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IAL BENEFIT.

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AND THERE.

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The Colonist.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2ND, 1889.

"ROBBERY ON THE HIGH SEAS."

Captain McLean has brought word that a British Columbia sealing schooner, the Black Diamond, has been seized by the U. S. cruiser Rush, while sealing on the "high seas," for the Black Diamond was seventy miles from land when she was boarded and taken. Captain McLean was warned, and there are twenty-two more British Columbia sealing ships in Behring's Sea liable to seizure at any moment. What are vessels sailing under the British flag to do under such circumstances? Is that flag no longer a protection to them while pursuing their lawful avocation on the high seas? Are British subjects, who have broken no law, who are encroaching upon no part of the sea acknowledged to be United States territory by their government, to be subjected to loss both of liberty and property because a foreign power makes a claim which is manifestly and notoriously absurd, and which it does not even attempt to substantiate? Not only does the government of Great Britain refuse to acknowledge the claim of the United States to exclusive jurisdiction over Behring's Sea, but American citizens themselves scout at the pretension, and declare it to be utterly groundless. We have no hesitation in saying that under the circumstances the action of the cruiser Rush is neither more nor less than authorized piracy. The Rush has no more right to seize British ships on the high seas in that part of the Pacific Ocean than a vessel owned by the Alaska Trading Company or by a San Francisco merchant. The only difference is that the United States Government is strong enough to rob British ships with impunity, and individual American citizens are not. But the act, whether committed by an individual or a Government, is robbery.

What makes the conduct of the United States Government less excusable, is that it showed by the course it took last year that it considered its claim untenable. Vessels sealing in Behring's sea last season were not molested. British Columbia merchants taking this as an indication that the United States did not intend any longer to attempt to exercise jurisdiction over the waters of Behring's sea outside the three-mile limit, fitted out a large number of vessels for what they had every reason to believe was regarded by even the United States Government as a legitimate industry. They are now, when it is too late, undeceived. Their ships are seized without law or right, and the government under whose flag they sail, appears powerless to protect them.

Three years ago British vessels were seized in the same lawless manner and held because the United States Government is powerful enough to keep what it iniquitously seized. British subjects have been reduced almost to beggary by the piratical act of the cruisers sailing under the American flag, and yet the British Government has, as far as can be seen, done nothing towards protecting their interests or righting the wrong they have suffered. How long is this to last? Is the British flag to be always treated with contempt in the waters of the Pacific ocean?

THE GUESSING ORGAN.

The organ of the Opposition says that the information which it gives its readers relative to the county judges to be appointed is, although unauthorized, reliable. If it had said that its utterances on that subject were both unauthorized and unreliable it would have told its readers the simple truth. Any intelligent reader could see that the news it professed to give as to the gentlemen nominated by the members of Parliament was absurd on its face. The organ says "it is proposed to appoint three county court judges," and then it gives the name of a gentleman who is already a county court judge, and whose appointment is three or four years old. The stupidity which set down Judge Harrison's name as an additional judge well deserves to be stigmatized by the epithet "crass." Putting that name at the head of the members' ticket threw discredit on the whole article and showed that the organ was either guessing or fishing for information.

Our contemporary seems to think that the Provincial Government should not have anything to say with respect to the appointment of the county court judges. It does not seem to know that the Provincial Attorney-General, being at the head of the Bar of his Province, is, when the Government is in unison with the Administration at Ottawa, invariably consulted as to the proper persons to be appointed as judges. There is an additional reason why the Local Government of British Columbia should have an influential voice in the appointment of county court judges. These officials are permitted to act as provincial stipendiary magistrates as well as judges of the county courts. As remuneration for the performance of their duty as stipendiary magistrates, each of the county court judges is paid five hundred dollars a year out of the provincial treasury. It will be seen, then, that the Provincial Government are directly and peculiarly interested in having capable men appointed to the office of county court judges.

The Dominion Government, according to custom, and as a matter of something more than courtesy, therefore, consulted the Provincial Attorney-General respecting the new appointments. The Times is of course wrong when it says that the Government authorized the transmission of a minute of council to the Government of Canada recommending the appointment of three gentlemen which it takes upon itself to name. A minute of council is not required on such an occasion, the appointment of judges being a prerogative of the General Government. But we understand that the Attorney-General in compliance with the request from Ottawa submitted the names of three members of the British Columbia Bar, but as our readers may readily conclude, the guess made by the Times is egregiously and ridiculously astray. The whole of the article is indeed a piece of editorial clap trap and shows that the organ's sources of information are not to be depended upon in the slightest degree.

