

The Colonist. THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1895. RUMORS FROM TURKEY.

It is impossible for the newspaper reader to decide whether the news from the East is false or true. The reports of one day are so often materially modified or altogether contradicted by the telegrams of the next that he would be altogether too credulous if he placed implicit confidence in the accounts that are published from day to day. It seems as if the news caterers in Asia Minor have very little regard for the truth, for stories that were told so often that it seemed folly not to believe them have turned out, when investigated by men of intelligence and character, the grossest exaggerations. It seems now to be the fashion to blame the Armenians for taking the initiative in most of the disturbances. Is this the truth or is it a Turkish fabrication? It would not be surprising if it were true, but it is hard to understand how a people who were oppressed and robbed, as it is said the Armenians have been, would have spirit enough left to fight, or could get arms to fight with.

THE TREATMENT OF THE INDIANS.

The November number of the Westminster Review contains an article on the treatment of the Canadian Indians, by William Grant. This gentleman may be presumed to know a good deal about the Canadian Indians and the way in which they are treated, for he lived near the reserve at Broadview for a number of years. Mr. Grant speaks highly of the treatment which the Indians receive at the hands of the Canadian Government, and of the progress in the useful arts which they are making under that treatment. Canadians are far from approving the brutal saying of an American general, "A dead Indian is the best Indian." Their Government having under its care a large number of Indians in the Northwest who, owing to the extermination of the buffalo, were without the means of sustaining life, did all that an enlightened humanity required to keep them alive and to teach them to be self-supporting.

must be fit for the positions they occupy first of all, and their partisanship for those in power ranks but as an additional qualification. The result is the Indian commissioner, inspectors and agents are not gentlemen or arrogant officials who care everything for themselves and nothing for the Indians. They are gentlemen of experience and culture, who have been selected because they understand the Indians and because the Indians understand them. The agents are men who—they and their families—sacrifice the delights of refined society for a life far away on the prairie, cooped up on a Reserve with Indians for neighbors, and no other society to enjoy.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

The political situation in this Dominion is a peculiar one. It is acknowledged by the politicians of both sides to be difficult and delicate. A crisis is approaching and neither Government nor Opposition is preparing to meet it with a light heart. The Government admittedly has a hard task to perform but the reflection that its own task is quite as hard prevents the Opposition from anticipating a triumph if the Administration is not equal to the work it has to do. The country seems to regard the politicians with quiet interest and mild curiosity. The people without envying any excitement wonder what the next move in the political game will be and how the political parties will get out of the difficulties that embarrass both alike. It is quite evident that the leading men of both parties are nervous and anxious, and the importance of the question at issue and the uncertainty as to what the result will be very effectually keep down any noisy demonstrations of party spirit. Recriminations have almost ceased and very little bragging is heard. Politics have become tame to a very great many. This, we imagine, is because the situation is too serious to permit the men of either party to engage in unseemly wrangling about trifles. It is the quiet that reigns in every part of the Dominion the calm that often precedes the storm? We hope not. We trust that there is good sense and patriotism enough in the country to avert the storm of which there are just now so many indications.

The Manitoba school question is the cloud that spreads itself over the whole political sky. It is not contemplated with pleasure by either the Conservatives or the Liberals. Both parties see that it cannot be long now before it must burst, and then what will be the consequence? What damage will it do and whom will it hurt? The Government feel that they have done all they could do to prevent its doing harm, and the Opposition have been dodging about, to find a place of shelter so that when it does burst they will be out of harm's way. But they are not at all certain that they will be saved by their agility.

To drop the figure, it is easy to see that men of both parties regard the situation as serious and contemplate the future with uneasiness. As in all other trying times men of weak convictions and faint hearts are beginning to waver and are trying to find a place of safety before the crisis arrives. These men are not confined to one party. There are temporizers and trimmers and skeddaddlers on both sides. These men swell the numbers of a party when it is prosperous and when there is no issue before the country that tries men's souls, but in times of difficulty and danger they are a source of embarrassment and weakness. But we are glad to see that there are resolute men in the country who are not appalled by the appearance of danger, and it is to these men that the country must look to maintain peace and harmony among men of all creeds. The strong men on the Government side have marked out the course which they must pursue. They have not faltered, although they have met with many discouragements.

