PROSPECTS ARE BRIGHT

Annual Meeting of the Directors of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

Improvement in Business Already Noticeable—The Line is in Good Condition.

Deputy Minister of Railways and Canals Has a Good Word to Say for the Road.

Montreal, April 1.—The annual meeting of the shareholders of the C. P. R. company was held to-day. The old board was re-elected unanimously. The report says the depression prevailing at the date of the last report continued until after the middle of the year, but the recovery of business since has been gratifying. At the close of the year an unusually large proportion of the crops remained to be moved insuring good earnings until the next crop. The new year opened with much promise, the results of the first two months showing an increase over the same period last year of six hundred and thirty-seven thousand dollars in the gross earnings, and two hundred and seventy-six thousand dollars net. The Soo and Duluth South Shore lines participated in the improvement in business. The Soo paid fixed charges without assistance, but the Duluth, owing to the long strike in the iron mines, required assistance to the extent of $148,000. Concerning the large reduction in the working expenses, the report states that with the exception of the car equipment, the property was never in a better condition than at the close of the year, and in respect to a permanent way it was better than ever before. The single exception named is due to the postponement of rebuilding and heavy repairs, owing to the light traffic during the first half of the year. This has now nearly been made good. A considerable part of the reduction is only apparent, the working expenses of 1894, with which comparison is made, having been abnormally increased by the floods in British Columbia. Other reductions were mainly due to light traffic during the first seven months and the low cost of fuel and other supplies. The report of Collingwood Schreiber, deputy minister and chief engineer of railways and canals, submitted to the Dominion parliament relating to his inspection of the railway late in 1895, quoted as follows: "I observed throughout the entire line improvements which are being steadily made by the Canadian Pacific railway company, giving to their road a solid and permanent character. The damages caused to the roadway in the Fraser and Thompson rivers in the spring of 1894 have been repaired and the road throughout is in an excellent state of efficiency." Mr. Schreiber goes on to say: "With the heavy crops in the northwestern section of the country a large increase in the live stock production for export, the marvellously rapid development of mines in British Columbia and the improvement in trade which is visible, I am induced to believe that the future earnings of this railway will considerably exceed those realized in the past."

The shareholders approved of the agreement with the Toronto, Hamilton & Buffalo railway company, the Michigan Central railway company, Canada Southern, New York Central and Hudson River railway company, for joint control of the Toronto, Hamilton & Buffalo railway, which will afford the Canadian Pacific a long needed connection with Hamilton, the Niagara frontier and Vanderbilt system, and in this connection authorized an agreement with the Grand Trunk for the joint use of its line between Toronto and Hamilton, thus removing the necessity for the construction of an independent line by the T. H. & B. company. They also approve of the agreement with the Calgary & Edmonton for working its line for five years for its account as its agent and without a capital liability. The shareholders authorized the expenditure during the present year from capital account aggregating £320,000. At a subsequent meeting of the board the former officers and executive committee were re-elected.

DECISIVE ACTION

Five Thousand Troops to be Dispatched to the Cape of Good Hope.

London, April 1.—Owing to the situation in South Africa the government are taking steps to dispatch five thousand troops to the Cape of Good Hope as soon as possible in order to be ready for emergencies. The directors of the British Chartered South African company have formally requested the government to order the immediate dispatch of five hundred regular troops from Cape Town to Buluwayo.

AGREEMENT REACHED.

Great Britain and France Said to Have Come to Terms About Dongola.

London, April 1.—A dispatch to the Pall Mall Gazette from Paris, published this afternoon, says there is reason to believe that an agreement has been reached between France and Great Britain relative to Dongola interests, and that both countries are now safeguarded by mutual concessions, the terms of which will be announced in the chamber of deputies to-morrow.

