Local News

(From Friday's Daily.)

Pilotage Commission—Official notices have been sent out intimating that a session of the British Columbia Pilotage Commissioners will be held in Victoria on Wednesday, the 22nd inst. It is probable the commissioners will be in session for several days. Full enquiry will be made in respect to pilotage charges at the various coast ports, with the view of making a recommendation to Ottawa. The local pilots are preparing an exhaustive presentation of their case.

Fulton—Lawry—On Tuesday evening at the residence of Mrs. Lawry, 23 Kane street, the marriage took place of Mr. Ernest E. Fulton and Miss Maud, second daughter of Mrs. Lawry. Rev. G. K. B. Adams, pastor of the Metropolitan Methodist church, officiated, and a large company of friends witnessed the interesting ceremony. Miss Annie Lawry assisted the bride, and the best man was Mr. Joseph Lawry. The newly-wedded pair, who received a large number of fine gifts, will on concluding a short honeymoon trip take up their residence in this city.

The Halibut Co.—Mr. L. S. Eaton, secretary of the British Pacific Fishing Co., has returned from Seattle, where he arranged for the purchase of certain fishing stores not obtainable in British Columbia. He reports that considerable of the company's stock can be disposed of in Seattle, but as some of the directors object to the sale of stock to Americans, the deal has not yet been closed. It is certainly a question whether it is advisable to allow United States investors to profit by an industry established by Canadians, and protected by the fishery laws of the Dominion. If sufficient stock is sold in Canada to enable the company to start operations it will not be necessary to dispose of any across the line.

Woodmen of the World.—This evening the regular semi-monthly meeting of Camp No. 57, W. of W., will be held in their lodgeroom, A. O. U. W. hall. Being St. Patrick's Day, the business of the meeting will be over early and the rest of the evening will be devoted to mutual entertainment and a social time. The members of the Ladies' Circle are to be present, and will demonstrate to their brethren in woodcraft the meaning of an apron and necktie social. A short programme will be rendered, followed by refreshments and dancing. A good time is promised all choppers who may attend this evening.

Not Rearrested.—John Lee Kirk, the bartender who was arrested by the local police on information wired from San Francisco asking that he be held for safe-breaking at Cape Nome, and who was soon afterward released because of habeas corpus proceedings taken by Mr. George E. Powell, his counsel, has not been rearrested. He is understood to be still in Victoria. Chief Langley stated yesterday that he had no further information with regard to the case and did not know if United States Deputy Marshal Cody, who had wired asking that the arrest be made, would now come to Victoria. Kirk has been in Victoria for some time. He spent considerable time in the far north. Lulu Watts, a local music hall performer was married to him at Cape Nome.

New Indian Reserve.—Notice is given in the current issue of the Gazette that on a report dated 3rd of January from the minister of the interior, stating that notice has been received from the department of Indian affairs that land situated in township 5, range 27, west of the sixth meridian in British Columbia, is required for the use of the Indians and is described as the Cha-With-En Indian reserve, containing 1,407 acres. The minister recommends that this parcel of land be withdrawn from the operation of these regulations subject to existing rights as defined or agreed under the same, and be placed under the administration of the department of Indian affairs.

Business Incorporations.—Vancouver monopolizes the list of newly incorporated companies appearing in the current issue of the British Columbia Gazette. The D. C. McGregor Company, Limited, absorbs and continues the business of D. C. McGregor, financial agent, with capital stock of $30,000; J. L. Marstrand, manufacturers' agent, becomes the J. L. Marstrand Company, Limited, capitalized at $25,000; the Lin Yick Company, with a capital of $100,000, is formed to acquire the property and business interests of Yip Sang and Charlie Yip Yen; the Northern Mines, Limited, is incorporated with capital stock of $50,000; and the Recreation Park Company, Limited, is formed with capital of $25,000.

Gazette Annnouncements.—Included in the minor notices in the British Columbia Gazette of yesterday are the following: The Big Bend Lumber Company, Limited, propose to improve Fosthall Creek for lumbering purposes; Blackwell & Billings, Vancouver contractors, have dissolved partnership, Mr. M. F. Blackwell continuing; D. J. Cavanaugh becomes attorney for the Challenger Mining and Development Company, Limited, vice O. D. Hoar; the Trust Agency and Loan Corporation of Vancouver seeks to change its corporate name to that of the Dominion Trust Company, Limited; and the half-yearly meeting of the Vancouver Power Company is set for the 6th of April in Vancouver.

