Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, JANUARY 27, 1888.

CABLE NEWS.

Cardinal Manning Endeavoring to Influence the Pope on the Home Rule Question.

The Arrest of Mr. Cox, M. P., to be Contested by the Liberal Federation.

Musicians Determined to Serenade Mr. Wilfred Blunt—Driven Away by Marines.

Letters From Cardinal Manning.

LONDON, Jan. 25.—It now transpires that Cardinal Manning has recently written a number of letters to the Pope with a view of dissuading him from interfering with Irish Catholics in their struggle with the English government for home rule. Concerning these letters the *Chronicle* says: They have undoubtedly had some effect, but their influence with the Vatican has fallen far short of the cardinal's expectations. The best result he has been able to obtain, the *Chronicle* asserts, is the not very positive assurance that the Pope will not publicly condemn the course of the national party, but will content himself with giving private and detailed instructions to Irish bishops as to the future conduct of themselves, the clergy and laity. To what extent these instructions will be carried out remains to be seen.

Order of Procedure.

Henry Matthews, home secretary, in an address to his constituents this evening, said there had never been a Cabinet more united than the present one. Next session of parliament he said would be devoted entirely to business in which Ireland would take second place. The local government bill to be introduced at the beginning of the session would be broad and liberal.

An Abject Failure.

John Dillon in a speech at Cambridge this evening declared that the coercion policy of the government was an abject failure. Hisonly fear was not that the national spirit would be quenched by coercion, but that the last chance of knitting the hearts of the English and Irish people in bonds of sympathy would pass without being seized.

Doing their Work Quietly.

A fresh and formidable uprising in Bulgaria is predicted as a result of the intrigues of Russian agents who are said to have done their work thoroughly and with great secrecy and the date of the outbreak is believed to be not far away.

Reduction Asked For.

Lord Dufferin, Governor General of India, has sent a reply to the tenants on his Irish estates who asked for a reduction of their rents by forty per cent, stating that he leaves the matter in the hands of his agent. The maximum reduction by the agent is ten per cent.

A Test Case.

The council of the liberal federation has decided to contest the legality of the government's arrest of Mr. Cox in London.

Mr. Sexton Slowly Improving.

It is announced that Mr. Sexton, whose condition is slowly improving, will shortly go to Killarney or Glengariff to recuperate.

All Excitement.

LONDON, Jan. 24.—All Ireland is in uproar over the release of Mr. O'Brien and the police and troops throughout the country were kept under arms all night because of the numerous demonstrations of rejoicing, which it was feared might lead to something worse. The people are undoubtedly in a higher state of excitement now than at any time since the enforcement of the Crimes Act and would require very little encouragement to vent their feelings in acts of violence. Many skirmishes between the people and police are reported to have occurred in various parts of Ireland, but none of them are known to have resulted seriously. Mr. O'Brien is stopping for the present with Commoner Kenny, and has received a large number of visitors.

Extending the Proclamation.

The intensity of feeling of exasperation which generally pervades Ireland is largely increased by a rumor unquestionably well founded that the government intends to proclaim the National League in the whole of the county Donegal and in parts of the counties Down and Armagh, and that the proclamation will be promulgated almost immediately. This report is current in Belfast and is generally supposed to have come from government officials there, who undoubtedly are already in possession of instructions from Dublin for their guidance when a proclamation shall have been issued. In addition to this indication of the purposes of the executive, sufficient information is obtainable to make it probable that the next batch of arrests under the Crimes Act will include William J. Reynolds and Mr. Michael McCartan, members respectively for East Tyrone and South Down, and Father Connery, president of the Belfast branch of the National League.

Lady Sackville Dead.

Lady Sackville, sister-in-law of the Hon. L. S. Sackville-West, British minister at Washington, died suddenly to-day of heart disease.

Ejectment Forthwith.

DUBLIN, Jan. 25.—Civilians residing on the island upon which is situated Fort Westmorland, in Queenstown harbor, having made bon fires of tar barrels to celebrate the release of Wm. O'Brien from Tullamore jail. The government has decided upon their eviction and orders will be issued for their ejectment forthwith.

Serenading Blunt.

DUBLIN, Jan. 24.—Several bands of music attempted to serenade Mr. Blunt in Galway prison last night, but were prevented from doing so by the police. The musicians withdrew, but subsequently embarked in boats on the river and proceeded in procession by the light of torches beneath the prison hall, where they played patriotic airs until again interrupted. The commander of the warship Banterer, lying in the river, sent a detachment of seamen and marines in boats to arrest the musicians, but the latter pulled up the river and their pursuers were unable to catch them, although they chased them a long distance.

