

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

erry boat American and the tor- at Winslow collected in the East New York on Tuesday. The boat was badly damaged, but the cap- tained in reaching the pier. The crew will also have to be checked for postolic delegation, Washington, level word from Rome that the general dispensation from the New Year's Day, which falls on this year. The delegation has circular letters to all the bishops, them of this fact. McLean, a farm hand, aged 14 and Herbert Dewitt, aged 12, living across the Lackawanna in Elmira when the buggy was a Lackawanna train, McLean was instantly. The other boy reaching the hospital. McLean and Dewitt of Roxbury at Dunbar, Secord, on Tuesday were given a magnificent recep- tion as the Duke and Duchess in their carriages. The horses were d and the carriage was drawn up to Broxmouth Park, the oxen of the Roxburys. The carriage towed by two hundred torch M. Beach, formerly president of mens' and Citizens' bank, of N. Y., died at Danbury, N. Y., Tuesday, aged 80 years. Chicago, Albert Allen, a crowd- ing, suddenly shot and killed her wife, and then quipped himself. Jealousy is supposed to be the cause. Wilson, aged 30 years, was killed by Mattie Lee at Burg, Mont. The woman claimed to have a large sum of money. A meeting of Joseph Chamber- mission of tariff experts, which drew into the conditions of Bri- and to report, with the drawing up a tariff on reform was held on January 10th. Mr. Main has accepted the honorary Frank Henry Burns, a ship's is placed on trial in Brooklyn murder of Capt. Geo. B. the skipper of the lumber s. Chas. Buckley, the prisoner ad- is guilty, and a written confes- submitted in which he said to facilitate the trial he preferred to be executed rather than in prison. The confession stated that the prisoner had killed three men. He was issued by John McEvey, of Lon- at R. Ganey for \$10,000 for as served at the Canada Atlantic embroke, Ont., on Wednesday, as leaving for a meeting at Doug- work, N. J., grand jury has in- Catherine Ray for murder. She of having beaten to death her old niece, Marie Covey, who at once arraigned before Chief and pleaded no guilty. a Panama means war with the is the substance of a cable- General Rafael Reyes, the Col- minister, is sending to Bogota and influential followers in the He is convinced that the United in not permit a Colombian army the territory of Panama. sden court has dissolved the mar- Prince Frederick and Princess Schoenburg-Waldenburg. The who is a daughter of Don Carlos, a pretender, was reported to ed with her coachman. This w- Her divorce proceedings have the ground of bodily injury and deprivation of her liberty. Each of other infidelity. Lee, aged 39, shot and instantly Florence Lee, aged 22, at his Kansas City, Mo., and then made to end his own life. Lee was a and his sister-in-law had been in- er. She announced her inten- to persuade her to marry him, the woman four times, and then bullets into his own breast. When broke into the house Lee snatch- ing, and remaining in the street by half a dozen persons, dashed ord. Conn., dispatch says: "Reco- ading both the grand and the of the order and recon- individual action along the line on were presented to a conven- of thirty-three Connect- of the Ancient Order of United with every indication of their adoption."

CREAMERY BURNED TO THE GROUND

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE OCCURRED WEDNESDAY

How It Originated is a Matter of Con- jecture—No Water Available and Building Total Loss.

