

Interesting Char With One of the Bortunate Klondikers

Friday pext the second anniversary of discovery of gold at Dawson willebe brated. It was on the 12th of August, that "Siwash George" McCormick reded the first claim on Bonanza creek, ich was followed by an excitement and ush to the new gold fields unprecedented the history of the world's mining aps. That the output of the camp will be quite

unprecedented in the history of gold diseries as was the rush to the fields in the als of mining stampedes is the opinion C. D. Blodget, a miner, who has been in country for three years, and who is now Victoria, together with a party of six, the purpose of buying fresh supplies another trip north, it being his intennext City of Seattle. He chatted freeto a Times man this morning in the sitroom of the Dominion Hotel regarding luck in Dawson and the outlook generfor that camp. came down," he said, "on the St. Paul,

ch reached San Francisco three weeks We left Dawson late in June and hough considerable gold had then been pped out, I believe that the result of the ater's operations could be safely estimat. at \$20,000,000. The creeks are by no ans worked out, and the development of e next few years will prove the Klondike mp to be the richest in the history of world "

peaking from personal experience, Mr. odget said that he and his partners clean-up \$130,000 from one claim and \$92,000 m another. This result, though large, oks larged than it really is, when the exssive cost of materials and labor is ered. The cost of nails is from \$1.50 to a pound; lumber of 30 to 35 cents a foot the mill; wood for burning, \$25 to \$75. cord; and labor \$1.50 an hour. It is Mr. odget's intention this winter to work tree claims on Bonanza and one on El orado, if the mining regulations are sufiently relaxed. On these properties only ssment work has as yet been done, owing what he considers the exorbitant royalty sed on the output.

This led the conversation on to the subect of officials in the Yukon and the reorts which have of late reached Victoria blackmailing. Mr. Blodget thinks that trouble with Gold Commissioner a an instance of this, he tells of a purase which he and a partner made from a in named Hunter, and the bill of sale for hich he secured from Fawcett. The lathowever, falled to record it, and the perty, was sold a second time by Hunter an advance in price, the dual transac ion on the part of the commissioner lead-ng to a very ugly situation in regard to he property. Upon investigation the com discovered his error and the mater was adjusted, but the outcome of other nders has not been so happy

Mr. Blodget also confirms statements made egarding the postal officials which have en published in these columns. He states that many letters which he should have eceived last fall have never reached him, nd that those which he did receive cost im from \$1. to \$5 apiece.

MORE GOLD COMING.

The City of Topeka Expected to Bring One and a Half Millions.

If the statement of men who arrived Seattle on Saturday be true, the City of Topeka, are from the north to-morrow or Wednesday, will add another to the already large number of consignments of Klondike gold. The Skagway daily laskan of July 30th says:

Provincial News.

DONALD. The citizens of Donald are making efforts to capture the Big

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portion of the syear's fish, hatched in fore, that this year's fish, hatched in 1894, will not in any case prove as nu-merous as might be expected in the or-dinary course of events. Others, how-ever, perhaps more practical, point to the condition of the roe in such fish as are brought in as evidence that the sal-Twenty-eight men are now in rebuilding the old Mober-from Donald to the mouth of iver, which had been built in Capt. Moberley, and next sum-the intention to turn this trail Are brought in as evidence that the sai-mon are not yet ready to ascend to the spawning grounds. At all events the fish are not yet en-tering the river in profitable numbers, and three or four thousand boats pro-bably did not average five fish apiece last night. Still, many look for the main run in a for days probably by is the intention of the mouth of vagon road. From the mouth of river a steamboat will be runof Surprise Rapids on the

GRAND FORKS.

river.

get relief from the extreme heat few days almost the entire ulation has been spending its population has been spending its athing in the river. The heat on 1st reached 105 in the shade. mass meeting of citizens David as elected chief of the fire depart E. Kelly, assistant chief; F , foreman, and Harry Sheads have just about filled their half-pound tins, so that when the run does begin they will be able to make good time on the various styles of one-pound tins. Regarding the reported strike at Sizveston, most of the men have come to terms with the cannerymen, though several of them are still holding out. From the falling off in the catch since Sunday, the action of certain canners in reducing the price on that evening t foreman. yor Manly, accompanied by Armstrong and Mr. Holland of , Ont., arrived in this city last. Mr. Holland is one of the chief of the Trust and Loan Company nto, and is looking over the city foreman view to investing in real estate

council has appointed E. Ancity a city electrician and engineer, to harge of the running of the water

light plants here. VERNON.

adjusted.

a onder

ROSSLAND

vierNoin. arvesting is now in full swing, the wheat being ripe in most parts of district. The continued hot weather ming the grain to ripen very rapid-and the farmens are finding some culty in getting it cut, as men are very plentiful this year. he directors of the Agricultural and des Association of Okanagan Mis-bara reason for feel proud of the ve reason to feel proud of the which has met their latest vencigar making. Everyone that of cigar making, Everyone has tried the product of the Kel-manufactory speaks in terms of t praise regarding the excellent of their products and as they will ed on the market there that they will meet with a The new industry promises one of considerable magniond Okanagan tobacco will soon b dely known by devotees of "My Lady cotine."-News.

NELSON.

