MARINE MOVEMENTS.

Sealers on the West Coast Heard From —Utilizing the Barnard Castle's Cargo.

H. M. S. Nymphe at San Diego — Seattle Schooner To Carry Victoria Seal Hunters

The stannch little steamer Mystery, Capt. Anderson in command, returned from the West coast yesterday morning. During the Mystery's absence several Victoria sealers were spoken, the masters of which on learning of the agreement between Russia and England for a protective zone appeared to be well satisfied. During his stay on the coast the captain notified all the sealers spoken. In Clayoquot Sound were the Ocean Belle, with 138 skins; the Triumph, with 107; the Sapphire, with 9; the Borealis, with 1; the Walter A. Earle with 91, and the Victoria with none. The last named schooner has not yet secured Indian hunters. There were four vessels in Esculet when the Mystery reached there—the E. B. Marvin, with 150; the Venture with none, and the Siwash schooners Cape Beale and Columbia. The Columbia was leaking badly when she put into Esculet, and she is now on the beach having repairs made. Like the Victoria, the Venture has not yet secured Indian hunters. The Favorite, the Wanderer and the Beatrice are supposed to be in Hesquiot, the last mentioned with 130 odd skins; and the Ainoka is said not to have secured Indians. The sealers report the weather very rough; so far this season they have only had three or four opportunities of lowering their boats. There have been no accidents, save what have already been chronicled, and their crews have all enjoyed good health. On the way into Victoria the Mystery passed the J. C. Ford derelict, but Capt. Anderson did not consider it worth his while to bother with it. The wreck was floating five miles south of Beechy Bay, bottom up, with the keel and part of the fore-foot carried away. It was drifting in towards shore, where it will probably be when the Mystery passes it again early this morning, while on her return down the coast with more supplies for the sealers. It is expected that the steamer will bring back to Victoria, when she returns, a number of the coast catches.

THE RICHARD III. AT SAN FRANCISCO.

The Examiner of the 13th inst. contains the following: "An amusing comedy battle is being fought out on the bark Richard III. The union crew still holds possession of the forecastle, and the men refuse to allow any non-union sailors to go to work on board or to share the bunks forward. Their supplies on the ship have been effectually cut off, but they are revelling in luxurious rations from the nearest restaurant. What they demand is that they be paid passage money back to San Diego and wages in full to date. Captain Lee and his mates do not seem to feel equal to the task of ousting his unwelcome tenants, and the former has enlisted the services of the Shipowners' Association to do some violent eviction. To-morrow is set for the day of turning them out, and unless the assistance of the police can be secured a lively battle is expected."

COAL FROM THE BARNARD CASTLE.

A sloop which arrived from the West coast a day or so since brought nearly two tons of coal which her crew had picked up on a little island between Race Rocks and the Vancouver Island shore. The coal is some of the cargo lost many years ago on the large steam collier Barnard Castle when she was wrecked. It was picked up quite easily off the shore, where it is washed in in large quantities every time a southwest gale rises. Strange to say, although the coal seems to have kept its size very well, the action of the water has pebbled it to a great extent. The Siwashes who camp in that vicinity use nothing else for fuel, as the "wreckage" burns splendidly.

TO REPLACE THE WHITELAW.

The keel is being laid at San Francisco of a 150-ton net wrecking steamer, to be called the Whitelaw, to replace the 86-ton wrecking steamer of the same name, which was lost about a month ago. The dimensions of the new steamer will be: Length 142 feet, beam 35 feet, and depth of hold 12 feet. The vessel will be fitted with engines of sufficient power to drive her twelve knots an hour. Steam derricks and hoisting apparatus and steam air-pumps, the latest diving apparatus and the most modern labor-saving wrecking appliances will be on the new boat. T. P. H. Whitelaw, the owner, is having the work done under his personal supervision, and expects to launch the new boat in about sixty days.

A DISGRACE TO BOTH NATIONS.

BOSTON, Mass., March 16.—There was a large attendance last night at the annual banquet of the Boston Boot and Shoe club at the Tremont house, when reciprocity between the United States and Canada was discussed by Attorney-General Longley, of Nova Scotia, Hon. Benjamin Butterworth, of Ohio, and Henry M. Whitney, of Boston.

