CABLE NEWS.

The English Miners' Strike Becoming Serious.

Rioting in Liverpool, and the Military Called Out.

Rumor that Both Prince Bismarck and Count Herbert Bismarck Have Resigned—Excitement in Lisbon.

A Coal Famine.

LONDON, March 17. — The strike of miners has created a scarcity of coal. Several of the Lancashire mills have shut down because of the lack of coal, while others are running on short time. The attitude of the strikers varies according to the manner in which their demands are met by the masters.

Engineers on Strike.

LONDON, March 17. — Twenty thousand Tyneside engineers have gone on strike.

A Serious Fire.

BERNE, March 17. — The village of Gampel has been almost wholly destroyed by fire. Nearly three-fourths of the buildings are burned. The loss is very heavy. Many of the villagers are injured.

Welsh Miners Go Out.

LONDON, March 17. — Ten thousand miners in the northern districts of Wales have joined the strike.

New Hungarian Ministry.

BUDA PESTH, March 17.—A new Hungarian ministry is officially announced, with Count Szapary as premier in place of M. Tisza. The premier also assumes the portfolio of the interior. M. Bethlen becomes minister of agriculture, the office formerly held by County Szapary. With these exceptions the personnel of the old cabinet is unchanged.

Lord Churchill's Speech.

LONDON, March 17.—Lord Randolph Churchill's recent speech against the reception of the Parnell commission report has been published. In a note added to it Lord Randolph says the charge of disloyalty which some partisans have brought against him might more forcibly be urged against those who forced parliament into the appointment of the commission, a measure which, as shown by its history and results, has obviously dealt a heavy blow at the Conservative cause and party. His chief objections to the scheme were: First. The offer of a commission of enquiry was, to a large extent, a recognition of the wisdom of the accused in avoiding a trial by jury. Second. It was unprecedented, unwise and illegal to engage judges of courts in a political conflict. The certain result of so doing was to cause a loss of respect for the bench.

The Morsa Mine Flooded.

LONDON March 17.—The renewal of the fire in the Morsa mine makes it necessary to flood the mine, and no more bodies can be recovered. Forty-three bodies had been taken out before the fire started.

Joined the Strikers.

LIVERPOOL, March 17.—The Liverpool coal carters have joined the miners strike.

Brunswick Coal Strike Settled.

BERLIN, March 17.—The coal miners strike in Brunswick has been settled by the operators conceding a small increase of wages to the miners. One hundred Poles who were prominent in the strike have, however, been discharged by the mine owners.

Ill-Treatment of Soldiers.

LONDON, March 17.—The edict of Emperor William, commanding that the ill-treatment of common soldiers by officers be punished, has borne good fruit in several recent instances. The most notable case is that of Lieut. Hochmuth, who has been imprisoned at Breslau on a four months' sentence for cruelty to privates.

Price of Coal Advancing.

LONDON, March 17.—The miners' strike will, it is thought, be of short duration; but even a short stoppage of operations will cause a serious derangement of industries. If the strike lasts even one week scores of factories will have to be shut down, throwing many thousands of persons out of work. The price of coal is advancing rapidly.

The Church and the Conference.

BERLIN, March 17.—Emperor William, in a letter to the Pope, informs him that he has appointed Bishop Kopp of Berlin, one of the delegates to represent Germany at the labor conference, and asserts that he depends upon the support of the Catholic clergy in settling the social question. In replying to the letter, the Pope thanked the Emperor for appointing Bishop Kopp, and declared that himself and the Church had always been interested in the question, which, he said, would be best solved by the application of principles advocated by a Christian people, which were Sunday rest and religious education.

The Labor Conference.

BERLIN, March 17.—The labor conference has appointed three committees on work. Of these, the committee on mines will be presided over by Dr. Hauchecome, director of mines; the committee on Sunday labor by Bishop Kopp, with Danish Delegate Tietgen as vice-president, and the committee on labor of women and children by M. Jules Simon, with Herr Schnierer, Hungarian delegate, as vice-president. The Emperor will receive the delegates at 5 o'clock to-morrow afternoon, and after a reception will entertain them at a banquet in a private gallery of the palace.

Obituary.

LONDON, March 17.—Thos. Gray, late a delegate from Great Britain to the Maritime Conference at Washington, is dead.

Riots in Liverpool.

LIVERPOOL, March 17.—The striking dock laborers have become riotous. Thirty thousand of them marched through the streets in procession and assumed an attitude so threatening that the magistracy were impelled to invoke the aid of the military, which has been called out.

The Miners Demands Refused.

LONDON, March 17.—A conference between the coal mine owners of Lancashire, Yorkshire, Staffordshire, Derbyshire and North Wales took place to-day. As a result of its deliberation the conference decided to refuse the demands of the men for an immediate advance of five per cent. in their wages, with a further increase of five per cent. to go into operation in July next. The conference then designated representatives to meet a committee of operatives on Thursday next. These representatives are instructed to endeavor to secure concerted action looking toward the establishment of such methods and regulations as will prevent further strikes.

