

JOURNEY TO MASHONALAND

A Victorian's Experience in His Trip to the Dark Continent.

Inconveniences and Discomforts the Chief Features—Everything Very Expensive.

Salisbury, Mashonaland, July 10.—We arrived at Capetown on the 9th of June, after an uneventful but pleasant trip of three weeks from Southampton. The Royal Mail steamers make the trip in fourteen days, the fare being three guineas more than by the intermediate cargo boats, the cabin accommodation being situated at the base of Table Mountain. It is a nice place, but the people are very slow and easy going and they do not seem to think that it is difficult in finding what he wants. The loading and unloading of steamers and ships is done by Kafirs, bossed by a white man; in fact all the hard work except that of mechanics is done by the natives (some of them being pretty fair cooks. The natives are paid about £2 per month, out of which they board themselves, being provided with a room to sleep and a few articles, such as soap, and a small piece of sack or cloth of some kind around the loins, others cut three holes in a sock for the head and arms, and again others with a full suit of clothes, and some simply a vest or coat with the usual loin cloth, which makes them look rather ridiculous.

The farmers of Cape Colony are just beginning to awaken to the fact that they are able to compete with California in raising fruit of all kinds, and have gone so far as to engage the services of four California fruit growers (practical men) to teach them how to cultivate fruit trees. Labor being much cheaper and a ready market in England they ought to be able to compete with California, particularly as there is no need of the fruit being transferred, as there is in the American trade. The best district for fruit is Natal, where all kinds of fruit grow readily and very cheap, oranges selling for 6 cents a dozen retail, figs and other fruits being equally cheap. Mossel Bay, Port Elizabeth and East London are all thriving towns very nicely situated, the principal drawback being the loading and unloading of steamers by natives, there being no wharves where they can unload, on account of the water being very shallow for a long distance from the shore. Natal is a little better, as steamers can cross the bar into the English bay. There is a dredge continually at work, and it is the intention of the authorities to build the breakwater further out, which ought to materially help to prevent the formation of a bar, as it is formed by the heavy rollers of the sea. The next stopping place is Delagoa Bay, which is in Portuguese territory, and is very unhealthy, on account of the land being low and swampy, causing fever. This was the case with the natives and the Portuguese, the affair being settled by the natives paying an indemnity of £1,000. The coast from here to Beira (pronounced Byra) is very low and extremely unhealthy. Beira is situated at the mouth of the Pungwe river. A small steamer runs from there to Ponteville, connecting with the train, which leaves once a week. At present there is a freight train every day, carrying the freight which is maldated. The track is very narrow, being only two feet wide. The engines are not very powerful. We had to stop two or three times to get up steam before we could climb some of the grades. In one place the grade is so steep that they have to make use of what they call a switch-back—that is, going ahead and backing alternately in a zigzag direction until they reach the top. The cattle cars are open cars covered in with wire netting, similar to mortars, to keep out the tsetse fly. If the flies get inside it is sure death to all cattle or horses. As a rule the animals do not feel the effects of the bite until the first rain falls, when they fall sick and die. The fly belt ends at the 80 mile peg, which is the first place the horses or cattle can be fed or given water after leaving Fonteville. The Pungwe river is full of crocodiles and hippopotami; but we did not see any, as we left Beira very late in the afternoon and it was very wet all the way up. The river is a tidal one and very shallow, the steamers often going aground. The accommodation and food all along the road to Salisbury was very bad. Sometimes we only had a stretcher to sleep on, without blankets, and at other times we had to sleep on the floor with nothing but a seal cloth under us. The food was poor and very costly. It cost me not less than 2s. 6d. for a meal, equal to 75c. and 87c. respectively. It costs from four to five dollars a day for meals and bed all along the road from Beira to Salisbury, and you are only allowed 30 lbs. of baggage at the 80 mile peg. Anything over that has to be paid for at the rate of 18c. per lb. It is best to take only such things as you require with you on the coast and have the remainder forwarded by parcel post. We were on the coast a month or six weeks at this season of the year, on account of the feed being short and dried up.

