

The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

THIRTY-NINTH YEAR. VICTORIA BRITISH COLUMBIA MONDAY JANUARY 4 1897. VOLUME XXXIX. NO. 6

SYMPATHY OF EUROPE.

Senor Sagasta on the Hispano-Cuban Question—Captains Weyler to Be Recalled.

London, Dec. 30.—El Liberal, of Madrid, publishes an interview with Senor Sagasta, the Liberal leader, in which he is quoted as saying that Spain has the sympathy of Europe in maintaining her sovereignty in Cuba, but that Europe desires the establishment of reforms in that island. Senor Sagasta is also quoted as saying that he believes Senor Canovas del Castillo is only waiting for a reply from Captain-General Weyler to the effect that he has cleared the province of Pinar del Rio of insurgents in order to grant reforms which will be followed by autonomy. Continuing, Senor Sagasta declared that Captain-General Weyler is himself an obstacle to the pacification of Cuba, as he is impotent to quell the rebellion, adding: "Diplomacy is more able to secure peace than force of arms. The vacillation of the government and waste of time is exhausting the resources of the country. The Liberal programme concedes immediately the most ample constitutional tariff reforms."

The Madrid correspondent of the Standard says there is much agitation in political and military circles where the tide is setting against Captain-General Weyler, who is expected to be speedily recalled unless he gains striking successes. The government has authorized General Polavieja, captain general of the Philippines, to borrow several million dollars from the banks of Manila and Hongkong to continue the campaign until the Cortes meet.

A Times dispatch from Calcutta reports that there have been rains varying from one half to one and one half inches over a wide area and a heavy snow fall in the western Himalaya region, which is expected to produce rain in upper India.

A St. Petersburg dispatch to the Times points out as a peaceful element that the Russian budgets for war and marine in 1897 show no extra warlike credits.

The Times Berlin correspondent reports the business men that the regulations for the new bill and produce exchanges in 1897, which will be in operation when the bill is passed, were only published thirty-six hours before the end of the year. "The whole of the regulations," says the Times correspondent, "are pervaded by a drill sergeant spirit of an acutely galling character. The measure is a gigantic experiment, instituted in the hope of satisfying the demand of the agrarians, but its prospects are not rosy. The Prussian estates, which have already been dissolved, and the Stettin and Brunswick exchanges have decided to create free associations of their kind, and it is not unlikely that the government will soon be yielding to the agrarian claims. The members of the Berlin bourse, at a meeting to-night attended by all of the firms interested in the grain trade, unanimously decided to establish a new private organization, despite the difficulties raised by the government. It is expected that the rape oil and spirit markets will follow suit.

The corn exchanges of Berlin and Stettin, Germany, have decided to suspend business as a protest against the new law prohibiting speculation in futures.

An explosion of dynamite took place to-day on board the British ship Delta, in Plymouth harbor. The vessel had 40 men on board, but only two of them lost their lives.

A Daily News despatch from Odessa reports that Cossack brigades have raided a lot of government magazines and secured large quantities of arms and ammunition.

Joseph A. Springer, U.S. vice consul-general in Cuba, leaves for the United States on the steamer Olivette. With the steamer Sauting there will be sent to Chafarinas sixty prisoners and Fernando nine cattle thieves and fifty-five manojos. Two brothers, named Fernando and Amido Pino, negroes and naturalized Americans, and Tomaso Anzola, of Colombia, have been expelled from the island.

NEW YEAR'S HONORS.

Some of the Marks of Distinction to Be Conferred by Her Majesty.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—Among the New Year's honors announced is the elevation of Sir Joseph Lister, Bart., president of the Royal Society, to the peerage as Lord Lister. Mr. James Macpherson, ex-president of the Royal Society of Canada, is knighted, and Sir F. O. Lancelotti, the British ambassador at Berlin, is made K.G.O.B. (Knight Grand Cross of the Bath).

SERIOUS ACCUSATION.

An Ottawa Liquor Dealer Charged With Grave Offences.