Paris, April 1.—Conservative and moderate newspapers regard the statement made by the premier and minister for foreign affairs, M. Bourgeois, in the senate yesterday, as being inadequate, and declare it to be nothing more than a deliberate deception. Le Matin calls it a remarkable statement, and adds that M. Bourgeois hopes to be more explicit in the chamber of deputies tomorrow, adding: "In fact it is stated in ministerial circles that one of the powers of the Dreibund has modified its original attitude, thus putting a different complexion on the Egyptian question. In the recent pour-parlers this power explained that although, out of friendship for Italy, it deemed itself compelled to authorize the use of the Egyptian reserve fund for the Dongola expedition, it does not imply an intention on its part to assist in making Great Britiain's domination in Egypt more complete. On the contrary, it would join France and Russian in reminding Great Britain of its repeated promises. Up to the present, the exchange of views has been verbal, but a dispatch from the power in question detailing its intentions, is expected and it is hoped will arrive in time to be used by M. Bourgeois in the chamber of deputies to-morrow."

NO EQUAL IN THE WORLD.

Rev. W. H. Withrow, D. D., Now Touring Europe with a Canadian Party, Is One of Many to Talk Favorably of Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder.

There are few more noted travellers than the Rev. W. H. Withrow, D.D., editor of the Canadian Methodist Magazine, and of other publications of the great Methodist church of this country. He is a wide traveller and enjoys the opportunities that travel gives of judging broadly of the merits of any article. He has expressed the written opinion that Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder is a most excellent remedy for cold in the head and various catarrhal troubles. One short puff of the breath through the blower, supplied with each bottle of Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder, diffuses the powder over the surface of the nasal passages. Painless and delightful to use, it relieves instantly and permanently cures Catarrh, Hay Fever, Colds, Headache, Sore throat, Tonsilitis and Deafness. 60 cents.

For sale by Dean & Hiscocks and Hall & Co.

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

To the Mexican Congress Refers to the Monroe Doctrine.

City of Mexico, April 2.—The most important part of the President's message, delivered to-day at the opening of Congress, is the allusion to the Anglo-Venezuelan controversy and President Cleveland's message to Congress. This part of the Mexican president's message is as follows: "With our northern neighbors our intercourse is of the same friendly and cordial character as our diplomatic and other relations have been for some years past. Naturally that doctrine which condemns all attempts of European usurpation and all tendencies to modify the republican institutions of the new world in monarchical direction, arouses great enthusiasm among the free nations of this continent, and gave occasion for demonstrations of sympathy both popular and governmental. Invitations of an international character were not lacking that the Mexican government should at once state its opinion on so great a matter."

The message goes on to say that President Diaz, though in favor of the Monroe doctrine, has not been able to arrive at any conclusion whether it is applicable to the Anglo-Venezuelan controversy. In conclusion the president expresses the hope and belief that the matter will be satisfactorily settled.

BRUSSELS EXHIBITION.

America Has Received a Formal Invitation to be Represented.

Washington, D.C., April 2.—The department of state has received an invitation, through the Berlin minister, for participation by the United States in the international exposition to be held at Brussels, beginning April 24th, 1897, and closing November 1st, of the same year. The secretary of state, in a letter to the secretary of the treasury, has recommended that congress be asked to appropriate the sum of $35,000 to enable this country to be properly represented by commission. The opinion is expressed that the commercial and industrial interests of the United States will be greatly promoted by a creditable exhibit.

PACIFIC CABLE.

Members of the Committee on Foreign Relations Opose a Subsidy.

Washington, D.C., April 1.—The senate committee on foreign relations did not report on the Hawaiian cable bill to-day. The members could not agree as to whether the proposition of Scrymser or the Spaulding Company should be accepted. Messrs. Gray, Turpie, Daniels and Mills are opposed to the granting of any subsidy for a cable

COMPLETE SNOW BLOCKADE.

They Are Still Having a Lively Time in the East.

