The Victoria Weekly Colonist.

THIRTY-SECOND YEAR. VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1889. VOLUME XXXII NO. 3

EUROPEAN GOSSIP.

Parnell's Reception at Liverpool by the Liberals.

The Bill for the Wiedning of London's Streets.

Hungarian Meat Dealers Evading the Law Prohibiting the Importation of Live Cattle.

EXPLOSION ON A STEAMER.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—Information has been received that several explosions occurred to-day on board the British steamer Ferguson, lying at the wharf at Rouen; that one man was killed, four wounded, and the vessel and docks damaged to the extent of $15,000.

PARNELL AT LIVERPOOL.

Parnell arrived at Liverpool this afternoon. He was met by a deputation of liberals, who presented him with an address. In reply, Parnell advised the electors of Lancashire to give a full support to Mr. Gladstone at the next election. At a banquet given in his honor this evening, a check for £3,500, the amount collected in Liverpool for the Parnell defense fund, was handed to Parnell, who gratefully acknowledged the honor. In thanking the donors for the gift, Parnell said he thought himself entitled to boast that he was the first Irishman who had been so treated by Englishmen. That they had started the subscriptions before Sir Charles Russell had succeded in winning the victory for him. Parnell reiterated his declaration that the object of the Home Rulers was to secure the industrial development of Ireland. There was once, he admitted, some justification for their hostility to England; but now they joyfully entered with the Liberals into the battle which he trusted would soon come.

WIDENING OF THE STRAND.

The cabinet council has raised a breeze which is by no means confined to any political party, by the addition of an "unmarried increment" clause to the bill providing for the widening of the Strand. This clause is in the nature of an unqualified proposal to assess the local and adjacent occupiers upon the increased valuation accruing to their holdings from the improved condition of the thoroughfare, and, in fact, is a very slightly modified application of the theory of Henry George.

PARNELL'S VISIT TO GLADSTONE.

Parnell terminated a very pleasant visit to Mr. Gladstone and Hawarden Castle to-day, the cordiality of his entertainers being as noticeable to the privileged observer as it was gratifying to the visitor.

THE GERMAN RADICALS QUARREL.

A serious split has occurred in the ranks of the German Radicals, in consequence of the repudiation of Herr Richter, leader of the German Liberal party in the Reichstag, by the Moderates. The opposition to Herr Richter is chiefly owing to his temperate utterances in the debate on the socialist bill, and his alleged lukewarmness in dealing with the budget.

EVADING THE LAW.

The Hungarian dealers in meat who have suffered severely from the Government prohibition of importation of live cattle, have hit upon a method of evading the law by the erection of slaughter houses on the frontier, where the cattle are killed and dressed before being brought over the border.

ENGLAND AND PORTUGAL.

The Strained Relations Between the Two Countries.

Great Britain Thoroughly in Earnest in Its Resolve to Call Portugal to Account.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—The Admiralty, as an act of precaution in view of the possible straining of relations between England and Portugal regarding their possessions in Africa, has made arrangements for the transfer of the depot and hospital stores for the Mediterranean and Channel squadrons from Lisbon. Orders were recently issued for the war ship Agamemnon, at Zanzibar, to rejoin the Mediterranean squadron. These orders have since been countermanded and the vessel will remain at Zanzibar. There is now no doubt whatsoever that unless the Government at Lisbon shall recede from its untenable position without unnecessary delay, they will find the republican uprising within her borders to be one of the very last of her troubles.

The precautionary action of the admiralty in arranging for the removal of the naval and hospital stores for the Mediterranean and Channel fleets from Lisbon at any moment the transfer may be deemed necessary or expedient, has aroused a surprisingly intense and widespread warlike sentiment here. In addition to this measure the admiralty has also issued orders to the Mediterranean squadron to remain until further notice within reach; that is to say, where the vessels can be communicated with by telegraph in case of any overt act of hostility or contumacy on the part of Portugal. That the government is thoroughly in earnest in its resolve to call Portugal to account for her treachery, rapacity and downright robbery in South Africa is certain.

AMERICAN NEWS.

Juror Culver Wants Damages.

CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—Juror John Culver began suit this afternoon in the supreme court against the Chicago Herald, claiming damages of $25,000 on account of the article concerning him, published in last Sunday morning's edition.

Murdered by Highwaymen.

WACO, Texas, Dec. 19.—News reached here of a fight on Tuesday between four farmers, without firearms, and two robbers, armed with six-shooters, in which one farmer, John T. Mathes, was killed; another, W. H. Harris, terribly wounded, and the others more or less injured. The farmers were stopped on the road by the highwaymen who demanded their money. They refused to give it up and the fight resulted. Joe Leper, supposed to be one of the robbers has been arrested.

