

THE PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

Report of the Select Committee Appointed by the Provincial Legislature.

Facts in regard to the Contracts and the Delays in the Work.

The report of the select committee on the new parliament buildings, presented to the legislature yesterday is as follows:

Mr. Speaker: Your select committee on the new parliament buildings beg to submit this, their second report. Your committee held ten sittings, and examined under oath the following witnesses: W. S. Gore, F. Adams, E. M. Rattenbury, Pabex Spittlehouse, E. C. Howell, T. Lubbe, A. Paterson and R. Drake.

The contract for the stone and brick work was awarded to F. Adams for the sum of \$380,000. Mr. J. C. Prevost, mayor of the city of Victoria, is a partner of Mr. Adams, and has a half interest in the said contract (page 6 of the evidence).

The deductions were made up as follows: Marble, and fixing same, \$36,948 69; Reduction of about 8 cents on the foot for stone, 10,000 00; Reduction by bond being dispensed with, 15,000 00; Reduction for extension of time, 3,000 00; Reduction in labor sheet (see page 6) of specifications, 1,164 50; Reductions to be determined, 8,935 12.

All tenders were accompanied by a certified cheque for an amount equal to two per cent. of the amount of the tender, and the persons getting the contract were to give bonds, with sufficient securities for the due completion of the contract, in a sum equal to fifteen per cent. of the contract price.

On Saturday, Feb. 11, the steamer sailed from Liverpool for Saturday, is delayed here by the non-arrival of the snow blockade on the strand.

On Saturday, Feb. 11, an inquest was held on the body of a woman who had been supposed to have been the wife of the late Mr. Elbe.

The legislature passes a Bill last week. The most important bill is the Rogers bill, governing the house last session section two of the subject, and aims at the lives and health of the miners, as the last three years, at least loss of life and promising accidents, have been law to be made.

On Saturday, Feb. 11, Russia is invited to take on states international exhibition, a large cotton growing in Turkistan, and a commission to the Indian methods. All the country have been invited, and favorable responses from several legislatures. The space have been received in nearly every country.

On Saturday, Feb. 11, a good entertainment at the parlors, 63 Government street, was given by Bishop Criddle. The program was for young women. There is a number of magazines, office, tea and cocoa will be served from 1.30 to 2.30. Working out can eat here. The rooms will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and all will be welcomed. There membership of over one hundred of departments for the promotion of social and other work. The society are: President, Mrs. Russell; secretary, Miss Carr; and Miss Carr.

It is impossible for your committee to arrive at any conclusions as to the amount already allowed for extras, or what is likely to be required therefor. The evidence of the architect and Contractor Adams is very conflicting. The latter claims large sums for extra work (see page 12 of the evidence), and for change of stone; that is, for the rejection of Koksilah stone and the substitution of Haddington stone (see pages 24 and 35 of the evidence). The architect claims the deductions in work and materials will offset the extras, and that substitution of stone will not entail any additional work or cost to the contractor, and thus that two parties are widely at variance.

The tenders for this contract were based upon fixed prices for Haddington and Koksilah stone, which was offered to the government and accepted by them at the following prices: For Koksilah, 50 cents per cubic foot of dimension stone;

for Haddington stone, 55 cents for the same. The Koksilah stone was rejected, and only a small quantity used in the building, and none in this contract. But as the matter is now the subject of litigation between the Koksilah quarry company, limited, and the government, your committee deem it advisable not to make further comments, but merely to submit the evidence and copies of correspondence and documents as contained in the exhibit A referred to in the evidence of T. Lubbe.