A Voice From The West—On the front page of The Canadian Thresherman, Winnipeg, there is a portrait of Mr. D. B. Bogle, ex-editor of the Colonist, and an article by him, entitled: "Some Features of the Canadian Pacific Slope." It deals with the climate of British Columbia in its various phases, the petroleum possibilities of the Flathead valley, and some of the characteristics of the East and West Kootenay valleys, and, briefly, of the valleys in southern British Columbia west to the coast range. The article is in Mr. Bogle's own peculiar, virile style.

Mr. Peters' Private Car—The private car "Minnedosa," which brought to Victoria on Wednesday evening Mr. F. W. Peters, general traffic manager of the C. P. R., attracted considerable attention as it stood on the siding at the E. & N. depot yesterday, its arrival being notable in that it is the first of the high class passenger rolling stock of the transcontinental road to run into Victoria. The car is a well arranged one, with sleeping, dining and observation rooms, and all the other little conveniences which inventive ingenuity provides for those who are so fortunate as to be able to travel in private cars. The "Minnedosa" was brought across the Gulf to Ladysmith by the car ferry.

Provincial Appointments—Yesterday's issue of the British Columbia Gazette notes the following appointments: A. E. Sutherland of Vancouver to be a Justice of the Peace for the province; W. F. Brougham of Vancouver and W. B. W. Armstrong of Arrowhead to be notaries public; Mrs. Lenora C. McDonald of Ollala to be acting deputy mining recorder; Drs. K. C. McDonald of Grand Forks and G. A. McGuire of Vancouver tor be members of the B. C. Board of Dental Examiners, vice Drs. T. J. Jones and A. J. Holmes, whose terms of office have expired; E. J. Scovil of Wilmer to exercise jurisdiction under the Small Debts Act in Columbia electoral district; T. J. Riley, master mariner of Sidney, to be a commissioner for taking affidavits under the Provincial Elections Act in the Islands district until Dec. 31 next; and Joseph Edgerton, David Reid and Wm. Blair of Mount Pleasant to be fence viewers.

(From Saturday's Daily.)

Shamrocks From the Ould Sod.—Mrs. J. B. McDowell of 122 Chatham street, who has relatives living in Dublin, received yesterday a little box of shamrocks. The box came in excellent condition, the shamrocks being very little withered after their long journey.

Quatsino Pulp Lands.—Timber cruisers have resumed work on the reserve of the Quatsino Power and Pulp Company, and surveyors will follow them in three or four weeks. The plans for the pulp and saw mills of the company are being prepared and active operations will begin as soon as possible.

Bought Locomobile.—At the auction sale held by Mr. Hardaker yesterday of the effects of Mrs. Le Poer Trench there was a good attendance and some spirited bidding. The locomobile offered for sale was knocked down to Mr. L. G. Quagliotti, the price paid being $120. Some repairs are necessary to the boiler to put the machine in running condition.

Naval Notes.—H. M. S. Bonaventure arrived at Honolulu on Saturday last on her way to Hongkong from Esquimalt. The survey ship Egeria, now at Esquimalt, will leave for the Northern coast to resume her hydrographic work on April 5. Torpedo boat 39, sold to Mr. Sayer of Vancouver and New Westminster, is being overhauled on the ways of the Victoria Machinery Depot.

B. C. Mining Laws.—Although no specific resolution has yet been framed on the subject, a very decided intimation has been conveyed that the mining committee of the provincial legislature will recommend that there shall be no disturbance of the mining laws during the present session of the House. So far there has been no convention of the mining committee except for organization purposes, but a meeting is called for Monday, when the propriety of considering amendments will probably be discussed.

Report Confirmed.—Further inquiry by The Colonist yesterday confirmed absolutely the announcement of the previous day that the Victoria Terminal Railway Company has abandoned all claims for subsidies under the terms of the agreement between the company and the city, by which a bonus was agreed upon, for the extension of the company's lines and the putting on of a passenger ferry system. Ald. Fell stated yesterday evening that the approximate amount of the subsidies now due the Victoria Terminal Railway Company under the terms of its agreement with the city would be $45,000—$15,000 per annum for three years.

St. Patrick's Day.—There was a very generous display of bunting around the city yesterday on the occasion of the celebration of the anniversary of St. Patrick—among the flags which were thrown to the breeze were those on the parliament building staff and from the pole surmounting Messrs. Turner, Beeton & Co.'s building. Among the distinguished Irishmen in the city are Hon. Richard McBride and H. B. Thomson, manager of Turner, Beeton & Co.'s establishment. The wearing of little sprigs of shamrocks in the buttonholes was generally observed, not alone by loyal Irishmen but by many of other nationalities who desired to fittingly observe the day.

