

The Colonist.

THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1900.

SOUTH VICTORIA.

Mr. D. M. Eberts has announced that he is a candidate for re-election in his old constituency, South Victoria. We are glad to be able to make this statement and hope that the electors of that riding will see that he is returned to the legislature. The province can ill spare the services of a gentleman of Mr. Eberts' capacity and experience. He has been ten years in the house and is thoroughly in touch with public business. He understands the minutiae of legislation very thoroughly, and is an excellent critic of bills. Too little attention is paid to the latter qualification as a rule. A notion is quite prevalent that the preparation of a bill is a simple matter, and that almost any person can draw a law that will be found workable and give effect to the intentions of the house. There never was a greater mistake. Not only is it necessary that a statute should be correctly phrased, but care should be taken to see that it does not conflict with existing laws, which the legislature does not contemplate altering. In recent years the British Columbia legislature has not contained a member who was Mr. Eberts' superior in work of this nature, and very few who could be classed as his equals. We hope, therefore, in the interests of the whole province that the voters of South Victoria will send him back as their representative.

MR. JOSEPH MARTIN.

(From Thursday's Daily Edition.) We suppose it is useless to expect any longer that the Lieutenant-Governor will request Mr. Martin to resign, and we may therefore regard as fairly begun a campaign, which is to determine whether or not he is to be entrusted with the management of the affairs of the province for the next few years. It is proper under these circumstances to examine into his qualifications for the position of premier, and in so doing we wish to avoid anything like offensive personalities. Personal references must be made to him as a matter of course, but in these we shall endeavor to confine ourselves only to indisputable facts and to avoid any discussion of him in any other than his public capacity.

Mr. Martin was very prominent in Manitoba politics. A review of his career there would be of some interest, but perhaps it is sufficient to say that he himself claims to have become so thoroughly the champion of the people that he could have been elected from any constituency. At the very height of his popularity Mr. Martin left Manitoba, gave up the championship of what he claims were the people's rights and moved to British Columbia. HE WAS PAID TO LEAVE. The Canadian Pacific Railway Company paid him to leave. Mr. Martin himself is the authority for this statement, and the sum received by him was upwards of \$15,000. This is also Mr. Martin's own statement. He came to British Columbia in the capacity of solicitor to the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, whose avowed enemy he now is. He had been the company's enemy in Manitoba, and it was only a question of the amount of the retaining fee as to whether or not he should continue his opposition to the company in Manitoba. A part of the reason for his removal from Manitoba was that he was obnoxious to Mr. Sifton, and the railway company was willing to assist Mr. Sifton in getting rid of him. There may be some details in this transaction which we are not advised, but the salient fact is that Mr. Martin abandoned the cause for which he was working in Manitoba, and accepting a fee from his opponents withdrew and left the field to them. We are not going to discuss the moral principle involved in the withdrawal of a public man from the championship of a cause on receipt of a sum of money, but from those to whom he is opposed. Every man must settle that matter with his own conscience. The point with which we are concerned is that the circumstances attending Mr. Martin's removal from Manitoba show beyond a shadow of a doubt that he is a PATRIOT WITH A PRICE. The price may have to be a high one. Possibly it would cost more to get him to move on from British Columbia, sacrifice the cause of which he boasts himself the champion here, and go else-

where to set up as the friend of the common people and the enemy of all corporations; but there can be no question that the only thing to be taken into consideration is the number and value of the figures on the check and the signature in the right hand corner. Arrived in British Columbia, Mr. Martin in pursuance of his duty as solicitor for the Canadian Pacific Railway examined into the title of the British Columbia Southern Railway Company to its grant, and after he had done so, that company conveyed to the Crown's Ness Pass Coal Company a portion of that grant, which was conveyed and accepted under the belief by all the parties to the transaction that the title was good. We shall only say, in this connection, that Mr. Martin did not advise his company that the title was defective. It was only after he became attorney-general that he raised any doubt on the point. There was a time when Mr. Martin must be assumed to have thought the title perfectly good, and he could not have had much doubt when he went East by direction of a prominent United States railway company for the purpose of seeing if an arrangement could not be made for transferring the grant and the control of the transportation business of southeast Kootenay to United States railway people. Mr. Martin knew all about the British Columbia Southern charter and land grant long before the session of 1899. None of the grants had been issued to the company when that session was held, yet Mr. Martin took no steps whatever to see that the rights of the province to the coal or a royalty on it were protected in any way. He knew just as much about it then as he did at any time since, but he never moved hand or foot to protect the interests of the people which he now says were sacrificed, although he had a majority behind him that would have passed any law on the subject that he might have seen fit to introduce.

