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THE WRECK OF WORLDS.

WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IN A COLLISION OF STARS.

Even the Most Learned Astronomers Can Merely Speculate as to the Nature of the Gigantic Results.

The Gresham lectures on astronomy are a great institution in the British scientific world. They were this year given by Prof. Ledger, one of them being titled, Knocks in Their Relation to Astronomy. So replete with new ideas as to what is going on above, below and around us was this lecture that it has caused considerable interest, not alone to scientists, but also to the intelligent world at large. Prof. Ledger is of opinion that the universe, instead of being fixed, is alive with motion, each star, with its attendant planets, hurrying through space. If star should knock against star, the intense heat and fierce fire generated by the enormous velocity and vast momentum of the two masses would be such as to pass human conception. It may be that the sun was formed by the collision of two stars. The effect of two such bodies attracting each other and meeting would be to reduce them to a violently agitated mass of gas, which would oscillate, first inwardly, producing inconceivable heat, and then outwardly, ultimately assuming the condition of the sun. The general result would be that the two bodies would revolve around their common center of gravity—that is to say around each other—creating a double star. Lord Kelvin claims to have calculated that if 20,000,000 solid globes, each of the mass of the moon, should be scattered over a spherical surface 100 times the radius of the earth's surface, they would come together and be raised to a temperature of 100,000 degrees. They would oscillate outwardly and inwardly reaching to a less distance each time, and ultimately settle down into a sphere. The nebulae we see around us may, Prof. Ledger suggests, have been produced by the knocking together of two great bodies, rather than by the aggregation of many smaller ones. The collision of two huge suns would thus lead to the formation of a new system. Penomena indicating that something very much in the nature of a collision had occurred are the outbursts of temporary stars such as those observed by

TYCHO BRAHE

in 1572, by Kepler in 1604, and those of 1848, 1866, 1876, 1885, and 1892—the last having been the new star Auriga, which declined through 10 magnitudes or became 100,000 times less bright in two months. The great increase in the light of a comet as it approaches the sun may be due to a similar disturbance in the bodies forming it, causing them to knock against each other and thus generate heat and light. In the same way the twinkling of the stars may be caused by the knocks of the molecules of the atmosphere on the other, whose undulations carry their light to us. The excessively great and exceeding small are all independent, and the past, present and future of nebulous bodies all hinge upon the relations they bear to the knocks of immense bodies depend ultimately upon the knocks of constitutent atoms. Prof. Ledger's theories as regards the knocks of the molecules of the atmosphere being responsible for the twinkling to the stars may be correct. He may also be right as to the causes of some of the outbursts of temporary stars, but as for the heavenly bodies rushing wildly through space, administering knocks to each other at their own sweet will—well, it is at least more consoling to believe in this supreme law of order which mankind has always credited the Director of the Universe with having so high a regard. It is decidedly uncomfortable to think that we are being recklessly hustled through the wild ocean of space and are liable at any moment to come to grief by having our planet smashed into smithereens by one of infinitely greater magnitude and velocity. No, in spite of Prof. Ledger, the world will continue to believe that the stars have their proper bounds, beyond which they cannot pass; that Arcturus is still being guided with wisdom, that the bands of Orion are yet unloosed, and that the influence of the Pleiades will continue to be as sweet as when the morning sars first sang together.

THE CABLE CERTAIN.

When spoken to in Vancouver, John W. Mackay declined to say anything about cable or telegraph matters. A Seattle exchange, however, reports him as having spoken as follows while in that city. "Another great enterprise which is sure to soon be carried out, will be the laying of a cable across the Pacific coast to Australia and Japan. Independent cables may be laid to each country. The opening up of commercial relations with a great country like Japan with 45,000,000 people, who are making rapid strides in arts, science and commerce, and needing, as they do so many of our products in exchange for what they can give us, means more than one can conceive to a great country like ours. Telegraphic communication direct to Australia will have a wonderfully stimulating effect on the lumber trade of your country, for while one ship laden with lumber goes now, 10 will then plow the waves, and you can easily judge what effect that will have on the country. As it is now, telegraphic communication with Australia is very expensive, as a message has to go about 22,000 miles, almost girdling the earth. It will only cost about $10,000,000 to build a cable to Australia and would be a good paying investment."