Milwaukee, Wis., April 2.—Reports from Northern Wisconsin tell of a complete snow blockade of many railroads, with drifts from ten to twenty feet deep. Two lumber jacks left Itasca Tuesday noon to walk to a lumber camp near Cutter's station; they had not arrived there at eight o'clock last night, and a searching party was organized at Itasca to go in quest of them. The wind is still blowing a heavy gale and the light top snow is being piled upon the railroads, and in front of the business houses there are snow drifts as high as twenty feet. Residences are surrounded with great banks of snow, and the occupants are compelled to tunnel passage ways from the doors to the street. The front door of the Bank of Superior was blown open during the night and the floor of the interior was buried under four feet of snow before morning.

How to Get a "Sunlight" Book

Send 12 "Sunlight" Soap wrappers to Lever Bros., Ltd., 23 Scott St., Toronto, who will send post-paid a paper-bound book, 160 pages. For 6 "Lifebuoy" Carbolic Soap wrappers, a similar book will be sent. This is a special opportunity to obtain good reading. Send your name and address written carefully. Remember "Sunlight" sells at six cents per twin-bar, and "Lifebuoy" at 10 cents. One cent postage will bring your wrappers by leaving the ends open.

ALL ON ONE SIDE

Selfish Tories Want Mother Country to Discriminate in Canada's Favor,

While They Persistently Raise a Barrier Against Trade in Her Manufactures.

Ottawa, April 2.—Yesterday was private members' day in the house of commons, and, excepting answers elicited to several interrogations and the passage of motions for returns, nothing was accomplished.

The finance minister, in reply to a question, stated that it was the intention of the government to continue their policy with the British government with a view to securing a preferential duty in favor of Canadian butter and cheese, and, in fact, all Canadian products.

The minister of the interior informed Mr. Charlton that the Roman Catholic bishops were not to have absolute control of the proposed halfbreed colony in the Northwest, but that the management would be subject to the direction of the government.

In committee of the whole on the bill incorporating the Manitoba and Nelson Valley railway company, the Liberals objected that the amount of the capital stock was too small in view of the great number of miles to be constructed, and argued the point for an hour, when the bill had to go over until Monday. Many members protested against so many railway charters being granted to Manitoba and the Northwest, claiming that most of them were speculative schemes, which prevented genuine enterprises from being carried out.

Mr. McCarthy's bill to prevent seats in the house of commons that might become vacant by the death of members, or otherwise being kept open for an unreasonable length of time, was next taken up in committee, but did not get through before the adjournment of the house at 11.30.

The house will go into committee of the whole again to-day on the remedial bill.

The government do not intend to impose a duty on pulp wood.

IS FASTNER THE STRANGLER?

A Man Arrested in San Francisco who Answers to the Description.

San Francisco, Cal., April 2.—Julius Fastner, who arrived in this city from Omaha on March 22nd, has been arrested and will be held pending an investigation into his sanity. He is accused of insulting young women. From papers found on his person it appears that this is not the first time his mental balance has been questioned, he having been examined as to his sanity in Omaha, when he was acquitted. Fastner answers the description in every particular of the strangler who has been operating in this city. He is about 32 years of age, and fashionably dressed. When accused of being the strangler, Fastner admitted that he knew Irene Phillips, but denied that he had attempted to murder her. He confessed to having attempted to strangle his wife in Omaha. Fastner frequently spoke of his "undying love for the fair sex." Last Monday, thinking he might commit some act of violence, the proprietor of the hotel he was at ordered him to leave. He is well connected in Omaha.

TRADE IS LOOKING UP SOME.

Exports From England to America Have Much Improved.

Sheffield, April 2.—The exports from this place to the United States for the first three months of 1896 amounted to £166,444, compared with £112,602 for the same period of 1895.

REPUBLICAN VICTORY.

Rhode Island Election Goes Strongly Republican.

Providence, R.I., April 2.—Belated returns show that the Republicans of this state defeated the Democrats in yesterday's election by large pluralities. Governor Lipsett received a plurality of 11,278, an increase of 468 over his plurality of a year ago. Last year's Democratic minority of 9 in the state legislature is reduced to 6 this year.