Fire destroyed the Victoria Creamery on Carey road Wednesday, involving a loss amounting to several dollars. It started in the engine room, but its origin is a mystery, which at present appears unaccountable. There had been no fire in the furnace since Tuesday afternoon, so the blaze cannot be traced to this source. There was half a barrel of lime close by the door, but it is a question whether this was the cause. The fire was discovered by Mr. Webster, buttermaker's assistant. He and the buttermaker, Mr. Knight, occupied an apartment quite remote from the engine room, but the smoke penetrated to all parts of the building, and when it awakened Mr. Webster he had barely time to arouse Mr. Knight, so dense had it become. An alarm was telephoned to the fire department headquarters, and the brigade responded promptly with a chemical. It was shortly before twelve when the alarm came in. When the department arrived on the scene they discovered that the chemical was altogether inadequate for the task of overcoming the fire king. Although the waterworks main runs alongside the building, there was no plug nor means of any kind to get water. There wasn't even a well in the vicinity. Consequently all the department could do was to work the chemical for all it was worth. It was while he was playing the stream through the hole with him. The court took the upon the back of Joe Manton's right hand, severing an artery and inflicting a serious wound. Manton, who is a member of the chemical company, subsequently had the wound dressed and sewn by Dr. Fraser, eight stitches being required. The firemen under the circumstances were unable to save the building, which with its contents, was consumed before their eyes. Some bedding, a couple of trunks containing clothes, and about three hundred pounds of butter were saved. There were quite a number of spectators, the glare from the fire illum- inating the heavens to an extent which conveyed the impression that the conflagration, destructive enough, was even larger, attracting people from all dis- tances, despite the intensity of the hour. The firemen prevented the flames from spreading by removing the platform con- necting with the railway. The Victoria creamery building was a story and a half frame structure, about three miles from the city. It contained the plant necessary for the conduct of a very gratifying business, including a Brown & Hamilton ten horse-power engine, cream separators, a churn with a capacity of seven hundred and fifty pounds of butter, cream and buttermilk vat, a Babcock tester and other ap- pliances. The creamery is insured for \$2,500. A setter pup belonging to Mr. Knight was burned to death in the engine room, where it was sleeping.

COAL AT KAMLOOPS. Company Formed to Open Up Seam Near the City.

"The existence of coal measures in the immediate vicinity of Kamloops has long been known, as also has the fact that at a few places small seams of coal out- crop," says Tuesday's Sentinel. "The late Dr. Dawson was of the opin- ion that boring might reveal a workable seam and from time to time there have been rumors of boring operations to be taken in hand, but they did not material- ize until this year, when an attempt was made with an improvised arrangement for prospect for coal between Coal Hill and Sugar Loaf. The results were not as sat- isfactory as hoped for, but sufficiently en- couraging to warrant further prospecting in a perhaps more favorable locality. "That coal actually exists was proved soon after, the incline being run on a seam of coal that outcropped in a ravine on the north slope of Coal Hill, about three miles from the city. For lack of sufficient capital and probably for other causes no less potent, the work was discontinued, but without any very satis- factory outcome. Now there is to be an- other attempt made to open up the seam, and as those who have the matter in hand appear to be in a position to prose- cute the work with vigor, it is hoped their efforts will be crowned with suc- cess. "The promoters of the venture have formed a syndicate known as the Kam- loops Coal Company, and on Saturday last they held a meeting for the purpose of organization, at which the following officers were appointed: John Shields, president; A. H. Fodd, secre- tary-treasurer; J. L. Brown, manager; Cape, J. A. A. consulting engineer; J. R. Hull, W. H. Ford and J. Morrison. "The building of a bunk house for the accommodation of the men to be employ- ed will commence to-morrow. The result of this enterprise will be watched with keen interest."

CLAIMS HUSBAND'S MOUSTACHE. Wife Denies His Right to Cut It Off— Courts Are to Decide Matter.

The most magnificent moustache in Bres- lau grows on the upper lip of Herr Rot- ter. At a convivial gathering the other evening he offered to cut it off if the company would give \$25 to a charity in which he was interested. He was taken up, the contract was put in writing, and Rotter was to appear the next evening "all shaven and shorn" and get the money. Rotter did not turn up. Instead the postman brought a letter from Frau Rot- ter, who said when she married her hus- band she also married his moustache. Add- ing "His moustache is my moustache. He has no right to dispose of it, and the con- tract is null and void. The law courts will dis- pute this. The law courts are open to- day."

