For the Coast Mines

Queen City Brings News of Development on the Island.

Yacht Tilikum Started on Her Cruise From San Juan Yesterday.

Steamer Queen City returned from Ahousett and way ports the West Coast yesterday afternoon after a stormy winter-like trip. Gales, squalls, hail and drizzling rain, made the trip a far-from pleasant one. At some of the landings, particularly the boat landings, where freight is landed with the steamer's boats, the crew had difficulty in getting the freight ashore. At Wreck Bay a boat was swamped and some of the supplies, flour, etc., lost, and the occupants had a trying time. Only a portion of the freight was landed there, the bricks, and other material for the furnaces and the assay outfit having been landed on the up trip, and part of the supplies when returning. Part of the supplies were brought back, the sea being too rough to land them.

The only craft reported, other than the ocean liner Glenogle, which was seen bound out to China, was the little schooner-yacht Tilikum, the four ton Indian canoe decked over and converted into a three-masted schooner, in which Messrs. J. C. Voss and Norman K. Luxton are to endeavor to cruise through the Pacific to Tahiti, for which port they cleared from here. The Tilikum left here on May 21, and put into San Juan, where she has since been lying waiting for the weather to abate, and yesterday morning on the wind lowering, put to sea.

No gold was received from Wreck Bay, but the miners were at work there, despite disadvantages arising out of the weather, rain having caused a washout of part of their sluice, which handicapped work for a time. Now the machines are taking out gold, and as the furnaces are being built, the next shipment sent down will in all probability be in gold bricks. No ore was received from the Monitor mines, but good reports were received from all the mines of the West Coast.

A number of mining men returned by the Queen City, among these being Col. Hayes, who was accompanied by R. B. Mohler, of the O. R. and N. company; A. McQueen, and R. McLay, a Portland party who have been visiting the mine; W. Price, manager of the Seechart Copper mines; M. E. Newton of the Gilden Eagle Mining company, who has been to San Juan; E. H. Hobson, R. Riley, and W. T. Riley, a party of prospectors who have been to Wreck Bay; Dr. Marshall, of Sidney Inlet; Sidney H. Toy, E. A. Maltby, J. W. Ladd, George Logan and E. A. Le Wald of the Monitor; A. E. Waterhouse, of Alberni; J. J. Baird of San Juan, and T. J. Peak, traveller for A. B. Fraser, were other passengers.

From Alberni news was given that development work is to be continued at the Hayes mines, and the wire for an aerial tramway is said to be now on the way from the east. A compressor is also spoken of and and other works are to be made for developing the rich West Coast property. From the Barclay Sound iron mines, news is given that is encouraging to those interested. At Seechart the tunnel is in 130 feet, and is crosscut in solid iron ore fifty feet on either side. This tunnel and crosscuts are 400 feet below where the iron crops out at the surface, and 400 feet from where it crops out underneath. At the Sarita the tunnel is driven 151 feet in iron, eighty feet below the surface, and the miners are at work stripping both sides of the ledge, where the iron shows a thousand feet running lengthways. On Copper Island the miners are blasting in iron, and as yet it is undetermined how much they have. The ledge is over sixty feet wide. Nothing was heard from Clayoquot of the nearby mines.

From Clayoquot a shipment of 38 seal skins were sent down, consigned to local Chinese, by Sing Lee, a Chinese storekeeper who has bought the skins in trade with the Indians, the price paid being fourteen dollars a skin. The Indians have not taken as large a catch off the coast this year as last, it is said, the bad weather acting against them.

On the next trip of the Queen City, on which she sails tomorrow night, His Lordship Bishop Orth will be among the passengers, going on a visit to the coast missions.

BOREALIS HAS BIG CATCH.

Cable Message From Japan Reports Her to Have 1,882 Skins.

A cablegram was received yesterday morning by the Victoria Sealing company from Mr. Leffen, its agent in Japan, stating that the sealing schooner Borealis, Capt. Munro, had arrived at Hakodate for water, with a catch of 1,882 skins.

This came as a pleasant surprise to the sealing company, who now look for big catches by all the eight schooners off the Japan coast, for some of the other vessels had better crews of hunters than the Borealis carries, and they are expected to have even larger catches, in fact the sealers, are looking forward to hearing shortly that all the vessels have holds well filled with pelts. As the schooner Borealis will have two or three weeks more off the Japan coast before proceeding to the Copper islands, it is expected that she will have somewhere in the neighborhood of three thousand skins by the time she is ready to cruise homeward, provided she does not have runs of bad weather to interfere with the lowering of her boats.

