The Victoria Weekly Colonist.

THIRTY-SECOND YEAR. VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 1890. VOLUME XXXII NO. 14

CAPITAL NOTES.

Several Important Measures Introduced in Parliament.

The Proposed Labrador Railway Bill Reported by Committee.

Bill Introduced to Legalize Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister's Daughter —Commander Gordon's Report.

(From Our Own Correspondent).

OTTAWA, March 6. — The report of Commander Gordon, of the fishery protection fleet, strongly recommends the government to take steps to prohibit fishing with purse seines, otherwise the mackerel fisheries will be depleted.

A government bill transferring fore shores to provincial governments was introduced to-day.

Five tariff delegations and two railway delegations are here to-day.

Petitions have been presented in favor of uniform penny postage to the British empire.

A bill has been introduced to legalize marriage with a deceased wife's sister's daughter.

The government hereafter proposes that candidates for certificates as steamboat engineers be domiciled three years in Canada before certificates be granted.

The premier said to-day he thought the time had arrived when no more bridges should be built across the St. Lawrence.

Geo. Middleton has not noticed the parliamentary enquiry into the charges that he stole the half-breeds' furs.

Hon. Mr. Laurier's resolutions condemning the government for spending money on the Short Line Railway without the consent of the House was defeated by a majority of 88.

There was strong opposition in the Railway committee this morning to the proposed Labrador railway. Sir Donald Smith said it was a wild-cat scheme, but the committee reported the bill.

OVER THE RIVER.

Chinamen Entering Uncle Sam's Dominions from Sarnia.

Evidence of an Organized Gang of Smugglers with Agencies in Victoria and Most of the Eastern Cities.

CHICAGO, March 6.—A special from Port Huron, Mich., gives particulars of a regular route for importing Chinamen into the United States Last Thursday, acting on information received on Wednesday, that an invoice of opium or Chinamen might be expected to cross the river, Detective Day, of the Treasury Department, and Local Inspector Green placed themselves on the watch, and discovered four Chinamen who had just been brought over from Sarnia. The officers followed them to Tick Chang's laundry. After seeing them safely in, the officers broke open the door of the establishment and arrested the proprietor and a stranger, one We Sing; but the others could not be found. Next day, however, a closer investigation revealed the Celestials hidden under a mattress on a bed in the laundry. All were locked up. On their persons were twenty-six letters addressed to different firms in Canada and the United States. They all had cards showing where they had to go, this lot being addressed to Quong Wah, 226 Bunker Hill street, Charlestown. They also had complete opium outfits. It appears from information gained that Tick Chang has contracted to pass all his countrymen, for which service he receives $20 per head. Sunday, Feb. 23rd, five passed the border and went to Detroit. Tuesday two others followed, and Wednesday the officers caught four. It is quite evident, from the methods employed and from the documents secured, from Wah Sing, that the gang engaged in this Chinese importation is closely connected with, or is part of, the opium smuggling gang which had such hard luck at this point last year. From Wah Sing was taken a list of agents, starting at Hong Kong, China, and including Victoria, B. C., Ottawa, Toronto, Hamilton, London, Sarnia, and the principal American cities. The captured Chinamen were arraigned before U. S. Commissioner Harris and sent back to Canada.

CANADIAN NEWS.

Railway Legislation.

QUEBEC, March 6.—The legislature has adopted a resolution in favor of the proposed short line to the sea. It is expected that the Federal Government will grant a subsidy of $3,200 a mile in the construction of the St. Lawrence & Maritime Provinces Railway from Mathawaska to Moncton, 210 miles. This railway is otherwise known as the Grand Trunk extention to the Maritime Province Line, and will run from River Du Loup, Moncton, through Canadian territory.

The School Question in Manitoba.

WINNIPEG, March 6.—The debate on the school question is now going on nightly in the legislature and draws large crowds of visitors. The second reading of the board of education bill passed last night by a vote of 23 to 9. The debate on the separate school bill is now going on.

Ontario Parliament.

TORONTO, March 5.—Two important government bills were also introduced in the local house yesterday. The first was one by the minister of education to amend the public and separate schools acts. The other bill was by Treasurer Ross, respecting exemptions from municipal assessment, a copy of which he briefly outlined. It is proposed to exempt all church buildings, but the land upon which they are erected and the land attached thereto to be subject to the local improvement tax.

BUFFALO BILL IN THE VATICAN.

His Braves and Warriors and Cowboys Blessed by the Pope.

NEW YORK, March 4.—A Rome correspondent writes: The reception by the pope at his twelfth annual thanksgiving of Buffalo Bill, with his cowboys and Indians, was one of the strangest scenes ever witnessed in the Vatican. A vast multitude surged into the great square before St. Peter's early in the morning. Before 9.30 o'clock the Ducal hall, the Royal hall and the Sistine chapel were packed. Through the middle of the three audiences was a pathway bordered with the brilliant uniforms of the Swiss Guards, the Palestine Guards, the papal gendarmes and chamberlains. The light fell upon lines of glittering steel, nodding plumes, golden chains and shimmering robes of silk and all the brilliant emblems of pontifical power and glory.