Palpitation of the Heart Faint or Dizzy Spells and Nervousness

RELIEVED IN 30 MINUTES. Dr. Agnew's Heart Cure not only cures the palpitation of the heart, but the nerves as well. In a trice it allays pain, in a twinkling it gives strength and vigor, and it works a quick and permanent cure as by magic. This remedy cures by a new process and is an infallible remedy for weak hearts, weak nerves, weak blood, Dr. Agnew's Liver Pills, 40 doses, 10c. 20

VANCOUVER NOTES.

Death of a Pioneer Resident—The Chinese Murder Case.

A pioneer resident of the city passed away at an early hour on Tuesday morn- ing in the person of Edgar Wallace Ed- ward. The deceased was 64 years of age. He was a Chinese gambler, an innocent Japane- se and four grown-up sons to mourn his loss. After a very short illness, W. C. Cook, traveller for Messrs. J. T. Meade & Sons, passed away late on Monday night at St. Paul's hospital. The body has been sent to Clifton, Ont., his old home. The de- ceased was only a few years ago appendi- citis being the cause of death. In the police court on Wednesday Pat Ling confessed that Chan Toy hired him to try and fix the murder of Charles Slag, a Chinese gambler, on an innocent Japane- se, by telling the judge he saw the Jap come out of the murdered man's door at the time of the murder. Pat Ling was visibly frightened when he confessed in a crowded court. He told the court he was between two pieces of wood being sawed, which meant that he would get a long term of imprisonment on one side or death from Highlanders on the other. The prisoner was committed for trial. Mrs. Unchile, a Japanese, asked in the police court that Tanaka, another Japane- se, be restrained from making violent love to her. Asked to explain, she said he caught her when alone and held a keen bladed knife over her head, while he told of his love, and urged desertion of her husband and flight with him. The court took the matter seriously, and sent Tanaka to jail to await trial at a higher court.

BARBARIC CUSTOM OF COAST TRIBE

DESCRIPTION OF A NOTORIOUS CEREMONY

The Ha Matsa Dance Now in Progress on the Koskeno Indians' Reservation.

Although different parts of the West Coast of this Island are frequented al- most daily by people going to and coming from the various mines and villages located thereon, it is perhaps not gener- ally known that among the natives there are occasionally practiced some of the most weird and picturesque customs of ancient times. The Bear fraternity, says a correspondent, who are dressed in the skins of grizzly bears, do a sort of grotesque, observing and punishing any mistakes made during the perform- ance. The person making the error is

secret societies. The Kwakwakaits have a number of these organizations, the most important and highly prized of which is the Ha-Matsa. The startling and surpris- ing feature of the Ha-Matsa fraternity, aside from the weird and severe initia- tion, is the employment of a cannibal- istic rite, which is rigidly enforced and enacted by the candidate. Just how far the present dance con- forms with tradition it is impossible to say at present, and from this distance, but the initial procedure of the native who has disappeared naked into the woods, and who, as stated, only re-appears at certain intervals, very closely resembles the most barbaric. If he adheres to the ancient custom he will have to remain from three to four months in the forest. During this period he is sup- posed to be living with supernatural cap- tivity spirits. When the time approaches for his reappearance special arrange- ments are made for his initiation. Eight songs are prepared, and these are sung to him in the woods. They are sung re- peatedly so that the Ha-Matsa may learn to dance to them and make no mistakes when he appears. A special house is selected, and the natives, congregating here hope by loud singing to induce the absent aspirant for promotion to return. The waiting assembly are clad in all kinds of dress. The Bear fraternity, says a correspondent, who are dressed in the skins of grizzly bears, do a sort of grotesque, observing and punishing any mistakes made during the perform- ance. The person making the error is

