The Weekly Colonist.

THIRTY-SECOND YEAR. VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA FRIDAY, JULY 18, 1890. VOLUME XXXII., NO. 32.

AMERICAN NEWS.

Seamen from the North Atlantic Squadron Bound for Behring's Sea on the Independence.

The U. S. House Reports Favorably on a Bill for Shorter Hours for Workingmen.

Satisfactory Arrangements for the Shipment of American Cattle to England.

Another Vessel for Behring's Sea.

CHICAGO, July 8.—Ten seamen from the North Atlantic squadron, taken from the warships Mohican, Ranyear, Iroquois, and another detachment from the Dolphin, at Portland, passed through this city to-day, en route to San Francisco. There they will join the crew of the warship Independence and start for Behring's Straits.

To the Memory of Seamen.

BALTIMORE, Md. July 8.—A monument is being erected at the naval cemetery opposite Annapolis, to the seamen who lost their lives in the memorable storms at Apia, Samoa. It is of rough blocks of granite, built in irregular layers. The base has been finished and awaits the pedestal. It is upon a commanding position overlooking the naval academy, Annapolis, the Severn river and Chesapeake bay. Many of the dead of the ill-fated Heron lie in that cemetery.

A Dying Senator.

NEW ORLEANS, La., July 10.—Senator Smith is dying. His condition is so low that, with his approval, a minister was sent for this morning, who delivered a prayer at his bedside.

Supreme Lodge, K. of P.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, July 10.—Almost immediately after the opening of this morning's session, the members of the Supreme Lodge of Knights of Pythias proceeded to the election of officers with the following result: Supreme Chancellor, G. B. Shaw, Eau Claire, Wis.; Supreme Vice-Chancellor, W. W. Blackwell, Henderson, Ky.; Supreme Prelate, E. J. Blackmere, San Diego, Cala.; Supreme Master of the Exchequer, S. J. Filley, Wilmington, Del.; Supreme Keeper of the Records and Seal, R. T. S. White, Nashville, Tenn.; Supreme Master-at-Arms, G. H. Morrison, Nevada; Supreme Secretary of the Endowment Rank, W. B. Kennedy, Cincinnati, Ohio; Supreme Inner Guard, Dr. D. C. Barkwell, Cheyenne, Wyo.; Supreme Outer Guard, John H. Thompson.

The Lottery Question.

NEW ORLEANS, July 10. — When the house and senate met this morning, immediate action was taken by both houses upon the lottery question. In the senate the majority report of the judiciary committee, declaring that the action of the governor in vetoing the bill, with amendments submitting the lottery proposition to the people, was unconstitutional and arbitrary, was adopted by twenty-three yeas to twelve nays; and by the same vote the veto message as received from the house was returned to that body. In the house, the action of the senate was sustained by a motion being adopted to reconsider the vote by which the veto message passed the house, and the bill, with the veto of the governor attached, was ordered to be returned to his excellency by the clerk, which was done. This action of the senate and house forces the question into the courts, in which to decide whether or not the amendment to be submitted to the people, passed by a two-thirds vote of both houses, has to be sent to the governor for his approval or veto, and whether such a measure, thus passed is final or not, and that it be only sent back to the secretary of state for promulgation.

Contagious Animal Diseases.

