The Colonist.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 1900.

THE WAR.

The despatches published this morning progress along the Tugela.

Most readers will agree with us that if Lord Roberts, as a war correspondent, were put "on space" he would not make enough to keep him in salt. He sends his matter along regularly, but he tells as little as language will permit. The news from Natal yesterday was absolutely indicate that a general engagement is in ly nil, and no better proof can be given of how little anyone on the outside knows what is going on than the statement in yesterday morning's telegrams that Gen Warren was at Weenan with 11,000 men. For the last day or two everyone has thought that he was nearly forty miles in the other direction, leading and advance across the Tugela from the vicinity of Springfield. Weenan is further east of Frere than Springfield is west of that town. Some days ago there was not a little newspaper speculation as to the probability of an advance by way of Weenan. The Colonist was criticized for suggesting that such a movement was in progress, and that it afforded the easiest route to Ladysmith. Yesterday a despatch came from Weenan giving news brought from Ladysmith by messenger to that point. This seems to indicate that our troops are in possession of important points both east and west of the Boer position.

From Modder river there was no news yesterday, except that we were shelling the enemy's position. Magersfontein must have become very nearly untenable by the Boers, whose attention to sanitary conditions is extremely meagre, and whose losses from our artillery fire must be great.

Gen. Gatacre reports that he has reoccupied Molteno. It will be remembered that he withdrew from this point not very long ago. Whether the absence of the enemy from Molteno means that a portion of the force opposed to Gatacre's column has been withdrawn or simply that a concentration at Stormberg has taken place is not told.

Gen. French continues to report small successes, but the engagement in which twenty-one Boers were killed and fifty wounded by the bayonet must have been lively while it lasted. It is gratifying to know that our fellow colonials, the New Zealanders, did their share of the gallant work.

Reports of the Boer losses received lately show that the enemy is suffering very severely. Pretorian despatches invariably make out that their causalties are light, but this is an old trick of the enemy and deceives no one, except it be the women and children at home. It seems evident that the enemy has reached the end of his resources so far as men are concerned.

A SORRY SPECTACLE.

Yesterday the members of the government and their supporters sat dumb in their seats under a vigorous attack from the opposition. This cannot be excused on the ground that the opposition are carrying on an obstructive debate, for nothing is further from the truth. The speeches from the left of Mr. Speaker are legitimate and to the point. They are severe arraignments of the government policy and ought to be replied to if anything can be said in reply which the house or the country will accept as satisfactory. The financial record of the government has been severely criticized by the ex-Finance Minister. Mr. Turner showed beyond reasonable doubt that Mr. Cotton made a mess of his loan. He charged that direct mis-statements have been put in a provincial prospectus and in the Lieutenant-Governor's Speech. He showed that the credit of the province was falling as compared with that of other provinces. But not a single word has any member of the government, or a single government supporter, said in reply. Mr. Semlin promised an answer, but none has been forthcoming, although it is a rule of debate for a government to promptly meet such criticisms with such explanations as they have to offer.

What is the public to understand by this? Since the session opened there have been several caucuses of the government party. Has an understanding been reached among their supporters to stand by everything that the ministry may have done, notwithstanding what may be alleged and proved against it? Has the legislature ceased to be a deliberative assembly and become only a means of ratifying conclusions reached in the secrecy of the caucus? If so, it is well that the fact should be known. Tennyson tells us of the fierce light that beats about a throne, but there is no light that can penetrate the schemes and plots of a government that is afraid to meet its adversaries in open discussion, but plots and schemes, whips and cajoles its supporters in secret, allowing them only to come into the legislature and stand up, like so many puppets, to be counted when the Premier gives the signal. A day or two ago we heard the President of the Council exhaust his ingenuity in discovering adjectives to fittingly, in his opinion, describe the conduct of Mr. Joseph Martin for disclosing what took place in the sacred precincts of the caucus—that new holy of holies in British Columbia politics. Nothing better shows the status which this under the administration of Mr. Semlin. Caucus is king. The Lieutenant-Governor is ruled by the caucus; the legislature is ruled by the caucus; the country is cursed by the caucus, for at its mandate the greatest abominations are committed. Surely there are enough independent men on the government side of the house to rebel against this unseemly state of things and force the ministry into the discussion of the questions of the day.

CALL A HALT.