Excitement in Lisbon.

LISBON, March 17.—The action of acting British Consul Buchanan in hoisting and saluting the British flag in the Shire district has created great excitement here. The Government is in receipt of advices from Mozambique stating that Buchanan had with him a large force of natives well armed and officered by Europeans. The Government has formally protested to England against such an act. The British legation here is strongly guarded to prevent an attack upon it by the excited populace. The cabinet is in session.

Rumor About Emin.

LONDON, March 17.—It is stated that Emin Pasha will shortly withdraw formally from the service of Egypt.

Rumored Resignation of Bismarck.

BERLIN, March 17.—It is stated this evening that both Prince Bismarck and Count Herbert Bismarck have resigned, and that the Emperor has accepted the resignation of the Chancellor.

Why Bismarck Resigned.

BERLIN, March 18.—The Tagblatt attributes the resignation of Prince Bismarck entirely to his disappointment with the Emperor's policy of social legislation. The Bourse was only slightly affected to-day.

Count Bismarck's Resignation.

LONDON, March 18.—A Post dispatch from Berlin says: It is true Count Herbert Bismarck has also resigned, but believes that a change in his office is unlikely, though it is probable that Count Von Hatzfeldt, German ambassador to London, or Prince Hohenlohe, governor of Alsace-Lorraine, will be summoned to Berlin to act as Count Herbert's adviser.

Bismarck's Successor.

LONDON, March 18.—The Standard's Berlin correspondent is assured on good authority that Herr Von Boettisher will not succeed Prince Bismarck. The chancellor's resignation was not influenced in the smallest degree by the result of the recent elections. On the contrary, he expressed the hope that he would be able to govern with success with the present reichstag.

The English Strikes.

LONDON, March 18.—The outlook for a victory for the striking miners grows more favorable hourly. It looks now as if the men would surely win. Many more of the mine owners in Nottinghamshire and Lancashire have conceded the demands of the men. The feeling is growing that the men will refuse to meet on Thursday the committee of mine owners appointed for the purpose of conferring with the men and adjusting their differences. It is believed the men will insist on their demands in full. The strike of the Liverpool dock laborers, on the other hand, shows signs of a collapse. The leaders of the strike have lost control of the men, and the latter are very much disposed to arbitrate. New hands are arriving at a rapid rate.

Berlin Rumors.

BERLIN, March 18.—It is asserted that Count Herbert Bismarck has on several occasions recently hinted that he should soon be obliged to resign, and it is recalled that lately his demeanor has become entirely changed, so that his manner appeared to be habitually gloomy.

Churchill's Bantering Reply.

LONDON, March 13.—Lord Randolph Churchill has addressed a bantering reply to the South Paddington Conservative Association, which passed a resolution censuring his recent action in the debate on the Parnell commission's report. He twits the association with having prudently refrained from expressing an opinion as to the rectitude of his action, and predicts that in the near future the Tories will designate the commission by the use of an adjective more common than polite. In conclusion, he declines to accept the association's resolution as an opinion of the electors.

The German Ministry.

BERLIN, March 18.—The censorship, which was established over the telegrams last evening, was continued until 2 o'clock this afternoon, after which time all dispatches were allowed to pass as formerly. The resignation of the Prussian ministry was merely a formality, customary upon the resignation of the prime minister; but it is reported that the resignations of Count Bismarck and Herr Von Maybach were seriously tendered and may be accepted. Herr Richert K. Goldschmit and other deputies were invited to a court banquet tonight, an action on the part of the Emperor which is unprecedented. It is stated that Prof. Hanelan and Herr Miguel will enter the cabinet as an earnest of the Emperor's desire to legislate for the people.

SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

THE OAR.

A San Francisco despatch of last evening says: Henry Peterson, champion oarsman of the Pacific Coast, has issued a challenge to Henry Henceman, of Stockton, for a three-mile race for $500 or $1,000 a side. He will allow Henceman a start of five seconds, or fifteen seconds at the finish; the race to come off within six weeks after signing articles.

WRESTLING.

Matsada Sorakichi, "the Jap," who has fully recovered from his late illness, is anxious to meet Quinn in a match to take place in Seattle. He says he will wrestle Quinn for all the money he can put up, and he also wants to vindicate himself before the public for the poor showing he made with Quinn while sick.

A despatch from San Francisco says: "McLeod, the wrestler, left here recently for Nanaimo, B. C., where he expected to meet W. H. Quinn and arrange a match. About the time McLeod left here, Quinn left Nanaimo for this city. When he reached here and was informed of McLeod's departure he immediately returned by steamer. When McLeod arrived at Nanaimo on being told a similar story, he started on his return trip to this city. Both are now on the ocean."

HERE AND THERE.

Prof. Foster's class is getting in fine form for the exhibition at Vancouver next Saturday.