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 10.—In February last Secretary Rusk presented to the state department a report that the contagious animal diseases had been so effectually stamped out in this country as to warrant the department in urging upon the British authorities the perfect safety of removing the irksome and unjust restrictions imposed on the shipment of American live cattle and sheep to Great Britain. Secretary Rusk declares that the time had come when our diplomatic office in London should make an effort to secure this concession in behalf of one of our greatest industries. Negotiations were at once inaugurated by the State department resulting in the removal of the restrictions relative to sheep, contingent upon action by this government, which would prevent the introduction of diseases of sheep into this country. The British government, however, persisted in its refusal to grant any concessions regarding live cattle, alleging the continued existence of contagious pleuro-pneumonia in the United States, and that cattle affected with this disease had been discovered in recent shipments to Great Britain from this country. Secretary Rusk met this allegation with a prompt denial and the proposition that his department should be represented in Great Britain by a veterinary surgeon charged with the duty of inspecting all American cattle landed in the country. The department of State adopted the Secretary's suggestion, and has finally effected an arrangement, through Minister Lincoln, for the appointment of three inspectors for the purpose indicated. The Secretary has already taken steps to carry out this arrangement, and when the inspectors have been appointed, one will be stationed at Liverpool, one at London, and one at Glasgow. They will sail for Europe at once, accompanied by Dr. Solomon, chief of the bureau of animal industry, and also by a special agent. The Secretary said to-day that the restrictions of the British government upon the importation of beef cattle from this country upon the groundless plea of the continued existence of contagious cattle disease in United States were unjustifiable, and had lasted long enough. He now proposes to prove to the satisfaction of the British authorities that no disease exists in this country to warrant these restrictions. maintained in spite of this evidence some mu e assigned for them. He said further that as soon as legislation now pending was enacted he would institute a thorough system of inspection of cattle for export in this country, and all cattle exported would be tagged, so that should disease of any kind be discovered among them by our inspectors at the British ports, there will be no difficulty in tracing it to its source and determining its true character.

Colored Catholic Convention.

CINCINNATI, July 10.—At a meeting of colored Catholics in the national convention to-day, resolutions were passed recommending that night schools be established for colored children; that Catholic children be given Catholic education; that labor organizations be asked to admit colored men, and that employers make no distinction of color; that plans be prepared to assist in abolishing the African slave trade; that the Sisters be assisted in educating colored orphans; that industrial leagues be formed; that young men form conferences of the society of St. Vincent and St. Paul, and that the thanks of congress be tendered to Archbishop Ireland for his efforts in behalf of the colored people. The convention then adjourned to meet in Philadelphia, January 5th, 1892.

Oil Refinery Burned.

ATLANTA, Ga., July 10.—The oil refinery of the Southern Cotton Seed Oil Works near here was burned this morning; loss $100,000. Over 200,000 gallons of oil was released and ran in a stream towards the water works of the city. The effect on the water is not yet known.

The Eight-Hour Movement.

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 10.—The House committee on labor to-day authorized a favorable report on the house bill constituting eight hours a day's work for all laborers employed by the government. Blaine submitted a report to accompany the bill, recommending its passage. The report says that the committee have given the proposed measure very careful consideration, and have listened to the arguments of the working men and their representatives, and recommend the passage of the measure. In conclusion, the report says: The question of shortening the hours of labor is being considered all over the world, and the demand for shorter hours has led to strikes with varying results. The government of the United States can well afford to set an example to the rest of the world, and accord the same hours to its laborers as it does to its clerks. The bill as reported to committee provides that eight hours shall constitute a day's work for workmen and apprentices employed by the government of the United States and District of Columbia, or by any contractor in the execution of a contract with the government, except in extraordinary emergencies, such as war; but in such cases of extra working hours they shall be paid at the rate of eight hours per day. There is also a penalty clause in the bill providing for the punishment of any officer of the government or contractor violating the provisions of the bill, by a fine of not less than $500 nor more than $1,000, or imprisonment not exceeding six months, or both, as the court decides.

Yacht Racing.

MARBLEHEAD, Mass., July 10.—As had been feared, the flat calm held back the yachts of the Eastern Yacht Club this afternoon and prevented their getting half way over the course, and the race was consequently declared off. The yachts, at 7:15 p. m., are all homeward bound but cannot arrive until late. As far as the race went the Scotch cutter Minerva was being beaten by both the Gossoon and Ventura, while the Mayflower led the schooners, and the Hawk outfooted the Shark. There are but few yachts here tonight, most of the fleet being out with the racers.

Train Accident.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., July 10.—As the train bearing the Mississippia excursionists who had been visiting the mines and furnaces here was about leaving Pratt's mines on the return trip to-day, a locomotive ran around a curve into the rear of the train, causing quite a smash-up. The occupants of the train had warning enough to enable them to escape, but in hurriedly jumping from the cars a number of them had their ankles sprained and sustained slight bruises. One man had his ankle broken. The injured were brought here and cared for.

Razors in the Air.