A SENSIBLE SENATOR.

Senator Hoar, who is one of the committee to enquire into the trade relations between Canada and the United States, made since his return home a pleasant, sensible speech on Canada. The Senator has formed a very high opinion of this country and he believes that it is advancing towards a high destiny. But he is not one of those Americans who would move heaven and earth to bring about the annexation of Canada with the United States. It is his opinion that Canadians should be left to themselves to manage their own affairs in the way which they consider best calculated to advance their own interests. He considers a commercial union between the two countries an impossibility.

"I do not think," he says, "that one tariff under two administrations can be conducted by two peoples like the people of the United States and Canada, and I do not think it possible that the people of Canada can maintain a political relation with Great Britain and at the same time have absolute freedom of commercial intercourse with us, admitting our manufactures without a tax and established as against the country of which they are a part,—a protective and still less an excluding tariff."

This is common sense and the wonder is that any public man on this side of the line who could be supposed to have even an ordinary share of political sagacity could for a moment be blind to the insuperable objections to such a relation being established between a foreign country and a dependency of Great Britain. But it is evident that Commercial union which had not long ago such great attractions for a few unreflecting Canadians has now been relegated to the limbo of impracticable projects and impossible theories.

Senator Hoar, however, does not place the union of Canada with the United States among the impossibilities. He seems to consider that such a union, if it ever takes place, will be brought about by a process akin to those of nature which human exertion can do little or nothing to help or to hinder. He says of annexation:—

"It will come about, if at all, by reason of forces that will bring her to us of her own free will. The forces which are to bring her to us are to be multiplied with every invention, with every improvement in transportation, with every cheapening of freight. The telegraph and telephone and the railroad are pulling us with their mighty attraction, and the common speech as well as the common interests are pulling in this way. But at the same time there are, as I have said, these obstacles which have been enough to keep Europe divided into sixty nationalities, at the present time, with which we are to contend and which we must overcome before we acquire Canada."

If Canada and the United States are to be drawn together by forces which are irresistible, there is no more to be said. We must submit to our fate with the best grace we can. But there are, as Senator Hoar hints, also repelling forces at work which, as they have been strong enough to keep neighbouring nations apart in Europe, may have the same effect here. It seems that, so far, the counteracting forces are the stronger, and there is no telling how long they may retain their strength.

THE CHANGE.

(Written for THE COLONIST.

The old man clasped the slender hand
And looked into the face,
And eagerly all the features scanned
For one familiar trace.

His search was vain, for none were there.
Can this be said be she,
The little maid with ringlets fair,
That danced upon my knee?

The merry little one that came
And prattled by my side,
Can this be she, this stately dame
Who long has been a bride?

The eyes once blue are hazel now,
And changed their warm sweet light,
The golden curls that graced the brow
Are now as dark as night.

And pensive, sad, the smile doth seem,
That once was like the glow
Of sunlight on a dimpling stream,
But that was long ago.

Ah Time, the shadow of thy wing
The lovely doth not spare,
And sorrow, chastening, scathing thing,
Why haunt the young and fair?

Why dost thou pierce the tender heart
That seemeth formed to know
But joy's sweet transport, not the dart
Flung from thy bended bow?

Then sorrow answered: pain doth give
A sweeter charm to joy,
And pleasure soon would cease to live
From Sorrow's stern alloy.

—RUBY RAY.

INTERIOR NOTES.

(From the Island Sentinel.)

The masons are laying the foundation for the Industrial School to be erected on the Indian reservation, and contractor Ross expects to have the carpenters at work in a few days.

The frame for the new Catholic College is now up and ready for lathing. It occupies a commanding site, and when completed will be an ornament to the new town.

A public meeting of the citizens of Kamloops will be held in the Sentinel block on Tuesday evening next, to discuss and arrange matters for the grand baseball tournament to be held here in September next. It is suggested by many that the tournament be held a week earlier than last year, and this suggestion will probably be acted upon.

On the up trip, last week, of the steamer Marion to Revelstoke, a man from the Kootenay district, who was on his way up for treatment of mountain fever, died before reaching port. The remains were interred at Revelstoke.

An accident of rather a serious nature occurred at Donald on Saturday morning last to a little boy, son of Peter Hooley, boilermaker at the C. P. R. shops. He was playing on the track when a push-car came along and knocked the little fellow down and ran over him, mutilating his arm very badly. He was at once conveyed to the hospital and attended to by Dr. Richardson, and by this time he is progressing favorably. His family only recently arrived here.