Suddenly Buffalo Bill appeared. Behind him was Buck Taylor, who towered hugely above the tallest man in the palace, and then came Broncho Bill, in buckskin, and after him trooped cowboys slashed with mud and picturesque beyond description. Rocky Bear led the Sioux warriors in the rear. They were painted in every color that the Indian imagination could devise, and every man carried a present for the medicine man of the great spirit. The Indians and cowboys were ranged in a solid mass in the south corners of the ducal hall, while Buffalo Bill was invited to a place in the tribune of Roman nobles.

When the pope appeared, carried above the heads of the guards, preceded by Knights of Malta, and a procession of cardinals and archbishops, the cowboys bowed, and so did the Indians. Rocky Bear knelt and made the sign of the cross. The pontiff leaned yearningly toward the rude group and blessed them. He seemed touched by the sight. As the train swept on the Indians were with difficulty restrained from whooping.

CABLE NEWS.

The St. Pancras Election.

LONDON, March 4.—The election in the North St. Pancras Division of London, which took place to-day, resulted in the return of Mr. H. T. Bolton, the Gladstonian, by a vote of 2,656 to 2,549 for Mr. Graham, the Unionist candidate. At the last election Mr. Cochrane Baillie, Conservative, who succeeded to the peerage on the recent death of his father, Lord Leamington, thus creating the vacancy, was returned by a majority of 261 over Mr. Bolton, who was then, as now, the Glodstonian candidate. The result, accomplished through a Liberal gain of 369 votes, is regarded as a popular endorsement of the Liberal position and contention regarding the report of the Parnell commission that it is a verdict of acquittal for the Parnellites and conviction of the Times.

The Czar Menaced.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 6.—The czar has received a letter from a woman signed "Ichebrikova," menacing him with the fate of Peter III., Paul I., and Alexander II., unless he modifies his present reactionary policy. A copy of the letter was sent to each of the ministers, at the same time the police have been instructed to observe extraordinary watchfulness, and to make search for persons suspected of being implicated in the writing and sending of the letter.

The Workingmen of Belgium.

BRUSSELS, March 7.—A federation of Belgian miners has petitioned the government and parliament, asking them to display an interest in the welfare of workingmen equal to that evinced by the Emperor of Germany. The memorial prays for legislation to secure a reduction of the hours of labor and an increase of pay, and argues that as large sums of money are spent in university education for the benefit of the upper classes, it is high time that a little should be spared for the benefit of the lower classes. The petition has created a sensation, and is generally believed to be the prelude to an important industrial movement.

Prince Victor Traveling.

LONDON, March 7.—Prince Victor of Wales will sojourn for a short season at Cairo on his way home from India.

England and Portugal.

LONDON, March 7.—It is asserted that the Portuguese minister has failed to secure any modification of England's attitude in his negotiations with Lord Salisbury and will return to Lisbon at once. The popular feeling against England in Lisbon is extremely menacing as a result of the minister's failure.

A Collier's Conference.

BRUSSELS, March 7.—An international conference of colliers will be convened at Jolimont, Belgium, on May 20th. Delegates from England, France, Germany and Austria will be present.

Austria's Premier.

VIENNA, March 7.—It is believed that the premier will postpone his resignation from the ministry until the budget is passed.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT

LONDON, March 7.—Prof. James Bryce, resuming the debate in the Commons last evening, bestowed high praise upon Parnell and Davitt for the great service they had rendered in effecting a better state of feeling between England and Ireland.

Sir Charles Russell said he could not regard the judges comprising the commission as being free from prepossessions and prejudices, nor could he regard them as men who ought to have been asked to deal with many of the questions referred to them. The selection of three judges to decide questions chiefly of a political aspect was a bad precedent. He had the greatest respect for the opinion of the judges on questions capable of direct disproof, but not where they begin to draw inferences. He appealed to the Government to lift the question to its proper sphere.

Sir Richard E. Webster defended the course he had pursued before the commission, and declared that he had done his duty as counsel. The telegrams read by Mr. Harrington, he said, had been sent for the purpose of obtaining evidence for the defence in Mr. Parnell's libel suit against the Times. Throughout no step had been taken by the government in behalf of the Times. The government had aimed solely to throw the clearest light upon the doings of the leaguers and the evidence before the commission had entirely justified the bulk of the accusations against the Parnellites.

JENNINGS' AMENDMENT.

In the House of Commons this evening Louis J. Jennings, Conservative, gave notice of his intention to move an addition to the motion of Mr. Smith on acceptance of the commission's report, which would declare that the House condemn the conduct of those who were responsible for having accused a member of the House of complicity in outrage and murder, the accusations being based on forged letters.