A peculiar feature of this country is that almost everything is very small, the native cattle and chickens being very undersized; also the mules, etc.—almost like poodles. Chickens sell from 1s. to 2s. each, one of which is scarcely enough for one person's dinner. Eggs are about the size of grouse eggs, and cost from 10c. to 18c. each. All kinds of vegetables are very dear, potatoes selling for 1s. 3d. per lb., small cabbages 1s. each, carrots and turnips 10c. to 20c. per bunch (small). These things are all sold by auction every Wednesday and Saturday morning at the market hall. Sometimes the same articles are being three or four different prices, according to the demand. If an article is in great demand it will bring a good price; but if it is a drug on the market it can be bought for next to nothing. Besides the merchandise auctions there is a regular auction every Saturday morning at the auctioneer's rooms. One

often gets a good bargain there. A friend of mine bought 20 doz. photographic plates there last week for 5s. I will give you more information about the country and its prospects, advantages and disadvantages in a future letter. At present I am busy getting letters ready for the mail, which leaves shortly.

WHEN THIEVES FALL OUT.

A Horse Thief and Boon Companion of Holmes Tells a Graphic Story.

A History of Swindling and Cold-Blooded Murder Carefully Planned.

Indianapolis, Aug. 26.—Additional evidence has been secured in the Holmes tragedy, every detail showing that Pielzel was murdered in the cottage at Irvington by Holmes, the body buried in the stove at night and the charred bones shoved into the chimney hole. It was learned yesterday that the trunk which so mysteriously left the hotel was taken to Irvington by train, and from the platform removed by Holmes to the house. It contained some clothing of the girl, which he wanted to dispose of before taking them to Toronto, where they were murdered. Mrs. Peitzel, mother of the murdered boy, who was telegraphed to at Galva, Ill., has arrived and identified the trunk and the boy's coat; other articles which belong to him have also been found in the chimney hole.

Coroner Carter took charge of the bones and held an inquest, at which officers and others testified. The grand jury is in session, and Judge McRay orders it to receive the evidence, taking testimony, and to-day witnesses are being examined. The court said every effort would be made to bring Holmes here for trial.

New York, Aug. 26.—A Herald special from Little Rock, Ark., says that Allen, alias Caldwell, horse thief, now in jail here, has made a statement to Warden More regarding his knowledge of H. H. Holmes and his operations. In the winter of 1892 Allen was arrested by Holmes in Tennessee. He is now at Metz in Chicago later. Allen further said that Minnie Williams, who was living with Holmes as his wife, was present at the meeting in St. Joseph, Mo., of Holmes, Pielzel and himself. Minnie Williams property in Fort Worth was then and there decided to be taken by Minnie Williams. The deal was made with the distinct understanding that it was to be a swindling operation. Allen thinks Minnie Williams is very much interested in the case. He is believed to be the transfer of the property. A few days after the property was transferred by Allen to Pielzel, Holmes made a transfer without Allen's knowledge or consent. The deal was then made with the exception of Miss Williams, went to Fort Worth, where they were joined by Pat Quinlan. The latter and Holmes talked of a plan to kill Pielzel, who had \$1,000 insurance on his life, because he was drinking too much, and too much, moreover, he knew too much. Allen was to assist, and a trunk was bought in Fort Worth in which to put the body. Pielzel was then in Kansas, of which Rev. Father Zurcher is president.

Mgr. Satelli has sent a letter to the abbot of the Benedictines, referring to the complaints. They have forwarded a response saying there was nothing to complain of in the sale of beer, which he stated was done merely to cover the cost of manufacture for their own consumption and the internal revenue tax. The total amount manufactured, it is stated, was in the neighborhood of four barrels a week, which they regarded as an insignificant output. The Benedictines announce, however, their readiness to see what can be done in the matter of quieting the criticisms that have so freely been made.

A second letter has just been received by the archbishop in which the abbot of the Benedictines refers to a pamphlet circulated in Pennsylvania criticizing their production of beer, and reiterating their attitude already outlined. Mgr. Satelli has not so far formulated any definite opinion in regard to the matter.

MINOR MATTERS IN CANADA.