ANOTHER BIG BOOM.

Logs to be Towed from the Columbia River to San Francisco.

Portland, April 2.—W. E. Baines and Captain H. R. Robertson, who last summer successfully floated by sea a huge raft of Columbia river logs to San Francisco, are now in the city making arrangements to repeat the experiment. It is their purpose to make up a raft of piles amounting to 500,000 linear feet, or about 700,000 feet board measure, at Stella, Wash. The timbers will be gathered on the Columbia river, and next July will be towed from that place.

Mr. Baines, speaking of the venture, said: "The method employed in rafting them effects a good saving in freight, so much so that piles can be sold from 35 to 40 per cent. cheaper than if transported by other means. One of our rafts will take more piles than are ordinarily shipped by a schooner in five years. The risk is reduced to a minimum by making the trip at the proper season, and it takes only five days from the mouth of the Columbia to San Francisco."

American.

Portland, Ore., April 2.—United States District Judge Bellingers has appointed F. K. Arnold receiver for Snell, Heihu & Woodward Co., wholesale druggist. This is the largest druggist house in the Northwest.

New York, April 2.—Money on call firm at 3½ to 4 per cent.; last loan, 3½; prime mercantile paper, 5½ to 6½; sterling exchange firm, with actual business in bankers' bills at 4.88¾ to 4.89 for demand and 4.87¾ to 4.88 for 60 days; posted rates 4.88½ to 4.89 and 4.89½ and 4.90; commercial bills, 4.87; government bonds firm; bar silver, 68.

MISCREANT'S DESPERATE DEED

Discovery of an Attempt to Wreck the Missouri State Capitol.

Jackson, Miss., April 2.—An attempt was made last night to wreck the state capitol. At 10 o'clock while Secretary of State Owen was working in the office at the capital he heard a noise outside. Going to the window he saw several men digging at the wall between the door and the window. His appearance frightened away the men and investigation showed that two pieces of stone, about two feet square, had been removed from the wall. Had the work gone on a little further the second wall would have fallen, thus wrecking the building. Strenuous efforts were made during the resent session of the legislature to provide for a new building. Nothing was done in the matter, though some miscreants took this means of securing immediate action.

THE HUASCAR.

Eight of the Monitor's Crew Killed by Escaping Steam.

New York, April 2.—A special to the Herald from Valparaiso, Chili, tells of the bursting of a steam pipe on the monitor Huascar yesterday, killing eight of the crew and fatally injuring four others. The Huascar had just arrived in port from the Talcahuan dry dock.

NICARAGUAN CANAL.

Work of Dredging Can be Done Cheaper Than Was Estimated.

Washington, April 2.—Some features of the engineering work upon the Nicaraguan canal were discussed before the committee of commerce from the standpoint of engineers' experience of large enterprises. Excavating and dredging were discussed by Mr. Lindon Sales, who described the dredging machines and dredging operations on the Chicago drainage canal, and asserted that by the same machinery and methods work on the Nicaragua canal could be done at less than the company's estimates. The construction of the canal, he said, would inaugurate an era on the Pacific coast of greatly increased earnings by the railways of that section.

ITALIANS ATTACKED.

Dervishes Fire Upon the Outer Works of Kassala.

Rome, April 1.—A dispatch received here from Massowah announces that advices received there say that the Dervishes fired upon the outer works of Kassala with two cannons on March 25. The Italians replied without result. On Saturday Major Hidalgo, in command of the Italian forces at Kassala, sent the following dispatch: "Since six we have been fighting against masses of the enemy, who have taken up a position on Mount Macran. Up to now we have had one man killed and four wounded.

