Weekly Colonist.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1885.

THE PLACE D'ARMES.

The perfectly reliable information that is given in another column from a Montreal correspondent concerning the erection of an extensive system of fortification, an arsenal and barracks at or near Esquimalt will set at rest all speculation as to the intentions of the Dominion government with regard to the location of Battery "C" and the school of gunnery. Under the terms of the agreement with the Imperial government the government of Canada binds itself to garrison and maintain the forts and barracks. An arrangement somewhat similar in terms to the above has been made with respect to the defences of Halifax. In the discussion which was carried on by us for some months with a portion of the mainland press we endeavored to show that the true policy of both governments was to fortify the *entrance* to the province, meaning Victoria and Esquimalt. The decision which has been arrived at settles the matter finally and removes the question from the plane of further journalistic discussion. The Marquis of Lansdowne, at the Victoria banquet, declared in a very emphatic manner that this was to be the *place d'armes* of the British Pacific. The public will understand that those were not idle words, please to his hearers; but were deliberately spoken by one who had the advantage of a close and intimate connexion with the official correspondence that had taken place on the subject. The later information also sustains the remarks of Sir A. Caron and Sir H. Langevin in the house of commons when they announced that it was the intention of the Dominion government to establish Battery "C" and the school of gunnery at or near Esquimalt.

SIMILKAMEEN.

That this now attractive goldfield gives substantial promise of yielding a rich harvest seems no longer doubtful. The news reaching us through different channels all points in that direction. We understand that, in his official report the provisional gold commissioner (Mr. Allison) states that the gold taken out within his personal knowledge during the past season, amounts to $112,500, which figure he believes falls far below the actual yield; as much of the mining has been done by Chinese, from whom it is impossible to obtain anything like full returns. When it is considered that, in so far, at least, as Granite creek and Tulameen river are concerned, the work has been more one of exploration and prospecting than mining, it must be admitted that the yield is far from insignificant, and that there is good reason to look hopefully to the approaching season. Discovery claims have been secured on Collins' gulch, State creek, Hines' creek, Eagle creek. These are tributaries of Tulameen river, the last named being about 35 miles above the Similkameen Forks. The discoveries were made too late in the season, however, to admit of the ground being tested. At latest accounts much attention was being directed to the upper waters of the Tulameen, where a number of claims had already been recorded. The number of white miners on the 21st ulo. was estimated at 450. Of Chinese no estimate could well be made, owing to their being so much scattered. Free miners' licenses had, however, only been issued to 100 Chinese, and as there must be many times that number engaged in mining in that district, some effort should be made to compel these people either to pay their taxes or leave the mines. It is extremely unfair that while the white miner must pay for the right to mine for gold, these alien hordes are allowed to take out large quantities of the precious metal without obtaining licenses or in any other way contributing their fair quota to the revenues of the country. We are aware of the difficulties to be overcome, but we cannot help thinking that a vigorous effort should be made in that direction.

LIKE A PATRIOT.

Hon. H. G. Joly, one of the leaders of the rouge party of Quebec and formerly premier of the province, has resigned his seat in the local legislature rather than join in the movement to form a "national" party. In his letter of resignation, Mr. Joly says: "I can neither understand nor share the sentiments manifested with so much force to-day by the great majority of French Canadians in my province and county. I find myself out of harmony with my constituents on a question too serious to make it other than my duty to resign in order to leave to them free exercise of their right to select a representative in full sympathy with their feelings." The Globe, which seems to have been taken by surprise by this prompt and decisive action of a prominent leader of its own party, expresses profound sorrow at his defection which will exercise a powerful influence throughout Canada, and may eventually prove the means of defeating the "national" movement which is against constituted authority and therefore revolutionary in its character. In the result it will be seen that the liberals will lose as much support in Ontario as they will gain in Quebec.

THE QUEBEC "CRISIS."

The agitation over the Riel matter in Quebec is dying away. Three of the conservative journals who came out with articles denouncing the government for executing the arch rebel are already "harking back" and have admitted Mgr. Cameron's remonstrance and Father Dowd's sermon in deprecation of the agitation. It is believed by many that the unholy alliance of grit, rouge and bleu is on its last legs already and as a "national" party it is past recovery. The rouge party will be greatly strengthened by the agitation and at the next election may carry a majority of the Quebec constituencies; but the effect of a rouge victory in Quebec will be disastrous to the liberals in Ontario where they will lose thousands of zealous supporters. The execution of Riel was to punish him for his numerous crimes. The government did not take into consideration his race or religion. They saw only the criminal, and the country should be proud that it possesses a government that is strong enough to do right.

A Complaint from the North.

PORT SIMPSON, B. C., Nov. 30, 1885.

TO THE EDITOR:—We, the undersigned, on behalf of the Indians of Port Simpson, wish to bring before the government and the people generally the following facts:

On Sunday evening, Nov. 29th, about 9 or 10 o'clock, a petition was drawn up by some parties and circulated among some of the white men and a select number of Indians (some of whom do not belong to this place, and some who are in the employ of the persons drawing up the petition), stating that the Indians are satisfied with the work which Hon. Judge Elliott is doing amongst them.