WHEELING, W. Va., July 10.—Dispatches from Bramwell, Moore county, say there is great excitement throughout the mining region growing out of a terrible riot occurring on the night of July 6, on the line of the Bluestone branch of the Norfolk & Western railway, and that further trouble may occur at any time. It seems that several hundred negroes made an excursion over the road and there was a great deal of liquor on board the train. A number of fights occurred. When a few miles from Bramwell three or four negroes attempted to cut a white man's throat, and Detective Baldwin and three of his men, who were on the cars, attempted to protect the man. They were at once attacked by about 30 drunken negroes, who broke the car seats in fragments and used the pieces as clubs. Lights were knocked out and a terrible conflict ensued, during which nine negroes were disabled. W. G. Baldwin was stabbed in the left side, hit on the head with a fragment of iron and terribly cut. His wounds are serious. Detective Campbell was badly hurt inside. Detective Robertson's right arm was broken. W. G. Baldwin shot a negro, who stabbed him in the shoulder and again in the arm. At Bramwell an attempt was made to arrest the negroes by citizens, which led to a second riot, but six negroes were jailed. Several of the negroes were beaten almost to death.

A Printers' Strike.

BUTTE, Mont., July 10.—The printers on the Miner left their cases last evening and demanded the discharge of Galley and Hall, the telegraph editors, and Kloufe, the proof reader, because these men were objectionable. On the demand being refused, they went out. The matter has been referred by wire to arbitrator Pond of Indianapolis. The Miner was not issued to-day, and may be obliged to suspend for two or three days.

CANADIAN NEWS.

The Druggists of the Dominion Forming a Combine to Resist the Increase in Alcohol.

Work to be at Once Commenced on the Proposed Northern Canadian Atlantic Railway.

The Mail and News of Toronto Fined for Publishing Louisiana Lottery Advertisements.

A Druggists' Combine.

HALIFAX, N. S., July 10.—The Echo says the wholesale and retail druggists of the Dominion are talking of forming a combine to resist the recent heavy increase in prices put upon alcohol by the distillers of Canada.

Montreal's Population.

MONTREAL, Que., July 10.—The assessors have nearly completed taking the census, and it is estimated that the returns will show that Montreal, with its adjacent suburbs, has a total population of 277,700.

The Northern Canadian Atlantic R. R.

QUEBEC, July 10.—E. P. Bender, promoter of the Northern Canadian Atlantic, who has just returned from England, says in about a month English engineers will come to Canada and commence the work of surveying ground for the proposed railway. This railway, when built, will reduce the Atlantic navigation to four days. The track would run from Quebec across the Saguenay district to a point on the Labrador coast, probably St. Charles Bay.

Leave of Absence.

TORONTO, Ont., July 10.—Sir Alexander Campbell, lieutenant-governor, leaves on the 16th for England. During his absence the administration will devolve upon Chief Justice Sir Thomas Galt.

Warehouse and Grain Elevator Burned.

SARNIA, Ont., July 10.—Jas. Longhead's warehouse and Hutchins' elevator and contents were burned to-day; loss $11,000.

Suicided by Drowning.

BRACEBRIDGE, Ont., July 10.—Mrs. Hugh Morrow, of Draper township, suicided to-day by drowning.

The Winnipeg Cricketers Win.

PETERBORO, July 10. — The Wiunipeg cricketers won the match with Peterboro by 41 runs.

Another Election Protest.

LONDON, Ont., July 10.—A petition has been entered against the return of Tooley, the conservative member for East Middlesex.

Killed by a Street Car.

HAMILTON, July 10.—Alfred Hannaford, aged 16, fell beneath a street car and was instantly killed.

Illegal Advertising.

TORONTO, July 10.—For advertising the Louisiana lottery, George Darby, manager of the News, and W. C. Bunting, manager of the Mail, were fined $20 and costs in the police court to-day.

Curling.

TORONTO, Ont., July 10.—The Grand National Curling club of America held their 33rd annual competition at Prospect Park rink to-day. James Malcolm, of "The Four Brothers' club," Toronto, won the belt and the champion quoiting medal. A grand social re-union was held this afternoon at Victoria Park, and to-night the Masonic visitors were entertained by King Solomon's Lodge.

PACIFIC COAST NEWS.

