Y ON THE ISTHMUS.

efeat Government Forces a Colombian Town—Stopped by Censor.

amaica, April 24.—A pas- Panama who arrived here s the reporter of the Asso- that a filibustering party y landed at David, a town 115 miles west of Panama ua, was composed mostly s who are fighting on the bels, and it has no designs ica. The informant added ernment despatched troops it was reported that they feated by the filibusters. Senor Viana, and Capt. 5 men who were garrison- re said to have been slain ng forces. The passenger hat Panama was much ex- t a number of prominent he city had been imprisoned of sympathy with the

ent decree has just been ng the publication of all Colombia except the recog- nent organ. The censorship no news was getting out y.

Lands Her Patients

hip Completes First of Her Philan- hropic Duty.

dolph Churchill Tells asing Success of the Enterprise.

on, April 23.—The United al ship Maine arrived here Africa this afternoon, un- arly. Within an hour all men were removed in am- placed on board a train etley.

Adair, Ronalds, Blow and executive committee, with president of the Atlantic ompany, intended to have h more elaborate reception ine and Lady Randolph On the arrival of the ladies' hey boarded the ship and greeted Lady Randolph, disappointed as the others re of the friends' plans. ee found the ship already he sick and wounded. The upied by a group of nurses uniforms. At the mizzen- e Union Jack and the Red presented by the Duke of before the ship's departure. nd Stripes floated at her

e course of an interview sentative of the Associated Randolph Churchill spoke erms of the success of the "Everything has gone off There has not been a single disagreement with anyone. s with the authorities have t could be desired. They ry possible facility, and we cially free hand. gestion that the Maine re- onsequence of sanitary de- able with her machinery is The ship and all con- her are all that could be the Maine returned because lief of Ladysmith the hospi- een terribly congested, and tal ships are full.

gress of the patients on en most satisfactory. Most e scarcely able to more than ard, yet a fortnight before of the Maine here 60 of the e discharged from the hospi- rought altogether 150 men ers. Fifty of these were es. The enteric fever pa- wonderful recoveries under n cold bath treatment. All press deep gratitude for the hey have received. There leaths during the voyage. dolph Churchill added that visited her on the Maine and concluded with remark- e steamer had a beautiful weather being so fine that on deck nightly.

sdames Ronalds and Blow Netley hospital to present from the Maine with gifts nd pipes inscribed "A. S. S.

ENUE TO RHODESIA.

pril 23.—The press continues the government's acquies- transport of British troops uguese East African terri- odesia. The Commercie af- the government has thereby aragraph of the constitution, ins that if Great Britain's nsport troops across Portu- ory is admitted, her right to arsenal at the mouth of the t be equally recognized.

AND STORE BURNED.

, April 24.—Fire at Fleming, to-day destroyed Chandler's e and J. Jopp's general store. The loss is $16,000, partly insurance.

E COLONY REBELS.

, April 24.—The authorities y listed the names of 12,000 els in Cape Colony and Natal.

ST. HELENA COLONY.

, April 24.—The transport ails for St. Helena to-morrow Boer prisoners.

ENER CASUALTIES.

April 24.—An official list of losses at Wepener from April 18 shows: Killed, 3 officers n; wounded, 14 officers and

EVATOR BURNED.

, April 24.—Wadell's elevator n City, operated by the Win- ator Company, was burned to- 20,000 bushels of wheat. Sev of wheat were saved. Th e fire is a mystery.

New Tangle in Provincial Laws

Ottawa Announces Veto on First Fruits of Mr. Martin's Genius.

Alien Exclusion and Coal Mines Regulations Among Acts Disallowed.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, April 24.—The government is about to disallow several acts of the legislature of British Columbia of the session of 1899 containing anti-Japanese clauses. Several months ago it was intimated to the British Columbia authorities that unless the objectionable clauses were repealed it would be necessary to disallow the acts, and as on account of the political chaos in that province no action has been taken, the Dominion authorities must intervene before the expiry of the time limit. It is understood that several private bills to which exception is taken will be allowed to stand so as not to work injury to the corporations affected, but among those to be vetoed are the Coal Mines Regulation Act, the Liquor License Act and the Midway & Penticton Railway Act. The Placer Mining Act will be disallowed as beyond the authority of the provincial legislature.

PROMISING CAMP.

Many Mines Being Developed in the Vicinity of Princeton.

Mr. W. Holden, inspector of agencies of the Federal Life Insurance Co., and one of the directors of the Sunset Mining Co., operating on Copper mountain, near Princeton, is at the Driard, having recently returned from a trip through the Similkameen country. He says the prospects for Princeton and the surrounding country are very bright. Both the mining and farming industries are prospering, the farmers finding a ready market for the products of their farms among the hundreds of men who are working in the mountains. Princeton, Mr. Holden says, is destined to be a second Butte, the situation being an ideal one—on one side a splendid agricultural district, and on the other mountains which are masses of mineral.