The catch of the Borealis is over four times as large as that of the top-liner of the coast fleet, and ten times as large as the catch made by the Borealis off the southern coast, before she started for Japan. The first news received from the Japanese fleet, which came in letter received three weeks ago by the last Empress, told of how the Director, Vera and Borealis were among the seal herds, the Director and Borealis at that time having but 220 and the Vera having 400. The writer, a hunter of the Director, said the seals were plentiful, and it was expected, with good weather, that all the vessels would have good catches, which seems now to be borne out by the cabled message telling of the good take of the Borealis to date.

No word has been received by mail or cable from the other schooners of the fleet, the Vera, City of San Diego, Carlotta G. Cox, Dora Sieward, Director, Mary Taylor, Casco and the Oscar and Hattie and Saucy Lass, the two latter going to the Copper Islands only. The British Columbia sealers have not hunted in any number off the Japan coast for years, but fair catches have been made by the Japanese and American owned fleets sailing out of Yokohama and Hakodate, a number of United States vessels having been taken over to the Japanese port and placed under the Japanese flag—a subsidy being given to the sealers by Japan—after the Behring Sea was closed to vessels of their nationality some years ago.

According to news received by the Empress, the Japanese sealers are complaining of Russian interference near the Copper islands, and Lieutenant Gunji, of Japan is urging the Japanese government to move in the matter. No seizures are, however, reported to have been made. The Russian fleet were to move to Port Arthur soon after the sailing of the Empress, where they were to be stationed during the summer.

MAY HINDER PATROL FLEET.

Strike Having Effect of Delaying Repairs to Revenue Cutters.

The strike of the iron workers on the Sound is likely to have an effect on the revenue cutter fleet for Behring sea. The revenue cutters Bear, Manning and Thetis, which were to have formed the patrol fleet, require elaborate repairs, and were placed in private shipyards some time ago. The labor troubles stopped the work, however, and the cutters are tied up. The Manning, although in need of repairs, is to go on to Ounalaska shortly. When the remainder of the fleet is to follow is uncertain, and it is doubtful, according to reliable authority, if any systematic patrol work will be carried on until the beginning of August, especially as the Bear is to make a voyage to Point Barrow before she begins to patrol the Behring sea. The Washington correspondent of the Fur Trade Review says that "Reports received by the department indicate that the pelagic sealers will be unusually active in the Pacific ocean, in their efforts to take as many seals as possible from the herd on its way north, and officials here will not be surprised if, in spite of discouraging reports, the pelagic catch of the season is as large as any taken in recent years."

ANCIENT IRISH GARB.

A Movement on Foot to Revive the National Dress.

From London Leader.

There are numerous Irish revivals at the present time, but that of native dress can hardly be said to have taken definite shape yet, as there is, I believe, only one individual, the Hon. William Gibson, who has so far exhibited to the world a specimen of native Irish garb. The question of reverting to native costume has, however, occupied the minds of several Irishmen during the last few years. Indeed, it was bound to come up in connection with the Gaelic movement, which is a revolt of the Irish mind against almost everything that has happened in Ireland since the date of the Treaty of Limerick. This year the question is to take definite shape, as the official "orator" of the "Oireachtas," the Gaelic league annual festival, is to dress in Gaelic costume for the occasion. In order to make sure of their ground several gentlemen interested in the question have made extensive researches as to the nature and style of dress affected by Irishmen in older Gaelic times. As a result of their inquiries, it is found that a great variety of garments were worn from the earliest recorded times down to about 1650, when, as the result of persecution, the Irish relinquished their native garments and took to the tubular clothing now worn by all the nations of Western Europe. It is a curious irony of fate that the penal statutes of Henry VIII., designed to suppress the wearing of Irish clothes, are now relied upon as an authority for their resuscitation, everything stigmatised in the statutes being considered sufficiently Gaelic for revival.

It has been further discovered by the inquiries that the Highland Scottish have retained without material change the dress common to Gaelic Scotland and Ireland prior to 1641. Although the Highlanders were forbidden for a time to wear their own dress, they were, on the whole, much less molested in this respect than the Irish, and consequently have never ceased to wear their distinctive garb. Certain modifications of the Highland dress have taken place in modern times, and these modifications the Irish may decline to follow, but the kilt, in one shape or other, the blue bonnet, and the plaid will no doubt reappear amongst the Irish. There are other Gaelic garments that have been neglected by the Highlanders which the Irish will almost certainly restore. The saffron-colored leine or kirtle is perhaps the most noted of these, as it is mentioned by many writers as a distinctive feature in Irish dress. Scarcely less famous is the Irish cloak, full and ample, cut to various patterns, and trimmed with fur or shag. Some of my readers will recall Spenser's famous reference to this garment where he considers it an ideal one for an Irish outlaw. The jackets worn by the Gaelic Irish were of various shapes, but were generally shorter than the modern corresponding article of dress. Some of them were curiously pleated, and secured by a belt, and some of them were elaborately ornamented with embroidery and quilting. The trews, a single garment, combining the uses of trousers and stockings, was distinctly native, and would be well adapted to modern uses.