Serious Fire in St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Dec. 20.—A fire started at 1 o'clock this morning in the Commercial Printing Company's building, Third and Locust streets, and is extending quickly to other buildings in the block. The fire will probably cause a loss of a quarter of a million of dollars. The walls have fallen, which may have resulted in loss of life. The whole fire department is at work, with a promise of getting the fire under control before long.

Reported Loss of the City of Kingston.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—It is reported that the old Hudson River steamer City of Kingston, which left here two weeks ago for Puget Sound, via Cape Horn, has been lost with her crew of forty-two men. She was recently bought by the Northern Pacific Railway.

RIPPED OUT HIS OWN BOWELS.

Horrible Suicide of a Man Made Insane by the Pain of Disease.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 18.—One of the most horrible cases of suicide ever recorded in this city occurred early this morning, the victim being Milo Ballabosich, a Slavonian. He had been suffering from a painful disease of the intestines, and became insane.

This morning a man who occupied the same room with him awakened to find Ballabosich standing on the floor naked, with a frightful gash across the abdomen, and covered with blood. The man rushed from the room and notified the police.

When the officers arrived, the madman was tearing out his vitals, cutting them off and scattering the pieces over the floor. He was taken to the hospital, where he died several hours later.

Dr. Foulkes says this is the most interesting case that has ever come to his notice; "for," he said, "this madman has actually performed an operation which, if it had been done scientifically and a little sooner, his life would have been saved. He had deliberately opened his abdomen and cut from it a diseased portion of the intestines. He was suffering from intersusception of the bowels, or, in other words, portions of the intestines were telescoped, and it was these portions that he cut out. When he performed the operation peritonitis had set in, and of course his life could not have been saved.

NEWS FROM THE SARDONYX.

Presentation to Capt. Meyers—Notes of the Trip and Passengers.

The following letter has been received from the steamer Sardonyx, bound north, which arrived at Departure Bay on the 18th inst. It is from the pen of Mr. Alexander Begg, the crofters' friend, who is among the passengers.

Mr. Begg says:

The passengers were a mixed and varied lot. They seemed to enjoy themselves well. A notable character amongst them was Mr. Wm. Smith, who came from Kansas to Puget Sound about ten years ago, in search of health. He found it and returned to Kansas, only to experience another attack of his former illness. Returning to Puget Sound he soon recovered, and back he went again to Kansas. This he repeated five times, when he finally abandoned Kansas as "a bad job," and removed with his wife and family to Clover Valley, north of the international boundary line. He is at present en route to Graham Island, with the expectation of finding suitable land on which to settle a number of farmers from Kansas, who are anxious to leave that State on account of the failure of crops from dry summers, cyclones, hail storms, tornadoes, etc. Mr. Smith is now verging on three score and ten years, but has been so much recuperated and rejuvenated by his residence in British Columbia, that he says he feels quite equal to roughing it for a couple of months on Queen Charlotte Island.

Another party worthy of notice is Mr. Lundberg, who is accompanied by nine men and two women. They are on their way to the black cod or skil fishing station, which is situated near Point Kuper, Inskip Channel, on the west coast of Moresby Island. The two ladies of the party will be the first white women settlers on Queen Charlotte Islands.

Point Kuper is said to have been first occupied by white men in 1851, by a party of miners who took out of the mines in that neghborhood nearly a quarter million dollars in gold. They were attacked by Indians, at that time hostile, who killed many of them and took the rest prisoners. The prisoners were subsequently ransomed by the Hudson Bay Company, who worked the mine out to the sea coast, taking out of it about $200,000. Recently a syndicate made an attempt to follow the lead under the sea by means of a tunnel from the shore, but abandoned the attempt, finding it too costly.

The salmon canning interests are represented amongst the passengers by solid men, as follows: Mr. Woods, of the Cascade, Naas River; Mr. McNeil, the Warnock, Rivers Inlet; Mr. Spencer, Alert Bay; Mr. Cunningham, "Skeena" brand; and four workmen for the "Standard," a new cannery to be built on the Skeena.

The church, (Episcopalian) is also well represented by the Rev. Mr. Brown of Port Essington; a genial gentleman, whose presence exercises a healthy influence on all around.

Mr. Mowat's salmon ova seem to be all right and safe, having had frequent waterings, in a snug place near the stern of the steamer.

The Sardonyx took in over a hundred tons of coal at Departure Bay. This was comparatively easy work, owing to the convenient tramway and "chute" along which carload after carload poured their contents into the hold of the steamer.

During the stay required to get the coal aboard, and before the passengers scattered to go ashore at other ports, they took the opportunity of presenting Capt. Meyers with a pair of valuable marine signal service glasses. After a few appropriate, complimentary remarks from Rev. Mr. Brown, Mrs. Lundberg handed the binocular to the captain and Mr. Woods read the following address:

To Captain Meyers, of the s.s. Sardonyx.