On Copper mountain there are a number of properties, which are being extensively developed. Of these the Sunset can now be said to be a mine. The shaft is down 190 feet, with crosscuts of 40 and 50 feet at the 100 foot level. As soon as the 200-foot level is reached more drifting will be done. Ore taken from the shaft assayed $18.58 and $18.05 to the ton. The owners have the greatest confidence in the property, and there is a good demand for the stock. The Lost Horse is likewise a promising property. They have a shaft down 60 feet and are making an excellent showing. There are dozens of other fine prospects.

Princeton is growing steadily, a number of new buildings being in course of construction. On the whole Mr. Holden believes the Similkameen district will be the most prominent in British Columbia. When he was there he met many representatives of capitalists looking over the ground.

ODD FELLOWS CELEBRATE

Eighty-First Anniversary of the Order and Welcome the Grand Master.

Upwards of 100 ladies and gentlemen assembled in the I. O. O. F. hall, Douglast street, last evening and sat down to an excellent collation prepared by Bro. D. R. Pottinger, of the Ideal provision store, the occasion being the celebration of the eighty-first anniversary of the order on the continent of America, and also to give the brethren an opportunity to meet and listen to an address from Grand Master Walsh, who is making a tour of the Island lodges. The table was occupied by J. H. Meldram, P. G. M., he having on his right the Grand Master and Fred. Davey, Grand Secretary; and on his left Joseph E. Phillips, P. G. M., and E. Bragg, D. D. G. M.

The proceedings were begun by the audience rising and singing the "Opening Ode," after which a blessing was asked by Bro. the Rev. E. G. Miller. The material part of the entertainment having received its meed of attention, the chairman after a few introductory remarks called on Bro. the Rev. W. D. Barber to deliver the opening address. Bro. Barber in a short but fitting speech welcomed the Grand Master on behalf of the city lodges, and congratulated the order on having attained its eighty-first birthday.

The rest of the programme was as follows: Song, "Happy Three," Bro. W. D. Kinnaird; recitation, "How Jimmy Treated the Baby," Master George Herbert Pottinger; song, "The Ballad Singer," Miss Grace King. The Grand Master then gave a short address, in which he told of the progress of the order throughout the jurisdiction and of the various lodges he had visited during his term of office. He also congratulated the brethren on the nature of the entertainment provided, and expressed pleasure at seeing the Sisters of Rebekah present, that being somewhat of an innovation on occasions of this kind.

Miss Ethel Green, an infant prodigy, favored the audience with a comic ditty entitled "Hello, Ma Baby," and in response to an encore recited with rare pathos for one of her years, "Guilty or Not Guilty?" A violin solo by another youthful genius, Master Edgar Fawcett, also earned an encore, which was responded to, he being accompanied on the piano by his mother, Mrs. R. W. Fawcett, and Mr. Longfield, Jr., respectively.

Bro. F. E. Simpson, of Cranbrook, being present, was called on by the chairman, and made a few pointed and pleasant remarks regarding the order and the esteem in which he held it.

Bro. C. W. Jenkinson sang the latest patriotic song, "Rat-atat-too," which was followed by "Nancy Lee," by Bro. Samuel Reid.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Bro. Fred. Davey, carried and tendered by the chairman to the splendid orchestra which throughout the evening enlivened the proceedings with their excellent instrumental music, the performers being as follows: Messrs. Longfield, Sr. and Jr.; S. D. Schultz W. Duck, L. Foster, Edgar Fawcett, W. H. Huxtable and W. Jackson.

The entertainment concluded with "God Save the Queen."

THE JAPANESE VISITATION.

Great Many of Those Arriving Are Market Gardeners—Entering the States by Stealth.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, April 24.—"There are 5,000 Japanese immigrants en route from Japan to British Columbia and the Sound, and from what I can understand there is likely to be a further influx of about 25,000 Japanese laborers to North America before the season is finished." This was the statement made by United States Immigration Agent Healy, when asked if he had any idea of the number of Japanese that were likely to arrive at British Columbia and Sound ports during the summer. Mr. Healy said that he believed the situation was alarming enough to warrant the United States and Canadian governments taking joint action in the matter. He said he thought if this was not done at once that the trouble he was now having with Japanese smuggling themselves over the practically unprotected boundary line from Canada into the United States would grow to such dimensions as to cause complications to arise and perhaps unavoidable friction between the two countries interested. Mr. Healy said that already, while the tremendous influx of Japanese had scarcely commenced, he had reports from his men watching the boundary line that parties of eight, ten and twenty Japanese attempting to get across the line almost daily had been turned back. Mr. Healy added it was quite likely that as soon as the United States officers had their backs turned these same parties would succeed in slipping over the line. Mr. Healy said he felt quite convinced a great number of the Japanese landing in Victoria and Vancouver found their way into the United States, for the great majority of the three or four thousand Japanese that had arrived over this month had disappeared somewhere out of Canada, and they had not received passports from him in any numbers worth speaking of. Mr. Healy explained that the present influx was entirely unexpected, and the machinery at his disposal to handle the Japanese properly was entirely inadequate, that along the border between Seattle and Blaine for about 150 miles it was the easiest thing in the world for Japanese to walk over at night unmolested. His men had often got word of Japanese approaching the line, but the Japanese sent out spies, who, seeing them approach, would warn the lot, who would run to cover and escape detection. Mr. Healy said the 40 miles of sea-coast between Blaine and Seattle was also unprotected.

