The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

FORTY-THIRD YEAR — THE VICTORIA SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST, FRIDAY, APRIL 19 1901 — VOLUME LXIII.

Boiler Explodes

Four Persons Killed and Seven Injured on the Steamer Ramona.

And Only One or Two of the Wounded Are Expected to Live.

From Our Own Correspondent.

THE DEAD.

MRS. HARRY MORRISON of Fort Langley.
MRS. JAMES BAILEY, of Mount Lehman.
JAMES McKAY, Deckhand.
ANDREW PHIPPS, Deckhand.

INJURED

A. POWER, Purser.
JAMES MAYNARD, Mate.
VICTOR NOWELL, Fireman.
TWO INDIAN MEN.
ONE INDIAN WOMAN.
ONE INDIAN BABY.

New Westminister, April 18,—Four people were killed and seven others so badly injured that probably not more than one or two of them will survive, in an explosion aboard the steamer Ramona this afternoon.

The vessel had left New Westminster in the morning on her way up the Fraser to the farming sections and had just made a call at the wharf at Fort Langley. She had taken aboard a few passengers and was out in midstream again when the explosion occurred.

J. McIver, a traveller of Portland, Ore., says that suddenly there was an explosion like the report of a cannon. Then there was a roar of hissing steam as the steamer seemed almost to break in two with the force of the shock. The explosion was caused by the splitting of a plate in the rear end of the boiler which was facing towards the bow of the vessel. The pieces of the broken plate struck the woodwork and the whole forward part of the steamer was torn away. The wreckage flew in every direction.

Mrs. Morrison and Mrs. Bailey, who were standing near the bow, were thrown off and their clothes torn to shreds by the flying debris. They were drowned before help could reach them, although a fishing boat came up in a few minutes and picked up the bodies.

The two deckhands were killed almost instantly. They were standing near the rear of the boiler and were thrown headlong a distance of fifty feet. Their faces were hardly recognizable when they were picked up and parts of their bodies had been completely blown away.

Of the three men who were injured, Purser Power is in the most terrible condition. His face and hands were patches of black and red, and the clothes were nearly burned off his body by the escaping steam.

Maynard, the mate, was not so badly injured and has a chance of living.

Nowell's case is a particularly sad one. He had only commenced on the steamer that morning. He had been right beside the boiler, and he rushed to turn off the steam at one of the feed pipes when he was overcome and was frightfully burned about the body.

FIRE BROKE OUT.

The steamer in the meantime took fire, and the hold was soon in a blaze. She started drifting down the river with both ends afire. Happily there were a number of fishing boats in the vicinity, and the crowd that had gathered at the wharf when the steamer was leaving immediately commenced the work of rescue.

With buckets the fire was put out, but the main portion of the boat had drifted a mile before it finally was got under control, and was steered to the shore. The scene was a terrible one. There were shreds of clothing, the dismembered remains of the two firemen mixed with the splinters that had been blown out of the main floor.

Messages were at once sent to Westminster, and it was stated in the first report that ten had been killed.

Two steamers were despatched from the city to aid in the rescue, but before they had arrived the bodies of the dead and injured were taken across the river to Port Haney, and from there were brought in by the Seattle train. Hundreds of people waited for an hour at the station.

DISTRESSING SCENES.

Power, the purser, was first carried off and he was in an insane condition, crying for water. Maynard was also in a horrible condition and calling incessantly for whiskey that he was getting cold. The two Indian men were in a not less serious condition but they never uttered a sound. The skin of their hands and faces was hanging in strips several inches in length. The woman was also suffering very much, though she still sought to succor the babe that persisted in crying its life away. The woman may recover, but the other three will probably die. There were six doctors in attendance, and all the patients were taken to the hospital.

Capt. Seymour and John Oliver, the chief engineer, who is also one of the principal owners of the vessel, are practically uninjured. The two women who were killed had left their year-old babies in the cabin upstairs and had come out to get fresh air. The babies were unhurt.

Among other passengers aboard who were unhurt were T. H. Averill, manager of the Westminster Creamery; J. McIver, of Port Hammond; Mrs. Nicholson and child and Mrs. Damfield and child.

The boiler was inspected a year ago and was then found to be in apparently good condition. Last week the inspector was to have gone over it again, but he was called away to other work. The boiler was the second one built for the steamer, and was constructed in Vancouver two years ago. The Ramona can be repaired. She is worth probably $40,000. She is a stern-wheeler, and was originally built three years ago to run on the Stikine river.