We wish to state that said petition does not by any means give the true sentiment of the Indians and, consequently, should have no weight with the government. The Indians are not at all satisfied with the work which the judge is doing amongst them, as can be plainly seen from the fact that such a petition was drawn up and circulated in such a manner and at such a time.

PAUL LUGARI (X his mark)
ARTHUR W. CLARK.

Signed on behalf of the Indians of Port Simpson.

Law Was Made for Man.

TO THE EDITOR:—Sir: May I ask you kindly to let me have a few words in your paper. November is a great month to us to be brought before magistrates by Bishop Ridley. Now this winter two of our principal men are condemned by Judge Elliott because they are upholding the laws and rules of our village. By these rules and laws of our council we have been benefited above all other Indians, even those living close to stone and brick houses in Victoria and other towns. The principle of our rule and law is this: prevention, for "prevention is better than cure." Now Judge Elliott is condemning the rules of our community and is trying to make an end of them by putting our two leading men in prison and saying that the Queen's law has put them in prison. Sir, I never saw in all my life such a thing as this judge has done. I don't know whether the Queen's law or himself condemn our laws, for the Queen's law helps the laws of every living thing. The laws of fish, beasts and birds are protected by Queen's law, and those who break these laws or punished. Now Judge Elliott is trying to put a stop to those laws by which we were benefited and our children for so many years. Let the laws of all the living creatures be protected by Queen's law and let only Metlakahtla be trodden down by an Elliott who says that the Queen's law has done it. Sir, I am not a wise man yet I think Judge Elliott made a law himself beyond the Queen's law by which he condemned John and Daniel. I believe he has gone over the law as much as I should do if I were a judge. We expect to see those who are placed in such business will have judges' heads and not only judges' names or salary, so that the Queen's law will be carried out.

EDWARD MAITLAND,
(A native of Metlakahtla.)

THE STORM AT ASPINWALL.

A List of the Vessels Lost—Many Persons Perish—The Steamers all Safe.

ASPINWALL, Dec. 6.—On the morning of the 2d inst. a heavy swell set in from the northwest, and at 2 p. m. the same day a heavy squall came from the same direction. The weather looked threatening, and the steamers in port ran outside under steam.

EXTENT OF THE DAMAGE.

The storm continued to rage during the night and next day with unabated fury. Piers No. 1 and 2 remained safe and are apparently little damaged. The Royal Mail steamship company's pier was damaged by a German steamer striking it and by the heavy seas. The foundations of the shore end were badly washed away, and a house was canted over on pier 4.

The railway track to the coal berth was washed away for a distance of seventy-five feet.

THE LOST VESSELS.

The following-named vessels were lost: Norwegian bark Helden, British brig Evelyn, American brig Ortavia (all hands lost), French bark Ocean, American bark Veteran, British bark Douglass Castle, Norwegian bark Karman, British bark Lynton (all hands on board supposed to be lost, except the captain's wife and baby), Austrian bark Tiger, Norwegian bark Blanche, Colombian brig Stella, American schooners Frank Atwood, Avis and Rio Grande, and sloop Mark Time.

This afternoon the weather is threatening. Scud is flying very fast from the northwest, indicating another "norther."

A HORRIBLE SCENE

At an English Execution—The Head Severed from the Body.

NORWICH, Eng., Nov. 30.—A horrible, sickening sight was witnessed to-day at the hanging of Robert Goodale, a market gardener, for the murder of his wife on September 15th. A fifteen stone weight was used and the drop was six feet. When the drop was sprung the rope rebounded violently. Goodale's head was severed, the trunk and head falling to the ground, and head lying at the feet. The spectators were horror-stricken and became sick. An inquest was held. The hangman said Goodale's head looked as though cut with a knife. He had a thin vertebra. The surgeon said the hangman was sober, cool and collected when he sprung the trap. The jury rendered a verdict in accordance with the facts, attaching no blame to the hangman.

THE U. S. CONGRESS.

Election of Vice-President and Speaker.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The senate was called to order at 12 noon. After prayer, Edmunds nominated Senator Sherman for president of the senate. Voorhees moved to substitute the name of Harris. The yeas and nays were then ordered to be taken. Voorhees' motion and amendment was lost by a strict party vote, whereupon Sherman was elected without further division.

At precisely noon the house was called to order by J. B. Clark, its clerk, and the first session of the 49th congress began. When order was secured at the call of the clerk, the roll disclosed the presence of 320 members, the only absentees being Miller, of N. Y., Henderson, of N. C., Aiken, of S. C., Craig, of Texas, and Crisxton, of Virginia. Nominations for speaker were then in order. Tucker, of Virginia, presented the name of Carlisle, of Kentucky; Hanna, of Illinois, placed the name of Reed, of Maine, in nomination. A vote was announced as follows: Carlisle, 177; Reed, 138, and amid loud applause the clerk declared Carlisle elected, and appointed Messrs. Tucker and Reed as a committee to conduct the speaker to the chair. The galleries of the senate have not for many years been so crowded at the opening day of the session. The walls of the senate chamber were draped in deep black out of respect to the memory of the late vice-president. Upon the request of Secretary McCook, Sherman was escorted to the chair by Senators Edmunds and Voorhees and the oath of office administered to him by Edmunds.