The Gorge Extension.—A very large force of men is being employed by the British Columbia Electric Railway Co. in the work of putting in the extension to the Gorge, which is to be completed with all possible speed, so as to be in time for the opening of the tourist business. A double track has been laid from the Point Ellice bridge to Esquimalt street, and the scene of operations is a busy one. Victoria Arm and the Gorge should be very lively spots this year, as with the large number of tourists sure to visit the coast on account of the Portland and Dominion expositions, thousands will no doubt came to Victoria and take in this city's scenic attractions—which, of course, will include a visit to the picturesque Gorge. The launches plying ly the Arm this summer should do a tremendous business.

Educational Changes.—This morning a deputation of Victoria school trustees will interview Hon. F. J. Fulton, minister of education, and Superintendent A. Robinson, laying before the officials the resolutions passed at the recent teachers' conference in Vancouver. Their object is to secure the alteration of the curriculum of the High school, introducing in the place of the present system three optional courses—commercial, arts and science. The school board contends that the proposal, if adopted, will make the knowledge imparted to students much more practical. It is argued that this will not impair the school's efficiency, while it will give pupils the choice of three branches of study. The trustees are practically unanimous in their desire to bring about the change, and are prepared to strongly urge its adoption.

(From Sunday's Daily.)

Missing Scotsman—The authorities in Victoria have received a letter from the inspector of the Inverness police, seeking the whereabouts of Samuel Donald, aged 70, who left Glasgow, Scotland, many years ago. His sister, Elizabeth Donald, of Perth, is anxious to hear from him.

Cumberland's Ambition—The citizens of the newly incorporated town of Cumberland, Comox district, are complaining of inadequate post office and custom house facilities, and have passed a strong resolution setting forth their needs, and have forwarded the same to W. Sloan, M. P., urging him to use his influence in the matter immediately.

Pilotage Conference—At the pilotage conference to be opened here on Wednesday next the delegates from outside points will be as follows, besides W. W. Stumbles, of the marine and fisheries department: From Vancouver: C. Gardiner-Johnson, Frank Burnett and R. H. Alexander; from New Westminster, C. G. Major; from Nanaimo, Tully Boyce and Harry Shaw.

Annual Meeting—E. J. Palmer, local secretary of the Victoria Lumbering and Manufacturing Co., Ltd., has given notice that pursuant to the bylaws of the company the annual general meeting will be held at the company's office, No. 34½ Government street, on Monday, April 3 next, at 2 p. m., for the purpose of electing directors and transacting any other business that may be brought forward.

Duncans Preparing—The Duncans Agricultural Association is already making preliminary arrangements for the annual fall show under the auspices of that society. In this connection G. W. Mellon, secretary of the association, paid a visit to the city on Saturday. He expects the fair to be a splendid success this year notwithstanding the attraction of the Dominion exposition at New Westminster.

Big Brick Contract—In connection with the announcement of the awarding of the contract for the superstructure of the big C. P. R. tourist hotel, it is to be mentioned that no fewer than 3,000,000 bricks will be used in the building. It is understood that the contract for supplying the same will be awarded to local firms. This will imply that 3,000 loads of the material will be handled from the yards at the north end of the city, giving employment to a large number of men and horses.

Handsome Pleasure Craft—An important acquisition to Victoria's flotilla of small pleasure craft was launched yesterday from the ways of Mr. Stevens near the E. & N. wharf, this being a handsome launch, 27 feet in length overall, with eight feet beam, which in materials and workmanship is an example of the finest in shipbuilding. The new craft will be provided with powerful machinery and will serve as tender to Mr. James Dunsmuir's steam yacht Thistle—for up-river and other excursions in comparatively shallow waters.

City Hall Affairs—In the absence of Mayor Barnard, who is on private business in the east, and who is not likely to return for four weeks yet, matters are quiet in city hall affairs in respect to large matters; and it is improbable that much business of importance will be transacted at tomorrow evening's meeting of the council. Inquiry amongst the aldermen yesterday elicited the information that the statement contained in the despatch from Toronto respecting the sale of city bonds was probably correct, and it was hinted that Ald. Goodacre, as acting mayor, will make an announcement in this connection tomorrow evening.