All these garments may be made of native materials, a great point in favor of their revival. They are all suitable for the ordinary requirements of life, and it only requires a little moral courage to adopt them. There is no doubt that many members of the Gaelic league are in the frame of mind for taking such a step.

I have said nothing so far of ladies' wear. In the leine and cloak women's garb differed little from that of the men. The most characteristic headgear the ladies was a roll of linen tied in a peculiar bundle on the head. Many ornaments and much jewelry were worn. I take it that the Irishwomen of today will be slower to move in the matter of Gaelic dress revival than the men, but they may eventually follow.

THE OPHIR.

Duke of Cornwall Has Sailed For New Zealand.

Sydney, N. S. W., June 6.—The British steamer Ophir, having on board the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York, sailed for Auckland, New Zealand, at noon today.

FIRE IN PEKIN.

Rain Prevents Destruction of the Forbidden City.

Pekin, June 5.—Lightning yesterday struck a building inside the gate of the American end of the Forbidden City, causing a fire. Three buildings were burned, though the United States and Japanese guards did all possible to prevent a spread of the flames. A heavy rain saved the Forbidden City.

MICHIGAN WHISKEY.

Sets Man Crazy and He Shoots His Whole Family.

Coleman, Mich., June 5.—Will Arnell ran amuck today, and before he was overpowered shot and killed his six-year-old daughter, fatally wounded his wife, and shot his aged and invalid mother, father, and sister. Arnell's little daughter was hiding under the bed when she was killed. Samuel Dopp finally succeeded in shooting Arnell, wounding him slightly. All the injured will recover. Arnell is now in jail. No cause is assigned save that Arnell had been drinking for several days.

METHODIST CONFERENCE.

Transfers From Toronto to Outside Districts.

Toronto, June 5.—(Special.)—In the first draft of the stationing committee of the Toronto Methodist conference, the following transfers out of the Toronto conference were made: W. J. Smith, to Hamilton conference; G. Bishop, London conference; V. H. Emory and Jos. Ward, Bay of Quinte conference; A. B. Johnston, C. E. Manning, B. J. W. Groham, Montreal conference; R. P. Bowelles, Manitoba conference; H. C. Wrinch, to British Columbia conference.

TOO ACQUIRE SEALING INDUSTRY

North American Commercial Co. to Offer to Buy Out Canadian Sealers.

"It can be stated on the highest authority," says the Washington correspondent of the Fur Trade Review, under date of May 25th, "that if the commission reconvenes, the sealing question will be laid before it, though in a somewhat different form from that in which it was submitted two years ago. It will be remembered that the United States then proposed to purchase the rights of the Canadian sealers, and that after considerable negotiation it was practically decided that the Canadian sealers would dispose of their vessels at a price mutually agreed upon. Unfortunately, however, one of the conditions of the organization of the commission was that none of its conclusions should become operative unless all the subjects discussed were settled. The Alaskan boundary line and the fisheries question remained open, in spite of all efforts to bring about an agreement, and thus the settlement of the Bering sea dispute, although practically accomplished, could not go into force. It is now believed that neither of these questions will be laid before the Joint High Commission if it reconvenes, for the reason that the boundary line question has already been partially readjusted on the basis of a modus vivendi, and will no doubt yield to diplomatic treatment, while the fisheries question is soon to be taken up by Premier Bond, of the Nova Scotian government, with the State Department direct, in the hope that a satisfactory treaty can be reached.

"It is believed here that if the Joint High Commission reconvenes this summer the United States government will not renew its offer to buy the Canadian sealing rights and paraphernalia on its own behalf, but, through its commissioners will submit a proposition under which the North American Commercial company, the present lessees of the Pribyloff islands, will be permitted to take over the entire assets of the Victoria Sealing company, Ltd., the consolidation of pelagic sealers described in the annual report of the Canadian Minister of Marine and Fisheries. The United States consul at Victoria, in commenting upon this announcement, stated that the consolidation included practically every vessel that has participated in the industry within the past two years; and further, that one of the principal objects of the combination is to put the industry on a basis that would make it an easy matter to dispose of vessels, etc., to the North American Commercial company should that corporation desire to purchase the outfit."

