From THE DAILY COLONIST, April 20.

THE CITY.

To the Convention.

The delegates of Victoria Typographical Union to the sub-district convention left for Watcom last evening.

A.F. and A.M.

The regular communication of Vancouver and Quadra Lodge, No. 2 A.F. and A.M., takes place this evening at 8 o'clock. Work in the third degree. Sojourning brethren in good standing are cordially invited.

The Supplementaries.

The supplementary estimates of the Provincial Expenditure for the year ending June 30th, 1892, amount to $204,679.56; for the year ending 30th June, 1893, $96,080, and the several sums included in Schedule A to $44,629.83.

A Price Upon Them.

The appropriation of lanterns placed along the open sewer trenches for the public safety, have, during the past few weeks been disappearing nightly, not one by one, but by the half dozens, and the contractor for the works now offers a reward of $20 for the conviction of any person guilty of the too common theft.

Mohican Men Missing.

While the U.S.S. Mohican was in dock at Esquimalt, no fewer than 17 of her crew deserted, and none were recaptured or induced to return. The percentage of desertions on the American ship in the short space of one month is said to far exceed that of any of Her Majesty's men-of-war, on this station at all events.

The Canton Militant.

All arrangements for the formation of a canton militant were completed, last evening, by the members of the I.O.O.F. encampment, and the uniformed rank will come into active existence in the course of the next few weeks. Nanaimo, not to be behind the times, is also bestirring herself toward the organization of a canton.

The Plasterers' Decision.

The contracting plasterers of Victoria, believing it to be necessary and in the best interest of themselves and all concerned, have formed an association and pledged themselves not to give tenders on plastering work to any persons other than architects, except in respect to buildings over which no architect has control or supervision. This action is to take effect on the 21st instant, and a special meeting will be held at the Trades and Labor hall, to-morrow evening, to decide all details.

The Lost Indian from the C. D. Rand.

Mystery still seems to hang round the sudden disappearance of "Dan," the one-eyed Cape Beale Indian, who has now been missing for eleven days, and who, his brother and friends claim, has been made away with treacherously. Careful enquiry has brought nothing definite to light, but it is said that these anxious friends themselves are responsible for the absence of the missing man, and that they are keeping him in hiding intentionally with the object of getting more advance money out of the captain of the C. D. Rand before they give him up, he being one of the best men on the articles. He is believed to be concealed among the old Chinese rookeries at the back of the native theatre, a locality noted among all but the blind for the constant traffic in the disposal of liquor to Indians that is carried on there night and day.

Reported Robbery.

Ah Ong, a Chinaman having business relations on Fisguard street, discovered late last evening that a woman who occupied the premises rented by him, had departed, and according to his story, had in her possession $1,000 worth of jewelry belonging to him. He does not claim that she was his wife nor that she stole the jewelry from any safe place of keeping, neither does he explain how it happened to come into her possession, but he requested the authorities to keep a sharp lookout for any Chinese woman who might attempt to leave Victoria, as it was his intention to take out a warrant for the supposed thief at the earliest opportunity. Further developments in the case are expected to-day, but it is most probably one of the usual instances where a Chinaman prefers a charge of larceny to retain in his power a tenant.

The Oddfellow's Excursion.

The programme issued by the I. O. O. F. lodges of Seattle for their 73d anniversary celebration next Monday and Tuesday is, typographically, one of the neatest ever got up on the coast. Its contents are equally attractive, and no doubt will draw many visitors. The programme for Monday includes a reception in the parlors of the Grand Hotel, championship baseball contest, football games, tug of war, excursions to points of interest in the city, musical and literary entertainment, and social hop. On Tuesday there will be a grand parade, anniversary exercises at Cordray's Opera House, dramatic entertainment, and grand ball at the armory. Oddfellows and their families going from this city can obtain their tickets at the N. P. R. office here at $3.60 for the round trip. Many have already decided to take advantage of the cheap rate and special accommodation provided.

Business and Pleasure.

