

CHINA THE TOPIC

Recent Developments in the Far East Engage the Attention of the British Public.

Little Official Information Obtainable Regarding England's Operations in China.

London, Jan. 1.—The ingenuity displayed in manufacturing news from the far east is remarkable. Five-sixths of the statements can be safely labelled guess work.

London, Jan. 2.—The usual quiet of New Year's day was disturbed yesterday by the report that Prince Bismarck was dead. This rumor, so happily made by the Evening News and shared throughout London by newsboys, created a deep sensation in the minds of the general public and great excitement in newspaper circles until a denial was received by the Reuter Telegram Company.

Most Londoners, however, went to bed last night in the belief that Prince Bismarck was dead, as the dispatch to the Reuter company from Hamburg was only published in this morning's newspapers. Inquiries made in London bore out the denial.

The actual source of the report is not known, but the rumor was generally credited in view of the fact that the ex-chancellor has been in bad health for the past fortnight, and worse than before, though it was not thought that his life was in positive danger.

Inquiries by telegraph and telephone elicited the reassuring statement that the prince is alive and there is no reason to believe that his condition is any worse to-day than it has been of late.

A dispatch from Hamburg says the rumor of Bismarck's death originated in Berlin and was received in Hamburg with skepticism, which inquiry at Friedrichsruhe proved to be justified.

There are, however, reports that Prince Bismarck's health has been rudely shaken in the last few days, owing to his insomnia, which is due to want of open air exercise and the agony which he suffered from the gout.

Dr. Schwenninger has ordered the prince to abstain from all mental exertion.

CHIEF ANYTHING NOW. A Nelson Man Whose Jaw Would Be a Surprise to Any Frightener.

Drs. La Bau and Forin performed an operation on Wednesday afternoon, the like of which has probably never been before attempted. In plain terms it amounted to the botching of a new jaw upon a man in the place of a jaw which had been shot off two years before.

Two years ago this month Thomas Cayzer, of Wellington, was shot by an accidental discharge of a gun, had his jaw all but completely shot off. The first physician that he went to pronounced his case hopeless owing to the nature and extent of the injury, and was this opinion thought Cayzer came to Nelson on the 10th of August.

He consulted Dr. La Bau, who trimmed up the wound and fastened it together with hare-kip needles. Cayzer was left in this shape until the dead parts of the remaining piece of bone were removed.

Dr. La Bau then suggested to him that he have a plate made to take the place of the lost jaw, after which false teeth could be fitted into his mouth. This was explained to him that the operation would be an experiment in that it had never been tried before, but Cayzer cheerfully agreed to accept all risk.

A jaw composed of an alloy of gold and silver was fashioned by W. M. Spratt, a local jeweler, for the purpose of securing an outline of the face, and all that was left to do was to present himself for the operation on Wednesday.

The patient was put under chloroform and the lower part of the face was opened up. The artificial jaw was then bolted to the angle of the jaw bone on one side of the face and to the very same place of bone on the other side.

The patient came through the operation well, and the result of it will be watched with interest by the medical profession. Drs. La Bau and Forin were assisted in the operation by Dr. Hartin, of Kaslo, who was visiting Dr. La Bau, and Dr. W. J. Quinlan, of this city.

FACTS IN A NUTSHELL. Snake's liver is said to taste very like good ptarmigan.

The first paper mill ever built in England was erected at Dartford in 1588.

There are nearly five thousand miles of navigable waters in the United Kingdom.

Between the ticks of a watch a ray of light could move eight times around the globe.

The Dead sea, at its northern end, is only thirteen feet deep, but at the southern end it is 1300 feet.

In spite of the closest espionage, the African mining companies of South Africa lost, it is said, £200,000 a year by theft.

I had the rheumatism so badly that I could not get my hand to my head. I tried the doctor's medicine without the least benefit. At last I thought of Chamberlain's Pain Balm; the first bottle relieved all of the pain, and one-half of the second bottle effected a complete cure.—W. J. HOLLAND, Holland, Va.