The session of 1899 was characterized by a great deal of legislation and the most of the government bills were of such a character as to interfere with the best interests of the province from a business point of view. Not only were they badly designed in principle, but they were badly drawn up. Poor legislation than Mr. Martin gave the province is not to be found in our statute books. The laws of 1899 show that he is an unsafe legislator from the standpoint of a framer of bills. He is extremely careless, and his legislative work may prove very costly to business men in the future. A sample of Mr. Martin's carelessness was shown in connection with his amazing blunder regarding the reservation of royalty in the B.C. Southern grant. The particulars of this are fresh in everyone's mind and need not be repeated here. It was the blunder of an utterly reckless man. No one can possibly have any confidence in the leadership of a gentleman, who would at the very outset of his campaign rely, as his chief claim to popular support, upon a wholly mistaken view of the facts and the law in a matter that has been under his notice for three years. The only possible explanation of his course in this matter, except that it was an egregious and perfectly inexcusable blunder, such as a school boy ought not to have committed, is that Mr. Martin deliberately attempted to deceive the public. We do not suggest this as the correct explanation. We believe that he simply blundered.

Mr. Martin's conduct in connection with Deadman's Island shows that he does not possess that sense of distinction between the duties of a public man and those of a private individual, which a minister ought to have. We shall not go over the details of this transaction, but will point out that in a matter in which the interests of the province were involved, which it was his duty to watch as attorney-general, Mr. Martin was found acting as solicitor for a private individual, whose claim was hostile to that of the province, and resorting to expedients of a most objectionable character. It was no doubt a very profitable thing to be Mr. Ludgate's solicitor, but a lawyer with an appreciation of the obligations of his profession and the responsibility attaching to the office of attorney-general would not have accepted a retainer from that gentleman in such a case.

We shall not comment upon the platform which Mr. Martin has submitted to the people of British Columbia. This will necessarily form the subject of future discussion; but we shall refer briefly to the gentlemen whom he has associated with himself in the ministry. The voters altogether unknown in a public way, and there is not a man among them who has the slightest title to public confidence. But this is the class of colleagues which Mr. Martin prefers. He proposes to rule the province. Will it be claimed that his record shows him to be a safe man to entrust with the large powers of premier? Is he such a one as ought to be permitted to shape the policy of the province at this juncture? We believe that the answer of the voters will be in the negative by an enormous majority.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

(From Thursday's Daily Colonist.) It is officially announced that the legislature is to meet on July 5. This is in direct violation of the promise contained in the prorogation speech, which the Lieutenant-Governor has on one or two occasions since it was delivered stated would, he believed, be observed. It is certainly a very serious thing that the first act of Premier Martin was to put into the mouth of the Lieutenant-Governor a promise which will not be kept, especially a promise of such a vital nature. The house was prorogued without having granted supply, and the pledge of a session before the end of the fiscal year was deliberately given in order to quiet any apprehension that no money would be available for the public service. It is true that the date of the

session is only five days after the close of the fiscal year, but the principle is the same as if it were six weeks. We are not so absurd as to claim that any great harm will be done if two weeks elapse after the end of the fiscal year before new supplies can be voted. Very much more than the week is likely to elapse, but of this more hereafter. Our point is that the distinct promise made to the house and country in the most solemn way in which a promise can be made has been violated. We will only add here on this point that the date at which the session has been called fully bears out the contention which the Colonist has made all along.