Mr. Moses Lenz, of the firm of Lenz & Leiser, has just returned from one of his periodical trips to the Old Country, but on the present occasion he managed to make it a bridal tour as well as one of business for the firm. He broke his journey, going and coming, at all important cities and places of interest, and for the past five months has seen more than many men can boast of in a lifetime. He stopped off at Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal, and other points, until he came to the seaboard, and then set sail for the Old Country. Having spent some time in Ireland and England, he crossed to the continent, and in France and Germany had many opportunities of enjoying scenes which many older travelers have failed to visit. "Trade, generally, is dull, in the Old Country," said Mr. Lenz to a COLONIST representative, yesterday. "Although they have enjoyed good weather in the British Isles, the business there is not good. The McKinley Bill has affected many of their leading industries, and they are feeling it keenly. Taking in my whole journey, I do not see that business is as good, all round, as it is in this province, and Victoria particularly. When first I used to take my trips, I found that in the Old Country many people had not even heard of B. C., but now they all appear to know something about it, and several of those whom I have met there, expressed their determination of getting home through B. C. from the World's Fair. B. C. is attracting much attention in the old land just at present, and it will, no doubt, be to the advantage of this province. The button and textile fabrics of Vienna, the cutlery of Sheffield, Eng., and every branch of trade in Europe touched by the McKinley Tariff, are more or less injured by its operation, and trade there is, on the whole, dull. In my rambles I met Mr. Affner and family, who used to be in Victoria. I met them at Vienna." Mr. Lenz looks as well as ever, and his last trip has more than ever convinced him of the solidity of this province and its capital.

A New Building for Somenos.

Mr. J. G. Tiarks has prepared the plans for a two-story building to be shortly erected for Major J. M. Muttero, at Somenos station. The building will cost in the neighborhood of $1,000.

The Clarence Hotel.

This well known hostelry changed hands a few days ago. It has been thoroughly renovated, and the present lessee, Mrs. Agnew, says that the house will be conducted in such manner that will command public patronage.

The Salmon Moving.

The COLONIST correspondent at Plumpers' Pass writes that on Sunday last the salmon were desporting themselves in great numbers off the point. This is looked upon as important, showing as it does that the fish are moving toward the Fraser.

Resuming Work.

To-day, business in the Supreme and County Courts will be again in full swing, and the judges will be once more in harness after their well-earned rest of five days. The list of cases for trial has not yet been placed in order, but no doubt, everything will be working smoothly again by to-morrow.

A Broken Arm.

An unfortunate accident happened to a young lad named Cameron at the Central School at noon, yesterday. While playing with some companions in the school grounds he fell heavily on his arm, fracturing it badly. The limb was immediately set by a medical man, and the lad is doing as well as can be expected.

The Naval Special.

General Superintendent Harry Abbott, of the C.P.R., who is at present in the city, announces that the special train bearing the expected supernumeraries westward, will leave Halifax on the 4th of May, arriving in Vancouver, where the men will embark on H.M.S. Champion for Esquimalt, about the 11th.

A Notice of Motion.

The following is a notice of motion which Alderman J. B. Lovell has posted on the bulletin board at the City Hall:

"I hereby give notice that at the next regular meeting of the City Council I shall move that in accordance with the recommendation of the chief engineer the council do now proceed to the election of officers to fill the vacant positions of assistant surveyor, clerk and accountant in the city engineer's office."

Good Dancers.

The prizes for the best set of lancers at the Orange Ball were awarded by the judges to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Watson, Mr. and Mrs. Jno. Cook, Mr. Jno. Oliver and Mrs. Newman, and Mr. R. George and Miss Dollie Draut. Mr. and Mrs. Manger were declarged first prize walzers. Miss and Master McKenzie, aged respectively nine and ten years, were deemed worthy of mention as second prize waltzers, and Mr. Alex. Beaton received the unanimous verdict of the judges as having most ably executed the difficult Highland fling and sword dance.

A Chinese City at Albert Head.

At Albert Head, yesterday, a little city of tents sprung up in an hour, not peopled, however, by Oklahoma boomers, but by five hundred Chinamen, who were placed there by the orders of Dr. Macnaughton Jones, Health Officer, one of their number having been found to be suffering from smallpox. The new arrivals from the Celestial Empire, whose transportation from the Empress of Japan afforded no slight amusement to the onlookers, are, no doubt, under the impression that they have come into the arms of the most hospitable nation they ever heard of, but, no doubt, before their enforced confinement is over, they will weary of camp life and sigh for the hearths and homes of Cormorant street with monotonous frequency.

The Empress of Japan.

The R. M. S. Empress of Japan, left Royal Roads at about 8 o'clock, last night, for Vancouver, where she will land her white passengers, sixty-six of whom will go on via the C. P. R. by first train. Before leaving the quarantine station, they were all thoroughly disinfected, and many of them took occasion to express their sincere thanks to the agent and all concerned in having facilitated their progress in every possible way. The incident, considering that the Empress brought over 530 Chinamen, and that at present smallpox is very prevalent in the Orient, is one not worth remembering, and has occasioned very different results to the expenses of passengers from China to San Francisco, who during the last few months have, on nearly every trip, been delayed in quarantine for three weeks.