special arrangement he rushes out into the room in a frenzied state, wearing a head-dress of red cedar bark, with hem- lock branches wound around his waist and ankles. Immediately upon his entrance he is seized by the large neck ring of cedar bark by several attendants, who try to hold him to prevent him from biting peo- ple. After wildly excoriating the fire four times, during which time there is kept up a pandemonium of song and cries, he quickly makes his exit through the cur- tain of his secret apartment and disap- pears from the building. Not long after this his whistles are heard in the distant woods. The master of ceremonies then requests the assemblage to go out and try to recapture the fugitive. Outside the new songs composed are sung by all the men, women and children of the tribe and the people as they walk to and fro in the village and up and down the beach. During this interval the candidate has appeared several times at various near- by points. One of the assembly, half- clad, is then sent ahead to act as a decoy. As soon as the Ha-Matsa sees him he rushes up and bites mouthfuls of flesh from his arm. He is then sur- rounded by the assembly and marched to- ward the dancing house, the people sing- ing on their way. At this point a female dancer appears and begins to sing her new Ha-Matsa songs, during which she moves toward the dancing house, stepping backward and facing the novice, who she desires to coax inside. Her hands and arms are extended as though she was carrying a

represents one looking for human flesh. His movements are executed in a squar- ing position, making wild and violent gestures as he proceeds. He wears a crown of red cedar bark, and is held by a large ring around his neck, so that he will not attack and bite more of the people. The female dancer, as before described. The candidate then returns to his secret quarters and gives necklaces on their cedar ornaments and throw them into the fire. This is called smok- ing the cedar ornaments out of the Ha- Matsa. For two nights thereafter the dances are kept up, after which the novice shows signs that he has become nearly pacified. The last night of the ceremony ends in a general festival, at which all the men, women and children of the tribe are invited. The candidate now appears dressed for the first time in a button blanket and a new head-dress and neck- ring. He then pays the men for the bit- tles he has indicated during initiation. The women are given a canoe for each bite, and the men who sang button blank- ets, and the man who sang button blank- ets. The cannibal pole and certain of the secret articles are pulled up and ac- quired the magic gifts of his fabulous ancestors. It is stated that the Navittas, a neighboring tribe of Indians who live on Hope Island, is going to abandon this ancient ceremonial in consequence of the loss of their chief in crossing the strait shortly last year, and the loss of the little girl mentioned a few days ago, and with the intention of trying to attain the Fort Rupert, have burned a lot of their Ha-Matsa paraphernalia.

the interest, the future of a nation which aspires to a place among the chief of the world powers of the future will be at stake. The name of Japan as a nation cannot be wiped from the map, but her aspirations may suffer such a blight as will permanently affect her future. All this supposing the conflict were confined to the original disputants. But Japan has one ally, and her participation in the tragic drama would be of more than passing interest to Canadians, apart from the mere fact of neighborhood. As for the "disturbance" likely to be caused by the Grand Lama, it will not agitate the world unduly. The mystic- ical ruler will be dragged into the fierce light of modern times soon. He will be stripped of his halo and scrutinized through the glasses of the coldly curious. Terrible tales are told of the treatment of adventurers who with more real than discretion have penetrated the mountain bowkows of the sovereign of Tibet. It is not clear yet what object the British expedition hovering on the borders of the undiscovered country has in view. If it proceeds to expedite the British in- tentions of the terrible monks who guard the Lama and the secret places of Buddhism, Colonel Younghusband's mission may not be altogether discon- nected with the movements of Russia in the territory. The Muscovite is very anxious to expedite the British in- tentions of the terrible monks who guard the Lama and the secret places of Buddhism. Colonel Younghusband's mission may not be altogether discon- nected with the movements of Russia in the territory. The Muscovite is very anxious to expedite the British in- tentions of the terrible monks who guard the Lama and the secret places of Buddhism. Colonel Younghusband's mission may not be altogether discon- nected with the movements of Russia in the territory. The Muscovite is very anxious to expedite the British in- tentions of the terrible monks who guard the Lama and the secret places of Buddhism.

THE OLD STORY.