Will Go To Fair—C. E. Lang and Mrs. Lang have returned from a visit to the south, Mr. Lang having gone to Portland to meet his wife, when bound homeward from California. In an interview at Portland, the local agent of the Northern Pacific said: "The Lewis and Clark fair will not disappoint visitors, I saw the buildings from the Northern Pacific train as I came in last evening. Our people at Victoria count it as their own exposition almost as much as do your local residents, and a very large number will attend. In preparation for the summer travel, a fine new hotel that will cost approximately $1,000,000, is nearing completion. I am certainly looking forward to making a visit to the fair when it is at its best."

A Banking Change—The Winnipeg Free Press, in a recent issue, had the following respecting a contemplated banking change: "The paragraph taken from a Pacific coast paper appearing in the Free Press yesterday stating that W. W. R. Travers, formerly manager of the Merchants' Bank, Berlin, had been appointed general manager of the Pacific Bank at Victoria, B. C., at an annual salary of $10,000, is altogether premature, as the matter of salary will be fixed by the board when constituted. Mr. Travers is in Winnipeg purely on organization business, and has in view the transfer of the proposed head office from Victoria, B. C., to Winnipeg. Mr. Travers, on being asked for further particulars, said that matters were not yet ripe for publicity."

NORTH CAROLINA'S OLDEST LAW SUIT.

Atlanta Constitution.

The oldest lawsuit in North Carolina is now being finally settled. It is that of Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians against W. H. Thomas and others, involving a great many thousand acres of land, and also other interests. Thomas was for some years before the civil war the chief of the Eastern Band and raised a legion of troops from among his Cherokees which was in the Confederate service, being one of the North Carolina regiments. The case began in 1867, in the federal court for the western North Carolina district, and since that date over ninety attorneys have been employed. Every lawyer who was first employed has died.

HOTEL CONTRACT IS AWARDED

A. E. Barrett of Seattle Will Erect C. P. R. Structure to Cost Half a Million.

The contract for the superstructure of the C. P. R. hotel here was let yesterday. The successful tenderer is A. Barret of Seattle or St. Louis—it is not certain which. His price was $500,000.

As has been stated the stone to be used is that from Haddington island, of which the Government buildings is constructed. The hotel will be a structure of the renaisance style of architecture, seven stories high, the plans of the architect, Mr. F. M. Rattenbury, showing a building of very fine appearance. The stone will be cut here, and with a large payroll, the city will be benefited considerably by the construction. The plans call for a rough-faced ashlar front with courses of dressed stone at intervals, every seven courses.

The foundation is complete, ready for the contractor to commence work on Monday if he so wishes. The British Columbia Contracting Company, which built the foundations, will complete its work today, a work involving a cost of $100,000. The work of constructing a foundation for such an immense pile as that which is to be erected was no slight one, and skilled engineers considered the project with great care. The work was done with a solidity that will ensure the structure from settling a particle, though the land was soft.

The workers have driven 31,600 piles in the flats, all of which are driven to hard pan, reached at a depth of fifty feet. On these, heavy walls of concrete have been built. To ensure the foundation from the shifting nature of the soft mud, a cofferdam has been constructed about the walls at a distance of twenty-five feet, eight hundred feet of piles being driven, all well anchored, in this work.

Ten thousand barrels of cement have been used in the work. The cement is Japanese Portland, imported from Japan. It is considered first-class cement. It differentiates from the Chinese cement in that it does not set as quickly as the cement imported from Cathay, but the Japanese material hardens as well and finishes equal to the Chinese product. The work is about complete and the last stroke is expected to be made today to complete the work of constructing the foundations.

Tonight the contractors expect to be in a position to turn over the work, complete.

B. C. STEAM DYE WORKS.

141 Yates Street, Victoria.

Ladies and Gentlemen's Garments and Household Furnishings cleaned, dyed or pressed equal to new.

A BROAD STATEMENT.

This announcement is made without any qualifications. Hem-Roid is the one preparation in the world that guarantees it.

Dr. Leonhardt's Hem-Roid will cure any case of piles. It is in the form of a tablet.

It is the only pile remedy used internally.

It is impossible to cure an established case of piles with ointments, suppositories, injections or outward appliances.

A guarantee is issued with every package of Dr. Leonhardt's Hem-Roid, which contains a month's treatment.

Go and talk to your druggist about it.

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TORONTO, Ont., HAMILTON, Ont., and WINNIPEG, Man.

Kuropatkin's Dismissal

Blame For Russian Defeat Does Not Rest With Disgraced General.