Heads and Faces.

The announcement of a course of lectures on human nature as revealed by the sciences relating to "Heads and Faces" has awakened much interest among the young people, and especially those connected with educational work. Prof. Alexander has a pleasant method of talking in plain, simple everyday terms, explaining fully and most interestingly all that pertains to human character, showing what characteristics may accurately and positively be denoted in every face. The course will cover a wide range of subjects, opening at the Imperial to-night, including valuable advice as to the training of children, "selection of proper pursuits, in order to attain success in life," and much other knowledge of service to old and young. Every evening a liberal share of the time will be devoted to public phrenological examination of ladies and gentlemen selected by the audience. This feature is not only very interesting, but also quite entertaining. The opening lecture to-night will be free, and a cordial invitation is extended to all.

The Maude Returns.

Last night about 11:45 the Maude returned from Barclay Sound. In opposition to her experience last trip she had beautiful weather both ways. She reports all quiet along the coast, and very little news of interest. Her cargo consisted of 47 seal skins, made up as follows:—W. P. Sayward, 26; Venture, 5, and 16 from Ecru, the trading post of the Vancouver Oil Co. Her passengers, fourteen in number, consisted of ex-Street Commissioner Lynn and party, who have been surveying the townsite of Barclay, Mr. Fletcher, M. P. P., for Alberni, Andrew Lang, who went up with supplies for his vessel, the Sayward, and two employes of the Barclay Land Improvement Company. When off the cape the Maude sighted five sealing schooners but did not get close enough to speak any of them. The Indians are quiet, and it is generally supposed that the last has now been heard of a great many of the sealing fleet, numbers of the vessels having proceeded north on their way up to Behring Sea.

Reinstated.

Jerry Donoughue, the Toronto oarsman who was suspended two years ago from the Canadian Association of Amateur Oarsmen, for professionalism has been reinstated.

Primrose Day.

Yesterday was Primrose Day, the anniversary of the death of the Earl of Beaconsfield, which occurred 11 years ago at Hughenden Manor. In memory of the great Conservative statesman his admirers formed what is known as the Primrose League, an organization which now numbers in the United Kingdom more than 600,000 members, and forms a very important factor in the body politic. On every anniversary day the members wear a bunch of primroses to mark their regret and the esteem in which they hold their late leader, and in London alone it is estimated that 500,000 bunches of the flowers are sold every 19th of April.

Of Interest to Victorians.

The following items appearing in the supplementary estimates presented to the legislature by Hon. Mr. Turner yesterday, will be found particularly interesting by Victorians:

$100 per month for bookkeeper in land registry office, Victoria.

$70 per month for 7th clerk in land registry office, Victoria.

$80 per month for clerk, Supreme Court, Victoria.

$90 per month (four months) for 3d assistant, High school, Victoria.

$40 per month (six months) for monitor, 4th Divn., Boys school, Victoria.

$40 per month (six months) for monitor, 8th Divn., Boys school, Victoria.

$40 per month (seven months) for monitor, James Bay Ward school.

$40 per month (six months) for monitor, Hillside Ward school.

$40 per month (six months) for monitor, Spring Ridge Ward school.

$1,000 additional for roads, streets and bridges in Victoria district.

$1,000 additional for roads, etc., in Esquimalt district.

$1,681 for Helmcken road.

$300 gratuity to wife of the late Wm. Angus.

$1,286, expenses of Royal Commission, Victoria city.

$5,937, refund Provincial revenue tax to Victoria for 1891.

$2,100 (twelve months) Crown Solicitor's salary to June 30, 1893.

$340, clerk, assessor's office, Victoria.

SAFE IN HARBOR.

The Little Sealer Minnie Puts Back For Much Needed Repairs.

Cries of Shipwrecked Mariners at San Joseph Bay—That "Turned-Turtle."

The Heprietta at Last Heard From—Inhospitable Indians—"He's All Right."

The schooner Minnie, Capt. August Tyson, arrived in James Bay at midnight on Monday, with only 32 skins below deck, but a good budget of information, much of it entirely fresh. The discovery of several leaks in her bottom caused her return just at the time that the seals should be receiving all attention.

