of "cooling by evaporation." The suggestion is obviously one deserving consideration, and it has the merit of being very seasonable.

The existence of centenarians since and before the days of Henry Jenkins, Old Parr and Katharine, Countess of Desmond, has been proved to be so common that the mere fact of any person living for more than a hundred years

HARDLY DESERVES NOTICE.

A Mrs. Drake, who attained on Sunday her hundredth birthday must, however, be claimed as an exception. This lady, like Old Parr, was born in Shropshire, and was present as a nurse on the field of Waterloo. Her recollections, moreover, carry her to the Peninsula war; for she accompanied throughout that campaign her husband, who was serving with the Twelfth Light Dragoons. Mrs. Drake, who has been a widow for forty-six years, and has outlived all her relatives with the exception of one daughter, is said to bear her extreme age so vigorously as to be able to read without the aid of glasses.

If we have lately been having some foul weather in England, they have been having some furious weather elsewhere. The floods in the Tyrol and Carinthia are threatening as great disasters as those overwhelming Szegeden and other towns a few years ago. From Switzerland and the Upper Rhine there come news of snowstorms and inundations. All things considered, Englishmen might be less disaffected with their own climate than they usually are.

The following is the obituary of the week: The Earl of Shaftesbury, K. G., whose long life has been devoted to the improvement and well-being of his fellowmen; Rear-Admiral Mountford S. E. Peile; Lieut.-Col. William Handasyde Buchanan, Seventh Royal Fusiliers, and Sir John Hawley Glover, R. N., G. C. M. G., governor of Newfoundland. He was administrator of the government of Lagos in 1863-4, and again from 1866 till 1872. He was governor of Newfoundland from 1876 till 1881, and of the Leeward Islands from the latter date till 1883, when he was reappointed governor of Newfoundland.

P.S.—The situation in Eastern Roumelia is not reassuring. Servia and Greece are in a state of fermentation; Russia has been baffled in her diplomacy by Prince Alexander, or, to speak more correctly, by the Bulgars, who have created an entirely new situation. To make matters worse, Russia is urging upon the sultan to give Prince Alexander his *quietus*. It is well known that Prince Henry has long been a *persona ingrata* at St. Petersburg.

A FAMOUS JOCKEY REJECTS AN AGED DUCHESS.

The Powers Preparing for War.

Russia and Austria Unable to Agree—King Thebaw Preparing to Fight for his Kingdom—Old World Notes.

LONDON, Oct. 18.—An interesting story involving a romance of the turf and the highest aristocracy has just been brought to light. A well-known sporting duchess became infatuated with the most successful jockey in the world, and proposed to marry him. He was a widower, and she had long been a widow. Her preference was never emphasized until the last race meeting at Newmarket, Fred Archer rode Gray Hermit, and ran a dead heat with Modena. When he failed to win, Archer found that his fee was £500, instead of the customary £10. Just after this her ladyship broached the delicate question of matrimonial partnership. Then Archer reflected. Her ladyship is over 60 years old, and Archer is only 30. He wrote a respectful answer to her ladyship's offer, but the letter was characteristically horsey. He said he was overpowered by the intended honor, but he could not ride at weight.

IMPROVING HER NAVY.

LONDON, Oct. 15.—Russia is projecting large additions to her navy.

THE BURMAH AFFAIR.

LONDON, Oct. 18.—War between England and Burmah is almost certain, and but a few persons deny the justice and necessity for such a proceeding on the part of Great Britain, although a minority of the liberal newspapers sneer at the tory attitude for little wars ignoring their own history. Differences of opinion are virtually confined to the question as to whether the disposition of king Thebaw and the substitution of a successor, with a controling British resident at Mandalay, is preferable to the annexation of Burmah to India. The marquis of Ripon, ex-viceroy of India, the bulk of the radicals and a fraction of the Indian officials favor the former plan, while Lord Randolph Churchill, secretary of state for India, and a vast majority of the people of England and India heartily support the latter scheme.

ANARCHY REIGNS.

LONDON, Oct. 18.—The Times, has advices to the effect that complete anarchy prevails in Burmah. It is expected that certain tribes will storm Mandalay. A very hostile feeling is shown in Burmah toward all foreigners and a general massacre is feared. The Italian consul at Mandalay has been threatened with imprisonment.

Concerned About the Cashier.

(Boston Courier.)

Bank President (to cashier)—You look somewhat pale this morning.

Cashier—I do not feel very well.