Chamberlain's Pain Balm is equally good for sprains, swellings and lameness, as well as burns, cuts and bruises. For sale at Langley & Henderson Bros. drug store, Wholesale Agents, Victoria, and Vancouver.

any trepidation, consols even improving. There is not the slightest sign of the selling which always marks a real improvement in the political horizon and there are signs of reaction in the long-continued depression in land.

The improvement is attributed partly to the rise in the price of wheat and partly to the cheapness of money. Capitalists are glad even of the beggarly interest yielded by land investments.

The New Year honor list is decidedly partisan. It attracts little interest from the public outside of the knights of Mr. Thomas J. Lipton, the millionaire provision merchant, whose knighthood establishes the fact that knighthoods are purchases and is due to his gift of £25,000 to the Princess of Wales' jubilee fund for the outcast poor of London.

The Princess of Wales on Christmas eve sent Mr. Lipton a magnificent diamond scarf pin.

The annual wild scene of debauchery welcomed the New Year in London. As usual, the precincts of St. Paul's cathedral were the centre of attraction. About 25,000 people assembled there. Those present were west end dudes, demimondes, etc., mostly in a drunken condition. There was a scene of the wildest orgie and licentiousness and the thieves reaped a rich harvest from the crushes. The police were unable to cope with the mob.

The known facts wholly corroborate the statements made by the Associated Press on Saturday last that Great Britain is carefully watching the situation, biding her time, and will certainly not fail to act promptly and vigorously at the proper moment.

It was pointed out in that dispatch that in well informed circles the scare in the newspapers in regard to the east was at least premature and that the members of the government were evidently sincere in disclaiming the least alarm.

This view of the case was practically reiterated by the Daily Graphic on Friday, which asserted that there was even reason to believe the Russians would adhere to their pledge to evacuate Port Arthur at the end of the winter and that therefore there were no grounds for complaint on the part of Great Britain.

The Daily Graphic further pointed out that the British government did not regard the occupation of Kiaochau by the Germans as calling for action, because British interests were not threatened. Both the foreign office and the admiralty according to the Daily Graphic agreed on this point.

Evidently apart from the question of the Chinese loan, the Korean question is the one that is most serious at the present moment than the questions of Port Arthur and Kiaochau, principally because the Marquis of Salisbury sees in the attempt to oust J. MacLeavy Brown, the British superintendent of Korean customs, a most serious scheme to overturn Sir Robert Hart, the British director of the Chinese imperial maritime customs, which has apparently been nipped in the bud.

The cabinet's existence would be short if it permitted Russia to coerce the Chinese foreign office in changing the British side of the Chinese customs.

It is not known yet whether the British government will approve of the arrangements arrived at, according to a cable dispatch from Peking, by which Mr. Brown and M. Tseung, the Russian agent in Korea, will work the Korean customs together.

The British minister appears to be somewhat distrustful of the warships of Great Britain, which are at present at Chemoo, the port of Seoul, in order to give moral support to Mr. Brown, will remain there for the present.

At present there is keen interest in commercial circles over the outcome of the efforts of Russia to secure a Chinese loan on the one hand, and the refusal of the Peking correspondent of the Times, who said the Chinese government refused to place the likin (the government revenue), under foreign control as security for the loan proposed by the Hongkong and Shanghai bank, and asserted that unless the loan was procurable without this condition, a demand will forthwith be made for a Russian guaranteed four per cent. loan of 100,000,000 taels, to be issued at 98 per cent. The security for this loan would be the land tax which would remain under Chinese administration and China in return would give Russia the monopoly of the railroads and lines north of the great wall, open a port as terminus for the Siberian railway, and agree that a Russian should succeed Sir Robert Hart as director of the Chinese imperial maritime customs.