A Fight With the Police.

At Galway to-day while the crowd, which had gathered at the railway station, were awaiting the arrival of Fathers Burke and Francis, they had a collision with the police, who charged upon them savagely and used their batons freely. Several were injured among the crowd, including a municipal official, who received three cuts on the head. The crowd retaliated and assaulted the police with stones and bottles, but were finally dispersed.

Later reports from Galway state that in the disturbance which occurred there this evening the police used their batons on women and boys, and that one boy is dying from the effects of the clubbing he received.

Reception Committee.

The committee appointed to receive John Morley and the Marquis of Ripon on the occasion of their visit here has reached the number of three thousand. Included in this number are three peers and many of the aristocracy, nineteen bishops and 204 magistrates.

Not in Condition.

BERLIN, Jan. 25.—A dispatch from Warsaw says: At the war council, held yesterday, General Kourko, who presided, made the statement that 20,000,000 roubles were required to complete fortifications on the Russian frontier, and to build necessary bridges and railways. He said that an offensive war in Russia and Poland was impossible under the present conditions, but if all the railways and stores were destroyed a defensive war might be possible.

The Emperor's Admiration.

Count Herbert Bismarck met Lord Churchill this evening at a dinner given in honor of the latter at the British embassy. It is stated that the emperor expressed great admiration for Lady Churchill whom he saw at the opera to-night.

BURGLARY AND DEATH.

Postoffice Burglarized—Two Inmates of a Dwelling Burned to Death.

The Mail Bags Ransacked—Registered Letters and Money Packages Stolen While a Severe Snow Storm Raged Without.

(Special to THE COLONIST.)

HALIFAX, Jan. 26.—During the past twenty-four hours a snow storm has swept over the province and railway travel is again demoralized. In the middle of the storm on Monday night the postoffice at Annapolis was entered by burglars and the through mail bags from Yarmouth and for and from St. John were opened and the registered letters and money packages stolen.

At midnight, when the storm was at the height of its fury, the dwelling house of Alexander Beton, a prominent resident, caught fire and in a few moments was destroyed. Beton's wife and grandchild were burned to death, and the other inmates barely escaped with their lives.

HON. JOHN COSTIGAN

Telegraphs Wm. O'Brien His Congratulations on His Liberation.

Comment Caused Over His Action—The Government Refuses to Bond Canadian Grain Shipped by the Northern Pacific and other American Lines.

OTTAWA, Jan. 26.—There is much comment here over the interest the Hon. John Costigan, Minister of Inland Revenue, has been taking in Ireland's cause against the coercion measures adopted by the British government. Yesterday, as a member of the Dominion government, he cabled his congratulations to Mr. O'Brien on his liberation from Tullamore jail, to which, it is understood, the other members of the cabinet are taking exception. Every member of the Dominion cabinet is sworn as a minister of the Crown and Mr. Costigan is the representative in the cabinet of the Irish element of the Dominion and by no means in sympathy with the policy adopted by the British government towards Ireland.

The Dominion Government has refused to certify or bond Canadian grain shipped from the Northwest Territories through the United States by the Northern Pacific and other American lines for re-entry into Canada at Windsor, Ont. This announcement is creating intense excitement throughout Manitoba and the Northwest. The Government maintains that the Canadian Pacific was constructed at a great cost through the western province to facilitate people in the Northwest securing direct communication with the outside world and that the American roads cannot be allowed, if possible, to come into competition with the C.P.R. which might under other circumstances prevent American cars coming into Manitoba at the Junction with the Northern Pacific.

THE MANITOBA GOVERNMENT.

The New Ministers Will Seek Re-Election—Minister Jones Looking for a Constituency.

[Special to THE COLONIST.]

WINNIPEG, Jan. 26.—Writs are out for the new election in Manitoba to enable the new ministers to go to their constituents. Polling will occur on February 16. No constituency has been found for Minister Jones. The legislature has not been dissolved, but adjourned to-day until March 1.

THE JUBILEE HOSPITAL.

TO THE EDITOR:—As one of the subscribers to the "New Jubilee Hospital Fund" I should like to know what steps are being taken to bring the matter to a focus. By the advertisements I see that plans had to be in by the 7th of December last, and, if so, surely sufficient time has elapsed to enable the committee to make a choice. A SUBSCRIBER.

Victoria, B. C. Jan. 26th, 1887.

LETTER FROM HON. R. BEAVEN.