B. P.—Nothing serious, I trust.

C.—No; I've been vaccinated and it has taken and it makes me feel rather feverish.

B. P. (aghast)—Been vaccinated!

C.—Yes, sir.

B. P., hurries to Directors' room, enters, exclaiming, "Gentlemen, the smallpox is raging in Montreal and our cashier informs me that he has just been vaccinated."

Great consternation among Directors. Immediate investigation ordered.

The Nanaimo Fire.

The extensive fire at Nanaimo on Monday night is thought to have been caused by an incendiary, as the warehouse of Manson & Co. were burned sixteen months ago on the same site.

The warehouse and store buildings of Manson & Co. were owned by Wm. Earl, the postmaster, and insured for $2,500. The loss of Manson & Co. is estimated at $13,000, as they had just received a large consignment from Canada, with an insurance of $7500. The above insurance was carried by the Phoenix and Commercial insurance companies, represented in this city by Donald Smith. In addition Mr. Manson estimates the loss on his private household furniture at $600, no insurance.

The loss of Thompson & Kennedy is estimated at $1,800, with an insurance of $500, in the City of London insurance company.

Mr. W. A. Horne's loss is estimated at $700, no insurance.

Municipal Police Court.

(Before E. Johnson, Esq., S. M.)

WEDNESDAY, Oct. 21.

A number of drunks were charged the usual fine of $5, while Sam, a Fort Rupert, was fined $20 or one month, for being in possession of liquor.

Harry Brooks, an Indian, for stealing a pair of pants, was sentenced to one month's imprisonment.

J. A. Koholer, charged with threatening to cut H. Peters, was allowed out on his own recognizance, Supt. Bloomfield stating that the affair could be easily explained.

Phillip Chalk, charged with being a vagrant, was fined $10 or 14 days imprisonment.

"A. P."—A letter awaits you at this office.

GREAT ROBBERIES.

How Royal Treasuries have been Rifled by Thieves.

(London Standard.)

The recent robbery of the Turin Armory causes us to review the many similar crimes committed in the past in England and other countries. The story of Colonel Blood, who all but managed to make off with the English crown jewels from the Tower, is so well known that it need only be referred to. But there are several other instances less known, though scarcely less peculiar. Nearly 600 years ago the great treasury in Westminster Abbey was cleared of some of the most valuable of its contents, the sacristan and several of the monks acting in complicity with certain thieves outside the walls. Some of the objects were never recovered; but the richness of the booty hampered the robbers so much that when the chief of them was captured £2,000 worth was found in his possession. So carefully was the robbery planned that the rogues sowed the graveyard with hemp, in order that four months later it might serve to conceal the proceeds of the burglary. This crop, it may be added, was utilized for quite a different purpose. In 1840 the Republic of Venice narrowly escaped being plundered of its vast hoard of valuables by a man named Stammato, who after secreting himself behind an altar in the cathedral, managed to gain access to the treasury by means of false keys. Night after night he removed objects of value, and there seems little doubt that his might have escaped with his booty had he not been tempted to show one of his countrymen the ducal cap of the the Doge, which he had just conveyed to his lodgings. This misplaced confidence led to his apprehension with more than 2,000,000 ducats in his possession. Anne of Denmark, Queen of James VI of Scotland, was robbed by her maid of pearls and other valuables, under the plea that these jewels were taken to dress dolls for the royal children. On the death of Queen Charlotte an immense quantity of precious stones including diamonds to the value of nearly a million, were missing. On a previous occasion a gold ewer and a basin enriched with gems disappeared from the royal chambers. The latter was subsequently found behind a bookshelf in the king's study. At a later date it was officially announced that the diamonds had, for the most part, been recovered, with the exception of the King's Star and Garter, valued at £7,000. It was thought that George III had removed them during one of his fits of insanity, and had forgotten where he put them. The garter is however still missing.