But the fact that July 5 has been fixed as the date for the meeting of the legislature does not mean that supply will be voted on that day or for some time thereafter. If Mr. Martin should be able to secure a majority of the new house, he could undoubtedly, at an early day in the session, pass a gross sum of say, \$100,000 to meet the requirements of the public service pending the introduction of supply in the regular way. If he should be defeated, as is apparently inevitable, a new government must be formed, and this will take some time. Indeed it is probable that there will be a new Lieutenant-Governor as well as a new ministry. There will in that event be more or less of a hiatus in the work of the new ministers can go before their constituents for re-election, and a prorogation of the house will be necessary in the meanwhile. Therefore, if Mr. Martin is defeated, it is not easy to see how the house can meet for the transaction of business before some time in August, which means that it will be well along in September, if not the 1st of October, before any of the business of the country can be done, except the passage of a lump sum for supply.

THE SAREL CASE.

The Grand Jury threw out the bill against Mr. Sarel of the Kamloops Standard without calling any witnesses. What took place in the privacy of the jury room is necessarily a matter that cannot be discussed; but if the reason why the bill was thrown out was that the Grand Jury did not think it desirable to limit the freedom of discussion, which it is imperative that the press should enjoy in the interest of good government, we think the action commendable. At the same time, we wish to express the opinion that the action of the Standard was utterly inexcusable under any circumstances whatever. The press of no country requires liberty to indulge in such grossly indecent observations in regard to any one. It was a gross blunder to prosecute such a case. It was a characteristic piece of work on Mr. Martin's part. He it was who first drew attention to the article in the legislature, thus giving publicity which it would never otherwise have obtained. He brought it up a second time and thus kept the eyes of the people upon what they would otherwise have forgotten. Then he took the matter into court, with the result that he has subjected the Lieutenant-Governor to the humiliation of having his name mentioned in a manner that is a worse reflection upon him than the article itself. Why Mr. Martin should have taken such a course and have subjected His Honor to this fresh indignity is beyond us. The Lieutenant-Governor will begin now to get some idea of the manner of man to whom he has entrusted his reputation, his official life and the destinies of the province.

REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT.

(From Wednesday's Daily Colonist.) In connection with the report given from Ottawa professing to give the views of the Laurier ministry on the political situation here, it may be mentioned that while there is no doubt, as to the power of the Lieutenant-Governor to appoint as members of the executive council persons who are not at the time in the legislature, his doing so is directly in the face of the principles of representative government. Representative government does not merely mean that the laws shall be made by a body by the people's representatives, or in the name of the people, but that the administration of the government shall be carried out by the people's representative, or in England by those occupying hereditary representative positions. There is a distinction between a member of the legislature and other people. The voters make the difference. They give to certain persons a representative capacity, and while there are any individuals occupying representative positions, it is the bounden duty of the Lieutenant-Governor to select his representatives from such people. If the house had been dissolved forthwith upon Mr. Martin's appointment to the premiership, he would have been at liberty to select his colleagues where he could find them; provided always that he appealed to the people for ratification of his choice at the earliest possible day. But here we have a legislature representative of the people, and a government representative of nobody. This state of things has continued for six weeks and will undoubtedly exist for some time longer. No man with a grain of sense will say that this is representative government. This view of the case must not be lost sight of, for if the Dominion government takes any action in the premises it will probably be because, owing to the extraordinary course followed by the Lieutenant-Governor in accepting the ministers nominated by Mr. Martin, British Columbia has been deprived of representative government.

THE EMPHATIC STATEMENT.

(From Thursday's Daily Colonist.) The emphatic statement that the D. & L. Meston Plaster is doing a great deal to alleviate rheumatism and rheumatic pains, and that it is a healthy, safe, and effective remedy, is being widely distributed by the Davis & Lawrence Co., Ltd.

where they may crawl in and sleep in to most of them all the habitation required. There are exceptions, but they are few and far between. So with the Japanese; they do not think in the majority of cases of setting up homes for themselves. There is hardly such a thing as an emigration of Japanese people to any other country. The thousands of Japanese men who have come to America. Until there is something of the kind, it is idle to talk about the assimilation of Japanese to our manner of living.

