

THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION.

Mr. Sward has been at his deadly work again. Yesterday he proposed an amendment to the mining bill, which, though very much in the public interest, was extremely disagreeable to the government itself.

QUARANTINE.

Stoppage in quarantine is naturally most disagreeable to the large number of saloon passengers of the Empress of China, and so, for that matter, is it to the men who were in the steerage.

MALADMINISTRATION.

The Colonist has the temerity to assert that "the Ruckles case has been fully thrashed out in the house, and it was expressly stated by the leading speakers on the opposition side that no fault lay with the department of lands."

In 1891 Messrs. E. and F. Ruckle pre-empted 640 acres of land along the Kettle river. Sixty-seven acres of this land lies on the same side of the river as the town of Grand Forks, and is adjacent to the town.

acres and cropped it for several years. Land in the vicinity of Grand Forks having become valuable because of the growth of the town, Mr. E. M. Johnson, attorney-in-fact for Miss Davey, applied for the purchase of the 67 acres in question under clause 9 of the Land Act Amendment Act, 1895.

Leo. Norris, the government agent at Vernon, having received Mr. Johnson's application, wrote, not to the chief commissioner, but to a clerk in the lands and works department. He received the following reply: "In reply to your inquiry I beg to say that the tract of land referred to has not been gazetted as surveyed, and is deemed to be unsurveyed."

"I, E. M. Johnson, attorney-in-fact for G. L. Davey, of Kettle River, B.C., do solemnly declare that she is an actual settler on land east of the Cascade Range of mountains, that the land, which she desires to purchase under the above application, adjoins the land upon which she is settled, that it is unoccupied, unsurveyed and unsurveyed crown land, and is unfit for cultivation, and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true, and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath, and by virtue of the Canada Evidence Act, 1893."

Hon. G. B. Martin, the chief commissioner of lands and works, refused to be governed by the reports of the government agent at Vernon or the government agent at Midway, refused to heed the advice of S. Russell Almond and Peter T. McCallum, justices of the peace for the district, totally disregarded the requests of the men who had tilled the land for years, treated with contempt the affidavits of the surveyor who made the plan of the pre-emption, violated the spirit and the letter of clause 9 of the land act under which the application was made, and sold for one dollar an acre 67 acres of land which immediately after it came under the control of the purchasers was subdivided into town lots and advertised for sale, as adjoining the townsite of Grand Forks.

The Colonist does its best to commend Mr. Forster to the electors of Chilliwack. Mr. Forster will no doubt be duly grateful.

Sir Charles Tupper and his followers in the house seem to have decided that their best course is not to fight very stubbornly against the adoption of the new tariff arrangement. This would appear to be a wise decision, even from a party standpoint.

adian tariff schedule without the aid of higher mathematics and a customs expert to explain the classifications and rates of duty.

Our morning contemporary has worked itself into a fine frenzy over the Stewart river lease proposal. But while furiously straining at the Stewart river grant it calmly swallows the Cassiar Central claim.

Will the premier rise and explain how a railway 75 miles long can afford transportation facilities to a district containing 140,000,000 acres?

Why should a prospector starting from Victoria to the northern confines of the province, a distance of 1,000 miles, surrender half of his discoveries to a company which carried him 75 miles of the distance?

The Colonist thinks "It is of slight interest to the people of Victoria to know that the evening paper has not a word of protest against the leasing of that river on unprotestable conditions and practically without notice."

Touching the Cassiar Central railway affair, the Revelstoke Herald says: "In short, if the bill passes, over about 800, 180 acres of the richest mineral lands in the province the unfortunate prospector will be tied hand and foot to the company, and there is not the slightest doubt which of the two will come out at the small end of the horn."

The way in which the Grand Prize was located in itself shows the desire of the locator to avoid infringing upon the ground of the Deer Park claim, the exact boundaries of which he did not know, as it had not then been surveyed, and it is quite consistent with the exercise of reasonable care on his part that the No. 1 post should, upon a survey, be found where it was.