What was Mr. Speaker Forster thinking of yesterday when he sat idly in his seat while such unparliamentary language as "infamous," "dishonorable," "violation of oath," "lie," and so on were hurled backwards and forwards across the chamber. It can hardly be necessary to remind him that if this sort of thing is permitted, the house will become a bear garden. We are not disposed to plead for too great nicety of debate, for men must be allowed to express themselves forcibly, but there is a limit which ought not to be transgressed, and this limit was violated several times yesterday. If Mr. Forster would prevent the house from losing caste entirely he must interpose his authority to keep members to the use of language ordinarily employed between gentlemen. If speakers cannot be severe without being coarse, they would do well to avoid all attempts at severity.

A POLITICAL INCIDENT.

In giving the dates in connection with Mr. Semlin's service in the legislature we did not mention that he was elected in 1882, giving the date 1886 instead. It did not affect the length of Mr. Semlin's service, which was correctly stated in the article. The mistake as to the date was brought to the attention of the Colonist by a well-known Victoria business man, who was resident in Yale in 1882, and who voted for Mr. Semlin. He said that he voted for Mr. Semlin because that gentleman declared himself at the elections to be a supporter of Mr. Beaven's administration, and contested Yale in that character. Between the election and the session of the legislature Mr. Semlin saw new light, for when the house met he voted against Mr. Beaven on a vote of want of confidence. The incident has a peculiar interest at this present time, when the supporters of Mr. Semlin are being told that they must support him this session because they supported him at another time. This is not a matter of hearsay, for it was well understood at the time that Mr. Semlin intended to give the government an independent support, and so declared himself.

A FERRY TO THE MAINLAND.

To-morrow night a special meeting of the city council will be held to deal with the new proposition to establish connection between Victoria and the Mainland. We do not know who the people are on whose behalf Messrs. Tupper, Peters & Potts have addressed the council. That firm, on being asked if they would disclose the names of their clients, said that they were not prepared to do so at present, but would give their strongest assurance of their financial ability to carry out what they propose. The names of the principals will be forthcoming at an early day, if they decide to go on.

We feel very certain that the citizens of Victoria would prefer action upon the Victoria-Chilliwack by-law to be deferred for a sufficient length of time to enable a proposal to be made by these new people. The only objection made to delay is that it will interfere in some way with the application for the incorporation of the Victoria-Chilliwack company. We do not see this. The promoters of that enterprise are in just as good a position to go on now as they will be after the by-law has been adopted, that is supposing it to be adopted. There are only two reasons which we can think of why they should not go on without waiting for the by-law. One of them is that they do not care to pay the fees. To this we reply that if they are willing to risk the few hundred dollars required for this purpose, they are hardly the class of people to undertake the construction of a railway and ferry involving at least a million and a half dollars. The other reason is that the legislature may call for some proof of the ability of the company to carry out their undertaking. But this ought to be as readily forthcoming now as after the by-law has been passed. The by-law is made conditional upon the raising by the company of $300,000, and it is well known that this is supposed to come in part from the local government. It ought to be possible for the promoters to find out at any day whether or not their application for a subsidy will be entertained. If it will not be, the whole matter will fall to the ground. Therefore we suggest that the promoters of the Victoria-Chilliwack scheme should forthwith apply for incorporation, and also make application to the provincial government for the expected subsidy of $150,000. In the meantime the by-law can very well wait. If they get the subsidy and the act of incorporation they will stand some sort of chance of succeeding before the ratepayers. At present they are foredoomed to defeat.

RAIL TO THE NORTH.

We are heartily glad to have the Times join with us in agitating for the construction of a railway to the north end of the Island. It is with the greatest pleasure that we quote the following, which is the concluding paragraph of its leading article in yesterday's paper:

We must make travel to and from this city easy, cheap and attractive. We must have better connection with all the transcontinental railways serving this city. We must be in better touch with the increasing population on the Mainland. We must not carp and cavil at every proposition. We must encourage all who are working in this direction. We must be prepared to pay liberally for better railway connection. We must work for the benefits of the many as against the interests of a few. Let us hope that before the new century dawns upon us Victoria will have mapped out for herself a new line for Progress, Profit and Prosperity.

This question must not be allowed to rest. It must be put before the people in the strongest possible way, and representations must be made to the federal and provincial governments so as to secure their co-operation.

PARLIAMENTARY RECORDS.

