

SEALERS TO BE PAID

The Commission Awards Them the Sum of \$294,181.91.

INTEREST AT 7 PER CENT

Prospective Damage Claims Were Scaled Down or Else Rejected Entirely - London Times Expresses Satisfaction at the Award.

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 23.-The government today received official notification of the unanimous award of the Behring sea seizure commissioners. The amount is \$464,000, which includes everything except the cases of the masters of the Ada and the Black Diamond, which are reserved for the present, but which are conditionally assessed at \$1,000 and \$5,000 respectively.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 23.-The controversy has occupied the attention of the authorities here and in London for 18 years. At the outset the tone of the controversy was very belligerent, suggesting a possible resort to arms. This was followed later by the United States cutter Corwin setting the British steamer Caroline and Thornton on August 1, 1886. The facts of the seizure were not known until some time later, and in the mean time the Corwin had taken the Onward and Favourite. The same policies of seizure and confiscation continued during the next sealing seasons despite the protests of Great Britain, the United States cutter Richard Rush taking the Sayward, Grace, Anna Beck, Dolphin, Fred Adams, Triumph and Junitta, Pathfinder, Black Diamond, Lily, Ariel, Kate and Minnie, while the United States revenue cutter Bear took the Ada. The claims for these seizures took a wide range, beginning with value of vessels and outfits and including not only the seal skins confiscated, but also the value of skins which might have been taken if the vessels had not been seized. The last feature of the prospective damage caused the main contention. In the case of each British ship the largest item of the claim was for estimated future catch. For instance, in the case of the Caroline, the claim for the ship was only \$4,000, while that for skins which might have been taken that year if she had not been seized, was \$16,967. Each ship estimated a prospective catch of from 3,500 to 5,000 tons, the value being from \$3.50 per skin in 1887 to \$12.25 in 1889. The total of the claims, without interest at 7 per cent, and other claims, reached \$786,166.

The Official Statement. WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 23.-The official statement of the judgment rendered by the commissioners is contained in the following announcement given out at the state department yesterday afternoon: The award of the Behring sea claims commission has been filed in the department of state. The claims as presented by the British government to the commission aggregated with interest \$786,166. This included, under the claims treaty, several cases not embraced in the settlement proposed by Secretary Gresham. The award now made amounts to \$294,181.91, to which is to be added interest, which will increase the total about 50 per cent. The award is final and disposes of all cases before it. The payment under the treaty must be made within six months. The department officials will proceed at once to prepare a bill in the form of an amendment to one of the regular appropriation bills for submission to congress, covering the necessary appropriation to pay the judgments, for, being bound by the treaty, not only to pay any judgments rendered but to pay them promptly, the government is in honor bound to take the remaining steps towards a settlement in short order. There appears to be little doubt that the United States carried its point on the main question involved, viz: as to right of prospective damages for seal skins which might have been taken if the vessels had not been seized. The British claim included the estimated profits, which in the aggregate run the claim up to a high figure. In view of the small amount of the actual award without interest, these large prospective damages evidently are scaled down to an insignificant amount or rejected entirely. While the department officials will make no definite announcements to this effect, intimations are given that the smallness of the award precludes the possibility of any allegation having been made on account of prospective damages. The Alabama committee established, the precedent that remote damages could not be included in a claim, and the present award is evidently made on the same line.

General John W. Foster, who is now in charge of the Behring sea affairs, said tonight, as to the award, that he was not surprised at the result. President Cleveland having officially declared that \$435,000 was a just and equitable sum in settlement, and, therefore, having appointed as the American commissioner to adjudicate the claims his close personal and political friend, it could hardly be expected that the latter would strenuously contend for an award of a less amount. Mr. Foster was absent from the country in Japan when congress took action on President Cleveland's recommendation, but he regarded the commission as the proper method of reaching a settlement, and the only one which would satisfy the country. Notwithstanding that the seizures which gave rise to the award were initiated under a Democratic administration, President McKinley will doubtless unhesitatingly recommend to congress to provide for the payment, and he hoped and felt sure that congress would promptly make the necessary appropriation to discharge the treaty obligation, and as the Canadian receive interest up to date on their deferred claims, the result should be adopted on both sides in good spirit.

VICTORIA, Dec. 23.-Sealing men here express disappointment that the international arbitrators have awarded only \$464,000 on the claims submitted here, unless it is to carry interest or the government is to pay in addition the legal costs of the sealers in presenting their claims, which were considerable.