Though one of the smallest of the fleet, only 17 tons, the Minnie carries eight of a crew, with whom she sailed from Victoria on January 21st last. Her run took her as far north as Cape Scott, and on the 10th of last month, while passing St. Josef Bay, the crew heard shouting, which they at first took to be the cries of men ashore. Reconnoitering with the glass disclosed no one visible on shore, and it being too rough to land in the surf, the Minnie stood out to sea, the sealers deciding that the cries must have been those of some lonely wolf. Later on, they were informed by the Indians that a schooner had been lost in the locality, and a few of her men were ashore.

On the following morning the Minnie started for Clayoquot, where the Labrador and other schooners were fallen in with. There the cook of the Minnie, a young man from Port Angeles, for whose whereabouts enquiries have recently been made, shifted to the Labrador. His friends will be glad to learn that he is well, and still a good safe distance from the mysterious locker of Mr. David Jones.

Although almost every day of the cruise was more marked by squalls than sunshine, the roughest weather of all was experienced when the Minnie was about twelve miles off Kyuquot. The gale caught the little schooner under bare poles, and swept her so into Kyuquot bay with lightning rapidity, straining her frame badly and filling the cabin with water. So serious was the damage done that the schooner had to be beached and caulked, remaining at Kyuquot until the start was made for Victoria.

The officers and crew of the Minnie have a new theory in regard to the mysterious flat-bottomed schooner or sloop reported to have turned turtle off the Columbia river. They think it is nothing more nor less than the trading sloop Northern Light, the little scow-bottomed craft that was lost in company with the sealer Laura, and which was never heard of again. She could very easily have drifted to the Columbia river, and would present the appearance of the derelict sighted.

The Minnie brings an interesting story of Indian inhospitableness to men whose situation should have entitled them to the most considerate treatment. They were James Jameson and his two companions, who left Victoria early in February with the trading sloop Katie, loaded down with supplies for up Coast points. When off Cape Bonilla the little craft was swamped and filled, but did not go to the bottom owing to the buoyancy of a portion of her cargo. The biscuits, etc., proved the salvation of the men aboard, who floated like half-drowned rats some five miles off shore for about 10 hours, when they were sighted by the Indians. The natives at once came out, but refused their services unless the shipwrecked men would promise the cargo as their reward, and, this not being done promptly, they decided not to attempt to bring the sloop to a place of safety. The men were landed, and Jameson later on secured a berth as cook on the Minnie. His companions made their way to Alberni, and finally worked back to Nanaimo.

Of the other sealing schooners reported by the Minnie, the latest were the Winnifred, the baby of the fleet, which was at Kyuquot, with 11 skins; the Beatrice, of Victoria, has 150, and the Henrietta, not hitherto reported this season, a catch of 75.

Shot by His Nephew.

RALEIGH, N. C., April 19.—J. P. Jones last night shot and killed his uncle, Michael L. Brookshire, in the post office. Both are prominent citizens. The trouble is supposed to have originated in Brookshire's intimacy with Jones' wife.

WAVERLEY LODGE BANQUET

Waverley Lodge, C.O.O.F., M. U., Hold Their Anniversary Repast at The Victoria.

Thirty Members Meet in Fraternal Harmony and Celebrate Primrose Day Right Merrily.

The members of Loyal Waverley Lodge, of the C. O. O. F., M. U., gave their annual banquet at the Victoria Hotel, yesterday evening. Brother S. J. Wade, P. G. M., D. D. G. M., took the chair, and Brother F. H. Coles, N. G., Waverley Lodge, officiated as Vice-Chairman. Thirty members sat down to the repast provided by mine host Patton, and did ample justice to a banquet, which reflected equal justice on a hostelry, which has already, in the short time it has been in existence, acquired an enviable reputation for its cuisine.

MENU.

Soup.
Rice Tomato. Mutton a la Crowley.
Fish.
Rock Cod, Fine Herbs, Potatoes Hollandaise.
Boiled.
Shoulder Mutton, Caper Sauce.
Entrees.
Salmi of Turkey, Celery au Jus.
Ox Joints Stewed, English Style.
Ribs of Beef. Roast. Loin of Veal.
Vegetables.
Boiled and Mashed Potatoes.
Hot Slaw. Stewed Tomatoes.
Dessert.
Cocoanut and Cranberry Pies.
Sago Pudding. Ice Cream. Cheese.
Cake and Coffee.