Justin McCarthy said he was glad to find a Conservative taking an independent action.

Sir Henry James asked what was Le Caron as compared to men who had taken oaths to destroy the government of the Queen and establish a republic, and had then entered parliament and sworn allegiance to Her Majesty. He would rather occupy Le Caron's position than the position of men who were the associates of assassins.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria

EUROPEAN GOSSIP.

The Strike of the Liverpool Dock Laborers.

Electricity for London's Underground Railway System.

Russians of Exalted Rank Implicated in a Nihilist Plot—Lock-out in the German Cloth Factories.

ELECTRICITY V. STEAM.

LONDON, March 6.—The promoters of the scheme to substitute electricity for steam as the motive power for the underground railway system of London, are enthusiastic over the successful test of one of the motors which was made on the Clapham line yesterday. The motor drew an ordinary train at the rate of 20 miles an hour without the slightest difficulty, and the fact that the work was performed seventy feet beneath the surface, and involved a passage through tunnels under the river, showed the fallacy of the objections of those who have contended that the use of electricity under ground is impracticable.

PREPARED TO PAY ALL LIABILITIES.

Thornton Nordenfeldt, the civil engineer and manager of the Maxim-Nordenfeldt Gun and Ammunition Co. of London, who was recently declared a bankrupt, announces to his creditors the welcome intelligence that he is prepared to pay all liabilities in full.

THE LIVERPOOL DOCK LABORERS' STRIKE.

The strike of the Liverpool dock laborers promises to be a bitter contest. The men are firm in their demand for higher wages and the exclusive employment of union hands, while the masters are equally determined not to yield. Already there are two thousand imported "blacklegs" working on the docks, and the companies seem to experience no difficulty in getting all the men they need, though the quality of their work is not altogether satisfactory.

A LOCK-OUT.

Owing to the extremely exacting demand of the hands employed in the cloth factories at Lambrecht, Germany, the masters have decided on a general lock-out.

A NIHILIST PLOT.

In the possession of one of the Nihilists arrested near Anitchkoff palace, where the Czar and the Imperial family were residing, on Monday, was found a number of letters containing information which enabled the police to make numerous other arrests. The letters are said to implicate several persons of exalted rank, all of whom are understood to be under surveillance.

THE PRESIDENCY OF THE REICHSTAG.

A fierce fight is already in progress between the Cartel parties and Centrists as to who will secure the presidency of the new Reichstag.

LATEST ALASKAN NEWS.

Wreck of the Steamer Dispatch Last January.

A Hard Winter in Alaska—Great Preparations for the Fishing Season—General Notes.

The steamer Santa Cruz, Captain Trebble, arrived at Port Townsend Wednesday morning from Alaska, and remained in port just long enough to discharge a small cargo of skins. The Santa Cruz put in at Departure Bay, where she loaded coal for San Francisco, and after discharging at Port Townsend she left for that port. She brought Sitka advices to February 15, and Juneau advices to February 22.

The winter in Alaska has been unusually severe, but it is thought the spring will open milder. Great preparations are being made for the fishing season, and a big catch, it is thought, will be made this year.

At Sitka an historical society has been formed for the purpose of acquiring, preserving and recording historical data, documents, mementoes and objects of historical interest, and publishing and diffusing general historical information pertaining to Alaska.

The Alaskan says that the month of January in Sitka was the coldest for many years.

The Alaskan is guilty of publishing the following: "The Russian influenza has not yet taken hold of Sitka. Maybe it considers up to 1867 our town was subject to more Russian influenza than any other in the New World, and therefore does not care to give us a call."

The Alaskan says that the public buildings at Sitka are in a very dangerous condition. Some time since the roof of the custom house fell in, doing considerable damage.

The latest news from the Bear's Nest mine is to the effect that in one of the upper tables a large body of dark blue quartz has been encountered. This quartz in character is exactly similar to the highest grade quartz found in Paris. The body was cut twenty-five feet under ground. Mr. Bernhardt, who is so far meeting with encouraging prospects at every foot, will continue his investigations of the property until he has either opened up a mine or proved it worthless. He feels confident now, from the past week's development, that the mine is going to turn out all right in the end, and present indications certainly go to show as much.

On January 22 the steamer Dispatch went ashore in a heavy gale of wind, at a logging camp in Seymour channel and was totally wrecked. The crew, consisting of P. Pearce, captain; Edward Thornton, engineer; and R. Low, barely escaped with their lives, reaching shore in a half-drowned condition. They immediately proceeded to the Deer Shot logging camp, where they were taken care of. A canoe arrived at Juneau on February 19th with Ed. Thornton and R. Low, to secure the services of the steamer Lucy to bring back the wrecked boat's machinery and tow in her raft of logs. The vessel formerly belonged to the United States, having been built in 1879 at a cost of nearly $80,000. She has had quite an interesting experience, and belonged, when wrecked, to Capt. Pearce, who paid $4,000 for her.