During the disorders following the revolution the French crown jewels were stolen by the robbers, who climbed on the colonnades at the side of the place Louis XV, and thus gained entrance to the Garde Meuble, where they had been placed by the Commune of Paris. A portion of the treasure was recovered from a ditch in the Aloe des Veuves, in the Champs Elysees, but though Napoleon made every effort to collect the stones, which had been dispersed throughout Europe, many have disappeared, it is believed forever. In this, as in almost all the cases of robberies of crown jewels, all the guardians of the treasures were suspected of complicity, and to the end of his life Citizen Sargent bore the title of "Agate," owing to a popular belief that on the basis of the proverb which gives thieves credit for knowing their own hiding places, he had no difficulty in finding the agate-onyx chalice which formed part of the treasure fished out of the ditch in the Champs of Elysees. Since that time several more of the crown jewels have vanished, and in 1848 during the transportation of these valuables to the treasury, two pendeloques of diamonds and the button of a hat in brilliants suddenly disappeared. In 1804 the celebrated "Cup of the Ptolemies" was stolen from the Paris Museum, and within the last three years the Church of St. Denis was despoiled of the regal ornaments. In 1850 the Princess of Orange was robbed of her jewels at Brussels, and in 1877 the treasures of the Cathedral of Toledo were withdrawn from public inspection, owing to the numerous thefts to which they had been subjected for many years previously. As for the Duke of Brunswick, notwithstanding the elaborate precautions which he took to keep his diamonds, he was plundered more than once, and to the scandal of legitimacy, some of Don Carlos' orders went astray in a peculiar manner. Charles I helped himself to the contents of the jewel-house when funds failed, and Charles II, immediately after his accession, issued a proclamation commanding all persons in whose possession there were any of the crown jewels sold by the Commonwealth to restore them to their rightful owners. But though several persons were arrested for not doing so, the scattered valuables came in so slowly that a new set of regalia became necessary. Edward III pledged his crown and jewels to the merchants of Flanders, and Henry V put his diadem in pawn to the Abbot of Westminster in order to raise funds to carry on the war with France. Not to enumerate many similar transactions, Gustavus III of Sweden purchased two large diamonds, a ruby and some pearls which the young Pretender had failed to redeem from the Lombardy Arms. It would thus seem that royal treasures are quite as apt to go astray as any others.

Mysterious Disappearance.

Mr. Aaron Woods, a well known miner of this district, disappeared from Wellington on Friday night, under peculiar circumstances, and it is feared by his friends that he has taken his own life. He left a letter behind him which stated that he had been unable to obtain work and intimating that he would make away with himself. He left his sister's house in his shirt sleeves, and the only thing belonging to him that is missing is his favorite razor. Search parties were at once instituted, but no trace had been discovered of Woods either dead or alive. His friends are in a great state of anxiety and an attempt will be made to procure the bloodhounds belonging to Lieut.-Governor Cornwall to follow up the scent, and endeavor to find his whereabouts. Mr. Woods was for several years at Cariboo, where he was interested in the famous Gladstone claim, but of late had been rather despondent.—*Nanaimo Free Press.*

PETROLEUM.—A number of Washington territory capitalists left by the east coast steamer yesterday morning for Comox, from which point they will proceed to the newly discovered oil region to investigate and probably take up land. The present owners of land intend to sink a shaft for the purpose of testing the value of the find, which, if worthy, will get plenty of capital to develop it. The section where the supposed wells are situated is very heavily timbered, and overtures are already being made for the purchase of machinery to bring that product to market.

A CHICKEN RANCH.

A NEW INDUSTRY IN WHICH THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS ARE INVESTED.

Description of a Place Devoted to the Production of Fowls—Incubators and Artificial Brooders—Raising Broilers for the Market.

[New York Mail and Express.]

"The outlook for the incubator and poultry supply business is first-rate," said a well-known dealer in response to inquiries made by a reporter. "There are many new parties coming in every day now looking at machines who intend starting in the chicken-raising business this fall to make a regular trade of it. Incubators increasing in number? Yes, sir, there are in the market from twelve to fifteen machines of different patents. We have here in our store eight of the leading ones in constant operation night and day. The prices range from $20 to $300 each, with a varying capacity from fifty to 2,000 eggs. As a rule, a first-class incubator hatches from 80 to 90 per cent. of the fertile eggs that are put into it. Most of these machines are pretty self-their regulation, so that they require very little care."

"How much capital does it require to start in the chicken-raising business?" was asked.

"I know of one party whose capital is $100, and of another whom we fitted out the capital for whose stock is $300. All the eight machines that we keep are hatching chickens every day. These we send to our chicken ranch in New Jersey. Some days our machines hatch out as many as 500 chicks. Yes, the chicken-raising business is a new industry that has sprung up within the last two years. But aside from those who go into the business as a business, there are many wealthy men, owners of country seats, who have gone into it for the novelty of the thing.

"Has not the growth of the business increased the demand for poultry supplies?"