What an Appalling Thought.

[Chicago Ledger.]

"You've heard about their boring all over the country for natural gas, haven't you, Mr. Pitchers?"

"Yes, and I'm down on it, too."

"Why so?"

"Well, I think it ought to be stopped. How do we know but what the gas was put there to hold the world up, like a balloon? and after it's burnt to a certain point, down we'll go, kerchug.

They Were Safe.

[Exchange.]

A Chicago man at Plainfield, Ind., desired to leave his traveling-bag and overcoat while he walked to a place twenty miles distant. He put them in a field unprotected from thieves, except by the sign, "Small-pox, beware," and when he returned they were right there in the field—but they were twenty feet underground, buried by health officers.

To Render Drawing-Paper Transparent.

[Demorest's Monthly.]

A convenient method for rendering ordinary drawing-paper transparent for the purpose of making tracings, and of improving its transparency so as to restore its former appearance when the drawing is completed, has been invented by M. Puschor. It consists in dissolving a given quantity of castor-oil in one, two, or three volumes of absolute alcohol, according to the thickness of the paper, and applying it by means of a sponge. The alcohol evaporates in a few minutes, and the tracing-paper is dry and ready for immediate use.

The drawing or tracing can be made either with lead-pencil or Indian ink, and the oil removed from the paper by immersing it in absolute alcohol, thus restoring its original opacity. The alcohol employed in removing the first oil is of course reserved for diluting the oil used in preparing the next sheet.

IN ROUND NUMBERS.

INTERESTING FIGURES FURNISHED BY THE BUREAU OF STATISTICS.

Importations of Coffee and Sugar—Silk and Cotton Goods—Finery for Ladies and Luxuries for Men—Woolen Goods.

[Cor. Cincinnati Times-Star.]

The imports and exports of the fiscal year ending June 30, are quite satisfactory when compared with those of the previous year. The exports of the year have been over $7,000,000 in excess of last year, while the amount of money sent abroad to pay for imports has fallen off over $80,000,000, making a balance of nearly $100,000,000 in our favor as compared with the work of the fiscal year 1884. The exports, which in 1884 were $678,000,000, amount this year to $655,000,000 in round numbers. The imports, which in 1884 were $660,000,000, in round numbers, amount in the past year to only $583,000,000. Thus the exports, which last year were only $57,000,000 more than the imports, are this year $121,000,000 greater than the imports.

It is interesting to run over the list of imports and exports as furnished by the bureau of statistics and see what we buy and what we sell. For instance, the importations of coffee in the year just past amount to 522,000,000 pounds, or an average of ten pounds per head all around. In the preceding year the importations of coffee were but 480,000,000 pounds. Our coffee, however, has not cost us as much per pound this year as last, for although we imported 50,000,000 pounds more we paid $6,000,000 less for it, our coffee bill in the year just passed being $43,000,000 in round numbers or less than $1 each for the total population.

The importations of sugar in the year just past amount to 2,400,000,000 pounds, or a little over forty pounds per head for every man, woman and child in the country. The importations of sugar have been in pounds about the same as last year; possibly a little less. The cost, however, has been very much less. In the fiscal year 1884 the value of the sugar imported was over $80,000,000, while this year it has only amounted to about $63,000,000. Sugar is cheap the world over this year. The German and French governments have given large sums for the benefit of sugar production in their respective countries, and the people of the United States have, unconsciously in most cases, been consuming large quantities of beet sugar imported from France and Germany, while the low prices in Europe have compelled the sugar-producers of Cuba to accept low prices for their sweets. Sugar and coffee form by far the largest and most important articles of import.

The next important in cost among the imports is silk. The importations in silk in the year just ended amount in round numbers to nearly $35,000,000, which, by the way, is $4,000,000 or $5,000,000 less than the silk imported in the preceding year. Next in value to the importations of silk come those of flax, hemp, jute, and similar materials, which amount to $25,000,000 a year in round numbers. Cotton goods come next, amounting to over $20,000,000. Curious, isn't it, that this country, the great cotton-field of the world, with the wonderful facilities for manufacturing, should send over $20,000,000 abroad for manufactures of cotton?

Those ostrich farms in California must have been extremely busy in the past year: at least the importations of ostrich feathers, which in the fiscal year 1884 were $500,000, were in the year just ended less than $2,000,000. The dear ladies have been busy, however, if not with feathers with something else, for the importations of their hats and bonnets in the past year amount to $4,500,000, against about $3,500,000 in the preceding year. There is not much opportunity for the horrid men, however, to make remarks on this subject, for their imported tobacco cost them double what the ladies' hats cost, or in round numbers $9,000,000. The wearers of diamonds seem to have taken a sudden spasm of economy, for in the year just ended their importations of diamonds have been only $5,000,000, against $9,000,000 in the preceding year.