Dinner over, the Chairman proposed the Queen, and after her health had been toasted as only loyal subjects can toast it, Bro. H. P. Johnson gave an instrumental solo on the piano. Bro. Jones then proposed the Lieutenant-Governor and Government of British Columbia, and Bro. J. S. Floyd sang "Mary Green." Bro. Anderson gave "The Ladies," and Bro. Munro followed with a typical song, for which he received a hearty encore. The vice-chairman then proposed "The Grand Master and Executive Officers of the Lodge."

After the healths had been enthusiastically honored, Bro. S. J. Wade responded for himself and brother officers. He expressed himself extremely gratified to be able to respond at the first annual dinner to so many members of the Waverley Lodge. He eulogized the Grand Master of the lodge, declaring that he was, in every sense of the word, a hail fellow well met, and said that the grand officers were well versed in their duties, and no order could have more efficient sons. The order in British Columbia was part and parcel to all intents and purposes of the largest and wealthiest order in the world—the Manchester Unity. Time and again efforts had been made to change the name, but the brothers were proud of it. At its back they had £7,000,000 sterling, and as an old officer of the Unity, and having been three years auditor, he could safely assert that it was without compare amongst kindred societies. Once it was difficult to get notable men to join the order, but now it has a power throughout the world, and in the English speaking hemispheres the order did not have to seek members amongst the highest and grandest of the world, they themselves sought honors in the order. He was not ashamed to own that for himself he was a thorough rank going Tory, and on the anniversary day of the death of Lord Beaconsfield, Primrose Day, he was proud to see in the principles of the order one of the stoutest bonds to join British Columbia and Canada to the parent of which they could not help but be proud. He referred to the endowment and funeral funds and to the widow and orphan funds, and congratulated the society on the satisfactory condition of those funds in this institution. Compared with those of other societies, the members might reasonably be proud of their condition. The Manchester Unity had never been behind hand in keeping its promises and he hoped the day would be far distant when such a charge could be brought against it. After referring to the far-reaching efforts of the society to teach thrift among the masses, and its patriotic efforts during the Crimean war and afterwards, he particularly extolled its efforts to improve the life-saving stations in Great Britain. He likened the bonds of the society to the bundle of sticks, that together were irrefragable, as were the bonds of love and amity which hold the members together. He concluded by declaring the society to be the truest, noblest and most fraternal of all societies.

Bro. J. Anderson then sang a Scotch ballad and was encored, and Bro. J. Moore proposed "The Press" in graceful terms. Bro. W. H. Ellis, responding, said that he felt very grateful for the manner in which the members had toasted a profession which had a difficult mission to fulfill, especially under the conditions in which it was placed in this province. The high intelligence of the readers, the comparatively small but growing population, the interests of a border province, all demanded that the newspapers be of the highest class, and he felt satisfied that the local press in this respect was serving the interest of the public and its constituents.

Bro. F. H. Coles then gave "the wild, wild West," a typical song which was enthusiastically encored. Bro. Muir proposed Waverley Lodge and Bro. S. M. Wade responded. Bro. Floyd entertained the members with a song and then with facile oratory gave "The Sister Lodges."

Bro. R. N. Fitton responded, and after Bro. Grice had sung a popular ballad with great feeling, "The Royal Arch Chapter" was proposed by Dr. M. S. Wade in a telling speech. Bro. J. F. Smith replied, and after Bro. Floyd had again favored the guests with a song. The health of Brother F. H. Coles, N. G., the Vice-Chairman, was enthusiastically drank. After a few more songs the guests all joined in singing "Auld Lang Syne," and separated.

RAILWAY CONNECTION.

TO THE EDITOR:—"Don't you Know" does not know as much as he would like the public to believe that he does know. He thinks the Saanich railway scheme one simply to boom land, and claims that there are other portions of the island more in need of railway communication. He is of opinion that the farmers should continue to use their wagons and teams to draw their produce fifteen or twenty miles to Victoria. In fact, if a railway were to seek to carry in their hay and grain, it would want all their profit for doing so; and that as a consequence their land would not be worth as much as it is now. This is all very silly, and directly against the experience in every other section of the world where railway service has taken the place of stage coaches and bull-teams. I am surprised that anyone in this age of enlightenment and progress should write such nonsense. Which would be of greater benefit to Victoria—a railway into a wilderness, or a line into a district such as Saanich, where there is some development, and where railway facilities would give such impetus to development, that its production would be increased a thousandfold? There can be only one answer to this question, and it must be in favor of the Saanich scheme. To say that a railway would charge for moving farm produce more than it would cost to team it in, is pure childishness, and need not be argued. To sneer at the rapid connection that would be made with Mainland systems of railway by this line and fast steamers is silly, for there are but few well-wishers of Victoria who do not recognize the value of just such a connection. If the Government and city by guaranteeing a modest interest on the railway bonds for a moderate sum, can secure the building of the Victoria and Sydney railway, they will be acting in the best interests of the public in doing so. Victoria and the Saanich district both need this line, and its construction would give a fresh impetus to business here. The building of a line to Saanich, and the running of steamers to the islands and rich farming districts of the lower Fraser, will bring a trade to Victoria that she will never otherwise secure. The connection with the mainland railway on the Canadian side at Blaine, would also be an advantage to this city, in that it would furnish rapid transit to Westminster and Fraser river points.