In his speech on the address Mr. Joseph Martin spoke of Mr. Semlin as having represented Yale for thirty years without being defeated. As statements of this nature if allowed to go uncontradicted are after a time taken as authoritative, it may be interesting to give the facts. It is now nearly twenty-nine years since Mr. Semlin was first elected to the legislature, but in 1875 he was unsuccessful as he also was in 1879. He was elected a second time in 1886 and has held a seat in the house for the same constituency ever since. This is the sixth provincial parliament of which Mr. Semlin has been a member, but it is the eighth parliament since confederation. The longest consecutive parliamentary term enjoyed by any one in this province since confederation fell to the lot of Mr. Beaven, who served continuously as a representative of Victoria from 1871 to 1894, or through six terms. Of the members of the first legislature after confederation the only other member to serve without defeat was Mr. Smythe, who represented Cowichan continuously from 1871 until his death in 1887. Of the first legislature Mr. Booth is the only member who now sits in the house, but he was not in the house during four terms, his record embracing the first, sixth, seventh and eighth parliaments. Mr. Bryden is the only member of the second parliament who is in the present house. He was elected in 1875 but resigned the following year, and remained in private life until 1894. Mr. Helgesen is the representative of the third parliament in the present house. He sat for Esquimalt, from which constituency he was elected a member of the fourth parliament. The present is his third legislative term. Mr. Pooley was in the fourth parliament and has remained in ever since, this being his fifth term. Mr. Turner, Col. Baker and Mr. Higgins came in with the fifth parliament and have held seats in the house ever since. Of the present members the following came in for the first time in the sixth parliament: Messrs. Kellie, Smith, Forster, Eberts and Cotton. They were all in the seventh parliament. Thus we find that the father of the present house in point of continuous service is Mr. Pooley.

THE MEEK AND LOWLY BOER.

David Livingstone, missionary and explorer, has been dead long enough to preclude the suggestion that he was an emissary of Mr. Chamberlain. His opinions of the Boers will, therefore, be accepted as at least unbiassed by recent events in South Africa. We give some extracts from his writings, which we commend to the few people who bewail because "their brother Boer" is likely to be smashed in the very near future. After speaking of the trek of the Boers to get rid of British rule, which they boasted was to enable them to accord proper treatment to the Hottentots, he says: "It is almost needless to add that proper treatment has always contained in it the essential element of slavery, namely, compulsory, unpaid labor." He tells that "the Boers hate missionaries," and that one of their leaders declared their attention to "attack any tribe that would receive them." He affirms that "their church is, and always has been, the great bulwark of cattle-lifting and kaffir-marauding." He says in another place: "The Boers kill the blacks without compunction and without provocation, because they believe they have no souls." He tells us: "When at war, the Boers forced the natives to assist them, and sent them before them into battle to encounter the battle axes of their opponents, while the Dutch fired in safety over the heads of their native allies." This is quite in keeping with Kruger's message directing that the Free Staters should be placed in the front. Such are the people who aimed at erecting a Dutch republic to include all South Africa. The plot has been checked none too soon. Well may the Illinois Methodist Journal declare the war to be "sunrise for the children of Ham."

AN OLD SEATTLE TRICK.

A circular issued by the General Western Passenger Agent of the Great Northern at Seattle contains the following statement:

Owing to a recent ruling of the treasury department of the United States, it is quite probable that business originating in the United States will not be allowed to be transported to Cape Nome in British bottoms. To avoid confusion, needless delays and inconvenience, intending passengers should avoid attempting to book on anything but steamers flying the American flag.

This circular is very characteristic of Seattle. It states nothing positive, preferring to deal in inuendo. The Great Northern's agent does not know that business originating in the United States cannot be landed at Cape Nome. He only suggests that it is probable that such may be the case. The reference to a recent ruling of the treasury department is purposely vague, for no one knows better than the agent responsible for this circular that he cannot cite a ruling, which supports his pretence.

No one in Victoria claims that British vessels can go to Seattle and there load for Cape Nome; but we affirm that there is no warrant whatever for the statement that passenger traffic originating in the United States cannot come to Victoria or Vancouver and there take a British steamer for Cape Nome. We say nothing about freight, for that is not the matter to which the Great Northern circular refers. The object of this circular is to strike a foul blow at the British Columbia transportation companies, which the people of Seattle are as afraid now, as they were a few years ago, to meet in fair competition. It is certainly a very surprising thing that the Great Northern, which looks to Victoria and Vancouver for business, should lend itself to such a very small and dishonest trick.

