

From Scene Of Wreck

D. G. S. Quadra Makes an Unsuccessful Search for Missing Bodies.

Captain Walbran's Official Report on the Loss of the Steamer Alpha.

D. G. S. Quadra, Capt. Walbran, returned yesterday from the scene of the wreck of the Alpha at Yellow Rock, 150 miles from the coast of British Columbia, so far as the findings of any bodies was concerned the cruise of the vessel was unsuccessful, none having been recovered beyond those three already mentioned which were afterwards lost in making the landing at Denman island wharf.

Mr. Barrow and another officer of the Quadra walked nine miles along the beach, and the steam cutter made the trip twice in the hope of discovering bodies, but in vain. The ship's grindstones and parts of the piano were picked up about three miles from the wreck.

Capt. Walbran makes the statement that one of the men made a hazardous trip to shore and held on to the rock with one hand while he supported the end of the line along which the shipwrecked men came ashore with the other. This fact was that the rock was quite bare when the vessel struck, and the passing of the line ashore was made with comparative ease. A moment of two later, however, the ship swung round, and there was fifty feet of boiling water to negotiate between her and the land. The hull was submerged, and those who perished hesitated about committing themselves to it when covered in water and when not sure that it was secured at the other end. The first officer described the shrieks of those who perished when the rigging fell about midnight as terrible.

Capt. Walbran's report to the department of marine and fisheries is as follows:

"Upon arrival I found that the disaster had occurred on the east point of Yellow Rock, and that no communication had been possible with the wreck since it happened, owing to the heavy gales prevailing from the S. E. The wreck took place at 6.45 Saturday, December 15th. Twenty-six persons were saved by means of three ropes made fast between the fore rigging and the rock. Nine persons, including the captain, purser and the three engineers, were drowned, these unfortunate persons preferring to take their chances for life by staying on the ship, rather than by taking to the ropes.

"The hull is totally submerged, and her masts, broken off floating in the water and held by wreckage, are now the only indications of the disaster.

"The day after the disaster, the remains being mutilated somewhat, a sloop from Hornby island took all the survivors with the exception of the boat-swain, who is at present at Yellow Rock standing by the wreck on behalf of the owner, Mr. Gepelle, of Vancouver, B. C., which place they stayed at until an opportunity occurred of proceeding to Vancouver. As the sloop went up the Sound three bodies were found on the beach near Reef Bluff, Denman island, which proved to be those of Mr. Barrow, purser, Mr. Murray, 3rd engineer, and a stowaway named McKay. An inquest was held on the bodies next day on Denman island, the verdict, 'accidentally drowned,' being brought in by the jury. After the inquest the bodies were placed in a small boat and then towed by a small local steamer to Denman island wharf. The night had set in stormy, and darkness came on before the wharf was reached where, in the confusion of making a landing in the darkness, wind and rain, the small boat with its contents got under the counter of the steamer, capsized, and the bodies sank at once. They have not yet been recovered as the tide has evidently swept them from the vicinity of the accident.

"Upon my arrival at Union wharf, Messrs. Wilkinson and Steiner, first and second officers of the Alpha, were taken aboard the Quadra, and in the course landed at Vancouver. The remainder of the survivors had already left for Vancouver via Nanaimo. None of the survivors saved anything from the wreck, many of them not even the clothes they were wearing at the time of leaving the vessel.

"The afternoon of the day of my arrival being the first fine weather of any sort since the disaster, I placed my steam cutter at the disposal of the officers of the Alpha, with one of my officers and a party of seamen, carefully searched the coast line from Yellow Rock to Village Point, but no bodies were found. I also had a party patrol the Vancouver island shore, with like success. The next morning, Friday, I continued the search, but not finding any bodies, proceeded during the course of the day to Vancouver, where Mr. Wilkinson, with his brother officers and the papers and books, etc., picked up along the beach, were landed.

"The shore of Denman island is strewn with wreckage, principally dried fish in bulk, which can be of very little value now. The fittings of the ship which have been washed on shore are more or less matchwood.

"A mercenary leather handbag was picked up on the beach about three miles from the wreck, which had been open along the bottom by some person, and its contents abstracted. Mr. Wilkinson recognized it as a bag which had been in Mr. Barrow's possession and he understood its contents were of value.

"I desire to bring before the department the meritorious conduct of Mr. McDonald, lighthouse keeper at Yellow Rock. All of the wrecked people speak most highly of the kindness and attention with which he treated them. Twenty-six hungry men made a sad inroad on his storeroom, which he placed unreservedly at their disposal. After making due inquiries on the subject I supplied him with a sum of money to purchase stores from the Quadra to keep him going for the present.

