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HE VICTORIA SEMI WEEKLY COLONIST THURSDAY APAIL 7 1898

Low a Point.

duced, but Manufacturers Will

Have Cheaper Money.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

VOLUME NO. 34

a graphic description of the severity of the visitation and theextensive damages resulting. The first indication of the approach of unusual climatic condition was the rapidity with which the barometer fell.

The first hurricane was met with at six visitable in the several of which were manufactured for Spain.

Gibbons, who is a former sergeant of Engineers and a government inspector of toppedoes, believes the Maine's first explosion was caused by what is technically called a ground mine containing five hundred pounds of guncotton, several of which were manufactured for Spain.

o'clock on the evening of the 22nd ult. o'clock on the evening of the 22nd and continued until three o'clock the following morning. There was then a period Four Thousand in Chicago Quit Work left office the expenditure was below the of delightful weather, but at ten o'clock on the night of the 23rd a very serious cyclone passed over the islands, the storm the following morning. The height of the hurricane was encountered between 2 a.m. According to the statement of Chief Officer Febre, the gale raged from two distinct quarters—southwest and northwest—and uniting in Noumea, carried everything before it. The hospital and other public buildings suffered severe damages. Scores of houses were unroofed and otherwise injured; whole plantations were swept away by flood; and considerable injury resulted to the shipping of the port, seven ships in all going ashore, although the bark Professor and the ship Falis of Garry alone proved total losses.

No fatality attended any of the maritime mishaps although in the valleys and flats fourteen men, two women and four children perished.

The rivers were high in flood and the bridges swept away in all parts of the col-

STORM SWEPT ISLAND.

and Captain Bustament. The latter was then the head of the Spanish torpedo school. By the order of these officers the mines were divided into four consignments, for Havana. Ferrol, Cadez and Carthagena. The mines were manufactured under the direction of J. P. Gibbons, after the Gibbons patents, which are described in Slamen's book on torpedoes and mines. Gibbons, from whom a reporter of the Associated Press obtains the information and who furnished Lieut. Commander Colwell with a written statement of the above facts and outlined his theory of the explosion which wrecked the Maine, was them employed by the firm as superintendent of the torpedoes was manufactured in 1886 for Spain. The manager of the Westminster Engineering Company which is the successor of the aforesaid irm and with which Gibbons is connected, confirms the latter's statement as to the manufacture of mines for Spain. Gibbons, who is a former sergeant of Engineers and a government inspector of torpedoes, believes the Maine, who is a former sergeant of Engineers and a government inspector of torpedoes, believes

and Building Operations

Chicago, April 5.-About 4,000 carpen ters struck here to-day, and with the ex-

War Correspondent for Illustrated London News Among the Arrivals on the Japan.

The chained that the action of the government as to preferential trade had been vindicated by the abrogation of the German and Belgian treaties. While he did not think the British people would ever consent to tax their breadstuffs for the benefit of the colonies as a matter of barrier, he believed that

See that we will be the second of the control of th

many Andree fakes. It is said to be bared upon the alleged capture of a pigeon bearing a message despatched by the explorer

pigeon bearing a message despatched by the explorer.

Mr. Howell, who is editor of the Skagway Alaskan, says that Carr has brought out two thousand letters from Dawson, and news of the Eliza Anderson on which he proceeded north and with its passengers is frozen in near St. Michael's. Carr left the mouth of the Yukon on November 16th and made the trip to Dawson and Skagway by sleigh. He has proceeded on the Centennial. The Conservatives, He Announces, Left the Expenditures at Too Interest on People's Savings Re-

THE MANITOBA BUDGET.

School Grant From Ottawa Announced -Ministers' Salaries and Members' Indemnities Reduced.

Ottawa, April 5.-When Mr. Fielding rose to deliver his budget speech to-day Winnipeg, April 5.—(Special.)—The he faced the slimmest house and smallest er \$39,124,000 expenditure; he did not lands fund.

declared that this reduction must have the effect of lowering the rate of interest at which banks lend money, and is therefore a concession to the manufacturers, who conduct their business largely on borrowed capital. The tariff reductions of last session had, in his judgment, brought about substantial tariff reform. He claimed that the action of the government as to preferential trade

The Steamer Centennial Arrives with Some Interesting Passen-

Great Britain Has Not Fared Badly in Competition for Far Eastern Territory

Mr Balfour Tells of Some Stiff Correspondence with Russia About Port Arthur.

London, April 5 .- The House of Commons was crowded to-day with people legislature this afternoon by Provincial for foreign affairs, on the subject of the cears. He estimated for the present Treasurer McMillan in the course of situation in the Far East. Mr. Balfour, of \$40,500,000; the estimates down cov- ion government regarding the school Great Britain, namely that the region of Chang Tse Hiang should not be alien say what the supplementaries would be. Another feature was the reduction of ated by any foreign power, that the sucsay what the supplementaries would be. Referring to the growth of expenditure he claimed that when the Conservatives left office the expenditure was below the figure at which it is possible to conduct the affairs of the country. Mr. Fielding announced a further reduction in the rate of interest on the government savings bank deposits to 2½ per cent. He declared that this reduction must have the effect of lowering the rate of interest at which banks lend money, and is therefore a concession to the manufaction.

Another feature was the reduction of ated by any foreign power, that the successor of Sir Robert Hart, as director essor of Sir Robert Hart, as director essor of Sir Robert Hart, as director of the Chinese imperial maritime customs, is to be an Englishman, and that by ships of all nations. A fourth concession, Mr. Balfour continued, only of curred a day or two ago, namely the last year. The income is increased by \$200,000, the advance from the school lands fund, and the expenditure on schools is increased from \$180,000 to \$200,000.

Relative to the German acquisition of railroads Mr. Balfour said that where eyer they were constructed they must be a benefit to British commerce. He preferred railroads and differential duties to no railroads and no duties. Later Mr. Balfour said he believed neither Germany nor Russis had any intention. Balfour said he believed neither Germony nor Russia had any intention of depriving Great Britain of any of her rights in China. Germany, he further informed the house, had given the assurances that the country acquired by her would be open to the commerce of the whole world. The interests of Germany and Great Britain in China were identical and he believed the two countries would be able to work hand in hand. Russia, Mr. Balfour then said, had also given assurances, but he was bound to admit that the form of these assurances had been given that no British treaty rights had been abrogated by the recent acquisitions.



NO LONGER PRESBYTERIAN. Rev. Dr. Briggs of Heresy Trial Fame Joins the Protestant Episcopal

New York, April 5.-Rev. Dr. Briggs, professor of biblical theology in Union seminary and the defendant in one of the most celebrated heresy trials ever held in the Presbyterian church in this country, has been confirmed a member of the Protestant Episcopal church by

Government Charged with Breaking Faith with Farmers in Tariff Revision.