Messrs. A. W. Huson, Henry Rudge and Samuel Gray, the owners of the Haddington island quarry, having failed to give security to the satisfaction of Contractor Adams for the delivery of the stone, in accordance with their agreement, the then chief commissioner of lands and works, the Hon. F. G. Vernon, by a letter dated the 31st day of January, 1894 (see page 37 of evidence), directed the said Contractor Adams to proceed to bring the stone from the Haddington island quarry, undertaking thereby to relieve him against extra cost of stone, by reason of the failure of the said parties to deliver the stone; and subsequently, the owners of the said quarry having failed in their contract, an agreement was entered into between the said Contractor Adams and the Hon. F. G. Vernon and the said Huson, Rudge and Gray, dated the 12th day of June, 1894 (a copy of which is annexed to the evidence), by which, after certain recitals therein made, possession of the quarry was rendered to the said Adams by the said owners thereof and the said commissioner of lands and works; and the said Adams agreed to work and operate the quarry taking therefrom, from time to time, all stone required in the erection of the new parliament buildings, and agreeing to pay to the hon. minister, for the use of the said mine and plant, a royalty of five cents per cubic foot upon all stone extracted from the quarry for use in the buildings, which royalty was to be held by the minister for the use and benefit of the owners of the quarry. It was also agreed that the contractor should have the use of the engines, plant and material found upon the site of the quarry for the purpose of extracting stone to be used upon the building, and upon termination of the contract he was to restore the same to the owners of the quarry in their then present thoroughly sound working condition, due allowance being made for ordinary wear and tear; and by the said agreement the contractor released the minister from all liability and responsibility for damage or otherwise in respect to his undertaking on behalf of the owners of the quarry for the supply of stone by them to the contractor anterior to the date of the said agreement.

The bond alluded to in the letter of the Hon. F. G. Vernon to the said Adams, dated 31st January, 1894, was executed by Henry Rudge, Samuel Gray, Alden Wesley Huson, John Turner, Alexander J. McLellan, Andrew G. Bechtel and W. J. Macaulay, to the amount of \$19,000, and affidavits of justification by some of the sureties were attached to the bond.

Before taking possession of the quarry a sum of about \$2500 had to be paid by Adams, for the government, for wages due workmen at the quarry (see page 97 of the evidence). The government also paid about \$4000, being amount of two mortgages on the quarry property, for which they held a mortgage upon the said quarry (see page 96 of the evidence).

The plant of the contractor, Adams, has been mortgaged to the Bank of British Columbia for its full amount, to secure his indebtedness to the said bank.

ALL OVER THE PROVINCE.

Machinery for the Horse Fly Mines—Ore Shipped From Camp McKinney.

Ranchers Feeding Cattle for Beef—Westminster, Conservatives Organize.

VANCOUVER. Vancouver, Feb. 11.—A large quantity of mining machinery has arrived here from San Francisco consigned to Mr. J. M. Browning. This is for the Cariboo and Horsefly mines, and consists of over thirty pieces which, when put together, will form several new "Giants" monitors.

The sale of Fraser River Mining and Dredging Company's stock took place at Emanuel's auction rooms on Saturday night. The large attendance of bidders and keen competition showed the interest taken by the general public in this enterprise. The entire block, consisting of three hundred shares, was knocked down to A. D. Coupland at the price of \$2.10 per share, the highest amount ever realized for this stock.

The Conservatives of Westminster district have elected the following officers: President—Mr. John Henry; Vice-Presidents for New Westminster—Mr. John Wilson, M. Sinclair, C. G. Major, E. A. Jenns, W. B. Townsend; Vice-Presidents for a district—N. C. Schou, Burnaby—S. C. Cavley, Chilliwack; Wm. Knight, Pocolup; James Fox, Coquitlam; James Gourlay, Nicomen; R. S. Clarke, Dewdney; F. C. Totts, Mission.

Other vice-presidents are yet to be elected from other districts. Secretary, T. C. Atkinson; treasurer, T. S. Annandale.

On Saturday the owners of Cariboo claim, Camp McKinney, forwarded a carload of ore and concentrates to the Columbia smelter. The shipment consisted of 240 sacks of concentrates and 85 of ore. The entire effect of the money directed by steamer Aberdeen and the C. P. R. The company have two four-horse teams engaged in hauling ore from McKinney to Pentiction, and they take back provisions, mining supplies, etc., on the return trip. The effect of the money circulated by this rich-paying property is already beginning to be felt in the lower country.