Mr. Longley was the first speaker. He said that if the treaty of 1854 had continued the volume of trade between the two countries would now be enormous. Canada was ready for a large measure of reciprocity, but, while Boston was equally cordial, the United States in general was indifferent. He declared that newspaper stories that Canadians were looking to a political union were all nonsense. The matter had never been seriously considered. One thing they could be sure of was that Canada had sufficient self-respect to deal in a square and proper manner with the mother country.

If a political union with the states was ever to be considered it would only be after England had been consulted and her interests fully considered. He appealed to them to cultivate broad views, to regard Canada to be a neighbor to be respected, and to foster just and liberal ideas. He declared that Mr. Whitney did more by his recent business enterprises in regard to coal to stir up an intelligent interest in Nova Scotia than all that had been written and spoken on the subject during the past five years. He said the Government of Nova Scotia had a good title to the best of the bargain with Mr. Whitney, but he had made a splendid bargain with the coal owners, and his enterprise would be a new birth to New England enterprise.

Hon. Benjamin Butterworth said he wished to state distinctly, as a Republican and a life-long protectionist, that the present trade relations between the United States and Canada are a disgrace to both nations and at war with the enlightenment and civilization of the age. How the better condition will come, when it will come, must be left to the controlling influence of events. It must come along the highway of peace and as a result of a conviction among the people that their highest good demands it.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

Third Session of the Sixth Parliament.

THIRTY-SECOND DAY.

THURSDAY, March 16, 1893.

The Speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock. Prayers by Rev. W. D. Barber.

THE BUDGET DEBATE.

On the order of the day, "continuation of the Budget debate,"

HON. MR. BEAVEN objected to the debate being continued. This was the day for public bills in the hands of private members, and he did not think the only day thus set apart should be monopolized.

HON. MR. DAVIE said that, rightly or wrongly, it had been agreed to continue the debate to-day and hon. members having made their arrangements accordingly, the debate should go on. Possibly public bills in the hands of private members might be taken up to-morrow.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE.

HON. MR. TURNER rose to a question of privilege. He held in his hand a copy of the Times of March 15, in which a speech of the hon. leader of the Opposition was reported. This paper said: "Hon. Mr. Beaven points out some of the Government's misstatements," but in reality unless the hon. gentleman was misreported, he had himself made some very bad misstatements. Hon. Mr. Beaven was quoted as saying:—

"How much had the Province received from the loan of 1891, amounting to $970,000? The Minister of Finance overstated the amount when he said that it would net $800,000. It would be found by the public accounts that the Government had spent $170,000 in negotiating that loan and then another $15,000 was down in what the Government called the 'supplementary estimates' for the same purpose."

HON. MR. TURNER continued that either the Times had made a misreport or the hon. leader of the Opposition had showed remarkable ignorance or something else which he (Mr. Turner) would not designate by any name. He did not think the hon. gentlemen could have stated what he was reported to have said. The fact was, the $15,000 had nothing whatever to do with the amount of the loan. It was in connection with another matter altogether, being paid out in converting the old debts. The statement of the hon. leader of the Opposition, as reported, was entirely incorrect. As to the $170,000, that really was not an expense of the loan at all. It was made up of the difference between par and 86, at which the loan was sold. The loan was £200,000 at 86 and amounted to $834,200. For this the Province received *net* about $800,000, the difference, $34,200 being the total cost; the interest being three per cent. on the gross amount and one per cent. for sinking fund, which one per cent. pays off the whole loan in fifty years.

THE BUDGET DEBATE.