DEAR SIR: We, the undersigned, on behalf of the passengers making the Christmas voyage to the North this year, are requested to convey to you their kind feeling and high appreciation of your valuable services, so well and so long known to us and to the travelling public generally.

Our opinions are those of the general public, and we are all grateful to your company for securing your experience and ability; thus establishing to the minds of all, perfect safety and satisfaction in travelling to and from our northern homes.

We beg the acceptance of the accompanying "Christmas Box" as a small token of our esteem, and sincerely wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year—and many of them.

(Signed) A. W. SPENCER,
R. J. WOODS,
MAX MOWAT,
Rev. WM. BROWN,
CHAS. LUNDBERG.

Captain Meyers, in reply, said he was agreeably surprised at this unexpected mark of their esteem. He had only done his duty, but was highly gratified at receiving such a handsome testimonial from them. He could only return them his most sincere thanks.

The Crofters' friend, Mr. Begg, has nothing to say about himself, but his Scotch friends may rest assured that he is keeping a sharp lookout along the coast, gleaning information which may eventually benefit them.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria

THE COASTING ORDER.

Vancouver's Vain Attempt to Obstruct Prior's Mission.

President Alexander's Telegram to the Minister Too Late.

No More Interruption of Victoria's Trade—Merchants Can Now Order Goods Without Fear of Delay.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, Dec. 19.—The minister of customs to-day received a telegram from Mr. Alexander, president of the Vancouver board of trade, urging the department to insist that the coasting regulations be rigidly enforced in British Columbia waters. Col. Prior was shown this message and he had a good laugh over it. He said that the Vancouver board was a little too previous. Yesterday Mr. Bowell, according to promise, to-day instructed Inspector Young to notify all the collectors that the departmental order was suspended. Merchants can order their goods without fearing delay. Col. Prior is well pleased with the result of his mission.

Mr. Thos. Earle, M. P., yesterday afternoon received the following telegram from Col. Prior, confirming THE COLONIST's despatch of the morning:

"Arrangements satisfactorily concluded. Merchants can order goods now without any fear of stoppage."

The arrangement proposed by Hon. Mr. Bowell to facilitate the transportation of bonded freight to this port after its arrival at Tacoma, as stated in our Ottawa telegram of yesterday, will meet with general approval at the hands of importers. The duties of the Canadian official at Tacoma will be to break the Canadian seal and then check all goods in the bonded car on board the steamer. The manifest so checked will accompany the steamer to Victoria, where they will be again checked over by a customs officer into the warehouse. Everything having been found correct, the manifest will be signed by the officer and deposited at the custom house. Consignees will then be able to obtain their goods by paying freight, and without reference to the custom house. The arrangement will save work at the custom house, and also to the importer, who under the present rule of being required to furnish a certified invoice is often seriously delayed in securing his goods. An invoice may not have been sent or may have miscarried, and it is at the option of the collector whether goods be surrendered or not. This difficulty will not arise under the new order. The change was suggested some time ago by Appraiser Milne to Mr. Young, the inspector, and by him represented to the department.

It is not by any means a new principle, as both Canadian and American authorities have their officers stationed at various points to hasten the transit of bonded goods from one country to another. Canadian officers are located at Chicago, Duluth and Minneapolis Junction to certify to bonded cars passing to Winnipeg or to the coast, while American officers are stationed at Vancouver and Winnipeg having similar duties.

Agents of the railroad companies in the city state that they have no doubt the new rule will meet the approval of their roads, who will pay the salaries of the Canadian officers at Tacoma and also at Portland.

Following is a copy of the telegram forwarded by the president of the Vancouver Board of Trade to Hon. Mr. Bowell:

VANCOUVER, Dec. 18, 1889.

Hon. Minister of Customs, Ottawa:

At a special meeting of the Vancouver Board of Trade held to-day, the following resolution was unanimously carried: That this Board respectfully urge on the Hon. Minister of Customs the importance of enforcing the Order-in-Council respecting the carrying of Canadian bonded goods in Canadian bottoms as of vital necessity to the best interests of Canadian shipping, and involving as it does the commercial progress of the whole Province of British Columbia; and this Board is able to assure the Hon. Minister that there is sufficient Canadian shipping available to carry all these goods.

CAPITAL NOTES.

Promotions in the Victoria Savings Bank Department.

Lieut.-Col. Prior Secures a Promise for a New Drill Shed for Victoria to Cost at Least $15,000.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, Dec. 19.—Lieut.-Col. Prior, M. P., saw the postmaster-general today and the promotions of J. H. McLachlin, Chas. Hayward, jr., and Wm. Charles of the government savings bank, consequent upon Mr. Graham's superanuation are to take effect immediately. He has also secured a definite promise of $15,000, which will be placed on the estimates next session for a new drill shed.

Mr. Boville, the land agent for Kamloops district, left to night to assume his duties.