TO THE EDITOR:—In your issue of the 25th, in referring to my remarks at the Philharmonic Hall on the previous evening, you attribute to me language and sentiments with regard to Mr. Dunsmuir, that never even entered my thoughts. I made up my mind on hearing that he would be absent, and in trouble in consequence of the sad accident at Wellington, to refrain from alluding to him, and with the exception of reading his name when quoting from the journals of the Legislative Assembly, I did not mention him. I trust you will give this denial as wide a circulation as you have already given to your unjust statement.

ROBERT BEAVEN.

Victoria, January 26th, 1888.

[Mr. Beaven would have shown his accustomed good sense had he not referred to the matter *at all*. His remarks were, to say the least, in the very worst taste. He is thus reported by the *Standard*: "The speaker said that if the measure which Mr. Raybould had worked for, regarding the miners, ("had passed," is evidently accidentally omitted), the sad intelligence from Nanaimo would never have happened. (Continued applause.) But the government voted it down;" while the *Times*, which, of course, lets Mr. Beaven down very easily, follows in the same vein. The newspaper reports do not, however, at all represent the intensity of Mr. Beaven's attack, but they serve to give an idea of the nature of it. Will that gentleman deny that he was actuated rather by political motives than interest in the welfare of the miners in bringing up the affair at the Opposition meeting? While Mr. Beaven has the undoubted right to his opinion, to which we give full publicity, we fail to see that we have put any other construction upon his language than that which naturally followed. We must confess, however, our astonishment and regret that the hon. gentleman should show such an utter lack of ordinary human feeling when Mr. Dunsmuir was "absent, and in trouble in consequence of the sad accident at Wellington."—ED.]

The Montreal police committee decided to recommend the council to appoint Capt. Heighman, late of Quebec for the chiefship.

FROM THE DAILY COLONIST, Jan. 26.

MINING DISASTER

Forty-Four Dead Bodies Already Taken From the Shaft.

Graphic Description by William Morgan of His Experiences in the Mine.

Complete List of the White Men in the Mine at the Time of Explosion, and of those Rescued.

The Colliery Pronounced Safe by a Miners' Delegation a Few Days Ago.

WELLINGTON, Jan. 25.—7 a. m.—When the first effect of the explosion was felt in the mine, the rescued described the feeling as if a knife was being suddenly run through from ear to ear. The concussion put the men in the dark at once, and immediately every man capable of making to the shaft's bottom, crept along in the darkness until the rescued gathered around to the number of ninety in close proximity to the bottom of the shaft. There they had to stay for hours anxiously awaiting assistance. The men had started off in the race for life, leaving everything in the scramble for the shaft. The fortunate escape of the fan enabled the company to keep a great body of air traveling down the hoisting shaft, making it bitter cold for the poor, partially clad miners. Some of the men tore up their clothing to divide amongst their more unfortunate comrades at the shaft's bottom.

It is reported that thirty white men are down still and all are expected to be dead. The last shift up, under the charge of Wm. McGregor, have penetrated 900 yards along the east level, and report about 750 yards of the same to be caved in, though it is possible to get over the caves into the back workings. The stoppings are being put in as fast as possible under the circumstances.

THE FIRST BODY UP.

NANAIMO, Jan. 25.—10:30 a. m.—The body of R. Williams has been brought up to the surface. Several bodies are at the bottom of the shaft and will be brought up as soon as the exploring party can get the roads clear, when it is intended to bring up as many as possible. The bratice is carried to within about 60 yards of the back of the level. The effect of the explosion in the mine is terrible, and the greatest caution is exercised in penetrating the workings. It may be two hours before any bodies come up. It is raining very heavy.

A COMPLETE LIST.

Following is a complete list of the white men and boys in the mine at the time of this terrible disaster:—T. Belton, W. Sharp, J. Marshall, Ezra Godfrey, R. Vincent, W. Morgan, D. Gordon, B. Belloni, S. Godfrey, David Rogers, F. McCoy, Jas. Reid, Geo. Merritt, L. Griffiths, R. Greenwell, D. Stamners, J. Bennie, C. Stevens, I. Emblem, R. Thompson, R. Sivere, J. N. Jones, C. Nater, Sam Davis, T. Bonehill, Elijah Davis, M. Powell, John Stevens, T. Eastham, R. Williams, S. Evans, M. Jones, J. Sanbrook, W. Jones, J. Wall, Thos. Brown, T. Morris, G. Green, R. Robertson, J. Klin, J. C. Hughes, Valencia, (Italian) A. Godfrey, D. McDonald, E. D. Davis, J. Robinson, Wm. Horn, L. Robson, Lot Jones, John Jones, W. Ellis, E. Jones, Thos. Coyne, Abe Turner, Thomas Richards, Sam Shaw, J. McNeil, J. Jones, J. Matthews, W. Wilks, H. Crossten, P. Morrison, Wm. Finch, Chas. Tillar, J. Morrison, T. Vague, D. Richards, W. McCullough, J. Eslick, A. M. Ross, Jac. Hopkins, R. McKay, John Stewart, E. Beauchamp, Thos. Rickard, Thos. Merridith, A. Blanchard, E. Hughes.