The cost of ladies' hats given above does not make up the total, however, of expenditures in this line, for their dress goods in wool and alpaca alone amount to $13,000,000, while the cloths, mostly for gentlemen to wear, amount to over $9,000,000. Indeed, the total importations of wools and woolen goods exceed in value those of silk or cotton, the total of all grades of wool and woolen goods being nearly $40,000,000.

Ignorance of the Hop-Vine.

[Belfast (Me.) Journal.]

These hops are a curious vine, by the way. I always supposed that a hop vine and a baby knew how to creep without being taught. The baby may, but the hop-vine does not. It can't climb a pole any more than a codfish, unless it takes lessons. It is like a kitten, it don't get its eyes open for some time. It comes up out of the hill and lies sprawling on the ground till it is taken by the nape of the neck, so as to speak, and wound around the pole a few times, and then tied there. After that it will seem to catch on, and learn why it was created in the world, and will then shin up the pole like a little man. It is not half as intelligent as a bean.

Income from Chinese Sources.

[San Francisco Letter.]

In the late official report at San Francisco it was shown that in the Chinese Laundry association of that city there are 800 laundries, which paid in water and gas taxes $180,000 yearly, a land yearly rental of $80,000, and owned property and good will valued at $250,000, and gave employment to 3,000 heathen.

Oscar Wilde's Son.

[New York Herald.]

There is a certain apostle of higher culture among us who has recently been gladdened by the birth of a son and heir. When the necessary time arrived the infant was taken to be duly registered. The registrar, according to the usual custom, inquired of the parent what name he was to give to his offspring. The apostle of higher culture waived the idea of nomenclature entirely away. The child, he assured the astonished registrar, should remain unnamed until he had attained to years of discretion, and would be entitled to a voice in the choice of his own name.

For a moment the registrar was astounded, but he soon proved equal to the occasion. "Very well," he said, good humoredly, "just as you please. On all such occasions, when the parent gives the child no name, we invariably enter it as John." The apostle of high culture reeled against the wall, and gasped for a few moments in speechless horror at the idea of any truly esthetic infant being flung into the world with so commonplace a Christian name. Then recovering himself, he assured the registrar that he had changed his mind, that his son should be named, and he decided to call his offspring Basilidos, or some other name suggestive of the early church.

The Buttermilk Boom.

[Lancaster (Pa.) Era.]

It has been discovered that buttermilk in a remarkable degree satisfies the craving for strong drink, and enables a man to endure fatigue in warm weather better than any other drink he can use. The proprietor of a bar, who disposes of over a dozen pailfuls daily, says it is remarkable how quickly the appetite for it increases after the first glass. He thinks it is destined to destroy more drinking than prohibition can ever do. "I have," said he, "studied chemistry since we took to selling buttermilk, and I know that lactic acid is one of the chief agents that gives acidity to the gastric juice of the stomach in health. This is the acid of sour milk, and, therefore, one of the best summer diet drinks that one can use is buttermilk."

How to Weigh a Letter.

A silver dollar weighs very nearly an ounce. Hence any letter not heavier than a dollar can go for a single 2-cent stamp. A silver 5-cent piece added will give the ounce. If you have not the silver dollar, five nickles and a small copper cent will give the ounce.

Spring Tea.

[Youth's Companion.]

Suppose a round column of coal, nine and one-third feet in diameter, reaching from the earth to the moon—two hundred and forty thousand miles away. That column would represent the quantity of coal mined in England during the last thirty years.

In 1873 the production of coal in England was almost one hundred and sixty-four million tons, and at that rate of consumption the stock still left would be sufficient to last about nine hundred years longer.

THE MILLER AND THE MAID.

[F. N. Scott.]

Across the heath and down the hill,
A-back of patient Dobbin,
The farmer's daughter rides to mill,
And mocks the thrush and robin.

For saddle she's a sack of grain,
She sidewise sits and chirrups;
A finger in old Dobbin's mane
Is good as forty stirrups.

The miller comes—a merry blade!—
And doffs his hat and greets her—
"What wish you here, my pretty maid?"
"I've brought a sack of wheat, sir."

"And have you gold to give for grist?"
"Not I, we're poor, alack! sir;
But take your toll—a tenth, I wist—
From what is in my sack, sir."

He lifts her lightly from her seat,
And laughs—a merry miller!—
"I cannot take my toll in wheat,
I must have gold or siller.

"But since you've brought no coin nor scrip,"
He smiles and fondly eyes her—
"Till ask no toll but from your lip—
One kiss!—who'll be the wiser?"

The maiden blushed and bowed her head,
And with her apron fingered,
And pouted out her lips of red
Where countless kisses lingered.