Bush fires prevail between Kamloops and North Bend, the smoke from which, mingled with the smoke arising from the fires farther west, seems to settle in the valley at Kamloops, and at times almost obscures the vision. The fires near at hand are supposed to have been set by Indians engaged in berry picking, who annually set fire to and burn large patches for the purpose of giving the berry bushes a better opportunity of spreading and thus increasing their income by the sale of the fruit.

On the night of Monday, July 15, at Kootenay, a ball fired from a rifle passed through the window of Major J. G. Norris, piercing the partition his bed was placed by and in which he was sleeping at the time. The ball must have passed, judging by the marks, within four inches of where his head rested on the pillow. Few will believe the shot was fired with the purpose of taking Major Norris' life, for he is a favorite with all in Kootenay.

From THE DAILY COLONIST, July 30.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

Bush Fires in the Selkirks.

From Vancouver to Kamloops there are no fires in the woods along the line of the C.P.R., but in the Selkirks and the Rockies there are several extensive fires raging. At night the spectacle presented is very grand. Traffic has been but slightly delayed in consequence of these conflagrations.

The Champion Delayed.

Owing to the fact that several of her sailors are busy putting 400 tons of coal into the Sardonyx, H.M.S. Champion will not sail to join the fleet till this afternoon. The Sardonyx, which leaves on Thursday, is carrying the coal in order to refill the bunkers of the warships at Fort Simpson.

Obituary.

Mrs. E. R. Estes died at her residence, Yates street, yesterday morning. The deceased was aged 42 years, and was a native of Berlington County, New Jersey, but for many years past resided in Victoria. She leaves a son and three daughters. The funeral takes place tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock.

Theatrical Troupes Coming.

John Maguire, manager of the Grand opera house at San Francisco and the Montana circuit, has signed contracts for the Pacific coast of the following attractions: Gilmore's band, Mrs. Scott Siddons and the Companani Operatic Concert Company. The latter includes Myron Whitney, Del Paute and Signora Del Vere as principal artist.

Rev. DeWitt Talmage Sued.

A St. Paul, Minn., organization, known as the Chautauquans, have begun an action against Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage, to recover $1500 damages for failure to lecture before them last year as per contract. The famous divine is now in the city of St. Paul, and the Chautauquans took advantage of it to get service on him. The suit will be important as showing the value of a contract made by a lecturer.

Sealing Schooner Sold.

On Saturday the schooner Oscar and Hattie was sold at public auction at Port Townsend. This vessel was lately engaged at the seal fishery and also in cod fishing—her last trip to the north being in the latter business. While on her last voyage she got ashore and was strained somewhat, as since that time she has leaked steadily, it requiring 150 strokes of her pumps to keep her clear. Bidding on her was brisk, and she was knocked down to Mr. H. L. Tibbals, Jr., of Port Townsend, for $3500. Her purchaser says he will have her overhauled and refitted.

Owners of the Contraband Whiskey.

On Saturday, Frank L. Bangs and George Burns, of Seattle, arrived in Nanaimo for the purpose of establishing their ownership to the nameless sloop, loaded with whiskey, that was discovered by Indians in a semi-submerged condition and brought to that port. They tell a tale of hardship and danger as they say the sloop capsized out in the open gulf, and that they only succeeded in saving their lives by righting a small skiff into which they, (including J. A. Robinson) managed to scramble, and landed on Kupar Island. They will have a hearing before the magistrate this afternoon.

An Alarm of Fire.

The Chinese rookeries near the north end of the city, that have been so often threatened by fire, but never seriously imperilled, were again attacked yesterday afternoon, but owing to the promptitude with which Chief Deasy and his brigade turned out, the fire was not allowed to spread beyond the roof of the shanty in which it started. The scene of the blaze was 182 Government street, a fruiterer's and chandler's establishment. The Chinese turned out in large numbers, but, as usual, were the last to offer a helping hand. The fire was subdued only by the prompt action of Wm. Deasy and another fireman, who climbed on the roof and extinguished the flames.

Death of Mr. John Parker.