Jake Kilrain went to Richburg on Monday to serve his sentence of two months.

The members of the Y. M. C. A. are forming a boating club and will put several good crews on the water this summer.

A New York despatch says that John L. Sullivan states that he will not fight again under London rules, and will engage in only one more glove contest and that will probably be with either Jackson or Slavin, and that he will not fight for one contest less than $25,000.

The Northwest Baseball League delegates at Tacoma on Monday completed organization and adopted a constitution. The following officers were elected: President, Herbert Bolster, of Spokane Falls; secretary, C. E. Maxfield, of Tacoma; treasurer, W. R. Thorndil, of Seattle; G. A. Vanderbeck, of Portland; John S. Barnes, of Spokane Falls, and the secretary were appointed a schedule committee. A salary limit of $1000 per month for each club was adopted, and the Spaulding was adopted as the official ball of the league. Mr. Carsons, of Seattle, was authorized to consult with Victoria and Port Townsend regarding their admission into the league. The league then adjourned until April 5th.

EUROPEAN GOSSIP.

Determined Attitude of the Striking Miners.

Only Forty-Two Bodies Recovered From the Morsa Colliery.

Continental Opinion of the New French Ministry—A Lumber Combine Formed in Bavaria.

THE GREAT STRIKE.

LONDON, March 17.—Just as Kaiser Wilhelm's unique labor conference opens at Berlin, to attempt a settlement of the questions affecting the work and wages of miners, one of the greatest mining strikes on record has opened in England. The coincidence indicates at least that English mine laborers have no faith in the outcome of the international confab, and do not care enough for it to even wait for the conclusion of its deliberations. And in this attitude, it must candidly be said, the humble miner is for once in line with the most experienced business men and the most eminent thinkers. No one has yet been found anywhere outside of the German Emperor's entourage who believes that any practical result will be reached by the conference. While the delegates of the great powers are talking about the needs of the miners and the rights of the mine owners, a quarter of a million miners in England will be making a physical instead of a mental attempt to arrive at a solution of the same question. At present the odds in favor of a tangible result being attained are largely on the side of the doers as against the talkers. The strikers say they have funds to support them in idleness, four weeks if necessary. There is no doubt that they can stay out at least two weeks, and this will probably suffice to bring about a concession of their demands. The large manufacturies cannot afford to shut down for lack of coal. If the English mines cannot furnish a regular supply, the Belgian and German mines can, and when the British mine owners find their customers supplying themselves from abroad, they will be compelled to make terms with their men or sustain an irretrievable loss. This is what the miners rely upon, and past experience justifies their belief, for it has always been the case that with a rising firm market of coal the English miner could force the mine owner to admit him to an increased share of the profits of the business.

THE MORSA COLLIERY DISASTER.

Forty-two bodies have been recovered from the ill-fated Morsa colliery in Wales. It is doubtful if the hundred odd remaining will ever be recovered, as fire has broken out afresh in the ruins.

FOR THE WIDOWS.

A daughter of the late oldest member of the House of Commons, Christopher Talbot, has, out of one of the largest fortunes in England, donated £2,500 for the relief of the women made widows by the Morsa disaster.

THE LIVERPOOL DOCKERS STRIKE.

The dockers on strike at Liverpool are becoming boisterous. Though the saloons within the municipal limits are closed on Sundays those in the suburbs were open yesterday, and were the headquarters for many a noisy assemblage. The strikers remain firm, and it was unanimously agreed to-day to continue the fight.

LUMBER COMBINATION.

The lumbermen of Bavaria and the upper provinces of Austria have formed a close combination, with a view to enhancing the price of their product.

THE STRIKE SITUATION.

The concessions granted to their employees by the smaller mine owners have had the effect of greatly weakening the position of those remaining out by reducing the aggregate number of strikers, and consequently detracting from the enormous importance of the movement. Nevertheless, the estimates made by the employers themselves show that upwards of 150,000 constitute the fighting force confronting them, and the fact that this formidable body is well supplied with funds and determined and able leaders, is also taken into consideration as evidence that the struggle must end in a compromise or a victory for the men after a bitter fight and perhaps bloodshed. That this view is taken by the masters is abundantly shown by their willingness to send a committee to meet a committee of the men on Thursday, despite their refusal to agree to a compromise at a meeting of the owners to-day. The employment of non-union colliers in Lancashire is causing trouble that may spread to other localities. The miners are firm and the masters are equally so. As yet there has been no violence to speak of, but the bitter feeling is increasing, and the police authorities, fearing disorder, have reinforced the constabulary wherever quarrels have arisen that promise to develop into active hostility.

THE NEW FRENCH MINISTRY.

The general opinion at continental capitals is that the new French ministry is a strong one. Indeed its strength is regarded as its only objectionable feature, menacing, as it does, its harmony and unanimity of policy. Including Premier De Freycinet himself, the cabinet comprises four ex-premiers, and the prediction is freely made that they will not be content to pull together for any considerable length of time. It would be strange if they should, for at different times, in the capacity of President of the Council, each has represented principles and advocated measures to which the others were opposed.