Once more the world in the midst of the season of great joy. The tables are being prepared for the Christmas feast; relatives and friends who have been separated for months, possibly for years, are clasping hands and giving thanks for each other's contentances in the hope of reading there the story of the arduous battle of life. If all is well the sign will not be lacking. Mingled with the out- ward rejoicings of most of us there are wistful inward feelings which cannot be openly expressed. To those who have reached the stage in life's journey from which the struggles of the past may be contemplated with thankfulness and the future looked forward to with fortitude, there is a joy too deep for utterance in the reunions of the Christmas season. If life's lessons have been wisely learned the selfishness of early youth has been driven from the heart and the true significance of the great Christian feast is understood. But it is not for the secular press to attempt to deal with themes sacred to the pulpit. It can but, in its blundering way, strive to interpret the feelings of the average human animal at the most important station in the road we are all journey- ing along. The Christmas feast has been presented in different aspects to the world since the days of its inauguration. The changes in the manner of celebrat- ing the day may be said to fairly mark the progress of mankind. The Lord of Misrule and the Abbot of Unreason have been permanently banished from the feast; the flowing bowl, the seasons of vassal or beastly excess, have been put down, not perhaps through the efforts of particular reformers, but because man is progressive and in time becomes ashamed of doing his reason tells him are unworthy of his high lineage. To- day he is under the dominion of his reason. At the Christmas season he gives way to the promptings of his better self, and where formerly he strove to snatch a few hours of feverish excitement by over-indulgence, he now endeavors to make others happy—to ease the burden which bears so heavily upon shoulders bowed down under the world's sorrows. We think this may be safely accepted as the attitude of the average human specimen. As much necessarily depends upon circumstances, those who are ex- ceptions to this rule are unhappily de- prived of the chief joys of Christmas. Under the natural evolution of affairs, children have become the chief objects of adult solicitude during the Christmas season. Santa Claus has usurped the functions of the Abbot of Unreason. That which was wont to be spent in sel- fish indulgence is lavished upon those who take but little thought of the morrow and whose joy in the day is un- marred by vain imaginings on the dif- ficulties which may be encountered in the future. Their rejoicings are free, un- censored and unconfined. May Santa Claus in the generosity of his robust nature and the kindness of his great heart deal in princely style with the children of this western country, and all readers of the Times enjoy a happy and a merry Christ- mas.

WAR'S ALARMS.

In the midst of this season of peace and goodwill the talk in the newspapers is nearly all of war. Russia and Japan are practically squaring up and vying each other to "come on," while the Grand Lama of Tibet from his im- penetrable shroud of mystery tells the soldiers of our King to "get out" while there is yet time. If they fail to take advice given with the kindest atten- tions they may never emerge from the dark place at all. So while the world is ringing with the message of the Redeemer, while the spirit of the Nazarene is supposed to be brooding over the con- tentious sons of man, the sword is threatening to uplift in the continental cradle of Christianity. Somehow the thought will intrude itself that a great part of the world hopes for war between Russia and Japan. We are by nature savages yet, and we take the delight of savages in the spectacular. If to the spectacle be added the fascination of horror, the in- terest is intensified. A conflict in which Japan and Russia were the participants would be one of the most interesting struggles in history. The great Oriental might that at- tacked the funeral of Mrs. Hunter's uncle, the late Dr. Haighton, would like to see con- siderable war are assembling in the waters of the Pacific, and if the trumpet summons to strife the most interesting of the tests will occur on this great future highway of the world's commerce. To justify

The mantle of charity is very broad during a certain season, and we feel free to confess at this time that even For- eigners serve useful purposes in the economy of political life, provided they are kept in opposition. Canada has developed marvelously since the 18th- century was called to power in 1800. British Columbia has gone from bad to worse under the most fossilized, reckless, corrupt form of the Toryism with which she has been encumbered nearly all her days. There could be no stronger proof of the soundness of our proposition, surely. Apropos of which we quote the following true story, told by Mr. G. E. Russell, "Mamma," asked a little girl of a Whig parentage, who from her cradle had heard nothing but denunciations of her father's political opponents, "are Tories born wicked, or do they grow wicked afterwards?" And her mother judiciously replied, "My dear, they are born wicked, and grow worse."