In addition to the above details, the Colonist correspondent secured interviews from D. D. Stevenson, of Portland, Ore., and J. Hunt, steward of the steamer. The former said: "I was near the wheelhouse when the explosion occurred. It sounded like dynamite underground. Both ends of the boiler blew out. Everything below was covered with smoke, but I saw people struggling in the water, and threw out several life buoys. One of the crew told me he happened to glance at the gage 10 minutes before the explosion. It was registered at 160 and the boiler was tested at 177. He said he was sure they had lots of water. This same man told me that the boiler was made in Vancouver and was new last spring, and had been examined a month ago." Mr. Hunt, the steward, said: "I was clearing off the table in the dining room. I do not know what made me look out, but I walked to the open door and looked below. At that instant I heard a muffled explosion, and the same time everything was hidden from view by escaping steam and smoke. The front end of the boiler blew out and the door behind me blew open.

"Victor Knowles was at his post as fireman. He was terribly burned and scalded in the chest, back and legs. He remembers nothing.

"Powers, the purser, and Maynard, the mate, were sorting freight near the boiler in front, and were terribly scalded. The Indians were hugging the boiler in front, as they always do, and for this reason were badly injured.

"The two ladies, Mrs. Morrison and Mrs. Bailey, were to have got off at Langley Forks, the next stop, and had come down to see how near they were to the landing. They were in the bow and were both swept overboard by the escaping steam. Both floated and were picked up shortly afterwards by a fishing boat. They were badly scalded and quite dead when picked up. Mrs. Morrison's two children, a boy and girl, 10 and 12 years old, were with their mother on the ill-fated steamer. She told them to remain above while she went to see how near they were to Langley Forks, as she was afraid the captain might forget to put her off. This decision cost her her life. Mrs. Bailey lost her husband by an explosion in the Blue Canyon mine, Idaho, a month ago.

"The captain was very cool after the accident. The first thing he did was to call on the passengers to extinguish the fire. There was no steam to work the engines, so that buckets only were used. The burning hay was scattered in every direction and extinguished. While this was being done the canoes and boats were being lowered, and as the crew were all injured, the passengers helped them into the boats and then got in themselves. At quarter to two all reached the railway track; the train which passed at 2 p.m. was flagged and the injured, 10 in number, put on board."

Inquiry at St. Mary's hospital to-night elicited the information that all the injured had been given morphine hypodermic injection and were sleeping soundly. The extent of their injuries could not be ascertained, but all are in a dangerous condition.

Are Finished In Nanaimo

Chinese Commission Enjoy a Lively Sitting at the Coal City.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Nanaimo, April 16.—The Oriental commission completed its labors here this evening, after a long, hard day of evidence-taking.

Mr. Bradburn wanted to put in three immense books of closely typewritten matter, the evidence in the commission of inquiry of Bryden v. Union Colliery Company, and also the printed statement of another case; but after a lengthy wrangle with the commissioners, it was decided that the most the commissioners could do was to read relevant portions of the proposed exhibits.

Mr. Bradburn strongly protested against what he termed injustice to his clients, the Chinese, the other side having been allowed to put in anything they pleased.

Dr. McKechnie this morning made very strong statements against the Chinese and the city authorities for prolonged neglect of sanitary conditions here. He said the local Chinatown was no worse sanitarily than the city itself, which emptied its slops into open ditches beside the sidewalk and allowed the same to run into a ravine in the centre of the city, without attempting to clean out the same regularly. Dr. McKechnie said he employed Chinese domestics for the simple reason that he could not get white, although he offered the highest wages and every reasonable inducement.

Andrew Bryden, manager of the Extension mines, testified strongly regarding the Chinese. They were not dangerous in mines more than others, if they understood English. Chinese compared favorably in many occupations with white men. The Scotch miners imported recently behaved badly to Mr. Dunsmuir, most of them having left the country without paying back the money advanced for the passage from the Old Country. Mr. Dunsmuir had certainly carried out to the letter his part of the contract, but the men were discontented with the country.

In the afternoon important Chinese testimony was given by the president of the Chinese board of trade, and leading Chinese vegetable growers in the district, the amount of whose transactions astonished the commission.

Commissioner Munn and Mr. Cassidy had a lively tilt with a white witness, who fished in the Fraser, and who vigorously denounced the Japanese as the cause of all the distress now experienced in these callings, especially fishing.

The commissioners leave by steamer City of Nanaimo to-morrow morning for Union and Cumberland.

SKELETON FOUND.

Supposed to Be Man Who Disappeared Several Years Ago.