Col. Stevani, who is hastening to the relief of Kassala with a force of troops, sent instructions to Major Hidalgo not to engage the enemy in a battle until he arrived with reinforcements. Advices received from the west state that the Dervishes have established a hasty camp at Tucruf, where they are digging a number of well. The news received concerning the movement of the Shoans is to the effect that King Menelik is retreating southward with all the rest, except the Tigrins. It is supposed that this movement is owing to lack of provisions.

Cairo, Egypt, April 2.—The telegraph line between Korosko and Murat Wells, north of Wady Halfa, has been cut.

St. Petersburg, April 22.—King Menelik, of Abyssinia, has expressed regret at being unable to go to Moscow upon the occasion of the coronation of the Czar but has explained his inability to do so on account of the prolonging of the war and the fact that he must stay at Tigre.

CATTLE EXCLUSION.

Dr. Montague Has a Conference With President Long.

London, April 2.—Dr. Montague, the Canadian minister of agriculture, had a lengthy conference to-day with Walter Long, president of the board of agriculture, in regard to the latter's bill providing for the permanent exclusion of foreign cattle from Great Britain. Dr. Montague will sail for Canada to-morrow.

Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, secretary of state for the colonies, is considering the suggestions and proposals of the Dominion government regarding tenders for the fast steamship service.

The news agency this afternoon sent out a dispatch, said to come from Nice, saying that Queen Victoria's carriage had been in collision with a wagon, no damage being done to the former. The newspapers here discredit the story.

The Chinese government has decided to enter into the postal union.

The government denies that a secret treaty between China and Russia has been concluded and the French minister to China has been recalled.

Paris, April 2.—After a debate in the chamber of deputies to-day on the foreign policy of the government, a resolution which was acceptable to the ministry was adopted by a vote of 309 to 213.

Berlin, April 2.—At a meeting of the bondholders of the Northern Pacific railway to-day it was unanimously resolved to accept the re-organization plan.

Bradford, April 2.—The exports from this city to the United States during the month of March were valued at £312,000, compared with £491,000 for the same period of 1895.

Vienna, April 2.—In consequence of the decision of a portion of the fire department to go out on strike, all of the firemen have been relieved from military duty.

ROYAL Baking Powder *has been awarded highest honors at every world's fair where exhibited.*

WONDER IN WINGHAM

Caused by the Arrest of Men for Murder of Mr. Fields, an Old Man.

A Patron Measure Makes a Gap in the Government's Majority in Ontario.

Wingham, April 2.—The town was thrown into a state of excitement yesterday by the arrest of five men in connection with an outrage on an old man named Fields, who, it is supposed, died from violence used towards him. When the inquest at London on Tuesday night was adjourned for a week, it was supposed that the provincial detectives were unable to get satisfactory evidence connecting any one with the outrage. The adjournment turns out to be a ruse to lull the wrong-doers into a sense of security. They have been keeping away, and after the adjournment all five were arrested in bed on warrants early yesterday morning and taken to Goderich. They were brought back Friday and the preliminary examination held. More arrests are expected.

Toronto, April 2.—In the legislature last evening the government majority dropped to nine in voting down the bill of Mr. Purrie, Patron, making it illegal for members of the asembly to hold any office in the gift of the house until one year after the dissolution of the legislature of which he was a member. The Patrons and Conservatives voted solid, supported by two Liberals, the vote being 48 to 39.

Winnipeg, April 2.—The old Potter House was burned last night. The building had been condemned by the civic authorities.

THE REBELLIOUS BOOTHS.

They Are Reticent in Giving Information About the New Army.

Buffalo, April 2.—Commander and Mrs. Ballington Booth arrived at Buffalo with staff at noon to-day. They were met at the station by friends and supporters here. When Mr. Booth was asked if a post of the new army would be established in Buffalo, he said: "I cannot tell, as yet, neither can I say how many posts had been established throughout the country. We are in constant receipt of communications telling us of volunteers, but until these new stations are registered and counted I cannot say how many there are." Mr. and Mrs. Booth will speak at the music hall to-night.