Mr. John Parker, another of Victoria's earliest pioneers, and one who is well known both in this city and on the mainland, died at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Jas. Ure, yesterday morning. Deceased had just passed his 86th birthday, having been born in Farningham, Kent, in the year 1804, and left England for British Columbia in 1862, arriving here at the close of that year. For the last five years Mr. Parker has been an invalid, prostrated by the weakness of old age, of which he died. He leaves two sons—Mr. John Parker, whose butcher shop on Fort street is so well known, and Mr. T. Parker, of Metchosin. His daughters are Mrs. McCurdy, of Port Townsend; Mrs. Richardson, of the Douglas House, Mrs. H. Mansell, and Mrs. Ure.

The New Commander of the Swiftsure.

First Lieutenant Sampson, late of H. M. S. Ceroline, stationed at present at Honolulu, received word immediately on the death of Commander P. B. Hockett, of the Swiftsure, to return to England and receive the late commander's positions from the Admiralty. He did so and left again immediately for Victoria. On Sunday evening he reached here by the Yosemite, and at once obtained a berth aboard H.M.S. Champion, which leaves Esquimalt at noon to-day for the north. Mr. Sampson will join the flagship immediately on meeting the fleet, and assume his new position. Great pleasure is expressed among naval men at his appointment. He is well known by many people here, and has the reputation of being a brave officer and a general favorite with everybody.

Found—A Valise.

Yesterday a lad, a son of T. Carter, was playing in the Johnston street ravine when he noticed lying a little off the roadway a dark leather valise partially filled and locked. The youngster at once took the bag to the office of the Chief of Police, who examined it carefully. One side of it has been ripped open with a knife or other sharp instrument, and from this Chief Sheppard extracted a suit of clothes and some shirts. On further search several small account books were brought to light, and several visiting cards bearing on the face the name of Alexander Begg, of the Seattle Citizen.

Whether Mr. Begg, who was formerly connected with several periodicals on the Pacific coast, is now at his home in Seattle or not is not known. He was here on a short visit last week. How the valise, if it belongs to him, got to where it was found is a mystery. The police have taken steps to ascertain the truth about the affair, and will no doubt hear something of it before long.

Fatally Burned by Coal Oil.

On Saturday afternoon, at Seattle, a Mrs. Collier was burned in a shocking manner by coal oil. The unfortunate woman was lighting her kitchen fire, and in order to expedite matters she poured some coal oil from a can into the stove. Some embers in the stove set fire to the oil, and the flames communicated to the can, which exploded, scattering burning oil over Mrs. Collier and over the kitchen. The woman's dress caught fire, and in a few seconds she was wrapped in flames. She rolled in agony on the floor, and finally rolled out into the yard, where she lay jammed between two logs. Her piercing screams brought neighbors to the scene, and one woman seizing a tub of suds threw them over the unfortunate lady, extinguishing the blaze. Other neighbors extinguished the fire in the kitchen just in time to save the whole house from destruction. Mrs. Collier was attended to carefully, and medical aid summoned. Her body presented a shocking spectacle, being frightfully burned. Her chest was one vast blister, while the skin hung in shreds from her arms. She was also injured internally, and morphine was administered to relieve her pain, but there is no hope of her recovery.

An Improvement in the Esquimalt Dock.

The capacity of the dry dock at Esquimalt is to be lengthened by an addition of forty-five feet. This extra space will be obtained by placing the caisson without the outer invert of the dock basin and will be a very great convenience.

Dick Creighton Gets Five Years.

Ex-Senator Richard Creighton, of San Francisco, who was convicted of bribing a jury in that city two years ago, and who fled to escape punishment, and returned to San Francisco from Victoria a few weeks ago to answer for his crime, has been sentenced to five years' imprisonment in a San Francisco prison.

An Indian Night Out.

Annie, an inebriate, well known to the police, and two other equally disreputable members of the Indian community wooed the divine Bacchus with a certain degree of success last night at about nine o'clock, and made the lower end of Pandora street resound with their unmusical melodies. An energetic constable lost no time in incarcerating them, and their overflow of jollity will be doctored by the P. M. this morning.

For San Francisco.

The steamship City of Puebla left for San Francisco on Sunday afternoon, with the following passengers: Mr. McKellar, Isabel McKellar, Thomas McKellar, Robert McKellar, Mrs. McKellar, John McKellar, Walter McKellar, H. F. Coon, S. H. Boardman, General Ingalls, Mrs. W. H. Smith, S. B. Blake, Napier Hibben, F. S. Timberlaker, Joseph Surr, Mrs. Kate Wieller, F. Otis and family, J. L. Baird, and Rev. M. S. Levy.

Alex. Begg's Disappearance.