Speaking of the Alaskan and Siberian telegraphic line, which was started years ago and abandoned, Mr. Mackay said that it was a wild, visionary scheme, and could never have been successfully operated, as the cost of maintenance would be double what the income could possibly have been.

SPYING OUT THE LAND.

Among the arrivals by the Pacific express to-day were three distinguished members of the Salvation Army's auxiliary forces. They were Col. Stitt, Governor of the English farm colony, Lott Lawford, an English farmer, and Brigadier Clibborn, late of South America. They have been through Alberta particularly, besides visiting other points in the Territories. Their object in coming to British Columbia is to see if a colony of the Salvation Army's over-the-sea recruits could be established here. Brigadier Clibborn said they had 10,000 people to locate and that some of them would perhaps come to this Province. They will remain in Vancouver and vicinity for two or three days.

A RICH STRIKE.

Another rich strike has been made in the Smuggler mine, Fairview. For some time past a tunnel had been run on the vein from which ore was being taken for shipment. About a week ago, however, it was decided to sink the shaft somewhat deeper, and as a result of a few days' work the vein widened out to four feet, the quartz changed somewhat its character, and what was formerly a good shipping ore assaying $100 to the ton when sorted, is now so much richer that free gold is often visable in the rock, and if it continues as good as it is at present T. Elliot, the owner, will be lucky indeed.

LAST MONTH'S IMMIGRATION.

Says the Winnipeg Tribune: The nationalities of the 426 new arrivals who registered at the Immigration hall last month were: Germans 139, English 102, Scandinavians 82, Canadians 22, Scotch 20, various other countries 51. Of these 102 were farm laborers, 87 farmers, 72 female servants, 14 general servants, six clerks, while the other 215 could not be classified. Some 298 settled in Manitoba, 122 in the Northwest Territories and 18 in British Columbia.

A VERNON CONFLAGRATION.

Vernon, B. C., Aug. 8.—(Special.)—Had it not been for the thoroughly organized fire brigade of Vernon the city would have met with a most disastrous fire this morning. It broke out at Knight's stable which is connected with Megaw's agricultural implement store and both were entirely burned down, together with Porter Watson's barber shop, and Harry Knight's butcher shop. The night watchman gave a prompt alarm and in a few minutes a large crowd congregated and the fire engine had the blaze soon under control. Porter Watson's total loss is $1,500; H. Knight, $1,500, no insurance; W. R. Megaw, $3,000, fully insured.

THRILLING EXPERIENCES.

Adventures of Commander McGiffin in the Yalu Fight.

The battle between the Chinese and Japanese navies off the mouth of the Yalu river will long be remembered. Among the names that figure prominently in connection with it is that of commander McGiffin, who was captain of the Chen Yuen. In an interview granted to Per Mare, an English naval journal, a short time ago, he said: "I was stopping to lift up a hose when the ship was on fire and a missile of some sort passed between my legs and arms. It just took a graze out of each wrist—see!" Here he bared his wrists, exhibiting a deep scar on each of them. "Narrow squeak? Yes; but I had others yet narrower. Then a piece of shell took a little bit out of my stomach, but that wasn't serious; the worst wound was from a bit of shell that, bursting near me, tore all my thigh. I feel that still, every now and again; indeed, I'm yet in the doctor's hands for it."