The weather for the past few days has been such as to cause some of the old-timers who possess weather prophetic powers to predict that the winter is over and spring has struck us in earnest. What little snow we had has entirely disappeared from the roads and mud reigns supreme. The farmers would be glad to see another downfall of snow as, unless we get an exceptionally wet spring, the crops are liable to suffer from scarcity of moisture.

It will be noticed that no reference was made at the last meeting of the council to the subject of waterworks. The reason is that the committee have been in communication with the Okanagan Land and development company regarding the surrender of their charter, and word has not yet been received from them. From a letter to one of the aldermen it has been ascertained that the services of Mr. Tracey, the city engineer of Vancouver, can be procured to give an authoritative opinion on the best scheme to pursue, and Mr. Tracey also kindly offered to give to any person who assumes control of the work the benefit of his advice and experience. It looks as if the new council were determined to make an effort to carry this scheme through, and we have more hopes of seeing the work started this year than have been able to entertain at any previous period since the scheme was mooted.

Mr. C. O'Keefe was unfortunately enough to lose ten head of cattle this week on the range near Mr. Thomson's ranch. The animals got into a patch of wild parsnips and their death resulted from feeding on this poisonous plant. Fifteen pre-emptions were recorded at the government land office during the month of January.

The recent experience occasioned several heavy snowfalls on the main line, by which traffic was somewhat delayed.

ROSSLAND. Nelson Mines. Mr. R. J. Bealey from Nelson, is located here, and will open a private banking establishment. Mr. G. A. Bigelow will erect a large store building on Block 28, Columbia avenue.

Mr. Van Ness has already commenced preparations for his hotel on block 20. He will have on one side of him the custom house, which Mr. Jones will build immediately with residence, on the other the post office, which D. Stuss is about to erect.

Mr. Patsy Clark, of the War Eagle, has acquired a goodly number of lots and is well convinced of the progress of the camp. The mine is looking better than ever, with a nine foot vein of clean ore. Stopping is opening up a big chamber at the bottom of the shaft, and both drifts are in full work, turning out altogether seventy-five tons a day. Difficulty is still experienced in providing sleighs to carry out the ore, but from 25 to 28 teams will be at work the end of the week. No ore will be sent out along the Northport road as long as the boats can handle the output. In the east drift, that ore body suddenly disappeared in toto, leaving a blank wall of country rock. Mr. Denny Clark, the superintendent, is however well informed from his experience in the Idaho mines as to these geologic faults, and a few shots served to reveal the vein shifted over to the west with its hanging wall almost in line with its former foot wall. The width remained the same, and the incident is valuable as proving the continuity of the fissures in this camp.

Frank Loring is getting pay ore out of the Josie and will ship sixty or seventy tons per week as a starter.

The Nickel Plate has widened up to two feet, and ore is coming up which gives \$70 in gold.

KAMLOOPS. Kamloops Sentinel. Mr. Hatherley, formerly engineer on one of the Columbia river steamers, is building a steamer for himself and partners at Salmon Arm to ply on Shuswap lake and the Thompson river. It will be 85 feet long, with about twenty-four tons cargo capacity, and will have machinery sufficiently powerful to develop a good rate of speed.

Mr. J. A. Mara, M. P., James McIntosh, W. H. Peggam, manager of the Bank of British Columbia, W. P. Wood and others interested in the purchase of the Homestake claim, went up to that property on Monday last, getting back on Wednesday night. They express themselves as much pleased with the appearance of the mine. As a result of this visit development work will be continued by making an uprise from the tunnel, following the vein to the surface. This will give further ventilation and establish a knowledge of the body of ore in sight. Arrangements will be made for putting in a stamp mill, but the richest of the ore will have to be smelted, and consequently shipped. Two shifts of men are now at work.