Montreal, Aug. 26.—The C.P.R. division of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers is in session here in biennial convention. Over thirty delegates and in attendance, representing over 500 men from Halifax to Vancouver. Ashe Kennedy, of Winnipeg, presided, and the election of officers resulted as follows: Chairman, Ashe Kennedy; Winnipeg; vice-chairman, J. Scott, Toronto Junction; secretary-treasurer, Charles Pope, Port Rotage. The convention will last four days.

Casselman, Aug. 26.—A fire here yesterday destroyed a saw mill, about 2,000 cords of wood, a million feet of lumber and 1,000 pieces of timber. The loss is about \$35,000, half covered by insurance.

Toronto, Aug. 26.—A Montreal agent is in Toronto negotiating for 100 head of yearling and two-year-old cattle for the Allen ranch in the Northwest. This experiment may lead to the development of a large and profitable trade between Ontario and the Northwest.

Galt, Aug. 26.—The agricultural hall in Dickson park was burned yesterday. It is owned by the South Waterloo Agricultural Society, and is also used as an armory by the Militia department. Loss, about \$40,000.

Huntsville, Aug. 26.—The barn of George Hutchins near this village took fire from the bursting of a coil of oil lantern. Hutchins' son and two boys went to the barn to sleep, and when the lantern was blown out by burning fumes, 14 years, perished in the flames, and Hutchins' son was badly burned.

Chatham, Aug. 26.—On July 9 last the neighborhood of Merin and Port Alma was thrown into a state of intense excitement by the discovery in a heap of ashes of some human remains, under circumstances strongly suggesting the commission of a murder. From the report of Detective John Murray's inquiries and examinations, Murray is satisfied that the man, whoever he was, had been done to death, perhaps to hide traces of another crime, and he is determined to probe the mystery to the bottom.

Albany, N. Y., Aug. 26.—The board of health has received a communication from H. E. Wilson, English vice-consul general at New York, in which he refers to the prevalence of anthrax among the cattle of this state. It was referred to the agricultural department.

THE PATRIOTS DELIVER THEIR BLOW AND RETREAT AS USUAL.

Havana, Aug. 26.—A column of troops numbering 240 men, commanded by Captain Francis Amador, in the Tanamo district, it is officially announced, had a brush with an insurgent force, commanded by Major Majia, and numbering, it is claimed, 400 men. The government troops are said to have captured the positions occupied by the insurgents, who left three dead and four wounded on the field. Among the latter was the insurgent leader, Captain Sindo. On the other side, it is said, only two men were wounded.

THE OLD WORLD AND NEW

Bank of England Statement—Side of a Playright—Duel to Death.

Rochester Tailors and Employers Inflexible—Knights Go Home—Big Rate Cut.

London, Aug. 26.—The weekly statement of the Bank of England, issued today, shows the following changes, compared with the previous account: Total reserve, increased £984,000; circulation, decreased \$167,000; bullion, increased £1,196,000; public deposits, decreased £328,000; notes reserve, increased £1,052,000; government securities, unchanged. Proportion of the Bank of England's reserve to liability, which last week was 59.17 per cent, is now 60.11 per cent. The Bank of England's rate of discount remains unchanged at 2 per cent.

Paris, Aug. 26.—Hippolyte Raman, the playwright committed suicide last night by shooting himself with a revolver.

Ajaccio, Corsica, Aug. 26.—A duel with pistols was fought near here to-day, by Signor Benedetti, a journalist, and Dr. Alexandria. The latter was killed. The winner, who brought about the encounter by shooting at a political discussion.

Berlin, Aug. 26.—The torpedo boat No. 14 was capsized yesterday in the North sea, and thirteen persons are reported drowned.

Amsterdam, Aug. 26.—Fire at Hoog's Zwaluwe, Brahat, destroyed forty-three houses. Fifty families have been rendered homeless, but no loss of life is reported.

New York, Aug. 26.—All hope of Robert Windman, who jumped overboard from his yacht Adelantado after the collision with the iron steambot Persus, last Monday, being found alive, have been abandoned by friends of the young man.