THE MOST EXCITING

of his experiences, however, came when the Chen Yuen took fire forward, and the Chinese sailors could not be got to cross the decks to put it out unless an officer led them. Only one Chinaman volunteered—the gunnery lieutenant in the port barbette. He could not, however, be spared, so Commander McGiffin had to go himself. As soon as he was on the forcastle, one of the big guns was fired right across it. "The firing," he says, "blew us all off our legs; the man by my side was killed—his eyes blown out; all of us, in fact, were killed or wounded. I was thrown over a hose that had been cut by a shot, and the water spurting up revived me." Here he found himself in perhaps the most awful predicament that it is possible to conceive. "I opened my eyes and looked right down the muzzle of the other gun, and I never felt in such a devil of a funk in all my life. I watched the gun being trained at me a few seconds before I could do anything. At got steadier, I realized that in an instant it would fire, and then at length I screwed myself up to the pitch, and rolled over the top-side on to the deck, some eight feet below me. As I fell the gun went off."

IN SUMMARIZING THE INTERVIEW,

the London Spectator says: "The modern warship is clearly a tougher thing in reality than she is on paper. She survives, in spite of the fact that she ought to be a mitted through and through as to be only fit to go to the bottom. The next thing to remember is that, owing to the quick-firing guns, the storms of shot and shell are so terrific that it is only by a miracle that a man can face them himself and survive. This fire apparently leaves both man and ships literally torn to pieces, but will not blotted out. One would might have expected. Indeed, the accounts of the state of the Japanese vessel in which the Chen-Yuen managed to lodge one of the four steel shells which were all the Chinese admiralty allowed her, seems to show that the actual amount of damage to life and ships was very much like that sustained in an old frigate action. The chief difference was that the damage then was done at close quarters; now at long range. When the Japanese vessel, the Matushima, was hit, the shell burst and killed and wounded 100 men. Another aspect of the fight must not, however, be omitted. It is clear that no armoured cruisers could not have faced armor-clad vessels under normal conditions. The Japanese only dared to do so because of the extraordinary inefficiency of Chinese navy. The Chen-Yuen was hit over 400 times, and one half of the projectiles were of a 'good size.' Yet the vessel was perfectly serviable after the fight. If, however, the Chen-Yuen had been able tohandle her antagonists as they were able to handle her, they must have gone to the bottom. The special features of the battle were the cowardice of the Chinese officers, the bravery of the common seamen, and the treachery and muddle prevailing at the naval headquarters of the Chinese. Of the cowardice of the Chinese officers, Commander McGiffin says that when he was standing on the bridge while the ship was getting into action he kept on hearing a curious noise going on below in the conning tower every time there was a lull in the firing. Going down there after awhile to fight the ship, I came on a big fellow, a friend of Commodore Liu, lying flat on his stomach, cursing and groveling, and

PRAYING TO BUDDHA

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OUR AUSTRALIAN LETTER.

Politics in the Land of the Southern Cross—Tired of the Antipodes.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Sydney, N. S. W., July 18.—We are now in the throes of a general election and long before this is in print the results will be flashed by cable throughout the British Empire. I firmly believe that the Free Trade party will come back with a good majority, although there are numerous would-be aspirants to political fame and glory running for the various seats, consequently the votes will be split. Probably many will retire before polling day. These hard times—£200 per year, coupled with free railway and tramway transportation, is worth having, as it virtually means £400 per annum. This accounts for the large number of candidates. When I was asked to run for Cowia no less than five so-called Free Traders announced themselves in opposition, so I withdrew. Looking at the position with a cool, unbiased mind, I fail to see how Hon. G. H. Reid can reconstruct the Upper House under 12 to 18 months, because it is almost certain to throw out bills again unless considerably amended to their taste. No doubt this House wants reforming, but I think the Premier's proposal is a farce. The Upper House should be elected from the Lower, a full House to be called for that purpose. The Lower House should be the supreme ruler of the country and should be settled now for all time. Money is so scarce that the Protection party cannot rally candidates around their flag of death's-heads and crossbones.

I shall probably leave for London in September to live there, having had enough of the colonies.

J. C. ROUNDING.

"HOW TO CURE ALL SKIN DISEASES."
Simply apply "Swayne's Ointment." No internal medicine required. Cures eczema, itch, all eruptions on the face, hands, nose, etc., leaving the skin clear, white and healthy. Its great healing and curative powers are possessed by no other remedy. Ask your druggist for Swayne's Ointment. w1y

THE HOP MARKET.