MR. CROFT continued the Budget debate. He showed the fallacy of the argument of the hon. member for Westminster District about the expenditure in the various districts, by pointing out that no account had been taken in those remarks about the expenses of management in the District of New Westminster. The remarks which had been made about the failure of the Crofter bill were ill-timed and incorrect. These same hon. gentlemen were always complaining of the poor means of communication between the different parts of the Province. Why, one of the best means of promoting this communication was the Crofter scheme, which would result in steamers plying weekly or oftener up and down the coast, thus affording first-class mail facilities for the coast settlements. He had been glad to hear what the hon. member for Vancouver City said about the differences between the Island and the Mainland being forever buried, and he hoped if they were not now completely done away with they would soon be, as with division in the ranks the Province could never occupy the proud position in the Dominion to which it was entitled. The hon. members who had said the Government was not upholding Provincial rights must have forgotten the special trip the hon. Premier had made to Ottawa to discuss the matters in dispute; and, further, they could not have remembered that in the Speech from the Throne it had been expressly stated that the House would be asked to vote a sum of money to maintain Provincial rights before the Privy Council. This of itself showed what was being done, and nothing more need be said about it. Other hon. members on the opposite side of the House had charged that all the public lands of the Province had been alienated. Was this the case? Could any one read the reports of the Surveyor-General and believe this? He did not think so, for in these reports it was clearly stated that there was plenty of land, millions of acres, all good for settlement, and he knew of over a hundred families that were going in this year. The hon. leader of the Opposition had said that the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works had taken a man over to his (Mr. Croft's) office to get some information about land. This was perfectly true. The man in question had wanted to preempt land near Victoria City and would not go to the portions of the Province where there was land to be had in that way; he wanted all the advantages of schools, churches, etc., and then expected to get a fine farm for nothing.

MR. MCKENZIE claimed that Nanaimo District was being starved. The Government officials were overworked and the buildings were inadequate. He criticised the action of the Attorney-General in going to Nanaimo to prosecute the Bawnmore kidnappers, and said that if there had been proper police patrol this outrage would never have been perpetrated. He claimed the Government showed a lack of statesmanship and knowledge of how to carry on the business of the country because they had, not provided a new lock-up for Nanaimo. He thought it was the duty of the House to appoint a royal commission to inquire into the way the district had been ill-treated. He claimed the expenditure on the Education department was too large. For instance, there was a sum of $1275 for expenses of examinations. Why, this sum would pay all the expenses of the examinations at Oxford and Cambridge for a year and there would still be money enough to establish a foundation scholarship. (Laughter.)

MR. ANDERSON believed that the general policy of this and previous Governments had been approved throughout the country, and this was the reason a majority of the members of the House supported that policy. (Hear, hear.) One feature of this policy was the continuation of the surveys, which would have the result of bringing in a most desirable class of settlers, agriculturists, who would in time be the backbone of the country. He regretted that there were a number of unemployed men in the Province, and still more regretted that when these men had seen better days they had not made provision for rainy weather. If, a few years ago, these men had taken up land they could have now had it near the cities of the Provinces and would not have to go further away. He objected to the abuse by hon. members of the Opposition of the Island. These men seemed to think that the most important part of the world was the Fraser River valley. He had nothing to say against the prosperity and development of the Fraser valley, which he was pleased to see going ahead, but he did object to their trying to improve their own standing by abusing their neighbors. (Hear, hear.) Vancouver Island was rich in coal, in minerals, in timber, in fish, and in agricultural resources, and had, moreover, a commanding position geographically, and would therefore have an important part to play in developing trade with the Orient. There was every reason to be proud of this, and with a continuation of the wise government of the past, not only the Island but the whole Province would increase in wealth and prosperity.

The resolution to go into supply carried without a division.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY.

The House went into committee of supply on the estimates, Mr. Martin in the chair.

On the item "Premier of the Province, $1,000."

MR. SEMLIN objected to this being voted to the present Premier, who, he claimed, did not give his whole time to public business. He moved to strike out the item.

HON. MR. TURNER was surprised at the remarks of the hon. member for Yale. He thought it was a most desirable thing to recognize the Premier of the Province. When the hon. third member for Yale became Premier, if, indeed, he ever rose to such a position, he would not then object to the vote, though, of course, he was now a disinterested outsider, the time when he might become Premier being so remote. (Laughter.)

MR. SEMLIN claimed that the country should not be asked to pay for what it received no value for, and as the ministers were now paid for their full time, why vote to one another $1,000?

MR. KITCHEN said that he had voted last year for the increase, but would not do so now, as the Premier and the Finance Minister were engaging in private business.

MR. BROWN thought the salary of $5,000 was small enough for the Premier, and he would vote for it.