The upper Nickel correspondent says: "Most of the ranchers are feeding up beef, but do not know whether they are going to sell them or not. There are about 500 head of beef feeding between Quilchena and Kamloops, and just as fine animals as anyone can get in any part of the country."

It is reported that Mr. T. Bulman and Mr. John Peterson met with quite a loss the other day by the ice at Rock lake giving way while a band of cattle were on it, and eighteen head were drowned, eleven head of which belonged to Mr. Bulman and seven to Mr. Peterson.

VOYAGE OF THE WARRIMOO.

She Had an Uneventful Trip from Sydney—Large Passenger List.

The Canadian-Australian liner, Warrimoo, Captain Charles E. Bird, R. N. R., arrived here at midnight on Saturday night, eight days from Honolulu.

The Warrimoo, which was reached at 10 a.m. on the 24th. At 7.30 p.m. on the same date the ship left Suva, stopped at Weilangala next day at noon for three hours, to land Mr. Carpenter and party sent from Suva to re-erect the lighthouse destroyed during the recent hurricane. At 6.30 a.m. on the 27th we landed mail matter at Hull island, and were under full speed again at 6.35 a.m., and passed Mary island at 3 p.m. on the same date. Experienced squally, southeasterly trades, northeast trades, dull and unsettled, with long, high northwest swell. We arrived off Honolulu at 11 p.m. on the 1st inst., and took pilot on board at 7 p.m. on the 2nd inst. We left Honolulu at 2.10 p.m. on the same date and discharged the pilot at 2.40 p.m. We rounded Taboosh island at 5 p.m. on the 9th and arrived at Victoria at midnight. Experienced fresh, southerly winds on leaving Honolulu for three days; thence fine and foggy weather until the 9th. Passed large American ship showing numbers, in ballast, bound north, but she was too far off to distinguish flags.

Mrs. Gove and infant, Captain Swain and Mrs. Polson and fifteen second class passengers left the ship here, and Messrs. Howard, Girvin, Marriott, and Holmes and Hogan and fifteen second class passengers continued on to Vancouver. There were also some steerage passengers.

Captain Swain was master of the American bark Ophir, recently wrecked off the Fiji islands, and he is on his way to San Francisco. The story of the wreck has already been told. The ship brought up a very fair amount of cargo, but her shipments for this port were not very heavy. She began discharging shortly after her arrival, and left early this morning for Vancouver.

PORT HAMMOND. (From our own correspondent.) Port Hammond, Feb. 4.—The regular meeting of Loyal Fraser Valley lodge, No. 91, C. O. O. F., was held in the Odd Fellows' hall on Saturday evening, February 2nd at 7.30 p.m., when a large number were present. A large amount of important business was transacted, which will come before the grand lodge in May next at Victoria. Several initiatives will take place shortly. The Noble Grand, W. G. Newton, and R. S. N. G. F. D. McFavish will pay a fraternal visit to Loyal Columbia lodge, No. 88, C. O. O. F., at Chilliwack, on Saturday, Feb. 9th.

The weather continues very fine and mild for this time of the year. A petition is in circulation to have this municipality divided. This is a move in the right direction. It is high time that the residents in this part of the municipality got a share of the taxes, instead of their being all spent in Port Haney and neighborhood.

NEW DENVER. Nelson Miner. A serious accident occurred at the Alpha to-day. "Red" George Clarke was preparing a fuse, when the cap exploded in his hands. Dr. Bruner is attending him, but so far the extent of his injuries is not known.

R. B. Kerr is at Nakusp, where he has succeeded in getting the claims of his clients against the construction company paid.

L. Alexander has taken a lease of Idaho No. 2, and will work the same during the winter with a small force. The Slocan Star is shipping 28 tons a day to the depot.

The concentrator has about three hundred tons of concentrating ore in the bins, and expects to start work this next week.