A British Columbia Firm that is Achieving Success.

The Brewing Trade Review, a reliable journal, in its issue of July 1, 1895, says:

The trade during the month has been of a very uninteresting character. Merchants have been buying only for current wants, and there have been few and far between. The demand has been for very choice or bright medium qualities; and also for Californian and Pacific coast, but there is no alteration in values, and the bulk of the latter sort must prevent any attempt that might be made to improve this state of affairs. Consumers appear to be well supplied with stock, and are not interested in the movements of the market, well-knowing that there is a large surplus of English and Californian to supply any probable demand. Some growers are still unwilling to take the price quoted for their hops, but others are anxious to quit at any price. The bulk of the bulk of the hops left over is not of a tempting character, and it is probable that a great many will never go into consumption at all. The importations from Sept. 1, 1894, to the end of May, 1895, after deducting imports, amounts to 205,636 cwts., as compared with 146,236 cwts. in the corresponding period of 1893-4, showing an increase of 59,400 cwts. The continental markets are very quiet with a small supply of samples. Plantation reports are favorable on the whole, although there are complaints in some districts of vermin and black lice. American markets are dull; but prices are quoted firm for New York State, as reports indicate a smaller crop than that of last year. The cause of this is the drought, and the unwillingness of planters to spend money on cultivation in consequence of the unremunerative prices of this season. Pacific coast reports are, on the whole, very favorable. Reports from our home plantations speak of damage done by the drought; but a few hours steady rain would soon put matters right. There is fly and lice in places, and some planters are busy washing; others prefer to let things alone, and trust to the weather for a remedy. Not much interest is paid to the state of our grounds at present, as consumers feel that with the available supply there is no need for any anxiety. Prices current:

	£	s.	d.
East Kent	2	10	0
Mid Kent	1	10	0
Weald of Kent	1	16	0
Sussex	1	15	0
Worcester	2	6	0
Farnham	2	8	0
Bavaria (German)	2	6	0
Alsace (German)	1	10	0
Bohemia (German)	1	10	0
Burgundy (German)	2	10	0
American	2	0	0
Californian	2	0	0

A prominent English journal on July 20th said: The reports received from the Kent hop district are anything but encouraging. The burr of the early sort is rapidly developing under the influence of the warm sun; in fact, the young hops are already formed, but in the majority of gardens it can now be plainly seen that they will not come to a good crop, and the general growth will not exceed three-quarters, and more probably only one-half, that of last year. The lack of moisture accounts for this bad state of affairs; it is only by a miracle that a man can face them himself and survive. This fire apparently leaves both man and ships literally torn to pieces, but will not blotted out. One would might have expected. Indeed, the accounts of the state of the Japanese vessel in which the Chen-Yuen managed to lodge one of the four steel shells which were all the Chinese admiralty allowed her, seems to show that the actual amount of damage to life and ships was very much like that sustained in an old frigate action. The chief difference was that the damage then was done at close quarters; now at long range. When the Japanese vessel, the Matushima, was hit, the shell burst and killed and wounded 100 men. Another aspect of the fight must not, however, be omitted. It is clear that no armoured cruisers could not have faced armor-clad vessels under normal conditions. The Japanese only dared to do so because of the extraordinary inefficiency of Chinese navy. The Chen-Yuen was hit over 400 times, and one half of the projectiles were of a 'good size.' Yet the vessel was perfectly serviable after the fight. If, however, the Chen-Yuen had been able tohandle her antagonists as they were able to handle her, they must have gone to the bottom. The special features of the battle were the cowardice of the Chinese officers, the bravery of the common seamen, and the treachery and muddle prevailing at the naval headquarters of the Chinese. Of the cowardice of the Chinese officers, Commander McGiffin says that when he was standing on the bridge while the ship was getting into action he kept on hearing a curious noise going on below in the conning tower every time there was a lull in the firing. Going down there after awhile to fight the ship, I came on a big fellow, a friend of Commodore Liu, lying flat on his stomach, cursing and groveling, and

PRAYING TO BUDDHA

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REVELSTOKE JOTTINGS.