"I enclose the sworn testimony of the first officer of the late steamer Alpha and

the lighthouse keeper regarding the disaster and the sad loss of life at Yellow Rock. This testimony will be required, I think, by the receiver of wrecks for this district.

"I also enclosed Form W. (e) Stranding, which were supplied me with and which was filled up by the first officer of the lost steamer, and signed by him in my presence."

CAUGHT IN THE ACT

Chief and Sergeant of Police Cleverly Surprised Law Breakers—Skillful Coup.

Summonses have been served on the proprietors of the Germania and London saloons for retailing liquor on Sunday in contravention of the law. The offenses were committed in one case between 7 and 9 o'clock last evening, and in the other about 11 o'clock. As a rule it is a somewhat difficult matter to detect a contravention of this sort, as it is necessary to "cover the offenders in flagrante delicto." Last night, however, the chief and Sergeant Redgrave accomplished this at the London in a manner which would serve as elegant material for a dime novelist to delight the small boy with an immoderate taste for literature of this sort. They entered through a somewhat recondit passage and found all serene—not the faintest suspicious circumstance in evidence. Even the conversation itself was moderate, and the habitués bore themselves in a manner consonant with an apparent consciousness of sweet innocence.

The officers of the law retired, but not as was surmised by those present, into the open air. On the contrary they skillfully managed to secrete themselves in an advantageous niche, and from there witnessed the operations which resulted in the issuing of summonses. When the inspector central was at its height, and the deluded law breakers were congratulating themselves on their cleverness in pulling the wool over the eyes of the chief and officer of Victoria's police, the very gentlemen calmly strode into the room, and after nonchalantly satisfying themselves that there was no deception took the names. The coup was a clever one, and shows Victoria's police to be strictly on the qui vive.

The Germania was entered by Sergeant Redgrave and Constables O'Leary and Lowelyn later in the night, and summonses have been issued as a result of this instance also. They will probably appear in the police court on Wednesday.

DIED AT VANCOUVER

Capt. Steele, Formerly of Steamer Tees, Passes Away at Terminal City.

The death took place at St. Paul's hospital, Vancouver, yesterday morning of Capt. John Steele, one of the well known members of the group of navigators in the employ of the C. P. N. Co. Capt. Steele was sent to hospital a number of days ago suffering with pneumonia, from the effects of which he gradually sank, until death supervened yesterday morning.

Deceased was a native of Prince Edward Island, and was 42 years of age. For several years he has been connected with the C. P. N. Company, and during the last summer was in command of the steamer Tees. For some years previously he was captain of the old steamer Barbara Boscovitch, and was considered by all with whom he became known as a most capable navigator. He was an unmarried man. His remains were brought down from the city on Sunday, and will be interred on Wednesday, the funeral being announced to take place from the family residence at 9.30 a. m., and later from the Roman Catholic Cathedral.

Out of respect for the deceased, flags hung at half mast from all the steamers of the C. P. N. fleet in port today.

SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES

List of Those to be Admitted Into the Normal School.

The results of the examinations for entrance into the Normal school, which were held at Victoria, Vancouver and Kamloops, on December 17th and 18th, are now published. The Normal school will open in the Vancouver high school building on Wednesday, January 9th at 9.30 o'clock. In connection with the list of successful candidates, whose names are given below, it is interesting to note that the Kamloops representatives held the highest marks, Miss Bell being at the head of the province. The names of those successful in order of merit follow:

Kamloops—Ettie L. Bell, Mable Beattie, Victoria—Leonard E. Spragg, Laura E. Simpson, Fannie M. Strachan, Eleanor G. Loat, Marion E. Camp, Colina Black, Mabel R. Clarke, Mabel Holt, Ethel Robertson, Lena Sexsmith, Louisa J. Carter, A. Doan Crawford, Florence U. Nicholls.

Vancouver—Arthur McNeill, Roberta Stevenson, Margaret M. Frame, Annie Haney, Daisy M. Webb, Emily Bratley, John A. Melvor, Donald McIvor, Grace E. Ross, Wilhelmina Murgatroyd, Andrew Tolmie, Isabel Harner, Annie Christie, Ethel E. Park, Marguerite McTavish, Laura J. Snowden, Janet Charman, Maggie E. McDowell, Norma E. C. McConnell, Margaret Ramsay.

A BACKWARD CHILD

In a child that is backward in teething, look out for rickets. You can prevent any serious consequences by promptness.

The cause is poor nutrition, imperfect digestion of food, wrong food, poor food, bad air, low life.