While this is true, there is another side to the question. Is there sufficient white labor available for the development of the country? Many people will answer this question in the affirmative, and be surprised that it is asked. But what are the facts? In British Columbia there are many Japanese employed on farms. A gentleman whose business recently took him to nearly every farm house in an important farming section of the Island, expressed his surprise at the few white farm servants he found in the number of Japanese. He is doubtful if British Columbia can ever become anything like self-supporting in an agricultural sense unless some other labor than that of white people is available. Whether a farmer on Vancouver Island or in the Fraser Valley can compete with imported produce depends upon what it costs to raise that produce. Our farmers are competing with countries where labor is considerably cheaper than here. British Columbia cannot hope to become a manufacturing province if labor is not available at a lower rate than white men expect and receive here, and which indeed they must have if they are to maintain their present standard of living. While upon this point it may be well to say that all grades of white society in this province are extremely extravagant. They maintain a high standard of living, but not nearly as high a standard as they might for the same money, if the principles of domestic economy were understood here as in France, for example. But this question is too much involved to be more than referred to here. A certain standard of living has been adopted by white working men, and it is impossible for the country to pay the wages necessary to maintain the standard of living produce at a profit goods that come into competition with the products of localities where labor is cheaper. Undoubtedly white labor is as a rule better than Oriental labor. It is said that the experiment of employing Japanese as section men on the transcontinental roads of the United States has not proved a success; but it is undoubtedly true that if all the Orientals could be excluded from this province many industries would suffer temporarily. In time white labor would come in and take its place, but we believe this would mean a general lowering of the rate of wages. We are not sure that the presence of Oriental labor here to take the employment that cannot afford to pay high prices does not materially aid in keeping up the present standard of wages.

There are so many sides to this subject that no one can pretend to speak authoritatively upon it. It is a great and far-reaching economic question, upon which there will be wide differences of opinion. The Dominion parliament is to be asked to decide it, and we are sure that it will attach to the line of action which the government shall recommend. Hitherto the people of America have concerned themselves chiefly about what they were going to do with the Orient, and have lost sight of the almost equally important question: What is the Orient going to do with us? It is necessary to do something to prevent the advent of unlimited numbers of Orientals to our shores; but we must not lose sight of the fact that we are trying a great experiment in the cultivation of closer relations with our neighbors across the ocean, and we may expect to be surprised at some of the results.

IN NORTHERN CANADA.

Andrew J. Stone, whose remarkable article on the burning coal field on the shore of the Arctic Ocean we reprinted in Saturday's Colonist, made an extremely interesting journey through Northern Canada, but it is very singular that in his paper on the subject in the New York Herald he omits altogether to mention that his explorations were confined to the Dominion. One requires to have a pretty fair idea of the geography of the continent to know that the country visited by him is not United States territory. Even the maps accompanying the paper do not mention Canada. On every occasion, however, on which the name Alaska could be brought into the narrative it is conspicuous enough. Indeed Mr. Stone is actually misleading in one place, for he speaks of the exploration of the head of the Stikine river which he says he reached from Wrangle, Alaska, leaving the average reader to surmise that the headwaters of the Stikine are also in Alaska.

THE LIBERAL CONVENTION.

In order to appreciate the completeness of Mr. Martin's overthrow at the Liberal convention it is necessary to bear in mind that he had made all arrangements to pack it to suit his own purposes. His friends in Vancouver called the convention and attempted to fix up its organization to suit him. By a little manipulation the Martinists secured a majority in the credentials committee, and the work done by that body was of the rank kind. It replaced several perfectly qualified delegates by others whose sole recommendation was that they were Martin men. Yet with all the doctoring of the credentials, when the convention assembled Mr. Martin found a majority against him on the crucial vote, namely the admission of the Cassiar delegates. When these took their seats, it was plain that his game was up and thereafter he devoted his energy to breaking the gathering up in confusion. This he did. If anything like a fair credentials committee had been appointed, Mr. Martin would have been in a much smaller minority than he found himself. There has rarely been a case where a

A SPECIAL BY MR. HILL.

Mr. J. J. Hill, of the Great Northern, made a speech before the Seattle Chamber of Commerce on Saturday and while he has no reference in any way to British Columbia, he stated some facts that will be of interest here, especially in view of the fact that we talk often of seeing Victoria become the headquarters of trans-Pacific trade. "Eight months ago," said Mr. Hill, "I should have been rejoiced to have any steamboat people come here with vessels of 10,000 to 12,000 tons capacity; but we have found it necessary to order ships that will carry 20,000 tons, or a measurement capacity of over 28,000 tons." He added that the deck-room in the steamers already ordered will amount to five acres. To handle the cargoes of these ships will, he said, call for 1,000 to 1,500 cars, and the railway will need twenty-five miles of yard tracks to take care of the business of one of the steamers. This space is necessary because the vessels must have quick despatch, as it costs between \$1,800 and \$2,000 a day to run them.