THE ATTACK ON THE GOVERNOR

We regret very much that the Kamloops Standard has violated all the principles of journalism by printing a very gross attack upon Lieutenant-Governor McInnes. In the heat of political controversy severe things are very often said, but the Standard passes all bounds permissible even in such a case, and there is no controversy now on in which the Lieutenant-Governor is even remotely concerned. That His Honor aroused a great deal of feeling by his dismissal of the Turner government must be admitted, but his conduct warranted no such attack as this, even when this feeling was at its height. The constitutionality of his course on that occasion was a proper subject for discussion, and nowhere was it more strongly condemned than in the columns of this paper. But to carry the attack into grossly indecent personalities was unthought-of then and is utterly reprehensible now. Moreover it must not be forgotten that the Lieutenant-Governor is the representative of Her Majesty, and at the opening of the legislature acts in that capacity. It is inconceivable that any person with any sense of responsibility should endeavor to bring such an official acting in such a capacity into contempt. We hope that the Standard will have some explanation to offer that can be accepted. We have found it editorially a moderate and reliable paper, with whose views we have usually been able to agree and shall regret very much if it is unable to remove this unfortunate blot from its record.

THE EIGHT-HOUR LAW.

The petition presented to the house by Mr. James Martin, M. P. P., from the mining companies of Rossland is a document that must receive the serious consideration of the legislature. The position taken by the petitioners is reasonable and moderate. It deals with ascertained facts, and a reply to it is practically impossible. We commend it to the consideration of the public generally, and we specially commend it to the consideration of the labor organizations and all persons in active sympathy with them. Believing as we do that the majority of workingmen are reasonable and when not led by self-seeking demagogues will do what is right and in the best interests of the country, we wish them to peruse this petition carefully and honestly answer if they do not believe the conditions set out in the petition are such as call for action on the part of the government. And yet not the slightest intimation is given that there is the least intention on the part of the ministry to ask the house to deal in any way whatever with this exceedingly important subject. Apparently if the present cabinet remains in office it is proposed to allow matters to drift along, although the result is the closing down of mines, the discharge of workingmen by the score, and the exclusion of capital from British Columbia.

A STRANGE OMISSION.

Several of the opposition members have dwelt upon the omission from the Speech of any reference to agriculture. In keeping with this omission is the extremely scant courtesy with which the Dairymen's Association and the Central Farmer's Association was treated during their sessions in this city. They were packed in an attic room, where there was hardly space to turn round and where it was practically impossible for the public to be present. Mr. Shutt in his address to the Farmers' Association spoke of the great success attending the Farmers' Institutes in New Brunswick, where he said they had reached a degree of efficiency attained nowhere else in the Dominion. In that province the government kept itself closely in touch with the Institutes. Capacious rooms for meetings were provided, and the public were invited to hear the formal addresses. Members of the government always attended the meetings, to ask the Institutes what they needed in the way of legislation and expenditure. The wishes expressed were not always complied with, but they were in the main, and the Institutes felt that they were in close touch with the administration. Reduced rates were obtained on all transportation lines, and a personal attention was shown the members which is in striking contrast to the manner in which the very able and intelligent gentlemen who have lately been in session in Victoria were received. The result of all this was the success of the Institutes, which are now doing an immense amount of good. What does the government do here? Next to nothing. Mr. Anderson, the deputy minister of agriculture, attends the meetings and does everything in his power. So does Mr. Palmer, inspector of fruit pests. But their authority is limited. What is needed is that some one shall speak for the government at these meetings, and ask what the representative farmers think ought to be done and invite representations in favor of it. Instead of this there has been open neglect, and not the slightest indication that the government cared what the farmers think or what they believe they require.

It is not the part of an opposition paper to suggest what the Speech ought to have contained regarding agriculture, but it is certainly extraordinary that even the perfunctory references to the success attending farming was left out. Not much ingenuity would be requisite to discover something that might have been suggested in the interest of this important industry. Mining, fishing and lumbering bring money into the province, but it is agriculture that will do more than any other agency to keep it here. Therefore anything that will stimulate agriculture means a direct increase in the permanent wealth of British Columbia. The total omission of any mention of this important industry is a direct slap in the face delivered to the province by those who have undertaken to protect its interests. Surely it ought not to be allowed to go out to the world that agriculture is an interest of such little importance in British Columbia that the government of the day ignores it altogether. We are not sure that independent evidence could not be given in support of such a view. Not very long ago a gentleman, who had just completed the successful establishment of a colony in Florida, came to this province in the interest of a number of persons in the Eastern Townships, who intended emigrating and desired to locate themselves somewhere, preferably in British territory. He waited upon the government and was turned down in short order. He could not get the government to listen to him. They had nothing to say to him, except that they did not propose to encourage colonization. He thereupon went away to look for some place where several hundred Canadians, all of them possessed of some means, would be welcome. We give this matter exactly as it was stated to us by the gentleman himself. If this is a correct statement of the case, and whether it is absolutely accurate is not very important, for it is true that the agent came here and went away because he could do nothing, there ceases to be any cause for surprise that agriculture was not mentioned in the Speech.