Interference of the Bureaucracy and Jealousies Assists Enemy.

Kuropatkin has been recalled, disgraced, they say; but is the blame of defeat his? His difficulties were titanic; but only had he an adversary whose fighting qualities make European nations think, whose old-time Samurai battle-fury wedded to the science of "civilized" war-skill—has caused militarians of Europe to ponder, but he had the jealous antipathy of the generals of his army corps, the absurd orders of the bureaucracy framed for political instead of strategical reasons, to carry out. With the prevalent conditions of his army he was obliged to maintain the command of the great force in person; his generals could not be trusted. Moreover, until after the defeat at Liaoyang, Kuropatkin was leader in name only; he was the creature of Russia's ministry of war which gave the conduct of the war to Alexieff, the deposed Far Eastern Viceroy, whose war this is; his and the commercial adventurers who invaded the timber industries of the Yalu and menaced Chinese domination in the Hermit Kingdom. Kuropatkin visited Japan just prior to the war. He saw the preparation of the islanders, and he opposed war. He is on record as foreshadowing defeat. He knew the struggle against Oyama would be great, and he sought to gather an army of sufficient strength on a base at Tieh-ling. His programme never intended battles to the south; he ordered Sassulitch not to give battle at the Yalu, merely to delay. Such expeditions as those of Stackelberg, which ended so disastrously at Tellissu and Grippenberg, which was followed by disaster at Heikaitau, were taken, not because Kuropatkin willed them, but the Grand Dukes of St. Petersburg did.

Lieut.-Col. Rousset, a French military expert, and a strong Russophil—his work on Frederick the Great, Moltke and Napoleon, is a text book of the Russian Military academies—said of Kuropatkin in the Gaulois of Paris, that one fact was clear, namely, the faulty constitution of Kuropatkin's force, which rendered his command almost impracticable. He disposed of nine army corps. Lieutenant-Colonel Rousset defied any soldier however talented, to command and direct in person such a number of military units. Neither Moltke nor Napoleon ever attempted to do anything of the kind. When the strength of their forces exceeded the limits permitting personal action, both grouped together in large masses a variable number of corps, entrusting each of these masses to a separate commander, whose general action was controlled by themselves, but who, under their orders, exercised a separate command. How was it, he asked, that in the case of the Manchurian army there were not three or at least two commanders of distinct armies who, being informed in the regular way of the plans of the generalissimo, would undertake to carry them into effect? In a word, why was that rigid, heavy, and massive machine not better articulated? "It is said," continued Lieutenant-Colonel Rousset, "and unfortunately certain facts tend to render the statement credible, that the Russian general officers, at least those in Manchuria, have not the qualities required for the command of armies. * * * But is the army of the Czar so poor in men of exceptional capacity that it is impossible to provide Kuropatkin with three lieutenants worthy of himself? It would be an insult to our friends to express such a doubt, and for my part I refuse to consider it."

Russian writers have charged that Kuropatkin has been doing all he can to cast blame from himself. His despatch of October last that unless trains running on the Siberian railway daily were not considerably increased it would not be possible to adequately provision his army, and for this "he could no longer be responsible." Since Alexieff's return to the carpet warriors of St. Petersburg he has lost no opportunity to foment the enemies of Kuropatkin, and the strifes of the capital soon penetrated to the field. The generals at the front were quarrelling among themselves. The quarrel between Kuropatkin and Grippenberg and the latter's return to lay the trouble before the Emperor, is history; it aided the demoralization. Now the climax has come. Kuropatkin has followed Alexieff to retirement.

Linevitch is to replace the fallen leader, they say. He is a good soldier, but if his war is a dual one, as was that of Kuropatkin, against the Japanese and an internecine affair among his own generals, his fate must be the same. As for the army he commands, there is little hope for its retention of Manchuria. Russia's only hope is Rojestvensky—the straw of a drowning nation. G. S.

DELAYED ACCOUNT OF FIGHT.

Operations of the Japanese Left Flanking Army.

With the Japanese Left Army, Friday March 10, 6 p. m., via Yinkow and Tientsin, March 16.—The Japanese occupation of Mukden completes the serious defat of Kuropatkin's army. It is as yet impossible to say whether the victory is decisive enough to end the war, but the general belief prevailing in this army is that it will hasten the conclusion of peace. The Russian losses have been heavy, although the figures have not been reported. It is believed that they will reach nearly 100,000. The Japanese also lost heavily, but not so seriously as the Russians.