Mining and Agricultural Development—Gossip of the Neighborhood.

Revelstoke, Aug., 8.—The heat is terrific, but that does not prevent the hardy and intrepid prospector from scouring the mountains in search of the various minerals for which he can find in this section. Nearly all the old hands are out on the hills, but some of them drop in now and then for supplies, etc., while there are quite a number of new men arriving from distant mining districts to try their luck in our gold quartz country. Most of these are bound for Big Bend and there is considerable traffic over that trial just now.—Owing to recent wind storms the trail became obstructed by fallen trees, and men were sent up by the Government agent to clear them away. They finished their work satisfactorily and arrived down last Saturday, but since then we have had the greatest windstorm of the year and the trail is again obstructed in places by some monarches of the forest which have been laid low by old Boreas, who has been on the rampage in this district at frequent intervals this summer.—These windstorms are terrific while they last, which ranges all the way from half an hour to half a day. The sand is gathered up from the streets and gardens in dense clouds, and one cannot venture outdoors without having his eyes filled with grit and dust. Tall trees are bent down almost to the snapping point, and weak fences are hurled away before the blast. The damage done to gardens is very great, and the one great drawback to fruit orchards in this district is this same hurricane, which usually drives down the valleys of the Jordan and Columbia from the north and northwest.—The apple trees in Revelstoke are all very young, and this is the first or second year of bearing with most of them. Tuesday's windstorm stripped nearly all the trees of their fruit, which was about half-grown, and sad havoc was played with the raspberries in exposed places. If these storms are to become regular visitants it will certainly be labor lost to attempt the growing of large fruits, but small fruits, such as gooseberries, currants and raspberries, can easily be protected, while strawberries are too lowly to fear any blow.—There is a good deal of traffic going through the town just now, but very little of it brings any grist to our mill. Most of the passengers are for down river points, and the boats are doing a good business. There is scarcely a town in the Province that has 'greater expectations' than Revelstoke, and for years past we have feasted on this diet till most of us are fain to cry "peccavi." "Hope long deferred maketh the heart grow sick." But whose the fault? If our society leaders would give the matter a thought they would not sit down and blame circumstances. A little more of the milk of human kindness, a little more tolerance, and a little less of the "swelled head" would probably go further to allay bitter feelings and unite the warring factions than all the resolutions, memorials or social events that the elite can inflict on the town.—Our great expectation just now is that the smelter will soon start up. There is some good ground for this expectation, too, in spite of the fact that for some two or three years past the rumor has been continually cropping up that the smelter was about to start work, sure. From what I can find out there is very little wolf about the cry this time. A Chicago syndicate is prepared to take over the buildings at once, put them in thorough repair, and proceed to smelt Kootenay ore right here, the nearest point to the mines on the main line of the C. P. R. But even in this case there is a hitch, the directors of the smelting company have so far declined to accept the most advantageous offer made them by the Chicago men. For what reason history and rumor do not. Maybe it is Mr. Farwell's attitude on the land question. Some of our cultivated citizens are in the habit of soliloquizing, with Hamlet, "To be or not to be," while the anxious traders are stiffening their necks and stuffing their customers with hope!—Several prospectors have lately been exploring the mountains and foot hills adjacent to the town in quest of mineral float. It is said that the old-timers back in the sixties never looked for anything in these hills, but went straight to Big Bend for placer gold. We have some mountains close by whose summits have never yet been trodden by man, and it is hardly likely that anything on two legs, excepting birds, will reach any or either of those summits this year.—Last week a couple of young men left town with the intention of exploring the bald mountain across the river on the south side of the Eagle Pass and a few miles north of the Begbie glacier in the Gold range. The day was frightfully hot and the mosquitoes were terrible, but they reached the summit of the wooded ridge which looks from the town to be at the foot of the Bald mountain. This was accomplished in about 10 hours, with a rest for dinner. They went into camp at about 5:30, in the evening on the shore of a small lake, having followed down a creek all the day. The height they attained was probably 6,000 feet, but they could not see the town on account of the close-set nature of the place where they were bivouacked, and from 150 to 200 feet high, but could catch glimpses of the Columbia river like a narrow yellow ribbon wound around the foot of the opposite mountains. Next morning, going along the ridge, they caught sight of the bald mountain to the south, and it appeared just as far away from that point as it did from the town. The intervening country was rough and tangled underneath the dense timber which covered the steep valleys, and it was though advisable to return.