The London Times Is Satisfied. LONDON, Dec. 24.-The Times in an editorial this morning expresses satisfaction

which anticipates congress will not object to a like occasion to protest against the "loose insinuations of bad faith on the part of the United States government which have been thoughtlessly and unjustifiably made in England." It points out that there should not be a question of bad faith because no agreement had hitherto been arrived at as to the amount of the compensation. Dealing with the general aspect of the sealing question, the editor continues: "The American company must either make fair and businesslike proposals or the present conditions of seal fishing must continue. They are not after all so utterly destructive of the fur seals, as the interested persons represent them to be."

LE ROI DEAL HANGS FIRE. The B. A. C. Is Unwilling to Pay £1,000,000 For It. LONDON, Dec. 23.-The affairs of the newly issued British America corporation, of which Lord Dufferin is chairman, are widely discussed. It seems certain that the Le Roi mine has not been sold, as the public inferred. The corporation is still negotiating for its purchase, but is unwilling to pay anything like the £1,000,000 in cash, which the proprietors of the mine ask.

The Facts Wanted. BALTIMORE, Md., Dec. 23.-Albert Moet, chairman of the L. A. W. racing board, has issued a special bulletin regarding the six day race recently held at Madison Square Garden. A leaving race will be held at the Grand Union hotel, New York, Dec. 25. The bulletin concludes as follows: "All persons who have any evidence of facts, which they know of their own knowledge are appealed to be present and give them to the board. The investigation has been proceeding for some time and much documentary evidence is in possession of the members and the chairman, and the identity of all who are concerned is believed to be known. It would, therefore, be best for the interests of those concerned that they should attend and testify."

Increase in Traffic. SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich., Dec. 23.-The year 1897 shows an increase over all previous years of nearly 2,000,000 tons in freight traffic through the United States and Canada Sault Ste. Marie canal. 13,215,400 tons being carried through this year. The number of vessel passages this year shows a decrease of 1,447 from last year, but there was an increase in registered tonnage of 370,500 tons, indicating a decided increase in the size of the lake vessels.

Forts to Be Demolished. PARIS, Dec. 23.-The initial step has been taken in the long-projected demolition of the fortifications of the city. General Billot, minister of war, has introduced in the chamber of deputies a bill providing for the razing of a part of the forts on the west side of the city and for selling the sites. It is estimated that the land will realize 150,000,000 francs, 80,000,000 francs of which will be devoted to the construction of a short rampart further out. The remainder of the proceeds will be expended on artillery.

A Sunday School Teacher in Trouble. NEW YORK, Dec. 23.-Wm. H. Kent, a well known man of Brooklyn and prominent in Sunday school and the organizer of the penny savings bank connected with the Bethel mission Sunday school, a branch of the Plymouth church, is in jail in Brooklyn, having been arrested on a warrant charging him with forgeries. Assistant District Attorney Caldwell stated that Kent had taken no less than \$40,000 from his clients.

Hopes for Mrs. Booth. NEW YORK, Dec. 23.-Commander Booth has published the following bulletin, issued by the doctors at the Presbyterian hospital, regarding his wife's condition this afternoon: "Mrs. Booth passed a somewhat quieter night, and responded well to the treatment. Mrs. Booth's splendid constitution is much in her favor, and therefore her physicians hope to insure a restoration. Her condition continues to be serious."

A Bank Closes Its Doors. PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 23.-The Chestnut Street National bank, of which Wm. Singery, owner of the Philadelphia Record, is president, did not open its doors for business this morning. The reason therefor was stated in a notice posted on the door, which read as follows: "The Chestnut Street National bank is closed for business, and is in the hands of the national bank examiner."

Is Strong in His Beliefs. LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 23.-Rev. M. H. Houston, who was tried and convicted of heresy, appeared before the Louisville presbytery this morning and declined to receive the censures and admonition that had been prepared for him, and said that before he would give up his beliefs, he would give up his calling. Final action was postponed until the spring meeting of the presbytery.

An Unfounded Rumor. LONDON, Dec. 23.-Lord Salisbury, in reply to an inquiry in Manchester, has written that he has not heard the report that the Duke of Norfolk, the postmaster-general, has approached him with the view of obtaining the admission of Cardinal Vaughan to the house of lords. Lord Salisbury adds that the report is absolutely unfounded.

London Chronicle Hoaxed. LONDON, Dec. 23.-The Tablet, the leading Catholic journal of England, wants to know who has hoaxed the London Daily Chronicle in Catholic affairs, when the latter is induced to gravely give the public what purported to be the terms of the papal brief on the Manitoba school question to the London public.