While we are all hoping that the much-desired Canadian Western, and a railway to the north end of the Island will soon be under way do not let us neglect the chance of adding a very valuable feeder to Victoria's trade by securing the building of the Victoria and Sydney road. It will develop a district whose trade naturally belongs to this city, and a large increase in Saanich agriculture means a corresponding increase in Victoria's growth.

PROGRESS.

THE SAANICH AND SIDNEY R. R.

TO THE EDITOR:—"Don't You Know" strikes me as being a moss-back of the most verdant type. A kind of "we've-got-a-loaf-and-what-more-do-we-want" sort of individual. I should say, a "what's the use of wearing out our shoes when we can walk barefooted." The kind of individual that has kept Victoria from growing hitherto, and who, if allowed to continue to run things, will keep her back for all time to come. The object of the road is a speculative one, he says. Well, now what is there in big works of a public nature that is not speculative? The sewerage of the city is speculative in a sense. If "Don't You Know" has any city property, the sewerage works will benefit it and enhance its value."

"The farmers of Saanich have been pretty prosperous; they possess horses and wagons, and have not found any inconvenience, etc." Now what is to prevent their being more prosperous, and getting their goods to town much cheaper and more expeditiously than dragging them along in wagons? A farmer who can ship his produce on board the cars; get them into town in an hour, dispose of them in the early morning and get back home quickly and comfortably in the evening without any of the trouble and expense attaching to taking care of, or having others take care of, a team of horses during the day, will appreciate the railroad.

Besides, those horses can be at work at home instead of standing on the street or in a livery stable in the city. They will be earning money. How can the railway consume all their profits? Will your correspondent show me what schedule of rates will equal the expense of a team of horses taken to town once, twice or three times a week? I am afraid that "Don't You Know" is one of those men who indeed never did travel at a rate faster than 17 miles an hour.

The one thing that is keeping the Saanich district back now is the cumbersome, expensive and wearying means of getting to town. As you, who are ever ready to see where a movement will benefit the public, ably pointed out the other day, this road will be the means of opening up a rich portion of country tributary to Victoria. I don't know if I am correct, but I think that the farmers of this district are most anxious to have this road built. They have been waiting for a very long time for something to be done by the people who have the charter of the Victoria, Saanich and New Westminster company, but the latter have been dilly-dallying now for some years and have done nothing but make fools of the people they were to benefit. It is time that something were done, and as the men who are at the head of the new company seem to be energetic and earnest they should be encouraged. I venture to say that neither the city nor the government will be called on to fulfill their guarantee.

N. S. W.

VICTORIA, April 14, 1892.

REDISTRIBUTION IN B. C.