A stranger called at THE COLONIST office last evening with the information that there was no truth in the reported disappearance of Mr. Alex. Begg, of Seattle. He said he accompanied Mr. Begg to the Sound steamer last Friday morning, and saw him depart for Seattle. He thinks that Mr. Begg entrusted his valise to a man, who probably intended to steal it, but while ripping it open was alarmed and hastily threw it down the ravine, where it was found.

Sneak Thieves.

The sneak thief at the present season no longer delights in tramping over beautiful blossoms and ruthlessly destroying valuable plants, but leaves them for the greater attractions of green fruit. Now that plums, pears and apples are ripening, owners of orchards are complaining bitterly of his raids on their half-ripe property, and are laying all sorts of traps to capture the depredators. This same class of robber it is who abounds in the vicinity of Goldstream. His tactics are to shadow an unsuspecting picnic party up the course of the stream, carefully collecting the whole of the ferns they have with difficulty obtained and laid down to wait for their return.

A Useful Work.

Appleton's Cyclopedia, the advertisement of which appears in another column, is a book that calls for more than a passing reference. It consists of thirty handsomely bound volumes into which are compressed the opinions and thoughts of five hundred of the ablest living writers on every subject pertaining to the earth and its inhabitants—a work invaluable for reference and comprising in itself the pith of thousands of useful books. The old costly cyclopedias with notions and thoughts of twenty years ago, are being fast superseded among the reading public by cheaper and more useful publications such as the one mentioned. It is a series of works that would do credit to any library. The Victoria agent for the work is G. N. Morang.

The Salmon Pack.

The Columbian of Saturday says:—The salmon catch last night was by long odds the largest since the run commenced. Some of the boats fishing opposite the city netted nearly 300 fish between five o'clock last night and five o'clock this morning, but many boats near the mouth of the river beat these figures with ease. At noon to-day the nets were hauled out, and will remain out till Monday morning at six o'clock, which will give the fish every opportunity to find their way inland. Millions of fish will pass up the river during the two days, and it seems, from a shortsighted standpoint, at least, almost a pity that they should pass unscaught. The salmon pack for the past week is estimated by competent judges to be fully 80,000 cases, and the total pack so far for the season fully 100,000 cases. The canneries are as busy as they can possibly be, and there are no complaints now of a lack of material to work on.

PERSONAL.

A. W. and George Girdlestone are staying at Rocabella.

H. Dunbleton returned from the mainland last night.

Mrs. W. H. Smith and daughter left for San Francisco by Sunday's steamer.

Thos. Mowat, fishery inspector, arrived from Westminster last evening.

A. Bullock, of Nanaimo, arrived in town yesterday morning and is at the Driard.

J. Clapperton, R. G. Tatlow and J. P. McLeod arrived from the mainland last night.

Among the guests at present at Rocabella are George A. Goslett, Mrs. Wm. Goslett and Mrs. F. Routledge, of London, England.

E. B. Paul, principal of the Nanaimo High school, arrived in town yesterday and is stopping at the Oriental. He will remain a few days.

G. Cartmel, of Vancouver, late of the Imperial Naval yard, arrived here by the Yosemite on Sunday night. He leaves for a visit to Nanaimo this morning.

The Rev. Mr. Jennings, the Fort Simpson missionary, leaves for his station on the s.s. Sardonyx next Thursday. He has been paying a visit to friends in San Francisco.

Napier Hibben, son of T. N. Hibben, Esq., has left for Santa Clara college, California, where he will receive a commercial course of instruction. Many of the departing young gentleman's friends assembled at the family residence, on Pandora street, to say good-bye to him. They afterwards accompanied him to the steamer and saw the last of him for three years.

MARINE.

The Corona, Capt. Carroll, arrived here yesterday morning from Juneau.

Steamer Pilot left for Hastings last evening to tow the ship Titania to this port.

H.M.S. Champion will leave Esquimalt this afternoon with mails, etc., to join the rest of the fleet.

The U. S. steamer Albatross is at Tacoma, receiving some slight repairs, and after taking on supplies she will return north at once.

Consumption Surely Cured.

TO THE EDITOR:—Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for the above named disease. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy FREE to any of your readers who have consumption if they will send me their Express and P.O. address.

Respectfully, DR. T. A. SLOCUM,
37 Yonge street, Toronto, Ont.
sen7-w-1y

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria

CAPTURED IN BEHRING'S SEA.

The Sealing Schooner Black Diamond Seized by the Revenue Cutter Rush and Despatched to Sitka.