The Leader of the Opposition has been an example of the very worst kind to his followers. He has made a political football of the Manitoba school question. His object in dealing with it has not been to promote peace and harmony in the Dominion, but to dish the Conservatives. He has twisted and turned and dodged and resorted to all sorts of tricks to gain an advantage over his opponents; but he has not dishd the Conservatives, he has, if we do not very greatly mistake, gone a long way towards dishing himself. Declaring from the first that the question is not a political one, he has made it a political one in the lowest and worst sense. If the Manitoba school question is happily settled, as we sincerely hope it will be, it will not be owing to any exertion that Mr. Laurier has made to effect the settlement; and if it is kept open to cause religious dissension and ill-feeling in every province of the Dominion, Mr. Laurier should be held mainly responsible for that grievous and most deplorable result. He, when he could have acted the part of a peacemaker, deliberately made that question a party issue, declaring repeatedly that it was not his place as a party leader to stand in its settlement. This was not the stand that a patriotic man should take on a question which he was one of the first to declare was not political.

BETWEEN TWO ELEMENTS.

Fire and Water Claim Hundreds of Victims on the Chinese Troop-ship "Kungpai."

Her Boilers and Magazines Explode Almost Simultaneously With Appalling Consequences.

The R.M.S. Empress of China, which arrived in port Tuesday, brings news of a terrible disaster in Kinchow bay on the morning of the 18th of October, the powder magazine and boilers of the Chinese troop-ship Kungpai exploding almost simultaneously while she was on her way from Tientsin to Kinchow with 800 infantrymen, and fully 600 lives being lost. A hundred and fifty others were seriously wounded, and less than a score escaped scathless. The survivors are now in hospital at Kinchow, and residents of the coast cities are still in ignorance of details of the appalling fatality, as news always travels slowly in the Orient, and on the present occasion elaborate precautions appear to have been taken by the authorities to prevent the facts becoming known.

This is possibly because the Kungpai, while not an old vessel, was in notoriously bad repair, everyone connected with her having been in daily fear of her boilers going at almost any time. Less than six months ago all the engine room staff deserted on this account, and the owners for a considerable time have refrained from sending her to Hongkong, as they knew she would certainly be condemned if she touched there.

The ill-fated steamer went out to the China coast eight years ago as the Wyoliffe, and was shortly after purchased by Captain Boswell, formerly of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Co., who ran her for a time under the British flag. Later she was sold to the Chinese Merchants' Company, and under her old name had an eventful career during the late war. She was a vessel of 1,046 tons (gross) and fifteen years old, from the yards of Ramsgate & Ferguson, of South.

The steamer Irene, which was sent from Taku to investigate as soon as word of the disaster reached there, ascertained that the Kungpai's boilers gave signs of collapse on the morning of the 14th of October, but her captain decided to pass on with his troops and repair after landing them at Kinchow. Four days later the starboard boiler exploded, killing three of the stokers and the second engineer and setting the ship on fire. Despite the desperate efforts made to check their progress, the flames advanced steadily until they reached the forward powder magazine and exploded it. In desperation those of the crew and the soldiers who escaped fled to the deck, where they were killed, there had been but little powder on the magazine, the greater portion of the contents having been tossed over the side when the boiler went, and there was still a little holed.

The fire continued to gain, however, and twenty minutes later the after magazine followed, sending portions of the deck and housework, mutilated bodies, and a column of smoke and flame high in the early morning air. The Captain, Richard Soden, and his Chief Officer, A. F. Lunford, were wounded by the first of the powder explosions and were laid in one of the lifeboats to be taken ashore as soon as possible. When, however, the second explosion occurred, the soldiers rushed on the boats in such numbers that the davits broke and the only means of escape was, with the wounded men, swept into the sea.

Fortunately the hull of the steamer sank in shallow water and the survivors—one foreigner of the eighteen aboard and 200 wounded soldiers—sat on the wreck for several hours before the shore could reach them. Their condition was truly pitiable for not one of the party had escaped terrible scalds and burns, and more than fifty died before the hospital was reached.

At last reports after the portion of the wrecked steamer as far as the mainmast was still intact, the forward part of the vessel having been blown to pieces. At high water the after part is under water and at low tide the upper deck shows through. The accident is spoken of as the worst that has ever happened on the coast, including even that of the Kowloon, on the 24th of April last, when a British ship had bad luck to collide in another way, and clearly knew what was all but certain to happen to them.

THE PRISONERS OF PIRATES.