OTTAWA, Dec. 31.—(Special)—A summons has been issued against David Ronger, liquor dealer, of Sussex street, charging him with having in his possession a duplicate of the seal used by Walker & Son, distillers of Walkerville, and also with opening liquor barrels, adulterating the liquor and sealing them up again.

COMPROMISE SUGGESTED.

Maximo Gomez Writes to General Campos Suggesting to End the War.

New York, Dec. 31.—A special to the World from Madrid says: "The Times publishes the alleged text of a letter addressed by Maximo Gomez to Marshal Campos at the end of January, 1896, a few days before General Campos left Cuba, to which Campos replied that he could do nothing as he had resigned his commission, but would communicate the letter to his successor. The letter ran thus: 'General, as you are a gentleman, and owing to your high qualities deserve the sympathy of the whole country, I appeal to you. I would not do so to any other person representing the authority of Spain on the island. We must all lament the shedding of blood and the ruin of Cuba. For my part I would wish to contribute to stopping so much desolation. If you can find some means for working out peace, have no scruples in telling me, because I will make any sacrifice to devise on my side some form of compromise.'"

Strangely enough General Campos was not allowed to carry out the home rule of Gomez, which might have checked the uprising. Most Spaniards, especially the liberals, cannot help thinking how practical and politic it would be under the present instance to send the gallant marshal back to Cuba. There is a widespread rumor in military circles that General Weyler will be recalled and will be succeeded by Marshal Primo de Rivera, captain-general of Madrid, who will have two able assistants in the persons of Lieut.-Generals Macia and Corras.

BISHOP'S MANDEMENT.

The "Mail-Enterprise" Denounces Ecclesiastical Censorship—"A Case For the Courts."

Can the Ban Be Legally Resorted To?—Killed by the Cars.

TORONTO, Dec. 31.—(Special)—Neither the Globe nor the Mail-Enterprise had full particulars of the Laurier banquet this morning, owing to the lateness of the hour. Both have editorials on the action of the Quebec bishops. The Mail-Enterprise referring to the rumor of further mandements to be launched, and more newspapers to be proscribed, says the writing out of a public journal by an episcopal pen, even where the paper is used as a medium for the promotion of the faith, is not a case to be any more of it; but there should be none of it at all. Surely the readers of newspapers have some discrimination, and the press is not to be used under a censorship not acknowledged or practiced elsewhere. The Mail calls on Mr. Geffroy, as a member of the government, to carry the case to the courts and find out if the bishops really have the power and right in this matter to do as they have done, and whether in this country the ban, which in its operation wipes out private property, limits discussion and restricts the freedom of the people, may be legally resorted to.

William Canham, aged 13, was cut to pieces on the Grand Trunk track last night while returning from visiting his brother in the east end. His remains were found this morning scattered along the track for a couple of hundred yards, seven trains having passed over the spot.

Charles Sheridan, aged 38, a gardener, employed by John F. Taylor, of Don Mills, and whose mind is supposed to have become unbalanced through the excessive use of tobacco, cut his throat and then walked a quarter of a mile to a neighbor's house, where he was found lying in the back yard. He expired a few minutes later, having first muttered that he had done the deed himself.

SHOT IN THE PHILIPPINES.

A Leader of the Rebels Shot by Spanish Authorities.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—The Madrid correspondent of the Standard says: Dr. Rizal was shot at Manila to-day, in the presence of an immense crowd. He was sentenced under Gen. Polavieja's new policy of vigorous repression and summary carrying out of sentence. General Polavieja absented himself during the execution. Great precautions were taken to prevent a popular demonstration. Dr. Rizal recanted himself with the church of Rome, and begged to be allowed to take part in a civil marriage with his Canadian mistress before he died. His request, however, was refused, as well as the petition of his relatives to be allowed to take charge of the body, lest the funeral should be made a pretext for a demonstration. On his trial by court-martial, Dr. Rizal admitted that he was the author of the constitution of the Philippine league, the object of which was revolutionary, but denied he had taken any active part in the rebellion.

Sudden Death.