"While the United States government would thus be eliminated from the commercial feature of this transaction, it would nevertheless have an important part in the negotiations, and in this connection the Joint High Commission would doubtless be the vehicle through which would be arranged the terms of the guarantees to be given by Great Britain and other foreign nations which would be necessary before the lessees of the Pribyloff islands would be justified in buying the Canadian rights. Administration officials are already looking up the precedents along this line, and have fixed upon the agreement between Great Britain and Russia in May, 1893, as furnishing a fair basis for mutual action. Under this agreement the English government pledged itself to prohibit British subjects from killing or hunting seals on the Russian coasts of Bering sea and North Pacific ocean, as well as within a zone of ninety miles around the Komandorsky and Robben islands, and agreed that British vessels found hunting in those waters might be seized by Russian cruisers; and Her Majesty's government engaged to bring to trial before the ordinary tribunal of British territory vessels which might be seized as having been engaged in sealing within the prohibited waters. Of course in the present case the agreement would provide for the total cessation of sealing by British vessels rather than the prohibition of the pursuit of seals in certain waters.

"In the agreement referred to a highly significant clause was inserted under which the Russian government engaged to limit to 30,000 the number of seals which might be killed during the year on the Russian seal islands. This fact raises the question as to whether it would be incumbent upon the United States, in view of its ostensible purpose to preserve the seal herd, to place an arbitrary limit lower than that now in force upon the annual catch of the lessees. The best authorities here agree that there would be no necessity of such a limit, for two reasons; first, because it is conceded that the welfare of the present herd requires the taking of as many killable males per annum as can be found; and second, because, unlike the agreement between Russia and Great Britain in 1893, the proposed agreement between the United States and Great Britain would leave this government the sole proprietor of the sealing industry in the eastern half of the Pacific ocean and Bering sea.

"As to the important question whether the Russian government would join with the United States and Great Britain in prohibiting pelagic sealing, experienced officials here unreservedly express the opinion that the condition of the Russian sealing interest would compel that government to join the compact as a matter of self-protection. On this point Dr. Steinegger says that when the United States and England undertook in 1893 to reach an agreement for the protection of the American fur seals, 'an enormous blow was inflicted upon the Russian seal herd.' He says the Russian authorities were quick to act, but owing to lack of correct information, the regulations agreed to failed in their purpose. The entire pelagic fleet sailing in Bering sea crossed to the Russian islands, hunted the Asiatic seals, both in their winter quarters and on the islands, securing over 72,000 seals in 1893, and over 90,000 in 1894, figures nearly twice as large as the largest catches on the American coast from a herd more than twice as large. In summing up the result of the partial prohibition in the interest of the United States and Great Britain, Dr. Steinegger says:

"'The pelagic sealing on the Asiatic side was fully four times as disastrous in proportion to the stock of seals on the islands compared with the destruction visited on the American seals.'"

The suggestion that the United States government adopt the Russian system of taking over the work of killing the seals, selecting and killing through its own agents and delivering the skins to the lessees, does not meet with favor here. It is pointed out lessees no not permit of the installation of the business-like methods that have characterized the work of the American lessees; and hence, while under the Russian system it is probably for the advantage of the herd and in the interest of the natives that the killing should be done by the government, the conditions on the Pribyloffs are so different as to make it unnecessary and indivisable to change the present system.

"In connection with the announcement that the senate finance committee will consider, during the congressional recess, the general revision of the present customs administrative laws, it is possible that an effort will be made either to repeal or amend the so-called Davis anti-pelagic sealskin law. Should an adjustment be reached through the Joint High Commission or otherwise, the law would be promptly repealed; but, in any event, the treasury officials are strongly of the opinion that it should be modified so as to remove the unnecessary drastic provisions of Section 9, which reads as follows:

"'That the importation into the United States by any person whatsoever of fur sealskins taken in the waters mentioned in this Act, whether raw, dressed, dyed, or manufactured, is hereby prohibited, and all such effect shall not be permitted to be exported, but shall be seized and destroyed by the proper officers of the United States.'"

"Officials here have no doubt that if the law must be retained on the statute books it can be quite as efficiently enforced if the provisions requiring the destruction of pelagic skins and furs manufactured therefrom is stricken out and their exportation permitted. Experience has shown that the only pelagic skins seized at customs houses have been imported inadvertently, usually in the form of a garment brought in by returning tourists not fully advised as to the provisions of the law. As recently shown in these despatches, the hardship in such cases can usually be relieved by permitting the garment to be exported and exchanged. If it is known, however, that the skin is pelagic, this cannot be done, and the only relief thus far extended has been in a few cases where the character of the skin could not be ascertained, in which cases the customs authorities held that while the garments could not be imported, their destruction was not required by law unless they were known to be of pelagic origin."