An Explorer Dead. BERLIN, Dec. 23.-The National Zeitung announces that Wilhelm Joest, the explorer, died recently in Australia.

A Venerable Priest Dead. BELLEVILLE, Ont., Dec. 23.-The Rev. Michael Makie, one of the oldest Catholic priests in the archdiocese of Kingston, is dead.

Will Meet February 3. TORONTO, Ont., Dec. 23.-The Globe announced definitely that parliament will meet February 3.

DIVISION OF CHINA

Each of the Big Powers Wants a Slice of Territory.

MONGOLIANS HELPLESS

Press Is Deeply Interested in the Attitude of Great Britain and the United States in the Matter of the Chinese Affair.

LONDON, Dec. 23.-A dispatch to the Daily Chronicle from Rome says it is rumored there that owing to her obligations to Germany, Italy has declined England's proposal for common action in the far east, including a joint occupation of Chusan. It is also asserted that England has proposed to Russia a conference on the Chinese question, with a view of avoiding dangerous rivalry.

The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Mail says: "The Chinese government is helpless. It is mobilizing a few troops under the least capable generals, who conducted the campaign against Japan. The British fleet at present is at sea."

The Daily Chronicle says this morning it has good reason to believe that the Chinese government has decided upon a watching policy and will refrain from occupying any Chinese territory, but it will give its moral support to Japan and distinct warnings to China concerning England's action in certain contingencies. It is understood, says the Daily Chronicle, that Japan will protest in the strongest manner against Germany's action, while diplomatic circles in Berlin are of a Russo-German entente concerning China.

BERLIN, Dec. 23.-The press is evidently deeply interested as to the attitude Great Britain and the United States are likely to adopt in the Chinese affair. Every attempt is being made to create ill-feeling against England and to represent her as isolated. The official newspapers pretend that Japan has acquiesced in the German and Russian moves and will take no aggressive action. Everything indicates the anxiety that hinges upon the ultimate grouping of the powers. Japan's action in withdrawing her protest with reference to the course of the United States at Hawaii is interpreted as showing a desire to be unopposed and to have her hands free to deal with the Chinese question.

The Berliner Tageblatt ridicules the idea of an Anglo-Japanese-American alliance, and seems to fear the Kaiser's edict which thinks America will side with Russia, leaving England in splendid isolation.

The National Zeitung says it is easy to believe that England would not believe that Japan would be the ally of the United States, but cannot believe that the United States would adopt a policy of friendship toward England and of hostility toward Russia. It is not surprising, therefore, for the sake either of England or China.

A Contest for Possession. TRAIL, Dec. 23.-[Special.]—There was a lively contest today here between John J. McKane and Deputy Sheriff J. H. Robinson for the possession of the Kootenay Brewing company's plant. About three weeks ago, in the winding up of the company's affairs, Judge Forin appointed Mr. McKane provisional liquidator, and he was in possession of the plant until yesterday when Mr. Robinson, at the behest of the Bank of Montreal, to which the company owed some \$30,000, tried to secure possession of the brewery. He succeeded in padlocking the plant and in forcing Mr. McKane to unshant, when Mr. McKane, with the aid of a crowbar, forced the locks and regained his occupancy of the brewery.

Major Walsh Heard From. OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 23.-A letter has been received by the minister of the interior from Major Walsh. It is dated November 12. Major Walsh was then camped on the Sams river, on his way to Fort Selkirk. He confirms the report of the drowning of Freeman and the loss of part of his provisions. There was a party going along with Walsh in two boats, but they were not attached to the government party. Freeman was one of the party. Two boats got into an ice jam on the river and were smashed. Freeman was drowned. Some of Walsh's provisions were in this party's boat. They lost everything, and Walsh took along with him three men and is feeding them. Walsh has got provisions for three months. He sent no word back for more.

A New Klondike Strike. VICTORIA, Dec. 23.-The City of Seattle arrived this afternoon. D. P. Quinn of Seattle, one of the passengers, reported having left Dawson City on Nov. 1, by which time most of those without a season's supply of provisions had left for Fort Yukon or other points nearer the coast, where food is obtainable. He reports a rich strike on Quartz creek on the other side of the mountain forming the water shed for Bonanza creek. It promises to be as rich as Bonanza itself, and it is now staked from end to end.

No Appointment Yet. OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 23.-A minister of the crown, speaking of the appointment of the lieutenant-governor of Quebec, said this morning: "The papers are full of speculation in this matter. You can say, authoritatively and definitely, that no appointment has yet been made, and the government has not yet come to any conclusion as to who shall be the next incumbent, when Hon. Mr. Chapleau steps out."