You must stop it. Give Scott's emulsion of cod-liver oil to feed the bones. Now give him good food: the proper food for a child.

It is a short job, and not a difficult one.

We'll send you a little to try if you like.

SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, Toronto.

Will Raise The Topeka

Wrecking Crew Commences Operations on Stranded Steamer in Lynn Canal.

Extensive Street Car System Proposed For Dawson—The Election in Atlin.

After a very rough passage the Alaskan mail ship Cottage City arrived from the North on Saturday night. She brought among her passengers for the city W. Grant, who for the past year or so has been following his legal profession in Atlin. Judge Henry States, the first commissioner from Juneau for Alaska, was another passenger by the steamer.

The ship brings news that an effort is being made to raise the wrecked steamer City of Topeka, which struck on the rocks in Lynn Canal a week ago last Saturday night. The vessel can be floated, in the opinion of Capt. Wallace, of the Cottage City, and a contract was made for the purpose before he left Skagway.

Much anxiety was felt at the Lynn Canal port for the safety of the steam schooner Tillamook, which plied between Juneau and Omatika. She was two weeks overdue at the former port when the Cottage City sailed, and it was generally feared some accident had happened to her. She was a vessel of about 500 tons register, and was owned by the Alaska Mail Steamship Company.

E. J. Mulligan, an arrival from Atlin on the Cottage City, says that the election recently held in that city turned out to be a most spirited contest. Out of a total number of 115 voters, Mr. Maxwell, who, as previously announced, headed the election with a majority of 13.

The Skagway News says that there is an unpleasant rivalry between the Indians of the Lynn Canal villages on account of the recent death of the chief of the coast tribes, Kodowet, of the Klukwan, is the most favored candidate, but there are several other aspirants and trouble between the rival villages is feared.

The company recently before the chamber of commerce at Skagway, the meeting being held for the purpose of urging upon the United States government the necessity of building a road across the Alaskan coast. The wrecks of the steamer Topeka and other vessels were given as reasons for such necessity.

News comes from Dawson of a sad accident occurring on Sulphur Creek, where a child of the Lynn Canal village was drowned. The child, with its mother and Mr. Webber's sister, were out watching the mining operations, and they, as also the child, had been overcome by the fumes. The child died, however, by accident at last accounts, was very low.

Dawson may soon have an electric street car system, with branch lines running out to the principal creeks. Recent advices state that the Alaskan Chamber of Commerce has presented a petition to the Yukon council for the necessary franchise. The company intends, if it is successful in securing the franchise, to build fifty miles of the road before spring. It will cost \$1,000,000 on the enterprise. The financial strength of the company is said to guarantee the completion of the road if the franchise is obtained. The construction of the system, it is stated, will mean the employment of much labor in Dawson during the next year.

SCHOOL CLOSING

Enjoyable Exercises at the Close of the Esquimaux School.

The Christmas closing examination was held on Friday afternoon, and was well attended by pupils and parents, and a goodly number of visitors. J. Oliver, chairman of the school board, occupied the chair at last accounts, being assisted by Mrs. M. O. Campbell, and the teacher, Miss Campbell. C. H. Hemmond, another teacher, was also in attendance. The teacher put the pupils through several exercises, in which they acquitted themselves very creditably, then began songs, dialogues and recitations, of which there was a large selection, all thoroughly patriotic and British, particularly "Jolly Boys," "Johnny" and "Land in Blue." The schoolroom was very neatly decorated with flags and bunting, and fine portraits of Her Majesty, our beloved Queen, and Lord Roberts. At the close of the examination, Rev. C. E. Sharpe, M. A., presented the beautiful lady's plush toilet set in the shape of a heart, the gift of the pupils to their teacher as a token of their esteem and appreciation of her painstaking in their many studies.

The scholars were all presented with nice books by the trustees and teacher, after which the pleasantest and most successful closing examination ever held in Esquimaux was brought to close by singing the National Anthem, led by Master Albert Case.

GIRL ABDUCTED

Pueblo, Col., Dec. 24.—Maggie Noel, 18 years old, who lived with her sister, Misses Beattie, in a lonely spot about three miles west of the city, was abducted on Saturday afternoon, and it is feared was murdered. On Saturday Mrs. Beattie left Maggie in charge of a little child. Upon her return two hours later her sister was gone.

CEREMONY AT ST. PETERS

Rome, Dec. 24.—The Pope performed today the ceremony of closing the Holy door of St. Peter's Cathedral with the gorgeous ceremonial usual to great functions of this kind. It was a magnificent spectacle. There was a great gathering of the princes of the church, who participated in the ceremony which was witnessed by enormous crowds.