The flanking movement of the left armies was successful in every detail. The resistance of the Russians in the villages northwest of the angle formed by the railway and the Hun river was most determined to the last, and many of the Japanese attacks were unsuccessful. The villages were strongly defended, the Russians having at some places three lines of trenches and several ditches, while they used many machine guns. Hundreds of lives were lost in the attempt to capture them. Thousands of dead were left on the field, and this evening great fires are burning in every direction, where the cremations are going on.

The Japanese took the long-expected occupation of Mukden philosophically. They are delighted over the successful outcome of the operations, but they have too much hard work ahead to give them time for celebrations.

The Russians in all directions fought splendidly, making desperate stands and holding their positions until forced out by the flanking movements. The holding of the villages in the angle against General Oku's army particularly was valuable, as it allowed the main force along the Shakhe to retire in good order.

The destruction of the railroad bridge across the Hun river probably will interfere greatly with the Japanese use of the railroad to bring up supplies. This is the first time the Russians have attempted to destroy the railway.

The Japanese captured enormous quantities of supplies and ammunition at various places, and it is believed that the retreating Russians carried off only a small quantity.

A conservative estimate places the forces engaged at 350,000 on each side, and the total number of men on both sides at more than 1,000,000.

The whole movement was so extensive and so quietly carried out that details cannot be obtained. The surrounding of Mukden was the best strategical movement accomplished by the Japanese during the war.

Arranging For Steel and Stone

Contractor Barrett Who Will Build C. P. R. Hotel Arrives in Victoria.

Stone Cutting to Begin Without Delay—Steel to Come in 90 Days.

Yesterday the B. C. General Contract Company, a subsidiary concern to the Puget Sound Bridging and Dredging Company, completed the work of constructing the foundations of the C. P. R. hotel, and now the solid-set concrete walls are ready to receive the pile to be placed on them. The work, as was stated yesterday, has been satisfactorily done, and earth is being filled in to within six feet of the surface of the walls. It will be at least three months before the first course of dressed stone is laid and the steel superstructure begun. Steel has been ordered by the contractor in the Eastern States and will soon be on the way here, but the contractor says it will be at least ninety days before it arrives.

Mr. A. Barrett, who has received the contract, signed, sealed and delivered, for the work at a price in the neighborhood of half a million dollars—he refuses to state the amount—arrived in the city yesterday and left last night for Seattle, where he will make arrangements to bring his machinery, stone saws, etc., to Victoria in readiness to begin the work. It will be some days before he will begin. Arrangements are being made for scows and tugs to bring stone from the quarries on Haddington island, about two hundred miles north from Victoria, and until the first consignments can be received the work of building sheds for the stonecutters and establishment of machinery and equipment, derricks, etc., will be carried on.

A number of stonecutters have already arrived in the city ready for the commencement of the year; others are expected. The stone will all be cut here, as close to the building as possible. It is not yet determined whether the sheds will be built on the flats alongside the hotel; until it is seen whether the work of filling the grounds will interfere with this work the situation of the yard of the stonecutters will not be decided. It is probable, though, that it will be situate at the flats, and soon pedestrians on the causeway will hear the rasping sounds of the steam saw shearing through great blocks of stone to make them ready for the bankers of the stone workers; the sounds of hammer and chisel will tell of activity.

Mr. Barrett was quite reticent regarding his plans when interviewed by a Colonist reporter—he said he did not know them himself yet, that is, he went on, not completely. The great structure will, though, require a tremendous amount of steel, he said; the columns and supports, floor beams, etc., will be of steel, and the stonework will involve considerable work. It would be started at once, for the stonecutters could start as soon as the stone could be brought to the city. Not until the steel arrived, though, could a course be laid.

POLICE HAPPENINGS.

Sealer Goes to Jail for Four Months—Haase Working Vancouver, Too.

In the police court yesterday morning, Adelbert Roper, a sealer, was sentenced to three months' imprisonment for assaulting a half-breed woman on Herald street. He punched her face, causing a swelling, and kicked her on the arm. He pleaded guilty. The forgery case, in which Robert Haase is charged with forging two cheques, will be commenced tomorrow morning.

The arrest of Robert Haase, who when not engaged in choir practice or in looking over the magazines at the Y. M. C. A. was forging cheques—so a Vancouver paper puts it—was a cruel blow to some young ladies of Vancouver. He was arrested on Hastings street by Detectives Mulhern and Jackson. The Vancouver World says: Though a stranger in the city, his peculiar charms brought him so rapidly to the fore that he was actually escorting two well known and good looking Vancouver girls when Detective Jackson tapped him on the shoulder opposite the King Edward restaurant, at a sign from Sergeant Mulhern.