DISTURBANCES OF NATURE. Theory Advanced Connecting Several Such Events in the Northwest. "Most people are unconscious of the fact, but there have been some changes recently in the domain of nature on the North Pacific coast," said an old resident of the city a day or so ago. "First of all, Mount Ranier became semi-active as a volcano; then there was some change in Tacoma harbor leading to a collapse of the wharves; next a great tidal wave swept into the Columbia river and nearly wrecked the lighthouse tender Columbia, and the last that was noted was a series of very high tides on the Fraser river and west coast, where great damage was done. These tides were noticed also in Victoria harbor. Now I ascribe these all to disturbances of nature, and I believe they were connected in some way, because they happened simultaneously and the scenes of action were within a radius of 250 miles. It would perhaps be a good plan to have the matter gone into in a scientific way; the results might prove very interesting. I myself believe the tidal waves were caused by earthquakes and the trouble at Tacoma by a great slide or a collapse of some kind.

"This part of the world is so free from disturbances of the kind that the events described were dismissed with passing mention except in the case of Mount Ranier, and none of them at any time aroused alarm or even a feeling bordering on it."

"Suppose," said Little Mabel, the other day, "that our pug dog should try to follow his master—would he run down his throat, or would he just turn a back somersault?"

Quisby—"What do they do on these ocean steamers when they run out of coal?" Bisby—"Don't know. Maybe they burn the ship's log."

John's Wife—"John, I wish you'd saw up some wood for the house." John—"Why wouldn't I ask you to do such work, Maria. Sawing wood's a thing that even the commonest tramp refuses to stoop to, and you know it."

Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder World's Fair Highest Award.

CONSUMPTION.

The incessant wasting of a consumptive can only be overcome by a powerful concentrated nourishment like Scott's Emulsion.

If this wasting is checked and the system is supplied with strength to combat the disease there is hope of recovery.

Scott's Emulsion of Cod-liver Oil, with Hypophosphites, does more to cure Consumption than any other known remedy. It is for all Affections of Throat and Lungs, Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis and Wasting. Pamphlet free. Scott & Bowne, Sellers. All Druggists, 50c. & \$1.

When the Snow Comes and Horses and Cattle are taken out of the snow they should have a tonic until they get accustomed to the change of food, or they will lose flesh and condition very quickly.

To neglect this may keep an animal poor all winter and may die in the spring. DICK'S BLOOD PURIFIER will be found the very best condition powder to use. Its action is quick and sure and satisfactory results are guaranteed. This tonic for Horses and Cattle, if properly used, will add 50 per cent. to the selling price of any animal, and it only costs 50c.

Dick's Blood Purifier, 50c. Dick's Blisters, 50c. Dick's Liniment, 25c., Dick's Ointment, 25c. DICK & CO., P.O. Box 482 Montreal.

You Can Get Ferry's Seeds at your dealers as fresh and fertile as though you got them direct from Ferry's Seed Farms.

FERRY'S SEEDS are known and planted everywhere, and are always the best. Ferry's Seed Almanac for 1895 tells all about them. D. M. Ferry & Co. Windsor, Ont.

TO DAIRYMEN—The B.C. Creamery Co. are now ready to make contracts for milk. Call and see us at No. 82 Douglas street, Feeders & Glover. 128-31-7.

More CURETS have been of late. Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder is the best. It is for all Affections of Throat and Lungs, Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis and Wasting. Pamphlet free. Scott & Bowne, Sellers. All Druggists, 50c. & \$1.

Agents: Langley & Co., Druggists, Victoria, B. C.

ROAST BEEF

Soundness to

Tim lost his life by

CABLE NEWS.

11.—Anna Broecker, the

11.—A meeting of the

11.—An inquest was held

11.—The most important

11.—Russia is invited to

11.—A serious accident

11.—The Slocan Star is

11.—The concentrator

11.—The weather continues

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