—There may be lots of mineral in the big bare mountain, but very little was found in the timber on the ridges. Iron was plentiful in places—a vein, which ran north and south, running in shale and decayed limestone. Some specimens of iron pyrites and wrey copper were chipped off, and several quartz outcrops were passed, but none were found to be noticed. Some low-grade galena was also met with, but it did not appear to be worth assaying. There is no doubt that the valleys and lower slopes of these mountains, and may be brought to light some day. But a thorough search will take months, and the mosquitoes are too bloodthirsty just now for anyone to undertake such a task. October will be a good time to go prospecting in the Gold range. Many fresh bears' tracks were seen, some of them (the tracks) apparently but a few minutes old, in the black mud near the creek, but the undergrowth was so dense that 20 bears might have been within 20 yards and not be aware of the fact itself was grand, but space forbids my enlarging on it here.—Last Saturday before Judge Cornwall, William Doyle was sentenced to two years' imprisonment—one for ill-treating a Chinaman and one for resisting and assaulting Deputy-Constable Cadman, who endeavored to arrest him in the absence of Constable Graham. It took two special constables, in addition to Cadman, to convey the prisoner to the lockup. Doyle was sent up to Kamloops on Saturday morning in charge of John Sand. The prisoner had plenty of sand himself, so it was advisable that his guard should be all sand. Mr. Hamilton, of Belleville, Ont., arrived here last evening on a visit to his son-in-law and daughter, Dr. E. S. H. and Mrs. McLean. Mrs. Hamilton has been here staying with the doctor for some months past, and went east yesterday morning as far as the Glacier to meet her husband. They will visit the coast before going home again.—Probably the first real baker's cart ever seen in any town in the mountains is the handsome new turnout belonging to Lewis Bros., of this place. It certainly gives Front street a citified appearance when Oliver is driving around on his smart, artistically painted vehicle.—Talking of Front street, Revelstoke can boast of the finest, broadest and straightest thoroughfare of any small town in the interior. It is well lit up, too, and darkness has no terrors for the Front street resident. It wants some new sidewalks in places, however.—While the gale was at its highest on Tuesday there was an alarm of fire. The engine was got out in very quick time by about a dozen members of the brigade, and in the teeth of the wind and dust taken to the rear of the Senate hotel, where the sparks were flying from a hot stovepipe. A few pails of water down the chimney was all that was necessary, and the services of the engine were not required.—Trout fishing commenced here last week, but only one or two fishermen came with any luck, notably Mr. T. Arena, of the Fashion restaurant. The water is too high and too muddy yet for good sport and the fish are much smaller than those that will be found later on. Those caught last week averaged 1 1-2 lbs., but in September and October they run from 3 lbs., to 12 lbs., in weight. The fishing ground is at the mouth of the Tum Tum (or Tumwalls) river, about a mile and a-half below the town.—A private dance was held in Bourner's hall on Saturday evening in honor of the Webling sisters who made quite a hit there. Only the very elite were invited.—It must be very gratifying to the proprietors of the Vancouver World to know that the circulation of their paper in this district exceeds that of any other. Of all those who call at the post-office for their morning's mail, probably nine-tenths can be noticed with a World in their hands. No doubt this is the result of the policy The World has adopted of giving copious notes from almost every inhabitated spot in the interior, as well as the well-written articles from the pen of the World Man-on-the Wing. Keep it up!—Aug. 9.—There was a severe frost here last night. Tomato vine and potato stalks were cut in most gardens, and flowers suffered terribly. Balsams seemed to be the greatest sufferers, and this morning looked as if they had been boiled. It is something unusual to have frost in the early part of August, and this is the first time within my recollection of such a thing occurring. I had tomato vines cut by the frost in the latter part of August, 1893, but the fruit was well set and picked at once. This year the plant has grown very backward and has scarcely yet blossomed. Tomato growing in this vicinity will never be a success. The frost should have deposited the swarms of mosquitoes, but it does not appear to have done so to any appreciable extent.