PROTESTS AGAINST REID.

Bishop Howley Wants Newfoundland to Recover Railways.

St. John, Nfld., June 5.—Bishop N. F. Howley, the Roman Catholic prelate in St. John's, publishes a long letter in the Press this evening insisting upon the colony absolutely recovering the ownership of the railway system, which is now in the hands of Mr. Reid, the contractor.

LONDON CLARET.

How "French" Wines Are Made In England.

However strange the fact may seem to most of our readers, London is a big centre for the fabrication of French claret, and this has lasted ever since according to a law passed by the French government prohibiting the manufacture of wines with dried raisins, the ingenious claret manufacturers have transferred their industry to England, where they have found themselves free from any similar prohibitive law. There are in England more than forty firms assuming the pompous names of "French wine growers," or "Importers of French wines." Since the establishment of this fabrication on the London market the English consumers of claret are, in most cases supplied with a tasty light and palatable beverage at a fairly reasonable price. For it is worthy of notice that the manufacturer of wine made of dried raisins does not require any special implements or elaborate fittings, and is done in the most simple way.

To give an idea of the profits to be reaped from such a manufacture, we may take the case of an "importer of French wines" who starts business with a capital of, say, £15.

	£.	s.	d.
First of all he purchases 2 vats, which represent as near as possible 5 barrels, cost	1	0	0
Raisins (½ cwt. per barrel) 2½ cwt. at £2 12s. per cwt.	6	10	0
Utensils for classification, coloring, sugar, corks, etc	1	0	0
Bottles, 1,000 at 8s. per gross	2	10	0
Total of general expenses	£11	0	0

The two vats represent about 1,075 bottles, or 89 dozen.

	£.	s.	d.
Say 89 dozen sold at a minimum price of 8s. 6d. per dozen	37	16	0
Therefore, with general expenses amounting to	11	0	0
One can obtain a net profit of	£26	16	0

Out of which must be deducted rent, taxes, lighting, etc.

We quote the raisins at £2 12s. per cwt., but, being cornered by the big merchants, these goods often fluctuate on the market and the figure we give is one of the highest.

The secret of fabrication of dry raisin wine is very simple, as will be seen:—Say, to produce 250 bottles, one fills with hot water a recipient able to hold a quantity of water fully representing 250 bottles. This recipient must be large enough to contain at least one-third more. Then one throws in the quantity of raisins required, well stirring the whole lot, and covering the recipient with a piece of cloth, carefully watching that the temperature is kept equal. As soon as the fermentation begins, the whole concoction must be stirred up twice a day with a stick for about twelve days. When the fermentation is settled, the liquid will have to be strained anr the raisins well pressed with the hand so as to get all the juice out of them, and the liquid poured out in a dry and well warmed barrel. Then about ten pounds of sugar and a pound of yeast are added, keeping aside a certain quantity of the liquid, which will have to be poured into the barrel from time to time during the fermentation.

If all manufacturers of dry raisin wine kept to this mode of fabrication, nobody could complain. But some are greedy, and get a second liquid worked with the very same raisins, deprived of all alcoholic principles, and gain in this manner a double profit. The wine obtained by the fabrication is hock, white, or shaded according to its degree of alcohol. As hock is not in great demand on the English market they must turn the liquid into claret, and instead of using heavy Greek, Spanish, or Australian wines to give the hock the color of claret they employ fuscine or campeach bark, which are both injurious to health.

B. A. PAINT CO.

Rush of Work Attests Appreciation of the Wares Produced by This Local Concern.

The old saw concerning the intimate relations supposed to subsist between the absence of dirt and a state of saintliness is usually—and rightly—associated with soap. Soap, then, may be allowed to stand for one of the elevating influences in human affairs, and he who produces much good and true soap, i.e. always supposing the aforesaid soap is put to its proper use, may rightly be spoken be set down as a public benefactor. How much more so, therefore, should the aureola of the saint adorn the head of him who in addition to tons of pure soap, makes carloads of fresh, clean paint? These reflections are the result of a visit to the factories of W. J. Pendray, on Humboldt street.

Paint by the ton was being hurried out of the shipping department. The urbane manager of the paint works, Mr. Munroe, explained that his part of the business was kept as busy as it possibly could, so much so, in fact, that in spite of the fact that some three or four additional hands were now employed, it was frequently necessary to run the works until 9 o'clock at night in order to keep up with the demand. Orders for about 20 tons of paints were in hand and included large shipments for all parts of the province and Northwest.