The interest is increased by the equally strenuous endeavors of the British in China to obtain the concession of obtaining the loan and the rich concessions which it seems to go with. It is improbable that the British government will not recede from its previous refusal to guarantee Chinese financial support, although offering concessions apparently showing that Great Britain's policy is not territorial aggrandizement, but distinctly commercial.

A diplomat, talking over the alleged debt of Germany to arrive at an understanding with Great Britain on the far eastern question explains that the change might be due to Germany's dissatisfaction with her allies. Her faith in the Italian army has been shaken by the defeat in Eritrea and the collapse of the constitutional government of Austria has made the efficiency of that empire in case of war in doubt.

"In the meanwhile," the diplomat continued, "Russia and France are allied, and Emperor William is anxious to secure new friends. Therefore, foreseeing the probability of an understanding between Great Britain and Japan, Emperor William is determined to array himself on their side. Hence his seizure of a port already hypothecated to Russia, thereby proclaiming rivalry with Russia and friendship with Great Britain. It is by no means clear that British interests are seriously threatened at the present moment and she can probably well afford to await the spring when, unless the normal conditions are resumed, Great Britain will undoubtedly take the steps necessary to protect her interests and re-establish the balance of power."

The Spectator publishes an interesting article on Japan's policy in which the writer regards the Marquis Ito's return to power and Japan's offer to assist the officers at Peking in drilling the Chinese army and her proposal to consent to a postponement of the payment of the war indemnity as possibly foreshadowing a Chinese-Japanese alliance.

The financial barometer does not show

VIEWS OF THE DAWSON MINERS

Text of the Resolutions Passed Protesting Against Enforcement of Mining Regulations.

Conditions Prevalent in the Great Yukon Gold Fields—Practical Suggestions Offered.

Dawson City, Northwest Territory, November 25, via Seattle, December 28.—The miners here have commissioned three men to go immediately to Ottawa and present a petition to the Canadian authorities regarding the reasons why the new mining laws are unjustly severe. The petition is finally adopted is the result of several conferences of committees composed of the most intelligent citizens and aliens of the Klondike, and the three delegates named in it are the persons elected by a committee of ten.

The delegation is representative of the three classes of the population—French-Canadian, English-Canadian and alien. Mr. LeClerc represents the French-Canadian element, Dr. Willis the English-Canadian element, and the third delegate the aliens. Mr. Landerville is a member of one of the first families of Canada, a general practitioner and an expert miner. Dr. Willis is a surgeon in the Northwest Mounted Police, and is heavily interested in the mines hereabouts. Dr. Willis will resign his commission in order to the better attend to the work of representing the Klondike.

The three delegates expect to start for the capital within the next ten days. They are now engaged in gathering testimony for submission to the Dominion authorities.

The petition is as follows: "We, the undersigned, miners of the Yukon district, do respectfully petition as follows: "Whereas, the government has so amended the mining regulations governing the placers of the Yukon district, Northwest Territory, that a heavy royalty is imposed, based on the gross output of the gold fields, and that 'creek' and 'river' claims are limited in length to 100 feet each, rather than 500 feet, where they will be joined by the Mounted Police, about forty in number, and the two forces will then proceed to the points where the relief is to be distributed. The determination as to Skagway, however, is still open. The Canadian officials concede much latitude to the American authorities in the actual distribution, recognizing the fact that the expedition is fitted out on this side, and although a considerable part of its work will be done on the Canadian side of the border, no duties will be charged on the stores carried by the expedition."

Mr. Sifton also had a conference with Secretary Gage. It was the mutual feeling that an improvement of the system could be made, and negotiations are in progress which are hoped to effect changes advantageous to both sides. Mr. Sifton left for Ottawa this afternoon.