THE BLACK DIAMOND CITY.

Nanaimo, Aug. 9.—(Special)—Bicycles are gradually becoming more and more popular here, an impetus being given to the pastime by the recent sale of a number of bloomers. A society lady in this city having become expert in the management of her wheel has adopted the correct dress for safety and comfort. The garments are very full in summer navy blue serge, with closely buttoned gaiters meeting them; this, with a neat shirt waist and the aesthetic tam o'shanter, makes a costume most fascinating to the early risers in the neighborhood of the Caledonian bicycle track, where daily the lady unattended may be seen wheeling her coveting.—The elite of Nanaimo are organizing a ball in the opera house for Monday evening next in honor of the officers of the Nymphe, which is expected from the North on Sunday.

MAPLE RIDGE COUNCIL.

The regular meeting of the council was held on Saturday, August 3rd, Reeve Ferguson and all the councillors present. Communications were received as follows: Thomas Allen, Pitt, requesting the council to join the Municipal Association, the clerk was instructed to inform Mr. Allen that Chesnamus did not feel disposed to take part at present in the association; from P. Replinger and J. G. Grane, for grant equal to $50; from Mr. Lougheed, re Mrs. Spring's taxes, granted; from R. Fletcher and J. Ewen, for grant on road at Hylands' corner, filed; from R. Sharp, regarding road between Cook Bros. and W. Manson's lots, and asking permission to do the work on said road granted, the work to be done under the direction of the pathmaster; from H. Abbott, general superintendent C. P. R. Co., re cattle labor, Mr. Abbott to be informed that the company must do their statute labor at Wharncok, under pathmaster Briggam, or pay the cash commutation; from J. Cook, asking extension of time to return list, granted till the 16th inst. Petitions were read as follows: From Mr. Stoney, requesting a grant for a ditch, referred to Road committee; from R. Shepard and others, for a special grant of $50 on road to gravel pit, granted. The reports were received as follows: From the Reeve, informing the council that Mr. Tillie had commenced his work, and was entitled to the bounty; from T. S. Higginson for further grant on road to his place, the clerk to inform Mr. Higginson a grant had been made on road. The following accounts were received: J. Owen for bridge contract $203, P. Murray auditor $8, Geo. Edge, Ferguson $4, S. Dedrower blacksmith work $1.25, Carr & Co. envelopes $1.25, and from the following pathmasters for statute labor: Wm. Ewen $75, J. M. Webster $1.75, J. B. Laing $2.75, J. Ritchie $2, Thos. Marshall $5.60. Reports from the Finance committee were received recommending vouchers to be issued to Carr & Co. for $3.70 and D. C. Webber $35; from the Road committee the following were read: W. I. $50 on Correction line road east of Hicks', $50 on road between Correction line and Mr. Calder's, $25 on Watson road, $50 on Hicks' road west from Wharncok, and $75 on Wharncok road; Ward No. 2, River road east of Haney school house, $25, north of Haney school house $25, Centre section line of Haney school house $10, same road east of school house $50, Lillooet road $35, Kanaka Creek road $25, Wales road $20, road east side of section 32 $25, Wilson road $10, Week's road $30, George Edge road $10, that the Lillooet bridge was completed according to contract, that Mr. Hicks had done his road work, also Wilson & Blake, that the Gibson road worked under pathmaster Ferguson, G. Edge two days $4, Sam Edge one day $2, A. Ferguson two days $4, A. Ferguson schmaster's extra 25 cents per day $1.75, that a voucher be issued to T. Wilcox for $25 for work done; Ward III., Kendrick road north of his place, $25, Wales road $40, Ritchie & Wests' road $40, Baker's Trail ditch $15, Kanaka Creek road $35, repairing bridge Webster's corner $8, brushing Centre section line opposite Levi lot 24, Centre section line east of Smith's corner $4), Webster & Mighton road $75, River road west of Sylburg's $50, Kendrick road $15, that Mr. Ewen be notified to complete contract on Kanaka Creek bridge; Ward IV., Front road from Entz line church east $60, Town line road $40, McCann & Reddecliffe road $40, Wilson road $50, ditch on east and north sides of lot 284 $60, Cross road $20, south side of lot 284 $10; Ward V., Higginson road $100, road extending through lots 4 and 36 $30, McKenney road extension $100, that $35 be given as compensation for improvements on road to lot 28. Mr. Tavish to be notified to attend next council meeting. Vouchers were ordered to be issued as follows, T. Haugh pathmaster $16.75, T. Marshall $5.60, John Ritchie $2, J. Blaney $26.75, J. Webster $1.75, Gazette $4, P. Murray $8, R. Derdinger $1.25, Carr & Co. $4.95, D. C. Webber $35, W. Lillie $2.50, Government grant voucher, to J. Owen for $200, the reeve to issue a voucher to J. Creighton on Government grant when recommended by Road committee of Ward III., the C. P. R. Co. to be notified to place guards and crossing on Higginson road. The assessor's and D. C. Webber's bonds were ordered to be released, bridge signs to be procured and placed on bridge, all work to be done by public competition, The reports of the Road committees were passed and Messrs. Edge ordered to be paid, Geo. Edge $4, A. Ferguson $5.75, S. Edge, sr., $2, James Creighton $42, for Kanaka Creek bridge work, G. Hicks $4, J. McCann compensation $35; $20 was granted on McAchney road. The motion to paint the Town hall was lost. The by-law regarding ditching and tolls on bridges received its third and final reading. The Bounty Amendment by-law received its second reading. The council then adjourned.