GREAT SHORTAGE IN SUGAR.

This Year's Production Will Be Very Much Behind the Mark.

San Francisco, Cal., April 2.—Rudolph Spreckels, president of the Hawaiian Commercial and Sugar company, in his annual report states that the world's product of sugar this year will probably be one million tons short of the supply for several years past.

HON. EDWARD BLAKE NOT ILL.

Reports of His Serious Condition Are Without Foundation.

London, April 2.—Hon. Edward Blake, M. P., left London on a holiday trip today in perfect health. Sensational stories circulated in Canada by the Great Northwestern News Agency as to his being suddenly and dangerously stricken in the house of commons are without foundation. They were denied yesterday by the Associated Press.

COLONISTS ACTIVE.

They Do Much to Prevent the Spread of the Matabeleland Rebellion.

Port Salisbury, Matabeleland, April 2.—Cecil Rhodes, with 150 volunteers, is proceeding to Gwelo and Buluwayo. Mr. Rhodes has expressed the opinion that Rhodesia is capable of coping with the revolt of the Matabeles.

London, April 2.—The secretary of state for the colonies, Mr. Jos. Chamberlain, received dispatches from the governor of Cape Colony, Sir Hercules Robinson, to-day, which seem to denote that the activity on the part of the authorities in Matabeleland and Cape Colony has done a great deal towards preventing the spread of the rebellion in Matabeleland. It is now announced that the outlying stations about Buluwayo have been relieved and Buluwayo and Gwelo are no longer considered to be in danger of attack. Consequently Sir Hercules Robinson hopes the revolt will be almost confined to the Matoppa hills.

CANADIAN NEWS.

Serious Blizzard Blowing at Port Arthur Yesterday.

Winnipeg, April 2.—There is no clue yet to the murderer of Hannah Hatton at Holland. The most generally accepted theory is that she was enciente and was killed by her betrayer.

Winnipeg, April 1.—A Port Arthur dispatch says that the most serious blizzard of the winter is blowing to-day, and for the first time this season the street car line between Port Arthur and Fort William has been snowed up, so that traffic is stopped altogether.

St. John's April 1.—News from Cape Breton to-day reports that the steamers Iceland and Nimrod fishing in the gulf of St. Lawrence are without seals. This destroys the last hope of the fishery being even fairly successful. The total catch is not expected to reach 120,000 against 180,000 last year. The price of skins and oil shows no advance over last year's figures.

THEY FORGOT THE PARSONS.

Who Had to Dun for Their Fee in the Marlborough Weding.

New York, March 30.—A local paper says: It has just come to light that the wedding fee for uniting the duke of Marlborough and Miss Vanderbuilt, was not so munificent as was proclaimed. The statement made at the time was that the Duke handed Rev. Dr. Brown a neat envelope containing $5000. It was presumed by the public, as well as by the distinguished clergymen, who assisted at the ceremony that a division would be made among the assisting clergy. It now appears that each had been waiting for his share, but, in fact, not one got a cent. One of the parishoners happened to learn from her rector that he was still waiting for his share, although she had heard that he had received the fee in gross. This led to a conference of the gentlemen most interested, with the discovery that each had been patiently expecting another to make the allotments and wondering if he would be left out entirely, and that no one of them had received any fee whatever. Finally, it is said, Bishop Littlejohn saw Mrs. Vanderbilt and inquired what had become of the fee stated to have been paid.

"You must not mind that," she is said to have replied. "The duke is a mere boy you know."

After much more delay Mrs. Vanderbilt paid a sum that finally reached all the clergymen, to the extent of a few hundred dollars apiece.

PERMISSION IS GIVEN.

To the Relief Missionaries to Proceed With Work in Turkey.

Constantinople, March 31.—In consequence of the energetic representations of the British ambassador, Sir Phillip Currie, and the United States charge d' affaires, John W. Riddell, the Porte has furnished written assurance to the missionaries at Annatola, that they will not be molested in the work of distributing relief, on condition that an Ottoman official is permitted to assist in the distribution of the funds, etc.