PACIFIC COAST NEWS.

Shipping.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 7.—Sailed—Ship Kennebec, for Nanaimo; barkentine J. M. Griffith, for Port Hadlock.

Jumped the Track.

SACRAMENTO, March 7.—About midnight last night a freight car loaded with cattle and another containing plows jumped the track at Cisco, and ran into the side of the snow sheds, tearing away the uprights and causing seventy feet of the sheds to fall in with ten feet of snow on top. All the cattle, numbering twenty, excepting one, were crushed to death. The West bound overland trains were sixteen hours behind time.

Rains and Washouts.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 7.—There was a heavy rainfall last night in Southern Oregon and in the Siskiyou mountains. Several bad slides and washout on the Oregon route resulted, and two bridges were carried away. One of these was a large bridge over the Umpqua river. There were several caves that covered the track at places between Ashland and Dunsmuir, and this side of Dunsmuir a side of the mountain came down and caused trouble. The result is that no trains will run between here and Ashland for some time.

The Iron Molders' Strike.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 7.—There was no change in the iron molders' strike to-day, except that several non-union men in one of the foundries had been induced to join the union.

The P. & O. Steamers.

SAN DIEGO, Cal., March 7.—President Manvel, of the Santa Fee Road, said this evening the prospect for the Peninsula & Oriental steamers leaving this port is favorable; that one of the Baring Brothers, who are large holders in the Santa Fee, Southern Pacific and the Peninsula and Oriental Steamship Line, is due from London to-day at New York, and will probably come on to San Diego. Manvel would like the steamers to meet the railroad at this harbor.

ORGANIZED MURDER.

A Horrible Conspiracy Being Brought to Light.

Wealthy Young Englishmen Lured to their Death—A Pretty Young Woman Used as a Decoy.

NIAGARA FALLS, Ont., March 6.—The trial of Burchell for the murder of C. Benwell near Princeton, has commenced at this place. The evidence against the accused is very strong.

This is the case in which the death of a young Englishman named Benwell is being investigated. His body was found in a swamp recently. The theory of the prosecution is that Burchell and his wife are the chief members of a regularly organized gang for wholesale murder.

The scheme was to advertise for a young gentleman with means who wished to emigrate to Canada to learn ranching. Many cases of good openings as partners in ranches were offered. With two or three of the wealthiest victims in hand the party would start for the Dominion. The schemers generally manage to secure about £500 as a guarantee before starting. Arriving here they proceeded to a desolate part of the country where the ranch is alleged to be situated. Here the victims are murdered in cold blood for the sake of the valuables with them, and when killed it was an easy thing for the murderers to get away. Although crime after crime has been discovered, there was such mystery that the perpetrators could not be discovered. The woman Burchell has with him, and who passes as his wife, is very pretty. She has been arrested as an accessory. There is no doubt that she has assisted in luring many a young Englishman to his death. No doubt the murdered man Benwell, whose body was found in a swamp last week, was murdered by Burchell. How many other victims there were is not known.

WHAT THE DETECTIVES SAY.

TORONTO, March 7.—Detectives Murray and Kelly, who gave evidence in the trial of Burchell at Niagara Falls, arrived last night for the purpose of interviewing the attorney-general. Pelly states that in his opinion Burchell was in league with some party in England, with whom he has been working, to bring young Englishmen to Canada to murder them for their money. He says that from the position of things he believed he was in great danger of being murdered himself. Detective Murray seems to have no doubt that he placed the gull where it belongs, and that Mrs. Burchell was an accessory before the act. It was rumored last night that while in New York Benwell cashed a draft for £1,000 on an English bank.

AN EXCITING SCENE

In the Dominion Parliament—Charges Against the Minister of Militia.

OTTAWA, March 2.—A case of interest to the militiamen of Canada came up in the House Friday afternoon. Sergeant Hurrell, lately of the 90th battalion, was among those who went to the front during the last rebellion. He was at Fish Creek and from the hardship he endured in that campaign he contracted inflammatory rheumatism, and alleges he is now a wreck of his former self, having nothing to support himself or wife. After the intercession of friends he was awarded a pension by the board of pensions of 55 cents per day. There is some $200 of that pension due him and Sir Adolphe Caron refused to pay it. A pamphlet has been circulated among the members of Parliament showing that Hurrell was shamefully treated. When the matter came up in Parliament several members gave an excruciating dressing down to the Minister: Caron stated that Hurrell told somebody that he would shoot him on sight. Some one said he did not mean it. Mr. Watson replied in vigorous terms, saying that Hurrell, no doubt, meant it. "Just fancy," he said, "Hurrell enduring pains that would torture the damned, which he caught in the rebellion fighting for his country, maintaining the honor of Canada, and now to find the man who was the custodian, as it were, of the honor of Canada, for the time being, insulting him beyond endurance." "Hurrell," he continued, "did not care whether he lived or not; for what was life to him? Mean it? Certainly, for the time being, he meant it." Mr. Watson gave testimony as to Hurrell's character, and the pamphlet was accurate as far as he could decide. Hurrell occupied a seat in the gallery over the press gallery, and he was so excited over the debate that he shouted two or three times at the pitch of his voice as to the accuracy of his statement. Caron had him removed by the sergeant-at-arms. "Now that the Minister of War is safe," added Somerville in his dry Scotch style, "perhaps he will give an explanation." The explanation was postponed, and so was the item. There will be yet a big debate on the matter.