WINNIPEG, Dec. 29.—Alex. Bleaker, of New York, who has been in the city for some weeks as agent of a leading hair-work store, died suddenly to-night while taking a Turkish bath at the Manitoba hotel. His remains will be taken east by his companion Theo. Newton.

THE ROYAL CITY.

Statistics as to the Trade of Westminster in the Year—Just Closed.

While Not Showing Increases, the Fraser River City Is Holding Its Own.

WESTMINSTER, Dec. 31.—(Special)—This city has held its own well through the past year and one matter for congratulation is the fact that though the salmon peak on the Fraser was expected to be a very light one it far exceeded expectations, being more than double the estimate made at the opening. The depressed state of the lumber industry is responsible for the fact that the exports do not figure up higher, but when all is said and done the value is not so far behind 1896, when the total was 2,939,447, against 2,090,037 in 1896. The exports by quarters in 1896 were: January, February, March, \$479,264; April, May, June, \$570,565; July, August, September, \$378,507; October, November, December, \$511,671; total, \$2,420,057.

Coming next to imports it will be seen that they do not compare unfavorably with 1896 when they totaled up \$690,461. For 1896 they were: January, February, March, \$73,310; April, May, June, \$121,932; July, August, September, \$344,617; October, November, December, \$99,642; total, \$639,501.

The duty collected in 1896 was by quarters: January, February, March, \$18,755.18; April, May, June, \$23,993.50; July, August, September, \$50,774.00; October, November, December, \$22,974.49; total, \$114,496.17.

DROPPED THROUGH A BRIDGE.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 30.—A special to the Republic from Birmingham, Ala., says: The death list from the wreck at Cahaba river, whereby a Birmingham Mineral railroad train dropped through a bridge 110 feet high on the Southern railroad, has grown to twenty-four. This includes the death of W. D. East, a bridge foreman, who was killed in a second wreck, and this morning, that he knows very exactly as they do. He maintained that the concessions were more than what was asked for by Sir Donald A. Smith's commission.

ROBBING THE U. S. MAILS.

Arrest of a Wagon Driver Charged With Stealing a Letter Pouch.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—William H. Post, a mail wagon driver employed by the general post office, was arrested today on suspicion at the general post office of having robbed a mail pouch which arrived from abroad on the steamer City of Paris on December 2. It is said that subsequently, while en route to the Jersey City postoffice, he threw the pouch of registered letters into the North river. A bundle of letters recently found on the shore of Coney island, is believed to be a part of the robbed letters. The postoffice inspectors made a search of the office and found a miscellaneous collection of articles and a mail lock key in French. He stole any of the articles. He was arraigned before a U. S. commissioner and held in \$5,000 bail.

LITIGATION IN ROSSLAND.

Manifesto of a Committee of Citizens Regarding Land Titles.

ROSSLAND, Dec. 31.—The Miner tomorrow will contain a manifesto of the settlers' committee to the citizens of Rossland asking for funds to resist evictions on the lands crown granted to the Nelson and Fort Sheppard railway until the title is cleared. The committee suggests that the rival claimants should get together and make the title good, pending the settlement in the courts, that the legislature should appoint a commission to place a value on the lots of the various claimants, and to give the bank for the credit of the owner when the courts finally determine which claimant is entitled to hold the same.

INDUSTRIAL GERMANY.

Marvellous Growth of the Empire—Its Facilities—Its Exports and Imports.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—The United States Consul at Chemnitz, Germany, writes the state department calling attention to the marvellous growth of the German empire as an industrial state, its length of coast, its splendid harbors at the mouth of numerous navigable rivers and its recent enormous industrial development. Official figures put Germany's exports and imports for 1895 at \$1,828,729,000.

CHINESE REVOLUTIONISTS.

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—According to Wong Ching Foo, editor of the Chinese News, Chicago is to become the headquarters of the Chinese revolutionary junta. This body plans the overthrow of the present Chinese dynasty by an armed invasion from a convenient island in the South seas. Rooms for the junta have already been engaged in this city and the Mongolians here are now awaiting the coming of Sun Yat Sen to set the machinery in operation which is to open China to Western civilization. Sun Yat Sen is the Celestial revolutionist who was recently kidnapped in the streets of London, and whose release was effected by Lord Salisbury. He is now collecting money and organizing his followers in England. He will sail for America within two or three weeks, where he will confer with Wong Ching Foo, of Chicago, and other leaders of the Chinese reform party in this country.