BURGOYNE BAY SCHOOL

Semi-Annual Examination Held on Friday—Entertainment in the Evening.

On Friday, 21st inst., the semi-annual examination of the pupils of Burgoyne Bay school was held. The examination was oral throughout, and the pupils acquitted themselves creditably.

The following visitors were present: Messrs. J. J. Akerman, E. Lee, J. Nightingale (trustees of the school), Rev. Mr. Irwin, J. C. Sparrow, and G. A. Hore.

The pupils were dismissed for their Christmas holidays, which will extend to January 7th, 1901.

In the evening an excellent tea was provided by the ladies of the district, in which the children and their friends participated.

A Christmas tree, well laden with pretty presents and good things for the little folks of the district, was conspicuous in the school room.

About 7 o'clock Rev. Mr. Irwin took the chair, after which an excellent programme was rendered.

The first part, performed by the pupils of the school, was as follows:

Recitation—"Bachelors' Hall"..... Michael Gyves
Recitation—"A Little Bird Tells"..... Florence Lee
Dialogue—"The Little Mothers"..... Florence Lee, Lizzie Sparrow, May Baynes
Recitation—"A Model Woman"..... Lillian Lee
Song—"With Merry, Merry Hearts"..... Girls of School
Recitation—"Tear and a Smile"..... Mary Gyves
Recitation—"His Sunday Clothes"..... Arthur Raynes
Recitation—"Bruce and the Spider"..... Florence Lee
Dialogue—"Two Irish Boys"..... M. Key Gyves and Arthur Raynes
Recitation—"Down the Track"..... Florence Raynes
Recitation—"The Little Mother"..... James Akerman
Recitation—"Speech for Small Boy"..... Laura Lee
Song—"Come, Birdie, Come"..... Laura Lee, Florence Lee, Lizzie Sparrow
"Speech for Small Boy"..... Edward Lee
Recitation—"Dolly's Lessons"..... May Raynes
Dialogue—"The Quire"..... Florence Raynes and Ethel Fallow
Recitation—"His Brother"..... Walter Rogers
Recitation—"The Little Man"..... James Akerman
Closing Address..... Alvin Raynes

The second part of the programme was begun by a chorus, "Ring the Bell, Watchman." Solos were rendered by Mrs. Lee and Miss Bertha Lee; instrumental selections by Miss A. Furness and Miss Bertha Lee; recitations by Miss Maud Lee, G. A. Hore, and Miss Furness; and readings by Rev. Mr. Irwin, Mr. Edwards and Miss Furness.

The chorus, "Old Musician and His Harp," and "Some Day I'll Wander Back Again," sung by Mrs. Lee, the Misses Mollet, Bertha Lee, and Maud Lee, Rev. Mr. Irwin and C. Mollet, were excellently rendered.

A dialogue, entitled "Dr. Cure All," was one of the interesting features of the programme, and appeared to please the audience very much.

The last song, "Good Night," was sung by the girls of the school.

The tree being lighted, Santa Claus, at sight of whom the children were delighted, made his appearance and distributed the books and other presents to them.

The pupils of the school kindly presented their teacher, Miss Furness, with a beautiful handkerchief case. Mr. Ed. Hore proposed that a vote of thanks be tendered the committee for providing the entertainment, and by eleven o'clock all had dispersed for home well pleased with the evening's entertainment.

SCIENCE AND ART

London School Board Cannot Spend Money for Preventing Classes.

London, Dec. 22.—The decision of the Court of Queen's Bench, declaring it to be illegal for the London school board to spend the ratepayers' money for teaching science and art at evening classes for adults, has created perturbation. Some 90,000 pupils are affected, and a whole of London's educational system must be reversed if the House of Lords upholds the verdict. The Speaker declares it is the most serious disaster which has befallen education for some time. Columns of comment appear on the subject in the daily papers.

Other large cities are seriously concerned, as they all have classes similar to those in London. The head masters of expensive schools appear to approve of the decision maintaining that the school board is endangering the existence of the secondary schools.

WHAT IS DR. CHASE'S NERVE FOOD?

In appearance Dr. Chase's Nerve Food is an oval, chocolate coated pill. In this condensed form it contains all of nature's most strengthening and invigorating tonics and restoratives, and for this reason it is unapproached as a blood purifier and nerve restorative. It cures all diseases caused by thin blood and exhausted nerves and makes pale, weak, nervous men, women and children strong and healthy. 50 cents a box.

GROWING SERIOUS

American Foreman on Ecuador Railroad Forced to Seek Refuge.