The marriage has taken place of Miss it. Denis of Montreal and Duncan Mal-olm McDonald of Nelson. They do some things queerly here. The

They do some things queery here. The Miner publishes a copy of a letter sent by Mr. John Elliott to the city council regarding his dismissal from the position of city solicitor. He complains, and the Miner thinks justly, that he has had no official notice of the council's deter-mination, and also that this public conemnation of him in his professional ca-acity is the first intimation he has rethat there was any dissatisfaction felt either with his advice or with the either with his activities he has from time to time been called upon to render.

navor also appears to have made an mayor also appetts to have made an important misstatement of facts. An upturned canoe was reported last Wednesday evening by a fishing party as having been seen going over the rapids on the Kootenay river. Inquiry has, however, failed to elicit any infor mation as to whether or not there has

nother drowning accident. John R. Green, who has occupied the position of principal of the Nelson pub-ic schools, has sent in his resignation he school board, and will remain in Northwest Teritories, where he i sent visiting friends in Moose Jaw

year were 1,750 tons. NEW WESTMINSTER. glas vil New Westminster, Aug. The Dhe direc-VANCOUVR. Roval Agri ltural and In Vancouver, Aug. 4 .- The case dustrial Society met on Friday night and got through a large amount of business. Alstine for bigamy has been furthed adment. journed. Sau! and Bell, contractors, commence Major was added to the buildcommittee, which will meet next o-morrow the erection of a magnificent Thursday and allot space to the various block adjoining Dunn hall, the contra price for the building being \$72,000. contract applicants. The matter of the four band concerts and the sacred concert was placed in the hands of the Commissioner The salmon run is, still very moderate, o make final arrangements. Commis-ioner Keary will probably leave to-boat. There are indications of on big spurt about next Sunday. The strike morrow for a third trip to the upper country in the interests of the exhibition. of the Steveston fishermen is a comparative fizzle. This time the commissioner will person-ally see to the advertising of the exhibi-Vancouver, Aug. 5 .- The salmon pack is very small to date. Each cannery has about ion and the collection of the mineral exgan 1,500 cases, making an aggregate of 60,000. A disastrous fire occurred in the city. So far there have only been schools of fish, the vesterday morning, the worst blaze which we have had for over a year. About 10 minutes to 9 o'clock a te'ephone message from the Woman's Hospi-tal advised No. 1 fire hall that the Town-send residence, occupied by Mr. A. B. Wintemute and family, was on fire, and Fraser river this morning, reports several to Indian fishermen in Tuesday accidents night's gale. Six men sent up by the Vanvouver Coal a general alarm was promptly rung from box 24, corner of Second street and Company, went north by the steamer Cutch to day to inspect coal seams discovered on Third avenue. The house was entirely destroyed in the course of a few minutes. Queen Charlotte Islands, There was another big seizure of Califor-nia fruit to-day, the consignment being aft was a large, handsome structure, erected some years ago by ex-Mayor W. B. Townsend, now of Rossland, and to its situation, being surrounded by extenfected with codlin moth. Five hundred the cases of apples and pears were destroyed. It is likely that about 40 cyclists from sive grounds, the safety of the neighbor-Vancouver will attend the Dominion championship race meet at Winnipeg on od, on this occasion, depended. It as, as stated, occupied by Mr. A. B. was, as stated. September 5th and 6th, and 25 from Na-Wintemute and family, and was insured London & Lancashire Company MacKenzie & Company, agents) naimo. The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty for \$6,500. There was no insurance on the furniture or contents, except on some beating case into court sonal effects of Mr. Brooke, who had gings there. The losses on the house Word came to-night of the death by dgings there. drowning of Oscar Okerberge, of Steveston. are payable to the British Columbia Cor-The family of the deceased live in Seattle. ation, a loan company, of which R. Company, Victoria, are This fite has renewed Ward & Victoria, are the NELSON. the managers. Nelson, Aug. 5.-The city of Nelson has discussion of the proposal for a fire hall at some place on the hill, and many citisold to the Bank of Montreal \$65,000 city debentures bearing 5 per cent. interest and running 20 years at 98%. Of this amount zens who were witnesses of the fire spoke of bringing the matter again bezens who \$10,000 will be used in extending the water he city council. Tuesday evening a gentleman who system, \$10,000 in extending the sever syswheeled over from Blaine on his le brought word of a sad accident tem, \$5,000 in purchasing a cemetery site, and \$40,000 in purchasing an electric light occurred near that place on Tues-Full details were not obtainable. To-day, the city counc was learned that a man named plant and franchises of the To-day the city council purchased the plant and franchises of the Nelson Electric Company for \$35,000 cash. This places a market gardener, with his ten Nelson in an exceptional position. The city owns both the water and lighting systems, son, were killed on one of the Northern Railway crossings, It ould seem that Lowis had just reached which gives the city a revenue that nets ssing as the train came swiftly the city over \$18,000 annually, while the around a sharp curve, and, think ng to total charge to provide against the interest and sinking fund of the debenture debt of the city is only \$7,080. From this date Nelson property owners will have no taxes cross, he his horses. Wheth whipped up. the team haulked, or how it happened. not quite clear, but the engine struck wagon, which was demolished, and other than to provide for the interest and vis and his son were killed, as well sinking fund of its debenture debts. The th horses. The run of salmon on Tuesday night receipts from water and electric light rates and licenses will be more than sufficient to again discouraging to both canneryand fishermen. The weather off provide for street improvements, pa mouth of the river was very rough, aries and all other current expenses. provide for street improvements, pay salprevented operations in that quar-Similar conditions have prevailed TRAFFIC ON LONDON BRIDGE. weeks, which is quite unusual. As It is computed that about 200,000 pe-destrians and 20,000 vehicles cross Lonunder such circumstances, the rule working the river drifts have gendon bridge every day The most surpris-ing fact however, is that the incessant traffic across the bridge reduces to pow-der about twenty-five cubic feet of erally had the advantage, but this year ere does not appear to be any such nefit, and all the way up the river various fishing camps and canneries ort salmon scarce. granite every year. amers which have within the past "Call a man a sad dog," said the com of two scoured the Gulf from the red philosopher, "and he will look know-ing and feel flattered, but if you call nds to Pint Roberts and Cowithan Gap brings reports that, fish are, apparently, plentiful, him a miserable pup he'll want though the