BERLIN'S SENSATION.

A tremendous sensation has been created in Berlin by the sentence of a professional midwife to seven years' imprisonment and the imposition of sentences of various degrees of severity upon several ladies of high families who were proven to have employed her to aid them in thwarting nature by Malthusian practices. When the woman was arrested some time ago stronh efforts were made on behalf of her patrons to prevent their case from coming to trial, but they were unavailing, chiefly because of the indignant protest of the agitators against discrimination of the law in favor of the rich.

WANTED BY THE POLICE.

Herr Markbreite, a prominent lawyer of Vienna, has been discovered to be a defaulter to the amount of £150,000. The police are after him, but thus far he has eluded arrest, and it is thought has fled the country.

THE BENWELL MURDER.

Burchell Held to Await Trial Next October.

NIAGARA FALLS, Ont., March 12.—The Benwell murder case was resumed to-day. The court room was packed with people. Soon after court opened in the town hall, Mrs. Burchell was arraigned. The magistrate announced that she was charged with being accessory to the murder and that he was ready to hear any evidence.

The detectives had none to offer, and the magistrate remanded her to the same custody she has been in since her arrest.

Burchell was then brought up. He looked unconcerned and smiled at the crowd which stared at him. Several witnesses were sworn, and most of the evidence was merely a resume of that taken at the coroner's inquest.

New evidence was introduced, when George Phemister, telegraph manager at Niagara Falls, produced three telegrams, one of which was sent from Niagara Falls on February 17, addressed to "Pelly, Stafford House, Buffalo," and said, "Arrive at Buffalo at 9 o'clock. Must remain there night." Signed "Bastelle."

Phemister could not identify the sender, and could not say if it was Burchell. In this message the supposed Burchell's name was misspelled by the operator or himself knowingly. Another telegram from Buffalo February 27th, directed to Burchell and signed Stafford, said: "Telegram and letter sent yesterday to Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York." The third telegram was from New York, March 1st, and evidently from Pelly, though not signed. "Benwell not here," was all it said. That closed the testimony.

When asked if he had anything to say, Burchell, after consulting with his lawyer, said. "I have nothing to say at this particular time."

Magistrate Hill then held him for trial in October at Woodstock.

CANADIAN NEWS.

The Morton Murderer.

WINNIPEG, MAN., March 17.—The jury in the case of Robert Morton, aged 93, who murdered his son and daughter-in-law at Miami last month, to-day brought in a verdict that the accused was insane. He was committed to jail.

New Brunswick Legislature.

FREDERICKTON, N. B., March 17.—Premier Blair took the wind completely out of the sails of the opposition by giving notice of a series of resolutions touching a reduction of 25 a thousand in stumpage. The opposition had not believed the government would bring the matter up so early in the session, and were preparing to make a big onslaught on them on this question.

The Toronto University.

TORONTO, March 17.—Sir Donald Smith has subscribed one thousand dollars to the new university library fund. Thirty-two thousand dollars have been subscribed thus far in addition to donations of value and books.

The Benwell Murder.

WOODSTOCK, Ont., March 17.—The excitement over the murder of Benwell and arrest of Burchill is to a large extent dying out. The people are beginning to turn their attention more to the evil system of pupil farming which has been practised very extensively in this section of the province.

The Erring Accountant.

TORONTO, March 18.—The grand jury found true bills against W. R. Moffat in all the charges of forgery preferred against him by the Ontario Bank, in which he was accountant. A bench warrant was issued for Moffat's arrest, and he was found after some difficulty hiding in the cellar of a saloon.

Toronto's Youth Did Not Offend.

TORONTO, March 18.—The reports which recently appeared in the press to the effect that at a state ball recently held here a number of young men imbibed too much wine, insulted the Lieut.-Governor, and otherwise behaved in such a disorderly manner that the police had to be called in, are entirely without foundation. The circulation of these reports has caused much indignation among the citizens.

The Fatal Air Hole.

CALGARY, March 18.—A young Englishman named Jas. Davis was drowned in the Bow river at Kananaskis yesterday by falling through an air hole in the ice.

A True Bill Against the Empire.

TORONTO, March 18.—At the assizes yesterday Judge McMahon directed the grand jury to bring in a true bill against the Empire in the libel suit brought against it at the instance of the Mail.

Loyal Irish Secretaries Here.

TORONTO, March 18.—In his speech at the banquet of the Irish Protestant Benevolent Society last night, Prof. Goldwin Smith said it was greatly to be regretted that the Queen had not more frequently visited the green isle and cultivated that loyalty which he was assured there existed.

Arrested for Murder.

TORONTO, March 19.—James Onley, husband of Elizabeth Onley, who died under suspicious circumstances on Thursday, was, by order of the coroner's jury, who found him guilty of murder, taken into custody at an early hour this morning.