In his opinion the Japanese arriving at present are not coolies or contract laborers. Of the 200 in all who applied to him for passports into the United States, fully 150 were market gardeners and men who had small rice fields in the interior of Japan.

CHINESE POTATO PLOTS.

Enough of Them in the Fraser Valley to Influence the Vancouver Market.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, April 24.—James McMinn, a prominent farmer of that district, is authority for the statement that Chinamen are overrunning Lulu and Sea islands and seriously imperilling the fortunes of the white farmers. On Lulu Island alone Chinamen have under cultivation from 300 to 400 acres for potatoes, and if these acres average 10 tons they will be able to put 3,000 to 4,000 tons on the Vancouver market cheaper than the white farmers can do, that locality alone, to say nothing of the other big Chinese potato farms all through the Fraser valley.

REGINA VS. NICHOL.

Trial of the Long Pending Action For Criminal Libel Against the Province Editor.

The case of Regina vs. Nichol, charged with libelling Messrs. Pooley and Turner in the Weekly Province in December, 1897, was brought up for re-trial yesterday before Mr. Justice Drake and a jury composed of Messrs. J. G. Hay, James Sprinkling, F. G. Ray, R. A. Anderson, H. E. Mills, R. Margetts, J. Phillips, S. A. Bantly, F. Jewell, J. R. Stark, A. Lewis and C. Stallard.

Mr. Robert Cassidy appeared for Messrs. Turner and Pooley, who are prosecuting, and Mr. E. P. Davis, Q. C., and Mr. W. H. Langley for the defence.

The case is familiar to the public, having been tried at the assizes in 1898, when the jury disagreed. The article complained of attacked Messrs. Turner and Pooley for acting as director of companies while they were cabinet ministers.

After Mr. Cassidy's opening address yesterday, a number of witnesses were called to prove the publication of the article in question and that Mr. Nichol was editor of the Province at the time the article appeared, and was writer of it.

The case will be continued at 11 this morning.

ABSOLUTE SECURITY.

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CURE SICK HEADACHE.

Dynamite to Turn Trade

Buffalo Scheme to Block for a Season the Grain Shipment by Montreal.

Such the Plausible Theory of a Discovered Plot Against Welland Canal.

Niagara Falls, April 23.—Chief Young and Detective Main, assisted by Buffalo detectives, have probably unearthed a gang of dynamiters operating from the Dolphin House, Suspension Bridge, N. Y., the Rosalie Hotel here, and Buffalo, N. Y., by rounding up John Walsh, aged 27 years; John Nolan, 35 years of age, and Karl Bullman. They are charged with having attempted to blow up lock 24 of the Welland canal on Saturday night.

The general impression is that this gang have been operating as hirelings to cripple the Welland canal to divert traffic to the upper lakes from Montreal to Buffalo. The accused will appear before Police Magistrate Logan to-day.

A detachment of the 44th Battalion is guarding the court house to prevent any attempt of a mob from Buffalo, which it is reported is preparing to liberate the prisoners.

Thorold, April 23.—The departure of the dynamite suspects for Welland gaol this afternoon was witnessed by a large crowd of people. The trio were not much disturbed. They laughed and joked with utter indifference. Bullman was the most talkative and took occasion to speak in terms of disapproval of the quarters in which they had been kept in the town hall. Chief Inspector Murray, Detective Main and a number of constables went to Welland as escort. When the prisoners had been taken away the town began to assume its normal quietness. The officers returned from the county town late in the afternoon and at once resumed the task of collecting evidence.

Meantime citizens of every walk of life are engaged in propounding theories with reference to the foundation of the plot. There is general belief that the plot was undertaken by enemies of the Conners syndicate of Buffalo, which has the contract for a public work calculated to give an immense impetus to the Canadian system of water routes. With this scheme the scoopers or grain shovellers of Buffalo are alleged to be connected directly or indirectly. Another theory is, of course, that Boer sympathizers or Fenians sought by means of the outrage to wreak vengeance on Canada for the part she has taken in the war now in progress in South Africa.

Had any judgment been used the dynamiters might have blown lock 24 of the canal into fragments. The rush of water from the immense basin above the lock would have carried away lock 25 and the desire of the wretches would have been achieved.