After the Apaches.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., July 10.—The Apaches who murdered Robt. Hardie of Los Angeles, on May 24th, have been heard from. They stole five horses at the round-up of cattle belonging to the Head and Heart ranch. The round-up took place in Old Mexico, at a point eighty miles below the border. The fires of the Indians were seen in the Sierra Madre mountains, but they have not been on the plains for three weeks. As soon as they make their appearance, hot pursuit will be begun and continued until they are either captured or destroyed.

A Shocking Suicide.

OAKLAND, Cal., June 10.—Last evening Mary Gilbers, a German woman forty years of age, committed suicide by cutting her throat and disembowelling herself with a knife. The woman's husband left her about a week ago, and she had been despondent and drinking hard ever since.

Convicted of Manslaughter.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 10.—The jury in the case of Benj. Davis, tried for the murder of his wife last July, this afternoon brought in a verdict of manslaughter. Davis shot his wife and told the neighbors she had suicided. This was thoroughly disproved at the trial.

A Lazy Enumerator.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 10.—Thomas J. Fitzpatrick, a United States census enumerator, was arrested to-day for neglect of duty. A re-enumeration of his district resulted in the discovery of over six hundred more names. Fitzpatrick says he found the work too laborious.

Chinese Exclusion.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 10.—Collector Phelps has received a telegram from Interpreter Richards, of Phoenix, A.T., stating that the 24 Chinese who attempted to cross the border have again been remanded, and will arrive here to-morrow night.

Insolvent Booksellers.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 10.—Samuel Carson and L. Currin Clark, booksellers, filed their petition of insolvency to-day. The liabilities of the firm amount to $36,000 and the assets $16,000.

CABLE NEWS.

Greenland Fisheries a Failure.

DUNDEE, July 8.—News was received to-day that the Greenland seal and whale fisheries are almost a total failure.

A New Explosive.

PARIS, July 8.—Paul Gifford, a French scientist, has discovered a new propulsive force, condensed liquified gas. Three hundred drops of this compound is contained in a small steel receptacle under a rifle barrel, and each time the trigger is pulled one drop falls into the breech behind the bullet. Contact with air causes it to volatilize instantaneously, with an expansive force far exceeding that of gunpowder, and expels the bullet with terrible velocity, accompanied by neither flame nor smoke.

Gardner's Great Rival's Score.

PARIS, July 8.—Eyrand and Gabrielle Bompard were confronted yesterday at the scene of the murdered Gardner. They adhered to their previous statements.

Sorefoot Wins Ayr.

LONDON, July 8.—Sorefoot won the Prince of Wales stakes to-day, Memoir second.

Destructive Cyclone in Arabia.

MUSCAT, July 9.—A terrible cyclone prevailed here and in the adjacent country, and great damage was done in the city and surrounding country. Many houses, both here and on plantations, were demolished. Loss of life is appalling. Reports thus far state that over 700 persons have been killed.

Spain's New Protective Policy.

MADRID, July 9.—The new cabinet has issued a circular outlining its policy. It announces an intention to give decided and sincere protection to national productions by revision of the tariff.

Meeting of the Postmen.

LONDON, July 10.—Another meeting of the postmen was held in Clerkenwell Green to-night, which was attended by 3,000 men. The speakers still talked about a general strike, and their remarks were enthusiastically applauded. There is no doubt, however, that the leaders are convinced that a strike would not be successful, and the probability of such a movement is very remote. The secretary of the postmen's union stated that there had been between 300 and 400 dismissals by the Postmaster-General.

The American Rifemen in Berlin.

BERLIN, July 10.—The visiting rifemen were entertained at a banquet to-night. The guests included a large number of prominent persons. In addition to the usual toasts and speeches, a number of telegrams of congratulation were read. Emperor William telegraphed his good wishes, and Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria, King Humbert of Italy, and King Leopold of Belgium, sent kind greetings to the visitors. A party of New York rifemen paid a visit to the Central fire station today, where they were welcomed by Inspector Kraymayer. After examining the apparatus, the party visited other public buildings.

The Police and Postal Situation.

