

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE

Snow and Ice Seriously Damage Fraser Valley Orchards-Nelson Lots at Auction.

Liquidators for the Ibox Mine and the Trail Brewery-West Kootenay Exports.

The Ibox Mining company's claims will not be disposed of by deputy sheriff Robinson this month. The Kootenayan says: "On the 19th of November the Supreme court issued a restraining order pending the appointment of a liquidator which stops all proceedings of the sheriff in the case of the Ibox and will give all the creditors of that concern an equal chance. The liquidator will have his own time subject to the order of the court, in which to effect a sale of the property to the best advantage of all, and at the same time the company is given more time in which to straighten out the middle itself. The sheriff gave up possession of the property Monday."

The Kootenay Brewing, Malting and Distilling Company of Trail has gone into the hands of a liquidator, who succeeds the deputy sheriff. The new liquidator is John McKane of Rossland, secretary of the board of trade. The statement made on behalf of the brewing company was that its assets were in round numbers about \$90,000, and that its liabilities were between \$50,000 and \$80,000. The business of the company will be carried on by the liquidator without any shut down.

Mr. J. Quinn, of the New Westminster & Burrard Inlet Telephone Company, has now made a thorough canvass of Fort Steele in preparation for the introduction of a telephone system. He has been promised a fine view of the double the capacity of the plant now being forwarded for installation. Preparations will be made to greatly increase the service in the spring, and extend the system to Morje lake, up the St. Marys river to the North Star and Sullivan mines, up Wild Horse creek to Wassa, and probably to Gardner and intermediate points.

Judge Forin has granted Peter Costello a change of venue from Rossland to Nelson for the trial of the action brought by Edward Cronyn against Costello for damages in connection with the Costello assault case. Judge Forin ordered Costello to pay \$50 to Cronyn as an offset to the additional expense which the change of venue would entail.

The snow fall at Chilliwack on Monday morning was followed by one of the heaviest and most destructive ice storms ever known in the locality. These conditions severely, large branches being broken by the weight of ice. Orchards have been considerably injured in some parts of the Fraser valley.

News comes from Kelowna that Mr. Tom Lambly, brother of Mr. C. A. R. Lambly, the Gold Commissioner, has declined to run for the office. He was one of the candidates for the provincial house at the last election. He was about 35 years of age and unmarried. Manager J. P. of the Bank of British Columbia, a Trustee, has been transferred to the management of the branch at Sandon, and has been succeeded by Mr. Henry Fielden, of Vancouver, who has been in the office since the 1st of November. The Kaolo Kootenayan states that there is no truth in the report sent to the coast papers to the effect that the body of Joe McGibbon had been found. The body has been abandoned and the body will hardly be found until next spring.

The business men of Rossland are circulating a requisition calling upon James Martin to offer himself as a candidate for mayor. If a sufficient number sign it is thought that Martin will accept, although he has heretofore declined. The requisition is being circulated in Chilliwack and other parts of the Cariboo Electoral District, asking Major-General Kinchin of Vancouver, who is a candidate at the general election in 1898, to again contest the district.

Word has been received from Rev. C. N. Mitchell, B.A., Forest, Ont., that he has accepted the call extended to him by the Baptist church of Chilliwack. Mr. Mitchell is expected to arrive by March 1.

All the town lots held by the provincial government at Nelson will be offered for sale on Wednesday, December 15. The sale will take place in the court house, when 275 lots will be offered without reserve.

The total value of minerals exported from West Kootenay during November was about \$225,000. The values are classified as follows: coal, \$190,357; copper, \$37,069; lead, \$82,592; silver, \$336,404.

THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNORS. Deserved Tribute to the Retiring Official and Cordial Greeting to His Successor.

(From the Vancouver World.) With the retirement of Hon. Edgar Dewdney from Carey Castle a most popular and excellent gentleman is once more in private life. He is 62 years of age and a native of Devonshire. He came to British Columbia in 1859 and sat for Kootenay in the Legislative Assembly from 1868-69 and in the Commons from 1872 until 1879, when he was appointed Indian Commissioner. He was Lieut.-Governor of the Northwest Territories 1881-1887, and sat for East Assiniboia in parliament 1888-1892. He was sworn of the Privy Council and was Minister of the Interior and ex-officio Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs, 1888-1892, when he was appointed to the governorship of British Columbia. He has been recognized by Mr. Dewdney as having been identified in an eminent degree with the public life of Canada and his career has been a most remarkable one. He has seen the country that he departed from those traditions and roles of constitutional government which have been Britain the great and respected Empire of to-day and that he has seen the people who were in the infancy of their development.

From a social point of view—and Government House is always the scene of brilliant functions—the retiring Governor was highly successful, but this he would himself most willingly admit was due to a large extent to the ability and tact which Mrs. Dewdney exercised and to the fact that Carey Castle was not, under this regime, given over to a charmed circle, but, on the contrary, all classes of the people were invited there. Mr. Dewdney has large interests in

British Columbia, and it is characteristic of him that after having yielded to see his successor sworn in, and to tender him congratulations, he is hastening off to Kootenay to look after the mining properties which he has opened up and developed. Some adverse comment was made on the fact that Mr. Dewdney had lent his name to operations of this character, but why, it would be difficult to understand.

It is safe to assert that those who have criticized Mr. Dewdney in this particular, in language that avows of anything but the gentleman, have not seen a five cent piece in the Slocan or Trail Creek districts or anywhere else for that matter. How would the country be built up if it had to depend upon people like Mr. Dewdney's stamp, possessed of moderate means but full of enterprise, that the province must look for that splendid future which the knowing ones have predicted. It can only be hoped that undertakings in which he and others like him are engaged will be successful. Mr. Dewdney, while intending to reside in Victoria, will enjoy many years of usefulness and happiness.