One marked feature of the affair has been the mildness with which the public have regarded the men under arrest. There has not been the slightest manifestation towards the suspected trio. People are asking, "What would have been done to three Canadians if they should have attempted to blow up Erie canal in New York State?" The consensus of answers is that the perpetrators would never live to realize what arrest for such a crime would mean.

BRITISH COLUMBIA'S OFFER.

Province Not Told of an Important Reply of the Colonial Secretary.

In the House of Commons recently Col. Prior asked a question regarding British Columbia's offer to send a contingent to South Africa. Here is the Hansard report of the proceedings:

Mr. E. G. Prior (Victoria, B. C.)—As I see the Minister of Militia in the House to-night, I want to ask him a question, if he will give me his ear. When I am addressing him, I think it is only proper courtesy on his part to turn around and listen to what I have to say.

The Minister of Militia and Defence (Mr. Borden)—I do not want any lecture from you about propriety.

Mr. Prior—A week or so ago the honorable gentleman promised that he would look into a matter I brought up in regard to the correspondence that was brought down in connection with the offer of British Columbia to send a contingent to South Africa. The last letter given in that correspondence is dated the 16th of February, when Mr. Chamberlain telegraphed that the Imperial government would defray all the expenses of the transportation to South Africa. I asked if there was not some more correspondence, and the right honorable leader of the government said he did not know, as it had been referred to the Minister of Militia. The Minister of militia on the 2nd of April said:

"Copies of all the papers in the department have been placed in that return, as far as I know. I will make further inquiry about it."

I would like to know if there is any further correspondence in the department?

The Minister of Militia and Defence—There is none.

Mr. Prior—All I can say is that the government have been very remiss in this matter. Here was an offer from the province to send a hundred men to South Africa—a magnificent offer, such as was never made by any other province. The provincial government were first told by this government that they would have to pay the transportation to South Africa themselves. When Mr. Chamberlain stated that the Imperial government were willing to pay the transportation, this government did not even take the trouble to inform the British Columbia government that such was the case. I say it was an outrage. I do not know whose fault it was—whether the fault of the Minister of Militia or the head of any other department. No doubt if this government had informed the British Columbia government that the transportation would be paid, that contingent would now be on its way to South Africa. If there was no more correspondence, this shows that very little interest was exhibited in the matter by this government. There is another matter which I wish to bring to the attention of the Minister of Militia, that is, in regard to the correspondence brought down in reference to General Hutton's dismissal. Surely these three short notes are not all the correspondence that has occasioned all this trouble between the Major-General and the militia department or the government. I would ask the honorable gentleman if there is no more correspondence?

The Minister of Militia and Defence—None.

Mr. Prior—Is this all the correspondence that the government think should be laid on the table? Is there any that is private and confidential?

The Minister of Militia and Defence—There is none whatever.

Mr. Prior—I suppose we must take the honorable gentleman's word for it.

The Minister of Militia and Defence—You can do as you like about that.

Mr. G. E. Foster (York, N. B.)—As the Minister of Militia is in such a good mood, I would like to ask him if it will suit his honor some time before the house prorogues to bring down those canteen papers?

The Minister of Militia and Defence—Certainly.

Mr. Foster—Generally, when I was a minister, when I was asked a question I took off my hat and rose to my feet and gave a polite answer; but now manners have changed under the new Liberalism, and the Minister of Militia sits in his seat with his hat on and says, "No more."

POLITICS AND MINING.

Ex-Governor Mackintosh Wants an Administration Composed of Practical Men.

From the Winnipeg Free Press.

Mr. Charles H. Mackintosh, of Rossland, ex-lieutenant-governor of the N. W. T., accompanied by his wife and daughter, Mrs. Castaline, arrived from the West yesterday, and are guests at Government House. They will leave to-morrow for the East, where Mr. Mackintosh will attend several meetings in connection with mining corporations with which he has interests.

A Free Press reporter called on the ex-Governor and had an interesting conversation with him on British Columbia politics and mining. Asked if he would be a candidate for the legislature, he said he had accepted the nomination of Rossland riding, not because he was ambitious for legislative honors, but because throughout the greater portion of British Columbia the desire seems dto be that he should unite with others having large interests in the province. Asked for his views on necessary legislation for the province, Mr. Mackintosh said:

"It is well known that I am in favor of an administration composed of those whose practical experience would enable them to deal properly with all departmental details. I strongly favor the enlargement of the powers of the labor and statistical bureau by the appointment of an official who will act as mediator and conciliator where misunderstandings arise between the miners and mine owners.