HON. MR. BEAVEN said he was not one of those who believed in paying small salaries, but he wanted to see the work done properly. All he had to complain of now was that the present Attorney-General did not give his whole time to his public duties. When Mr. Walkem had been Attorney-General he did no private practice. The same with the late Judge Robertson; when he was Attorney-General he almost totally neglected his law practice. And the same with the late Hon. A. E. B. Davie. By the way, he had been just reminded that a short time ago the hon. Attorney-General had been at Nanaimo to prosecute some sailors for shanghaiing non-union men. He was reminded that some years ago the present Attorney-General had, during a session of the Legislature when a close vote was expected, been instrumental in getting a member of the House away and took him up on the Mainland. The hon. Attorney-General had at that time, he believed, a "pocket pistol" (laughter), which no doubt did good service. The honorable member had not got away, however, and the then Government was sustained in a matter which was most important in the interests of the country. (Laughter.)

HON. MR. VERNON said the statement that the previous Attorney-Generals had done no private business, was absolutely incorrect. For instance, Mr. Walkem, when Attorney-General, was also at the same time counsel for the Dominion Government, as all hon. gentlemen must know.

MR. HALL said that it was he who took around the "round robin" and he denied most emphatically that he had been prompted by the Government or anyone else. He hoped the hon. leader of the Opposition would now have the grace to withdraw the cowardly insinuation he had made and apologize for it.

DR. MILNE referred to the case of the Attorney-General of Ontario, Sir Oliver Mowat, who, he said, although a lawyer, had not private practice.

HON. MR. DAVIE—He is head of the firm of Mowat, McLennan & Co.

DR. MILNE claimed that if that was the case, Sir Oliver must lent his name to the firm and did not do any of the business.

HON. MR. DAVIE had not intended to speak on this subject, which should have been dealt with as one of principle rather than as a personal matter. It was quite possible to have private concerns irrespective of public business. So far as the case of Sir Oliver Mowat, attorney-general of Ontario, was concerned, as he had reminded the hon. gentleman for Victoria City (Dr. Milne), Sir Oliver Mowat was the head of one of the largest legal firms in the city of Toronto. The hon. member (Dr. Milne) had then suggested that Sir Oliver only lent his name to the firm and had nothing to do with the business. All that he had to say in this connection was, if what Dr. Milne had said was true—and he did not think it was—such a proceeding was not honest. If the Premier lent his name to such a firm and did none of the business, why, the only conclusion to come to was that the law firm was thus assisted to appear as what it was not and could not be. So far as his own private practice was concerned, all he could say was that he could not afford to sacrifice it and did not propose to. The way to look at this question was not whether the Attorney-General was doing a private practice, but whether he was attending to the business of the country in such a way that that business did not suffer. (Hear, hear.) This being the case, he did not think any reasonable man would ask him or any other attorney-general to give up his whole private business, for no professional man of standing could for a few years in politics afford to relinquish his practice. One hon. member had referred to the appointment of a Crown Prosecutor. He could assure the House that this official's salary, etc., was more than saved by the work he was doing, and it was no longer so often necessary to employ prosecutors to go on circuit and pay, of course, the necessary professional fees thus incurred. This fact he would give the House, and they could see by reference to the public accounts that during the last ten years the expense of the administration of justice in the Province, exclusive of police and jails, had decreased and not increased as might have been expected, and what was more, the administration of justice had not suffered in any way. When there was an important prosecution he (Mr. Davie) would be found there to attend to it personally, and the same with other business, but while doing this he did not propose to drop all his own business. The only question was this: Did the public service suffer? If all the business was being properly looked after should there be any question as to whether a man looked after his own business or not? If it were made a rule that no attorney-general should do any outside business, the result would be that the lawyers who were available for the position would not be those most fitted for it. He referred to the fact that the Attorney-General of England, Sir Charles Russell, was the lawyer who probably had one of the largest practices in England.

MR. COTTON supported the vote, and as to the work of the Attorney-General, had to say that as long as the business of the country was properly carried on it was not the duty of anyone to inquire any further.

MR. SEMLIN withdrew his motion and the vote passed.

On the vote for the fifth Cabinet Minister,

HON. MR. BEAVEN wanted to know who was going to get the appointment, who the next Minister would be?

MR. SEMLIN and Mr. Brown also wanted information.

HON. MR. DAVIE explained that the intention was originally to divide the offices of Minister of Education and Provincial Secretary. But the new Government had decided to give the city schools to the control of the city, and consequently the Provincial Secretary's office was relieved of much work. But since then it had been decided to establish the Bureau of Labor Statistics, etc., which would increase the work and necessitate the other Minister's appointment. Who the new Minister would be the Government had not yet even considered. He had the other day reassured the hon. member for Victoria City (Dr. Milne) that there was no danger of him being taken in, and he now had pleasure in extending the list to the hon. leader of the Opposition and his right lieutenant (Mr. Semlin). (Laughter.) He could assure hon. members of the House that the Government had no intention of going beyond the ranks of those who appreciated good government in the country. (Laughter.)