Around the World Excursion. MONTREAL, Que., Dec. 23.-The Canadian Pacific will run an around the world excursion in their steamers bought at Glasgow for Yukon service. The steamers will leave England for Australia and from thence to the Pacific coast.

Dr. Shaw Nominated. PETERBORO, Ont., Dec. 23.-Dr. Shaw, of Keene, has been nominated by the Conservatives as candidate for the assembly for East Peterboro.

CONCENTRATORS,

ROLLS, CRUSHERS,

MANNERS

General Mining Machinery and Supplies

Jenckes Machine Comp'y.

F. R. MENDENHALL,

THE C. P. R. IS MORE PROMPT.

The C. P. R. is now delivering freight, its agents claim, in much shorter time than formerly. In support of this contention they point with pride to a car of canned goods that came through from Pictou, Ont., to Rossland in 12 days. Under the new arrangement it is not necessary to break bulk. From the time the goods leave the east until they arrive at Robson. The cars follow the tracks of the C. P. R. from the east to Arrowhead. There they are put aboard barges, which are towed down the Bulkley lake to Nakup. At Nakup the cars are put on the tracks and taken to Rosebery on Slokan lake. At Rosebery they are placed on barges and towed over Slokan lake to Slokan City. From the latter point they go over the railway from Slokan to Robson, where bulk is to be broken. It would not be necessary to do this until the cars arrived at Trail, as they could be put on the tracks of the Columbia & Western railway and taken to Trail, but the ferry at Robson is not fitted for the transportation of cars. As it is, the bulk has to be broken. Formerly it was necessary to break bulk every time between the east and Rossland, and this occasioned a great deal of delay. This was particularly the case with machinery and other heavy goods. Under the new arrangement it is claimed that goods coming from the east, consigned to this city, can be delivered in from three days to a week quicker than was formerly the case.

Back From Vancouver. Dr. H. B. Findley is back from a visit to Vancouver, where he has been for the past eight days on a visit. Vancouver is receiving the full benefit of the Klondike craze, and there are nearly 5,000 men congregated there who intend to take advantage of the first opportunity to get into the new gold fields. Nearly all of these have money with which to purchase outfits and to pay their expenses in order to get into the gold fields. As they have some time on their hands before they can make the start, they are willing to work for whatever they can get, and this makes it hard for the residents to compete with them. Their presence, however, is a benefit to the merchants, the hotels, restaurant keepers and lodging house keepers of the place. The Klondikers crowd the streets and keep the merchants busy buying outfits from them. Dr. Findley says he did not visit Vancouver before for two years, and he was much surprised at the growth of the city in that period. There were many large buildings and the timber had been cleared out considerably. Vancouver, he thinks, is destined to be the most populous city in British Columbia.

Want Reduction in Postage. TORONTO, Ont., Dec. 24.-A deputation of leading business men, consisting of local members of parliament and aldermen, waited on Postmaster-General Mulock this morning, and urged that the rate on drop letters in the city be reduced from two cents to one cent, as formerly. It was urged that Toronto gives a large postal surplus, but it could not go into effect as soon as had been hoped. The imperial authorities had proposed a conference, which he hoped would result in a general inter-imperial preferential rate.

Wilkinson Succeeds Leach. TORONTO, Dec. 27.-Lieut.-Col. Wilkinson has been appointed to succeed Col. Leach in the command of the Royal Engineers in Canada.

THE SURGEON FOILED. Wanted to Perform an Operation. DR. CHASE'S KIDNEY-LIVER PILLS RENDERED IT UNNECESSARY.

Too many doctors are too ready to use the knife. Many a one is sacrificed on the altar of a surgeon's ambition to operate who could be saved by the use of Dr. Chase's K-L Pills. The case of Mrs. W. B. ALLEN, of Zephyr, Ont., is one in point. Her husband says that she had been doctoring with several doctors for inflammation of the bladder for over a year.

"The last bottle I got from the doctor he said if that did her no good she would be compelled to have an operation performed. I got up a sample of Dr. Chase's K-L Pills in Mr. Dufour's store, and my wife took one pill that night and one in the morning, and she has never felt the least sign of pain since. I will always keep Dr. Chase's Pills in my house for all our family complaints."

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Mfgs. of "Ready-to-Wear" Clothing.