"A single kiss?" (She smiled in glee,
As who would say "I've caught you,")
"My father said your toll would be
A tenth of what I brought you."

The mill-stream shouted to the sands;
"He kissed the farmer's daughter;"
But the grim old wheel stretched out its hands,
And spanked the saucy water.

He Was Paralyzed.

[New York Herald.]

Curiosity was on tiptoe. Three men had caused a commotion, and yet there was no need for the police. The place was Twenty-second street and Broadway; the hour half-past 11. The horse cars, packed by muscular conductors, came to a standstill, for wagons, coupes, and hansoms blocked the track, while the drivers wildly waved their hats and shouted. Men laughed, women smiled, the policeman on the corner grinned officially, and two dudes stretched their long, thin necks above their collars to see what was going on.

This is what occurred:

A drunken man staggered through a lane left for him by the passers by, who got out of his way; a blind cripple sat on the pavement grinding out bad music with one hand, while his other arm and his leg hung helplessly; about his neck was a string and to the string was a sign, "I am paralyzed." Two well known members of a certain fashionable club saw the drunken man and the beggar. In an instant one of the club men stepped up to the beggar, saying: "I will give you $3 for the sign!"

"It is yours," said the blind beggar, taking it off. Before his friends knew what he was about the buyer of the sign had stepped hastily forward and had neatly thrown the string over the almost unconscious drunken man's head, attaching the sign to him.

The drunken man reeled along his way barging on his back the unnecessary notification to the public in great white letters, "I am paralyzed," to the intense delight of a small army of boys who hastily congregated and saw him safely into the hands of one of "the finest."

Limitation of Yellow Fever.

[Medical Exchange.]

The limitation of yellow fever to restricted areas is one of the characteristics of this disease, even when epidemic, and it takes some curious phases. The specific germ of the poison is great, and it clings to surfaces. "Frequently its rate of progress may be mathematically defined," says Dr. F. W. Reilly, "so many feet per day independent of any recognized influence, except a perpendicular obstacle." In Mobile a board fence stopped its progress, and a bluff bank held it at bay for weeks in Memphis. Hence the value of removal and the sanitary line when this disease apprears.

Alarmed Hawaiians.

[Chicago Times.]

Hawaiians are becoming alarmed at the rapid change taking place in the population of the islands. During the month of June there arrived at Honolulu 144 white persons, three Hawaiians, 324 Asiatics, and there departed during the same time 402 whites and only 215 Asiatics, showing a total change in favor of the Chinese of 467 persons. By the census of 1884 there were 18,053 Chinese on the island, which is known to have since increased 11 per cent., while during the past year the English-speaking race has fallen off about 8 per cent.

Pine Needles for Stuffing Cushions.

[Chicago Herald.]

A new industry in the southern forests is the utilization of the needles of the long-leaved pine—Pinus palustris Otis. The leaves are soaked in a bath to remove the glazing, then "crinkled" for stuffing cushions and other upholstering purposes. They are specially valuable on shipboard and other places where furniture is in danger of becoming infested with insects. The turpentine which remains in the leaves makes a powerful insect pitable abode for these annoying insects.

New England Farmers Leaving.

[Boston Advertiser.]

Cheap transportation and organized labor have called the young men from their ancestral homes and sent them to the west and to the large centers of industry. In many parts of this half dozen of New England states the traveler will find farms clung to only by the older people, who are to-day consuming the savings of earlier life and eking out an existence by the scanty yield of the soil; and if some method of arresting the process be not discovered and applied, the farms must pass, as in many localities they are now doing, into the hands of a foreign population recruited from the peasantry of other lands—which will be content to consume only the fruits of their tillage with but little thought or knowledge of the broader cultivation which has hitherto been the foundation and inspiration of New Eng land civilization.

Steam Power in London.

[Exchange.]

An English statistician, who has been studying the growth of London, says that without the agency of steam power the London of to-day would be an impossibility. If a sudden invasion or any calamity were to destroy the steam facilities the citizens now enjoy, they would be reduced, he says, to starvation within a week.

A Coney Island Custom.

[Cor. Chicago Journal.]

Amusement is plenty on Coney Island, however, and the best of it is free, for it can be found in watching the crowds. The democratic end of the island is the place for this, for there the boys and girls from the Bowery side of New York congregate. Their ways are sometimes unique. Where they get their usages is a puzzle to me. The girls are apt to be takish in attire, audacious in carriage, and slangy in language; and these characteristics are in the respectable ones as well as the dissolute.

I saw a custom, for example, which certainly has not yet reached the belles of Saratoga or Long Branch. It is a substitute for kissing, and it consists in rubbing cheeks. Two maidens meet. They are rapturously glad to see each other. Ordinarily, two girls thus situated crack their lips together resoundingly in a kiss that is more noisy than emotional. The Bowery belles have for the time abolished purely feminine osculation. Their faces are put together, but not the mouths. The nose of one is laid back about to the ear of the other, and the conjunctive cheeks, held hard, are slowly wiped together until they part at the corners of the mouths. The same operation vigorously repeated on the opposite sides of the faces completes the salutation.