After further discussion, the item passed.

The committee rose.

It being 6 o'clock the Speaker left the chair.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

By MR. MCKENZIE: For a select committee, consisting of Messrs. Smith, Grant, Rogers, Watt and the mover, to inquire into the management of the Gauvreau expedition last summer, and to ascertain the cost and full particulars of the same, with power to call for persons and papers and to report to this House.

EVENING SESSION.

The Speaker took the chair at 7:30 o'clock.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY.

The House went into committee of supply, Mr. Martin in the chair.

On the item "Reduction works (Cariboo), $2,700."

HON. MR. BEAVEN asked for an explanation.

MR. NASON replied that these works were of great benefit to the Cariboo country. While there was not very much doing now in the mines, at almost any time the output might increase.

The vote passed.

The vote for timber inspectors, $2,888, brought up a discussion as to the appointment of a Government "scaler."

HON. MR. VERNON said that the Government had not made the appointment last year on account of the depression in the lumber trade.

MR. HUNTER, Mr. Booth and Mr. Keith advocated the appointment of a competent scaler.

MR. CROFT said that in the State of Washington there were official scalers appointed, who charged five cents per M for scaling. He thought a like provision in British Columbia would be beneficial. The timber inspector had been instructed to act as scaler where necessary. The services of a scaler were only necessary where a difference existed between the mill-owner and the logger, and then it was a matter of adjustment, and then the timber inspector could be called in.

MR. KEITH said there was a good deal of dissatisfaction among loggers themselves.

Messrs. Hunter, Booth and Croft advocated the appointment of a scaler, who would be a practical man.

HON. MR. BEAVEN asked what was being done by the fruit tree inspector.

The matter was discussed at some length as to the utility of such an officer, and the general tenor of the discussion was to the effect that he could be of great use, if the duties were fully performed.

MR. SEMLIN volunteered the information that the greatest fruit tree pest was the small bug.

A similar debate arose as to the inspector of animals.

As to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in reply to Mr. Beaven, the Provincial Secretary explained that the appointment of a deputy-commissioner would be made this year, the minister acting as commissioner. If the work sufficiently developed the machinery would be increased.

Under the head of temporary assistance, item, $4,000,

MR. GRANT advocated a Government measure looking towards the superannuation of civil servants. The Finance Minister said such a measure was under consideration at the present time and would be brought down shortly. The amount of civil government salaries voted was $154,190.

Under the head of Administration of Justice (salaries),

MR. KELLIE protested against $8,760 for East Kootenay as being excessive for the needs of the district. The items, amounting to $121,524, were passed with comparatively little discussion.

Items amounting to $31,900 for legislation passed without discussion, except a little good-natured chaffing in connection with the members' sessional indemnity.

The "Maintenance of Public Institutions" called for a remark that the expenses of the printing office were running up. The Premier remarked that it was no wonder when members of the Opposition were continually asking for returns. The records were rapidly increasing in volume. Forty-four thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars for hospitals and charities passed without discussion, also $57,500 for administration of justice other than salaries.

Items under the head of $184,055 for education went through with but one objection, and that came from Mr. McKenzie, who wanted to know what the sum of $10,715 for the education office was for. He compared the cost with that of his own regime, when he did all the work himself. The Minister of Education reminded the member for Nanaimo that the "world do move," and that the school machinery and work had vastly increased since that gentleman was superintendent of education.

The Attorney-General took occasion to deny that he had had anything to do with decapitating Mr. McKenzie as superintendent of education, or endeavoring to influence the late Premier, Hon. Mr. Symthe, as charged this afternoon.

Transport, $5,550; rent, $48.50; revenue services, $11,000, were put through without comment.

Under public works, the Vancouver court house was especially inquired about.

DR. MILNE wanted to know what the Vancouver court house would cost when completed.

MR. HUNTER thought the amount an extraordinary one for so small a place as Vancouver.