Mr. Sifton says that the only practicable route to Dawson City is by the White Pass, or, as commonly called, the lake route, commencing at Skagway or Lynn Canal. He said that Canada has 38 policemen in the territory, and expects to have 50 more at Skagway on or before January 4. They have 20 tons of supplies now stored at Skagway for transportation over the pass. The Canadian authorities have a post at Lake Bennett and another at Lake Tagish, at which point 20 men are stationed. There are another post at White Horse rapids and two posts intervening between the latter point and Fort Selkirk. It is the intention of the Canadian government to have a detachment of 250 men in the country within the next 30 days. This detachment will be ready to leave Skagway on the 15 proximo, but the minister has kindly consented to hold them so that they may accompany the expedition of the war department, which will leave Skagway on or before February 1.

The Canadian government has kindly consented to grant an escort to the American expedition provided that a co-operation "cannot be discontinued. The duty of all supplies sent under military control will be waived by the Canadian government."

The minister was over the pass in October last. He stated that the Canadian government would be very glad to grant the United States expedition the use of their posts on the route and grant all other facilities to the movement of the expedition over their territory.

A STEAMSHIP'S PERIL. An Ocean Liner Nearly Founders in a Terrific Hurricane in Mid-Ocean.

Queenstown, Jan. 3.—The British steamer Azamor, Capt. Petersen, from Dunkirk December 22, for Boston, has put back to this port. The commander reports that on December 29th, when about 600 miles west of Eastport, the Azamor encountered a terrific hurricane which placed her in great peril. In many cases, accordingly, a royalty of 10 to 20 per cent. of the output would be a medium of commutation for the tax.

Reasons For Delay in the Mining. Fourth-Mining is seriously hindered and its costliness materially increased by severe climatic conditions. From very near the earth's surface to the greatest depth yet reached, everything is frozen throughout the winter months. From the end of October to June ranging between the freezing point and seventy degrees below zero. During this cold season drift mining is carried on, and it is necessary to thaw the frozen ground by means of banks of fire before the pick and shovel can be used; and before sluicing can be done in the spring the gravel mined in the winter must be thawed by the sun's heat. From June to October, when open pits may be worked, the sun must be given time to thaw exposed gravel, and frequently fires must be brought to bear to unfetter ice-bound masses.

Fifth—There are no roads in this district, and the distance is so far as we know, any steps in progress to establish means of transport. Never were men more handicapped in moving to and from mines than are we of the Yukon. During the cold season we are obliged to pay 10 to 15 cents a pound for transporting sup-

plies a distance of fifteen miles; during the warm season, 30 cents. For longer distances which always mark a real improvement in the political horizon and there are signs of reaction in the long-continued depression in land.

Sixth—This is a land of tremendous solitude and marvellous wilderness. It appears to be a land of immense promise for the prospect, but the appearance may be deceptive. There is practically nothing known of it beyond a radius of fifty miles from Dawson, and not much beyond a radius of twenty miles. It is outside the range of language to select the names of the prospectors, already almost frenzied with toll and privation, prospecting in this district will be abandoned by the majority, and prospectors will turn towards other gold fields. This is a heavy hand on the prospectors, already almost frenzied with toll and privation, prospecting in this district will be abandoned by the majority, and prospectors will turn towards other gold fields.

Seventh—To limit "creek" and "river" claims to 100 feet in length is to discourage prospecting, and to reserve every alternate claim from location. It must have a similar effect and also discourage the investment of capital for development of the mineral resources of the district, and this because:

"(A) The pay stamk is so narrow, some claims in which we have familiarity, so deeply buried under frozen peat in nearly all, and so broken in most, that the average hundred-foot claim would not justify the expenditure of energy and money required to gain and work it, under the conditions peculiar to this latitude and these times of costly food, high wage rates and absence of machinery, even were the government to desist as to heavy royalty.

"(B) The fall of the water wherewith sluicing must be done is so slight that it is not adequate for the proper working of a claim 500 feet in length, and it is not uncommon for a claim holder to be obliged to obtain from his neighbors concessions as to water rights. Considering the cemented state of the pay dirt it is a contradiction of elementary principles of mining to limit claims to 100 feet.