LONDON, July 10.—A cabinet council, held yesterday, devoted much of its time to the discussion of the police and postal situation, and fully sustained the action of Sir Edward Bradford and Postmaster-General Raikes. The Cabinet authorized Mr. Raikes to resort to any means he thought fit to crush the strike of the postmen, which, it is agreed, must be put down at all hazards. It also dealt with the necessity of dealing summarily with any outbreak on the part of public employes, as it was shown by information to the ministry that the policemen's and postal strike is part of a concerted scheme, encouraged by politicians, to embarrass the government. It is asserted by the postmen, and not denied by the authorities, that the Postmen's Union is full of spies, who keep the government posted on all its plans, and the government has also obtained large information connecting many prominent politicians with the agitators. The blacklegs employed by Raikes assumed the duties of the dismissed and suspended men with the air of veterans, and their work has dismayed the old hands as much as it has surprised and pleased the officials. There has been very little delay in the city deliveries to-day, but in the suburbs the service has been badly crippled. The public, however, have readily adapted themselves to the circumstances, and in cases of urgency have posted and received their own letters at the post offices in the West End.

Mme. Reinhold Convicted.

LEIPZIG, July 11.—The trial of the woman Reinhold and her three male companions on the charge of complicity in the anarchists plots, which began this morning, ended this afternoon. Mme. Reinhold was convicted and sentenced to six years imprisonment. The three men were acquitted and released.

Boulanger Asks to be Pardoned.

PARIS, July 11.—LeSoir asserts that Gen. Boulanger has asked the government to pardon him and permit him to return to France.

A Noble Nurse.

LONDON, July 11.—Among the latest recruits to the corps of skilled nurses, is Lady Alexandria Levison Gower, the only daughter of the Duke of Sutherland, who is so well known in the United States. Her ladyship began her probation to-day at one of the most important hospitals.

Bismarck Wouldn't Have Signed.

BERLIN, July 11.—A Frankfort journal published an interview with Prince Bismarck, in which the ex-chancellor says had he been in office he wouldn't have signed the Anglo-German convention in its present form. The Prince remarked that Heligoland might be insured to Germany much more inexpensively than had been the case.

Sandown Park Summer Meeting.

LONDON, July 11.—The first day of the Sandown Park club second summer meeting, the race for the Royal Handicap of 1,000 sovereigns, was won by Miss Dollar; Harfleur second. There were ten starters. The last betting was 2 to 1 against Miss Dollar.

MANY WERE DROWNED.

Five Hundred Men, Women and Children Thrown into the Water at Dartmouth, N. S.,

By the Sudden Collapse of a Ferry Landing Stage with its Living Freight.

Scores of Lives Saved by the Prompt Action of the Spectators—Recovering the Dead.

HALIFAX, N.S., July 11.—At Dartmouth to-night the ferry landing stage, while crowded with about one hundred and fifty persons, collapsed and the crowd were thrown into the water, resulting in a considerable loss of life. Five bodies have so far been recovered. They are those of women named Silver, Perch, and Synott, and two soldiers.

The disaster was caused by the slipping out of place of the chain which held the float up. The front part of the float was thus dropped suddenly down, throwing the occupants into the water. Later accounts place the number of people on the float at 500. Many were drowned, but the exact number of fatalities cannot be known until to-morrow. The crowd was made up of men, women and children who were waiting for the new ferry steamer Annex, which was just about arriving from New York. As the float approached the landing some persons jumped aboard. The disturbance thus caused to the crowded landing stage seemed to have caused the accident, at least it was just at this moment that the dump occurred and the hundreds of people on the stage began to

SLIDE INTO THE WATER.

Those nearest the end being buried beneath those further back, until there was a solid mass of shrieking, struggling humanity packed as closely in the water as they had been on the dock. For some minutes there was a confused crowd of men, women and children struggling in the water. A dozen men leaped to the rescue, and the drowning people were rapidly passed up to men standing on the wharves. The work of rescue was so rapidly performed that a great majority of those who fell in were rescued from death. The rescuers worked until exhausted, helping the people to land until there was no more in sight, and those who could not be saved had sunk out of sight. When the crowd slipped off the landing stage, hundreds of people along the wharf threw boards and sticks to the unfortunate people in the water, and a number of life preservers were thrown them from the steamer. A great many of the people were injured by the flying boards, and all the bodies recovered have cuts and bruises. Most of those who fell in were women and children, and the scenes immediately following the disaster were frightful. Several men and their wives were thrown in, and the men made a heroic struggle to