catch of the traps at Boundary Bay does not indicate that they are so numerous as at first supposed. Some who claim to have followed the "runs" for several years past, say that the high water of certain years was responsible for the destruction of a considerable portion of the spawn, and predict, there things it is useless to baffle There things it is useless to baffle There is of the tide. The courses of the stars,

that this year's fish, hatched in And the thoughts in the he

"Three things are a witness he the craft of man: The might of the sea in storm, The silences of the might, And the birth of a child,

"I. Merlin, am old; I have seen many

things; But one thing have I not seen, That taking counsel prevailed against days of doom

desire of a woman." Or the

********** main run in a few days, probably by next Sunday night. Cross of Rearding the prospect for the pack this year, the season is now so far ad-۲ vanced that unless there is an exten-sion the canneries will not put up their estimated number of cases. Several have just about filled their half-pound St. Andrew ۲ -----

Toward morning, the stranger broke the silence that had reigned in our compartment since we left Moscow. twelve hours before. He looked the ype of a mighty Bojor lording it over hundreds of square miles, cattle; popuin reducing the price on that evening is regarded as having been at least pre-

tation and homesteads included. We exchanged cards. His bore a contra coronet and two closely printed lines of script proclaiming him a Pom-eshtchik (landed proprietor) of a dozen

said. "You, coming from the land of the free, do not know what it is to be muz-zled. I have not dared address a soul, Russian, Pole or foreigner, for the last three months except on the most trivial subjects. May 1 spear to you-man to man

chough to acquiesce to their speech or to express sympathy with their alleged

ed hands over the Czar's head to see him ed hands over the Czar's head to see him safely crowned, all turned spy. God knows, I wish Nicholas luck and long life, even if, as a Pole, I do not pray for him as fervently as his mujiks (peasants) do. But once a Ninhet, al-ways a Nihilist. If, during the past few months, I had said to a friend, or, few months, i had said to a prind, or, perchance, to my wife—it wouldn't have made the least difference if 1 had said it to him or her: 'May the Lord grant that the coronation passes off without a hitch,' rt is ten to one that the report to the Master of Police in our district to the Master of Police in our district would have charged me with expressing the very opposite sentiments. And if I had stayed away from Moscow, and something had happened, my name would have been the first on the list of 'secret plotters' from this part of the Grandem of charge, was badly defeated vesterday.

"So I nurraned in the Kremin when the enemy of my country declared des-potism a godlike pursuit, and bridled my tongue, though I am as companionable a fellow as anyone who rode behind fast horses and lived in the great world all his life. I can't tell you how much I enjoyed your conversation yesterday with that gentleman who looked so with that gentleman who looked so nuch like a younger edition of Daniel Webster."-(The stranger referred to Mr. Richard Harding Davis.) "If I had Mr. Richard Harding Davis.) "If I had been sure of our fellow passengers of the train then, I could have joined in unasked: To-day I am sure of passen-gers, erew and all. I have seen the Secret Service man in charge, of this train, a friend of mine. I pay him dom-the the colour has from the particle

to a street wrangle. I excused my intru-sion and stepped aside to let the Rus-sians pass. "They walked on through the Thier garten, I tokowing at a short distance. After a while the group began to dis-solve. One entered a wine shop, others

THE VICTORIA TIMES, TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 1898.

disappeared in the vestibule of a theatre. When 1 reached the neighborhood of the Schloss, only two of the Russians were in sight; the owner of the cross and the roung man with whom he was walking when I approached him. what had been his reason for deny-ing his property. Why did he tremble at the very sight of it, and why were

his companions terror struck? There was a mystery somewhere which 1 eath to solve, cost what it would. "The Russians tramped along in peculiar fashion, as if one was a prisoner, the other his keeper. Invisible manacles seemed to link the younger man to his companion, i noticed that the owner of the cross repeatedly tried to turn into a side street, and that the other quasi forced him to keep on the populous main

"I followed the pair at an interval of some fifty paces, and was so interested in the hunt that I had eyes for nothing else. Now the strangers crossed the square to enter Koneig strasse, 1 after them, but only to run into a gentleman coming from the opposite direction. My hat was in the gutter and water in my eyes.