Another Colonist Party.

TORONTO, March 19.—The fourth colonist party of the season for Manitoba and the Northwest left here last night. There were about 350 passengers and three special trains of settlers and their effects.

The Hudson Bay Railroad.

WINNIPEG, March, 19.—A caucus of the local government supporters was held yesterday, and report says the government has decided to grant conditional aid to the Hudson Bay Railway to the amount of one million dollars.

The Ontario General Elections.

TORONTO, March 19.—The World this morning announced that the Ontario legislature will, according to what the government has given its followers to understand, dissolve on April 10th, but that it may be possibly a week later. The paper adds that June 17th is the date fixed for the general elections.

Embezzlement.

MONTREAL, March 19. — Alexander Shaw, head bookkeeper for the Canada Jute Co., has been arrested on a charge of the embezzlement of $7,000.

Manitoba Legislature.

WINNIPEG, Man., March 19.—A resolution praying that steps be taken by the Dominion Parliament to negotiate with the government of the United States, with a view of arriving at some agreement by which there should be unrestricted reciprocity in trade between the two countries, was unanimously carried in the Manitoba legislature to-day. The school bill passed its third reading, after an all night session, by a vote of 25 to 11.

ANTI-CLIMAX.

I walked a city street, and suddenly
I saw a tiny lad. The winter wind
Howled fiercely, and all the air above
The clear-cut outline of the buildings tall
Seemed full of knives set out against the face;
An awful night among the unhoused poor;
The child was tattered; both his hands were thrust
For show of warmth into his pocket holes,
Where pockets had not been for many a day.
One trouser leg was long to hide
The naked flesh, but one is mockery
A world too short, tho' he was monstrous small.
Left bare and red his knee—a cruel thinn!
Then swelled my selfish heart with tenderness
And pity for the waif; to think of one
So young, so seeming helpless, homeless, too,
Breasting the night, shiver with the cold!
Gaining a little, soon I passed him by,
My fingers reached for a silver coin
To make him happier, if only for
An hour, when—I marveled as I heard—
His mouth was puckered up in cherry wise,
And in the very teeth of fortune's frown
He whistled loud a scrap of some gay tune!
And I must know that all my ready tears
Fell on a mood more merry than my own.

Hagyard's Pectoral Balsam cures coughs, colds, hoarseness, bronchitis, asthma, whooping cough and all bronchial and lung troubles. Price 25c. per bottle, or 5 for $1.00. 1w

CAPITAL NOTES.

Correspondence Presented re. the Jesuits' Estates Act.

The House will Investigate Rykert's Timber Deals.

Safe Delivery of Registered Letters will not be Guaranteed—Irish-Conservatives Celebrate.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, Ont., March 17.—The Rykert affair was discussed again to-night, when Sir John Thompson, in a calm, judicial speech, said that it would be in keeping with the dignity of the House to accord Rykert fair play before passing judgment upon him. The opposition leader therefore assented to the matter being referred to the committee on privileges at elections. The Minister of Justice says that the revelations contained in the Rykert letters are shocking, and it is fully believed that censure will be passed on the member for Lincoln.

Correspondence dealing with the reference of the Jesuits' Estates Act to the law officers of the crown was brought down this afternoon. They simply give as their opinion that the act was within the competence of the legislature, and say that there is no need to refer to the judicial committee. No reasons are assigned by which the opinion was reached.

The Postmaster-General says the Government does not intend to guarantee the safe delivery of money sent in registered letters.

The Irish Conservatives in parliament signalized St. Patrick's Day by presenting Lady Macdonald with a beautiful majolica vase valued at $500 as a token of their high esteem.

The Crown law officers have decided that the action of Trinity College, Toronto, in granting musical degrees in England is ultra vires, being in contravention of the terms of its charter.

McInnes' Gaelic Bill Finds but Few Friends.

Dr. Dawson Will Continue His Explorations in B. C.

The Continuance of the Artesian Well Boring Experiments Advised—Government Business.

(From our own Correspondent).

OTTAWA, Ont., March 18. — Hon. Edgar Dewdney stated to-night that Dr. Dawson will continue his explorations in British Columbia during the coming summer. Prof. McConnel will also continue his explorations in the Peace River, Athabaska, district.

Senator McInnes' bill making the Gaelic language official, was discussed in the Senate to-day. Hon. Mr. Abbot strongly opposed it, regarding it as a far-fetched practical joke calculated to affront the French Canadians. The bill was defeated on a division of 44 to 7; the latter included four Scotchmen, one German, one Frenchman and one Irishman.

Mr. Mara has strongly advocated that the experimenting regarding artesian wells be extended in British Columbia. The Dominion government were deriving a revenue from the British Columbia railway lands and it was the duty of the government to assist in developing those lands.