Westminster, April 16.—(Special)—Coroner Pittendrigh, who has looked into the matter of finding the skeleton of a man near New Westminster, states that there is no doubt that the remains were those of a man named Ankers, who disappeared from New Westminster eight or nine years ago; his wife also disappeared with him, and her dead body was subsequently found floating in the river near the Ross & McLaren mills.

CANAL BILLS KILLED.

New York State Improvement Scheme Abandoned.

Albany, N. Y., April 16.—The $24,000,000 canal improvement bill was officially abandoned when, after a two-hour conference with Gov. Odell, the canal adherents and Republican leaders decided the measure would be swamped if it came up for votes. It will, therefore, be allowed to die in the committee of the assembly.

Belated Despatch

One of Lord Roberts' a Year Old Is Now Just Published.

He Mentions a Large Number of Canadians for Meritorious Service.

London, April 16.—Another despatch from Lord Roberts on the subject of the South African campaign, dated April 2, 1900, has been published in the Gazette. Lord Roberts, in his despatches, goes over all the branches of the service, and in viewing the hospital department, mentions the hospital ship Maine, fitted out and manned by the generosity of private individuals and the committee of American ladies. Lord Roberts heads eleven pages of special mention by acknowledgements of service of Sir Alfred Milner and Gen. Kitchener.

Paragraphs complimenting almost all the division and brigade commanders follow, including Generals White, Methuen, Baden-Powell, Kelly-Kenny, French Arthur Paget and Pole-Carew. Gen. Buller is mentioned first after the staff officers, but in merely formal terms, without commendation.

The following Canadians are mentioned for meritorious service:

Colonels C. W. Drury and W. D. Otter; Lieut.-Colonels L. Buchan, T. B. Evans, F. L. Lessard and S. B. Steele; Majors B. Belcher, A. M. Jarvis, G. Ogilvie and Condin; Surgeon-Major A. M. Worthington.

Captains G. W. Cameron, F. L. Cartwright and E. F. Mackie, of Strathcona's Horse; Capt. A. C. McDonald, of the Second Canadian Mounted Rifles; Capt. A. H. McDonnell, of the Royal Canadian Regiment, and Capt. H. A. Penet, of the Royal Canadian Artillery.

Lieutenants A. E. Christie and P. E. Leckie, of Strathcona's Horse; Lieut. Davidson, A. L. Howard, of Young, and William Inglis, of the Canadian Mounted Rifles; Lieut. Lew Irving, of the Royal Canadian Artillery; Lieut. J. H. J. Ogilvie, of the Royal Canadian Regiment, and Lieut. R. Turner, of the Royal Canadian Dragoons; Surgeon- Lieut. C. B. Keenan, of Strathcona's Horse.

Regimental Sergeants-Major Church, of the Canadian Mounted Rifles, and J. Hynes, of Strathcona's Horse; Squadron Gergeant-Major J. Richards, of Strathcona's; Battery Sergeant-Major W. H. Grimlett, of the Royal Canadian Artillery; Sergeants W. H. Nelles and J. M. B. Skirving, of Strathcona's Horse, and Sergt. R. H. Ryan, of the Canadian Mounted Rifles.

Trooper Crawley, of the Canadian Mounted Rifles; Trooper Waite, of the Canadian Mounted Infantry, and Privates J. Kennedy, M. A. Crooke, J. Landen and S. R. Thompson, of the Royal Canadian Regiment; Hammond T. Kerr Miles and S. E. Morrison, of the Canadian Mounted Rifles, and J. W. E. Molley, of the Royal Canadian Artillery.

Detailing the stores handled, he says there were 1,031,000 rounds of artillery ammunition, 12,200,000 rounds of ammunition for rifles and machine guns and 2,000,000 pairs of horseshoes.

Sir Alfred Milner, according to the Daily Chronicle, is coming to England early next month and will remain two months to recruit his health, which has been severely tried by his arduous labors in South Africa. Most of the papers comment upon the effect which his absence at a critical moment is likely to have on the campaign, recalling the fact that Gen. Botha made the objection to Sir Alfred Milner one of chief reasons for rejecting the peace terms. It is expected that the Boers will impute Sir Alfred Milner's absence to political motives.

A despatch to the Times from Middleburg, Transvaal, says:

"Operations in the Eastern Transvaal have been begun. There is no doubt that acting President Schalkburger, Gen. Botha, Mr. Steyn and Gen. Dewet had a meeting at Ermelo. Their subsequent movements are obscure. Raids on the railway have become less frequent."