M. Paul Lyandot, who with his wife and little child was captured by pirates at Kebo in Tongking on the 24th of April last and released to the French authorities on October 8, is once more with his English and French friends at Hainan, according to advices brought by the just arrived Empress of China. The unfortunate party underwent frightful hardships—fortunately most uncommon in this end of the century—and their heroic and patient endurance contributed no doubt very largely to the success of the French authorities in the emergency. It was on this occasion they have taken which on this occasion they have taken.

From the date of their seizure M. and Mme. Lyandot and their child were kept on the march through jungle and mountain passes that all but defied progress, until they reached Chinese territory. There on May 3 M. Lyandot was ordered to write a letter to the manager of the Kebo Coal Mining Co., demanding a ransom of \$1,000,000—which sum was, however, reduced a little later to \$600,000. Between May 1 and July 15, their camp was changed fifty-six times, and on July 16 they re-crossed the frontier and reached the fastness of Panai.

The French authorities had in the meanwhile determined that there must be no more temporizing with the outlaws, and when the pirates arrived in Panai, which they regarded as impregnable, the French troops of the island, the bold leaders, began to whistle and shriek in the vicinity of the captives who until the 31st were kept confined in the camp, exposed to danger of death from the fire of the enemy's guns as well as from the anger of the pirates. On the 31st the bold leaders, apparently realizing the folly of exposing them to risks, took them again across the Chinese frontier.

tended to separate her from her husband. They were then taken down to the sea coast, and after three weeks more of misery were at length handed over to a Chinese mandarin and his son, who it is believed to have been directed by the Chinese government to pay \$8,000 ransom and secure their release. In any event the release was required, and as speedily as possible they were returned to the French authorities.

NEWS OF THE ORIENT.

The North China Daily News of October 5 contains particulars of the terrible collision accident which occurred about a month ago at Makiesan, some sixty miles from Hankow, and in which some sixty lives were lost. The mine is one of Chang Chih-tung's enterprises and has not been long opened. The coal from it is used for the manufacture of coke to be employed in certain iron smelting works. In consequence of the accident the smelting furnace which has just been started will have to be blown down again. There is little doubt that the explosion is due to the Chinese authorities not acting upon the advice of the foreign experts they had employed. The mine is worked by shaft of moderate depth. The foreign overseers advised the establishment of a proper system of ventilation by means of a fan, or else of fire at the bottom of a ventilating shaft, but instead of this an antiquated plan of pumping air in from bellows was employed. Altogether some 200 men were employed in and about the mine, and at the time of the explosion some 60 men were in the workings, of whom all are presumed to have perished by the explosion of fire-damp. The occurrence has created considerable excitement, but as it happened in connection with the mine of the island, he issued a notification to the commanders of the various army corps and civil and military officials, reminding them that they should be more careful in preventing the Japanese from acquiring the pernicious habit. At the same time he published a proclamation of his determination to punish with death any native of the island caught furnishing opium, or apparatus for smoking it, to a Japanese.

The cold weather that has prevailed during the past week appears to have practically stamped out the cholera," says the Yokohama Advertiser, of October 23. Only 49 cases were reported on Sunday. A rapid and steady increase in cases was noted on the 20th and 21st.

Fire broke out at Hakodate at 3 o'clock on the morning of the 22nd instant, and 230 houses were reduced to ashes. The utmost confusion prevailed, and the loss of life has not yet been ascertained.

WINNIPEG WIRINGS.

WINNIPEG, Nov. 19.—(Special)—Sentences were delivered at the Winnipeg assizes to-day, the criminal docket having been concluded. Farr, convicted of attempted murder and arson, was sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary, the Chief Justice refusing an application for a new trial. Farr, before the court gave sentence, declared that he was being sentenced for a crime of which he was not guilty. The other sentences were delivered as follows: Mrs. O'Reilly, libel, four months; Percy Walwyn, forgery, six months; Daniel Shields, robbery, three months; J. Langevin, larceny, three months; A. Hanault, rape, eight months and fifteen lashes; M. Egan, larceny, three months; M. Ayot, incest, two years.

Henry Thompson, of Moosemin, has been committed for trial on a charge of aiding and abetting the suicide of his sister, with whom he had criminal relations. Mrs. Mary Smith, sister of the deceased girl, has been arrested on a charge of murder; Samuel Thompson, another brother of the deceased, is accused of perjury, and Charles Albert Thompson is held for aiding and abetting a suicide.