Below is the list of the men and boys who had been rescued at 6 p. m.:

Thos. Coyne, T. Rickard, John Jones, Isaac Emblem, Henry Crossten, John Stevens, Wallace Jones, J. Hopkins, Thomas Brown, P. Morrison, Chas. Nater, G. Green, Thos. Eastham, J. Eslick, Thos. Bonehill, S. Davis, Thos. Belton, W. Ellis, Thos. Richards, G. Merritt, E. D. Davis, W. McCullough, E. Hughes, Robt. McKay, Jas. Reid, John Bennie, T. Vague, Thos. Morris, A. Blanchard, W. Sharp, J. Jones, W. Morgan, J. Sanbrook, Lot Jones, C. Stevens, Sam Shaw, Daniel Richards.

The scene of the disaster is situated on the side of Diver Lake and about five miles from the city of Nanaimo, and is the mine to which the E. & N. Railway is connected. It has been looked upon as

THE BEST ARRANGED

and ventilated mine belonging to Messrs. R. Dunsmuir & Sons, and was always thought to be secure. Only a few days ago, in accordance with the custom at these mines, a deputation of miners visited every portion of this mine and pronounced it in excellent order. It is a damp mine, with a few dry places, which are kept carefully watered. The cause of the explosion is at present wrapped in mystery and to offer an opinion at this juncture would be veritable conjecture. The mine was in the special charge of Mr. S. Jones, as Overman.

(Staff Correspondence of THE COLONIST.)

WELLINGTON, B. C., Jan. 25.—An exploring party worked all Tuesday night, divided into three shifts, and under Foreman Haggert penetrated into the east slope. They located the bodies of a number of whites and Chinese. It was not until about 2 o'clock this afternoon that the work of bringing the bodies to the surface began, and as one cage was in working order, after the start was made this proceeded very rapidly, and in a little over an hour's time the bodies of seven white men and eight Chinese had been raised to the surface. The bodies of all were mangled and blackened beyond recognition, and the only means of knowing the

UNFORTUNATE VICTIMS'

names were by the stalls and points at which they were found. The bodies were carefully wrapped in blankets and tied so as to screen them from head to foot and as one reached the surface it was placed on a stretcher and two men carried this to the sleighs in waiting, which conveyed them to where they were laid for reclamation or burial. The bodies of the white men were placed in the carpenter's shop of the R. R. Co., while the Chinamen were laid in the storeroom of the blacksmith's shop. Every possible assistance was rendered by Mr. Dunsmuir who was present on the ground in order that the work of recovery might be hastened, while his officials did all that was in their power to assist in the work. There were not more than 100 men and no women around the spot during the afternoon, and the melancholy task proceeded with regularity and quiet. The report which was circulated during the day that many more men than those named in yesterday's telegrams were below, is happily untrue. The dispatch sent at midnight on Tuesday is about correct. Every individual in the east slope where the explosion occurred was killed, even Robt. Williams, engineer at the top of the slope, about fifty feet from the foot of the shaft. His was the first body located and the first to be brought up. The resistless force of the explosion is proved by the manner in which eight inch pipes were snapped in two. Heavy timbers were reduced to splinters while one of the cages was blown completely out of the shaft. A Belgian miner was stripped of every vestige of clothing, while the mutilation of the bodies proves that the terrible force played with the bodies as though they were feathers. One young man, a stranger, had only gone down that morning; another man had been working but two days. The explosion did not penetrate into the west slope, further than to make a

SEVERE CONCUSSION,

which affected some severely, but the after-damp rushed in. However, by the presence of mind exhibited in immediately repairing the fan, the air current was restored and many lives saved. This is attested by the recovery of a large number who were prostrated by the after damp, but who subsequently recovered consciousness and came to the foot of the shaft.