CANADIAN NEWS.

E. L. Hawkins, late of Winnipeg, has been murdered at Troy, Mont. He was a C. P. R. brakeman.

D. Jackson has been arrested at Gananoque for robbing H. Walker's house. He fired two shots at his captors.

A Pole named Kurschinski has been arrested near Berlin on suspicion of having murdered a workman named Jannovet, with whom he had quarreled.

Jenkins, the arson conspirator, who turned Queen's evidence at Montreal, has sworn that he was induced to do so by stories on the part of detectives to the effect that his immediate associate, Barron, had already confessed. He also swore that he had been plied with drinks and cigars.

Rumor has it that several important changes will shortly be made in the official staff of the Dominion Government in Winnipeg. These are said to be the retirement of the Dominion Land's H. H. Smith, of the Dominion Lands, to the Deputy Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa; W. B. Scarth will succeed Mr. Smith; A. W. Ross, M. P., will also be given a position and Sir John Schultz is to run in Selkirk for the Commons.

Lieut.-Governor Schultz of Manitoba sent a communication to the Dominion Government in reference to the operations of American whaling vessels, near the mouth of the Mackenzie river. Fifteen American whalers spent last winter at Herschel Island trading with Indians and Esquimaux in spirits and other articles, without payment of duty. The Government is urged by the Governor to send an expedition to Mackenzie river to investigate the matter, and stop this illicit trading and fishing. The Government is likely to do so.

Toronto detectives think they have solved the mystery of the great Mead fire in the Osgoodby building, which occurred last January. They have sworn out a warrant charging William McMillan, now of Detroit, with arson. The accused had an office in the burned building,