Detroit, Mich., Aug. 26.—The report telegraphed from this city to the effect that the yacht Pilgrim had been wrecked in St. Clair lake, and 25 people lost, is without foundation. The yacht is lying at her moorings in this city.

Troy, N. Y., Aug. 26.—Amelia E. Haswell, the city missionary, who was accused of aiding in the escape of Oliver Curtis Perry, the train robber, from Westvatan insane criminal hospital, was taken into custody on the arrival of the train from Hoosick Falls this morning. She came willingly to-day and surrendered quietly, declining to make any statement other than that she had no part in the plot for Perry's escape, and that her connection with that noted criminal was entirely innocent after the effect of the direction of his reformation. She was met at the depot by many co-workers in the missionary field, and by several ex-prisoners whom she had befriended. One of these, Edward Hinton, was released from jail but two days ago.

Clinton, Iowa, Aug. 26.—Eight prisoners escaped from the county jail last night by drilling out of their cage and scaling a high wall in the ceiling.

New York, Aug. 26.—At 3 p.m. money on call was easy at 1 per cent.

ROCHESTER TAILOR STRIKE.

Both Sides, as Usual, Determined to Stand Out to the Last.

Rochester, N. Y., Aug. 26.—The strike situation among the garment workers remains unchanged, except that about 50 men have returned to work. The bosses show no inclination to accede to the demands of the strikers, and the latter are firm in their intention to fight to the end.

WHERE'S THE ASSOCIATION.

The Grand Trunk Makes the Biggest Cut on Record.

Chicago, Aug. 26.—The Grand Trunk has announced a round trip rate of \$18 from Chicago to Coney Island, via New York, excursions to run September 4 and 5, return tickets good to the 20th. This is the cheapest rate ever made between Chicago and New York, and has caused much adverse comment among rival roads.

THE KNIGHTS GOING HOME.

Boston's Great Carnival of Knights Templar is Over.

Boston, Mass., Aug. 26.—The session of the Grand encampment re-opened at Masonic Temple at 10 a.m., when the election of officers was taken up. The conclusion of the men's masonic order of the Eastern Star, also formally opened at Unity hall. Out of town excursions have been as numerous and attractive as yesterday, and visiting commanders have been lavishly entertained. To-night the exodus of knights will begin, several commanders leaving for home, a large number go to-morrow.

The grand encampment of Knights Templar elected Right Worshipful Sir George Brown, 7th Baronet, of Kenilworth, grand master, to succeed Most Eminent Sir Knight Hugh McCurdy. Three hundred votes were cast, of which the successful candidate received 297.

A LONG TRIP.

From Nebraska and Texas to Washington in Prairie Schooners.

Yesterday morning four old-fashioned prairie schooners rolled into town and came to a halt on Third street, where the men got out and scattered over town in search of supplies wherewith to replenish their stores. The party was composed of three families, two of which came from Texas and one from Nebraska. The Texans left home on the 13th of April and the Nebraskans turned their faces westward on May 22. They met at Green River, Wyoming, on July 8th, and have traveled together since that time. They have one four-horse wagon and the rest are single teams. Their destination is Seattle, which the Texans claim is 3,000 miles from their starting point. They are lightly loaded and were making twenty-five miles a day until they struck the mountain region. The people and their stock show the effects of the trip, and the end of their journey is eagerly looked forward to. They were driven out of Texas and Nebraska by the drought

THE SULTAN'S MEDIATORS.

Wants Russia and France to Use Their Influence With England.

Constantinople, Aug. 26.—The Sultan has sent a dispatch to the Turkish ambassador at Paris and St. Petersburg, bitterly complaining of Great Britain's attitude regarding Armenia, which attitude is described as discourteous and derogatory to the Sultan's prestige. The dispatch concludes with an appeal to the French and Russian governments to use their good offices with Great Britain in order to induce her to modify her present attitude.

THE CUBAN INSURRECTION.

The Spanish Troops are No Match for the Insurgents.