The inquest will be held by Dr. Walkem, who so ably and impartially conducted that at Nanaimo last May. The jury will meet to morrow afternoon, and will probably adjourn for a fortnight until all the evidence necessary is forthcoming. The report that a man had fallen from the wire rope and had been killed is incorrect. The same man Davis did leave go of his hold when part of the way up but did not fall. His son, Elijah, twenty-two years old, was killed in the east slope. Great praise is due Mr. John Bryden, manager, and his efficient staff, James Haggart, Robert Scott, Adam Ross and John Jones, Mr. Bryden's underground assistants. Each of the above had charge of a searching party, Mr. Bryden being present in the pit to direct the start of each shift. Mr. Haggart's shift was successful in finding and bringing to the mouth of the pit the first 14 bodies. At 6 o'clock this evening

THIRTY-FIVE BODIES

had been brought to the surface of which number 16 were white men and the balance Chinese. Mr. Robins, Supt. of the Vancouver Coal Co., kindly assisted by sending an efficient staff to assist the rescuing party, including Wm. McGregor, who behaved so nobly during the disaster in May last at the Vancouver Co.'s mine. The admirable arrangements at the shaft could not fail to be noticed for they are carried out like clockwork. There was no excitement, and each man attended to his work hiding for the time being his sorrow. Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir arrived at noon Tuesday and was present at the shaft counseling and encouraging all to hope for the best. He was on duty till 5 o'clock in the morning and again early in the day after a few hour's rest. He is proud of the noble men that are in his employ. They have proved themselves good and true in the hour of need.

At 9 o'clock to-night after the

CHANGE OF SHIFT

Eighteen white men and twenty-two Chinese had been taken out of the pit, while seven more bodies had been found and taken to the bottom shaft. There yet remained thirteen white men and nineteen Chinese in the mine.

The name of James Morrison was omitted in last night's report, making the total number of white men who perished in the east level 31, and the total number of Chinese forty-one.

The following are the names of 18 white men taken out: Robert Williams, unmarried; R. Greenwell, unmarried; Alex. Ross, unmarried; D. McDonald, unmarried; John Stuart, unmarried; John Ness, unmarried; John Marshall, unmarried; John Wall, unmarried; John Jones has a wife and two children; John Balagna, a wife; Wm. Harm, a wife; Jacob Klenn, a wife; Wm. Wilkes, a wife and four children; Frank McCoy, married; Valeria and two Belgians. This is the complete number. The only present survivor from the east slope is a Chinaman, who was burned and injured almost beyond recovery. The white miners are being washed and prepared for burial. Those belonging to the Masons', Oddfellows' and other societies have been taken charge of by the brethren, while several others have been taken to their late homes. Some funerals will take place to-morrow. All the collieries, the Vancouver Coal Company and the Wellington collieries, have been closed since the accident occurred. The railway company have been running trains night and day between Nanaimo and Wellington for the conveyance of volunteers to and from the various shifts.

THE LATEST.

Drs. Eberts & Davis, assisted by Dr. Preare have taken turns in remaining on duty at the mouth of the shaft to render assistance to any of the injured if required and also to aid in restoring any searching party who may have become partly asphyxiased.

10:30 P.M.—Four more white men have just been brought up.

A MINER'S EXPERIENCE.

William Morgan, a Welshman, 63 years of age, has been in eight explosions besides the present one, but fortunately escaped injury in any. His first experience was in Monmouthshire, when nine years old, while six others of the number were in various mines in the same district. He was in the explosion at Bellingham Bay twenty-four years ago. Morgan's stall is in the west level, No. 5 pit, and he was there with the Chinese loader at about 9 o'clock. "The first thing I noticed," he states "was a humming in the ears caused by a concussion. The Chinaman asked me what was the matter and I told him I thought there had been an explosion. The Chinaman clapped his hands over his ears. Just then the driver brought in a mule to take the box away and he stated he also felt the concussion and asked what was the matter? I then went to John Matthews' stall, quite close to me, and told him there had been an explosion. He replied that he also felt it but did not think if was much and that it had happened in the pillars above. I thought as it had been humming in my ears for so long that it had been more severe. However, I returned to the stall and I prepared for another shot. The car not coming back for a lengthy time, I went to the top of the machine to see what the matter was as I felt sure something was wrong. I found the mule standing behind the first door with a car behind the top incline. I opened the door and found another mule between the two doors. I opened a second door and hollered again and again. Not receiving an answer I went inside the incline. The first thing that took my attention was an abundance of clothes and a cravat lying in the middle of the road. I again hollered, but got no answer, but heard moaning. Following the sound I discovered a Chinaman on his hands and knees crawling down the incline. The air current had been interfered with. Another Chinaman was lying apparently dead. I lifted him and shook him but could get no answer. I then hurried back to my stall, put on my clothes, and ran again to Matthews' stall, and called to him, "Come out as quick as God will let you." Matthews warned his next neighbor, Henry Crossen. I waited in Matthews' road for them, but they both took Crossen's road and left me behind. I went again to Matthews' and Crossen's face to make sure and, finding no one there, I took the road to the head of the incline. When I got there I found about fifty whites and Chinese. Some had been down as far as the shaft but found everything closed there and could not get into the pump room. We then consulted as to what was best to be done and I begged them to keep cool. I was used to these explosions and felt sure we were safe. We remained quiet for a time but against my wish they determined to go to the air shaft. On the way we came across fireman Sam Share. It was decided that I should lead them, as I was well acquainted with all parts of the mine. I did so, and again warning them not to get excited, we proceeded toward the air shaft, but found that the after-damp was becoming thick. We all turned back. Arrived back, we found the fan working and I told them that we were now safe. We then made up our minds to go down the incline towards the hoisting shaft and on the way we noticed several Chinamen who had been prostrated by the after-damp. When we got to the bottom of the shaft we found a great many more comrades there in the dark. At the bottom of the shaft there was a good current of air coming from the shaft and no after-damp present. We could breathe freely. One by one the Chinamen left on the incline came down with naked lights having recovered from the after-damp, but these were at once ordered to be put out. We were about two hours at the bottom of the shaft when we were enabled, by climbing above the *debris* at the foot, to get to the cage and were taken to the surface. It is the ninth time I have been in an explosion, and thank God I have each time escaped."