"A thousand pardons, Monsieur,' cried my assailant with a police motion of the hand. He affected to aid me in the search for my hat. When I bent down to pick it up, he repeated his excuses and was gone. id was gone. "A second afterward it struck me that

A second alterward it struck hie that he belonged to the group of Hussians from the restaurant. These fellows, ob-serving that I was following them, had arranged to intercept me. They suc-ceeded. When I recovered my hat, but not my temper, the owner of the cross was probably a mile away."

The Count leaned back against the thin leather cushion which, like a careful man, he had spread over the plush upholstery of his seat. "That was thirty years ago," he mused, with one eye closed. "I was young and foolish then, and, having little else to do, promised myself to follow up the adventure next day. These Russians, I calculated, are bound to be registered at police head quarters, and a few marks judiciously distributed in Alexanderplatz will yield me a clue to their identity. So much gained, it will be easy to solve the mys-

"At that time my Berlin home was on the very outskirts of the spreading town, where a glimpse of nature—though town, where a gauge one-could be had at intervals. As I walked toward my little villa that night at 2 a.m. the thoughts referred to kept me computer, I was about to cross a neglected spot, I was about to cross a neglected spot, half square, that park, when a succes-sion of muffied cries struck my car. Grasping my revolver, I started in the direction of the sounds. There had been several "hold-ups" in the neighborhood of late, and I was prepared for an emer-gency, in fact, I longed for an emer unter with some of these knights of the road.

the road. "Help, help; they are killing me!" "'Courage; I am coming?' I cried in response, and at the same time dis-charged my revolver. The moon had risen, and the scene of the unequal bat-tle was painted clearly against the dark background of the trees and bushes—a roome man acide muscular gallantly young man, agile, muscular gallandly defending himself against half a cozen others who, I noticed with the keenest surprise, wore silk hats. Now one of the rascals faced me. The ball of my revolver shattered his cane; the mar-auders fiel. I dragged the victim of the assault, who was on the ground, to the next lantern. By the great Sobieski, the Russian who had lost and refused

the Bissian who had lost and refused the cross of St. Andrew! "The moment he was himself again he recognized me. 'I trust you now,' he said in his native tongue; 'here is my address.' He stretched out his left arm, and I found the street and number writ-ten on the cuff of his shirt in Greek characters. A passing nighthawk help-ed me to bed the unknown in the dirty cab. We rolled a few blocks further

road to Alexandrowo. Once in Russia his chances are desperate. The arrest and abduction were the result of a con-ference between the Russian ambassa-dor and the chancellor. Bismarck, 1 stand, acted upon the Czar's perschal request.'

"I went from Berlin to Vienna, from Warsaw, an object of interest there to intraw, an order of interest to Russia's secret service me and the police generally everywhere. When 'i nrished my statics in the ancient capital of my native land and prepared to enter upon a political career. I was told by the governor in so many words not to waste

time. "'You are a compromised man, Henryk Ivanovitch,' said that worthy, 'the highest post the imperial service holds out to you is that of everlasting

supernumerary assessor at some county ourt in the Caucasus, or Siberia. "I had meanwhile assumed possession of m, americal estates in Poland. In 1892 1 accepted a commission from the St. Petersburg governemnt to rehabil-itate myself, if possible. 'Here are pass-ports and letters of recommendation to all the governors and military author-ities,' M, de Giers said. 'Go and visit our prisons in Siberia and all over the comptry and write a book about the conour prisons in Sideria and an over the country and write a book about the con-ditions as you find them. The truth about these institutions will be the best answer to George Kennan's Siberia and the Exile System, which is now con-vulsing the civilized world.'

"Of course I saw the trap laid for me: "Of course I saw the trap laid for me: The authorities had been commanded to put the establishments under their charge into apple-pie order and under no cir-cumstances was I to be allowed to see below the surface. And my book, which was expected to give the lie to many of Kennan's statements, would be all the more trustworthy because it eman-ated from a man not in symmethy with of Kennan's statements, would be all the more trustworthy because it eman-ated from a man not in sympathy with Russian methods. But there was, for all that, no good reason why 1 should decline M, de Giers's offer. He could not make me write that book, and if, after looking over the ground, I was sat-isfied that I might write a refutation of Me Kenner without compressions my Kennan without compromising my Mr manhood, it was, after all, an easy way of throwing off those shackles of suspectdom.

pectdom. "I started on my journey. I visited hundreds of fortresses, judicial courts, prisons, workhouses. Kennan, I con-cluded, had either overdrawn his pic-tures of misery and despotism, or else the storm of indignation, shame and wrath following his revelations had alcaused many noticeable, if superficial, reforms.

ramparts of a small Siberian fortressa soft, high-keyed voice called me by my christian name: 'Henryk, Sascha sees you.'