"(C) Should the government fail to co-operate with the claim holder the latter, having only 100 feet, and that between government claims, would be an affliction to that miner-like provision could be made for the most profitable working of the central portion of the claim, dams could not be made effective without trespassing on the government claims by the backing of water, nor could sufficient lengths of sluice boxes be laid.

Miners, moreover, could not co-operate for the joint working of consecutive claims, as at present.

"(D) Should the government, on the other hand, sell at auction the claims bounding the claim located it might well be that a miner whose prospecting had given market value to these adjoining claims would be crowded by capital, for, whereas, with every claim open to entry at nominal charge the successful prospector has a chance of avoiding the dangers that hang about favoritism to capital, for human affairs are so constructed that despite the will of the government, capital must have an advantage over the average prospector in any competition for the purchase or lease, where the government designs to make the sales yield substantial revenue."

Fair Laws Will Spur Them Onward. Now, finally, we came into this wilderness, led on by fair laws and promising streams, valleys and mountains of these resources for the future, and we have made for ourselves the huts we dwell in the trails we traverse, and the rude implements wherewith we toil. Shall the government reach out unkindly and vary in essence the laws that cheered us hither; take from us an unreasonable portion of that for which we have suffered, and impose on the men who are toiling as prospectors in a land of eternal ice, conditions ungenerous and perhaps prohibitive?

We have endeavored to the best of our ability to set before your excellency the conditions surrounding us and to dispel the false impression that appears to prevail in Canada as to the universal richness of this district—an impression founded on the success of a few without regard to the failure of the many. But in that we may have overlooked some points as to which exact information should be given, and in that we are so isolated from Ottawa that we cannot in a body speedily communicate with your excellency, we send as the bearers of this petition and as our spokesmen and representatives, three of our members, Messrs. Maxim Landerville, Edward J. Livermore and E. W. Wood.

Wherefore, your petitioners humbly pray that until the difficulties, which are unavoidable at present, have been modified, no artificial burdens be added to the heavy load we Yukon miners are bearing; and that your excellency send into this district a commission of inquiry to report fully on the character of the Yukon gold fields and that pending such report, your excellency restore the regulations displaced by those of which we have ventured to complain; and that the three bearers of this petition be given an opportunity of making themselves serviceable to your excellency in the giving of information possessed by them with reference to the placers of this district.

Your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

TENNYSON AND WORDSWORTH. Boston Transcript: A story of Tennyson and Wordsworth in the new Tennyson biography is contributed by Anthony de Vere. Tennyson complained to De Vere, after a walk with Wordsworth, that the old poet showed "uninterest when Tennyson was trying to stimulate some 'latent ardors,'" told Wordsworth of a tropical island where the trees when they first came into bloom, are so full of scarlet every one of them, one flush all over the island, the color of blood. "I could not influence his imagination in the least," concluded Tennyson. A correspondent of the academy suggests that perhaps Wordsworth thought there was "no need to glow twice" over the color effect, as forty years before he had written in his own beautiful poem "Ruth," this stanza:

"He told of the magnolia spread  
Flushing a glow high over head;  
The express and her speed  
Of flowers, and their gleam  
Cover a hundred legends, and seem  
To set the hills on fire."

LI HUNG CHANG INTERVIEWED

China's Grand Old Man Throws Some Light on the Grab-game in the Orient.

He Warmly Denounces Germany for Her Action in Seizing Kiaochau Bay.

New York, Jan. 3.—The Herald this morning publishes the following cable dispatch: Peking, Jan. 1.—According to instructions received from the Herald, Li Hung Chang, interviewed with the New York Herald offered the publicity of its columns for any statement China desired to make to the Western world in respect to the actual events in the East. The great statesman replied that China was anxious that Western people should understand thoroughly matters as they were. His Excellency's views are given herewith in the following interview, which was approved:

"The forcible occupation of Kiaochau by Germany is in direct violation of the existing treaties and international law.