FRIGHTFUL COLLISION.

BUFFALO, March 6.—The Cleveland and Chicago express on the Lake Shore railway broke in two at Bay View station, about six miles from this city, to-night. The two sections came together and a terrible wreck resulted. Ten persons were killed and a number injured. How many cannot as yet be learned.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria

CANADIAN NEWS.

Opposition to Bringing on the Quebec Elections.

Hundreds of Thousands of Seals in the St. Lawrence.

A Toronto Alderman Who Objects Giving the Franchise to Servant Girls —The Poisoning Case.

The Quebec General Elections.

QUEBEC, March 7.—Politicians here state that Premier Mercier is meeting with a great deal of opposition in his project of bringing on the general elections this summer. Quite a number of his supporters, especially from the district of Montreal, who do not feel safe in their seats, are opposed to the idea of losing the indemnity of $300 for the remaining session of parliament, having gone to great expense in having themselves elected.

The Unfortunate Servant Girl.

TORONTO, March 7.—The legislative committee of the House has decided to ask the Ontario legislature to put women and men on the same footing in municipal elections, and that each sex be assessed $2.50 in the matter of municipal elections. One alderman said he did not object to property qualification. What he did object to was giving the franchise to servant girls.

The P. E. I. Poisoning Case.

CHARLOTTETOWN, March 7.—In the poisoning case yesterday, Mrs. Wm. Groov said the prisoner, Mrs. Weeks, told her that Sutherland gave her a pair of diamond earrings as a present. She saw Sutherland go in and out of Mrs. Week's house frequently and at different hours.

Seals in the St. Lawrence.

QUEBEC, March 7.—Advices from along the north shore of the St. Lawrence reports hundreds of thousands of seals on the ice fields. Two schooners are now preparing for a cruise. Fishermen predict an abundance of seals this season.

Robbed His Fellow Employes.

TORONTO, March 7.—Lee, a carpenter, charged with stealing tools from his fellow employes, was before the court to-day, when sixty-two men gave evidence against the prisoner of having stolen tools from them which they identified.

CAPITAL NOTES.

Alteration of the Bonilla Point Telegraph Route.

Urging Free Admission of Ship-Building Materials.

Labrador Railway Bill Killed in Committee—Sporting Salmon for B. C.—Rykert's Timber Deal.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, March 7.—Mr. Earle and Col. Prior are pressing the Government to send a supply of salmon ova from the maritime provinces to be placed in the waters of British Columbia, in order to breed a species of salmon there which will take the fly.

The Opposition motion for free corn was not pressed to a division to-night, Hon. Mr. Laurier finding that many of his supporters were going to bolt.

The surplus for eight months of the fiscal year is $4,300,000.

Delegations are here to-day asking for free admission of material for iron and steel shipbuilding and also for an increased duty on stove castings.

The bill authorizing a railway from the Soo to Labrador was thrown out by the railway committee.

Sir Richard Cartwright given notice of a motion censuring Rykert for his conduct in reference to the Cypress Hills timber limit matter as dishonorable, corrupt and scandalous.

Sir Hector Langevin to-night explaining the change in the route of the Bonilla Point telegraph line, said that as the coast was a dangerous one and wrecks often take place he thought it better to have the line along the coast instead of via Alberni.

EUROPEAN GOSSIP.

The Debate on the Acceptance of the Report.

Number of Effective and Available Volunteers in England.

Body Snatchers Cause a Sensation in the City of Cork—The Trial of Miss Vincent.

THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION.

LONDON, March 7.—As the debate relative to the acceptance of the report of the Parnell commission proceeds in the Commons, the indications increase that the government will not be able to command its full voting strength in favor of Smith's motion. The action of Mr. Caine, Unionist-Whip, in denouncing the methods pursued by the Times, and the government's tacit approval thereof, has influenced several members of the party to abstain from voting on Mr. Smith's motion, or go still further and support Mr. Gladstone's amendment, while the attitude of Lord Churchill, Louis J. Jennings and several other Tory members must necessarily place additional obstacles in the Government's path. It is well understood that the amendment, of which Jennings gave notice in the House this evening, was instigated by Lord Randolph Churchill, who, it is asserted, has expressed himself in favor of following midway between the position assumed by Smith and Mr. Gladstone, and it is expected that such a departure from strict party lines will afford a consistent refuge for many doubting Tories and Unionists, who might otherwise deem it expedient to vote in opposition to their convictions.