"When I lowered my eyes I saw those of the governor, who attended me on my tour of inspection, fixed upon me. Had he heard that voice, and was he trying to read my thoughts? I should not be

long in doubt. I beg your pardon, Graf,' he said. I forgot that this is our prisoness' solifurned to one of the group of soldiers lounging about and despatched one of the men with a message to the master

of the keys. "A minute later I was on the high read leading to the town. To get rid of me the governor had offered a dozen excuses for one. The words 'Henryk Shischa sees you' now came back to me th double force. That prison harbor-the living solution of the Cross mystery, but repeated attempts to get inside ed any more credit, unfortunately, on the province that it has upon her twin "promoting ministers." "We have," "promoting ministers." "We says the Pall Mall Gazette, "accus Times of many and strange idiosyncra-cies on different occasions, but we never thought of 'blackmail' as a charge to levil against Printing House Square, for the simple reason that there was no ground for the accusation. It has been left to Mr. Turner, premier of British. Columbia, to level this random charge. near who much when an old man, long of beard and reeking with the smell of volki and dirt, approached me. "'Pardon me, Little Father,' he said, in a whisper. 'I have something to sell,' a whisper. 'I have something to sell.' "I am not buying relics to day.' I aspected him to be a trader in saints' ictures. The old man fished some small Columbia, to level this rate of the duties of these minor officials, but at least British Columbia is in an awkward spot from which to direct the missile. For one thing we have had occasion before article from below a dirty, black Kaf-tan, holding it out at arm's length. to protest against the manner in which the British Columbian officials combine was almost sure you would buy this.' "Chto takoye?' (What is it') "Gospodin (Your Lordship), do me the bonor to examine it.' And the old man deposited into my trembling hands this cross of St. Andrew. I had half recognized the trinket when he held it company matters and promotion with their political duties, and we have had to warn the investor that 'political emi-nence' in British Columbia must not even be regarded in the same light as at home for inducing subscriptions. at nome for inducing subscriptions. There is a type of promoter and com-pany efficial which does not understand adverse criticism. Whether it is that they judge the press and their opponents " 'Hundred roubles are yours,' I gasp-8d, 'if you tell me who gave you this.' by their own moral standard it is im-possible to say. But the fact remains that, if the voice of the critic is heard Gespodin. "You found it, then? Speak! Where is the person who lost it?" "In my excitement I had selzed the man by one arm and was shaking him, repeating the question over and over

brought to book. The cross alone they but to paralyze its cannot take away, but to paralyze its inherent character—the sovereign rights it confers upon its bearer—the blue rib-

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"And Sascha?" "And Sascha?" "Was the Grand Duchess —;; con-cerned in the Nihilistic propaganda of the seventies. I have heard it said that

the seventies. I have heard it said that she had a hand in the assassination of Alexander IL" The Count leaned back in his seat, rnd, closing his eyes, fell into a reverie. I had not the courage to question him further. When the train drew up at a little wayside station a hundred miles or little wayside station a hundred miles or so from Warsaw the secret service man whom he had pointed out to me, entered our carriage and made a sign to him. "Uge?" (already?) queried the Polish gentleman.

The detective bowed and loaded himself with the distinguished suspect's traps. They left the train on the off side and presently reappeared to view, the Count in a rustic troika, the secret

service man on the box. HENRY W. FISCHER. TURNER'S TERRIBLE TUMBLE

In an evil hour Premier Turner. smarting under his stinging but merited castigation by the London Press, for the worse than dubious speculative company promoting enterprises to which he and his president of the council lent their names and official titles, turned vindicatively, like a viper gnewing a file, mono loss control of the the mon no less exalted a critic than the London Times, and, in his impotent and petty rage, charged that great, eminently respectable and unquestionably hon-est bulwark of British liberties , with est bulwark of British liberties with levying blackmail against him, John Herbert Turner, peannt premier of Brit-ish Columbia! The charge in substance was, as previously noted, that the Times had adversely criticized the company which the "Golden Twins." Messrs. Turner and Pooley, made illustrious by their "unique connection," but after re-ceiving a full page advertisement of the concern, had ceased its strictures. At the launching of this terrible thun-derbolt by their James Bay "prototype" of Jove, "there was a silence deep as

of Jove, "there was a silence deep as death, and the boldest held his breath for a while." It was a shock that sent the blood hurtling back upon the heart of the Empire, paled the check of the or the Empire, paren the check of the most rubicond Briton, caused a panic on 'change and a drop in consols, shook the Tower of London to its base, cracked the British constitution, and paled the ineffectual fires of the lights on London "One day-we were walking on the bridge. After the cataclysm had some what abated, the Times considerably moderated the ground swell by quietly remarking, in effect, that the premier of British Columbia had merely made a de-"The sounds came from above and there, at one of the barred windows, nodded a white face. Just for a mo-ment. Like an apparition it vanished in from its (the Times's) columns of the dubious promoting concern in question, ter receiving that "full page ad." of premier's-which was evidently to produce the effect which Mr. Turner

alleged it had produced-than before. Then the blood resumed its normal flow through John Bull's startled anatomy, the crack in the British constitution closed, and the whole jarred ma-I forgot that this is our prisoners sole thon closen, and the whole jarred matter tary day. It is against regulations to admit any one on that occasion. I trust I will have the honor of seeing you to-morrow.' With that his excellency werted telescope by John Bull, Esq. rom London Bridge, the form of the peanut promoting premier of British Co-lumbia was seen to dwindle and dwindle, until it, finally vanished in a snow storm, which, strange to say, fell on the 9th of July. And with the following scathing and sarcastic comment by the London Pall Mall Gazette, of July 15th, upon the really humorous incident of Premier Turner charging the London Times with blackmaik we let fall the curtain the present, only remarking that the whole miserable business has not reflect-