CABLE NEWS.

The Times' Commission Report.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—Judges Hannen, Day and Smith, comprising the special commission appointed by parliament to investigate the charges made by the Times against the Parnellite members of the house of commons, have furnished their report, but it will not be published until parliament meets.

A Steamer Ashore.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—The steamer Newham, from Savannah for Bremin, is ashore at Nieva, near Dieppe, making water. Lighters have gone to assist her.

Emperor William Indisposed.

BERLIN, Dec. 19.—The Emperor is suffering from a severe cold. A shooting engagement has been cancelled in consequence of his illness.

American Missionaries Maltreated.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—The Daily News correspondent at Constantinople says the American legation is pressing the Porte to take action in the matter of the two American missionaries who, they allege, were maltreated by Mousss Bey in Armenia, and demand that the Kurdish chief be punished. Missionary Knapp identified Moussa among the number of Kurds as the assailants of himself and Doctor Reynolds, both being outrageously treated. The Pasha has ordered the Armenian patriarch to recall Archimanderite Saradjean from Armenia.

A Railway in the Congo.

BRUSSELS, Dec. 19.—A syndicate of French and Belgian capitalists has been formed for the purpose of building a railway from the Lower Congo to the French Congo region, and developing the rich copper district of Matanga. Engineers will shortly be sent to make the necessary surveys.

The Smith-Slavin Fight.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—It is stated tonight that the fight between Jem Smith and Bob Slavin will take place on Monday near Lille, France.

The Influenza in Paris.

PARIS, Dec. 19.—Premier Tirard and Ministers Defreycinet, Faye, and Spuller are suffering from influenza.

A NOTABLE WEDDING.

The Marriage of Senator Landes and Miss Story at Seattle.

The Seattle Post-Intelligencer furnishes the following account of the marriage of Senator Henry Landes, of Port Townsend, to Miss Christina Story, of Victoria, at the Hotel Ranier, on Wednesday evening:

Judge John P. Hoyt, of the supreme court of Washington, performed the ceremony. Distinguished citizens of the state were present, including the governor and lieutenant-governor, members of both houses of the legislature, judges of the supreme bench, and many others, accompanied by their wives.

Carriages loaded with guests arrived after 7 o'clock, and by 8 o'clock the parlors of the hotel were comfortably filled with a happy crowd. The few moments previous to the appearance of the wedding party were enjoyably passed by the guests in social conversation.

At 8:15 o'clock the bridal party came down the stairway. The groom, accompanied by his best man, ex-United States Senator Conover, of Florida, were the first to enter the parlor, and taking their places at a position farthest from the door, waited for the bride. She came in leaning on the arm of her father, Mr. Thomas Story; Miss Georgia Story and Miss Annie Story, sisters of the bride, who were the maids of honor, following close in the rear.

A pretty picture the party presented when all had taken their positions. The bride wore a lovely white satin dress, with a bridal veil covering the entire costume, and orange blossoms were tastefully placed in her hair. The bridesmaids, one dressed in a beautiful white cashmere, the other in light blue, looked very pretty. The groom and his best man wore the conventional black.

When the party had taken its place Judge Hoyt stepped forward and performed the ceremony in the following impressive words:

"Henry, will you have this woman to be your wedded wife, to live together in the holy estate of matrimony? Will you love her, comfort her, honor and keep her in sickness and in health; and, forsaking all others, keep thee only unto her, so long as you both shall live?"

"I will," responded the groom.

"Christina, will you have this man to be your wedded husband, to live together in the holy estate of matrimony? Will you obey him, and serve him, love, honor and keep him in sickness and in health; and, forsaking all others, keep thee only unto him, so long as you both shall live?"

"I will," was the response of the bride.

"As such is your desire, you will join your right hands. You, Henry, do take this woman whose right hand you hold to be your wedded wife, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish till death do you part, and thereto you pledge her your troth. And you, Christina, do take this man who clasps your right hand to be your wedded husband, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love, cherish and to obey, till death do you part, and thereto you pledge him your troth. In token of your promises thus made, and your troth thus pledged, you, Henry, will bestow, and you, Christina, will receive this ring, which is symbolical of the perfect roundness and symmetry of the love, trust and sympathy that should exist between you as long as you shall live."

Here one of the bridesmaids handed the ring to the judge, who handed it to the groom, who placed it upon the bride's hand.

"In view of the promises and the troths thus mutually made and witnessed, and by virtue of the authority invested in me by the laws of the state of Washington, I pronounce you husband and wife, and give you in charge that having been thus joined together you should not by man, be put assunder."

Judge Hoyt had hardly uttered the last words of the ceremony when friends swarmed round the couple and tendered hearty congratulations and wishes for a long life of happiness. Then followed a tasty repast, and amid the enjoyment of choice delicacies, minutes passed into hours so swiftly that it was time for the guests to depart before they had wearied of the enjoyments.

