

WAR QUITE PROBABLE.

Feeling in London That Spain May Welcome It as a Desperate Expedient.

Request for the Withdrawal of United States Consul Lee from Havana.

NEW YORK, March 7.—The Evening Post of this evening has the following copyrighted cablegram from its London correspondent: "Special inquiries in official and financial circles to-day show that of the many grave international difficulties pending in China, Japan, West Africa, the Nile and elsewhere, the most serious view is taken at the moment of the American-Spanish tension. At the United States and Spanish embassies the utmost reticence, of course, is observed. They pretend to know nothing, and it is noteworthy in view of reports that the Armstrongs have sold cruisers to Spain, that the Armstrongs have given expressions that no questions are to be answered respecting their dealings with British or following governments. What cannot be denied is that the Armstrongs have had relations with Spain since 1888, have built several cruisers to Spain's orders and now have vessels on the stocks that could be sold if the money were forthcoming.

"Is it French money that is helping Spain? Two of the French houses have asked this question this afternoon. Their reply was grouped thus: Nothing of the kind is definitely arranged; and seeing that there are large French financial interests in Spain, French financiers will be most anxious to keep Spain from war. But it is equally certain that if Spain should decide that war, however desperate, is the only escape from the growing financial middle at home, Paris, and not London would be the quarter whence money would be sought and beyond doubt obtained. As yet, however, nothing has been definitely settled.

"The fact probably is that Spain is anxious to pay cruisers and the Armstrongs are ready to sell if they can see money. The French financiers are not eager to advance the necessary money so long as by holding back they can assist the cause of peace."

WASHINGTON, March 7.—Senator Hale, chairman of the committee on naval affairs and also chairman of the subcommittee on appropriations, said that before the Cannon bill had been introduced in the house he had suggested to Secretary Long the advisability of making the purchase of any supplies which might be considered necessary in the event of war with the understanding that the funds for them would be provided by congress. The senator said that large quantities of coal had already been practically secured for shipment to the West and he had no doubt that the secretary would extend this policy by contracting for war supplies and ammunition if necessary.

"I think it will become necessary, for I hope that there will be no war. Furthermore, I don't think that Spain has purchased war ships. But as may be true, no precaution will be left untaken by this country to insure a proper protection of our interests in any contingency. I have agreed with those who have advised against such a purchase, because I think the secretary has sufficient authority now to make any purchase necessary."

MADRID, March 7.—The details of Spain's request that the United States government recall General Fitzhugh Lee from his post as consul-general of the United States at Havana reads as follows: "The United States minister General Stewart L. Woodford had a conference at the Spanish foreign minister's office on Thursday last with Senator Gullon, the minister for foreign affairs and an official of ministry for foreign affairs, who acted as interpreter. Senator Gullon expressed the desire of the Spanish government that General Lee be recalled as proof of the good will of the United States. General Woodford called immediately to Washington on the subject and the reply of the United States government was communicated to Senator Gullon on Saturday. Some of the Spanish provincial papers referred to the matter yesterday, but the newspapers of Madrid have made any reference to it."

Ontario Elections. TORONTO, March 7.—(Special)—The Mail says that Nipissing will probably go Conservative on a re-count, as there were several irregularities. A re-count in West Elgin was started this morning. A re-count in West York will be held on Wednesday. Complete returns from Rainy River district in West Algoma makes Mr. Conmee's total majority about 300.

CONVICT KILLS HIS WIFE. He Was Serving Time for Assaulting Her When the Forgiving Woman Came to Visit the Brute.

NEW YORK, March 5.—Adrian Braun, a convict in Sing Sing prison murdered his wife who was paying him a visit at the prison this afternoon. Braun is a German, 35 years of age, and a cigar-maker.

He was sentenced on August 31 of last year to serve a two years' sentence for assault in the second degree, and was released at Sing Sing on September 1. He was convicted of having beaten his wife, but notwithstanding this Mrs. Braun forgave her husband and expressed great sorrow because of his imprisonment.