The Etiquette of Story-Telling.

[The Hatchet.]

The other evening Judge Reily and Dr. Nelson were telling some of their stories when a flock of blackbirds flew overhead. "I killed seventy-five of those birds at one shot down on the east shore," said Judge Reily. "Shoo! that's nothing," said the doctor, "I killed 122 one time." "Look here, doctor," said the judge, "after this you can tell yours first."

A Thrilling Passage.

[St. Paul Times.]

A modern novel has the following passage: "With one hand he held the beautiful golden head above the chilling wave, and with the other called loudly for assistance."

The Greatest Service.

To Jefferson belongs the saying: "The greatest service which can be rendered to any country is to add a useful plant to its culture," a saying that should be constantly borne in mind by our agricultural department.

EX-MINISTER S. G. W. BENJAMIN

Gives a Reporter an Account of His Experience While in Persia.

[New York Sun Interview.]

"How do the Persians treat Christians and Europeans?"

"Not badly, if their fanaticism is not aroused. Then they become dangerous. A few years ago if a European consorted with a Persian woman he was killed at once, or obliged to turn Mohammedan and marry her. Even now it would create the greatest trouble, so that Europeans confine their attentions to the Armenian women of the native Christian population. When the shah's wives drive through the streets men go ahead to clear the streets and warn all persons to conceal themselves. If a man has no chance of getting away he turns his face around and does not look, on pain of being roughly handled or perhaps killed on the spot. Europeans are compelled to do the same thing.

In June of last year, owing to the intense heat, I was compelled to move my family out of the city. On my way to the country I met a large force of soldiers escorting the shah's wives. If a Persian had chanced to glance at the royal ladies in such circumstances he would have fared hard, but the foreign legations have rights and privileges of their own, so I stood my ground. Some twenty of the mounted guards violently attacked us and beat my servants and their horses in the effort to drive them back. I directed them to stand their ground, and things were looking serious, when one of the queens who recognized the servants of my legation by their badges, sent her chief eunuch to call the soldiers away. We were then allowed to pass through without further molestation.

This attack was an insult to the dignity of the legation too great to be overlooked, and I wrote a note to the minister of foreign affairs demanding satisfaction immediately. The reply to my note being tardy and evasive, I felt it my duty to inform the minister of foreign affairs that unless my terms were granted in thirty-six hours I should haul down the flag and demand my passport. The result justified my action. Without going into details, I may say that not only was the most ample satisfaction rendered us within thirty-six hours, but my course received the approval of the entire diplomatic corps and added to the high prestige awarded to foreign legations at the court of Persia.

"On another occasion a servant of one of my attaches nearly killed a Persian. This immediately created the greatest excitement, and a mob formed with the intention of attacking the legation. The minister of foreign affairs notified us to be prepared. I ordered our military guard to load their arms, and stationed them at the weak points where the mob might enter, making preparations also to send my family to a place of safety. Happily the earnest efforts of the authorities were successful in quelling the riot.

"Last spring the official paper, Shereef, published an article that was disrespectful to President Cleveland. I immediately demanded that a full correction should be made and a new article printed, in which he should be treated with the greatest honor. After much persistency this was done. Visits were very ceremonious, and it was necessary to send notice beforehand, and servants would come out to meet us as a mark of honor."

The "Old Leather" Tramp.

[Detroit Free Press.]

A familiar character in certain sections of Connecticut and New York state is known as "the old leather tramp." At intervals of thirty-four days he has perambulated a wide district, with self built huts or other self-appointed stopping places, for the last twenty-seven years. He is generally punctual, if not to the minute, yet to the hour. One of his huts, built of railway ties, is 100 rods up a mountain, the material being transported by his own physical strength. He has also caves in which he finds shelter. His tour is 366 miles, of which there are 240 miles in Connecticut, traveled by him in twenty-two days, and 120 miles in the state of New York, to which he devotes twelve days.

He has a leather suit of clothes. It was recently ascertained that he was a French Catholic, 68 years of age, who believes that he is doing penance in expiation of some great sin committed long ago. He carries with him a French prayerbook of date of 1844, a tin pipe of his own making, an ax in one pocket and a bauble in another, a tin pail, a frying-pan, hatchet, jack-knife and awl. He wears a crucifix on his breast under his clothes. Never does he solicit alms, nor does he seem to care for money. In the coldest nights he prefers one of his own places of shelter to any civilized home. Altogether he is a strange specimen of the tramp species.

Shakespeare and George Eliot.

[The Current.]

Miss Rose Elizabeth Cleveland, in her recently published work entitled "George Eliot's Poetry and Other Studies," makes a curious distinction between the writings of Shakespeare and of George Eliot. While discovering resemblances as well as differences, she says that the reader emerges from one of Shakespeare's plays as from an ocean bath, "exhilarated by the tossing of the billows," while he comes from one of George Eliot's poems "as from a Turkish bath of latest science and refinement—appreciative of benefit, but so battered, beaten, and disjointed as to need repose before he can be conscious of refreshment."