Those present were: Governor and Mrs. Ferry, Lieutenant-Governor and Mrs. Laughton, Secretary of State and Mrs. Weir, Judge and Mrs. John P. Hoyt, ex-United States Senator and Mrs. S. B. Conover, Senator and Mrs. John R. Kinnear, Senator and Mrs. F. A. Luce, Representative and Mrs. M. S. Drew, Representative and Mrs. J. G. Megler, Senator H. G. Austin, Senator John F. Baker, Senator H. W. Fairweather, Representative George W. Morse, Representative A. B. Lull, Representative T. C. Herren, Judge and Mrs. H. G. Struve, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Hayden, Colonel and Mrs. Thomas Ewing, Mr. and Mrs. John Collins, Mr. and Mrs. L. S. J. Hunt, Mr. and Mrs. John Leary, Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Fraunthal, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Furth, Mr. and Mrs. Bailey Gatzert, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Phillips of Olympia; Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Horr, of Olympia; Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Bradshaw, of Port Townsend; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Story, of Victoria; Mr. and Mrs. Purdy, of Whatcom; Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Ferot, Mr. and Mrs. John McReavy, Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Ray, Miss Struve, Miss Ferry, Miss Georgia Story, of Victoria; Miss Annie Story, of Victoria; Miss Lutie Landes, of Port Townsend; Mr. James Hamilton Lewis, Master Walter Story, of Victoria, and others.

Mr. and Mrs. Landes will remain at the Ranier till after the holidays, when they will go to Olympia and remain during the session of the legislature, afterwards going to their permanent residence at Port Townsend, where Senator Landes is president of the First National Bank.

The Detroit School Fire.

DETROIT, Dec. 21.—Edith Weeler died last night, making the third victim so far of Thursday's fire. Fears are entertained for many of the others, as it is learned that they inhaled the smoke very freely, and the extent of their internal injuries from that cause cannot be ascertained.

CANADIAN NEWS.

What the "Mail" Says of the Stanstead Election.

Damaging Evidence Against McDonald, the Candy Poisoner.

The New Party Question Discussed by the Ontario Evangelical Alliance—Toronto's Grand Jury Presentment.

Election Comment.

TORONTO, Dec. 19.—The Mail says of Hon. Mr. Colby's election that the two parties, liberal and conservative, and the two governments—those of Ottawa and Quebec—combined to elect him. The equal rights advocates will know by this election how strong a force they are compelled to oppose. The same paper in another editorial congratulates itself upon the adoption by Meredith at London on Monday, of the platform it laid down in November, 1885.

Damaging Evidence Against McDonald.

ST. JOHN, N.B., Dec. 19.—A writing expert of Boston swore positively that the writing on the package which contained the poisoned candy which killed Mrs. McRae, was prisoner McDonald's.

The Ontario Alliance.

TORONTO, Dec. 19.—The Ontario Alliance spent the morning discussing the new party question. Rev. Dr. Sutherland's straight new party amendment was declared out of order. The chairman's ruling on this point being objected to, it was put to a vote and the ruling was sustained. Alderman John McMillan, the prospective opponent of Mayor Clark for the mayoralty, moved that Sutherland's amendment be modified so as to keep the new party question out of any contest in which either of the old parties accepts its platform, and this compromise was accepted almost unanimously. The convention then adjourned to attend the funeral of Rev. Dr. Willams.

Constable Griggs Turns Up.

HAMILTON, Ont., Dec. 19.—Constable Griggs, who was reported missing, has been heard from in Dakota. He states he does not know what caused him to leave Hamilton, but he will not return.

The Social Evil in Toronto.

TORONTO, Dec. 19.—The grand jury made their presentation yesterday afternoon and recommended that legislation be enacted for the regulation of houses of ill-fame after the manner of many European cities which they regard as superior to the system of raiding practiced in Toronto.

The Anti-Catholic Crusade.

TORONTO, Dec. 20. — Archbishop Walsh delivered an address at the De Lasalle institute to-day, on the subject of Catholic education. It was true, he said, that a crusade was being made against the Catholic minority in Upper Canada; but he had full confidence in the sense of justice of the Ontario people, and believed that this wave of fanaticism would not sweep them into any act of injustice towards the minority.

The Campbell Elopement.

OTTAWA, Dec. 20.—There is no possibility of any settlement between Mr. and Mrs. Campbell over the recent elopement case, as he has returned to Boston, denying that she is living in anything but a respectable way.

The Banff Anthracite Mines.

OTTAWA, Dec. 20.—It is learned that ex-Major McLeod Stewart has sailed from New York for London again, taking with him the signed agreement for the transfer of the Banff anthracite coal mines. The affair has been brought to a most satisfactory conclusion.

Personal.