The power of the Dominion to appoint Queen's counsel was discussed in the House this evening. Sir John Thompson took strong ground that the prerogative rested in the hands of the Dominion. The government take another day, commencing next week, leaving only Monday for private members.

The budget will be brought down on Wednesday.

Deputations from all parts of Ontario and Quebec have urged the government to complete the St. Lawrence canal system to fourteen feet of water throughout. The Premier has said that the whole system will be completed within three years.

The Ontario Elections to Take Place June 17th.

First Steps Taken in the Rykert Investigation.

The Charges Against General Middleton —Orange Bill Read a Second Time in the Senate.

(From Our Own Correspondent).

OTTAWA, March 19.—The Orange bill was read a second time in the senate to-day by 32 to 20.

Taylor's anti-labor bill was read a second time and referred to a special committee to investigate.

Mr. Blake has suggested that the time has arrived when Canada should be directly represented at Washington.

It is understood the Ontario elections will be held June 17th.

A big delegation from Three Rivers interviewed Hon. Mr. Carling to urge that American cattle be allowed to enter Canada without restriction, and to be killed here. Mr. Carling received them courteously, but gave an emphatic refusal to their request.

The privileges on election committee met this morning and took the first steps in the Rykert investigation by appointing Mr. Girouard chairman, and granting leave to Rykert to have Hon. Wm. McDougall act as his counsel. The committee meets again on Friday to hear Rykert's evidence.

The committee met this morning to enquire into the charges against General Middleton. It was conclusively shown that General Middleton gave orders for the furs to be distributed. McDonald of Battleford gave evidence that D. Hayter received instructions from him to make up the furs into bales and ship them away.

PACIFIC COAST NEWS.

The Molders' Strike.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 17.—President Fitzgerald, of the International Association of Molders, telegraphed to the local union from Cincinnati to-day that their strike was sanctioned. This assures its indefinite prolongation.

Snowfall in California.

SISSON, Cal., March 17.—It commenced snowing this morning. Three inches have fallen.

Eastern Molders Coming.

YUMA, Ariz., March 17.—Fifty Philadelphia molders for the Union Iron Works, of San Francisco, passed here to-day.

Heavy Storm.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 19.—A heavy storm prevailed on the bay and at the entrance to the harbor yesterday. Few vessels arrived or departed. The wind blew at the rate of sixty miles an hour at one time. The steamer Umatilla from Victoria reported violent southeast storms the latter part of her voyage.

Obituary.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 19.—John D. Tost, formerly of H. S. Crocker & Co., is dead.

Wires and Poles a Nuisance.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 19.—Judge Levy decided this morning that street poles and wires are a nuisance, and the city can remove them.

The Striking Moulders.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 19. — All night long the four foundries to which the eastern molders were taken on their arrival last evening were guarded by policemen and private watchmen. Inside, the shops resembled arsenals. The proprietors had expected violence from the strikers, but no trouble occurred. The new men, however, were disgusted with their condition. They were given supper inside the works but were not allowed to leave them. Indignation cropped out in all quarters this morning. The men held consultations and condemned the proprietors for keeping them in confinement. A general desertion of the foundries resulted, all but six going out and joining the strikers. The latter are overjoyed at their victory. The foundrymen say they expected what has happened, but will import other men to take the places of the deserters.

Found Dead in Bed.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 19.—John S. Hayes, ex-collector of this port, ex-State and ex-United States senator, was found dead in bed this morning. Death was the result of heart disease.

Weather Report.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 19.—For Oregon and Washington, fair weather, followed by rain in Washington; southwest winds; nearly stationary temperature.

EUROPEAN GOSSIP.

A CONSERVATIVE CAUCUS.

LONDON, March 18.—The unusual action of Lord Salisbury in summoning the supporters of the Conservative government to a meeting at the Carlton club on Thursday has given rise to much speculation as to the real reason for the step. Although the theories advanced are various, the one most generally accepted is that the incipient mutiny in the Tory ranks growing out of the Government's action with regard to the report of the special commission, has alarmed the ministry by its tendency to increase rather than subside, as it was hoped it would. Among the mollifying influences which will be brought to bear upon the Government followers by the premier and his colleagues are an Irish land purchase bill and a tithes bill, the details of which it is intended shall be discussed in caucus, and the conservative rank and file are to be given to understand that upon these measures the government, and of course the party, will stand or fall. The tide of liberalism which is now flowing so strongly that even the least indifferent tory cannot fail to see whither it must lead, will be used as another cudgel upon the heads of the kicking tories to bring them to a full realization of the certainty that an appeal to the country in the immediate future will result in depriving many of them of their seats.

BISMARCK'S RESIGNATION.

The resignation of Prince Bismarck is regarded in London as the most important event since the fall of the French Empire, and it is generally believed that a continental war is now more than ever probable. The withdrawal from public life, and particularly because of his disagreement with the Emperor, of the man who above all others was instrumental in cementing the union of the German states into a vast empire, and who has since been foremost in maintaining the solidity of that union, is viewed in no other light than that of a European calamity, which the erratic conduct of the German Emperor since his succession to the throne serves to aggravate.