New York, Aug. 26.—A New Yorker, a fresh arrival from Cuba, where he has come into contact with the insurgents and government troops, says: The Spanish troops in Cuba are undersized, poorly drilled, and equipped with rifles of poor enough pattern but enormously heavy for campaigning in such a hot climate. They look like mere boys, especially those sent out in the last few days. They are left without proper food. The government officers are too busy looking after their own wine and table delicacies to pay much attention to the men. Even in Santiago privates often have had work to get one meal a day. The insurgent armies with their numerous officers are really no armies at all. They have no military organization from an American European point of view. If 500 or 600 insurgents are ordered to a certain point they simply go there as fast as they can, riding or walking in a crowd, like a form line or column, but when they fight they go to it like demons. Their attacks and retreats are so sudden that usually the Spanish soldiers do not have a chance to do much execution with their rifles. By the time the regulars get their hollow square formed and begin volley firing the insurgents are out of sight. Although the regulars always keep up their fire until their ammunition is exhausted.

THE GERMAN TRADING ASSOCIATION OF THAT VIEW.

Augustsburg, Bavaria, Aug. 26.—The German Trading Association, now in conference here, has adopted a resolution in favor of a gold standard.

FAVOR A GOLD STANDARD.

Constantinople, Aug. 26.—Details have been received here of the recent attack made by a band of Bulgarians upon the Mahommedan village at Dospat, across the Turkish frontier, at the Rhodope mountains. The attack, it appears, occurred at dawn, and while the villagers were asleep. The Bulgarians used dynamite bombs and set fire to the houses when the inhabitants tried to escape. Men, women, and children, it is claimed, were killed indiscriminately, and according to one version of the affair, three hundred persons perished.

BUSH FIRES AT NANAIMO.

Residential and Other Property Constantly Threatened.

Nanaimo, Aug. 26.—The heat from the surrounding bush fires was felt so keenly yesterday, and to-day it is impossible to distinguish objects at a distance of 500 yards. At Northfield men are employed at 50 cents an hour to keep the flames from approaching the powder works, and a constant guard is kept to prevent the fire from spreading to the city. A report is circulated this morning that the people residing near No. 5 main street have been ordered to leave their homes last night, but this has not yet been verified. There is grave danger that the fire may spread to Haslam's saw mill, as at present it is in close proximity.

At a recent meeting of the creditors of the Nanaimo Equitable Pioneer Society, Limited, held on the 15th instant, says the Free Press, a statement was presented showing total liabilities of \$37,453.15, of which \$11,453.32 was to the trade. Of the business assets there was stock in trade representing \$31,903, and other assets more than sufficient to secure the settlement arrived at, which is as follows: 25 per cent cash 30 days from meeting; balance equally divided on notes at three, six and nine months. The following were appointed trustees or inspectors of the estate and to hold the deeds of the property as collateral security: A. R. Johnston, Nanaimo; J. H. Todd, of C. J. Flumerfelt and William Wilson, Victoria.

Capt. Manson, J.P., who came down from Cortez Island last Sunday, brings news of the disappearance of a logger named M. Norman, who left Lund's for his camp 30 miles away, the previous Tuesday and has not been heard of since. His boat was known to be seaworthy and it is feared that he is drowned. A search of more than two days' duration has been made along the coast without success.

The labor day celebration on Monday bids fair to excel anything of the kind ever held in Nanaimo before. Not only is great interest evinced in the undertaking locally, but from the other cities of the province come promises of assistance and participation. There will be a big attendance from Victoria. The Stone Cutters' Union of that city are arranging for an extension, which there is every reason to believe will be well patronized, and in addition there will be delegations from other cities of the province. An elaborate programme has been arranged.

Sam Fox is down from Chin Creek. He arrived in town last evening, having walked the entire distance. Fox reports that work on the Alberti ore of the Mineral Creek Mining Company's claim is progressing satisfactorily. Chin Creek is becoming quite a busy camp and will soon rank in importance among the best known on the mainland.

THE CUBAN INSURRECTION.

The Spanish Troops are No Match for the Insurgents.