Kingston, Jan., Dec. 24.—Letters just received here from Ecuador report increasing trouble between the American foremen and the Jamaican laborers, who are constructing the railroad in that country under the concession obtained by Jas. McDonald & Co., of New York. As a result of the disturbances several Jamaicans have been shot, and one of the American foremen had to clear out and take refuge elsewhere. The laborers are now arming, and serious trouble is expected.

THE ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE British Columbia Fruit Growers' and Horticultural Society.

Will be held in the Court House, New Westminster, B. C., Tuesday, January 22, 1901.

AT 2 P. M.

TOM WILSON, Pres.
W. J. BRANDRITH, Secy.

WANTED—To buy 1,000 lbs. good feathers. Sanitary Steam Feather Renovator, corner Fort and Blenheim streets.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

Dr. J. C. Parke & Sons, Ltd., London.

Dolls, Fancy Goods AND Christmas Notions

At Wholesale. From all the leading European and American makers

J. PIERCY & CO.,

Wholesale Dry Goods, Victoria, B. C.

Your Xmas Dinner

Will not be complete without some of the Xmas delicacies to be found only in our well assorted stock.

A Complete line of NEW NUTS, FIGS, FRUITS, CHOCOLATE CREAMS, GELATINS, CLARK'S GROSSES, BRILLIANT WELLS PLUM Puddings and MINCE MEAT; WINES and LIQUORS.

OLD PORT WINE 50c. bottle
TAP ORANGES 40c. box
MIXED NUTS 20c. box
FINNAN HADDIES 12c. lb.
MORGAN'S PASTEURIZED OYSTERS.

Dixie H. Ross & Co.

Agents Wanted

To sell high grade fruit trees and fruit bushes, ornamental trees, flowering shrubs, roses, hedging, vines, etc., all of which is sent out under government certificate for cleanliness and freshness from disease.

THE FONTHILL NURSERIES

We have the largest nurseries in Canada, 800 acres, and can therefore give the best assortment of stock.

STEADY EMPLOYMENT TO WORKERS

And good pay weekly. All supplies free.

We are sole agents for Dr. Mole's celebrated Caterpillarine, which protects trees from the caterpillar. Highest testimonials. Our agents cover their expenses by carrying this as a side line. It is in great demand.

Write at once for terms.

Stone & Wellington, Toronto.

VITALLETS FOR MEN AND STRONG AND MANLY MEN.	FREE TO WOMEN. VITALLETS FOR NERVE STRENGTH AND BLOOD TREAT.	VITALLETS FOR HEALTHY AND HANDSOME WOMEN.
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The ROYAL ACADEMY PUBLISHING CO., Dept. 609, Toronto, Can.

SULTAN ORDERS SHIP

(Associated Press.)

Washington, Dec. 25.—Details are not obtainable here of the placing of an order by the Sultan of the Champs for a ship, but it is understood that the statement to that effect from Constantinople is correct. From the character and size of the ship ordered it is believed that the contract will involve the payment by the Turkish government to the Grampis of about \$2,500,000, which would be ample margin for the settlement of any proper claims against the Turkish government.

FISHING BOATS MISSING

(Associated Press.)

London, Dec. 24.—A dispatch from Aberdeen says that five Shetland fishing boats have been missing since the storm that raged last week, and it is feared that 27 fishermen have been drowned.

FREE!

Notice is hereby given that application will be made to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, at its next session, for an Act to incorporate a company for the City and Districts surrounding Victoria, with power to act as executors, administrators, assignees, for benefit of creditors, receivers, financial and investment agents, estate managers, trustees of wills, mortgages, bonds, stocks, shares for companies and individuals, establish safe deposit vaults, and to carry on a general trust business, and for such other rights, powers or privileges as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects.

Dated, December 23rd, 1900.

ABERLETT F. GRIFFITHS,
For Applicants.

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COURT HOUSE

NEW WESTMINSTER, B. C.

Tuesday, Jan'y 22, 1901

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WANTED—To buy 1,000 lbs. good feathers. Sanitary Steam Feather Renovator, corner Fort and Blenheim streets.

FOR SALE—"Oak Farm," Lake District 6 miles from Victoria, on West Saanich road, comprising 61 acres, nearly cultivated, with good buildings. For further particulars apply to John B. Fox on premises.

TO THE DEAF—A rich lady, cured of her Deafness and Noise in the Head by Dr. Nicholson's Artificial Ear Drums, gave £500 to his Institute, to that deaf people unable to procure the Ear Drums may have them free. Address No. 207 D. The Nicholson Institute, Longport, Gunnersbury, London, W.