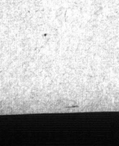
"While the province of British Columbia is solvent to the last degree, its full assets have not yet been ascertained, and I have expressed myself in opposition to any large expenditures other than are necessary until the ability of the province to do such is clearly ascertained. In other words, I am in favor of the preparation of full authentic and financial statements, showing the position of the province to bear burdens, by clearly ascertaining the land and forest areas, and their probable values. I strongly espouse the cause of caution, before declaring in favor of state railway ownership. One could naturally see the danger of committing himself or party to a policy, which might involve the expenditure of eight or ten or perhaps twelve million dollars in the writing of estimates, engineers' reports and such data as would be necessary for practical men to act indefinitely upon. It seems to me that a system of bonuses surrounded by certain checks and safe guards that would ensure cheap freight and passenger tariffs would be infinitely preferable at the present juncture, and I am unwilling to commit the province to any gigantic propositions involving many complex issues until convinced that the resources in British Columbia would justify that 'experiment.'"

Speaking of the mining industry, Mr. Macintosh said: "I have watched with great interest operations in various departments in connection with the advancement of mining interests. I have publicly expressed myself in favor of a uniform mining inspection and the appointment of such officials as would protect the investing public as well as the province. You have heard a great deal of the labor question and the eight-hour law. Now I believe that the great fundamental principle actuating a public man should be to separate himself from any prejudice whatever and to always keep in mind the fact that there may be faults on both sides, never forgetting that while capital has to be protected labor has coherent right that should never be overlooked. Had both sides been consulted the trouble recently arising in certain portions of British Columbia might have been guarded against. This was proved when the miners and mine owners came face to face and both in Rossland and the Slocan agreed to compromise. Mr. Clute, of Toronto, and Ralph Smith, of Nanaimo, as labor candidate in the field, were both instrumental in establishing this fact, and I may say that while it was represented that miners would indulge in breaches of law and order, unless vouchsafed everything they asked, nothing could be more unfair or unjust. I can not call to mind one instance of improper conduct on the part of the miners. I can call to mind that all whom I have spoken to were only too anxious for an amicable settlement.

"It must be remembered that it was not alone to mine owners and miners that the depression throughout the province was attributed. The South African war was a serious factor and the unexpected reduction of shipping from War Eagle and Centre Star did much to destroy the then existing prosperity, and I am not exaggerating when I say that by next September at least 2,300 men will be at work in Rossland, and a proportionately larger number in the Boundary Creek, Nelson and Slocan districts.

"The people of British Columbia are very independent in their views on political questions. They are for the most part non-partisan, voting irrespective of political color, and you will see that those attempting to force political faith down their throats as if it was a healer of all ills, will find it very difficult to obtain their objects. The great issue which caused the downfall of the Semlin government was the redistribution bill, and so far as I'm concerned, if I have a voice in the matter, it will be in favor of removing that issue from the arena of partisanship. British Columbia is all right, unless the passions of the people are stirred to a dangerous extent, and I shall do all in my power to prevent sectional bitterness."

Mr. Mackintosh is of the opinion that British Columbia is not advertised properly abroad. Little is known by the outside world of its vast resources and of the character of the population. As an instance of the growth, he states that only 19 voters were on the list at Rossland in 1896 for the voting for the House of Commons, and to-day there are 2,000 for the provincial house.



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Politics In The Orient

Revival of the Story That the Emperor Is Being Poisoned.

Late Budget of Oriental News Received by Empress of China.

Missionaries, their wives and their families from the uttermost parts of China, all on their way to Chicago to attend the great international conference of the Methodist body, formed a considerable proportion of the passengers by the Empress of China, arriving from Hongkong and Yokohama yesterday afternoon. The Methodist denomination was not, of course, the only one represented, but the conference-bound Methodists were well in the majority. Of the notables among the homing family of those who had gone out to spread the gospel in the waste places, were Dr. and Mrs. Lowry, direct from Pekin; R. Laidlaw and wife, from Tientsin; Miss Jackson, an especially active worker of the church missionary society; Mrs. Pitkin and her golden-haired little son, from Tientsin; and Rev. George E. and Mrs. Whitman, with their family of four from Swatow, who are bound directly for Tacoma, but afterwards will pay a long-promised visit to their old home in Nova Scotia, which they have not visited in ten years now.

These missionaries declare, as many others before them have, that although living for years in the heart of China, so close is the secrecy of Orientalism in political matters that they really receive news of China instead of imparting it when they reach the outside world. Although coming from Pekin, for example, Dr. Lowry, who is president of the Methodist college there, has little more information on the most recent movements of the eunuchs and statecraft than have his fellow-workers from Tientsin and Swatow. All are agreed that the fate of the legitimate Emperor has been decreed by the steel-hearted Empress Dowager, the general impression throughout China being that he is being slowly poisoned, and will within the next six months at the latest pass away. Meanwhile plots and counter-plots thicken, the Reformers growing bolder and the authorities more active and determined to upset their revolutionary calculations.