Mrs. Braun decided to visit her husband this afternoon and arrived at the prison at 3:20. When the two met they kissed each other and were very friendly. Then they sat on the floor away from the desk of Detective Jackson, who was present.

Finally Detective Jackson informed Braun that his time was up, but Braun

pleaded for a little time longer, saying: "Can't we have a few minutes more." Because of the trouble Mrs. Braun had taken to pay her husband a visit, the plea was granted.

Presently Braun raised his arm and the detective saw the glint of a long thin knife. Braun brought it down with fearful force against the left side of his wife's neck. One cut severed the great blood vessel and almost instantly the woman was dead.

Detective Jackson sprang upon Braun, but the convict had time to gash the woman's head several times more. Two other convicts who were in the corridor came to the detective's assistance and the murderer was subdued.

PUBLIC MORALS.

Municipal Bylaws No Good Since the Criminal Code Applies.

MONTREAL, March 7.—(Special)—In the Recorder's court, Recorder de Montigny dismissed the action against members of the Black Crook Extravaganza company who were arrested at the Theatre Royal in the middle of a performance on the allegation that the play was immoral. He held that bylaw under which they were arrested, is ultra vires, the criminal code covering such cases.

MANTOBA AND NORTHWEST.

Major Evans Appointment Popular—Waives Extradition—New Block.

WINNIPEG, March 7.—(Special)—In the selection of Major Evans, of the Winnipeg Dragoons, to lead the Canadian military expedition to the Yukon, is very popular here. Members of the Royal Canadian Dragoons here are supposed to be under orders to be ready for immediate transfer.

Donatelli, of Toronto Dragoons, has been appointed to fill the place of Captain Gardiner as lieutenant of the Royal Canadian Dragoons here.

Those Tebbel, held at Regina for extradition from Boston, waived extradition in court today and will be taken to the boundary via the Soo Line.

A block to cost \$120,000 will be erected on the site of McIntyre block, destroyed by fire.

NEWS OF VANCOUVER.

"General Fairchild" Mistakenly Fined for Illicit Possession of Still.

VANCOUVER, March 7.—(Special)—Word has arrived by the Aorangi that Capt. Veal, first mate of the ship General Fairchild, sailing from this port to Sydney, was washed overboard and drowned.

Donatelli, the Montreal man who was taking the still to Klondike when it was seized at Victoria, was fined \$200 to-day. He paid it.

Manager Jamieson announced "standing room only" at the theatre box office on Saturday night, but the crowd continued to come in for twenty minutes after. The show was that of the "1492" company. Vancouver is sustaining its reputation as a good town.

Two expressmen arrived last evening, having been delayed by a washout at Thompson's Landing.

A burglar named Baddoin, who was caught to-day after the theatre box office, was fined \$100 to-day for having thrown up his hands, was to-day given six months for vagrancy to give the police time to make a case against him.

Drowned.

TORONTO, March 7.—(Special)—Thos. McDonald and daughter, aged 13, were drowned on Saturday at sea by the capsizing of their canoe.

Big Seizure.

MONTREAL, March 7.—(Special)—Customs officers at Quebec have seized \$4,000 worth of hardware and fancy goods, the property of several Syrian peddlers who were recently in trouble here. It is claimed that the goods were entered greatly under proper valuation.

FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

One Organized at Port Haney and First Officers Elected.

CHILLIWACK, March 5.—A Farmers' Institute was organized in the municipal hall, Port Haney, on the 26th ult. On arrival of the deputy minister of agriculture Reeve Blackstock was called to the chair. Mr. Marker gave a lecture upon stock feeding. Mr. J. R. Anderson also addressed the meeting. Both gentlemen were the recipients of a hearty vote of thanks for their valuable assistance.

The officers for the year are: W. J. Harris, president; John Lalley, secretary-treasurer; J. M. Webster; directors, Hector Ferguson, Moses Hall, Donald McLean, Henry Dawson and E. A. Atkins; auditors, Paul May and J. W. White. The next meeting will be held at Hammond on 31st March at 2 p.m. and directors' meeting at 10 a.m. same date. Essays, lectures, etc., will be delivered by local talent, and ladies are specially invited to attend.