Mr. Hill gave some interesting statistics about terminal facilities, which will be a revelation to those who think we have a sufficient terminal for trans-Pacific commerce at the outer wharf, and if not, to make one in the harbor. The Great Northern's terminal tracks at Lake Superior are seventy miles long and they handle 1,500 cars a day. Buffalo has 1,400 miles of terminal tracks, and yet, said Mr. Hill, there are times when Buffalo is stalled. Last fall Buffalo had to refuse to take any more freight, and there were at that time six ships waiting to discharge, some of them having been waiting for more than a week. "People in the West do not know anything about despatch," said he. "At West Superior a 3,000-ton ship comes in the night loaded with coal, and by the next night she is unloaded and is steaming away with 5,000 tons of grain." Vessels on the lakes insist on quick despatch in their charters, and absolutely refuse to go where they cannot get it. But not only is a great extent of trackage necessary to handle goods, but not through Chicago. Mr. Hill referred to the lumber business of the state of Washington, which he regards as his chief industry. The Great Northern now gives a rate from the Coast to Lake Superior of 40 cents per hundred weight on lumber. He says that the states between the Ohio river and the Rocky mountains is 10,000,000,000 feet of wood lumber every year. Of this at present only about 10 per cent. comes from the Pacific Coast. This gives some idea of the tremendous drain there is likely to be upon the forests of the state of Washington in the future, and furnishes a slight idea of the enormous value which British Columbia forests are likely to possess before very long, and also that the west will probably have to look abroad for wood lumber every year.

JAPANESE EXCLUSION.

Canada is not the only country that is disturbed over the question of Japanese competition. It is exciting keen interest in certain parts of the United States, more particularly in California. The Labor Council of San Francisco has adopted a resolution in regard to it. They demand "the total and perpetual exclusion from the United States of all Japanese other than those accredited by their government on its diplomatic staff." They declare this to be necessary "if the American standard of living" is to be preserved, and that the apparent assimilation of Japanese to Occidental methods of living only serves to make their competition more dangerous.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

The immigration of Japanese into America is certainly increasing with very great rapidity, and they are undoubtedly a formidable factor in the labor market. While it is very true that they make a point of assimilating themselves to our manner of dress and to some extent our manner of living, the fact that only very few of them are married, and raise families renders their perfect assimilation impossible. Herein there is a radical difference between the European and the Asiatic emigrant. The former must carry with him the institution of a home, which means that he must have a wife and children, and be it ever so humble, there's no place like a home to determine the social status of a people. The latter, however, the case is quite different. Some of the Chinese bring their wives with them and raise families, but the great majority of them do not. They have no such thing as homes. A place

where they may crawl in and sleep in to most of them all the habitation required. There are exceptions, but they are few and far between. So with the Japanese; they do not think in the majority of cases of setting up homes for themselves. There is hardly such a thing as an emigration of Japanese people to any other country. The thousands of Japanese men who have come to America. Until there is something of the kind, it is idle to talk about the assimilation of Japanese to our manner of living.

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new variety of carbon and a black mountain sheep, the existence of which he says was unknown to scientific men until he found them. He was very much impressed with the Tahitian Indians, who inhabit this district, and regards them as the best aboriginal tribe in the Northwest mountain region, although they are rapidly deteriorating owing to the prevalence of disease, due to contact with white people. The Kasas live further inland than the Tahitians, and are the simplest and most primitive people in the North. They have never been visited by missionaries, and are given to human sacrifices. Passing out of the country of the Tinas, Kasas he came into that of the Tinas, whom he describes as the most degraded and wretched tribe in the whole North. They have no property whatever and are exceedingly filthy. Through sheer laziness many of them die of starvation every year. Further north than the Tinas are the Louches, a widely distributed race, occupying a territory having an area of 250,000 square miles. Still further north Mr. Stone found three lost tribes of Eskimos—that is to say, three tribes whose existence had not been suspected. They appear to be rather fine people, being of good stature, very industrious and provident, and with some knowledge of working in metals. He also traced the history of several Eskimo tribes now extinct.