WINNIPEG, Dec. 20.—A. W. Ross, M. P., reached here to-day from England. He goes west to Vancouver in a few days.

EUROPEAN GOSSIP.

Prince Albert Victor's Indian Tour Abandoned.

His Royal Highness Peremptorily Ordered to Return Home.

Rumored Military Alliance Between Austria and Bulgaria—An Elevated Railway in Prussia.

AUSTRIA AND BULGARIA.

LONDON, Dec. 20.—The Novoe Vremya, of St. Petersburg, whose utterances are regarded as authorized and as official expressions as applied to political affairs, is responsible for the statement that a secret military alliance has been concluded between Austria and Bulgaria, by the terms of which the latter country is made practically an Austrian camp. Such a compact means nothing at all if it don't mean that Austria is getting ready either to attack Russia or to defend herself against an expected Russian attack, and in the circumstances under which Prince Ferdinand retains his equilibrium on the frail Bulgarian throne, it also means that Austria has promised her assistance to fortify Ferdinand in his position. However, to make contracts is one thing and to carry them out is another, and doubtless both Francis Joseph and Ferdinand will realize this upon the first attempt of the former to avail himself of the provisions of the compact, which contemplates the virtual union of Bulgaria. The Czar long ago reached the decision that if Bulgaria is to be invaded he will do some invading himself. The Russians are also alarmed at the now very strong probability that Germany will accomplish her desire to establish strongly fortified German positions on the Danish island of Barnholm in the Baltic Sea, and the grounds of their fears will no doubt be made the subject of diplomatic correspondence and protest.

AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION.

A number of West Australian delegates are on their way to England charged with the mission of holding a conference with the home government on the subject of Australian federation, which scheme has grown immensely in popular favor in Australia since the recent concessions of the Victorian authorities to the proposals of Sir Henry Porter. The chief point to be urged by the delegates is the introduction in the English parliament of an Australian autonomy bill.

PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR'S TOUR.

The Prince of Wales, with his usual prescience and astuteness has peremptorily ordered Prince Albert Victor to abandon his tour of India and return home forthwith. This step was decided upon by His Royal Highnes as an answer to the now common rumor that Albert Victor's departure was accelerated by the knowledge that the west end scandal had become known to persons outside the Cavendish street house, and the allegation that for some reason his absence would be indefinitely prolonged. It is expected that his return will be followed by an indignant protest against the scandalous rumors, and the prompt prosecution of any one persisting in their circulation.

A GERMAN MILITARY CAMP.

The German government has purchased a tract of ten thousand acres of land in Alsace for the purpose of a military camp.

ELEVATED RAILWAY.

An elevated railway to be operated by electricity, is in course of construction between Barmen and Elberfeld, Rhenish, Prussia.

A SAD REHEARSAL.

A Party of School Children Fearfully Burned

While Rehearsing a Christmas Cantata—Two Succumb to Their Injuries and Others Will Die.

DETROIT, Mich, Dec. 20. — Thirty children in the Elden public school were rehearsing yesterday afternoon for a Christmas cantata, which was to have been produced this afternoon for their school mates and friends. The children were costumed in gauzy stuff and cotton batting. About twenty of them remained until 5 o'clock, when they were having a rehearsal chorus. One of them held a candle close to the accompanist so that she might more easily read her notes in the growing darkness, when the candle was knocked out of the hand and against the dresses of the children nearest, and then fell into a pile of inflammable stuff near by. The costumes of the children caught fire instantly, and before the teachers could put the flames out sixteen of them were badly burned, two fatally and three others so badly that they will die, and eleven others seriously. The alarm brought the police and hospital ambulances to the scene. The building did not catch, or the entire party might have been burned to death. Jennie Lanxion, aged 15, was burned about the body horribly, dying at midnight. Bertha Moody, aged 12, was burned about the hips, head, arms and face, and died this morning. Bessie Bamford, aged 14, was burned about the body from the waist up, and will die. Carrie Westmate, aged 14, had her hair burned off, and is given up by the doctors. In addition the following were badly burned: Carrie Bentliff, aged 16, severely burned about the breast and arms. Nellie Thatcher, aged 13, severely burned about the back and hands. Cora Sherricki aged 13, burned about the hands, both sides of the face, and Bessie Seeley, aged 12, burned about the arms and breast. Edna Holland, aged 14, badly burned about the head, shoulders and hands. Mabel Sliney, burned about the arms; Georgie Horner, aged 12, burned about the head and face, and severely bruised; Alexander McMillan, hands severely burned; Edith Wheeler, hair burned off and severely scorched about the face and neck; Mildred Ravet, aged 15 years, severely burned about the legs and chest; Jennie Robinson, aged 16, burned about the shoulders and on the left side of the face.