Sunday evening considerable excitement was caused in the city, more especially in commercial circles, when it became known that the sealing schooner Triumph had arrived in harbor bringing with her the news of the capture of the schooner Black Diamond and her own narrow escape from the same fate. The particulars of the case are as follows:—

At about six o'clock on the evening of the 11th of July a steamer was sighted from the deck of the Triumph, and Captain McLean at once concluded that the vessel was a United States cutter, either the Bear or the Rush. The exact locality of his schooner at the time, Captain McLean did not know, but, as nearly as he could judge, he was 100 miles to the westward of St. George's Islands in Behring Sea. The steamer followed in his wake for two hours and at dusk came alongside and ordered him to heave to. He at obeyed the order and a boat's crew with the chief officer of the Rush (Mr. Tuttle) boarded her. The captain stood at the gangway and asked the officer his reasons for boarding the schooner. The answer was the production of written orders authorizing "the capture of any vessels illegally sealing in Behring Sea." He then asked to be allowed to search the ship and on permission being accorded him he spent over half an hour with his men in over hauling the vessel. No find rewarded his search, however, the whole of the skins aboard having been dexterously hidden in time to avoid detection. When the search was concluded the officer turned to Capt. McLean, and after expressing his pleasure at not being under necessity to seize his vessel, informed him that a few hours before the Rush had come up with and boarded the schooner Black Diamond. He had found aboard her 104 seal skins, and on discovering these had put the second officer in charge and despatched the captured sealer to Sitka. He also stated that it was the intention of his commander to capture every vessel illegally sealing in Behring's Sea and send them to American ports in charge of American officers.

He then ordered his crew to return to the Rush, and as soon as they were aboard the steamer headed full speed away to the west.

At the time of boarding the Triumph had aboard her about three hundred skins.

The Black Diamond is owned by Messrs. Guttman and Frank, of this city.

[Yesterday morning when the facts of the case became generally known, Captain Cox, Mr. H. Saunders and Mr. W. Munsie formed themselved into a deputation and decided to leave for Esquimalt immediately, and interview the captain of the Champion on the subject. Commander Sinclair received the deputation very courteously, and on learning the object of their visit ordered his secretary to take down all the statements made. The facts of the case were then put before him, and the visitors protested against the menace to the sealing industry by the acts of the United States revenue cutter. It was represented that out of fifty-five sealing schooners that have entered Behring sea this season twenty-four belong to Victoria, and that if the acts of the American government were not speedily put a stop to, the sealing industry of Victoria would be ruined. All the members of the deputation signed the statement, and Commander Sinclair told them that although he could do nothing himself he would lay everything before the Admiral as soon as he joined the fleet. He further advised them to collect all other available information on the subject and despatch it to Admiral Heneage by the ss. Sardonyx, which sails on Thursday next for Port Simpson.

On arrival in the city the deputation was joined by Mr. Richard Hall and Captain Grant. Senator Macdonald of Toronto was then interviewed at the Driard, and at once threw himself into the subject, going with the deputation to Mr. E. Crow Baker, M.P., and the Hon. Mr. Robson, Provincial Secretary. A telegram containing the whole of the facts was despatched to the Hon. the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, at Ottawa, by Senator Macdonald; and it is expected that an answer will be received in time for it to be despatched to the Admiral by the Sardonyx.

Hon. Mr. Robson also despatched a separate telegram to the Minister of Marine on the same subject.

LITTLE LOCALS.

Seventy-five degrees in the shade at noon yesterday.

There were numerous thistle cases disposed of in the police court yesterday morning.

There was no music at the park on Sunday afternoon, much to the regret of many who visited the hill.

The Electric Tramway Company held a meeting at their offices at eight o'clock last night. Several matters were disposed of.

The bush fires burning in the vicinity of Nanaimo have had the effect of driving deer and other wild animals close to the town.

On Saturday morning, passengers on the Yosemite had the pleasure of witnessing the gambols of a large school of whales in the Gulf.

The whole of the owners of the powder magazines whose cases came up for hearing in the Police Court last week, have decided to appeal against the decision of the magistrate, to the Supreme Court.

J. L. Appelyard, who recently arrived at Vancouver from Welland, Ont., was bitten by a spider about a week ago. Blood poisoning set in, and the unfortunate man died on Saturday morning. He was 45 years of age and the father of a family.

One of the crew of the steamer Danube, at Portland, was caught smuggling ashore six boxes of manilla cigars. The cigars were of the most expensive kind and were brought from China. The would-be smuggler is under arrest.