Kang-yu-wei at last reports had been endeavoring to purchase uniforms for ten thousand soldiers at Hongkong, and representations had been made by China to the British Governor there not to permit such a sale under British dominion. Kang himself had made a feint of leaving Singapore for London, but doubled back with the pilot boat and resumed his place under the protection of the King. A Chinese warship had been despatched to Singapore and by keeping close watch it was hoped to prevent the flight of the arch-revolutionist when she should attempt to fly. Meanwhile his friends and supporters continue to have worked upon them the vengeance of the powers in control. Even the families of those who have proved active in promulgating the revolutionary programme have felt the sate exile of America are not exempt from punishment. A case in point is cited by the reliable North China News, and brings directly into prominence the Chinese minister at Washington, Wu Ting Fang (Ng-choy). This diplomat was originally a clerk in a lawyer's office at Hongkong, whence he went to England; there he studied law and was called to the bar, subsequently becoming adviser professionally to Prince Li Hung Chang. When he became minister at Washington it was hoped by the progressists of his own country that he would show the result of his Caucasian education. Recently, however, he has keenly disappointed them, and identifying one Lo Tang Fun as a leading follower in America of Kang Yu-wei, wired to Viceroy Li to arrest all this man's family, since he himself could not be interfered with on American soil. In obedience to this order Viceroy Li has had the home of Mrs. Lo Tang Fun surrounded by a large force of soldiers and runners, under the command of the Nambojl magistrate, and Mrs. Lo Tang Fun, Lo's cousin, and two others arrested and thrown into prison. The Chun Ngoi San Po says the wife told the court that her husband had been living in America for ten years, and that she had three sons—two in Hongkong acting as assistant teachers in an English school, and one—the youngest—on a visit to her mother. It was impossible to apprehend the two under shelter of the British flag, but the magistrate forced the clansmen of Lo Tang Fun to surrender the youngest son and Lo's younger brother, both of whom were subjected to great cruelties and indignities.

The situation in China generally is one of preparation for the great war for China's possession, made possible by China's internal corruption. Rioting has become so frequent and so serious a menace to foreign interests in Shantung that French, German, British and American warships are crowding into the port of Taku, each determined to land marines and go even further if necessary to preserve what are regarded as their rights. Dealing with this new phase of the case the Yokohama Advertiser says there is one aspect of the situation which must cause great uneasiness at all European courts with interests in the Far East. The present disturbances have a much different international significance from those which have taken place in other parts of the empire during the past few years. While the Kwang provinces have long been the seat of every form of agitation, from mere highway robbery to organized rebellion, the questions raised have been such as could be settled between the central government and one certain Western country, usually England. So, too, in the less frequent cases of outbreaks in other of the provinces. They may have caused great anguish of mind to the Tsung-li Yamen, but they never led the outsiders to quarrel among themselves. Now, however, the troubles are dangerously near to a region where they will affect the interests not alone of the English, the French, or the Germans, but all foreigners. Within its own sphere of influence each nation has been to a certain extent in partnership with China in the work of government, and where its partner falls it can undertake to carry out that work unaided without dread of interference. But when, as now, the scene of any emeute is near the capital many factors enter into the case productive of gravest anxiety, and this apart from any danger threatening the stability of the reigning dynasty. For Chihli in the eyes of all except Russians is a province which must not only be protected but neutralized.

The landing of a force of bluejackets from one of the warships at Tientsin is low indicative of something more than a desire to protect legations and trade interests. It is also an assertion of diplomatic rights against other powers and a warning to them that whatever may occur they can only press their own claims with the consent of all interested. The case of Russia is markedly different from those of the mentioned powers. Down to the great wall her position is well secured, and she has no rival to fear commercially and none politically except Japan. Her influence at Pekin may vary in weight, but she can feel secure in the belief that her southward march of empire will finally be checked, not by any diplomatic skill, but by her coming face to face with a military strength greater than her own.

The Hongkong Daily Press on the same absorbing subject says the telegram that "the powers are arranging for concerted action in China in consequence of the disturbed condition of the country around Tientsin," seems to explain the news that H.M.S. Hermione had sailed suddenly from Shanghai for Taku, and gives a vastly more probable reason for this action than that suggested by the Pekin native telegram which said that Chinese cruisers had sailed for Singapore charged with the absurd mission of arresting the refugee reformer. Taku has always been the point at which China, or rather the Imperial government at Pekin, has been threatened from the sea. The concerted action of the powers against the unchecked dominion of the "Boxers," "Big Knives," etc., is an answer to the ineffectual proclamation and minor punishments for offenders in vogue for some time past.

Just before the Empress sailed a telegram was received in Canton from Pekin saying that Shen Peng, a reformer, bearing the title of Hanlin, who had been arrested under instructions from the Empress Dowager by the acting Governor of Nanking, had been sentenced to servitude for life. Some time since Shen Peng presented a memorial to the Empress Dowager reflecting on Yung-Lu and Kang-yi and asking earnestly for the restoration to the throne of the poor young Emperor.