ture, but there is every prospect that the time the fish are more plentiful differences will have been amicably "I am dying to talk to some one," he ssland, B. C., Aug. 6.-The. most Rossland, B. C., Aug. 6.—The most notable event of the week here in min-ing circles was the move of the British America Corporation, by which that corporation secured the control of affairs at the Le Roi mine, by invoking the aid of the courts. Superintendent Carlyle, of the Buitish America corporation, is now in charge of the property and it is

I had heard a great about Russia's secret service. Its agents are every-where, and many a man , who was rash now in charge of the property, and it is probable that he will continue so to act. As the British America Corporation is opposed to shipping ore pending the set-tlement of the dispute between the ma-jority and minority factions, 170 men have been laid off for the time being.

to express sympathy with their alleged sufferings in the cause of freedom, now drags the chain and ball in Siberia. "Go on," I said, "provided you excase me from pronouncing an opinion while we are on Russian soil." The Pole ignored the ingzed insult. "You see." he continued, "in this Holy Russia of ours a suspect, like myself, was of late very much like a hunted animal. The whole official world and the whole populace, besides, having join-ed hads over the Czar's head to see him The Trail smelter will start up in a rew days There are about 10,000 tons few days There are about 10,000 tons of ore at the works awaiting treatment. The excitement resulting from the Vir-

ginia strike has somewhat subsided. Over \$125,000 was cleaned up by Ross-land men during the excitement. Two well known Rosslanders are going on well known Rosslanders are going on a pleasure trip to Europe on their Vir-ginia winnings. The mine is certainly a The Homestake Company has reorgan-Inde Homestake Company has revised ised as an assessable company. A meet-ing was held yesterday in this city to amange this Development on the Home-stake will be resumed in a few weeks. There is a marked activity in the There is a marked activity in the Rossland real estate market. Much pro-perty is changing hands and considerable building is being done. The hy-law to exempt the West Koot enay Rower and Light Co. from this ation for ten years, provided the com-pany supplied the city with four arc lights for street lighting purposes free

of charge, was badly defeated yesterday. The agitation favoring the municipal ownership of light and water systems is bearing fruit, and it is probable that something will shortly be done where-Czardom "So I hurrahed in the Kremlin when by the city will operate its own water and light works. The Rossland Light and Water Company asks \$85.000 for its resets, but it is thought by many that the price is too high. The ore shipments from Rossland for The ora snipments from Rossiald for the week ending August 6th were as follows: Le Roi mine, 1.271 tons; War Eagle, 1.400 tons: Iron Mask, 60 tons; Ginnt, 35 tons; Sunset, 15 tons; Centre Star, 200 tons. Total, 2.981 tons. The shipments for the same week of last year were 1.750 tons.

'The steamer Flora arrived at Bennett yesterday morning with thirty passengers from Dawson, who claim to have no less than a milion and a quarter in gold dust. "They came down from Dawson to

White Horse in" the Ora, and made one of the quickest trips on record. There was some delay in making the transfer to the Flora, but the latter also made a unick trip and arrived at Bennett yester-lay morning. The passengers rested luring the morning and in the afternoon

started for Skagway." Passengers on the steamer Alki, which arrived at Seattle on Saturday, report the large body of gold bearers is bringing it an lamount in actual dust whi lipses any shipment yet made from the nines. In the band are some of the ichest men of the Klondike. Fearing trust their fortunes to the many dangers of the long trip by way of St. Michael, a meeting of heavy gold owners was held in Dawson, and an expedition bring out the money was organized. During the trip regular watches have en kept day and night, one portion the party doing sentinel duty while others rested. No estimate of others rested. No estimate amount brought from Dawson thi way can be given until its arrival here.

MRS. DUNSMUIR'S ASSESSMENT. The Valuation of Residential Property

Reduced To \$45,000. The following important judgment h

Mr. Justice Walkem was handed in yes erday:

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH In the matter of the "Municipal Claus Act," and in the matter of an appeal Joan Olive Dunsmuir from the decision the court of revision as to the assessmen on lot \$98, block 32, lot \$99, block 33; l

the court of revision as to the assessment on lot 898, block 33' lot 599, block 39; lo 912, block 39; lot 914, block 39; lot 915 block 39; lot 914, block 39; lot 915 block, part 76, Fairfield and section pal 74, in the city of Victoria. This is an appeal from the decision of the court of revision with respect to the assessment of the above lots and also it improvements on them. Two witness have been examined-Mr. Ridgway Wilson architect, on behalf of the appealant, Mr Bunsmir, and Mr. Northcott, the city a sessor, on behalf of the corporation of the assessment upon the lots, as it is been made in accordance with the pr visions of section 116 of the amilicipal ac That section reads as follows:

"For the purposes of taxation and provements within'a municipality shall estimated at their value, the measure which value shall be their actual cash va s they would be appraised in payme just debt from a solvent debtor; bu nd improvements shall be assessed