BODY SNATCHERS IN CORK.

A tremendous sensation has been caused in Cork by the discovery, that the body of the late bailiff, Markham, has been stolen from the Killeman churchyard, where it was interred. Markham was absolutely boycotted during the last ten years of his life for the conspicuous part he had taken in evictions, and for that period was under close protection. In fact the man was so generally and thoroughly detested by the Nationalists that the police are wholly unable to direct suspicion of participation in the robbery of his grave against any particular person or persons.

ENGLAND'S VOLUNTEERS.

Statistics compiled in the War Office show the enrollment of 224,000 volunteers throughout the kingdom, of which number 216,000 are efficient and available.

A SENSATION PROMISED.

The trial of Miss Elizabeth Vincent for the shooting of Lewis Henry Isaacs, member of Parliament for Walworth, will be called on Monday next. Both sides are ready, and, it is reported, that the young woman's defence will disclose facts extremely damaging to Mr. Isaacs which have not hitherto even been hinted at.

A DOCK LABORERS' UNION.

The dock laborers of Hamburg have formed a powerful union with a view of formulating and submitting demands for shorter hours and higher wages.

TRIBUTES TO THE DEAD.

Although the extremist simplicity was observed throughout at the funeral of Master Abraham Lincoln, the display of flowers, both at the house and at the tomb, was remarkably large, the vault being literally covered with wreaths on all sides.

WORKMEN IN WANT.

Mass Meeting to be Held in San Francisco.

Governor Stanford Thinks the Citizens Can Relieve the Distress and Mayor Pond Agrees.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 6.—Senator Stanford to-day telegraphed to Mayor Pond in reply to the telegram sent to Washington by the committee of unemployed workingmen announcing there was starvation in San Francisco, saying he would lay the matter before the president. He thought, however, the good people of San Francisco were able to take care of any case of distress by the aid of local and organized charities.

Mayor Pond in response telegraphed that there was some temporary distress among the working classes in San Francisco, owing to the continued rains, but he thought the citizens would relieve it. He stated that a meeting of 200 leading citizens would be held to-morrow, and that Archbishop Riordan and others have offered to subscribe $1,000 each toward the relief of the distressed.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 7.—At a meeting of citizens this afternoon it was decided to start a public subscription for the relief of the unemployed, the money to be turned over to the park commissioners and expended for providing work. Wages to be fixed at $1.50 per day.

CANADIAN NEWS.

The Benwell Tragedy.

WOODSTOCK, Ont., March 8. — New and sensational developments are cropping up in connection with the Benwell tragedy, and the question is now asked whether there has not been at least two victims. Some two or three years ago a young Englishman named Neville H. Pickethall came here, and about a year ago purchased a farm six miles south, and about four months ago married the daughter of his minister. On February 10th last Pickethall raised $1,000 on a mortgage on his farm and left here, saying to his wife: "I am going to double this money before I come back." He was seen at Niagara Falls that night, and said he was going to New York to meet his sister. Testimony at Burchell's examination showed he reached New York, and there met Burchell. Since then no trace of him has been found, and no word received from him. His disappearance caused a stir at the time and the police sent descriptions of him all over the country. The theory now is that he was enticed to New York by Burchell with the expectation of making a large sum of money, and that he was put out of the way for the money he carried with him. A search of Burchell's baggage will be made for anything that might give a clew to Pickethall's fate.

The Holton Murder.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, March 8.—The following telegram was received here last night by the police magistrate from Attorney-General Mowat: "Has the prisoner you hold on suspicion of being the murderer of Holton, in Essex County, a scar on his groin. (Signed) Attorney-General of Ontario." The prisoner was examined here this morning by Dr. Macklin and was found to have a scar on his right groin.

Presentation to Premier Mowat.

TORONTO, March 8.—The big committee room in the legislative buildings was the scene of an interesting event yesterday. The occasion was the presentation to Premier Mowat of a highly complimentary address, accompanied by a magnificent life-size oil painting of himself by the Liberal members of the House.

CABLE NEWS.

The Varsity Boat Race.

LONDON, March 8.—Betting on the university boat race stands 11 to 10 on Oxford, in consequence of the wonderful improvement in the practice of the Cambridge crew.

On Short Rations.

LONDON, March 8.—The brig Stagshaw arrived yesterday from Rosario, having been 104 days on the voyage. The ship's stores gave out, and since March 1st the captain and crew of nine men have subsisted on one biscuit per day each.

Warlike Preparations.

BERLIN, March 8.—The extensive sword works at Talingen, a small town of Rhenish Prussia, fourteen miles from Dusseldorf, which has been noted for its cutlery as far back as the twelfth century, are being driven night and day, and enormous quantities of bayonets and lance heads are being turned out.

Death of a War Veteran.