A run through the extensive buildings of the paint company fully bore out this report of good trade, as every machine in the place was, so to speak, up to the eyes in paint, grinding, mixing, cutting and packing with an energy that produced a constant roar. In one corner a set of heavy rollers were spinning away at the seemingly endless task of grinding white lead, which is fed to it from the floor above, at the rate of 18 tons a day, and although the mere matter of making those rollers revolve when clear of all paint calls forth the utmost strength of four men, so great is the power applied by the steam engine that the machine spins like a light toy.

Everything connected with the mixing, grinding, packing and shipping of the paints is done on the premises. A plant for the manufacture of the well known iron cans in which white lead is sold has been installed, and a visitor to the works can see the various stages in the making of these articles. The paint tins are also made here, as are the cans in which the varnishes are placed on the market. This latter business is a decided innovation, as heretofore these cans had to be imported, their manufacture being much more complicated than the ordinary round tins or pails. Not only these more substantial packages are produced, but cardboard boxes and cartoons in which kalsomine and kindred matters are packed, have a room and manufactory staff to themselves.

In fact, the four extensive floors of this "hive of industry" is a constantly changing scene of life and activity, all to the accompaniment of the roar of the machinery, and a half-hour spent in looking through the establishment is a very interesting experience indeed.

ROYAL BETHROTHAL.

Duke of Cumberland's Daughter Engaged to Duke of Weimar.

Berlin, June 5.—A special despatch from Vienna states that the Young Duke of Weimar will shortly be betrothed to Princess Alexandria Louise, daughter of the Duke of Cumberland and Teviotdale.

NO LIBEL.

Mrs. Woodbury Loses Her Suit Against Mrs. Eddy.

Boston, June 5.—In the Supreme Court today, Justice Bell non-suited the plaintiff in the libel suit brought by Mrs. Josephine Woodbury of Boston, against Mrs. Eddy, head of the Christian Science church.

FACTS FROM THE MAINLAND

Observations of a Member of the Board of Horticulture on Various Subjects.

The following excerpts from letters written by Mr. Thomas Cunningham, member of the board of horticulture, to Mr. Anderson, deputy minister of agriculture, will prove of interest to many readers of the Colonist.

In a letter dated Chilliwack, June 3, Mr. Cunningham says:

Dear Mr. Anderson,—I have just got in from Sumas, which is now a scene of desolation, difficult to describe, but terrible in its aspect. The day is very stormy, the wind blowing half a gale, and as cold as any day in March. As far as the eye can reach there is nothing to be seen but an expanse of angry water. Not only are the meadows under water, but many fields of grain are covered—very fine, promising grain. It is showing much better where not completely submerged than the dry lands of Chilliwack.

The cattle were all removed some time ago; many small bands are picking the short grass on the roadside; they show bad wintering, and are in the worst possible condition to bear the starvation which now seems inevitable. Most of the cattle which I saw to-day are in full flow of milk and cannot be turned into the woods; their bags would be ruined. I had an experience along this line in '94 and '96, and feel the keenest sympathy for those unfortunate people and their stock. There is, however, a very good way to provide for such an emergency—that is, by building a high-water silo and storing it well with ensilage, wild grass or clover, cut and put away at the proper time, does admirably and makes very acceptable food for the cattle, which should be housed in a high-water barn. Mr. F. W. Magar, of Nicomen Island, has made this provision, and is succeeding beyond his highest anticipations. I intend to visit his place as soon as I move away from here, and report at length.

The great trouble with Sumas people is that they are mostly too poor to follow up any scheme involving the expenditure of money, and yet there is no hope for them unless they do adopt some such system. There is no better land in Canada than Sumas Prairie. There are 25,000 acres, I believe, that are subject to flood. I am informed that 15,000 acres of this can be reclaimed by dyking. I remember well when Sumas Prairie was the most prosperous district in the Fraser valley; to-day most of the people have moved away; those who have remained are in deep poverty.

The weather is intensely cold. I expect either a frost or heavy rain tonight; we had a thunderstorm in the afternoon, which I fear has caught the Canadian survey party, who started for the boundary this morning with a pack train of about 20 to 25 horses.

The Vedder creek bridge came very near being swept away; it was saved by the timely and herculean efforts of Mr. Lickman, who worked night and day to save it, and succeeded; he is deserving of great consideration by the "powers that be." Lickman is a fine fellow and very successful fruit grower.