SAVE THE LIVES OF THE WOMEN,

and as far as known with success. Harry Silver was thrown in with his wife and managed to get her out safely. A man named Brodie saw his wife struggling in the water and jumped in and succeeded in saving her life. A woman named Logan, with a young child, was thrown into the water and she made a hard struggle to keep the child above water until rescued. She was successful and they were brought to shore alive. Edward Foster, an elderly man, and his daughter, fell in together. The man was rescued alive, but the daughter was drowned. When all the bodies in sight had been brought to land, the work of grappling for the drowned was commenced. Within two hours after the accident four bodies had been recovered, but up to midnight no other victim had been found. It is believed that at least three or four others were lost, but the exact number cannot yet be learned. The news of the disaster caused great excitement and anxiety in Dartmouth and Halifax, and thousands of people hurried to the scene and remained there watching or working until a late hour. Divers are now at work, and owing to their failure to find more bodies it is hoped that the loss of life is not so large as the reports circulated during the first moments of terror indicated. The names of those whose bodies have thus far been recovered are: Miss Bessie, daughter of Edward Foster; Peter Boyle, a Crimean veteran; Miss Allie, daughter of Michael Synott; and John Bundy, a colored boy.

THE CESSION OF HELIGOLAND.

The Bill Providing for the Transfer of the Island to Germany Passes Its Second Reading.

LONDON, July 11.—In the House of Lords, last evening, Lord Salisbury moved the second reading of the bill providing for the cession of Heligoland to Germany. Though the island had been serviceable during the war with Napoleon he said it had since been unimportant and was wholly worthless for strategic purposes. He generally reviewed the unimportance of the island to England and the magnificent advantages to be derived from its transfer. Referring to the African clauses in the Anglo-German agreement, he argued that as long as Witu was in the hands of another power, English interests to the northward would be interfered with.

Earl Kimberley thought that Parliament ought not to be required to ratify the cession of Heligoland without the assurance that France would assent to England's protectorate over Zanzibar. The bill then passed its second reading.

GREAT NORTHERN SLASHERS.

Right-of-Way Open From the Skagit River to the Fraser.

BLAINE, July 9.—Slashers on the Fairhaven & Southern and New Westminster Southern met at the international boundary line to-day, thus opening the right-of-way from the Fraser river to the Nooksack river.

VICTORIA TRADE'S ASSEMBLY

Addresses the City Clergymen—Officers Elected for the Ensuing Year.

At the meeting of the Victoria Trade's Assembly last night, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Wm. Heatherbell; vice-president, A. Dutton; secretary, D. M. Carley; treasurer, G. Farquhar; sergeant-at-arms, F. T. Stevens; trustees, F. Shakespeare, E. Dickinson, John Malcolm.

The following address, prepared by a special committee to be presented to the different clergymen of the city, was unanimously adopted:

Realizing the influence which the Christian religion could exert in disseminating the aspirations of the common people, and accepting the incontrovertible evidence to be found in a perusal of the divine Scriptures, that Christ, the founder of Christianity, and the first great labor reformer, while on this earth, by preaching and practicing the principles of love, and other agencies since combined towards the amelioration of the condition of oppressed humanity—breaking chief shackles and proclaiming them free men—we approach you at this time, trusting that in your high office as spiritual adviser, and as an outpoint off as Scriptures, you may see fit to assist us in carrying to a successful issue a movement which commends itself to the foremost men of thought of the day.

It is the reduction of the number of hours of labor.

In the past the real producers have been so much engrossed in the great struggle for existence that they could devote but little time to Christian enlightenment and healthy recreation, and is it not reasonable to believe that a reduction of the hours of toil would tend to improve the race both physically and mentally? It is pleasing to observe that the most eminent divines have not escaped the contagion of the great labor unrest which is now being witnessed throughout the civilized world. They doubtless can see in the proposed reforms illimitable opportunities of drawing the people closer to the church, and stamping out forever the calumnious doctrine which insidels have so persistently promulgated—that Christianity has always ranged itself on the side of the merciless plutocracy, and in direct opposition to the interests and aspirations of the wage earners. Further, in the new field of observation thus opened up, it must occur to the ministers of the gospel that much of the harshness of which the masses complain can be traced to the protraction of the hours of labor beyond the limits of human endurance.