Effects of Cold.

[Scientific Journal.]

In the experiments of Coleman and McKendrick, as reported to the Glasgow Philosophical society, a live rabbit survived an hour's exposure to a temperature of 100 degrees below zero. It was not frozen, its body heat being reduced only to 43 degrees. Live frogs became quite solid in half an hour at 20 to 30 degrees below zero, and in two instances recovered from the freezing. Intense cold for many hours failed to destroy microscopic organisms, whose vitality was simply arrested by freezing, and was resumed when a suitable temperature was restored.

Restaurant Waiters' Slang.

[Butte City Inter-Mountain.]

One morning recently a hungry pilgrim went into Pat Conlon's restaurant and ordered some toast, boiled potatoes, poached eggs, a rare steak, and some hot cakes. The waiter, "Professor," Harris, went to the kitchen and roared out to the Chinaman: "Gimme a graveyard stew, potatoes in the dark, two men a-horseback, a moonlight on the lake and a flam beau." When the pilgrim heard this remarkable order he incontinently fled from the house, forgetting to take his hat and muttering that he d "be gol darned if he proposed to tackle that kind of a breakfast, and that if the people lived on such things in this country he proposed to return to Missouri."

A reporter for The Inter-Mountain, who happened to be in the restaurant at the time, approached the waiter and asked for an explanation of the order, and the professor gave the following version:

"You see," he said, "we get tired of commonplaces, and besides, we try to teach the Chinamen the language. A graveyard stew means milk toast, potatoes in the dark is boiled potatoes; eggs circus style means scrambled eggs; rough and ready means pork and, means a flambean is light, hot cakes, and moonlight on the lake is rare beefsteak. The waiters all have pet names for these things, and we throw potatoes at the China cooks till they know what we mean."

Another boarder came in and the professor roared out with the voice of a stentor: "Gimme a saddle bags and a springer, spuds on the side, tenpenny nails and a shingle to come a runnin'." Then the reporter followed in the wake of the "Missourian."

Villainous Absinthe.

[Chicago Herald Interview.]

"What is your opinion, doctor, of absinthe as a beverage?" queried the scribe.

"Of all villainous drinks I think that is the worst. It is said to be good for digestion. It is not. A fool paragraph in the papers the other day said it was a sure cure for cholera. That is just as much a mistake as the other. But I'll tell you what it will surely do. It will surely make the drinker a confirmed epileptic, and it will destroy all his virile powers. It is imported from France, and in its purity is composed of the essence of wormwood (absinthium), sweet flag, aniseed, angelica root and alcohol. But like most imported liquor it is largely adulterated, and with the most deadly compounds, such as sulphate of copper, blue vitriol and chloride of antimony. Its action on the nervous system is different from that of alcohol, and more nearly resembles nicotine. In a word, a more consummate devil of destruction could not be concocted by the highest scientific skill than is found in this same absinthe, which many of our young men are now in the habit of drinking daily."

(No. 136.)

A BYLAW

FOR THE REGULATION OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT; FOR ELECTING FIRE ENGINEERS AND APPOINTING FIREMEN, AND APPOINTING THEIR SALARIES AND REMUNERATION.

WHEREAS by "The Firemen's Act, 1864," it is enacted that from and after the passing of that Act the whole of the apparatus, whether engine, hose, hooks, ladders, or other articles used with, or belonging to, or in any way appertaining to, the fire department of the city of Victoria shall be deemed for the purposes of that act, to be the property of the Victoria Fire Department, subject to the order and control of the mayor and corporation of the city of Victoria;

And whereas, by the "Municipality Act, 1881," and the Act to amend the same passed in the year 1883, it is enacted that in every municipality the Council may from time to time make, alter and repeal, by laws for any of the following purposes, or in relation to matters coming within the classes of subjects next hereinafter mentioned (among others) that is to say, (59) for the assistance and regulation of Fire Departments, and (91) for electing Fire Engineers and appointing Firemen, and promoting, establishing and regulating Fire Companies, Hook and Ladder Companies, and Property Saving Companies, and to appoint such salaries and remuneration as may be necessary, subject to the proviso that any bylaw made under the authority of subsection 91 (now in recital) shall have no force or effect unless it contains provision that the Chief Engineer and Assistant Engineer be biennially elected by the municipal ratepayers nor until the bylaw has been submitted to the ratepayers of the municipality and has been approved by them in the manner provided by section 74, and subsections thereof, of the "Municipality Act, 1881;"

And whereas it is expedient that the corporation of the City of Victoria should control and regulate the Fire Department of the city and make provisions for the election of the Chief and Assistant Engineers thereof, and for the payment of the officers and firemen thereof;

And whereas the Chief Engineer, Assistant Engineer and Board of Delegates of the Fire Department of the city have consented to and approved of the arrangement and provision hereinafter made;

Be it therefore enacted by the Council of the Corporation of the City of Victoria, in exercise of the said recited powers and of every other power enabling them in this behalf, as follows:

1. The Fire Department of the city shall henceforth consist of a Chief Engineer and an Assistant Engineer, to be elected as hereinafter mentioned, and three Foremen, two Engine Drivers, twelve Hosemen, six Hook and Ladder men, and such reserve firemen as may from time to time be required to be appointed as hereinafter mentioned.