FROM THE DAILY COLONIST, Jan. 27.

MINING DISASTER.

Recovery of the Bodies of the 31 White Miners.

The Corpses Terribly Burned and Mutilated by the Explosion.

Thirty-Seven Dead Chinese Taken Out—A Number Still in the Mine—Preparing for Burial—Jury Empanelled and Inquest Commenced—List of the Dead White Men, Age and Place of Birth.

(Staff Correspondence of THE COLONIST.)

WELLINGTON, Jan. 26.

The night shift, which went on at 2 a. m., had so far accomplished its work of searching for the dead that, when they were relieved at eight, but four white men remained in the mine. Two of these were soon after discovered and raised to the surface. The two remaining were Laice and Robert Robinson, who worked near each other. A quantity of gas had collected where they were employed, and this had first to be removed. At fifteen minutes to noon Robert Robinson was discovered, and at 1:30 p. m. Lance Robinson was also found, thus

COMPLETING THE WORK

of recovering the bodies of the white miners. At this hour thirty-seven Chinese had also been taken out, leaving nine remaining, the Chinese bosses claiming that forty-six were missing. The great majority of the victims were fearfully mutilated and blackened, their skins being burned off, and their heads especially battered. The terrible force that knocked them about played sad havoc.

The following are the names of 18 white men taken out: Robert Williams, unmarried; R. Greenwell, unmarried; Alex. Ross, unmarried; D. McDonald, unmarried; John Stuart, unmarried; John Ness, unmarried; John Marshall, unmarried; John Wall, unmarried; John Jones has a wife and two children; John Balagna, a wife; Wm. Harm, a wife; Jacob Klenn, a wife; Wm. Wilkes, a wife and four children; Frank McCoy, married; Valeria and two Belgians. This is the complete number. The only present survivor from the east slope is a Chinaman, who was burned and injured almost beyond recovery. The white miners are being washed and prepared for burial. Those belonging to the Masons', Oddfellows' and other societies have been taken charge of by the brethren, while several others have been taken to their late homes. Some funerals will take place to-morrow. All the collieries, the Vancouver Coal Company and the Wellington collieries, have been closed since the accident occurred. The railway company have been running trains night and day between Nanaimo and Wellington for the conveyance of volunteers to and from the various shifts.

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FROM THE DAILY COLONIST, Jan. 27.

MINING DISASTER.

Recovery of the Bodies of the 31 White Miners.

The Corpses Terribly Burned and Mutilated by the Explosion.

Thirty-Seven Dead Chinese Taken Out—A Number Still in the Mine—Preparing for Burial—Jury Empanelled and Inquest Commenced—List of the Dead White Men, Age and Place of Birth.

(Staff Correspondence of THE COLONIST.)

WELLINGTON, Jan. 26.