EMPRESS FREDERICK AVENGED.

The Star concludes it comments on Bismarck's resignation with the remark that Empress Frederick is now avenged; but whether upon the chancellor, or her son, or both, is not made clear by the writer.

THE "TIMES'" NEW MANAGER.

Moberly Bell has been appointed general manager of the London Times, as successor of the late Mr. Macdonald. Bell's despatches contributed in a powerful manner to bring about the state of affairs which led to the occupation of Egypt by Great Britain in 1882, and since then he has done his utmost through his correspondence to influence the British government to administer the government in a manner more conducive to the pecuniary interests of greedy bondholders than to those of either the English or Egyptian nation as a whole. Egyptian bonds previous to British occupation were 50 per cent. below par, whereas now they are above par. As Bell has been largely instrumental in bringing this state of affairs about, he necessarily had some claim on the bondholders—that is on Messrs. Rothschild,—and it is to this that his appointment as general manager of the Times must be attributed. It is an extraordinary nomination, for Bell has no administrative knowledge, no social rank or acquaintance, and no knowledge of European or English politics.

AN UNDERTAKER'S INDECORUM.

It is an old custom in England when a family is bereaved to send out memorial cards to intimate friends, but Minister Lincoln is not an Englishman and did not observe this custom after the death of his son. So H. L. Mills, undertaker for young Lincoln, decided to do it for him. While at Mr. Lincoln's house attending to the details of the funeral he got access to the visiting cards of callers there with messages of sympathy sent during the son's illness, which included nearly all the Americans in London. On Thursday these Americans were astonished to receive a brilliant blue card with a gilt band, announcing the death of Abraham Lincoln, also a conspicuous advertisement of Mills's undertaker's shop. All was made to appear as if sent by Lincoln. This was followed by an equally wide distribution of proof sheets of an extract from the Undertaker's Weekly Journal, notifying Americans in London that Mills, by reason of services as undertaker to James Russell Lowell when his wife died and to Lincoln, was the proper man for them to employ. Minister Lincoln is deeply distressed at Mills's conduct. Americans here are so indignant at his affrontery that so far as future custom is concerned Mills will not receive a single order from them.

When Baby was sick,
We gave her Castoria.
When she was a Child,
She cried for Castoria.
When she became Miss,
She clung to Castoria.
When she had Children,
She gave them Castoria.

Mr. R. J. Kirkwood, of Illecillewaet, B. C., who was the winner of the Mason & Risch piano, presented as a premium by THE COLONIST, has forwarded to Master Richard Drake a cheque for $16, the lad having drawn the winning number.

CABLE NEWS.

Lord Salisbury's Threat to Dissolve Parliament.

General Caprivi Appointed to Succeed Bismarck.

Programme of the New French Ministry Announced—The English Strike Situation Grows Serious.

The New French Ministry's Programme.

PARIS, March 18.—The programme of the new French ministry announced in the chamber of deputies to-day, sets forth that the ministry will vigorously defend republican institutions and uphold the entire democratic work of its predecessors. "We shall," the announcement states, "welcome into the republican fold all well disposed men who will work for economic and social reform. We affirm our wish to place the customs regime upon a new basis, and await the expiration of the treaties of commerce in 1892 to fix new tariffs." The ministry also intends to demand the passage of measures for the more effectual protection of agricultural labor.

Germany's Gratitude.

BERLIN, March 18.—The National Zeitung says the gratitude toward the restorer of German unity, which is filling the hearts of Germans at this critical time, proves that Prince Bismarck will long be regarded as the personification of Germany's growth and prosperity, even though other men carry on his work. The Zeitung believes Count Herbert Bismarck will remain in office, and asserts that the Prussian ministry has not resigned as reported.

The Siberian Outrages.

LONDON, March 19.—The correspondent of the Daily News at St. Petersburg says the Russian government is very disagreeably impressed by the indignation meetings which have been held in England and America to protest against the alleged Siberian outrages. The Siberian correspondent sends details of the Irkutsk affair. The prisoners were suspected of complicity in an explosion at Zurich last March. They lived in perfect comfort at Irkutsk until the police discovered unmistakable evidence of treachery among them. The leaders were then sent to the mines, and those remaining were informed that their term of exile would be prolonged. The exiles then fortified themselves and waged war against the troops. The ringleader of the rioters was hanged.

Gen. Von Caprivi's Character.

LONDON, March 19.—The Times' correspondent at Berlin says he had an excellent chance to study Gen. Von Caprivi at the military manoeuvres last autumn. In appointing him the Emperor decided to follow the idea of his father, Emperor Frederick, that a great general is the best conductor of a foreign policy, because he best knows how far he can go without an army behind him. There is said to be a remarkable likeness between Bismarck and Caprivi.

The Strike Situation.