HON. MR. VERNON said that $20,000 was voted last year and $35,000 this year made $55,000. The contract price was about $47,000, the remainder being for furnishings and extras that would be required. The item passed.

At a quarter to two, the ordinary estimates having passed, there remaining but the supplementaries.

HON. MR. BEAVEN said that if was time to adjourn.

HON. MR. DAVIE said that the Opposition had been obstructing all night, and it would not take long to complete the list now they had got to work.

HON. MR. BEAVEN said it was a low, mean, contemptible trick, and, closing his desk, left the House.

THIRTY-THIRD DAY.

FRIDAY, March 17, 1893.

The Speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock. Prayers by Rev. W. D. Barber.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY.

Report of Committee of Supply was considered, item by item, and adopted.

HON. MR. BEAVEN again raised the question of the $15,000 expenses in connection with the Inscribed Stock loan *re* conversion of old debts of the Province. He wanted an explanation, and again attacked the Government for the transaction.

HON. MR. TURNER replied that far from the Inscribed Stock loan being a failure, as the hon. leader of the Opposition would endeavor to lead the House to believe, it had been a complete success. Even the hon. gentleman himself had admitted this, for he was now endeavoring to adopt the same plan with respect to the debt of the city of Victoria. Hon. Mr. Beaven said this was a most admirable plan, the best, in fact, that could be adopted, and he was working to get a similar one in force as to Victoria. Now, as to this $15,000 item, particulars of which the hon. leader of the Opposition wanted, he would say this sum had been nearly all expended; but it had nothing to do with the loan raised last year, any more than the interest which had to be paid year after year. This was an expense in converting $600,000 of the old debt, and was principally made up of the commutation stamp tax to the British Government, which was ½ per cent., and amounted to $10,055. There was no further sum to be paid in the fifty years the loan would have to run on transfers of stock, and sometimes very small transfers of it were made. This was one of the reasons why the stock was quoted so high. The balance of the $15,000 was commission and expenses. The payment was a perfectly good one, having been authorized by the Inscribed Stock loan.

HON. MR. BEAVEN—That is your opinion.

HON. MR. TURNER—Excuse me; it is a fact.

HON. MR. BEAVEN said he was not discussing the advantages of the loan or of the system. He believed in consolidating the debt, but there were two ways of doing it. This was not, however, the matter under discussion. What he wanted to get at was this—these supplementary estimates were really not supplementaries at all but should have been brought down in the shape of a bill of indemnity to indemnify the members of the Executive for their action in paying out money without authority. If no bill of indemnity were brought down any ratepayer might bring an action and recover heavy damages from each of the members of the Government.

HON MR. DAVIE said that in this, as in all other legal matters which the hon. leader of the Opposition undertook to discuss, he was totally wrong. Only the other day there had been an occasion when the leader of the Opposition declared the Health Rules of 1892 totally out of order and *ultra vires*, and yet, only a day or so afterwards, the highest legal authority in the land, the Chief Justice, had commented upon these very rules and pronounced them good and valid. The same in the Kennedy case, where the hon. leader of the Opposition declared the members of the Government to be personally liable if an action were brought. Yet no one had seen fit to take that hon. gentleman's advice, and did any one suppose that in the latest question raised if what the hon. leader of the Opposition said was correct, some impecunious person would not bring the action against members of the Government and recover the heavy damages talked of.

SETTLED ESTATES BILL.

The Settled Estates bill was read a third time and passed.

MUNICIPAL BILL.

The House went into committee of the whole on the Municipal bill (Hon. Mr. Beaven) Mr. Semlin in the chair.

HON. MR. DAVIE moved, on the discussion of section 27, to so amend the clause as to place all holders of licenses on the same footing. He wished it understood in making the amendment that he held there was no such a thing as vested rights in licenses, beyond such rights as were conferred by the Act, and for only such period.

This does away with the necessity which has heretofore existed for holders of licenses issued since 1891 to appear every six months for renewal. It puts them on the same footing as those who hold licenses issued prior to 1891.

The amendment was vigorously opposed but carried on a vote of 13 to 11.

The committee rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

RE JOHN BIGGS.

MR. MCKENZIE resumed the adjourned debate on the motion to appoint a select committee to inquire into the claim of John Biggs re seizure of his cattle in 1878.