"Yes, very largely. Among the articles in great demand is ground bone and oyster shells, which is fed to the chicks. Why, we sell at least fifty tons of this material a year, and the demand has made a new way of disposing of bones and oyster shells. Not long ago a man started a manufactory at Yonkers for the special purpose of grinding bones and oyster shells for the chicken trade, and he has a big trade in it already. It has also made a great demand for wire netting for fences to poultry yards. The other day we sold and put up for one party a mile of this wire netting.

"You spoke of a chicken ranch. What is it like?"

"Ours in New Jersey covers six acres of ground. It is inclosed by a fence about six feet high. It contains a number of wooden buildings, built especially for chicken raising. One of these measures 80x30 feet and is twenty-feet high. It was originally built for the fattening of poultry. It is divided into pens for flocks of chickens of different breeds. The pen measures about 10x20 feet, and each contains hot boxes, roosts and feeding troughs. Another building on the ground is 200 feet and narrow, 100x35 feet, and is divided into pens the same as the other. Still an other is 40x11 feet, which we use principally for ducks. It has a small pond adjoining. On a knoll back of these buildings we keep a large number of artificial brooders for young chicks taken from the incubators at the store. They are kept in these brooders four weeks and then they are old enough to be put in with the larger stock.

"What is the profit of such a ranch?"

"Without crowding it, it contains nearly 1,000 full-grown fowls, 5,000 young chicks and 1,000 ducks. The cost of such a ranch, complete, without the land, is about $5,000. One man and a boy can attend to it nicely. Their duties are to feed and water the fowls regularly, and keep the buildings thoroughly cleaned. If this is properly done it keeps the fowls in perfectly good health. Such a business, properly carried on, will yield a profit of at least 100 per cent. on the capital invested, and even that is a low estimate. Take fancy bred fowls and they bring from $1 to $10 a piece, and I know a man who has a partridge cochin cock which $100 couldn't buy from him. The broilers. They are worth to-day, and it is the dull season. 22 cents a pound live weight. Each one will weigh 2½ pounds, and the cost to raise it is not over 15 cents. In winter they bring from 50 to 60 cents a pound, or $2 a pair.

"The demand for eggs for hatching is great and a large part of our business is to supply eggs for this purpose. In fact our ranch is carried on for raising thoroughbreds, not for market poultry. Do we allow visitors? Yes, we set apart Friday days for any one who wants to see the place. But there have been a number of such ranches lately started in the neighborhood of this city. One on Long Island conducted by a stock company is the largest. The capital interested is $40,000 and the place is conducted for the exclusive production of broilers. It has now a capacity for hatching 7,000 eggs, and they are putting up more buildings so that the place will have a capacity for hatching 10,000 chickens a day. They find the business profitable, and their trade is in the city. Another one what different ranch is one in New Jersey, which is devoted to the production of eggs exclusively, its owners having contracts with parties in this city. The man who owns it started the business three years ago with a capital of just $35. He has now 1,000 laying hens and his present buildings cost him $3,000, all of which he made out of the business. Yet, all this time he has been engaged in regular business in the city, and has come in every day."

Substitute for Sponges in Hospitals.

(Medical Journal.)

In some of the public hospitals Japanese paper handkerchiefs are now used, with much satisfaction, for drying wounds. Sponges are so seldom and with such difficulty perfectly cleansed after being used that their employment is objectionable. The paper towels, however, answer the same purpose as cotton cloth, and are so cheap that they can be thrown away after being used—ordinary cotton or linen towels have been found much preferable to sponges, which, if soiled are liable to introduce septic material into wounds.

The paper towels are scarcely suitable for drying hands after washing, unless several towels are used at once, because a large amount of moisture on the hands soon saturates a single towel. For removing blood from wounds a paper towel is simply crumpled up into a sort of ball or mass, and then used as a sponge; such balls absorb blood rapidly.

One or the Other.

"Who was the first man?" asked a Sunday school teacher of her prodigy. "Adam." "And who was the first woman?" He hesitated a moment, and then shouted, "Madam."

Invention of the Honey Extractor.

(Philadelphia Press.)

In Italy there chanced to dwell one Maj. Von Hruschka, a German, and one of nature's bee keepers. One day Maj. Von Hruschka was in his apiary, and his mind inclined to be thoughtful. The boy carried a tin pail, which had a string tied to it. The man gave the boy a piece of honey, putting it into the tin pail. Then the youth, boy-like, began to swing the pail with the honey in it round and round in a circle, holding it by the string. A moment after he had ceased this amusement the man happened to look again at the piece of honey. What was his surprise to find that the honey was all drained out neatly and perfectly from that side of the comb which had been on the outside of the circle as the boy swung the pail around by the string.