LONDON, March 19.—The stagnation in many branches of industries, caused by the coal miners' strike, continues, and threatens to become worse. As the stock of fuel decreases, and the manufacturers cannot afford to pay the increased price for steam coal, unless the strike speedily settles the East Lancaster coal trade will meet with a severe check. Half of the mills at Accrington are at a standstill. In Nottinghamshire the men have resumed work in all the pits except a few. In North Wales the men still hold firm to their demands. Another meeting has been called by the mine-owners, at which it is thought a compromise will be effected. If the strike continues till the end of the week, 10,000 brick and terra-cotta workers will be thrown out of employment, as their stock of coal is already low.

The Conservative Caucus.

LONDON, March 19.—It is asserted upon unquestionable authority that at to-morrow's Conservative caucus at the Carlton Club Lord Salisbury will threaten to dissolve Parliament in case the Government's tithes and land purchase bills, to be discussed at the meeting, shall not be passed.

Count Bismarck's Resignation Accepted.

BERLIN, March 19.—The Tagblatt asserts that the resignation of Count Herbert Bismarck has been accepted by the Emperor, and says that Count Von Berchem, under secretary of state for foreign affairs, will probably be promoted to succeed him.

An Adverse Vote.

LONDON, March 18.—The government was defeated in the Commons to-night by the adoption of a motion offered by Thomas W. Buchanan (Gladstonian), complaining of encroachments upon public rights of way in Scotland and asking that the reform laws in regard to the matter be entrusted to the county councils. The motion was carried by 110 to 97. Chamberlain supported the motion.

Bismarck's Successor.

BERLIN, March 19.—The appointment of General Von Caprivi as chancellor of the German empire, to succeed Prince Bismarck, is announced.

Massacred by Natives.

BERLIN, March 19.—The announcement is officially made that a telegram received from the Congo country reports that ten natives and European agents, constituting the French post at Ubungus, have been massacred. The massacre is said to have been provoked by the abduction of the wife of a native chief by a European.

Devonshire Hurdle Race.

LONDON, March 19.—The Devonshire handicap hurdle race at Derby to-day was won by J. B. Barton's six-year-old bay gelding "Crownie." J. S. Oward's five-year-old, "Melrum," was second; and H. Heasman's five-year-old, "Prince Frederick," third.

The Liverpool Dock Strike.

LIVERPOOL, March 19. — The dock laborers' strike is about over. The men are going back to work.

The New German Chancellor.

BERLIN, March 19.—The appointment of General Von Caprivi as chancellor of the empire is confirmed. The office will not, however, include the direction of the foreign ministry, as during Prince Bismarck's chancellorship. It is stated that Emperor William has intimated his attention to abolish the office of president of the Prussian ministry, which proposal Prince Bismarck stoutly opposed. The disagreement between the Emperor and Chancellor becoming wider, the Kaiser asked for another interview at 10 o'clock in the evening. To this request Prince Bismarck replied that he was too old a man to come at that hour. Shortly thereafter the Chancellor formally tendered his resignation. The Tagblatt says that the Emperor has dismissed Count Von Walderze from the command of the army.

Changes in the Berlin Ministry.

BERLIN, March 19.—It is announced that Herr Von Boettischer will become president of the Prussian ministry, and that Count Eulenberg, president of Hesse-Nassau, will succeed Von Boettischer as Imperial minister of the interior. Count Herbert Bismarck will be assigned to an ambassadorship. Ministers Herr Forth and Von Maybeck have resigned, the latter because he lost Prince Bismarck's support against increased demands for strategic communications.

The Kaiser and His Chancellor.

LONDON, March 19.—A despatch from Berlin says the story that Prince Bismarck declined to visit the Emperor at his request at 10 o'clock in the evening, is refuted by the fact that the Kaiser visited the chancellor that very evening. The correspondent says that Prince Bismarck had not intended to resign as soon as he did, wishing to avoid creating the impression that the result of the elections had caused him to resign. It is understood that he had intended to make a great political speech on the occasion of the reopening of the Reichstag.

The Strike Situation Alarming.

LONDON, March 19.—Several more factories and mills at Accrington and Leeds have stopped running owing to lack of fuel. The situation growing out of the colliers strike is becoming alarming.

Coal Supply Cut off.

LONDON, March 19.—The Dundalk and Newry Packet Company announce the suspension of the trips of their Liverpool steamers in consequence of the strike of dock laborers and colliers, the latter cutting off the supply of coal.

PERSONAL.

Sheriff McMillan's health is improving.

S. J. Pitts returned from the Sound last evening.

B. Gordon, of Angus & Gordon, returned from the Sound last evening.

J. A. Russell, steamboat inspector, was a passenger by last night's steamer from the Sound.

Mrs. W. W. Buck, of Oregon City, arrived yesterday on a visit to her daughter, Mrs. S. D. Pope.

Frank Pixley, editor and proprietor of The Argonaut, and one of the best known writers of San Francis