The scene during the panic was frightful, two of the little lads, named Wheeler and Alexander McMillan, pulling the burning costumes off the children and the flags and draperies from the walls, and thus preventing the spreading of the flames. The ambulances conveyed the injured children to their homes.

AMERICAN NEWS.

Jeff Davis' Will.

MISSISSIPPI CITY, Dec. 18.—Jefferson Davis' will was filed for probate. The document is dated February 20, 1886, and bequeaths to his wife all his personal property, including the library, furniture, correspondence and Brierfield plantation, with all its appurtenances, in Warren county, Miss. He bequeaths Mary Ruth Ellis, of Philadelphia, his interest in the Elliston plantation in the parish of Tensas, Louisiana; to Mary Ridgely Dorsey, his interest in Limerick plantation, parish of Tensas, Louisiana; to his daughter Variena Anne Davis, all other property inherited by him from the late Mrs. Sarah A. Dorsey. The remainder of the estate is bequeathed to his wife and daughters, Mrs. Margaret Davis Hayes and Variena Anne Davis. He appoints as executors Jacob W. Payne, of New Orleans, and his son-in-law, G. Addison Hayes, jr., of Memphis.

A Race for Life.

WALSENBURG, Col., Dec. 18.—A shocking accident occurred on the Denver and Rio Grande last night, four miles west of here, in which one engineer and fireman were instantly killed and a large amount of property destroyed. A train left La Veta, made up of two engines in front, twenty cars of cattle and freight cars, a caboose and an engine in the rear. The train soon broke in three parts, and these began a race for life, as the middle section was loose from the caboose with no brakeman on it. The engines ran about three miles at a rate of over a mile a minute down a grade ninety feet to the mile, and here the middle section of twenty-four cars, loaded with cattle and lumber, overtook them. The front engine escaped, but the second was instantly overwhelmed in a great mass of flying wreckage, which buried the engineer and firemen beneath it, killing them instantly. Portions of the lumber on the flying cars were thrown over 200 feet from where the collision occurred. Seven cars of cattle and eight cars of cattle were piled up in the wreck, and nearly all the cattle were killed or terribly mangled. William Geyer, the dead engineer, leaves a wife and one child, who reside in Pueblo. W. H. Ferringer and D. W. Edmondson, both brakemen, were severely injured and were taken to the company's hospital in Pueblo.

Chicago Police Officers Dismissed.

CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—Five men were discharged by Supt. Police Hubbard today. The officers removed are—Detectives Palmer and Flynn, Patrolman Michael A. Horn, Officer Cunningham, and Station-keeper Peter Kelly. The charges are in each case—"Conduct unbecoming a police officer, and neglect of duty." It is understood, however, that the men are removed on account of their movements during the Cronin case.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria

CABLE NEWS.

Stanley's Letter to Sir Francis De Winton.

Beach Will Row Hanlan for the Championship.

Collision in the English Channel with Loss of Life—A German Theatre in Flames.

A GERMAN MILITARY CAMP.

The German government has purchased a tract of ten thousand acres of land in Alsace for the purpose of a military camp.

ELEVATED RAILWAY.

An elevated railway to be operated by electricity, is in course of construction between Barmen and Elberfeld, Rhenish, Prussia.

O'Brien Liberated.

DUBLIN, Dec. 20.—Wm. O'Brien, who was sentenced to three months' imprisonment in Galway jail for having addressed a proclaimed nationalist meeting, was to-day liberated from that institution. The large crowd that had gathered to witness the departure of the liberated Irish patriot, heartily cheered. O'Brien delivered an address. His remarks caused the greatest enthusiasm.

Another of Stanley's Letters.

LONDON, Dec. 20.—In a long letter to Sir Francis De Winton, just published, written at Ooala, August 31st, Stanley strongly objects to the tone of a batch of newspaper clippings he had received commenting, as he expressed it, with little lack of common sense and disregard for accuracy, upon his expedition. He dwells at length upon the indecision of Emin, which cost him (Stanley) a journey of 130 miles to relieve Bartelot's command with his own. He justifies the payment of the salary of £20 to Tippo Tib to avert a desolating war, and declares that if both parties are honest in their actions, peace will be continued indefinitely. Stanley is especially bitter in rebuking those in England who had lost faith in his steadfastness of purpose to the extent of creating rumors that he was marching in the direction of Khartoum, and treats at length of Barttelot, removing entirely the impression that his previous letters were reflections on the Major's conduct. He admits that Barttelot only needed the qualities to be gained in no other way than by long experience in Africa, to extricate himself from his dilemma. He highly eulogizes the major's high qualities. He knew that Bartelot was of an unforgiving disposition and had intended to keep in advance of himself, but necessity compelled his being left behind. Bartellot was ignorant of the language of the natives with him, and in whose territory he was, and Stanley thinks the interpreter may have played him false, thus occasioning a coolness which was never healed and which led to his death. He quotes in detail the instructions he gave Bartellot, and finally denies emphatically the alleged Congo atrocities. During the entire expedition he asserts that he executed only four men.