"The pretext made for this act of war was the murder of two missionaries by robbers in the interior of the province of Shan Tung. The Chinese government offered immediate and full redress for this outrage, the punishment of the criminals, dismissal of local officials and large compensation for all losses.

"Anxious to avoid hostile acts, Chinese troops were withdrawn from Kiaochau when the Germans landed, and in spite of the strong public feeling prevailing throughout the country for the defence of Chinese territory against aggression, my government has not sent reinforcements to Kiaochau.

"Outlaws exist in China, as in all countries. Neither treaties, law nor religion can possibly entirely suppress crime anywhere in the world. Though we condemn and punish criminals, there are places in every country where lawless abounds, and to such places in Shan Tung the German missionaries determined to go knowing the inhabitants themselves were often victims of these bandits.

"Unfortunately, China has not yet recovered from the effects of a long war, and our country requires a period of peace to carry out the work of reform lately begun.

"Of late years, from instruction and observation, the Chinese have come to regard the science in the Western world as models, and even greater in justice than in arms.

"It is just to repress while we are struggling to emerge from the restraints of our ancient civilization, while improving and progress steadily continuing. Should China be distracted, having spies invade and territory invaded because of occurrences which western countries would deal with by law and not war—an unexpected incident deplored by my government and followed by full reparation.

"Our desire is to preserve our territory intact and steadily improve it as a field open to all countries equally for the development of commerce."

Hongkong, Jan. 3.—The British warship "Plover" has arrived here. The powerful is a first class cruiser of over 14,000 tons displacement and 25,000 indicated horse power.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 3.—The Novosti publishes an article strongly urging a Russo-Chinese alliance as the best means of guaranteeing mutual interests and the maintenance of the political equilibrium. It is understood that this view is favored in Russian official circles.

Manchester, Eng., Jan. 3.—The Manchester Guardian has categorically stated that Great Britain will refuse to recognize any special rights granted any Chinese port to any particular power. Any port open to one power must be open to all open to none. Russia has been granted the right to winter ships at Port Arthur; Great Britain will enforce her rights to the same privilege and her ships will winter there, whether China concedes or not.

Continuing the Manchester Guardian remarks: "If Germany obtains a naval station at Kiaochau Great Britain insists upon having at least of ground which is a naval station at the same port and she will support every other power making the same claim. The contention of the government is that the most favored nation clause in the British and all other treaties with China forbids any special concession of the nature anticipated by Germany at Kiaochau and prevents nations from acquiring special benefits in which the other no share."

"The government has also declared that the same principle applies to such transactions as railway and mine monopolies. Taking the stand on the treaties, Great Britain refuses to acknowledge such concessions, and will insist on similar railway and mine rights and use force to secure or defend them when it may be necessary."

Toronto, Jan. 3.—The following is a special cable to the Evening Telegram, dated London, January 3rd: "Though it is officially denied that the naval reserve is being quietly called out, inquiries are being made respecting the intention of Canada to establish immediately recruiting stations."

SONYER WAS THE ASSAILANT. The Indian Arrested Some Days Ago Has Confessed to Having Cut Jones' Throat.

The solution has come at last to the mystery in connection with the assault on Thomas Jones, the storekeeper at Hall's Crossing. The assailant has been found, and while behind the bars at Duncannon he confessed. His story, as told in Chinese to Mr. Murray, is that on December 14th he was in Jones' store to purchase some crackers. He brought a hundred loaves, and seem to set the hills on fire."

in payment. Jones gave him only 25 cents back, and a dispute began over this. During the argument Sonyer, the Indian, says Jones rushed at him with an axe. He took it away from the storekeeper, and after knocking him down with it, began to saw his victim's throat, making several cuts, which, however, were not dangerous ones. He then dragged Jones by the heels into the kitchen and leaving him there went through the till, taking all the money there, about \$100. The latter part of the statement is borne out by the fact that Sonyer, who was married on Christmas Day, purchased clothes for himself and bride to that value.