New York, Aug. 26.—A New Yorker, a fresh arrival from Cuba, where he has come into contact with the insurgents and government troops, says: The Spanish troops in Cuba are undersized, poorly drilled, and equipped with rifles of poor enough pattern but enormously heavy for campaigning in such a hot climate. They look like mere boys, especially those sent out in the last few days. They are left without proper food. The government officers are too busy looking after their own wine and table delicacies to pay much attention to the men. Even in Santiago privates often have had work to get one meal a day. The insurgent armies with their numerous officers are really no armies at all. They have no military organization from an American European point of view. If 500 or 600 insurgents are ordered to a certain point they simply go there as fast as they can, riding or walking in a crowd, like a form line or column, but when they fight they go to it like demons. Their attacks and retreats are so sudden that usually the Spanish soldiers do not have a chance to do much execution with their rifles. By the time the regulars get their hollow square formed and begin volley firing the insurgents are out of sight. Although the regulars always keep up their fire until their ammunition is exhausted.

At a recent meeting of the creditors of the Nanaimo Equitable Pioneer Society, Limited, held on the 15th instant, says the Free Press, a statement was presented showing total liabilities of \$37,453.15, of which \$11,453.32 was to the trade. Of the business assets there was stock in trade representing \$31,903, and other assets more than sufficient to secure the settlement arrived at, which is as follows: 25 per cent cash 30 days from meeting; balance equally divided on notes at three, six and nine months. The following were appointed trustees or inspectors of the estate and to hold the deeds of the property as collateral security: A. R. Johnston, Nanaimo; J. H. Todd, of C. J. Flumerfelt and William Wilson, Victoria.

Capt. Manson, J.P., who came down from Cortez Island last Sunday, brings news of the disappearance of a logger named M. Norman, who left Lund's for his camp 30 miles away, the previous Tuesday and has not been heard of since. His boat was known to be seaworthy and it is feared that he is drowned. A search of more than two days' duration has been made along the coast without success.

The labor day celebration on Monday bids fair to excel anything of the kind ever held in Nanaimo before. Not only is great interest evinced in the undertaking locally, but from the other cities of the province come promises of assistance and participation. There will be a big attendance from Victoria. The Stone Cutters' Union of that city are arranging for an extension, which there is every reason to believe will be well patronized, and in addition there will be delegations from other cities of the province. An elaborate programme has been arranged.

Sam Fox is down from Chin Creek. He arrived in town last evening, having walked the entire distance. Fox reports that work on the Alberti ore of the Mineral Creek Mining Company's claim is progressing satisfactorily. Chin Creek is becoming quite a busy camp and will soon rank in importance among the best known on the mainland.

At a recent meeting of the creditors of the Nanaimo Equitable Pioneer Society, Limited, held on the 15th instant, says the Free Press, a statement was presented showing total liabilities of \$37,453.15, of which \$11,453.32 was to the trade. Of the business assets there was stock in trade representing \$31,903, and other assets more than sufficient to secure the settlement arrived at, which is as follows: 25 per cent cash 30 days from meeting; balance equally divided on notes at three, six and nine months. The following were appointed trustees or inspectors of the estate and to hold the deeds of the property as collateral security: A. R. Johnston, Nanaimo; J. H. Todd, of C. J. Flumerfelt and William Wilson, Victoria.

Capt. Manson, J.P., who came down from Cortez Island last Sunday, brings news of the disappearance of a logger named M. Norman, who left Lund's for his camp 30 miles away, the previous Tuesday and has not been heard of since. His boat was known to be seaworthy and it is feared that he is drowned. A search of more than two days' duration has been made along the coast without success.

The labor day celebration on Monday bids fair to excel anything of the kind ever held in Nanaimo before. Not only is great interest evinced in the undertaking locally, but from the other cities of the province come promises of assistance and participation. There will be a big attendance from Victoria. The Stone Cutters' Union of that city are arranging for an extension, which there is every reason to believe will be well patronized, and in addition there will be delegations from other cities of the province. An elaborate programme has been arranged.

Sam Fox is down from Chin Creek. He arrived in town last evening, having walked the entire distance. Fox reports that work on the Alberti ore of the Mineral Creek Mining Company's claim is progressing satisfactorily. Chin Creek is becoming quite a busy camp and will soon rank in importance among the best known on the mainland.