Since writing the foregoing we have had a very cold spell, which has been the salvation of the valley. The Fraser has fallen a good deal, and as the water is intensely cold, I do not apprehend much damage, even where crops were covered for a short time. It may be that the crucial time is yet to come, and that the next hot spell may do a deal of damage. However, "Sonow is soon enough when it comes."

As indicated in a previous letter, I went out to Burnaby on May 27. I took in the hill orchards first; found that some strawberry plantations were infected with the strawberry root borer, Paria aterrima, which you know, of course. I was afraid, from the description which had been given me, that we had to deal with a more formidable pest, viz., the crown borer; not so, however. I saw no indication of the latter insect anywhere. The root borer attacks only the older strawberry beds. Rhubarb roots and raspberry beds, which are permitted to become foul with weeds and trash; there is not much injury done to the rhubarb and raspberries; at the same time, it is better to exterminate the insect wherever it is found. In strawberries, where it may do immense damage, the safest and by far the most effective remedy is to mow the vines after fruiting season is over, and set fire to the dry leaves, mulch and other trash which is sure to accumulate in a strawberry field. This may be said to be heroic treatment, and those who have not seen its beneficial effect are hard to convince that it is not dangerous and destructive to the strawberries, but once they have adopted it, they invariably continue to practise it. All beetles, their eggs, weeds and their seeds are destroyed; two weeks after the bed shall have been burnt over, the vines spring up, beautiful, fresh and robust, and the ground perfectly clean. The next best remedy is to plough under the strawberry beds after gathering the second crop, and plant the other crops in the land, making a new plantation in clean soil. This involves more work, but the practice is a sound one, for unless the runners shall have been cut regularly during the second season, the third crop is seldom profitable. I have fruited strawberries for four years in succession, but invariably cut the runners weekly during the growing season, but where land is plentiful, I advise only two crops. This prevents pests and weeds from being established in the ground.

The third remedy is to spray everything carefully with paris green and lime once before blooming, and two or three times after the fruit has been gathered. This poisons the beetles and other insects, but does not clean the ground. I explained these several methods, giving the growers their choice, but one of the three must be surely adopted.

I visited the growers in the vicinity of Burnaby Lake on the second day, and found some fields entirely free from either or both weeds and pests. I never saw better or more intelligent strawberry culture than that practised by the Mess Hill Brothers. Such men are a treasure in any community, and strange to say they have adopted the very method which I have found to be the best, viz: burning after fruiting."

"I spent two profitable days amongst those people, learned a good deal, as I try to do always, and I believe that I helped them more than a little. I intend to be more amongst them in future. There are many very fine, intelligent people in Burnaby and Central Park. The latter have a very difficult problem to solve. The ground is sour, soil thin, and a very cold inert and barren subsoil. The water table, which flows over the hardpan about 8 months in the year, is destructive of all deep rooting plants, hence the failure in fruit trees, bushes, etc. The only remedy is planting on the surface of the soil, and mounding up with surrounding top soil. This can be done only where all the ground is given to the trees. Few people will be found ready to adopt this practice, hence the frequent failures and chronic dissatisfaction which a member of the board may expect.

"I am thankful to report a very agreeable and fortunate change in the weather. We have a gracious rain this morning, and decidedly cooler. The mercury has lowered about 54 to 60 for the past 48 hours. This checks the rise in the river. I am now inclined to think that after all the sensational and most injurious reports sent out by the Vancouver papers, notably the Province, we shall have only an average water. The Province reported on the 29th, Pitt Meadows all under water. I passed over them two hours after the issue of the paper and found less water than there was in March and April. Same conditions prevail at Matsqui. I wrote to the Province, correcting the damaging report, but I doubt if they will publish anything reflecting on their sensational methods. That publication is most mischievous and glaringly unjust. Any party will be more injured than benefitted by its advocacy.

Crops of all kinds are looking superb. The ground has been warmed up, and now that we have a fructifying rain, we may expect an abundant harvest, which is much needed after the disasters of last year. About 1,000 tons of feed had to be imported here last winter and spring.

Chilliwack, June 3.—"Just a line to say that in all probability the danger of a second 1894 has passed. We are having an exceedingly cold spell for June. Temperature registered 47 degrees last night, and still remains abnormally low. Torrents of rain have fallen. I notice a fresh coating of snow on the mountains this morning. Two and a third inches of rain from Thursday evening till Saturday.

"The Matsqui Prairie and Pitt Meadows are perfectly safe. Pumps working splendidly. I am going out over the Chilliwack dyke this morning, and shall report tomorrow. I heard from Mr. Scott, Mayor of Westminster, this morning. He went over the dyke here yesterday and found everything safe. I fear that our Nicomen friends are getting the full force of the Fraser. Poor fellows, they are not benefitted by Chilliwack dyking."