The standard of valuation is thus to The standard of valuation is thus to the actual cash value as "appraised in priment of a just debt from a solvent debto. Mr. Northcott stated that he found it possible to apply this rule or standard Mrs. Dunsmui's residence, as it was a, w costly building, which not one here, as a he thought, would accept in payment dotained, he found that the structure lost at least \$185,000; and in view of it fact he had considered that a valuation nessesment purposes at \$80,000 would bair valuation. But a valuation on basis of the cost of a structure is not imitted. Mr. Wilson's evidence is to the fect that in his belief the actual cash vi of the appellant's improvements, as debt from a solvent debtor—for i repet ebt from a solvent debtor-for 1 hese words to him from the statut In these improvements, bouse, stables, \$45,000 the dwelling house, stables, ront and other walls on the gro t therefore direct the assessme 0 on improvements to be reduce m of \$45,000. I make no order the sum of \$45,000.

1. gui mi Virmeda

salary he gets from the govern "Zavtrak," cried the guard, as the

Train lowered its pace. "Is that the name of the station?" "No; the announcement that we will have occasion for breakfast in about

two minutes." At the buffet, or station restaurant, we had Pojarskie kotlety (chicken cutlets, Restegai (fish patties), Yaitsy (eggs), steaming hot tea in glasses, and bread and butter, all of the most excellent quality and at a trifling cost. When we were once more seated, the Count be the vants

heard you say yesterday that of all ceremonies you witnessed in Mos during the past week, nothing in pressed you so much as the picture of the young Czar when, in an interval of the procession of gorgeously accoutted Asiatic and European princes, he have into sight on his milk white stallion, clad in the simplest of uniforms with the ribbon of St. Andrew across his breast and shoulder." l shoulder." nodled assent. Would you like to see the decora-

n?" "Thank you," I said, "I have noticed order on the dress of all royalties t in the capital." My neighbor unfastened the diamond

buttons of his shirt bosom, producing a small gold trinket, a St. Andrew's cross but not the eagle backed, crowned sceptred emblem of the famous de-

"It differs from those I have seen," I said, "and besides is fastened to a red

Hear its story," replied the Count. "Hear its story," replied the Count. "Fifteen years ago, when I was a stu-dent in Berlin, I picked up this cross at the door of a cafe. I found it lying on the threshold, after a young man, whom I had previously noticed at a neighbor-ing table, had walked out of the place. I ran after him. The loser of the trini-ket was in company of several young ket was in company of several young men. As I approached the group, I ob-served that they were speaking Russian, "With a 'Pardon me, sir,' I extended

"With a 'Pardon me, sir,' I extended my hand to return the trinket to its owner. What a remarkable person! A young man of slight build with the face of a Greek God. As he heard my words his eyes opened wide,—the color left his check and he grasped the arm of the man with whom he had been walking.

He trembled visibly. "You are mistaken, sir. The cross not mine. However, I thank you for

"Saying this, the Russian lifted his hat mechanically and started to walk away, while his friends, glued to the spot negarded him and myself with startled looks. The one woon whose arm the owner of the cross leaned acted in-deed as if he meant to shake him off

like some nauseous object. "Pardon me,' said I, 'there can be no mistake. I saw this fall to the floor as you crossed the threshold. No one but yourself can have lost it."

yourself can have lost it." "And if I tell you, Monsieur, that this trinket is not my property; that I have never seen it before, will that suffice you? Surely, I ought to know better than you what belongs to me, and I re-peat for the last time: This cross is not minel. Do you, understand me now? Do you?"

To provoke an altereation would have been more than useless. Here were half a dozen men between the ages of twen-ty-five and thirty, some of them types of the international adventurer. Anof the international adventurer. An-

Sec.

cab. We rolled a few blocks further west and halted before an old-time mansion. "A ring at the bell brought two old women' to the door. They must have been sitting up. "'Call your master's valet; he is ill."

"Sancha ill? Impossible?" They tumbled over each other to gain the car-riage door and covered the hands of unconscious man with kisses and tears. "'We will carry him up ourselves," said the one who seemed to be the house-keeper; 'Mi, Sascha has no man ser-

"Of course I would not allow that.

The promise of a trinkgeld extraordin-ary made cabby leave his box a second time, and together we lifted Sascha out of the droschke and carried his limp form upstairs, the housekeeper preceding us with a lighted candelabrum. The room into which we were nushered did not look like a man's bedchamber-with

not look like a man's bedchamber-with its pink damask furniture and hangings, its numberless silver backed toilet arth-cles, it resembled the bordoir of a great lady. We deposited Sascha on a wide bed of rosewood, inlaid with mother of pearl and gold, and almost at the same moment he regained consciousness. "Handing him a small coin, I pushed cabby out of doors. 'Wait for me at the corper' I whisnered. Sascha gave me a "Do not kill me, Little Father.' cried the Russian. 'I did not find it. I hardly stole "it.' Speak, man! Whom did you rob of I whispered. Sascha gave me a this? Speak! I am not going to punish corner yen.

grateful look. "'Maria Feodorovna has the address of my physician. Call him at once. In the meantime she and Anuska will make Swear that you will not betray me and I will tell you everything." "I swear it." "Upon your mother's head?"