"Excuse me, ladies, I must leave you for just a moment," said young Mr. Haase as he hearkened to the whispered introduction of Mulhern by Jackson. The three walked on a few steps and the young ladies waited behind. The heartless officers made it clear to the fascinating Haase that he would be indefinitely engaged with the police for some time and to Mulhern was entrusted the delicate task of breaking the news to the waiting girls. They were quite incredulous, but this did not provide them with another escort, so they went home.

The letter to the local police from the Victoria department states that Haase recently arrived in Victoria and at once became prominent in Methodist and Baptist church circles. Possessed of a good voice he was welcomed into a church choir. He also became an active member of the Y. M. C. A., which institution, the letter states, he "ultimately did up."

On coming here he registered at the Commercial hotel under the name of Camp and became acquainted with a commercial traveler from San Francisco. He and the traveler took the two young ladies already mentioned to a restaurant for supper on Tuesday night, and while there he asked the traveling man to cash a cheque on the Royal Bank of Canada for $33. The traveler had not so much money on him, but gave "Camp" $3 and promised to cash the cheque next morning. The commercial man gave the local police these details.

When arrested Haase had on him a pocket Bible. In the Bible the police found two cheques, one on the Royal Bank, payable to Edward Camp or bearer, and signed A. Walker, and one on the Bank of Hamilton, payable to Arthur Kerrys, or bearer, and signed by J. W. Litch. The police state that both cheques are forgeries, the last one mentioned being an attempt to forge the signature of the Rev. J. W. Leitch of this city.

IRELAND'S PATRON SAINT.

History and Legend of St. Patrick—Birthday Universally Celebrated.

Saint Patrick, the patron of Ireland, whose memory is held dear wherever sons of Erin are found and the shamrock leaf is worn, was born A. D. 465, Butler says that if the virtue of children reflects an honor on their parents, much more justly is the name of St. Patrick rendered illustrious by the innumerable lights of sanctity with which the church of Ireland, planted by his labors, in the most remote corner of the then known world, shone during many ages, and by the colonies of saints with which it peopled many foreign countries.

St. Patrick was born in a village called Bonaven Taberniae, which seems to be the town of Kilpatrick, on the mouth of the River Clyde, in Scotland, between Dunbarton and Glasgow. He called himself both Briton and Roman, or of a mixed extraction, and said his father was of a family named Calphurnius. Some writers call his mother Conchessa, and same say she was a niece of St. Martin of Tours.

Made a Slave.

In his 16th year, Patrick was carried into captivity, by certain barbarians, together with many of his father's vassels and slaves. They took him to Ireland, where he was obliged to keep cattle on the mountains. While he lived thus, it is said, God quickened him to a sense of his duty. He forsook his family and consecrated his soul to the Creator, who carry His name to the ends of the earth. He traveled over the whole island, penetrating to the remotest corners, visiting every province. He ordained clergymen, induced women to live in holy widowhood, consecrated young maidens and ordained monks. He took nothing from the thousands he baptized, but gave freely of his own to pagan and Christian, distributing alms to the poor, maintaining and educating many children whom he trained to serve at the altar. The success of his efforts cost him many persecutions.

Disciplined Church.

St. Patrick held several councils to settle the discipline of the church. St. Bernard and others testify that St. Patrick fixed his metropolitan see at Armagh. He established some other bishops as appears by his council, and other monuments. He not only converted the whole country by his preaching and miracles, but rendered Ireland "a most flourishing garden in the church of God" and a country of saints.

In the first year of his mission, St. Patrick attempted to preach Christ in the general assembly of kings and states of all Ireland, held yearly at Taraghe, or Themoria, the residence of the chief king, styled the monarch of the whole Island, and the principal seat of the Druids. The son of the Neill, the chief monarch, declared himself against the preacher. However, he converted several and afterwards baptized kings of Dublin and Munster and the seven sons of the king of Connaught, and before his death almost the whole island.

Built Churches and Schools.

St. Patrick founded a monastery and filled the country with churches and schools of piety and learning, the reputation of which drew many foreigners to Ireland. He restored the sick, and gave sight to the blind. He died and was buried at Down, in Ulster. His body was found there in a church of his name 1185.

THE BOTTOM QUESTION.