INVESTIGATION NEEDED.

The case of Mr. Semple, of the Dawson Gleaner, referred to in our news columns yesterday, calls for investigation at the hands of the Dominion authorities. It has been said with some little show of reason that hitherto no one has been willing to father the complaints made against the administration of affairs in the Yukon; but this cannot be claimed in Mr. Semple's case. We do not pretend to know what the merits involved are; but the allegations against Judge Dugas and Mr. F. C. Wade have been made in the most public possible way and for a portion of them there is a judicial record. Either Judge Dugas and Mr. Wade are open to severe censure or they are not. We submit that the decision on this point ought to rest with Judge Dugas, but ought to be taken up by the government, if the case is brought under their notice. Mr. Semple declares that he proposes to lay his complaint before the ministry, and if he does there can be no doubt as to the duty of the ministry to make an investigation. The facts in brief are that the Gleaner printed what in the opinion of the judge was a contempt of court. For this Mr. Semple was arrested and fined $1,100, which he paid. He then printed in his paper very strong signed articles attacking Mr. Wade and challenging him to prosecute for libel so that the case might be taken before a jury. Instead of this, it is said, Mr. Wade instituted proceedings as for a second contempt, which has come to nothing, because Mr. Semple left the country to seek redress at the hands of the appellate court here. He proposes to return to Dawson at an early day. He declares his ability to prove all he has said and much more, and if half or a quarter of what he says can be substantiated, there is urgent need of reform in high circles at Dawson. We urge an investigation in order that the truth may be got at. If the charges are true, the duty of the government is clear. If they are false Mr. Semple can be made to answer in person and property for uttering them.

The amendment to the amendment proposed by Mr. Clifford must surely be in order. If it is not, then we have reached a new stage in parliamentary procedure.

Congratulations to Mr. Helgesen upon his very forceful statement in regard to his personal loyalty to the land of his adoption. We all knew that the member from Cariboo held these sentiments, but it was none the less pleasing to hear him express them in highly eloquent terms.

Mr. Helgesen made an elaborate speech to show that the late government spent more money than was received in the course of ordinary revenue. He went to a great deal of needless trouble, for Mr. Turner never yet made a budget speech without saying in so many words that it was the policy of his government to do this very thing, because they believed it to be in the best interest of the province to expend money freely for its development.

Arrangements have been made by the Victoria meteorological office to publish every Thursday a synopsis of the weather for the previous week for the information of those who do not get the daily papers. The superintendent, Mr. Baynes Reed, will be glad to receive from our subscribers communications of any interesting details relating to the weather. These should be addressed "Superintendent Meteorological Office, Victoria."

Victoria Meteorological Office,
January 16, 1900.

The weather here during the month has been warm and cloudy, with many occasional light showers, the total rainfall since the 1st being 2.88 inches. The record of bright sunshine was only 16 hours, six days being completely clouded. The temperature has ranged from 34 to 52; a good many flowers are still blooming in the open air. A fine lunar rainbow was observed on the evening of the 12th inst. There have been several gales on our coast, chiefly from the south and southwest.

On the lower Mainland the weather has been mild and the rainfall much about the average. In the upper Mainland the temperature has ranged from 6 to 44, with occasional light snow in Cariboo.

In the Northwest Territories the weather has been abnormally mild in Alberta and moderately so in the other portions.

On the American Pacific Slope similar mild and rainy weather has prevailed, with some unusually heavy falls in California and Washington.

The Elections...

Have endorsed our popularity with the public in offering wonderful bargains in Groceries, and you are invited to help yourself to any extent.

Quality is our first consideration. Only the best is good enough for our trade.

Fresh Island Eggs, 35c. dozen.
Apples, - - - $1.00 box
Cocoa, Vanilla flavor, 25c. lb.
Asparagus Tips, - 25c. tin

Malt-Nutrine, a non-alcoholic Tonic, makes Blood, Makes Flesh.

See our windows for Saturday Bargains

DIXI H. ROSS & CO.

(From Thursday's Daily Edition).

LOCAL NEWS.

A Big Shark.—A land shark weighing 200 pounds was taken by a fisherman at Esquimalt yesterday. It was on view at Cooper & Brown's fish store.

Leper Dead.—Capt. Johnson, of Sidney, who pays weekly visits to the Darcy Island leper station, reported to Dr. Fraser yesterday that one of the lepers was dead. He was buried on the island by his companions.

Again on Top.—Jim Doughtray, who is known as "Nigger Jim," once counted among the Klondike millionaires, but who last year lost most all he had, is in business again, having leased the Butler House in the Grand Forks of the Yukon.