The appeal of defendant in Gordon v. City of Victoria opened yesterday before the Full court, but was adjourned to-day owing to the death of the Chief Justice. This appeal is from the judgment of the Chief Justice against Mrs. Gordon, who brought suit against the city for damages in consequence of the death of her husband in the Point Ellice bridge accident.

The chief ground on which the judgment was not in accord with the findings of the jury. Messrs. Charles Wilson, Q.C., and Lindley Crease for appellant, J. C. Taylor, R. Cassidy and C. Dubois Mason for the city.

WILLIAM MACKENZIE, a famous Scottish baritone, and Miss Jessie Glover, an equally popular Caledonian entertainer, have arrived here from a successful tour in the four, and are preparing for a local appearance under the auspices of the Scottish societies.

W. N. McKendrick, of St. Louis, has a watch charm made from the bell that sounded the first alarm in the great Chicago fire of 1871.

FREE TO LADIES.

We will give one lady in each town or village a full sized case of LUXURA, the only toilet article in the world, made of the best and purest of the female form, remove wrinkles, etc. Write to-day for it. G. M. WIGGLES, 12 N.W. 2nd St., New York.

MANY MINERS CALL.

The Custom House Has Another Busy and Very Remunerative Day.

In the Path of a Waterspout—The Big Ningchow Excites Admiration.

There was much excitement along the waterfront yesterday and on Sunday occasioned by the incoming and outgoing of vessels of the northern fleet. Considerable commotion in the upper harbor was created by the work on the Commonwealth and Ningchow, on each of which thousands of dollars are being expended to put them in condition for service. At the lower wharves to the south of the B. & N. bridge was the following fleet: The Muriel awaiting orders, with flag at half mast out of respect to her former owner, Mr. John Rood; the Tees, Princess Louise and Danube, just down from the North, having arrived in the order named; the Chamriner and Willapa, just later just in from the West Coast. Farther along the water front at the Custom House was to be found the most interesting scene of all. Hundreds of prospective miners waited the building all day long for Canadian miners' licenses, and after the Queen arrived from the Sound during the fore part of the afternoon the crowd stretched from the corridor of the customs building half way up Broughton street to Government. The rush for licenses was brought about by those of the north bound fleet—the Centennial, Queen and Henne—being in port together on their way to Skagway and Dyea from the Sound. These ships were all at the outer wharf and of the three but one was subject to inspection in compliance to the new Canadian steamboat regulations. This was the Centennial, she being a new boat to this port and having cargo and passengers to take on here. The Queen accepted notification in explanation of this Steamboat Inspector Thompson yesterday stated that with vessels like the Queen, well known in port, the regulations will not be enforced as strictly as with tramp ships or strangers that is the former will be given notice. The Henne escaped inasmuch as she had nothing on one to take on here. She had 250 tons of hay, coal and lumber cargo; 75 horses and 40 passengers. This is the fourth trip North for the Henne. On her last trip she collided with a Japanese liner doing \$11,000 worth of damage. The Queen had a tremendous crowd of miners on board, it being estimated that in all she carried 670 passengers. In the number were many women in typical miners' dress, and who, in most cases, were accompanying their husbands North prepared to face the rigors of winter and all other hardships in the search for gold. The Centennial will not sail until Wednesday, being delayed through the inspection that is being made of the ship. She will carry 450 passengers North, 200 being booked from this city and Seattle, the others being from Portland.

CAPTAIN LANGLEY'S HEROISM. Four days and nine hours is the exceptional quick time which the Lorne, Captain Wallace Langley, made on her return trip between Skagway and Departure Bay, with the big dismantled bark Richard III in tow. The tug arrived home yesterday, leaving the Richard III at Departure Bay for coal.