The night shift, which went on at 2 a. m., had so far accomplished its work of searching for the dead that, when they were relieved at eight, but four white men remained in the mine. Two of these were soon after discovered and raised to the surface. The two remaining were Laice and Robert Robinson, who worked near each other. A quantity of gas had collected where they were employed, and this had first to be removed. At fifteen minutes to noon Robert Robinson was discovered, and at 1:30 p. m. Lance Robinson was also found, thus

COMPLETING THE WORK

of recovering the bodies of the white miners. At this hour thirty-seven Chinese had also been taken out, leaving nine remaining, the Chinese bosses claiming that forty-six were missing. The great majority of the victims were fearfully mutilated and blackened, their skins being burned off, and their heads especially battered. The terrible force that knocked them about played sad havoc.

The following are the names of 18 white men taken out: Robert Williams, unmarried; R. Greenwell, unmarried; Alex. Ross, unmarried; D. McDonald, unmarried; John Stuart, unmarried; John Ness, unmarried; John Marshall, unmarried; John Wall, unmarried; John Jones has a wife and two children; John Balagna, a wife; Wm. Harm, a wife; Jacob Klenn, a wife; Wm. Wilkes, a wife and four children; Frank McCoy, married; Valeria and two Belgians. This is the complete number. The only present survivor from the east slope is a Chinaman, who was burned and injured almost beyond recovery. The white miners are being washed and prepared for burial. Those belonging to the Masons', Oddfellows' and other societies have been taken charge of by the brethren, while several others have been taken to their late homes. Some funerals will take place to-morrow. All the collieries, the Vancouver Coal Company and the Wellington collieries, have been closed since the accident occurred. The railway company have been running trains night and day between Nanaimo and Wellington for the conveyance of volunteers to and from the various shifts.

THE LATEST.

Drs. Eberts & Davis, assisted by Dr. Preare have taken turns in remaining on duty at the mouth of the shaft to render assistance to any of the injured if required and also to aid in restoring any searching party who may have become partly asphyxiased.

10:30 P.M.—Four more white men have just been brought up.

A MINER'S EXPERIENCE.

William Morgan, a Welshman, 63 years of age, has been in eight explosions besides the present one, but fortunately escaped injury in any. His first experience was in Monmouthshire, when nine years old, while six others of the number were in various mines in the same district. He was in the explosion at Bellingham Bay twenty-four years ago. Morgan's stall is in the west level, No. 5 pit, and he was there with the Chinese loader at about 9 o'clock. "The first thing I noticed," he states "was a humming in the ears caused by a concussion. The Chinaman asked me what was the matter and I told him I thought there had been an explosion. The Chinaman clapped his hands over his ears. Just then the driver brought in a mule to take the box away and he stated he also felt the concussion and asked what was the matter? I then went to John Matthews' stall, quite close to me, and told him there had been an explosion. He replied that he also felt it but did not think if was much and that it had happened in the pillars above. I thought as it had been humming in my ears for so long that it had been more severe. However, I returned to the stall and I prepared for another shot. The car not coming back for a lengthy time, I went to the top of the machine to see what the matter was as I felt sure something was wrong. I found the mule standing behind the first door with a car behind the top incline. I opened the door and found another mule between the two doors. I opened a second door and hollered again and again. Not receiving an answer I went inside the incline. The first thing that took my attention was an abundance of clothes and a cravat lying in the middle of the road. I again hollered, but got no answer, but heard moaning. Following the sound I discovered a Chinaman on his hands and knees crawling down the incline. The air current had been interfered with. Another Chinaman was lying apparently dead. I lifted him and shook him but could get no answer. I then hurried back to my stall, put on my clothes, and ran again to Matthews' stall, and called to him, "Come out as quick as God will let you." Matthews warned his next neighbor, Henry Crossen. I waited in Matthews' road for them, but they both took Crossen's road and left me behind. I went again to Matthews' and Crossen's face to make sure and, finding no one there, I took the road to the head of the incline. When I got there I found about fifty whites and Chinese. Some had been down as far as the shaft but found everything closed there and could not get into the pump room. We then consulted as to what was best to be done and I begged them to keep cool. I was used to these explosions and felt sure we were safe. We remained quiet for a time but against my wish they determined to go to the air shaft. On the way we came across fireman Sam Share. It was decided that I should lead them, as I was well acquainted with all parts of the mine. I did so, and again warning them not to get excited, we proceeded toward the air shaft, but found that the after-damp was becoming thick. We all turned back. Arrived back, we found the fan working and I told them that we were now safe. We then made up our minds to go down the incline towards the hoisting shaft and on the way we noticed several Chinamen who had been prostrated by the after-damp. When we got to the bottom of the shaft we found a great many more comrades there in the dark. At the bottom of the shaft there was a good current of air coming from the shaft and no after-damp present. We could breathe freely. One by one the Chinamen left on the incline came down with naked lights having recovered from the after-damp, but these were at once ordered to be put out. We were about two hours at the bottom of the shaft when we were enabled, by climbing above the *debris* at the foot, to get to the cage and were taken to the surface. It is the ninth time I have been in an explosion, and thank God I have each time escaped."

accustomed to such a scene, the revelry of death was a horrifying spectacle.