Now the wise men of the East have assembled themselves together and are considering measures for the extermination of the mosquito.

A stranger who arrived in the city from the frozen regions of the East the other day was so struck with our mild climate that he immediately announced his intention of spending his "summer holidays" here. Tourist Association please make a note of. Now the wise men of the East have assembled themselves together and are considering measures for the extermination of the mosquito. They propose to make war upon the little pest and accomplish his end and the end, they hope, of all the diseases he spreads throughout the land with his terrible horror. The Russian bear is also gravely considering the question of crushing the Japanese mosquito, but he is rather doubtful about the length of the mosquito's bill. If the Czar possesses the wisdom for which the men of the East are famed he will advise his advisers to deal carefully with the new power. Why is it that so many estimable citi- zens are desirous of serving the South Ward in the Municipal Council? There is a great wealth of material offering in one district, while in the other the old members appear destined to encounter little opposition. The city has been well served in all the wards during the past year, but there may be room for improve- ment. The Times would like to see en- ergic men in other districts follow the example of the South Warders and make the fight a merry one all round.

The Associated Silver-Lead Mine owners, at a meeting at Sandon last week, adopted a resolution disapproving of the agitation for a bounty on zinc until the question had been carefully considered and the effect of a bounty was understood.

Chief Justice and Mrs. Hunter leave tomorrow for Portland, and attend the funeral of Mrs. Hunter's uncle, the late Dr. Haighton. J. W. Warwick and wife, of Vancouver, are registered at the Victoria. Lever's Y-Z (Wise Head) Disinfectant Soap Powder is a boon to any home. It disin- fects and cleans at the same time.



ANGELS ANNOUNCING THE BIRTH OF CHRIST.

Palpitation of the Heart Faint or Dizzy Spells and Nervousness RELIEVED IN 30 MINUTES. Dr. Agnew's Heart Cure not only cures the palpitation of the heart, but the nerves as well. In a trice it allays pain, in a twinkling it gives strength and vigor, and it works a quick and permanent cure as by magic. This remedy cures by a new process and is an infallible remedy for weak hearts, weak nerves, weak blood, Dr. Agnew's Liver Pills, 40 doses, 10c. 20

ing in progress among the Koskeno tribe of Indians, but owing to pressure on space more than the mere mention of it and that a native Edward was acting the role of Ha-Matsa could not be given. These people believe that they are the descendants of mythical personages, and that their great, great ancestors dropped from the sky, arose from the underworld or emerged from the ocean. They be- lieve that by following out various cus- toms of their ancestors they will have bestowed on them supernatural help and power. The magical gifts, dances, and crests of spirits are therefore all hereditary, but can also be obtained by marriage and initiation into one of its

scratched with their claws, which afford painful injuries. The singers beat their feet on pieces of pine boards, in a seated position. The square enclosure of earth is reserved for the dancing space, in the centre of which a fire is kept burning. The faces of the old men are painted black and they wear rings of red cedar bark around the neck. Eagle-down feathers are worn in the hair, and they commence their dances. The magical gifts, dances, and crests of spirits are therefore all hereditary, but can also be obtained by marriage and initiation into one of its

body for the candidate to eat. The palms of both hands are turned upward in front of him and he keeps watching the hands of the dancer. All the assembly enter the house. After lingering an hour or so the novice goes to the rear and climbs up the pole to the roof, and descends down into the secret room. Shortly afterward he dashes out among the people and seizes the nearest man and bites his arm. He circles round the fire holding on to his victim by the teeth. This performance is repeated four times, the novice selecting a different man on each occasion. He is still thought to be out of his senses. In the first dance of the candidate he