BERLIN, March 8.—Major Von Bredow, hero of the gallant charge at the battle of Mars-la-Tour in the French and Prussian war, during which the Seventh Cuirassiers and Seventeenth Uhlmans were annihilated, is dead.

A Premier's Impersonator.

PESTH, March 8.—Several demonstrations against Prime Minister Tisza have been made in the streets of this city.

Boycotted Students.

PRAGUE, March 8.—A number of students assembled in the streets here and marched to the homes of several old Czech professors, where they acted in a riotous manner. The military was finally called up to assist the disturbance. The soldiers charged the students with fixed bayonets and dispersed them. Ten rioters were arrested.

OUR OTTAWA LETTER.

The Removal of Duties on Mining Machinery.

The Amended Regulations in Reference to Salmon Fishing.

The B. C. Contingent Well Satisfied With the Mineral Lands Settlement—Behring's Sea Matters.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, March 1.—This has been essentially a British Columbia week in Parliament. The Esquimalt dock, B. C. fortification, mining machinery, Behring's Sea, the mineral lands settlement and a number of other questions of interest to the Pacific Provinces have all been up in some form or another. It has been a good business week. Private members have had their fling on a multitude of topics and government business has been well advanced. Sir John Thompson's mammoth bill respecting bills of exchange and promissory notes has been disposed of, and last night over $1,250,000 of the people's money was voted in supply, altogether a good night's work.

BEHRING'S SEA.

After delays of months and years the Behring's Sea question is now in a fair way to be settled. I am not in a position to give further particulars of the progress of the negotiations than have been telegraphed from day to day for the reason that the government deems it inadvisable to show its hand at this juncture. In Sir Julian Pauncefote and Mr. Tupper, however, Canada's interests are safe. Young "Charlie" is a born diplomat, and moreover, he has his father's bulldog tenacity and will not budge from the right. One cheering fact is worth noting in connection with the negotiations. A Cabinet Minister informed me to-day that the conference is considering among other things the future protection of the seals, and this is looked upon as pretty conclusive evidence that the United States abandons its outrageous claim that Behring's Sea is a closed sea. Before many days now it is hoped that a settlement will have been reached.

THE MINERAL LANDS SETTLEMENT.

The agreement arrived at between the Dominion and Provincial Governments in reference to the administration of the minerals in the railway belt in B. C. gives great satisfaction to the B. C. contingent. Although the passage of the order in council has been delayed somewhat owing to the presence of other government business this has not prevented full consideration being given to the subject. The Dominion Government has manifested every willingness to meet the views of the provincial authorities, and it is a fair supposition that both sides are satisfied. Talking with THE COLONIST correspondent to-day, Hon. Mr. Dewdney said the gist of the agreement was that the Provincial Government would have full control of the minerals except coal, so that the provincial mining regulations could have full sway, while on the other hand the Dominion Government would receive the statutory price per acre for the lands and be relieved of the cost of administration. The amended order in council in reference to the matter was forwarded to Victoria to-day.

THE DUTY ON MINING MACHINERY.

As that embodiment of Gritism, the Victoria Times, is certain to try to make political capital out of the discussion which took place in the House of Commons Friday last relative to the abolition of the duties on mining machinery, it may be as well to inform COLONIST readers of the facts. The question was raised by Dr. Platt in the form of a resolution, affirming that mining machinery when imported into Canada for mining purposes should be placed on the free list. This is the first time that Dr. Platt has been known to manifest any interest in mining matters, and it was suspected that he had some other motive in view than simply to aid the mining industry. The question of the removal of these duties had almost become to be considered the prerogative of the B. C. members, at any rate, they have been hammering away at the government on the subject for the last two or three years. Mr. Barnard has been very persistent in advocating the removal of the duties, and time and again this session have Messrs. Earle, Prior, Mara and he seen ministers about it. It may be gratifying news to the province for THE COLONIST to state that the government will undoubtedly make some concessions in the desired direction when the tariff bill comes down, and for this the B. C. delegation should get the credit. But to return to Dr. Platt. When his notice of motion appeared on the order paper what was a more natural question than to say to him: "What is your object?" To the B. C. members he simply stated that he had in view the general weal and he pledged himself, when the motion came before the House, in order not to place the British Columbia members in a compromising position, after a full discussion had taken place, to withdraw the motion as his end would have been gained. The debate took place, the British Columbia contingent ably advocated the change in the interests of their province, but the compact entered into that no division should take place was broken by an amendment of Mr. Mulock's limiting the application of the resolution to machinery "not manufactured in Canada." The motion and amendment thus emanating from two oppositionists, in order not to have an adverse vote on the question, Mr. Mara took what was considered to be the wiser course, and moved that the debate be adjourned until the government's tariff proposals are brought down. This amendment was carried by 109 to 77, and there the matter rests for the present. Mr. Mara acquits Dr. Platt of intentional breach of faith, but it is evident that some one gave Mr. Mulock a hint that an agreement had been arrived at and he took the most effective means of breaking it.