Has Taken Charge of the O. K. Richard Plewman, official liquidator for the property of the O. K. Gold Mining company, Limited, has fully taken charge of the assets of the company. The property consists of the O. K. mine, located on the south slope of Spokane mountain, 2 1/2 miles west of Rossland. There is a plant that cost some \$20,000. It consists of a 10-stamp mill and a compressor which operates four slusher drills. As soon as the liquidator receives the books of the company which are to be forwarded from Spokane—he will begin to make up a statement so that the liabilities of the company may be correctly ascertained. Two men have been placed in charge of the property, so that the insurance carried on the plant may not be vitiated.

An Embellisher Indicted. CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 27.—The grand jury this afternoon signed the indictment against Charles M. Charney, treasurer of the Presbyterian board of aid for colleges and academies. The bill accuses Charney of the embezzlement of \$80,000 of the funds of the board.

THE BOUNDARY RAILWAY.

No matter how bitterly and indignantly the disgruntled Opposition may rail against the Turner administration, there is no denying the fact that the railway legislation affecting Southern British Columbia, introduced at the session of the Assembly, was one of the wisest enactments that could have been made. It offered an opportunity for the development of one of the richest mineral regions in Canada otherwise would have remained practically valueless for an indefinite time. It is highly satisfactory to know that the pledge of the Provincial legislation grant \$4,000 per mile to anyone who would first to provide the British Columbia with a railway service fruit immediately. The grant in itself was not sufficient to induce even most enterprising to build the road it indicated to the present Dominion government, which, on assuming office, had determined on a vigorous policy, that the territory between the Columbia river and Okanagan lake was certainly of Federal aid. With the most able promptitude, the authorities of Ottawa immediately commenced to investigate the matter. Hon. W. A. Mealy, minister of railways and canals, west and made a most searching inquiry, returning to the Capital with firm conviction that the region in question was deserving of all aid that the Dominion government could afford.

AT THE LAST SESSION OF PARLIAMENT LIBERAL PARTY DECIDED THAT TO GET BOUNDARY COUNTRY AN EFFICIENT WAY SERVICE NOTHING SHORT OF A RAIL FROM THE COLUMBIA RIVER TO OKANAGAN LAKE WOULD BE SUFFICIENT, AND THE PLAN WAS PREPARED TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION THAT WOULD BE THE MEANS SUBSIDIZING THE PROJECT TO THE EFFECT OF \$8,000 PER MILE. IN THIS THE REVEREND OF THE CONSERVATIVE OPPOSED HEARTILY CONCURRED.

Two corporations held prospecting charters for the construction of a railway through the district. One was the Columbia & Western Railway company, a going concern and the chief factor in the development of Trail Creek district. At its head was F. A. Heinze, one of the most enterprising men on the American continent and with almost an unlimited amount of money behind him. The other was the Vancouver, Victoria & Eastern Railway company, a collection composed of discredited politicians and men without large capital means to obtain it, and who had no record for enterprise or public utility. This company has never constructed a foot of railway and has thus far failed to show that it is financially capable of doing it. It is a paper company, a mere charter, which has been hatched about and offered for sale. In so doing these condemnatory features, arrangements were recently completed by D. D. Mann, the C. P. R. agent, was placed in control of the company, and consequently, the company.

The V. V. & E. people are solely responsible for the absence of a rail to the Boundary country today. By their chicanery and obstructive methods, British Columbia would be enjoying the benefits of the extension of \$8,000 for every mile of the road from Robson to Penticon. At worst of it is that their blood methods continue as a curse on the prosperity of Southern British Columbia. The information from Victoria effect that Mr. Mann is endeavoring to secure a portion of the \$4,000 subsidy, in order to again block the Columbia & Western, shows plain that they are at their old tricks again, however, fairly safe to presume this time the administration at Victoria will not be hoodwinked by the tricks of D. D. Mann, or any other representing either the V. V. & E. or the C. P. R.

MUNICIPAL CANDIDATES

Up to the present H. S. Wallace only candidate who has announced he will run for the office of mayor of Rossland. If there are to be other aspirants for this office, and for alderman, it is high time that they should know who they are, as the election will take place on the 13th of January. The municipal offices to be filled are of great importance, when it is taken that many questions will be considered and decided upon by the incumbency of the incoming government, and it is but justice to voters that they should be acquainted with the candidates they vote for them. It is possible where a candidate delays announcing his ambition to think that he does not desire his career and record too closely scrutinized, for the son that these may be blessed in both that would prevent him receiving enough support at the polls to secure his election. The great in that the city has a state demand the people should thoroughly know man who comes before them for the shape of ballots. No man can clean record and an established reputation should fear to come out openly and boldly announce his day, whether he aspires to the mayoralty. If his character is only only stand out the more when subjected to the keen eye of the public eye. If, on the other hand, a candidate has a shady record