TO THE EDITOR: Your contemporary, the Vancouver World, has done me the honor to republish and criticise my recent letter on this subject; and as he puts to me a query or two I am sure you will allow me the favor of a reply. He begins his editorial with a compliment (for which I thank him), but then a little farther on he inconsiderately spoils it all by crediting me with a degree of ignorance which would be inexcusable in one who formerly filled the chair editorial. "Possibly," he says, "Dr. Watt is not aware of the fact that the British North America Act fixes the basis for representation for each of the provinces. Quebec's population arranging the number to be given to the other provinces." I am sure it is very kind of "Quebec's population" to do us the favor of arranging our representation for us; but really, thoughtful men must by time be inclined to ask if Quebec has not lately been doing rather much for the Dominion. I remember publishing in my paper a pretty full editorial summary of the B.N.A. Act shortly after its passage through the Imperial Parliament; and that (how quickly the time has passed!) is 25 years ago. And I used to think that I understood the provisions of the Act passably well; and I remember that though it provides that the population of Quebec, as decennially enumerated, shall regulate *pro ratâ* on a fixed devisor of 65, the representation of the other provinces, the younger members of the Confederation, when admitted, were given a larger proportionate representation than the limit fixed by the Act. And the very grounds that I mentioned in my letter were the reasons for this—territory and prospective increase of population. The statesmen who controlled the destinies of the Dominion at that time were broad-minded enough to see that these factors ought rightfully to have consideration; and my claim is that they ought still to be considered—considered alike in *retaining* the representation given to the Island as in *increasing* that allowed to the Mainland. But, anent this point, the editor is cruel enough to hit me in this fashion: "It may also be a fact that Doctor Watt did not know that it required two members to represent 16,841 Victorians, whilst 43,000 in the district had to be content with *one*." Alas! I must admit the charge, for I really was ignorant of that "fact," though my ignorance did not prevent me advocating that instead of being "content" with one, Westminster district should be given two representatives. Now, my understanding of the facts (and I draw it from official sources) is something like this: Victoria district, with a population of 18,338, elects two representatives, while Westminster district, with a population of 42,226, has at present only one. But I do not justify this state of things at all. So far from it am I that I freely admit that, on the Quebec basis, the Island is over-represented, but so also is the Mainland. Hence, if we must argue the matter on this basis, and begin moving our representatives from one part of the province to the other, the Government feeling its strength, and actuated by an all-prevailing sense of justice to the Eastern provinces might say, "We can now do without the 'solid six' from British Columbia; its population is hardly sufficient to entitle it to five members; we shall reduce its representation to the strictly constitutional basis." Of course this is all very absurd, but as an argument it is on all fours with the World's. But why should my friend be so particular to a unit, for Victoria, while his own district gets the benefit of a liberal quotation in sound numbers? Is it quite fair of him to represent Victoria's city population only as electing two members when he knows that a part of the country adjacent shares in the election of Messrs. Prior and Earle! It is said that "figures don't lie," but it all depends, you know, how one quotes them. Was this device the outcome of that silly jealousy that exists between the cities of the Island and the Mainland? Ought there to be strife of any kind between the Island and the Mainland? Most assuredly not, unless that friendly rivalry which may properly exist between partners to advance the mutual interests of the firm. Both are inseparable parts of the same province. Their interests are identical. The prosperity of one will react in the prosperity of the other. There is surely room in British Columbia for more than one big city. Now a word as to the giving of a seventh member to the province. The World thinks it is useless to expect this. I do not think so. Certainly if we do not ask we will not receive. But there are good grounds for asking. Let me recall the ingenious calculation made in the return recently laid before the House by Mr. Robson, in which it is very plausibly argued that instead of our population being under 100,000 there is good reason to believe it is not far from 140,000. If that be the case, has not my suggestion for the solution of the matter everything to commend it? And is it not the fact that long before any measure of re-arrangement can become operative (in 1896) our population will have increased enormously? My belief is that it will by that time be in the neighborhood of 200,000. It ought to be, if all the railways now projected are built. Hence I argue that in dealing with a giant province like ours we need statesmen of large mind and liberal hand, and not those whose views cannot extend beyond the narrow horizon of their own dooryards.

HUGH WATT, M.D.

Victoria, April 9, 1892.

CABLE NEWS.

"Stand and Deliver!"

LISBON, April 18.—A man called at the house of Senor Carvalho, ex-Minister of Finance, this afternoon, and when the servant had withdrawn after showing him to the studio, the stranger pressed a revolver to Senor Carvalho's head and demanded 500 milres. M. Carvalho, believing he was at the mercy of a madman, emptied his purse of 150 milres. The stranger left and M. Carvalho notified the police, who captured the robber to-night. He had but a few milres when arrested. The police do not believe the man is insane, but suspect him of being an Anarchist and of raising funds for a May day demonstration against the government. They think he turned over to the Anarchists the money obtained from M. Carvalho.

Fatal Crush.

LONDON, April 18.—Thousands of excursionists, to-day, visited Hampstead Heath. On their return a great rush was made for the trains. In the crush some one fell, at the foot of the stairway of the railway station, and, in a moment, hundreds of persons above were thrown into a struggling heap. Two women and six children were killed and 13 others were seriously injured.

Italy's Tax on Flour.

ROME, April 18.—It is learned that Premier di Rudini will propose the revival of the tax on flour to cover the existing deficit. The tax formerly yielded 8,000,000 francs annually; but was exceedingly unpopular as it rested most heavily on the poorer classes. Signor Rudini will introduce the tax gradually, for fear of bread riots, and will keep his plan latent until after May Day, to avoid provoking violent demonstrations against it by the workingmen. The tax will be bitterly opposed by the Radicals, and however gradually introduced, will probably lead to workingmens' demonstrations and bloodshed.