A MERGENTHALER RECORD.

Broken Again—St. Louis Takes from Chicago This Time.

St. Louis, March 30.—The world's record for the greatest number of "ems" set in one hour on a Mergenthaler linotype was broken last night by B. G. Mensing, compositor on the Post-Dispatch. In that time he set up 10,685 "ems," 585 more than did Green in Chicago, who held the former record. The event was a seven hour contest between Robert Francis, of the Globe-Democrat, and Mensing for a purse of $200. About $1000 changed hands on the result. Mensing won the contest, setting 74,100 ems to 63,800 by his opponent, who had ten minutes lost time.

DAY'S SHIPPING NEWS

Ship Kilbrannan to be Brought to Esquimalt to be Surveyed.

Cargo of the Empress of Japan, Due Next Week From the Orient.

From Tuesday's Daily.

San Francisco, March 31.—Among the arrivals by the Coptic was R. Negishi, who is on his way to London as agent there for a new line of steamers to be put on by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha between London and Yokohama. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha owns over sixty steamers plying between the ports of the east. It is probably that this company will before long establish a line between one of the ports on this coast and Yokohama. If a line should be established Portland or Tacoma would probably be selected as the eastern terminal.

In addition to her regular cargo, the steamer Maude, which leaves for the West Coast this evening, will take down a large amount of tin for the Clayoquot cannery and supplies for the West Coast Fishing and Trading Company's cannery at Nootka.

—The C. P. N. Co.'s steamer Rainbow left on her regular trip to Sooke this morning. Besides the usual cargo of supplies, she carried a large quantity of lumber to be used for building purposes by the settlers.

The Alaska steamer Topeka arrived from the north at an early hour this morning, and after discharging her Victoria passengers and freight, left immediately for the Sound.

The sealing schooner Mascot, Captain Lorenz, left Honolulu on March 18 for the Japanese coast.

From Wednesday's Daily.

Reports brought down by the Topeka are to the effect that Alaska is already overrun with men who have no money and who are a charge upon the community. As they have no means and there is no employment, and as the weather is bad, they have suffered greatly from the cold and country. The men have become desperate, and petty thieving is going on extensively. The residents there are considering the advisability of chartering a steamer and shipping the indigent men out of the country. The Topeka is expected here to-morrow evening on her return trip to the north.

The British bark Kilbrannan, which ran ashore at Point Wilson, and which was afterwards floated and beached at Point Hadlock, will next week be taken to Esquimalt, where she will be examined by Lloyds' representatives acting in behalf of the underwriters. In all probability the Kilbrannan will enter the dry dock and necessary repairs will be made by the Albion Iron Works.

The C. P. R. company's steamer Empress of Japan is due on Tuesday from the Orient. She has 150 tons of silk, 200 tons of freight for Victoria, 200 tons for the Sound and 200 tons for San Francisco. There are 50 saloon and 375 steerage passengers on board, and of the latter there are 100 whose destination is Victoria.

—The many friends in Victoria of Mr. Fred Thorndyke, who for several years has occupied the position of purser on the steamer City of Kingston, will be pleased to hear of that gentleman's promotion. Mr. Thorndyke yesterday took charge of the Puget Sound and Alaska Steamship company's office at Seattle, he having been appointed agent for the company at that place vice Mr. Yerkes. Charlie Le Farge, for several years freight clerk on the Kingston, takes Mr. Thorndyke's place and John Lyle becomes freight clerk.

The steamer Quadra, Captain Walbran, returned this afternoon from visiting the lighthouses in the Gulf. Captain Gaudin, agent of marine, reports having visited all the Gulf lighthouses with the exception of Yellow Rock, and that he found them all in good order. Nex week Captain Gaudin will inspect Race Rock, Carmanah and Cape Beale lighthouses.