Went Pretty Low.—They had some pretty cold weather in the Klondike just before Christmas. In Dawson for a couple of days the thermometer registered 54 below zero, and on Last Chance creek the mercury went to 70 below and disappeared.

Funeral This Morning.—The remains of the late Mrs. Quagliotti arrived from the Sound yesterday morning and the funeral will take place this morning at 9:45 from the parlors of the British Columbia Funeral Furnishing Company, and at 10 at St. Andrew's R. C. Cathedral.

Rugby Union.—In consequence of the postponement of the Nanaimo-Victoria Rugby match from January 20th to 27th, Hon. Dr. McKechnie, the president of the British Columbia Rugby Union has postponed the special general meeting called for the 20th to the 27th. It will be held at the Driard hotel at 8:30.

Can Organize.—A committee from the miners' organization at the Alexandra mine, owned by Messrs. Dunsmuir, called at the Colonist office yesterday to contradict the statement made by Mr. Ralph Smith, M.P.P., in the house to the effect that the miners employed by Messrs. Dunsmuir are not allowed to organize. They stated that the miners at the Alexandra mine are organized and have been for some time, and with the consent of Mr. Dunsmuir.

Death of Mrs. Beaven.—Yesterday another of the ever diminishing band of provincial pioneers passed away, in the person of Mrs. Chas. F. Beaven, whose death, after a brief illness of but two days, comes with a shock to a very wide circle of relatives and friends. Mrs. Beaven, who was 54 years of age, came to British Columbia in the early sixties with her father, the late Joshua Moody, and leaves one brother living, Mr. Thos. Moody of Pandora avenue.

Valleau—Franklin. — A very pretty home wedding was celebrated last evening at the residence of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Franklin, 86 Kingston street, when Mr. Fred W. Valleau, Gold Commissioner of Omineca, was united in marriage to Miss May B. D. Franklin. The happy couple were unuited in the holy bonds by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Cridge before a large assemblage of intimate friends. The bride was attended by Miss Roscoe, and the groom by Mr. A. G. Franklin, brother of the bride. Mr. and Mrs. Valleau left by the Charmer for Vancouver en route to Ottawa, Montreal and Quebec, and expect to return in about five weeks. Among the numerous present was a handsome oak and silver biscut jar, suitably engraved, from the members of the Girls' Friendly Society of St. James' church, of which the bride was a member.

Installation Ceremony.—Grand Patriarch J. E. Phillips, assisted by grand officers, installed the officers of Vancouver Encampment, No. 1, I. O. O. F., for the ensuing term Tuesday night in the I. O. O. F. hall, Douglas street. After the installation the grand officers and visitors were royally entertained by the Patriarch at a banquet, superintended by Mr. Pottinger; and all present spent an enjoyable time. The following are the officers installed: C. P., James Bell; H. P., R. Drake; S. W., B. Deacon; Scribe, A. Graham; Treasurer, A. Sheritt; I. W., John Bell; O. S., W. H. Huxtable; I. S., A. Babbington; Guide, S. P. Reid; 1st G. T., J. H. Mathews; 2nd G. T., A. Rumble; 1st Watch, J. E. Sabin; 2nd Watch, D. Grant; 3rd Watch, E. Bragg; 4th Watch, D. J. McIntosh.

DANCE AT THE DALLAS.

The Junior Bachelors and Benedicts Entertain Numerous Friends.

The Dallas hotel was aglow with light last evening on the occasion of the junior bachelors' and benedicts' ball, which was a pronounced success, over 200 guests being in attendance. Music was supplied by Finn's orchestra; the floor was in excellent condition, and at midnight a most excellent supper was served under the direct supervision of Mrs. Walt, the proprietress, who is mainly responsible for the success of the affair. The patronesses of the dance were Mrs. Prior, Mrs. James Dunsmuir, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Powell, Mrs. Burton, Mrs. Pooley and Mrs. F. B. Pemberton. The committee under whose management the dance was arranged consisted of Major A. W. Jones, A. T. Goward, T. S. Holt, J. H. Poff, K. Crawley, A. P. Luxton, J. D. Pemberton, G. L. Courtney, N. B. Van der Gucht, Alexis Martin, J. S. Harvey, H. B. Robertson, R. H. Pooley, B. W. Powell and G. W. R. Stuart.

Dancing continued until a late hour this morning, and all left completely satisfied with the entertainment provided by Mine Hostess Mrs. Walt.

The Dallas is speedily becoming popular among those who appreciate a first-class hostelry.