THE LUMBER TRUST.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 20.—The details of the final organization of the great lumber trust of the Coast have become public property. The trust is the largest and most formidable ever organized on the Pacific coast, and in capital one of the largest on the continent. It includes every wholesale dealer and mill of importance, and on the first of the year will advance prices to suit the situation of the market. D. H. Bibb and E. J. Holt, who were sent forth to invite the leading manufacturers of the Northwest and British Columbia to join the trust, have returned, satisfied with their success. One of the first great firms to join the combination was the Oregon Pine Lumber Company, of Oregon. The Pacific Empire Lumber Company, formerly known as the Harris mill, of Gray's Harbor, was the next to sign the agreement. Then all the other important mills were whipped into line. They include the following: The St. Paul and Tacoma Lumber Company, the Sitka Mill Company, of Seattle, and the Hastings mill, British Columbia. Many others have joined the combine.

THE TURKISH QUESTION.

VIENNA, Nov. 19.—Commenting on the refusal of Russia (announced in a dispatch from Rome to the London Times) to agree to the proposals of Austria for the settlement of the Turkish question, the semi-official Fremdenblatt declares that Russia assents to the Austrian proposals in the main; but objects to the provision empowering the embassies at Constantinople to adopt such temporary measures as they see fit in case of momentary danger. Russia contends that they should not be invested with such extensive powers; but that any measures taken by the embassies should be preceded by an understanding between the different cabinets interested.

Honest Help.

Thousands of men are suffering because they lack the courage to make known their early errors and to endeavor to remedy them. Nervous weakness, loss of manhood and the many ills due to early indiscretions, become or are becoming, if not quickly and successfully remedied, if you will only let the right people know what ails you. Write to me in confidence and I will tell you, free of charge, how to get cured. I have nothing to sell, but am desirous of honestly helping you. Perfect secrecy assured. Describe your case and address with stamp—L. A. Edwards, P.O. Box 55 Jarvis, Ont.

Norway Pine Syrup cures coughs, colds, croup, whooping cough, influenza, and all the lung troubles. Norway Pine Syrup helps the lungs.

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE.

Vancouver's Street Lighting Arrangements Not Yet Completed—Church of England Synod.

Serious Accident—Mining at Gabriola Island—What is Doing in the Interior.

(Special to the Colonist.)

VANCOUVER, Nov. 20.—The city council after adjourning on Tuesday morning sat again at 7:30 and continued until nearly one o'clock on Wednesday morning, discussing the lighting of the city. When the agreement with the Western Electric Co. had been accepted clause by clause with the exception of one or two clauses, Mr. G. De Wolf asked permission to address the council. He then made an offer to light the city for 25 cents for the present number of lights, a cent and a half in excess of the Western Electric Co., and presented a check for \$1,000 as a token of good faith. Mr. De Wolf's proposition will be considered at the next regular meeting.

The audience in the opera house last night on the occasion of the Triby performance was the most enthusiastic of the season. The Countess of Aberdeen presided at a meeting of the executive of the Council of Women at the Hotel Vancouver last night. In Vancouver the bodies of those who have met their death by accident or violence have in the past been on exhibition at the undertakers' instead of at the morgue. An attempt is being made to have the authorities instruct that all such bodies be sent to the morgue. It is said that children of tender years are frequently seen viewing partially decomposed remains.

WESTMINSTER. WESTMINSTER, Nov. 20.—Mr. J. Wintemute, of Wintemute Bros., was struck violently on the head by a piece of flying timber yesterday. He was rendered unconscious and is still in a critical condition.

The synod of the Church of England, diocese of New Westminster, was opened at Holy Trinity Cathedral this morning. At 10 o'clock the office for the enthronement of the Lord Bishop was performed, Rev. C. Coucher of Yale, the senior priest of the diocese, officiating. Choral holy communion followed, the Bishop being both preacher and celebrant. At the close of the sacrament, the office for the opening of the synod was read, and after the rolls had been called and the minutes read the Bishop delivered his first pastoral address.

The gold excitement has been making itself felt for some time in the Spallumcheen and Okanagan valleys, some thirty claims being entered last month. The prospects are numerous in the hills, and specimens are being assayed. The evidences of the presence of the precious metal are encouraging in a wide range of country, where it was formerly thought there was none.