It was to this fact that he partially owes his arrest, for the officers who were working on this case, Constable Maitland-Dougall and Officers Palmer and Murray had been watching Sonyer for some time, having heard that he had been in the neighborhood at the time. Then his extravagant together with the fact that prior to that time he was in poverty, was taken into consideration, he was arrested. Other evidence was afterwards found connecting him with the assault, and when confronted with it, he promptly confessed.

The clergy with which Officers Maitland-Dougall, Murray and Palmer have traced the crime to the perpetrator is commendable. When they began their work they had not the slightest clue to the assailant; all they could learn was that the wounded storekeeper had crawled to the house of a neighbor and said he had been knocked down by some one from behind, his throat cut and the till robbed. He had not seen the man, nor could he give the police the slightest assistance.

Sonyer, self-confessed assailant, is a young Indian, belonging to the Quamichan reservation.

A FREE PASS TO CANADIAN GOODS

No Longer Necessary to Pay Customs Officers to Accompany Outfits Through Alaska.

Hon. Clifford Sifton Makes Satisfactory Arrangements with the U. S. Government.

Ottawa, Jan. 3.—Hon. Mr. Sifton has returned from Washington. The minister of the interior is well pleased with the reception he got from members of the United States government and is also satisfied with the result of his visit. At satisfactory arrangement has been arrived at in regard to goods entering the Yukon at Dyea and Skagway. Bonding privileges have been conceded to Canada. Goods entering at Dyea and Skagway will be sent over the passes on certificates. Duties will be paid on American goods on reaching Canadian territory. It will not be necessary to pay customs officers to accompany Canadian goods.

Hon. Mr. Sifton has also arranged to send fifty Mounted Policemen along with the United States relief expedition whenever it is ready. It is expected the expedition will leave early in February.

Wardens of the penitentiaries of the Dominion are meeting here to-day. Whyte, of British Columbia, and Irvine, of Manitoba, are among the delegates.

The Ross Publishing Company, Toronto, is printing a book on the Klondike which is being revised by Wm. Ogilvie. The department of the interior is going to receive ten thousand copies free of charge from the company and the balance will be sold to the public at 50 cents a copy. In the present condition of the printing bureau it would be impossible to get the book out here. It will be published in three or four different languages.

The appointments of Mr. P.A.E. Irving, of Victoria, as a judge of the supreme court, and Messrs. J. A. Barron, of Lindsay, Ont., and D. B. McTavish, of Ottawa, as county court judges are gazetted.

Superintendent Constantine, at Dawson, writes the department here under date of November 10th as follows: "There are provisions on hand to last to June 1st on short rations. Hard times will commence on April 1st. There are now 3,500 people at Dawson."

Lieutenant-Governor Mackintosh, of the Northwest Territories, has been granted leave of absence, and Judge Richardson has been appointed administrator until such time as the new Lieutenant-Governor is appointed.

NEARING THE GALLOWS. The Monster of the Belfry Has But Few Days to Live.

San Francisco, Jan. 3.—Theodore Durrant's attorney again seeks to obtain aid in the federal courts, and asks Judge Morrow for a writ of habeas corpus. While the legal contest is being conducted another appeal to Governor Budd will be perfected in the hope that he will be induced to grant Durrant a reprieve until all the legal points at issue be fully determined.

In view of all efforts to save Durrant fail, which is expected, his father will be at the foot of the gallows to hear his son's last words and witness his death. Mrs. Durrant will be with her son until half an hour before the end.

FRANCES WILLARD ILL. Has a Painful Fit at the Close of a Lecture.

Janesville, Wis., Jan. 3.—Frances E. Willard, president of the National W. C. T. U., fainted last night at the close of her lecture on "A White Life for Two," which was delivered in the Congregational church. Physicians were summoned, but it was sometime before she recovered sufficiently to be removed to the home of her cousin, Willard Robinson.