Complaints against the overwhelming stench from the Johnson street sewer yesterday were bitter and loud. The water accumulated at the bottom of the pit is now stagnant and the smell thrown off by it when the hot sun beats on its surface is intolerable.

Hugh F. Keefer has just completed one of the finest barns in the province on his stock farm in the Pitt Meadows. The interior is fitted up with patent hay forks and lifts, and is otherwise conveniently arranged for stock raising and stock feeding purposes. Mr. Keefer's herd is one of the best in the valley. He is devoting special attention to high-bred animals.

Representative Dorsey, of Nebraska, General Goff, of West Virginia; Governor Stewart, of Vermont, and Representative Barnes, of Michigan, left the Clarence Hotel on Sunday night for Seattle. The whole of the visitors expressed great pleasure at their visit to the city and will probably return for another flying visit in a few days.

The clanging of the fire bells yesterday had the effect of startling a couple of horses attached to a hack. The animals, which were standing loose at the time, rushed for about a hundred yards down Government street, when they were brought to an abrupt standstill by running against a verandah post at the corner of Johnson street. No damage was done.

The residents of the northern portion of the city were astir with opera glasses at midnight last night anxiously scanning a bright red glare over in the direction of James Bay. Several people telephoned to the fire brigade station, from which spot they received information that the fire was raging in the bush over the straits and nowhere in the vicinity of the city.

From THE DAILY COLONIST, July 31.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

Advance in Flour.

By a telegram from Portland received in town yesterday it is learned that flour has advanced 25c. per barrel. This is the second advance in the last few days.

Speedy Trials.

McCluskey, who is on trial for stealing a gun, and Samuel Pearce charged with embezzlement, will be brought up in the Speedy Trials Court to-day. Sir M. J. Begbie, C.J., will preside.

Sir Michael-Culme Seymour.

It is announced that Admiral Sir Michael-Culme Seymour, who was so popular here when in command of the Pacific squadron, is to succeed Admiral Baird in command of the Channel squadron at the end of August.

Hon. Mr. Davie's Illness.

The public will regret to learn of the very serious illness of the Hon. Mr. A. E. B. Davie. The hon. gentleman has been very low for the past few days and last night his condition was such as to make his friends fear for the worst.

Mr. John Parker's Funeral.

The remains of the late Mr. John Parker were conveyed to Ross Bay Cemetery yesterday afternoon, attended by a large number of vehicles containing many of the friends of the deceased. The pallbearers were Messrs. W. Bryant, W. Walker, J. J. Burnes and W. Burnes.

Rev. Dr. Talmage's Lectures.

Rev. Mr. Talmage lectures at The Victoria on the 19th August. The following telegram will give an idea of the appreciation with which he is received: "Minneapolis, July 29th. Talmage lecturing to an immense audience here. Hundreds turned away."

Our Water Supply.

An approximate estimate gives the area of Elk Lake at 586 acres, with each foot of depth being equal over the surface to 160,000,000 gallons. The average depth of the lake now is 5½ feet, so that according to these figures we still have one thousand millions of gallons to draw from before the supply is exhausted.

Salmon on the Fraser.

Last night Mr. Frank Page received a telegram from Mr. Laidlaw at New Westminster, that the Delta Cannery made a catch of thirty thousand fish. The despatch also states that when steamers go up and down from Westminster hundreds of dead salmon lie floating in their wake.

Big Run of Salmon at River's Inlet.

The Dominion government steamer Sir James Douglas, arrived at Nanaimo on Sunday from a trip to the Skeena and Rivers Inlet. The fish commenced to run at the Inlet last Thursday and were still running when the steamer left Saturday morning. It is expected the canning operations at River's Inlet will more than come up to expectations.

The Electric Railway.

At a general meeting of the shareholders of the Electric Tramway Co., held in the company's office last evening, the directorate were given the necessary power to mortgage the company's property to the extent of $40,000, the amount of the guarantee voted by the city. Other matters relating to contracts were also considered and completed.

Westminster Civic Affairs.

It is understood that Mr. G. E. Corbould, barrister, Westminster, has been appointed to revise the municipal voters' list of that city. The election to fill the vacancies caused by the resignation of Mayor Henry and Ald. Scoullar will shortly be held, and as the list has not been revised since 1887, it has been thought best to have the voting take place on the lines laid down in the Civic Incorporation Act.

The "Nanaimo Courier."