THE SALMON REGULATIONS.

Although the amended regulations in reference to salmon fishing on the Fraser river have not been formally communicated to the Canners' Association, it is pretty well understood that the department has conceded most of the points asked for by the canners. The number of boats this year has been fixed at 450, 300 for the canneries and 150 for outside fishermen. A difficulty has, however, arisen from the fact that two new canneries are to be established on the Fraser this year, which means a reduction on the average number of boats for each cannery. It is thereby suggested that in order to maintain the average for the canners with the two new ones in the field, that but 100 boats be allotted to outside fishermen instead of 150, and that the canneries be allowed 350 instead of 300. Mr. Earle saw the Minister of Fisheries in reference to the proposed change before Mr. Prior left for Washington, and he is sanguine that the request will be granted.

STARVATION IN SAN FRANCISCO.

The Secretary of War Asked to Issue Rations.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 5.—The executive committee for the assistance of unemployed workingmen, met in joint session this afternoon with a number of ministers of the city to devise some means of relief. A resolution was passed, asking the mayor to call a mass meeting of business men to consider the situation.

Previous to the meeting the committee sent a telegram to California senators, stating that there was starvation in San Francisco, and asking the secretary of war to issue rations.

THE SPOKANE & NORTHERN.

Determination to Build the Line to the Frontier.

SPOKANE FALLS, March 4.—It is learned on reliable information that the action of the railway committee of the Canadian parliament in throwing out bills introduced in the interest of the Spokane Falls & Northern will not deter Corbin from pushing on to the Canadian border.

He will build to Little Dalles immediately, and there connect with a line of boats for the Kootenai mines.

THE GREAT NORTHERN

Definitely Decides to Extend its Line to Seattle—Terminal Facilities Secured.

The Great Northern, or "Manitoba" railroad, has definitely determined to extend its line westward to tide water, and, after looking over the field, has selected Seattle as its Pacific terminus. Arrangements which have been in negotiation for several weeks were consummated on Friday. It is proposed to build an east and west line by the shortest practicable route across the State of Washington and the Idaho Pan-handle to connect with the present western end of the Great Northern line in Western Montana. Work will begin at both ends as soon as definite locations can be made and construction forces massed; and the assurance of Vice-President Clough, who is now in Seattle, is given that it will be prosecuted "as fast as they know how." To those who recall the remarkable construction work done by this company in its western march in 1887, when 600 miles of road was built in seven months, this positive statement means a great deal.

The Great Northern will enter Seattle over the tracks of the Seattle & Montana Railway Company, a corporation formed by Seattle capitalists and railway men, and which will form the western division of the great transcontinental system when completed.

Colonel W. P. Clough, vice-president of the Great Northern Railway system, was seen by a Post-Intelligencer reporter at the Rainier hotel shortly after the passage of the ordinance by the council granting to the newly organized company, the Seattle & Montana railway, its franchise, and asked if he was willing to explain the purposes of the Great Northern in connection with this new company. He said:

"The Great Northern Railroad Company is successor of the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba Company and controls the entire system of railroad formerly controlled by the Manitoba company. The Great Northern company controls and operates 3,300 miles of railway in Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Montana. It also, by ownership of stock of the Northern Steamship Company, controls a line of six steel steamships plying on the great lakes between the upper and lower lakes, connecting its railroad system with the trunk lines, running from Lake Erie to the Atlantic seaboard. The Great Northern Company's main line of railroad runs from Duluth and West Superior and from St. Paul and Minneapolis westward to Great Falls, Helena and Butte, Montana, and has branches of about 1,000 miles.

"The system is, therefore, already within about 700 miles of Puget Sound. The company long since decided to make its line a transcontinental one by extention to the Pacific coast by the most practicable route that could be discovered, and to that end has during the past two years been engaged in making examination of the country to the westward of its present terminus. These examinations are not yet completed. They are expected to occupy a great part of the coming spring and summer, enough information, however, has already been obtained to warrant the expectation that a route will be found with as easy grades as any now existing, which will shorten the distance from Chicago and all other eastern points to the Sound over that of any other rail route by from 100 to 200 miles—probably nearer the latter than the former.

"It is desired to complete this line as rapidly as possible, and for that purpose it has been decided to work from either end, and the company which has just been formed under the laws of the state of Washington under the title of the Seattle and Montana Railway Company, has been organized for the purpose of taking up the work at the west end and pushing it eastward.

"Our immediate plans are to search for the most practical route from the Sound to a connection with the existing line in Montana, and to do so as rapidly as possible, and when such route has been found to do the work of covering it as vigorously as we know how. We expect to progress with the location far enough to permit us to begin the work of construction at each end within the next few months."

"What," asked the reporter, "are the relations of the Seattle and Montana with the Seattle, Lake Shore and Eastern railway?" "The relations of