LOSES ITS RECTOR.

Rev. F. W. Dobbs of St. John's Church, Portsmouth, Dead.

Portsmouth, Ont., June 5.—(Special)—Rev. Francis W. Dobbs, rector of St. John's church, died this morning, aged 87. He had been rector of the church for nearly half a century, and was an uncle of Sir Richard Cartwright.

BUBONIC PLAGUE

Two Hundred Cases Reported at Hongkong in a Week.

London, June 5.—The colonial office has received a despatch from Sir Henry A. Blake, governor of Hongkong, announcing that 215 cases of the bubonic plague were officially reported during the week, which ended June 1.

TIMBER SALE.

Quebec, June 5.—(Special.)—The most successful sale of timber limits ever known here, took place on Tuesday, when $402,300 was realized by the government.

Hotel Balmoral
EUROPEAN PLAN
Douglas Street Bet. View & Fort Business Center.

Refurnished and remodeled with all modern conveniences. Cuisine and table service unsurpassed. Comfortable and commodious parlors for guests, and large sample rooms for commercial men.

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MINERAL ACT

CERTIFICATE OF IMPROVEMENTS.

NOTICE—Magic Fractional Mineral Claim situate in the Victoria Mining Division of Seymour District.

Where located: On the western slope of Mount Sicker.

Take notice that I, Clermont Livingston, acting as agent for the Tyee Copper Company, Limited, free miner's certificate No. B.49,219, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements.

Dated this thirteenth day of May, A. D. 1901.

CLERMONT LIVINGSTON.

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B. C. STEAM DYE WORKS.
141 Yates Street, Victoria.
Ladies' and gent's garments and household furnishings cleaned, dyed or pressed equal to new. se10-dy & w.

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GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING
Distinguished everywhere for Delicacy of Flavour Superior Quality, and Highly Nutritive Properties. Specially grateful and comforting to the nervous and dyspeptic. Sold only in ½-lb. tins, labelled JAMES EPPS & CO., Ltd. Homœopathic Chemists, London, England.
BREAKFAST SUPPER
EPPS'S COCOA

In the matter of the estate of Thomas Fletcher, deceased, and in the matter of the official administrator's act.

Notice is hereby given that under an order dated the 21st day of May, 1901, made by the Hon. Mr. Justice Martin, I, the undersigned was appointed Administrator of all and singular the goods, chattels and credits of the above named deceased. Parties having claims against the said estate are requested to forward particulars of same to me on or before the 21st day of June, 1901, and parties indebted to the said estate are required to pay such indebtedness to me forthwith.

WM. MONTEITH,
Official Administrator.

Dated 23rd day of May, 1901.

FARMERS ATTENTION

The Victoria Creamery will be ready to accept cream on and after MONDAY, JUNE 3rd. Patrons may obtain cans at the Creamery at cost prices

The Victoria Creamery Association Limited
CAREY ROAD VICTORIA, B.C.

JOHN JAMESON & SONS, DUBLIN
"Own cased" very old Black Bottle
WHISKEY
PLEASE SEE YOU GET IT WITH METAL CAPSULES
BLUE.....ONE STAR
PINK.....TWO STAR
GOLD.....THREE STAR
OFF ALL DEALERS
Sole export bottling agents to J. J. & S
C. DAY & CO., LONDON

"LAND REGISTRY ACT."

In the Matter of the Application of the Honorable Montague William Tyrwhitt Drake for a Certificate of Indefeasible Title to Subdivision Two (2) of Block "G" Harbor Estate, Victoria City.

NOTICE is hereby given that a Certificate of Indefeasible Title to the above hereditaments will be issued to the Honorable Montague William Tyrwhitt Drake on the 9th day of June, A. D., 1901, unless in the meantime a valid objection thereto be made to me in writing by some person claiming an estate or interest therein or in some part thereof.

S. Y. WOOTTON,
Registrar-General.

Land Registry Office,
Victoria, B. C., 1st day of March, 1901.

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Dealer in
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Curry Combs, Brushes, Whips, Blankets, Robes, Shawl Straps, Etc.
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Flour, Feed, Hay, Grain.
You should try Crushed Oats, the best and most economical for horses and cattle. We have always a fresh stock on hand.
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$55.00 cash for 5-drawer drop-head; $65.00 on installments, at $3.00 per month. From $5.00 to $20.00 given for old machine in exchange off these prices.
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