EXTENSION TO HULL.

Ottawa Electric Railway Crosses the River by a New Bridge.

Rifling a Till in the Patent Office—Major Kitson at the Capital.

OTTAWA, Dec. 31.—Ottawa and Hull were connected by electric railway to-day, the Ottawa Railway Co. having built a bridge to enable the tracks to be carried to the Transpontois City. Henry Dostaler, messenger of the agricultural department, was arrested to-day on the charge of rifling a till in the office of the cashier of the patents branch. Major Kitson, the new commandant of the Royal Military College, paid his first visit to the Capital to-day.

MR. LAURIER'S BANQUET.

The Premier Contends That He Had Kept Good Faith in the School Settlement.

MONTREAL, Dec. 30.—The Laurier banquet this evening was largely attended by Liberals, including Hon. R. W. Scott, W. S. Fielding, Sidney Fisher, Sir H. G. Joly, J. Israel Tarte, Thomas Greenway, W. Peterson, Sir Richard Cartwright, Dr. Borden, L. E. Davies, W. Mulock, C. A. Norton, Senator Power, and Senator Thibaudeau. Hon. Mr. Laurier spoke for over an hour before an even when I don't see in politics did not appear sufficient to "the highest kept good faith in settling the Manitoba school question. He was, however, compelled to acknowledge that the commission of the Manitoba government had not been in error, and that he was not exactly as they do. He maintained that the concessions were more than what was asked for by Sir Donald A. Smith's commission.

NO MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 30.—The Porte has granted the demand of the envoys of France and Italy that their dragoonment be present at the trial of Muzah Bey, charged with being responsible for the murder of Father Salvatore, an Italian priest, who was killed in the convent of Mendicelle at Mars in March 1895, by Turkish troops commanded by Muzah Bey. Italy demands the punishment of Muzah Bey, and the Turkish government has promised to put him on trial, but the representatives of the powers suspect there will be nothing more than a farce. Some days ago when it was proposed to include Muzah Bey in the general amnesty, the French and Italian envoys requested their governments to send to Alexandria, in view of this possible miscarriage of justice, which Italy and France are resolved at all hazards shall not happen.

SERIOUS CUTTING AFFRAY.

ROSSLAND, Dec. 30.—At an early hour this morning a serious cutting affray took place in the barroom of the International hotel, Victor Capobianca, an Italian harpist was on a spree all the evening, and about five in the morning got into quarrel with another man. Hancock drew out to arrest the infuriated Italian; but, as he had no weapon, was at a disadvantage and the Italian succeeded in getting out to the street, when he made a dash down Spokane street and thence along Columbia avenue. Officer Webb kept after him and finally knocked him down with a club. Hancock's condition is still critical.

IT IS NOW THE TAILORS.

BUFFALO, Dec. 30.—The merchant tailors of Buffalo have decided that, as it seems to be the fashion for everyone on this side of the line to do they can against Canada, they will follow suit. They have in consequence held a meeting and subscribed considerable money to send delegates to Washington, which will appear before the ways and means committee and draw attention to the fact that American tailors in the border towns are suffering from Canadian competition. They claim that it is quite a common practice for residents to take a flying trip to some Canadian city and being back with them sufficient clothing to last a year.

Society Wedding.

KINGSTON, Dec. 30.—There was a large crowd at St. George's Cathedral to-day to witness the marriage of Miss Edith Norton Taylor, daughter of Colonel D. Norton Taylor, a retired British officer, to Captain Marsh, of the Royal Artillery, Plymouth, England.

ARMENIAN IMMIGRANTS.