"The Times compares the Stewart river lease to the Cassiar railway bill. The former gives the exclusive right to 100 miles of river, or substantially the whole river; the latter a conditional lease of 700,000 acres out of 130,000,000. The resemblance between the two is positively startling."

So says the Colonist. We should be quite content to take this statement of the case and ask the public to say whether the government organ is honest in upholding the Cassiar scheme while it condemns the other. There are some necessary corrections in the statement, however. One of these is that the Stewart river proposal does not "give free miners altogether," nor does the Cassiar scheme "give free miners an equal chance with the company."

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Spirits, Manufactured tobacco, Foreign raw leaf tobacco, Liqueurs, Imported petroleum, and Total.

First Last and all the time Hood's Sarsaparilla has been advertised as a blood purifier. Its great cures have been accomplished through purified blood - cures of scrofula, salt rheum, eczema, rheumatism, neuralgia, catarrh, nervousness, that tired feeling. It cures when others fail, because it strikes at the root of the disease and eliminates every germ of impurity.

Always Strikes at the root of the disease and eliminates every germ of impurity. Thousands testify to absolute cures of blood diseases by Hood's Sarsaparilla, although discouraged by the failure of other medicines. Remember that Hood's Sarsaparilla is the best - in fact the One True Blood Purifier.

Hood's Sarsaparilla is the best - in fact the One True Blood Purifier. It is easy to buy, easy to take, and easy to operate.

CLAIMANTS TO MINES

Hon Justice McCall Delivers an Important Judgment in the Grand Prize Case.

The Question of What Constitutes the Actual Occupation of a Claim.

The following is the decision of Justice McCall handed down in the Grand Prize case: The Grand Prize mineral claim was recorded on the 9th of June, 1894, by one McDougall. A certificate of work was issued on the 3rd of June, 1895. The defendant on the 27th of March, 1896, purchased the claim for \$4,700. Another certificate of work was issued on the 24th of July, 1896, and recorded on the next following day in his own name.

The affidavit required by sub-section (c) of section 17 of the Mineral Act, 1893, was signed by Mr. Kirkland adjoining the claim, and the ground applied for was "unoccupied by any other person as a mineral claim." It stated that in his belief it was not "occupied."

The plaintiff claims the right to make his location because it is alleged that the posts of the Grand Prize were situated outside the limits of that claim. At the same time the defendant claims that the only claim located adjoining it was the Deer Park, which, however, was not then surveyed.

The plaintiff relies upon the testimony of George Ellis as satisfactory upon the question of the location of the claim. It appears that he measured them. Mr. Kirk, a land surveyor, called for the plaintiff, had not seen either No. 1 or No. 2 posts, but he was satisfied that the location of the Grand Prize mineral claim, which was produced.

The point is an important one, which, so far as I am aware, has never before arisen, and I regret that I have not had the advantage of hearing argument upon it. Reference was not even made to it at the trial.

I think it is clear that the circumstances of this case constitute an occupation within the meaning of the act - even assuming the location to be defective and the defect not to have been cured - though ordinarily occupation may be found to consist of a valid location and record under the act. In the latter case it is intelligible that, but for substantial compliance with the provisions of the act, there can be no real occupation, and the same may be said of the case - whatever may be the rights of the crown or of a lawful occupant, for other than mining purposes - how another person could support the same.

JAPAN AND HAWAII. Officials in Washington Have No Fear of Any Trouble.

Washington, May 1.-The officials of the Japanese legation in this city expressed themselves in positive terms as having no fear of international complications between Japan and Hawaii or the United States growing out of the differences between the first two countries on the immigration question. They believe the possibility of war over the complications which may arise and attribute such talk to the "jingo newspapers, which are disposed to make great claims for the government, and are incited by diplomats and non-conforming writers there is no warrant for the predictions that trouble is likely to follow."

isn't one, but it is simply an exercise by the Japanese government of the right claimed and enjoyed by other countries of having naval representatives in the waters of countries where their citizens are located, so that in the event of necessity ample protection may be afforded.

TARIFF BILL DEBATED.

Dingley Bill Will Not Likely Pass the Senate Before August.