Captain Langley states that on the up trip the tug made fairly good time until within forty-five miles of Skagway where the big storm of a few weeks ago, struck the steamer and her tow with terrific force. Henry bay was made for shelter, the place being noted according to the Alaska Pilot for the absence of shoreward winds.

The Lorne, however, was wrong for once, and during the heaviest of the storm the Lorne dragged both anchors when having all cable out. The steamer for six days was wind-blasted and experienced which in the words of Capt. Langley, was a veritable "Waterloo," and an experience, also, which the tug in all her service as a tugboat has never previously gone through. Proceeding to Skagway, the Lorne was the first steamer to arrive there in seven days. While in port a regrettable accident, ending fatally, occurred to one of the crew of the Richard III, Joseph McDonald. The deceased was overhauling the catwalk when the chain stopper gave way allowing the anchor to drop into the water, and also striking him on the head and knocking him overboard. Captain Langley was in the water at the moment and had a rope around the luckless man's body in short order, but death had already come as a result of the blow. The deceased had been in Nova Scotia an old colleague of Captain Langley's, and the accident was, therefore, particularly distressing to the captain. An inquest was held in the case yesterday, when a verdict of accidental death was returned.

The city is still crowded with those anxious to get to the Eldorado of the North. "Victoria," says Dr. W. J. Aisbitt (who is head of a party of six from Los Angeles) "is the best place by all means to outfit in. We save at least 45 per cent. here. At Seattle you are approached on the street and generally forced into the outfitting stores. Here we are received in a courteous and businesslike manner, which I assure you I appreciate." At the Queen's three of Dr. Aisbitt's party are quartered. There is also a party of five from Fall River—J. Migraw, F. Migraw, M. Curran, J. Winterbolt and J. Eckersley. At the Occidental are: E. M. Dickey, Santa Barbara, and Charles D. Stewart, of San Diego. At the Dominion are found: H. Jank, D. Golden, P. Ekrib, J. McEwan and F. Harper, awaiting the sailing of the Danube. Mr. C. Lambert and party will also sail on the same boat; they outfit in Montreal. In conversation, Mr. Lambert says: "Things are much the same here. They were led to believe they could do much better in Montreal than at Victoria."

The khedive of Egypt has a private zoological collection, and he sends the animals after persons and potatoes whom he dislikes.

THE COPPER MARKET.

Prices the Highest for Many Months Owing to Electrical and Military Demand.

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"The great increase in electrical work throughout the world during late years has had a tendency to keep the price of copper firm, and there is no indication that the price will slacken. Electric railways and the electric transmission of power are making rapid advances which implies greater consumption of copper. An item of less importance but tending in the same direction is the substitution of copper for iron wires on telegraph lines."

THE SKAGWAY PLAGUE.

Captain Meyer Says It Is Very Real—News From the Gold Fields.

"The people at Skagway are dying like flies," said Captain Meyer, of the C.P.N. steamship Danube, when that vessel arrived from the North yesterday.

"That is about all the news there is to tell this time," he continued, "and I don't suppose it is very new now, either. Nothing developed on the Danube's trip that would interest newspaper readers. In fact the voyage was absolutely uneventful except that we had a death on board coming back, losing Coles, one of the men of the Skagway department."

There appears to be some curious fatality in connection with this branch of the C.P.N. service of late. Coles is the third employee in the stewards' department that has died within a short time. The illness was believed by his messmates to be in the nature of pneumonia. They are now convinced, however, that it was cerebro spinal meningitis, for all the symptoms of the disease were present in the case—the chill, the excruciating headache, the affections of the brain, the spotting and discoloration of the skin, and the very sudden death—for poor Coles did not live more than six hours after first complaining of the illness that carried him off.

His mother, who had come down to the wharf at the sound of the Danube's whistle to welcome her boy, was completely prostrated by the news of his death, her grief being pitiable in the extreme. Coles was a Victoria boy and well known among the maritime community.