The West End Scandal.

LONDON, Dec. 20.—Arthur Newton, the solicitor who is charged with aiding the proprietor of the Cavendish House to escape, and who was recently summoned to appear in connection with the West End scandal, has been furnished with a copy of the information on which the Government bases its charges against him. A hearing of the case has been set for Monday.

The Portugese Republicans.

LISBON, Dec. 20.—It is reported that the Portugese government is anxious for Dom Pedro to leave Portugal. The calmness with which the people of Brazil accepted the overthrow of the empire and the establishment of the republic encourages the radicals of Lisbon to believe that they will eventually achieve a quiet and bloodless revolution in Portugal.

Advices from Corea.

SHANGHAI, Dec. 20.—Advices from Corea state that hundreds of persons have been arrested in connection with conspiracy to assassinate the King. The plot was discovered by a chief eunuch.

Beach Accepts Hanlan's Challenge.

SYDNEY, N. S. W., Dec. 20.—Beach has accepted Hanlan's challenge to row him for the world's championship, and expressed his willingness to accept the Parametta course.

A Theatre in Flames.

PESTH, Dec. 20.—The German theatre in this city is on fire and the flames are rapidly spreading to adjoining buildings.

Emperor William's Illness.

BERLIN, Dec. 20.—The Reichsavziger says that Emperor William, who is suffering from a severe cold, passed a good night last night. He has no fever. He will leave his bed for a few hours to-day.

The Outrages in Crete.

ATHENS, Dec. 20.—A mixed commission composed of Turks and Christians, sent by Chaki Pasha, governor of Crete, to Rethegemo, to investigate the alleged outrages there, has completed its task. The report of the commission confirms the previous report that several unarmed Christians were killed by three gendarmes.

O'Brien Welcomed.

DUBLIN, Dec. 20.—Wm. O'Brien was enthusiastically welcomed on his arrival here this evening. Similar demonstrations were made as he passed through Loughrea and other towns along his route from Galway to Dublin.

A Sword of Honor.

LISBON, Dec. 20.—A sword of honor is to be presented to Major Serpa Perilo by the Portugese officers.

The Republican Manifesto.

LISBON, Dec. 20.—The Portuguese Republican leaders have decided to issue a manifesto setting forth that the present is an auspicious time to take effective steps to abolish the monarchy.

Surgeon Parke Dangerously Ill.

ZANZIBAR, Dec. 20.—Surgeon Parke, Stanley's physician, is lying dangerously ill with fever.

Collision in the British Channel.

LONDON, Dec. 20.—The steamships Cleddy and Isle of Cyprus collided in the English channel, south of the Isle of Wight, and the former sank. Several of her crew succeeded in reaching the shore, but thirteen others are missing.

A BIG SEIZURE.

Coal Oil That Turned Out to Be Contraband Opium.

PORTLAND, Dec. 19. — Collector of Customs Abrahams has had his force on the lookout for several days for the shipment of opium which he was informed was on the way to the city from Victoria. This afternoon Inspector Porter saw a man carrying two boxes out from the Mersey dock and put them in a buggy. When he went to examine them, the driver said they contained coal oil, and whipped up his horse to get away. He was arrested, and the boxes were found to contain opium.

Further search discovered a lot of opium in a barge at the wharf. Altogether 530 tins were seized. The man arrested gave the name of John Cosgrove, bartender. He claimed he was sent for the oil by a man whose name he did not know. This is the most important seizure made here in some time.

CANADA'S DIRECT CABLE LINE.

MONTREAL, Dec. 18.—The Canadian Pacific company has completed a telegraph line between Montreal and Canso, where a direct connection is made with the direct Atlantic cables of the Commercial Cable company. This gives the Canadian Pacific a direct cable connection throughout Canada. It will greatly reduce the time of transmission between the old and new worlds on the Canadian Pacific, coast and general American business. Hereafter all cablegrams from San Francisco, Portland, Seattle and Tacoma for Europe will pass over this line instead of going via New York, thus providing the most direct route to Europe.

CANADIAN NEWS.

Great Expectations Entertained for Revelstoke.

New Conservative Organ to be Established at Winnipeg.

Ghouls at Sydenham Shot at While Opening a Grave—A Newspaper Man Horsewhipped by a Woman.

Horsewhipped by a Woman.

OTTAWA, Dec. 21.—An old Winnipeg newspaper man was horsewhipped on Elgin street this afternoon by a veiled woman. He was one of the leaders in the entertainment to W. E. Brown.

Lord Cecil's Will.

MONTREAL, Dec. 21.—By the will of the late Lord A. P. Cecil, the well-known evangelist, the British and Foreign Bible Society receives £2