Johannesburg, April 16.—A cage filled with natives fell down a deep shaft of the Geldenhuis mine. Twenty-six of the natives were killed.

RAILWAYS TO U. S. BOUNDARY

Dominion Not Yet Ready to Announce Its Policy on the Subject.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Ont., April 16.—In the house to-day Mr. Sifton told Mr. Borden that the reason the police magistrates in the Yukon were allowed to practice was because otherwise they would have to be paid the same salaries as judges.

The Commons were engaged all day discussing the public works estimates. Col. Prior strongly objected to Eastern contractors being given contracts in British Columbia, as many of them were unacquainted with local labor conditions.

The Senate committee to-day considered the Alaskan & Northwestern Railway bill for a charter from Pyramid Harbor to Dawson. The bill was held over until the policy of the government is announced with respect to the granting of additional charters for railways to the United States boundary. Mr. Chrysler, on behalf of the British Yukon Railway company, opposed the bill.

The discussion was resumed in the Senate.

Hon. David Mills was prepared to announce the government's policy, but incidentally admitted that a mistake was made four years ago in granting the White Pass charter.

"Applications to undergo the examination for entrance to the Royal Military College, to be held at headquarters of the military districts commencing May 14th, must reach headquarters not later than Tuesday, April 30th.

Details of the government's pension bill for the permanent force are announced to-night.

The period of three months' mourning for the late Queen expired to-day.

NOW I FEEL REAL WELL.

Mr. W. H. La Blance, Bonfield, Ont., writes: "I was once a sufferer from catarrh, and while using Dr. Chase's Catarrh Cure I was recommended to use also Dr. Chase's Nerve Food to build up the system. My nerves were exhausted and I was too weak to do a day's work when I began using it, and now am strong and healthy, and feel real well. I am perfectly sure that anyone who uses Dr. Chase's Nerve Food will believe as I do, that it is the best strengthener and restorative obtainable."

ALBERTA MURDERS.

Arthur Bioletta Kills His Brother and Seems Quite Unconcerned.

Winnipeg, April 16.—(Special)—A murder is reported to-night from Innisfail, Alta., that Arthur Bioletta, a section man employed on the Innisfail section of the C. & E. railway, shot and killed his brother-in-law, David Karr. Karr and his wife were living on a rented farm seven miles out from Innisfail. Karr was in town yesterday in connection with some family trouble, and in the evening he was followed out to the farm by Bioletta, who had a six-shooter with him. On reaching Karr's farm, Bioletta called on Karr to come out, but the latter refused. Bioletta says that Karr appeared and chased him with an axe and he shot him in self-defence. Bioletta stayed at the farm house all night, and in the morning told a neighbor named Wade what had happened and asked him to notify the police. The police went out and found Karr's body lying near the house, with two bullet holes one in the head and another in the heart. Bioletta gave himself up and assisted the police to move the body into a wagon.

THE CORONATION.

It Will Take Place in June of Next Year.

London, April 16.—The coronation of King Edward will take place at the end of June, 1902. Westminster Abbey, according to Truth, will be entirely closed to the public for four months prior to the event, and all services will be suspended, in order to prepare the interior for the ceremony. The details of the ceremony will be settled next week by a committee of the privy council.

According to Onlookers (a society paper), a site of 145 acres has been acquired in Ireland for the erection of a royal residence. The plans for the building have been approved, and work will commence shortly.

SWITCHMEN STRIKE.

Two Hundred Men on Lackawanna Railway Stop Work.

Scranton, Pa., April 16.—Two hundred switchmen in the employ of the Lackawanna here, at Taylors and Clarks Summit, struck this afternoon against the discharge of two men by Yardmaster Newall, who wanted to replace them, it is said, by men brought from Hoboken. There is a complete tie-up of freight and coal traffic here, and word has been sent down the Bloomsburg and other divisions to hold all trains. Three miles of loaded coal cars are already blocked on the Bloomsburg division between here and Pittstown Junction.

Sir Alfred Milner's Views

Despatches Published Regarding His Application for Leave of Absence.

London, April 17.—The South African blue book containing recent despatches from Sir Alfred Milner and the other official correspondence, is issued to-night.

Sir Alfred Milner wired under date of March 3 requesting permission to return home at an early date upon leave of absence, for the purpose of resting. Mr. Joseph Chamberlain the colonial secretary, replied by granting the request, but expressed the government's regret that it should be necessary for Sir Alfred to leave South Africa at the present time, quite recognizing, however, his need for rest, and mentioning three months as a possible period of absence.