HON. MR. DAVIE reviewed the circumstances of the case. It was now pretty stale, but if it was any satisfaction to Mr. Biggs he had no objection to the motion carrying.

HON. MR. POOLEY pointed out that there had been a legal remedy if the sheriff had exceeded his duty. He objected to any committee being appointed to consider what might be a claim against the Government when the Government could not in any way be responsible in law.

The motion was lost.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE.

MR. KITCHEN rose to a question of privilege. He asked for Mr. Speaker's ruling as to whether the amendment of Hon. Mr. Davie in committee of the whole on the Municipal bill, re liquor licenses, was in order, inasmuch as the principle of the bill did not contemplate such a change.

HON. MR. DAVIE showed that the Municipal bill as introduced had contemplated making a change in the liquor license law, and argued that his amendment was therefore in order.

MR. SPEAKER decided that the amendment was perfectly in order.

PUBLIC ROADS.

The House went into committee of the whole on the Public Roads bill, Mr. Croft in the chair.

It being 6 o'clock the Speaker left the chair.

WILL CARRY VICTORIA HUNTERS.

The Seattle schooner George R. White sailed into Esquimalt harbor yesterday morning, being on her way out to the sealing grounds from the Sound. She came over to get Victoria hunters, and will probably go to sea to-day. She will carry a crew of fifteen all told.

DR. PRICE'S Cream Baking Powder.
The only Pure Cream of Tartar Powder.—No Ammonia; No Alum.
Used in Millions of Homes—40 Years the Standard.
an19-tu-th-su-d&w

VICTORIA'S UNEMPLOYED.

The Situation From the Skilled Laborer's Point of View Not So Bad.

The Problem Bids Fair to Solve Itself in the Near Future.

Having dealt to some extent with the present condition of the unskilled laboring man of Victoria, it was thought as well to take a glance at the situation of that other branch of the great army of labor—the craftsman or skilled laborer. Unlike the common laborer, who as a rule has only himself to consider in the struggle for existence, the mechanic more often has a family which looks to him for support. The consequence is that any depression which affects his welfare has a far wider range of influence in his case than in the other.

Living in his own home, either owned or rented, he is naturally somewhat more difficult to get at, but a number were spoken to about the present situation of affairs and their opinions will be of interest.

"I am a bricklayer," said one, "and as there has been but very little building going on for some time past, I have like many others of my trade been out of work. But this is rather to be expected. You see, we get big wages, generally $5 per day, when we do work, and that is because we are not supposed to have steady work as some other trades would afford. Last summer was a really good one in the building line in Victoria and most all of the craftsmen did very well. I don't say they got much ahead, but I think most of them did a little at least. We are like many other tradesmen who work short seasons and get big wages; we can't expect work every day in the year. I must say the business men of Victoria are as a rule very accommodating and usually are willing to do the best they can to carry us over a space when times are dull. I think they have borne as great a share as any of us and have as much right to complain as any of us. I wrote away several times last winter to find out how times were elsewhere, but I could not see that they were much different in other places.

"How about the coming season? Well, I am around among the mechanics and contractors a good deal just now, and I must say that if a fair part of the work now being talked of is really done, I for one will take my chances in Victoria."

From another skilled laborer who is well known in local union circles, several good ideas on the situation were obtained.

"There is no use," said he, "in all this howl about hard times in Victoria. Of course they are hard, but show me where they are any better. The man who joins a trades union and gets good wages for his work during the season when it is in progress must expect to take some care for the time when he will be forced to be idle. If a man works for an average of five months in the year at bricklaying he will make $750, which is an average of $2 40 for each working day in the year. This is not wealth, but it is certainly not want. But, of course, if that same man spends $5 per day as he makes it, he must expect to be pinched during the idle months.

"Everything considered, the year past was a fairly good one in the trade lines and from present indications the coming season will be as good as any we have had for a long time. Let me see—there is that wharf to be built, an orphans' home, that big church on the hill, and, let us hope, the Government buildings. Then, I was told by an alderman that those school buildings would be erected this year in all probability. A number of the local architects are busy getting smaller affairs ready, dwellings, etc., but they all help, and so I guess we will pull through.

"What would I suggest as a means of present relief? Well, that's hard to say. Starting public work at going wages will only bring more from the outside. Probably some kind of public work where those who have been here some certain time could get going wages, and those unable to prove residence for the required time could get enough work at smaller pay to keep them from actual want, would be as good a way out of the trouble as any. But my opinion is that the matter will adjust itself soon, and that satisfactorily, for the reasons I have given."