2. Immediately after the final passing of this bylaw and thereafter annually in the month of December in each alternate year, the Council shall by resolution fix a time and place, appoint a returning officer, and make other necessary arrangements for the election of a Chief Engineer and Assistant Engineer of the Fire Department, in like manner as upon the election of a mayor; and at such election every person who is rated upon the then last revised assessment roll of the city shall be entitled to one vote for each office he is a candidate for; and if more nated for an office, the returning officer shall forthwith declare him duly elected without a poll.

3. The Chief Engineer and Assistant Engineer so elected as aforesaid shall respectively hold the office until successors are elected or appointed, or until (before that time) they shall die, resign, or cease to discharge their duties.

4. In case the Chief Engineer or the Assistant Engineer shall die, resign, or cease from any cause to discharge the duties of his office, the Council shall appoint some other competent person to the office in his place until the next biennial election.

5. The Foreman, Engine Drivers, Hosemen and Hook and Ladder men and reserve firmen shall be appointed and may be removed from office from time to time by the Council.

6. The several officers of the Fire Department shall, while they hold and discharge the duties of their respective offices, be entitled to be paid therefor at the rates next hereinafter mentioned, namely:

Chief Engineer	$700	per annum
Assistant Engineer	300	"
Foreman, each	150	"
Engine Driver, each	720	"
Hoseman, each	120	"
Hook and Ladder Men, e...	120	"

Provided that the Foreman and each Hook and Ladder man shall also be entitled to be paid 50 cents per hour or part of an hour while actually employed at a fire.

7. Subject to the election of an Engineer and Assistant Engineer under this bylaw, it shall be lawful for the Council to take and hold possession of all the real and personal property of the Fire Department of the City of Victoria and all engines, hose, tools used by or in connection with the said Fire Department, and to assume the entire control and management thereof, and to make such rules and regulations as they shall deem necessary or expedient for carrying into effect this bylaw, and from time to time to alter and revoke such rules and regulations; and for all or any of these purposes the Fire Wardens shall be a Committee of the Council.

8. In addition to the officers and men hereinbefore mentioned the Fire Wardens may from time to time appoint such reserve firemen as they shall deem necessary or expedient, to be employed when called upon, in case of fire, by the Chief Engineer or other officers acting in his place; and such reserve firemen, when so employed at a fire, shall be paid at the rate of $1 for the first hour or part of an hour and 50 cents for each subsequent hour or part of an hour per man. In case any reserve fireman shall be so called upon and report himself at a fire but shall not actually be employed he shall be paid 50 cents.

9. The apparatus of the Fire Department shall consist of steam fire-engines, hose carts and hose, hook and ladder trucks, hydrants, water-tanks, fire-ladders, fire alarms and other necessary apparatus, in such numbers and quantities as shall from time to time be deemed necessary by the Council.

10. The Council shall from time to time set apart out of the general revenue of the city such sum or sums of money as may be necessary to pay the salaries and remuneration hereinbefore mentioned, and otherwise to maintain the Fire Department in an efficient state.

11. Subject to this bylaw, and the rules and regulations to be made in pursuance thereof, the whole apparatus and management of the Fire Department shall be under the direction of the Chief Engineer; and at every fire the Chief Engineer or other the senior officer of the Department who may be present shall have sole control over all members or servants of the Fire Department, and all other persons engaged in suppressing the fire, and all engines and apparatus used therein; and every person present at a fire shall promptly obey every lawful order of such Chief Engineer or other senior officer.

12. This bylaw may be cited for all purposes as the "Fire Department Bylaw, 1885."

Passed the Municipal Council the eighteenth day of November, A. D., 1885.

Received the assent of the Ratepayers of the City of Victoria the 1st day of December, A. D., 1885.

Reconsidered and finally passed the Council the second day of December, A. D., 1885.

R. P. RITHET,
Mayor.

JAMES D. ROBINSON,
L.S. C. M. C.
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NOTICE.

150-MILE HOUSE, 14th Nov., 1885.

I HAVE THIS DAY MADE APPLICATION FOR the purchase of 160 acres of land, situate between the Williams Lake School Reserve and the property known as the Johnston Pre-emption at 150-Mile House.

nov11 3m PETER ODDEN HAMILTON.

SALE OF LAND FOR TAXES.

Taxes remaining unpaid in Victoria, Lake, North and South Saanich Districts, on account of Assessment made in 1884. Tax collectible on and after 2nd January, 1885.

Name of Person Assessed.	Description of Tax.	Description of the Parcels, Sec. or Lots.	Amt.
Sullivan, Henry	Real