"T told him my story, while he hur-riedly completed his toilet. When I had finished he grasped my hand. 'Like Sascha and I, you are an unwilling sub-ject of the Czar,' he said impulsively. 'Swear then as a man of honor, as a "'Upon my mother's head." "The governor is the Gospodin's riend. You will not squeal to him?" friend. Neither the governor nor any one else." "The old man took a deep breath. 'One can't steal from the dead,' he said, slyly, leeringly. "'I asked you whom you robbed." 'Swear, then, as a man of honor, as a Polish patriot, that you will reveal noth-ing of what you have heard and seen. And,' he added, 'give me that cross. I will return it to its owner at once. As to Sascha, you must never try im again-not unless he calls you to

"On the morning of the second day after that night, so rich in adventure, I was called from bed by a Schutzmänn. At the police station they told me I was to pack my traps and leave Berlin withsoner. "Is Sascha dead?" ""No. 3517 was hanged two nights ago." "And you are......"

"'Yes, the executioner; only the mis-

to pack my traps and leave Berlin with-in twelve hours. I protested. I had done nothing wrong. "'No matter—Count Bismarck's or-ders. In his Excellency's eyes you are, diplomatically speaking, an obnoxious foreigner. If, at the same time, you feel like accepting some unofficial advice from me, continued the police fleuten-ant, steer clear of expatriated Russians hereafter, of men and women-particu-larly women." 'From her neck?'

"When I was about to emerge from the station house the man at the door halled me. Be careful, Herr Graf, from now on until you step over the Prussian fionfier you are under surveillance." I hnew what that meant, but nevertheless invite to the Bussian doctor to inquire "And the end?" knew what that meant, but nevertheless drove to the Russian doctor to inquire after Sascha. As my cab stopped, an-other carriage, containing two Schutz-manner in full uniform, drew up at the house opposite. The doctor opened the door for me, and I told him of the risk he, was running. He didn't invite me in. Fixing his eves on the men of the "And the end?" The Count evaded a direct "reply. "This cross," he said, "is identical with the decoration of St. Andrew which they hang around every Russian Grand Duke's and Grand Duchess's neck the minute the imperial infant is born. It's regarded as a talisman. regarded as a talisman. They carry if to their graves. See here," he continu-ed, exhibiting the reverse side "the creat of the Romanoffs." "But why did the person you knew werr her cross on a red ribbon?" "In obedience to tradition. A mem-ber of the imperial family who rebels in. Fixing his eyes on the men of the law, he said aloud: 'Your friend has so completely recovered from the assault that he was able to leave Berlin by an

early train this morning.' "An hour later I received this note— in Russian—trom the doctor: 'Sascha!' he informed me, 'was dragged from bed at 5 a.m. to-day, and is now, I fear, on the train this morning." against the Czar loses everything-title, fortune, birthright and liberty, too, if

that, if the voice of the critic is heard in reference to their promotions, they unhesitatingly resent the criticism as dishoncest. Mr. Turnen goes further, and practically accuses the Times of blackmail. The London press was not straightforward in the matter. For in-stance, the London Times had criticized him adversely, but, since the insertion

a whole page advertisement of the Klondike company nothing more had been heard.' There is something de-lightfully absurd in the Times being 'squared' for the price of a full page ad-vertisement. But#let that pass. The

awkward part of the business is that the Times actually did criticize the concern alluded to (The Dawson City (Klondike) and Dominion Trading Company), a and Dominion Trading Company), a few days, after the advertisement ap-peared. Moreover, our contemporary especially dwelt upon the too frequent acceptance by officials ocstyly, leeringly. "I asked you whom you robbed." Without knowing it I had again become violent. "No one, no one of any account, Your Worship; only a prisoner-a dead, pri-"Is Sascha dead? "No, 3517 was hanged two nights ago. "And you are_____"

in other respects."

"The executioner.' Innate repug-nance made me release my hold upon in other respects." It was, surely, time for a change! Fancy Premier Turner or any of his justly discredited crew, going back to the scene of their pre-eminently public disgrace, the money market of the erable executioner at ten rombles a neck, I took it from her neck after my httle wife had washed and prepared, the body. world, and trying to do husiness for this province trying, for instance, to regotiate that latest five million and some hundred thousand odd loan? And "The hangman looked bewildered. "No, 3517 was a woman," he stuttered at last, 'and may have been a beauty in her day, so my little wife says."? I had listened breathlessly id my yet this same disgraced and discarded Turner & Company are actually hanging on to their scandalously prostituted

furner of company are actually hanging on to their scandalously prostituted seats of power at Victoria after they have got plain and unmistakable notice from the people to quit-hanging on, with the avowed and unblushing hope, if we are to believe their accredited or-gans, of being able to continue to hang on by corrupting one or more of the peo ple's representatives who were elected to turn them out!

In the name of common decency, Mr. They carry it e," he continu-Turner, get out, before you are ignomini-ously kicked out and down the back steps.-Columbian.

> Mrs. Sponter-An heirloom, Johnnie, is something that's handed down from

father to soft. Little Johnny-Huh! That's a funny name for pants.