Irish Tenant Relief.

DUBLIN, April 18.—The Parnellites are arranging for a convention at Cork for the purpose of devising measures for the relief of evicted tenants. The Archbishop of Cashel has appealed to the anti-Parnellites to support the movement, but they fight shy of it, believing it to be some new election dodge against them. Both factions are feeling more and more every day the effects of a falling off of American contributions. It is only a question of which will succumb first.

New and Successful Weapon.

BERLIN, April 18.—A series of trials at Spandau with a carbonic acid rifle reservoir have proved very successful. It is announced that, with one charge, 300 shots can be fired.

THE SAN PEDRO.

A Chat With the Fleet Commodore About Her Position—He is Sanguine of Success.

Last night, Captain Bryan, superintendent of the Southern Pacific company, the owners of the San Pedro, arrived here from San Francisco. He was interviewed by a COLONIST representative at the Dallas Hotel, and in answer to questions said: "Our company is well satisfied to go on as we have been doing, and to test this pontoon scheme of Captain Whitelaw's to success or failure. When the pontoons were being built and people could see that something was being done, everybody was hopeful, but as soon as this work was completed and the more difficult portion of the scheme undertaken—the under water business—many persons, because they could see nothing being done, began to imagine that the scheme was probably abandoned. I need hardly tell you that this is far from being the case. We have just as much confidence as we ever had, and will see it pushed through to an issue. In the peculiar position in which the San Pedro lies she is exposed to all kinds of bad weather, and in an open roadstead she lies at the mercy of every choppy sea and undercurrent with which the locality abounds. During the past winter she has been right in the centre of at least eight big gales and beyond damage to her external gear and fittings she has not suffered at all. I am confident that within three weeks, with the present good weather, we shall have all the pontoons about her, and I give Captain Whitelaw another ten days after that to have the steamer high and dry on the beach.

Of course the catastrophe has inconvenienced the carry trade of the company to some extent; but in reality the only losses will be the cost of raising her and the loss of the interest on the money invested on her for the time she has been idle. This sum will mean, when she is afloat again, about fifty per cent of her value.

Regarding the original cause of the disaster, though it is rather like crying over spilt milk to talk about that now, I may say that I firmly believe that, had Captain Hewlett been on the bridge by himself the accident would never have happened. He has been one of our most successful skippers, and my only regret is that he fell into the blameless error of trusting too implicitly to his pilot.

A Bad Cold

If not speedily relieved, may lead to serious issues. Where there is difficulty of breathing, expectoration, or soreness of the throat and bronchial tubes, with a constantly irritating cough, the very best remedy is Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. It removes the phlegm, soothes irritation, stops coughing, and induces repose. As an emergency medicine, Ayer's Cherry Pectoral should be in every household.

"There is nothing better for coughs than Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. I use no other preparation."—Annie S. Butler, 169 Pond st., Providence, R. I.

"I suffered severely from bronchitis; but was

CURED BY

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. It saved my life."—Geo. B. Hunter, Goose River, N. S.

"About a year ago I took the worst cold that ever a man had, followed by a terrible cough. The best medical aid was of no avail. At last I began to spit blood, when it was supposed to be all over with me. Every remedy failed, till a neighbor recommended Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. I took half a teaspoonful of this medicine, three times a day, regularly, and very soon began to improve. My cough left me, my sleep was undisturbed, my appetite returned, my emaciated limbs gained flesh and strength, and to-day, thanks to the Pectoral, I am a well man."—H. A. Bean, 28 Winter st., Lawrence, Mass.

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Empress of China....	May 7	May 15 ....
Empress of India....	May 28.....	June 5.....
Empress of Japan....	June 18.....	June 26....
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1.30 p.m....Lv. Pt. Townsend. Lv.... 11.45 p.m.
4.30 p.m....Ar.. Victoria....Lv†.. 8.30 p.m.

PORT TOWNSEND MAIL ROUTE.
STEAMER EDITH.

11.00 p.m....Lv... *Seattle ....Ar.... 3.00 p.m.
12.30 a.m....Lv..Pt. Madison..Lv.... 2.10 p.m.
3.00 a.m....Lv...Pt. Gamble...Lv.... 11.00 a.m.
4.00 a.m....Lv..Pt. Ludlow...Lv.... 10.00 a.m.
6 00 a.m....Ar. Pt. Townsend Lv.... 8.00 a.m.

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