OTTAWA, Dec. 30.—Rev. E. Chambers, of Woodstock, Ont., a Presbyterian missionary to Turkey has communicated a suggestion to the department of the Interior that the government might assist in the transportation of a number of Armenians to the Northwest or if they could not do that to give a block of land to a company who would do so. A reply was made to Mr. Chambers that it was impracticable to do this. A dispatch was recently received by the Government from the Colonial Secretary, Rt.-Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, asking what has been done in the matter, and if Mr. Chamberlain's suggestion had been acted upon. In reply to this the Laurier government have passed an order in council and forwarded it to Mr. Chamberlain, setting forth that, as there was no appropriation for assisting emigrants to Canada and Turkey, it might be in the interest of the Armenians themselves to bring them to Canada. At the same time it was made out that private companies and individuals under the existing law could take up land and homesteads in the Northwest. Copies of the land act and other information were attached to the order-in-council and sent to Mr. Chamberlain.

DYNAMITER IVORY.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—William Lyman, president of the Irish National Alliance, has received a letter purporting to come from Charles Russell, of the firm of Russell & Day, solicitors for Ivory, the alleged dynamiter, setting forth that in the opinion of counsel, Messrs. Carson & Taylor, and in their own opinion also it would be better for the accused to plead guilty, as he would undoubtedly be convicted, when his sentence would be heavier. It was stated that Ivory would not act on Lyman's advice and consent. Lyman says he cannot understand this matter. He has not a word to say about it, but he is anxious to aid him only because he believes him to be absolutely innocent of the charges brought against him, being himself a true Irishman. He would not undertake to advise a man about something of which he had no knowledge. Mr. Lyman further states that he is a witness from this side would be on hand for the trial.

During 1896 the births in Vancouver were 308; deaths, 230; and marriage, 150.

Vancouver had a smaller fire loss than last year, though the loss has not been estimated yet. The officials are either rushed with work or sick with grippé, and though the City's representative was sent to each place four or five times, he was positively refused accurate returns until next week. The fire loss is 36 in number. An increase of \$20,850.43 is shown by the inland revenue returns, which were as follows:

1896	1895
6,517 06	9,388 49
8,767 49	10,100 74
8,178 46	12,422 13
10,654 66	10,654 66
8,008 35	5,264 27
10,688 54	15,018 31
10,628 21	12,066 14
10,624 86	14,438 20
10,628 21	10,628 21
10,729 16	12,178 46
8,027 85	10,628 21
10,854 87	(total) 13,000 00
111,518 91	118,469 24

MACEO STILL LIVING.

KEY WEST, Fla., Dec. 31.—Senora Deloras Mirabel, widow of Lieut.-Col. Mirabel, of the insurgent army, who was killed in a machete charge in September last, arrived here last night on the steamship Olivette en route to Tampa, Fla. It was at first reported that Senora Mirabel claimed to have come from the western part of Cuba, and that she had been attending on Antonio Maceo. Now, however, it appears that Senora Mirabel did not see Maceo; but she says that just before her departure from Cuba, she was informed by a gentleman from the staff, who had just returned from the field, that Maceo was alive, but seriously wounded, with four of the physicians in attendance on him. Senora Mirabel informant added that Maceo was recovering slowly, and he further stated that during the engagement between insurgents and Spanish troops under Major, now Colonel, Ciruela, Dr. Zertuche, unobserved, shot Maceo and afterwards hastened to join the Spanish. For this the doctor is said to have received \$50,000.

THE DUKE'S ZEAL.

PARIS, Dec. 30.—The Duke of Orleans has written a letter stating that, knowing the French republic is engaged in diplomatic negotiations of a delicate nature, he does not wish to excite internal difficulties, but places the seal of his family connections at the service of the French interests abroad. The letter was written to decline an offer of candidature for a seat in the chamber of deputies from Brest.

CHAMPIONSHIP HOCKEY MATCH.

WINNIPEG, Dec. 30.—(Special)—The championship hockey match here to-night for the Stanley cup between the Victorias of Montreal, and the Victorias of Winnipeg, was won by the Montrealers by a score of 5 to 3. It was most exciting game, the score being tied two minutes before time was called. In the next minute, Montreal scored, and will carry east the much-coveted trophy.