Chicago, May 1.-The Post's Washington special says: Senator Jones, of Nevada, holds the balance of power, and has joined with the Democratic members of the finance committee in objecting to reporting the tariff bill direct to the senate as framed by the Republican members. This move is a disappointment to the Republican senators in congress and to the administration. The bill will have to be reported to the full committee and the Democratic members of the committee say that they do not intend to obstruct the measure. They propose to take time for its careful consideration before permitting it to come before the senate.

The Democrats refuse to let the Republicans name a date for the report on the bill, and say that it may be held in abeyance for two or three weeks. The chances for the early passage of the bill are diminishing, and it may be August before it goes to the president.

THE CIRCUIT RIDER

CHRISTIANITY OWES MUCH TO HIS ZEAL AND ENDURANCE.

His Life During the Early Days of Methodism in Canada Was One of "Great Hardship" - The Story of One Now Enjoying a Ripely Old Age.

From the Simcoe reformer. In the early days of Methodism in Canada the gospel was spread abroad in the land by the active exertions of the circuit riders. It required a man of no ordinary health and strength; an iron constitution and unflinching determination to fulfill the arduous duties incumbent on one who undertook to preach salvation to his fellow-men. It was no easy task that these men set themselves to, but they were strong in the faith and hope of ultimate reward.

Rev. David Williams, who lives two miles southwest of Nixon, Ont., in the township of Windham, Norfolk county, was one of these early days circuit riders. He was a man of vigorous health and although without the many advantages in the way of early education, he succeeded by dint of hard and constant study in being admitted to the ministry. He was first born in the first house built in Glen Williams near Georgetown, Mr. Kennedy, the founder of Georgetown, being a brother of his mother. To-day he is 70 years old, and for the past 26 years has lived in this country.

For many years he has been a sufferer from kidney and kindred diseases. He tried all kinds of remedies, and although he was temporarily relieved, he gradually grew worse, until in October, 1888, he was stricken with paralysis. From this he partially recovered and recovered his powers of speech, but his mind was badly wrecked, and his memory was so poor that he could not remember the name of the person to whom he wished to speak without thinking intently for several minutes. One day while driving to church he wished to speak to a neighbor who lived next to him for twenty years, but he could not recall the name for an hour or more. In addition to his mental trouble, he had intense bodily suffering, pains in the head, across the forehead, in the temples and behind the ears, at the lower part of the skull and in the joint of the neck. He had great weakness and pains in the back, hips and legs. In fact, so much did he suffer that sleep was almost an impossibility, and he fell away in weight until he weighed only 145 pounds. By this time, December, 1895, he became despondent and felt that if he did not soon obtain relief, he would soon bid adieu to the things of this world. On the 20th of December he read of a cure in the reformer by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and being seized with a sudden inspiration, at once wrote to Brockville for a supply of that marvellous remedy. Immediate good results followed their use, and he has improved wonderfully during the past year. He has recovered his bodily health and strength, and is comparatively free from pain, and his memory is nearly as good as it ever was, and as the improvement continues the prospects are very bright for complete recovery. He has gained 20 pounds in weight since beginning to use Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Mr. Williams says: "I can heartily endorse the many good things said of these pills in the papers, and strongly recommend them to any one suffering as I was."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are a blood builder and nerve restorer. They supply the blood with its life and health-giving properties, thus driving disease from the system. There are numerous pink colored imitations against which the public is warned. The genuine Pink Pills are had only in boxes, the wrapper around which bears the full trade mark, "Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People." Refuse all others.

EUROPEAN BOYCOTT RULES.

An exhaustive report has just been issued by Consul Chancelor at Havre, giving a detailed statement of the boycott rules and regulations now prevailing in the various European countries regard cycles and cyclists. In France there is an annual tax of \$2 for every wheel. Bicycles go as baggage on railways. In Austria a deposit of \$10 must be made. In Belgium 12 per cent. ad valorem duty must be deposited; England charges no duty, but compels a deposit to guarantee against sale of bicycles. In nearly all the remaining countries deposits are required, and in Spain a six months' license, costing 20 cents is required. Consul Chancelor points out that membership in cycling organizations abroad, as at home, carries great advantages, reduced hotel rates and repairs, with courteous treatment generally.