Social economists may differ as to the effect the movement towards shorter hours may have on commerce and future history, but one thing is certain, that all look upon it as an absolute necessity, whether viewed from the standpoint of affording an easy solution of the problem of over-production, or elevating the standard of mental culture among the common people.

You are aware that the struggle between labor and capital is not a child of the present age. It is old as the oldest civilization, and even in its infancy in the days of Moses, when he delivered the children of Israel from Egyptian bondage. Through the long ages the unequal warfare has been carried on, and it is gratifying to note the interest manifested by the Church since the beginning of the Christian era in hastening the warring elements. It is only within the last two centuries, however, that the efforts of wage-earners have been turned in the direction of shorter hours. At no time has the movement in this regard assumed such gigantic proportions as at the present. All Europe is convulsed, and even Bismarck, who was never looked upon as being friendly to the workingmen, admits that the time is near at hand when the question of shorter hours must right itself by natural process, by which he, of course, means legislation. In Great Britain the agitation is so formidable as to leave no room to doubt its ultimate success, and in the United States it has advanced so far as to assume the shape of legislation. It might not be inopportune to draw attention to the fact that the House (Congress) committee on labor last Thursday authorized a favorable report on the House bill constituting eight hours a day's work for all laborers employed by the government. Hon. James G. Blaine, the leading statesman of the United States, submitted a report to accompany the bill in which he recommended its passage, and stated that the committee have given the proposed measure careful consideration, and had listened to the arguments of the workingmen and their representatives.

While we in Canada do not anticipate such direct results to our agitation, yet it is earnestly hoped that be ore long we will be in every respect as desirably situated as the workingmen of the United States.

In conclusion, it is the desire of the Victoria Trades Assembly, composed of representatives from the different trades unions of the city, that you may find it convenient at an early day to make favorable reference to this subject. Should you express your intention of doing so, we shall endeavor to have a representative gathering of workingmen at your place of worship on whatever date you decide upon. Respectfully yours,

(Signed)

WM. HEATHERBELL, President. D. M. CARLEY, Sec. V. T. A.

The different delegates promised a large representation from their organizations should the clergymen take up this matter, and the meeting adjourned.

S. S. GEORGE W. ELDER.

Arrives from Alaska—A Mishap at Sitka—Independence Day.

The one hundred or more passengers who returned from Alaska by the George W. Elder yesterday, had no reason to complain of the weather or the variety afforded during the trip. Sunshine ruled throughout the entire voyage, and the spice of adventure was also present to increase the charm of the trip.

On Thursday, 3rd inst, the day on which Sitka should have been reached, the Elder grounded in Whitestone Narrows, fourteen miles from port, and stuck hard. After one or two ineffectual attempts to get off without assistance, the tug Baranoff was hailed, and news of the mail steamer's predicament was despatched to the capital, together with a request from Capt. Hunter for aid from the Pinta. Though the war steamer was lying at her moorings at 8 o'clock, when the message was received, with the expectation of not leaving port for a couple of weeks, she steamed out of the harbor just an hour later, showing that her engineers can hustle when an emergency demands. Three hours later the Elder had been restored to deep water and by 2 a.m. she was in Sitka. There Independence Day was celebrated in truly patriotic fashion, the passengers and crew of the Elder joining in the festivities. Hon. J. S. Bugbee was president, and Governor Knapp orator of the day. A poetic address on "Independence Day in Alaska" followed the Governor's speech, the author being Hon. H. E. Haydon. Then came a concert programme, principally furnished by the visitors, and in the afternoon sports and games of all kinds were indulged in—tourists, sailors, citizens and Siwashes mixing together in honoring the National holiday.

The passenger list for the down trip included Hon. J. S. Bugbee, Hon. James Sheakley, of Alaska; Dr. Ashton and party, of Ohio; Prof. Reid, and three associate instructors of the Cleveland College of Applied Science; Col. D. G. Anderson and over fifty well-known Californians. A small quantity of newly mined gold, and the usual articles of Northern export completed the cargo.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

The Prohibitory Tariff Now Before Congress Discussed in the Commons.

Parnell Closes the Debate on the Motion to Reduce Secretary Balfour's Salary.