From Kam-shan, Chiu-chow district, comes the news of an explosion in a power magazine on the 24th ultimo, by which over 300 houses were destroyed, 30 persons lost their lives, and 67 were more or less seriously injured. Fortunately a large number of the populace had gone from their homes to see a procession in a neighboring place, or the consequence would have been yet more disastrous.

The trial of the murderers of Rev. Mr. Brooks took place on February 28 and the following days, at Chinanfu, in the presence of Mr. C. W. Campbell, of H.B.M.'s Consular Service. The trial was conducted by the provincial judge in a large hall of the Hofangchu, where important cases are taken. Mr. Campbell was given as secretaries Mr. Mathews (Mr. Brooks' colleague), and Mr. Couling (English Baptist mission, Shantung). On some minor points the evidence was very contradictory, but the more important matters came out very clearly. The six men principally concerned capured Mr. Brooks at Chanchiatien and in spite of the expostulations of the tipao or village constable, carried him away. They do not seem to have killed their prisoner until he attempted to escape. Five of the gang were members of the Tatao Hui, a secret society of great local influence, and their connection with it seems to have terrorised the villagers, who did not try to interfere. Only four men were actually implicated in the murder, and against them convictions were recorded, sentence being deferred. As a result of the Brooks incident the disorganization of the "Boxing" society has been ordered.

The Korean crisis between Japan and Russia seems to have passed, an amicable settlement with Russia having been reached in regard to the latter's demand for a foothold on the peninsula. It was plainly a demand of such a nature as to involve serious political consequences, and as such was opposed strenuously by Japan. Although the incident is amicably closed, the settled intention of Russia is just as manifest as ever, and future "incidents" may be expected to occur with ever increasing frequency, as the Czar's power in the Far East waxes strong, and his preparations become more and more complete.

Recent storms along the Japanese coast are responsible for the total destruction of the N. K. steamship Toko Maru, which crashed on a submerged rock near Byoto, 45 miles from Chefoo, and became a hopeless wreck, three passengers being drowned; and also the four masted British ship Iranian, from Philadelphia for Yokohama with Lumbard Oil Company's kerosene, which foundered on a reef off Idzu. The crew, thirty in number, with the single exception of the boatswain named Smith, took to the boats and after a terrible row of forty miles, landed. They are now being cared for by the Station Agent at Yokohama. Of the passengers lost with the Tokio-maru, one was Kawamata Harukata, an eminent Japanese historian, and another, Shiba Kioku, a prominent weaver.

The China Gazette says: The result of the court martial held on H.M.S. Bonaventure at Woosung into the circumstances attending the loss of a steam pinnace, anchor and other gear from H.M.S. Peacock, while on the voyage from Hongkong to Shanghai some weeks ago has resulted in the Commander, S. G. Dougla being dismissed from the ship. Other officers were also brought before the court and their cases await decision. The command of H.M.S. Peacock has been entrusted to the first lieutenant of H.M.S. Active, Mr. C. P. R. Coode.

The little Island of Kozu, which forms one of the Seven Islands of Izu, seems to be in a state of great tribulation. Last year 340 houses were destroyed by fire out of the 417 in which the population of 1,928 persons were living. The Emperor gave a sum of 500 yen for the relief of the sufferers, and the Tokyo municipality contrinbted 1,500 yen, but those sums were soon expended, and, as the people lost many of their boats and nearly all their farming gear, their distress is very sharp.

The great Japanese naval manoeuvres were opened on the 29th ult. In connection with the manoeuvres, the naval reserves in Kyoto and Osaka, and sixteen adjoining prefectures, have been called out.

What does it profit a woman if she gain the whole world of knowledge and lose her own health? Young women students and school teachers, eager, ambitious, and full of energy, very often neglect their health in the struggle to gain education. They eat insufficient food, and at irregular hours, they allow irregularity of the womanly functions to be established, and the result is that they become chronic invalids with all their education practically worthless. There is a plain road back to health for such as these, marked by the feet of thousands. It is the use of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery for diseases of the stomach and digestive and nutritive organs, and Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription for diseases of the delicate organs of womanhood. A cure so certainly follows the use of these remedies that out of hundreds of thousands who have tried the treatment, ninety-eight in every hundred have been perfectly and permanently cured. Constipation, with its calamitous consequences, which is a common ailment of students, can be entirely cured by the use of Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets.

New Buildings On All Sides

Contractors and Carpenters of Victoria Have no Cause for Complaint.

A Great Number of Residential and Commercial Structures Under Construction.