In a despatch dated Feb. 6, Sir Alfred Milner reviews the situation in South Africa, which is, that he hoped some definite point would be reached at which it might be possible to sum up that chapter of history containing the war and forecast the administrative reconstruction which must succeed it.

"But I am reluctantly forced to the conclusion that there will be no such dividing line," continued Sir Alfred Milner. "I have not the slightest doubt of the ultimate result, but I foresee that the work will be slower, more difficult, more harrassing and more expensive than was at one time attempted. At any rate it is idle to wait much longer in the hope of being able to describe a clear and clean cut situation. In spite of the confused character of the present position, I think it better to attempt to describe however rough and inadequately the state of things as they exist to-day. It is no use denying that the last half of the year has been one of retrogression. Seven months ago this colony was perfectly quiet, at least as far as the Orange river. The southern half of Orange river colony was rapidly settling down, and even a considerable portion of the Transvaal, notably the southwestern districts, seemed to have definitely accepted British authority and to rejoice at the opportunity to return to orderly government and the pursuits of peace.

"To-day the scene is completely altered. It would be superfluous to dwell on the increased losses to the country caused by the prolongation of the struggle and by the form which it has recently assumed. The fact that the enemy are now broken up into a great number of small parties raiding in every direction, and that our troops are similarly broken up in their pursuit, makes the area of actual fighting and consequently of destruction, much greater than would be the case in a conflict between equal numbers operating in large masses. Moreover, the fight is now mainly over supplies. The Boers live entirely on the country through which they pass, not only taking all the food they can lay their hands on, but looting the small village stores of shoes, boots, coffee and sugar of all kinds, of which they are in great need. Our forces are compelled to denude the country of everything movable in order to frustrate these tactics of the enemy. The loss of crops and stock is the more serious to the Boers than farm burning, of which so much has been heard. I say this not at all as an advocate of such destruction. I am glad to think the measure is now seldom, if ever, resorted to."

More cases of sick headache, billiousness, constipation, can be cured in less time, with less medicine, and for less money, by using Carter's Little Liver Pills, than by

COURT-MARTIAL.

Manila, April 16.—A court-martial will meet to-morrow to try Lieut. Frederick Boyer, who is charged with the embezzlement of commissary stores. Capt. Frederick J. Barrows, of the 20th Volunteer Infantry, who was arrested under similar charges, will be tried later.

He—Marry me and you shall want for nothing.

She—I don't want to want for nothing. I want to want for something I won't.—Philadelphia Record.

Manchuria Intrigues

New Light Thrown on Russo-Chinese Agreement Regarding That Province.

Yung Lu's Arrangement to Lure Russia From Concert of Powers.

Advices received by the steamer Tosa Maru include a private despatch from a high Chinese official at the Chinese court at Hsian to a Chinese of Shanghai, translations of which are published in the North China Daily News, throwing much new light on the Manchurian intrigues, and the proceedings between Russia and China, which according to the despatch were carried out by Chinese officials with the hope of provoking a European war. The North China Daily News translation of a portion of the despatch reads: "Although it is well known that Li Hung Chang has always been a Russophile, still, for the sake of impartiality I must say from my personal knowledge of the affair that the accusation which rumor has spread that Li Hung Chang was the chief mover in the Russian-Chinese intrigues about the cession of Manchuria to Russia is incorrect. In this matter Li Hung Chang was merely obeying the orders of the Reactionists at Hsian, under the direction of the arch-intriguer and anti-foreigner, Yung Lu. It seems that when Yung Lu found Manchuria at the mercy of the Russians and very likely to be annexed by them at the end of the present troubles with the foreign powers, he conceived the idea of luring the Russians away from the concert of the powers, by promising the Muscovite special privileges in all three Manchurian provinces if Russia would take the lead in withdrawing her troops from Pekin and Chihli provinces. To accomplish this Yung Lu instructed one of his proteges, namely the notorious ex-censor Yang Chung-yi, who gained an unenviable reputation througnout China in his bitter persecution of the Reformers after the coup d'etat of 1898, to draw up a secret memorial to the Empress Dowager suggesting the maintenance of close friendship with Russia, which country was able by reason of her power, influence and position to save China from destruction and partition, a vivid description of which was graphically given, which so terrorized the Empress Dowager that she was only too willing to give her consent. This memorial Yang Chung-yi further recommended Li Hung Chang as the best man to carry out this intrigue with Russia, and Yung Lu who, by the way, was the man who handed in his protege's memorial to the Empress Dowager, eloquently backing up Li Hung Chang, the Empress Dowager sent special secret orders to make friends at once with the Russians and carry out the proposed intrigues. To help him in accomplishing this matter Li Hung Chang, of course, made use of his friends and proteges, that is to say, Yung Lu, minister to Russia, etc., and their efforts finally resulted in the now well known Russo-Chinese agreement. Tseng Chi, Tartar general of lower Manchuria (Fengtien) was also let into the secret and told to assist and confer with the Russians at Moukden. As the affair has now seen daylight, and the intrigues at Pekin and Hsian have "lost face," it is intended to make Tartar General Tseng Chi of Moukden the scapegoat of the government. In conclusion I may say that the man whose pen directed the cunning and shrewdness of his patron, has brought the country to this pass, which may bring about a general European war, is now residing in Shanghai, on what mischief bent I have not yet discovered; but it is easy to see that the part Yung Lu has taken in this serious matter has been so secret and well-concealed that as in his other great intrigues he has made himself appear to the world entirely innocent of all participation in the affairs of the government."