LONDON, July 11.—In the commons this evening Howard Vincent asked the government if, in view of the fact that a free market had been accorded to American imports into Great Britain, while the heavy duties imposed upon British goods had nearly extinguished the national debt of the United States, the government would invite America to refrain from enforcing the prohibitory tariff now before congress, but instead give a fair commercial reciprocity. Sir James Ferguson said that no such representations were likely to be successful.

Sir James was further questioned as to that action Germany proposed to make in the suggested development of free trade between England and Germany, and also between Great Britain and the colonies, as an offset to the hostile tariff in America. He replied that the government had reason to believe that Germany did not intend to take any action at present. The joint measures suggested were inconsistent with the fiscal policy of England.

W. H. Smith was asked whether the government intended to postpone the bill for the cession of Heligoland until France should assent to the English protectorate of Zanzibar, but he declined to give any promise.

Parnell closed the debate raised on the motion to reduce the salary of Chief Secretary Balfour, as he was anxious, he said, that the £33,000,000 proposed under the land purchase bill should be used to the best advantage. To settle the question, he suggested that the constabulary be employed during the autumn in obtaining returns of crops in Munster and Connaught, showing resident and non-occupying tenants. If that course were taken, Mr. Balfour would find the magnitude of the problem he had undertaken enormously reduced, and would be enabled to modify the bill so that the available fund would go much further than he had any idea of.

Balfour thanked Parnell for his moderation and promised to consider the suggestion.

At the conclusion of the debate the Parnellite members discussed with much animation the moderate remarks of Mr. Parnell and Mr. Balfour, and allowed the vote of the Irish Secretary's office to be passed without challenging a division.

AN AMERICAN OPINION.

The New York Tribune Refers Editorially to the Behring's Sea Question.

NEW YORK, July 10.—The Tribune in an editorial on the Behring's Sea matter, to-morrow will say, that congress has acted wisely in calling for correspondence on the controversy. It is evident, says the editorial, that Lord Salisbury is advancing some most absurd contentions. There is some reason to believe that a certain quality of menace has been imparted to the latter's tone. Some curious military and naval operations have been going on lately about our own coasts. Great Britain has been strengthening her quarantine defences at Halifax, increasing her military and naval forces there, adding to her fleet at the Bermudas and Bahamas, and sending a considerable squadron to Behring sea.

"If she desires this display to be interpreted by the United States as a menace, she is engaged in a foolish and regrettable business. It is not agreeable to a spirited people to feel that an effort is being made to awe them into submission by a display of engines of force. We can imagine no proceeding on England's part more likely to convince the American people that Behring's Sea is a "mare clausum" that the presence of British gunboats in the neighbourhood of the Pribylov islands. We can fancy no demonstration more calculated to unite this country in a resolute determination to persist in its extreme demand than the sight of British cruisers hovering around and down the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. It is desirable that Great Britain should appreciate this point. Americans can not suppose this unusual congress of warships is expressive of genuine British sentiment, but whatever it means it serves no good purpose, and the British government will do itself a favor by ordering its cruisers away.

RATE WAR TO ASIA.

The Pacific Mail Will Run Vessels to Vancouver if the C.P.R. Steamers Touch at San Francisco.

According to a San Francisco despatch, a prominent Southern Pacific official states that there is a prospect of a rate war between the Canadian Pacific and Pacific Mail steamship lines. The Canadian Pacific steamer Abyssinia, advertises to sail from Hong Kong June 16, will touch at San Francisco after calling at Vancouver. If the Canadian Pacific persists in this course it is known positively that Pacific Mail steamers will run to Vancouver. This will result in a rate war, as the Pacific Mail is determined to make the Canadian Pacific keep its agreement not to touch at San Francisco.

Not that Kind.

Old man—Here, Thomas, get up; it is four o'clock; the birds are all up and a-singing.

Thomas—Well, I don't care. If the birds wants to make fools of themselves let 'em do it.

Not Entitled to Any.

"I thought you had got a new trial, Bill," called out a friend of the prisoner whom the sheriff was putting on the train for Joilet.

"No," answered the abject wretch, who had stolen a cow. "It was the felier in the cell next to mine, that killed his wife, that's got the new trial."—Chicago Tribune.

Did you ever read "Western Tales," if not, go to the Central Book Store and read it.