Although a considerable proportion of Victorians, largely through force of habit, insist that "times are not so good now as they used to be," it does not require more than a walk about the city to show that property owners have abundant confidence in the stability of the city and business in almost every line is growing to proportions demanding larger premises. There has not been an April in years perhaps that has witnessed more quiet, unostentatious building activity. This time it is not a boom or anything approaching a boom—but the work goes on everywhere. Down at Esquimalt and Beaumont (as the new naval town by the canteen field is called) the music of the saw and the hammer is heard in all directions, and quite a busy little place has arisen, all in the past half year. At Oak Bay and in other suburban districts the growth of residential structures is constant and encouraging, while in the heart of the city one cannot look down any street without noting the piles of material that denote a new commercial building in course of erection. At the present time more than $125,000 worth of building is actually in construction, $119,400 worth being included in the following incomplete summary, touching not at all on the Beaumont and other district building: The Vernon brick building, on Government street, was commenced in 1899 and is now rapidly approaching completion. Its cost will be about $16,000; while Thomas Earle's new business premises on Yates street represent an investment of $9,500. W. T. Williams' new two-story brick business premises on Yates street, Government, with a frontage of 44 feet and depth of 70 feet, stand for $3,500; and John Hepburn's two new buildings, lower down on the same street, the one four stories high, 44 x 110 feet, costing $14,000, and the other, a two-story brick, 24 x 60, $3,800. Mrs. Whiteley's new story-and-a-half frame residence on Vancouver street, will cost when ready for occupancy, at least $1,200, and A. Pike's story-and-a-half brick dwelling on Niagara street, about $15,00; $2,500 represents the cost of M. Conyear's two-story frame residence on Cadboro Bay road, and $4,000 is being invested in a handsome two-story frame dwelling on the Macaulay property, Belcher street. The alteration and improvement of D. Spencer's business premises on Broad street, mean an outlay of $3,000; and $600 and $550 will provide for the story and a half frame dwellings on the Fernwood estate, Devonshire road, for Charles B. McCarthy. Eberts & Taylor's new brick offices on Langley street, two stories in height and 22½ x 60 feet, will cost when completed $3,000; the same amount stands for Dr. F. W. Hall's new brick building on Government street, near Yates street; and $7,000 is being expended by Stephen Jones on the present enlargement of the Dominion hotel, Yates street. An item of $15,000 is contributed to the general total for the alterations at the Law Courts, Bastion square. Dr. Campbell's two-story frame residence on the Heywood property, facing Cadboro' Bay road, is costing $3,000; and W. J. McCarter is expending $1,500 in a one-story frame dwelling at the corner of First and Market streets. An enlargement of Fred Smith's residence on Parry street is costing that gentleman $300, and $1,800 is put down as the cost of the BcBeath building—a one-story frame with brick foundation, on Robert street, Victoria West. Close is a small dwelling, to cost $750, going up on the St. George's Inn property, Esquimalt road, and additions to the Methodist church, in the same locality, will cost perhaps $500. Miss Williams' frame residence on Simcoe street near the park, is to cost in the neighborhood of $1,000; and a two-story frame house, with brick foundation, on Garbally road, $1,500. W. L. Challoner is erecting a new residence for his own occupancy on the Heywood estate, Cadboro' Bay road, the cost of which will not be less than $2,500; and the Worthington block on Fisgard street will represent an expenditure of quite $9,000. This block is to be of brick, two stories in height, and including seven stores, the total floor area being 50 feet by 150. Mr. Roblck is erecting a new residence on Michigan street; Chief of Police Langley is having his residence enlarged and considerably improved; and Wah Yune & Co. are spending $1,000 on a number of one-story brick cabins on Cormorant street. W. Atkins is spending $2,000 on his new home on the Dallas road, and $7,500 is added to the total on account of P. C. McGregor's new business block at the corner of Broad and View streets.

BELIEVES IN CLOTHES.

Eleven Trunks Required to Carry the Wardrobe of Russo, the Boston Lyric.

Eleven trunks are required to hold the personal attire and stage costumes of Signor Domenieco Russo, the great tenor of the Boston Lyrics, who plays a return engagement in Victoria of four nights, commencing Wednesday, May 2. They are not ordinary-sized trunks by any means, but rather built after the pattern of modern houses. They have a world-wide reputation among railroad baggage men. The very mention of the coming of these 11 monster affairs along the line is enough to cause a tremolo movement amongst the trunksmashers' fraternity, and as for local transfer companies! how the anathemas fly broadcast. Still Russo is happy, for he hears it not. His valet and private secretary get the blessings intended for their master.

Signor Russo was born in Messina, Sicily, in 1874, so he is now 25 years old. This is his first trip to America. He was brought here by the Lombardi Opera Company, and will remain in the United States for some time to come, as Colonel W. A. Thompson, manager of the Boston Lyric Opera Company, has engeged him for two years at a salary of $600 per week. Russo is handicapped to some extent by his lack of knowledge of the English language, but by constant application he is rapidly surmounting this difficulty.

New Haven, April 23.—The Yale football authorities to-day announced that the date of the next annual