Several contractors and those who have to do with the employment of men were seen. Though some of them are somewhat depressed over the present situation, which, they say, is hard on everybody, laborers, mechanics, contractors and business men alike, yet they all seem confident that the situation is not as bad as many would make it out to be.

Already the stress is being relieved. The first of next month the Victoria and Sidney railway contractors announce that they will have work for several hundred men. This will draw away a larger portion of those in immediate want, and if a little care is exercised to see that the most needy among those really willing to work get the first show, this work will help things not a little. The few cases of actual want are being cared for as fast as they become known, and those who are able in some way to tide over the winter are holding on in confidence that times will soon be better. Victoria, according to the expressed belief of those who are compelled by necessity to watch the labor markets of the coast, is doing as well, if not better, than any other city of equal size in the West. It is not fair to expect her to bear burdens which have been found too heavy for far larger places. The means of informing one's self with regard to a place are so many and simple that there is little need to give up a good home and business in some distant place and rush off after the first flaming poster thrust into one's hand, and those who do this will scarcely ever get a tithe of the sympathy they expect.

The unemployed workingmen of Victoria, both skilled and unskilled, are, according to their own statements, in a trying condition, and one which should engage the earnest attention of all, but the situation is not nearly as trying or as hopeless as their self-styled champions would have the public believe. The men themselves want "work not words." That is coming as fast as circumstances will permit; one good portion should begin within the next two weeks. And with the immense number of undeveloped resources on every side, it is safe to predict that ere long British Columbia will redeem with interest every promise given to those within her borders.

AN APPEAL FOR FUNDS.

Those Who Desire the Success of Home-Rule Asked to Help.

The Provincial committee appointed by the friends of Home Rule for Ireland, have issued a circular appealing to all those who desire to see this object attained to send in subscriptions for the purpose of carrying on the struggle. In outline the circular is as follows:

"The most critical moment in the history of Erin's long struggle for her rights has been reached. A bill has been introduced offering a Parliament practically free to deal with all Ireland's local affairs, and an executive government responsible to that Parliament, while in addition the Irish have the right to share, by a delegation of eighty members, in the government of the Empire.

"Our opponents are as active and wealthy as they are unscrupulous and malignant, and will leave no stone unturned to defeat the noble aims of Mr. Gladstone. . . . It is well nigh impossible to carry on even the short remnant of the fight without funds. . . . That distinguished son of the Dominion, Hon. Edward Blake, has, within a few days, cabled from London that money was needed at once. Under such circumstances, a general committee has been appointed to solicit subscriptions in the Province from all who favor Home Rule."

Contributions can be sent to any of the members of the committee or to the treasurer.

The representatives of Ireland ask now that they may be enabled to bring to accomplishment their labors and their principles. Borne by the generosity of their race through the long night, they ask now for the aid required for the brief interval that still stands between Ireland and her breaking day. In all probability this will be the last time of asking, for victory is almost within sight.

William Power is chairman of the Provincial committee, and William Murphy, of Vancouver, treasurer, while the following are members: L. G. McPhillips, M. Costello, J. M. O'Brien, J. E. Gaynor, W. H. Keary, John Reid, James Kelly, D. Rice, S. B. McNeil, H. McCutcheon, M. Hagan and M. J. Conlin.

BBB BBB BBB
BURDOCK BLOOD BITTERS
THE GUIDING STAR TO HEALTH.
A POSITIVE CURE FOR
DYSPEPSIA, CONSTIPATION, HEADACHE, SCROFULA, BAD BLOOD, FOUL HUMORS, BILIOUSNESS, RHEUMATISM, JAUNDICE,
and all diseases arising from a disordered condition of the
STOMACH, LIVER, BOWELS AND BLOOD.
B.B.B. acts on all the organs of the body to produce regular action, to strengthen, purify and tone, and to remove all impure accumulations of morbid matter from a Common Pimple to the worst Scrofulous Sore.
Thousands of reliable men and women testify to its good effects in the above diseases. Is it not worth at least a trial in your case? Price $1 per bottle, 6 for $5, or less than 1c. a dose.
B B B B B B B B B