Another private telegram from the Hsian court translated for the North China Daily News says: "The Emperor is afraid of his life if he opposes the Empress Dowager's slightest wish, and so keeps perfect silence, leaving all to Destiny and Fore-ordination. Affairs are in the utmost confusion here in Hsian, no man knowing what may happen the next day. A grand councillor this morning asked the Empress Dowager when she intended to return to Pekin. Considerable sums were being spent in anticipation of the return of the court to Pekin, which could be saved to the Exchequer if it were known positively what Her Majesty really intended to do. The Empress Dowager flushed in anger when this question was asked, and with a stamp of her foot, cried out: "I am not going to Pekin now, nor shall the Emperor. Does anyone in his senses think that we will quietly put ourselves within the ruthless grasp of the foreign powers, whose forts and guns are to be a constant menace to the lives and safety of those residing within the Forbidden City? The mere feeling, when we rise up from our beds in the morning or retire at night, that we are eternally at the mercy and caprice of a foreign foe, should we return to Pekin, makes death preferable. I shall certainly refuse to return to Pekin while conditions remain as at present.

News comes from Tientsin by the Tosa Maru of a serious outbreak of incendiarism at and near there. The offices of Messrs. Forbes & Co., in the centre of the British concession, were burnt to the ground and for a time placed a vast property in extreme jeopardy; then the treasury department of the provisional government was fired in the city, and soon afterwards a bigger condagration occurred, the imperial granaries at Peits'ang being fired, with what object is unknown, as there was neither corn nor foreign military supplies in the large buildings. A correspondent writing from there says: "We fully expect to find arson the chief Chinese method of attack, and bandits will likely be troublesome. Bands are now acting in some parts of the province. Their usual mode of procedure is to hold up some wretched village for all that it is worth and be off, and some of the canaille following the armies are at the same trick. In one case that came to light a cruel deception was practised on the unwary villagers. Some rascally Indians went into collusion with Chinese blackguards and established themselves in a village and lived royally with high pay for a long time, giving, as they said, protection to the village. When discovered, they were publicly flogged before their dupes, and their gains confiscated."

Korea is still the home of the stormy petrel. According to advices from Fusan, the Russian squadron which was at Chinkai Wan, where Russia has demanded a lease, has proceeded to Chemulpo, and after an interview with the Korean Emperor the Russian admiral proposes to go to Port Arthur to prepare for manoeuvres to be held at the end of April or beginning of May in the Gulf of Pechili.

The Seoul correspondent of the North China Daily News says that owing to the sale of Roze island, which dominates Chemulpo, to a Japanese, an action which alarmed the Korean government, the Korean chief Justice, Kim Yung-jun has been imprisoned. It was given out formerly that the cause of his arrest was the discovery of a conspiracy on the part of himself and others to kill the Emperor's favorite Queen.

SESSIONAL INDEMNITY.

Members at Liberal Caucus Are in Favor of Increase.

Ottawa, April 17.—(Special)—The Liberals held a caucus this morning to consider the question of increase in sessional indemnities. There was a full and expressive opinion, practically all members being in favor of the increase.

The question of increasing the salary of the first minister was also discussed.

Members of the Conservative party to-night presented Mr. Clare, Conservative member for South Waterloo, with a beautiful silver service on the occasion of his silver wedding.

The return of crown in chancery with respect to last general elections has been prepared.

The total number of Canadians who lost their lives in South Africa was 145, according to the official returns.