Toronto Globe.

At bottom the question at issue is one of constitutional documents. If the educational provisions of the British North America Act apply to a new province just created out of territory already in the union, as well as to an old province coming into the union with separate schools as part of its established institutions, then the maintenance of separate schools is a constitutional obligation for Saskatchewan and Alberta. But if not, then parliament cannot create the obligaion. And even if it were a constitutional obligation, parliament should go no further than to incorporate the principle in the constitution of the provinces.

Sympathy For Kuropatkin

Curt Dismissal of the Russian Criticised by the British Journals.

Daily Mail's Correspondent Says Czar Practically Is a Prisoner.

London, March 18.—No further news regarding the situation in Manchuria or of the whereabouts of Admiral Rojestvensky's squadron has reached London. The greatest sympathy is expressed by the British press and public for General Kuropatkin, and there is strong criticism for the curt manner of his dismissal, without a word of thanks for past services. General Kuropatkin is considered to have been to a large extent a victim throughout the campaign of the interference of former Viceroy Alexieff and the Grand Ducal party, and never to have had a free hand or proper support in men and measures. Little or nothing is hoped for from the appointment of General Linevitch, whose task is admitted to be almost superhuman.

All the St. Petersburg correspondents of London newspapers are most pessimistic. The Daily Mail's correspondent thinks "the central fact of the situation is that since the blessing of the Neva (January 19) the Emperor has been a prisoner at Tsarskoe-Selo and never once has ventured out to the capital.

"In the moment of the greatest national emergency, needing the greatest sympathy, the government and the people, the ruler remains secluded behind triple bars and bayonets, as remote and absolutely aloof from the people as if he were in another planet."

The Morning Post's and other correspondents make gloomy predictions that the internal troubles will prevent the continuance of the war.

Avoiding Military Duty.

The Daily Telegraph's correspondent says: "If the command to mobilize is obeyed the war will be prosecuted indefinitely despite the failure to float more loans, but all symptoms point unmistakably to the spirit of resistance growing more noticeable. Men are unfitting themselves for military service by chopping off their fingers in such wholesale manner that Grand Duke Vladimir has turned his attention to the matter. In a word, I am personally convinced that an insurmountable obstacle to the continuance of the war will be found in the dogged determination of the Russian people to prefer the risks of open disobedience at home to certain death in Manchuria or Siberia. This consummation will mark the simultaneous victory of the Japanese abroad and liberalism in Russia."

It is reported that steamers are being chartered in London for Russian account for Nikollevsk, on the Amur river, which port will be used to run supplies into Manchuria now that Vladivostok is closed by the Japanese navy.

Japan is said to be placing enormous orders in Australia for horses, which are being shipped as rapidly as steamers are available.

The Morning Post's correspondent at Shanghai reports that a Chinese decree appoints Chaoerchin viceroy of Manchuria. After he has conferred with the Japanese minister he will proceed to Mukden.

PILOTAGE BOARD NOT HARMONIOUS

Meeting Called For Purpose of Retiring Secretary Ends in an Adjournment.

There was a protracted meeting yesterday afternoon in the office of the Victoria Pilotage Board, the session opening very shortly after 3 and continuing until the hands of the clock across the way were exceedingly close to 6. Like all other sittings of the board, the meeting was not open to the press, and the chairman, Captain J. G. Cox, informed The Colonist later in the evening that there was nothing done—the meeting being adjourned "to the call of the chair," which would probably mean another meeting in a week's time or thereabouts.

Officially that was all there was about the meeting to report—or to say nothing about.

Unofficially an exceedingly interesting tale is told of the purpose of the gathering.

It had been called, so it is stated, for the distinct purpose of retiring Mr. Edgar Crow Baker from the secretaryship and taking due steps toward the filling of the position. Someone had been in communication with Ottawa, and a telegram had been received, signed by the deputy minister of marine, directing that Mr. Baker be relieved of his duties in connection with pilotage affairs.

This telegram was in the hands of the chairman of the board yesterday, and the purpose and intention of the meeting was to act upon it. One of the commissioners at least, however, was of the opinion that Mr. Baker had not been given fair play; and that gentleman manifested a distinctly British objection to being ousted in the unceremonious manner proposed.

Accordingly there was much wawa, and at the end of it all, the commissioners decided that they had no sufficient authority to justify the contemplated drastic action.

The adjournment was accordingly taken in order that the matter may be referred to Ottawa, and something more than an informal telegram be in hand to act upon.