Mrs. Leiser entertains a number of lady friends at luncheon to-day, and on Saturday evening next the Arctic Brotherhood will welcome friends to a smoking concert.

PUPILS' RECITAL.

Programme Rendered at the Victoria Conservatory of Music Recently.

There was a pupils' monthly piano recital at the Victoria Conservatory of Music Tuesday afternoon, when the following programme was satisfactorily rendered. Among the young beginners the playing in unison on two pianos of Marjorie Carne and Vyvyan Bolton deserves special notice, while little Kitty Wallace performed her solos admirably:

"Mermaid's Song" (two pianos in unison) ..... Weber
Misses Vyvyan Bolton and Marjorie Carne.
"Little Stars in the Sky" ..... Hayden
"The School Master" .....
Miss Kitty Wallace.
"Leisure Hour" ..... Sartario
Miss Vyvyan Bolton.
"Curious Story" ..... Heller
"Dreams of Youth," op. 229, No. 7. Sartario
Miss Marjorie Carne.
"Air" fr. "William Tell" .....
"Folks' Song" .....
Miss Jessie Wilson.
Majurka, op. 7, No. 1 ..... Chopin
Waltz, op. 64, No. 1 ..... Chopin
Etude ..... Heller
Russian Dance, op. 16, No. 1 ..... Dennee
Miss Mary Fraser.
"Nocturne" in E flat ..... Chopin
"Consolation" ..... Liszt
Miss Ada Saunders.
Song—"I Once Had a Sweet Little Doll, Dears" ..... Nevin
Two songs (from Child's "Garden of Verses," by Eugene Field) ..... Nevin
Mrs. Adney.
"God Save the Queen."

MARINE NOTES.

Attempt to Take Nome Business Out of the Hands of Canadians.

A circular just issued by General Western Passenger Agent Stevens of the Great Northern Railway has been forwarded to all agents of the road with the object of giving information in regard to Cape Nome. With regard to steamship lines the circular says: Owing to a recent ruling of the treasury department of the United States, it is quite probable that business originating in the United States will not be allowed to be transported to Cape Nome in British bottoms. To avoid confusion, needless delays and inconvenience, intending passengers should avoid attempting to book on anything but steamers flying the American flag." It is needless to say that this is not true. The same regulations apply to Cape Nome as to Skagway with regard to freight.

The schooner Muriel arrived at Port Townsend Tuesday morning in a dilapidated condition. The vessel left Kobe for Hakodate to receive a cargo of sulphur for San Francisco, but after experiencing terrible gales for fourteen days, and finding herself at the end of that time many miles farther from Hakodate than when she began her voyage, her master, Captain Carlsen, considered it wise to sail before the wind, which he did, arriving at Port Townsend with her few remaining sails torn in shreds.

The Puget Sound Tugboat Company have entered a claim in the Seattle federal court against the steamship Elm Branch for $60,000 salvage. This is the sum the company claim for services rendered the disabled steamer on January 12th off Cape Flattery.

On the arrival of the steamer Garland at Port Townsend from Victoria, the cook, Tom Hing, was arrested charged with smuggling opium. Considerable of the drug was found on his person, and concealed in his room on the steamer.

Steamer Cottage City is due from Alaska on Sunday.

The C. P. N. Co.'s steamer Queen City is due to sail for West Coast ports on the 20th.

The steamer Queen is due from San Francisco to-day.

The Danube left last night for Skagway and northern ports with but few passengers and light freight.

Steamer Oscar arrived Tuesday night from Telegraph Bay and sails to-day for Sooke.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

CURE

Sick Headache and relieve all the troubles incident to a bilious state of the system, such as Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Distress after eating, Pain in the Side, &c. While their most remarkable success has been shown in curing

SICK

Headache, yet Carter's Little Liver Pills are equally valuable in Constipation, curing and preventing this annoying complaint, while they also correct all disorders of the stomach, stimulate the liver and regulate the bowels. Even if they only cured

HEAD

Ache they would be almost priceless to those who suffer from this distressing complaint; but fortunately their goodness does not end here, and those who once try them will find these little pills valuable in so many ways that they will not be willing to do without them. But after all sick head

ACHE

is the bane of so many lives that here is where we make our great boast. Our pills cure it while others do not.

Carter's Little Liver Pills are very small and very easy to take. One or two pills make a dose. They are strictly vegetable and do not gripe or purge, but by their gentle action please all who use them. In vials at 25 cents; five for $1. Sold by druggists everywhere, or sent by mail.

CARTER MEDICINE CO., New York.