The following is a complete

LIST OF THE DEAD

white men, as copied into the register:

Robert Williams, aged 22 years, a native of the United States.

Alex. M. Ross, aged 28, Springhill, Nova Scotia.

Robert Greenwell, aged 26, Cape Breton, N. S.

Duncan McDonald, aged 30, Cape Breton, N. S.

James Jones, aged 30, North Wales.

Jacob Klenn, aged 40, Lorraine, Germany.

Joseph Chanot, aged 22, Norma Fountain, Belgium.

John Stewart, aged 35, England.

Wm. Horne, aged 42, Ayrshire, Scotland.

John Ness, aged 22, Ayrshire, Scotland.

John Brankie, aged 37, Italy.

John Marshall, Cornwall.

— Valleric, aged 45, Italy.

Xavier Rejard, aged 30, Belgium.

Chas. Tiller, aged 40, Lisgard, Cornwall.

Wm. Wilks, aged 49, Northumberland.

John Whall, aged 22, Illinois, U.S.

Ezra Godfrey, aged 17½, Clifton, Bedfordshire.

John Bologna, aged 25, Italy.

Leopold Rejard, aged 32, Belgium.

Frank McCoy, Iowa, U.S.

David Gordon, aged 23, Scotland.

James Morrison, aged 28, Nova Scotia.

Richard Vincent, aged 25, Cornwall.

John McNeil, aged 37, Scotland.

John Williams, aged 28, Wales.

Eliaha Davis, aged 25, England.

William Finch, aged 20, Stanlish, Lancashire.

Wm. Dowber, aged 20.

Robt. Robinson, aged 37, Newcastle, Eng.

Lance Robinson.

The greater number of the above are young unmarried men, and only two of the married men have large families.

Your correspondent must again mention the unflagging energy of the general manager, Mr. John Bryden, and his staff of assistants, who, during the forty-eight hours which were occupied in recovering the 31 miners, only had a few hours sleep. Mr. Bryden accompanied down each shift. Hon. Mr. Dunsmuir again remained at the pit's mouth until after the night shift had gone down, and would not leave Wellington to-day until the remains of the last man, Lance Robinson, had been taken to the surface.

An estimate cannot be formed of the extent of the loss to the mine owners, but it is thought that it will foot up to between $25,000 and $30,000. All the pits were shut down on the day of the explosion and will probably not recommence before Monday. It will take some four or five weeks to repair the damage to the shaft and engine and pumping connections, and to clear out the mine ready for a renewal of work.

The accident to No. 5 was

A SURPRISE TO ALL,

for it was considered the safest mine on the island. If men could exercise a choice they would select No. 5 to work in. There was every reason for this. The air forced down the shaft was separated at its foot, a portion going to the east, the other to the west level, and after travelling in different directions through the mine it met at the vent and ascended. In other levels the air is started through one level only, and is divided by means of bratices in its course through the mine to where it escapes to the surface. Great precautions have always been taken in order to prevent any accumulation of gas, and the dust was kept well dampened. The shift that had come up at eight o'clock had been actively at work blasting the black diamonds, and there was not the slightest fear of an explosion. Had the mine not been distributed into districts and the air divided, it is more than probable that many, if not all, in the west slope would also have perished. The force penetrated 200 yards into the west level, but returned and took the exit through the hoisting shaft. The fact that the mine did not fire, and also the immediate restoration of the fan, made it possible to restore pure air, and west slope miners were all saved.

Mention of the fact that Robert Dunn, overman of East Wellington colliery, assisted in the work of rescue with a number of his men, was omitted in yesterday's report.

A JURY EMPANELLED.

WELLINGTON, Jan. 26.—5 p. m.—A jury was empanelled at three o'clock today by Dr. Walkem, Coroner, on view of the body of Robert Greenwell, one of those killed in the explosion. A general order was given for the burial of all the rest. The names of the jury are:—R. Grant, foreman; Bennie, Thompson, Lindsay, Kilpatrick, Bevilockway, Wilson, Evans and Williams. The evidence of Greenwell's brother was taken so as to identify the body. The Coroner stated that, in order to allow of a thorough enquiry, it would be necessary to have an adjournment for one week. By that time a list of witnesses could be obtained and summoned to attend. To make the enquiry thorough would consume a good de