The house was engaged all day discussing transportation questions, but there was no ministerial anouncement of the government's policy.

In the Senate several members advocated increasing the salaries of judges.

TORONTO UNIVERSITY.

Board of Trustees Appointed by Ontario Government.

Toronto, April 17.—An order-in-council was passed by the Ontario government appointing five trustees for the University of Toronto, whom the government is empowered to select. They are Dr. John Hoskin, K. C., Byron E. Walker, Casimer Gzowski, J. Herbert Mason, of Toronto, and Hon. A. T. Wood, of Hamilton. Other four members of the trustee board sit ex-officio and are the chancellor, Sir Wm. Meredith; vice-chancellor, Mr. Justice Moss; president of the university, Prof. Loudon; and the principal of the university college, not yet appointed. Under the new act the trustees have control and management of the property, business and financial affairs of the university.

THREE TIMES TWO.

Honest Hodge Furnishes Interesting Census Statistics.

Frederick Hodge, a prospector who makes Nelson his home, and who is not above turning his hand to any honest work that offers when not engaged in the hills, yesterday entered the registrar's office and made a wholesale entry of births, says the Nelson Tribune. On July 9, 1898, he became the happy father of two boys. This was his second twin experience. On April 23, 1900, Mrs. Hodge presented Frederick with another pair of youngsters—a boy and a girl. The trio of twins are all doing well. Hodge read an article in the Tribune the other day dealing with the responsibility of pardealing with the responsibility of parents in the matter of registration, and this Better late than never. Besides the entry was a decidedly novel one. He has been married five years and has a family of seven.

A False Alarm.—The fire department were given a run to the corner of Kings road and Douglas street by someone who was led to believe that a fire had broken out in Johns Bros.' building, because of smoke issuing in greater volume than usual from the smoke house where some rags were being burned. In consequence of this smoke an alarm was turned in from box 54, and the firemen were given a run for nothing.

Attempt Failed.—An attempt was made a few evenings ago to blow upon the safe in the office of the Taylor Mill Company, on Government street. The knob and combination plate of the safe had been knocked off and a hole bored through the heavy steel door. The hole had been charged with powder and the fuse lighted, but for some reason did not burn down to the powder. The men who made the attempt were evidently not novices, as their work was well done. Had they been successful, they would have been poorly paid for their trouble.

THE JAPANESE NOT WELCOMED

He Was Wanted Neither on the Mainlander Nor the Mainland.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, April 17.—The arrest of the Japanese immigrant, M. Oto, by Government Immigrant Agent McAllister, is more serious than at first thought. Oto was sent back to Seattle by Mr. McAllister, who gave strict instructions that he be kept on the steamer Mainlander. Just as the steamer was about to leave, Oto made a dash for liberty; he was caught half-way down the gang plank by Mr. McAllister. On the captain being remonstrated with, he said the Japanese had refused to pay his fare and he would not carry him. Before he could be got on the boat again Capt. Williams ordered full steam ahead, and nothing could be done but hold on to the plunging, wriggling Japanese and march him to the police station.

The committee appointed to consider the matter of the Queen's memorial to be presented to the city by the school children has decided that the memorial should take the form of a monument, which shall be erected in Stanley park. On Friday next contributions will be received from the children, which will be followed by contributions on the four following Fridays, so as to enable all pupils who wish to do so, to contribute. The movement is to be called the Vancouver Children's Memorial to the Queen.

Mr. Burchard has been in the city for several days for the purpose of securing an agency for the large combine of United States northern transportation companies lately formed, and making arrangements for wharfage. The wharfage facilities have been secured by Mr. Burchard, and it is understood that Messrs. Evans, Coleman & Evans will act as agents in Vancouver for the big syndicate. Most of the goods carried by the new Alaska Transportation Company will be sent north by the way of St. Michael. The goods purchased for their Dawson store will to a very large extent be purchased in Eastern Canada and coast cities of British Columbia.

Liu Kuan Defiant

Chinese General Has a Force Inside of Prohibited Territory

And Dares the Allies to Come and Put Him Out Again.

London, April 17.—The Pekin correspondent of the Daily Mail says he thinks the aggregate of the indemnity demanded by the powers will not be reduced below £50,000,000, and adds: "It cannot be too strongly pointed out how serious a danger would rise from too excessive a reduction of claims. If the powers fail to recoup their actual outlay," he says, "they will likely lose compensation by separate secret arrangements with Pekin which would infallibly lead to grave complications."