The major thoughtfully turned the comb over, and held the boy swing again. This time the other side of the comb was all drained out, and that night Maj. Von Hruschka went to bed thinking. He thought and thought and experimented until he gave the bee-keeper the honey extractor, which whirls the honey out of the comb by centrifugal force, leaving the comb to be filled again by the bees, and the liquid honey clean, pure and beautiful, to be eaten by people.

A Laudable Practice.

(Chicago News.)

The Chinese of New York city are developing a taste for rest, pug-dog, and there is said to be an increasing scarcity of that kind of the canine breed in the metropolis. This practice of the Chinamen is most laudable, and should hereafter influence in their favor any harsh anti-immigration legislative measures.

Wishes to Know.

A sanitary authority wishes to know why the bodies of elephants and wild animals generally are so rarely found after death.

Eastern Canada Mail.

(Per Northern Pacific Railway.)

MONTREAL, Oct. 13.—A man with his face all covered with smallpox pustules entered the office of a well-known anti-vaccinating doctor yesterday. Catching hold of him by the shoulders, he looked him steadily in the face, exclaiming: "Look at me; this is what your pet theory has brought hundreds like me to, curse you!" The proceeding so scared the anti-vaccinator that he rushed out of his office, forgetting his theorizing, ran to the nearest medical man for a vaccine point, got disinfected and vaccinated.

HAMILTON, Oct. 13.—A terribly sad affair occurred in the west end last night. Mrs. John Hamill, whose husband is head yardsman at the Grand Trunk Railway here, was going into the closet in the back yard at her residence, 138 Locke street north, carrying her baby, about 10 months old, when she slipped and fell forward. The child went through the hole in the seat, and before it could be rescued was smothered in the vault. Dr. Philip, coroner, was notified, and after hearing the statement of the mother as to how the accident happened, decided that no inquest was necessary.

TORONTO, Oct. 14.—At the Civil Assize Court, yesterday, in the libel suit of Macdonell against The Week, a retraction was read in court by the defendants and the case was struck off the list.

DUTTON, ONT., Oct. 14.—A fire broke out in Lane's block here about midnight, burning it to the ground, together with Hockin & Pool's large stock of dry goods and groceries. The fire then spread to Black's block, Hodder's bakery, Wilton's tailor store and Thompson's furniture store, totally destroying them all, also a dwelling-house occupied by J. E. Spurr. The probable losses are as follows: S. Brown, dwelling, $500; H. Lane, brick block and damage to goods, $4,000; Hockin & Pool $12,000; Hodder, $1,200; D. J. Thompson, $1,000; S. Wilton, $1,000; J. C. Price, damage to stock, $900, and C. Black's block, $2,500.

MONTREAL, Oct. 15.—The heavy losses incurred by some of our most enterprising capitalists in the efforts that were made to establish the production and manufacture of beet root sugar in this province two or three years ago were proved conclusively in the Superior Court here in an action now in progress against an ex-shareholder of the Farnham Company for $10,000 of unpaid preferential stock in the enterprise. The head of one of the wealthiest wholesale houses in the city, who was examined as a witness in the case, declared that his firm had lost $130,000 in the enterprise, and they never expect to realize a cent out of the assets, as it was a hopeless failure. There was another similar case of misadventure at Coaticooke, which had no better luck, all being lost.

FARNHAMTOWN, N. B., Oct. 13.—Morrison's sawmill, at the lower end of the city, took fire last night from a spark from the chimney lighting on the mill roof, and was burned to the ground. Twelve tenement houses adjoining the mill and a large two-story boarding-house were involved in the general conflagration, and these, and a pile of one million feet of sawn lumber, and eleven car loads of lumber switched off towards the mill were totally destroyed. The total amount of lumber destroyed is estimated at 2,000,000 feet, on which there was no insurance. Morrison was cutting this season exclusively for J. N. Murchie & Son, of Calais, whose loss will be very extensive. He had $20,000 insurance on the mill. Three gang-saws, machinery, engine, boiler etc., and the houses, also his property were insured. He valued the mill and machinery at $40,000. Thirteen families are left homeless by the fire. Of the $20,000 insurance