The English capitalists who contemplate erecting a large salmon cannery and freezer in or near the city, propose entering extensively into the export of fresh frozen salmon, and will erect buildings which will cover the better part of an acre of ground, if a suitable site can be obtained at a reasonable price. It is understood that a local company is likely to be formed to erect a salmon cannery within the city limits. The enterprise is likely to take form soon.

NANAIMO.

NANAIMO, Nov. 20.—The Rapid Transit discharged 125 tons of oats at Johnston's wharf on Sunday. Among other freight from the American side were four large crates of turkeys.

Michael McFarlane, who was recently hurt by a fall of hot coal in his stall in No. 1 shaft, East Wellington, has been removed to the Nanaimo hospital. He is in a critical condition, being paralyzed on both sides from his hips down.

An Indian was brought from Alberni to be tried at the assizes next week on a charge of seriously wounding another Indian named William on the reserve.

The machinery from Mayne island has been safely transferred to Gabriola island. Camp has been prepared and boring operations were commenced yesterday. The company has issued its prospectus.

D. Wilson, inspector of schools, is holding an examination of those children who failed in one subject only at the summer examinations for the high school.

LANGLEY. LANGLEY, Nov. 16.—Mrs. Carmen died on the 13th inst., in the 68th year of her age, at the residence of her son, Silveo Carmen, near here, after a long and painful illness. Her interment took place on the 14th inst. in the Presbyterian graveyard.

Lately there has been a good downfall of rain, which has renewed the supply of water in the wells that had been dry for several months. Business is improving and farmers are active in threshing and removing their grain and produce to market.

REVELSTOCK.

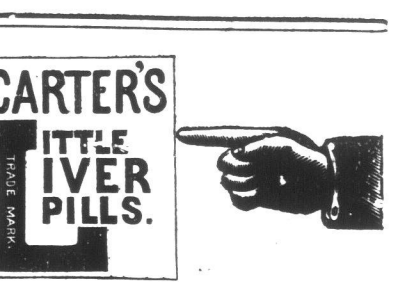
(From the Kootenay Mail.) The asbestos find at Trout Lake has attracted considerable attention. The discovery was made too late in the season to permit of work being done on it this year, but the owners, Abrahamson Bros., intend opening it up as soon as possible next year, when a trial shipment will be made.

E. L. Kilmann, of the American, returned to Trout lake this week. The ore from the American will have to be transported about 36 miles before it can be placed on the cars at Arrowhead. This will be rather expensive, but the owners have figured out sufficient profit to induce them to ship ore as soon as rwhiding can be commenced.

NELSON.

(From the Tribunes.) The amount of ore shipped from smelters and mines in South Kootenay since last week amounted to 1,088 tons, valued at \$68,400.

John J. Noble and William G. Robb have bonded their group of claims on White Grouse mountains, near the St. Mary's, to W. R. Ramsdell, of Butte, Montana, for \$12,000.



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big mine. The management expect to ship 25 tons a day regularly from this time on. All indications are that Rosland will be such another town as was Virginia City, Nevada, and Leadville, Colorado, and such as is Idaho, Montana, &c. The population will be largely made up of men who work in the mines. Within two miles of Rosland are mines that will employ 5,000 miners within three years and 5,000 miners means a population of 20,000.

THE CITY MARKETS.

An Unsuccessful Scheme to Keep Turkeys at Boom Prices—Advances in Flour.

Groceries and provision stores have already begun to make preliminary preparations for the holiday season, and from present indications these will be on a larger scale than in any former year. That the season is close at hand is indicated by the way poultry are coming into the market. Turkeys are being brought from the Fraser river and from Seattle, principally from the latter place, and are retailing at from 22 to 25 cents per pound. An endeavor was made between local merchants to effect a combine to fix a standard price, but this proved futile owing to over-competition and also an unwillingness, it is said, on the part of some to enter into any agreement. An important feature of the past week's trade is the sudden advances in flour. The first rise was 10 cents per barrel, but this soon increased to 20 cents, and judging from wheat prospects it is very probable that there will be a still further advance. The meat and fish markets are conspicuously well supplied, but quotations are steady. The fruit market is also unchanged. Current retail quotations:

Table listing various commodities and their prices, including flour, wheat, corn, and other goods.

TORONTO, Nov. 19.—Mrs. Elizabeth Mansfield, aged 80, was yesterday found dead on the floor of her residence. Deceased lived alone.