Four parlers are proceeding between Russia and Japan, says the Odessa correspondent of the Standard, and it is expected the result will be the conclusion of a pacific agreement regarding Korea. No explanation, however, is vouchsafed as to how the European powers and the United States are to be propitiated and reconciled to such a modus vivendi, founded upon the wreck of Korean independence.

According to a despatch to the Morning Leader from Tien Tsin, Boxers have destroyed twenty miles of railway at Lu Han, near Pao Ting Fu. Dr. Morrison, wiring to the Times from Pekin yesterday, says:

"At a meeting of the ministers of the powers to-day, it was decided to adopt a recommendation of Mr. Rockhill, giving effect to article XII. of the joint note, concerning the reform of the Tsung Li Yamen and the modification of court ceremonial. It was agreed that in place of the Tsung Li Yamen there shall be a Wai Wau Pu, or board of foreign affairs, having precedence over other boards. It is to consist of a president, who shall be an imperial prince, and two ministers, one being the president of the board and the other member of the grand council, with direct access to the Emperor.

London, April 16.—A despatch to the Reuter Telegram Company from Pekin, dated April 16, says that Gen. von Cylle, in command of 5,000 German and 3,000 French troops, is heading an expedition to attack Liu Hui Lu (Liu Kuang Ting), who is within 120 miles of Pao Ting Fu Lui's position inside the territory defined by Field Marshal von Waldersee as the sphere of operations of the allies.

Liu has 1,000 men and he refuses to retire, saying if the allies wished him to retire, "they had better come out and compel us to do so."

Pekin, April 16.—Gen. Chaffee's birthday dinner yesterday was also a sort of farewell to Pekin. There was a large gathering. Field Marshal von Waldersee and all the generals with their staffs were present, as well as all the ministers and their first secretaries. In all there were fifty guests. The Field Marshal made a speech in English, in the course of which he said the occasion was one of congratulation and sorrow, the first on the occasion of Gen. Chaffee's birthday, and the second owing to the Americans' departure. Every foreigner in China bade God speed to Gen. Chaffee and the brave men under him, for none had made themselves more generally popular. For Gen. Chaffee personally he felt admiration and esteem, and all present must feel the same.

The Spanish minister to China made similar remarks on behalf of the diplomatic corps.

A force of 1,100 Germans and a thousand French troops leave here to-morrow to join the Pao Ting Fu expedition against Liu Kiang Ling.

At a meeting of the ministers this morning, the situation generally and Count von Waldersee's report were considered, but nothing definite was decided upon.

The Chinese court has replied to the recommendations of Japan on the subject, that it is impossible for the Emperor to return to Pekin until the country's guests leave.

Washington, April 16.—Notwithstanding the reports from Pekin of the slow progress of the negotiations there on the subject of indemnity, the officials here are not without hope that a way may be found out of the complications. Figures are coming in describing the indemnity claims, which slightly modify the amounts reported from other sources. For instance, the French claim is now given at $56,000,000, instead of $65,000,000, as reported. The Russian claim is about $87,000,000. The claim of Great Britain is about $21,000,000. The Japanese claim is elastic, ranging from $60,000,000 to $70,000,000. The little powers, those that furnished no troops at all, or an insignificant number, loom up with their bills. Belgium wants $6,000,000, and similar claims are made by Holland and Spain. Nothing has been heard officially here of the reported Japanese attempt to have the Chinese troops garrison Manchuria with the aid of an international force if necessary, nor has Mr. Rockhill yet mentioned Earl Li's desire for a United States force to remain in Pekin and police the Chinese section after Gen. Chaffee's departure.

TESTING THE ACT.

Japanese to Be Tried Under New Immigration Law at Vancouver.

Vancouver, April 16.—(Special)—It is likely that a test case under the new immigration act will be tried here very shortly. M. Ota, who was a Japanese passenger on the Mainlander, was ordered to remain upon the steamer, as he could not comply with the law. He came ashore, however, and will likely be a defendant in a case which will be brought by Provincial Immigration Inspector McAllister.

BUYS GAINSBORO.

London, April 16.—Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan, the Associated Press is authoratively informed, has bought the Gainsboro picture, recently recovered in Chicago. The price paid for the picture has not been made public.

RHEUMATIC WARPED LIMBS.

Mrs. H. Wills, Chesley, Ont., says: "My boy was all crippled up with rheumatism. Although we doctored he was in this way for about one year, and the pain was terrible. Reading of many cases where Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills had cured rheumatism, we got a box. Before they were half gone he began to improve, and is now quite well. I am very glad to recommend them to others." One pill for a dose, 25 cents a box.