Of the present occupant of Carey Castle we have already spoken. He too has filled many a year with distinction and deserves the reward which will be conferred upon him. We are sure that he will follow in the footsteps of his predecessor and maintain with the honor of the distinguished office he holds as the Queen's representative in this portion of Her Majesty's dominions. He is a man of high character, a new Lieutenant-Governor is fortunate in possessing a help-mate who will dispense graciously the hospitalities of his private home, and render him that assistance which only a good wife can.

We again congratulate the Hon. Thos. B. and Mrs. Melrose, and trust their occupation of the gubernatorial mansion will be delightful in the extreme.

NANAIMO AND WELLINGTON.

Fatal Accident to a Miner—An Unprecedented Mission—An Unfortunate's Burial.

NANAIMO, Dec. 2.—Andrew Stewart, of Wellington, was killed last evening by a fall of coal in No. 6 shaft. The deceased was 22 years of age. He was a son of the late J. G. Stewart, and his mother resides at Wellington. His brother, John Stewart, is a well-known miner in the Klondyke, being among those who left by the Islander on the 29th July last. Mr. A. Dick, inspector of mines, was called out this morning to the place of the accident. He states that the deceased had been engaged by the miners who have a contract getting out pillars in No. 6 shaft to load coal, drive the shaft, and erect a new shaft. Stewart started out with a run, and when part of the way out found he did not have oil enough in his lamp for the trip. He left the rule and the track and returned to the "pillar" to fill his lamp. He was in the act of emptying the oil from the bottle, making a fire, when a large piece of coal slipped from the pillar, falling on Stewart and causing his death.

The "Gospel Mission," opened by Messrs. J. Snyder and R. Campbell (late of Seattle) at the city hall has been abandoned. After about two weeks' close attention to business and a total failure to secure an audience at the meetings, the missionaries have given up the premises. This is just about what was expected. They stated on their arrival that they were not under the auspices of any church or other religious organization. Apparently they were in the work for what could be made out of it.

A report was in circulation to the effect that the ministers of this city had refused to officiate at the burial of the late Lieut.-Governor. The burial services were conducted by the Salvation Army. The city clergymen, however, have each in turn stated that they had been directly or indirectly asked to officiate at the funeral, and would certainly have officiated, as it was their duty, as Christian ministers, to do so.

LOCAL MINING OPERATIONS.

News of Various Properties in Which Coast Capital is Interested.

VANCOUVER, Dec. 4.—(Special.)—The first payment on the Blue Belle property, Phillips Arm, was made yesterday. The syndicate will spend another \$100,000 this winter developing the mine. A report has been received that work will be actively continued on the Athabasca, at Nelson, all winter. A sleigh road has been completed, and a fine quality of ore is being taken for export.

The Fire Mountain company are making a wagon road in place of their pack trail to the bridge leading to the old Cariboo road and so on to their mine. In a few days the mill men will be discharged, as all the sheds and tram construction have been completed. The machinery is all in and is being quickly established. The work on the tunnel is in about 100 feet and the winze is down some 95 feet. The tunnel is four feet wide and the winze nine feet wide.

The Winchester Mine Company said to have the best showing in the fair view camp for the amount of work done, are selling the rest of their treasury stock in the idea of putting up a large mill to work their two big properties, the Stenwinder and Winchester. Mr. Adams has taken up his \$40,000 on the Raven property on Texada island, next to the Van Anda. Very active development work is being done on the Van Anda. The company has been reported that they are to be departed from those traditions and roles of constitutional government which have been Britain the great and respected Empire of to-day and that he has seen the people who were in the infancy of their development.

MR. TURNER'S ANSWER

The Premier Acted Wisely for the Province in Becoming Adviser to London Companies.

Outside Capital a Necessity for the Klondyke Trade and Local Direction Called For.

A representative of the COLONIST called on Hon. J. H. Turner yesterday at his office and requested a statement from that gentleman in reference to the attacks being made upon him by the opposition press on account of the British Columbia and Klondyke companies with which his name has been associated. Mr. Turner said he was willing to afford any information in his power, but laughingly remarked that he had already been tried and found guilty and figuratively hanged by a jury of editors, he did not suppose it was any moving for a new trial after he had been pronounced dead and buried. It was rather remarkable, he said, that he should be made subject to so violent a trade of abuse on account of a matter that was purely a business transaction and within the right and privilege of any public man. He had not intended to conceal or apologize for, and when the matter was put in the public domain he felt that he had acted with the greatest propriety in the matter, although he questioned the right of an inquisitorial examination into his private affairs. He, however, had been accused of trafficking with his position as premier for his private gain, it was a matter concerning which he had not the slightest objection to be made public. Information, in fact, he courted the fullest inquiry.

The present abuse was simply on a par with what has been subjected to on his return from England in 1895, and would be found to be a part of the same political programme and not more substantial in character. He stated that the English press, which had been so copiously copied in the opposition papers, had been investigated by interested parties who had imposed on the editors of these papers. Anybody who knows the high plane of English journalism would readily understand that a suggestion of wrongdoing in the promotion of companies in which public men were interested would be liable to severe criticism, and properly so. It was worthy of remark that the number of companies in connection with the Klondyke trade the two that his name had been associated with should be singled out for attack; and the fact that the attack was directed by the opposition press in British Columbia had taken up the subject showed that there was a great deal of method in it. 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