Small Pill. Small Dose. Small Price.

Alien Exclusion Made an Is

Mr. Clifford Moves A Amendment to the Ad in Reply.

Ministers Still Dumb Their Critics — Stan Committees Choser

Although it had been hoped an pated that the debate upon the from the Throne would be dispos the middle of this week in the L islature, the passage of that in document seems as far away a and it is now altogether improb its consideration will terminate i sion of the parties much before S Yesterday the government adher tactics pursued by their side of t on Tuesday, declining (with th exception of Mr. Helgesen) to c to the debate, or to attempt a r of the opposition statements an ments; and seemingly being most to secure a division in the absenc of the opposition members in or their strength might appear to t try as greater than it actually speakers of yesterday, in conseq this policy of silence initiated by ernment, were almost wholly dra the opposition ranks, and inclu McBride, who had the floor at t ing: Mr. Richard Hall, of Victo Clifford, of Cassiar; and Col. H Southeast Kootenay, who moved bate's adjournment. In closing marks, the senior member for presented as an amendment to the ment, a second want of confiden lution, based upon a condemna the alien exclusion law (which it remembered Mr. Clifford was member to actively oppose at its The other noteworthy features terday were the presentation of tion from the mine owners of th land camp, urging the repeal of t hour law as having been prove vised by the test of experience, declaration by the Attorney-Gen response to an interrogation b Joseph Martin) that he would pared in the course of a day or disclose the nature of the pro that will be initiated against th loops Standard for its gross atta His Honor the Lieutenant-Gover

PETITIONS.

The house having been formally with prayer by Rev. W. H. Barr —the chaplain's office having been during the preceding three days—

A petition was presented by Mr Martin, from the War Eagle, I and twenty-one other mining co of West Kootenay, urging the re substantial amendment of the eig clause in the mining act, and stati it had operated injuriously to bo ers and owners, had not been as by the persons most interested (w miners), had operated to the exclu capital, was unconstitutional in it ference with contracts between ers and employed, and discrimina justly against the mining indust ticularly concerned.

The petition presented on Tues Mr Ralph Smith, with reference settlement of grievances of settler ing within the Esquimalt & Nanai way belt, was read, received, and printed.

STANDING COMMITTEE

The leader of the opposition signified his readiness to procee the nomination of the sessional st committees in the usual way, thou mittees were appointed as follo

Private Bills and Standing O Hon. F. C. Cotton, Hon. R. E. M nie, Messrs. Kidd, Green, A. W. Helmcken, and Eberts.

Public Accounts—Messrs. P Wells, Tisdall, Hall and Turner

Railways—Hon. R. E. McK Messrs. Deane, Macpherson, Neil ro, Hon. A. Henderson, Helgese chant, Wells, Booth, Ellison, McPhillips, Dunsmuir, Pooley an

Mining—Messrs. Neill, J. M. Hon. J. Fred Hume, Kellie, R. Helgesen, Green, Hon. A. Her A. W. Smith, Dunsmuir, McBri erts, Robertson, Baker and Irvin

Printing—Messrs. Kidd, Hon. McKechnie, Deane, Ellison and

Before the appointment of com was disposed of,

Mr. Helmcken rose to inquire the services of all honorable ge of the house had been remembere selection of the committees. It fair that all the work should be upon some, and others escape en

The Premier observed that he omitted the name of any membe party in the nominations.

Mr. Turner had no amend make to his nominations, all his ers having also been included.

It will be noted that the name Higgins and Mr. Joseph Martin included in the list of members mittees.

REPORT PRESENTED

Hon. Mr. Semlin laid on the the house the report of the publi for the year ended 30th of Jun

THE DEBATE CONTINU

MR. McBRIDE, continuing bate upon His Honor's speech Turner's amendment to the mo a formal reply, said that he ha Tuesday evening adjournment sidering the absence of referend address to the agricultural which omission on the part of ernment he held up to severest It had been intimated by the gov that they did not intend to ne agricultural industry, yet he another evidence to the contr was not infrequently the sma that exhibited the disposition o ments as well as individuals, an connection he referred to the n circulating libraries, which u sensible and liberal provisions them by the late government found of the greatest assistan farmers throughout the countr appropriation of $1,000 in form had been found none too much; present government had cut d vote to $200, which was practic fying its usefulness altogether. libraries had been much appre the farmers, and the money spe on had been well spent. The ment appeared, however, to be the importance of the farmers and he would find it his duty at opportunity to tell the agri plainly how little they had and how much to condemn th administration for.

Passing to the question of allowance by the federal auth