A change of proprietorship is announced in the "Nanaimo Courier," Mr. J. J. Shinabarger, a practical printer, well known to the craft in Victoria, having purchased the paper. Mr. Shinabarger assumed control of the Courier as editor and proprietor on Monday, and in his salutatory article he promises to make the Courier a good live journal, creditable to the city of Nanaimo. THE COLONIST wishes the new management every success.

A Saw Mill Accident.

On Monday afternoon Robert Ridley, an employe in Walker's wood yard, fell against a circular saw, while engaged in handling some cord wood, and was seriously cut across the left groin and hip. His companion, fortunately for him, noticed the accident and pulled him away just in time to prevent a fatal termination of the affair. Dr. Maughton Jones attended the sufferer, who is now progressing favorably at the French Hospital.

Death of H. McNab Stuart.

H. McNab Stuart, who has resided in Victoria for the past five or six years, died at the residence of Mr. Heal, Pandora street, last evening. The deceased was a son of the Hon. Sir A. Stuart, C. J. of the Superior Court of Quebec, and at one time was connected with the press of the French province. He was a member of the press gallery at Ottawa for the Montreal Witness before coming to this country. While in this city he has confined his attention to practice in the lower courts. He was unmarried.

A Death on the Elder.

The spirits of the large party of excursionists on the George W. Elder were rather dampened yesterday morning by a death that occurred aboard soon after her arrival in port. Mr. Albert Tait, a general favorite among the passengers, succumbed to a combination of diseases, and the body was embalmed by Mr. Chas. Hayward previous to the departure of the Elder for the north. Deceased was only 21 years of age, and was returning home to his father, Mr. John Tait, of New Metlakahtla, after having been through a course of medical treatment in San Francisco.

Nye-Manuel.

No. 103 Pandora street was the scene of a quiet but happy wedding last evening, Mr. Bert E. Nye, foreman of the Evening Standard composing room, taking to himself a partner for life in the person of Miss May Manuel. The ceremony was performed at 8 o'clock by the Rev. Donald Fraser, M. A.; the groom being supported by his friend Mr. B. C. Ferguson; while Miss Ada Troupe acted as bridesmaid. Both of the high contracting parties are most popular in their own circle of friends and it is a large one. They commence married life with the best wishes of all their associates, to whose congratulations are added those of THE COLONIST.

"The British Columbia Property Register."

The above is the title of a new and most useful periodical published by Messrs. Pauline & Co., which has for its object the placing before the general public, in a clear and concise form, particulars of every description of property for disposal in the province, with a price attached. The publication is to be issued monthly, and the proprietors, in starting it, call attention to the immense good to be done the Province through its means, by bringing to the notice of capitalists in England and elsewhere their chances of obtaining valuable properties here. This month's publication contains particulars of different properties for sale in various parts of the province. A nominal rate only is charged for inserting these particulars, the proprietors of the register making no other charge, except in the event of a sale brought about by their publication. The pamphlet is a neat and handsome production.

A SMART ANSWER.

The Canadian Government Bestirring Themselves Over the Behring's Sea Seizure.

A telegram was received here last evening by Mr. E. C. Baker, M.P., from Hon. Charles Tupper, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Ottawa, to the effect that on the receipt of his telegram of the previous day a meeting of the Executive had been held to consider the matter of the seizure of the Black Diamond and that correspondence on the subject was going on between them and the Home authorities. It is expected that further news will be received to-day.

Collector Hamley wired the Minister of Marine and Fisheries yesterday, placing the whole matter before him, and entering fully into all details of the capture and giving a tabulated list of British sealers that have entered Behring's Sea during the present season, their tonnage and value.

LITTLE LOCALS.

An eagle was added to the attractions of the park yesterday.

The ss. Islander took her place on the Vancouver route this morning.

A party of tourists from Lacrosse, Wisconsin, are at the Driard.

The Indian debauchees of Monday night were mulcted in the sum of $5 each yesterday.

Only one thistle case at the police court yesterday. Offenders are getting warned at last.

An Indian found with a bottle of whiskey secreted on his person was fined $25 yesterday.

The Foresters are sparing neither trouble nor expense to make the fete the picnic of the season.

The steamer Yosemite was detained at Vancouver until 5:30 yesterday afternoon taking on freight.

The country around Prospect Lake is on fire, and farmers are fearing the destruction of crops and buildings.

Edward Durant Langley, a native of Victoria, and eldest son of Clara J. and stepson of M. W. Furlong, died in San Francisco on Tuesday last.

The offices of the Island Railway have been removed from their old position to the