Of the Danube passengers little is to be written, for they are few in number: Fred, Nichols from Dawson City, John Laumetier of Skagway, Captain Cates, Al. Bartlett and Mrs. Bowman. Nichols claims to be the last survivor of Dawson, and also asserts that practically all who intend coming out before spring will be on the river highway, are now on the Coast.

His principal news is of a strike on Rosebud creek, fifty-three miles up the river from Dawson and not far from Sixty-Mile, where several prospectors, delayed on their way into the Klondike district, found promising colors. They promptly proclaimed the new creek the greatest thing on earth, with the result that a stampede set in from both above and below—500 men at a low estimate hurrying forward at the risk of frost-bites and hunger to stake and record claims on the as yet absolutely unprospected river.

As Rosebud creek is almost 25 miles long it could not be exhausted as quickly as other streams made famous in former stampedes. When Nichols came on to the Coast, however, it was all occupied, and the government had reaped a harvest in record fees.

The creek looks promising according to old miners, but it will take intelligent prospecting to disclose its actual value. As yet no bedrock prospecting has been done.

A LARGE stable on the Hagarty estate, near the corner of Yates and Vancouver streets, came very near to being destroyed by fire last night. At 9:30 o'clock a pedestrian passing the place noticed fire issuing from a little room on the ground floor, and running in box 34 brought the fire department to the scene in short order. The blaze was extinguished before any particular damage was done, and an examination of the premises showed that the fire was started in an old mattress had been used to light the fire, a trail of the tell-tale stuff leading to where the blaze originated. It is presumed that some children playing about the house had been the cause of the disaster. The building has not been occupied for some time.

The jellyfish has no teeth but uses himself as if he were a piece of paper when he is eating his food and then wrapping himself about it.

London's big fire has led the county council to authorize an increase in expenditures of nearly a million dollars next year. They were led to add \$125,000 a year to the estimates.

Waterproof mackinaws with or without hood. B. Williams & Co.

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A SELF-MADE MAN. Brief Sketch of the Active and Eventful Career of the Late Chief Justice.

Though long expected, death came suddenly to the Chief Justice, for but an hour before he was amusing himself with his children, feeling better than for a long time past. He had been suffering for some time with valvular disease of the heart, and knowing the feeble hold he had upon life he had been living at the St. Joseph's hospital, where he could receive the attention possible. Feeble in health though he was, his mental vigor was unimpaired and he practically died in harness. In fact on Saturday he spoke cheerily of taking his place on the bench at the Supreme court sitting on Monday.

Yesterday morning he rose early and had breakfast about eight o'clock with one of his little daughters. Later he saw Rev. Father Nicolay and chatted pleasantly with him. Each in turn he asked him to request his little girl to ring the bell, summoning an attendant, who upon entering was asked by the Chief Justice to help him across to the lounge. Assistance was not long in coming, and a message sent for a priest, but in five minutes the Chief Justice was dead.

Thus came the close of a busy life, for the man was one to whom work seemed a pleasure. He was never idle, and in fact it cannot be doubted that it was his hard work that had much to do with the

shortening of life's span. And so passes from the scene of activity one who had borne an active part in the political life of this province, and one whose name will always have a prominent place in the pages of British Columbia history.

Theodore Davie was a young man to hold the eminent positions that he did, for to very, very few men is it given to lead and a mind of his own—which a chief justice at the age of forty-four attained is a striking illustration of his indomitable energy. He was a man bound to rise in whatever walk of life he might have chosen, for after all hard work is the surest road to success, when with it a man is gifted with ability to lead and a mind of his own—which qualifications Theodore Davie possessed in marked degree.

He was born in March 1852, at Brixton, Surrey, so that he was exactly 46 years of age. As a youngster he was filled with a great longing for the sea and ran away from home in the approved way that lads of adventure seem to prefer. However one voyage satisfied him he used to say laughing, and so he found that he was not "cut out for a sailor."