Mr. Stone makes the somewhat extraordinary statement that that portion of the North American continent which lies north of the 52nd parallel of latitude is twice as large as the United States. He must surely be mistaken about this, and his carelessness in this respect rather detracts from the value of his observations. There is undoubtedly a vast area in the portion of Canada referred to that is practically unexplored. That it abounds in fur-bearing animals everyone knows, but few people will be prepared to be told that it is a land of flowers. These are for the most part small and wholly lacking in odor. The valleys on the head of the Stikine Mr. Stone speaks of as a veritable flower garden.

All this possesses great interest to British Columbians, for we have more than one or two harbors better suited to the handling of Oriental trade than any on the Sound, and we may feel very confident that the energy of Canadian business men, which has already made the Canadian Pacific so great a factor in trans-Pacific trade, will not allow our neighbors to get ahead of us in the competition.

Mat and Bag making in the home is attracting the attention of ladies all over the Dominion. The manufacturers of the celebrated Diamond Bys are now prepared to meet the popular demand for novel and pretty designs in Mats and Bags, and have prepared an illustrated booklet showing in colors the styles they have for sale. Full information is given in this booklet. Sent free to any address by Wells & Richardson Co., 200 Mountain, St. Montreal, P.Q.

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As showing the great respect which was held in the past for the priesthood, the celebration of his jubilee, the settlers and gathered from far and near to honor. A great feast was held the celebration extended over two days. The feast was held at Quamich which was erected at Quamich the efforts of Father Rondeau, the news of the death of their pastor, and the grief in consequence will be very great.

Special honor will be done this year. The celebration will be held on Monday next at 7:30. The bells in state for eight hours. Bishop's Palace on the 10th of July afterwards be forwarded to Co where it will be interred on the burned church and where the building will be re-erected.

Mr. J. J. Hill, president of the Great Northern Railway Company, was in Seattle a few days ago and in an interview spoke of his plans for the immediate future. The improvements to be undertaken by this company will involve the expenditure of between two and three million dollars in the state of Washington during the coming summer. The tunnel through the Cascades will be finished sometime in September, boring being now in progress at the rate of 500 feet a month. Several spur lines will be built to accommodate the rapidly increasing lumber business. Mr. Hill says that 140 lumber mills are now in operation along the line of the Great Northern in Washington. The wooden bridges on the Coast lines are to be replaced with steel. Perhaps his most interesting statement is that relating to his preparations for Oriental trade. Three great steam freighters have been ordered and are to be completed in November, 1901. It will take 1,500 freight cars to fill one of these freighters, and for this purpose 12 miles of trackage will be needed at the terminal point. This will call for very extensive additions to the facilities which the railway now has at Smith's Cove, Seattle. While at Whatcom Mr. Hill spoke very encouragingly of the prospects of the Bellingham Bay towns, and gave more than colorable ground for the belief that he contemplates, as Oriental business expands, to utilize the excellent harbor there in connection with this commerce.

News of the phenomenon came from Mount Baker, one of the highest peaks of the Coast Range, which has been dammed and the course of the river now rises 100 feet above its former level. The eruption and upheaval is about 300 miles from the most interesting peaks of the Coast Range. The eruption and upheaval is about 300 miles from the most interesting peaks of the Coast Range. The eruption and upheaval is about 300 miles from the most interesting peaks of the Coast Range.

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Pioneer Priest Passes Av

Venerable Father Rondeau the Cowichan Diocese Joins the Majority.

He Had Labored Among the Columbia Indians for Two Years.

There died at the Jubilee hospital yesterday afternoon one of the Catholic priests on the Pacific coast not only in years, but in that since the days when the first settler penetrated the interior of British Columbia. He has been a pioneer of Christianity among natives of the province. Good old Father Rondeau, of the Indian tribes at Cowichan, whom he has labored for the years, has gone to his reward at the age of 75. A severe attack of grippe, combined with the natural infirmities of declining years, was the cause of his death.

Father Rondeau came to British Columbia 42 years ago. Born in France, he was educated at the seminary at the Montreal diocese and on attaining clerical honors, he came to this coast. He was imbued with the desire to take labor in behalf of the church in the far West. So he started out on his arduous journey