His father and brothers having come to British Columbia, Theodore followed them when he was fifteen years of age. His father was the late Dr. J. C. Davie, and there seemed to have been a penchant in the family towards politics, for the father became a member of the legislature; then his brother, Hon. A. E. R. Davie, was later premier of the province, and Theodore succeeded his brother as attorney-general, and became premier before retiring to take the elevated position of Chief Justice of British Columbia in March, 1895. Theodore Davie studied law in the office of Mr. Robert Bishop one of the earliest members of the bar in Victoria. From here he went to Cassiar to practice in 1874, a year after becoming a barrister. He spent some time amid the scenes incident to the gold excitement in that portion of the province, and returned four years later to Victoria, where he took up practice. Here he soon obtained a reputation as a skillful lawyer and a hard fighter, especially in criminal cases.

Having attained success in his chosen profession, Mr. Davie next turned his attention to politics, and in 1882 was elected as a member for Victoria in support of the Smythe government, afterwards supporting his brother, Hon. A. E. R. Davie, who became Premier upon the death of Mr. Smythe. Again, in 1886, he was elected, and three years later he was selected as Attorney-General in the cabinet of the late Hon. John Robson, since which time he has been a member of the executive council of the province. Mr. Davie soon showed himself a leader, a man who could hit hard and overcome opposition by determination and strength of purpose. When he once made up his mind to do a thing, he stuck to it, and usually carried his point.

When Hon. Mr. Robson died in 1892 Mr. Davie succeeded him as premier, and perhaps the best instance of making up his mind to do a thing, he stuck to it, and usually carried his point. In the right, was his energetic action in connection with the smallpox epidemic in Victoria. In all this active political life he still kept one of the largest practices at the bar, and in spite of his many duties, so hard working was he that he never allowed either the business of the country to suffer by his law practice or his clients to suffer by stress of public affairs. He was a busy man, working early and late, and with a man devoted to his family and his friends. No matter how busy he never repelled his little ones from his presence, but he had a full confession before going to the gallows.

The arduous and never-ceasing labor of keeping up with public business and attending to his practice as well finally began to have its effect, and Mr. Davie's health suffered. On the death of Chief Justice Begbie, Mr. Davie was appointed to the position in March, 1895, took his seat as Chief Justice of British Columbia, so it will be seen that March was an eventful month in his career. Born in March, made Chief Justice in the same month, and now his death occurred in the month of March.

From this time on the health of the Chief Justice failed rapidly. Warned by his physicians that unless he resigned he would not live long, he consented to take short trips away in search of health that could not be regained. The death of his wife to whom he was devoted, was also a severe blow a year or more ago and since then he has seemed to have rapidly. Still he never allowed his ill health to interfere with duty, and to the

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"The people at Skagway are dying like flies," said Captain Meyer, of the C.P.N. steamship Danube, when that vessel arrived from the North yesterday.

"That is about all the news there is to tell this time," he continued, "and I don't suppose it is very new now, either. Nothing developed on the Danube's trip that would interest newspaper readers. In fact the voyage was absolutely uneventful except that we had a death on board coming back, losing Coles, one of the men of the Skagway department."

There appears to be some curious fatality in connection with this branch of the C.P.N. service of late. Coles is the third employee in the stewards' department that has died within a short time. The illness was believed by his messmates to be in the nature of pneumonia. They are now convinced, however, that it was cerebro spinal meningitis, for all the symptoms of the disease were present in the case—the chill, the excruciating headache, the affections of the brain, the spotting and discoloration of the skin, and the very sudden death—for poor Coles did not live more than six hours after first complaining of the illness that carried him off.

His mother, who had come down to the wharf at the sound of the Danube's whistle to welcome her boy, was completely prostrated by the news of his death, her grief being pitiable in the extreme. Coles was a Victoria boy and well known among the maritime community.

Of the Danube passengers little is to be written, for they are few in number: Fred, Nichols from Dawson City, John Laumetier of Skagway, Captain Cates, Al. Bartlett and Mrs. Bowman. Nichols claims to be the last survivor of Dawson, and also asserts that practically all who intend coming out before spring will be on the river highway, are now on the Coast.