BOARD OF TRADE

A Protest Against the Lease of Stewart River for Drugging Purposes.

Other Mercantile Matters Considered - The "Bad Telegraph" Service.

A meeting of the council of the board of trade was held at the Board of Trade building yesterday afternoon. The special smelter committee, appointed some time ago to confer with the city council reported on the progress made in that matter and asked that further information be secured on that subject. In furtherance of that end they requested that the present committee be allowed to continue its work.

G. A. Kirk reported that the committee on Yukon trails had been more or less successful. Hon. Messrs. Turner and Baker had been interviewed and the committee had this year as to the availability of the two different routes. They had been informed that a line had been sent to Telegraph Creek to look over the route proposed, and should the Hoodlangua river be navigable he was instructed to expend \$2,000 on that route.

A letter was received from the secretary of the Navy League enclosing copies of memorials to the Governor-General asking that a conference be held and also asking if the council could submit to them the name of any gentleman in Victoria who was willing to form a branch of the society here. The letter was received and ordered acknowledged.

The department of fisheries and marine wrote regarding the licenses for trap nets at Boundary Bay. Inspector McNab, the communication said, had been advised that as many nets would be licensed there this year as heretofore. The letter was received and filed.

Provincial Librarian R. E. Gosnell, who is compiling statistics in reference to the trade of the different provinces, wrote asking that the matter be endorsed by the board. A resolution was passed to that effect.

The consideration of the leasing of Stewart river for purposes of gold dredging then came before the council. The conditions of the lease were read by the secretary, and some discussion followed. None of the members knew anything about the lease, but they thought that time should have been given.

President Ker thought that the leasing of Stewart river greatly against the interests of the country. He thought that there must be "something in it." Some one must be applying for the lease although they were going through the form of calling for tenders. Mr. G. A. Kirk said that if the Department's company were interested, according to British Columbia mining laws it was not permissible, as Stewart river was not an abandoned river or placer ground.

Mr. Robertson thought that a "bad protest" should be made against granting the lease in the interest of the many free miners in that district. Mr. Lindley Crease was one of the opinion that the leasing of Stewart river was a most extraordinary thing. It would prevent any gold camp starting in that district. He also thought that the board should protest.

A resolution was finally moved by Mr. Fletcher and seconded by Mr. E. Pearson that this council of the British Columbia Board of Trade very earnestly objects to the unfairness of granting leases for dredging the Stewart river, there not having been opportunity given to persons in the Western provinces to investigate with a view to tendering, and urges Victoria's representatives at Ottawa to insist on an extension of time for tendering being granted. The Vancouver and New Westminster boards of trade to be asked to support the same. This resolution was carried and the secretary instructed to telegraph the same to Ottawa.

Mr. Robinson then brought before the meeting the deficiency in the telegraph service to and from this city. How often has the wire been down during the past month? Several members - How often has it been down? Mr. Robinson thought that something should be done to draw the attention of the C.P.R. to the matter of the telegraph service.

President Ker thought that something would be done to improve the service if they protested. Mr. Robinson thought that such would be the case, but as long as they did not kick the same condition of affairs would continue.

President Ker said that he believed that the admiral had said that Vancouver was more to be depended upon than Victoria, as the wires were continually down here.

Then after more discussion on the same lines, all of the members being of the opinion that a strong protest should be made, the council adjourned.

The steamer Victoria, of the Northern Pacific line, arrived at the wharf at noon to-day. She will remain there until 8 o'clock to-morrow morning, when she will leave in continuation of her trip to the Orient. The Victoria carries a very heavy cargo of freight, composed for the most part of flour. The flour consignments, which are made up all for Yokohama, will aggregate 1,500 tons. The mills at Pendleton, Spokane, Portland, Minneapolis and Tacoma supply the most of the product. She carries a large consignment of beer from Minneapolis and 1,500 bales of dried lumber for use in making tea chests. There is also a considerable quantity of miscellaneous merchandise. The cabin passenger list is a light one, but in the steerage there are a number of Chinese and Japanese, who are returning to the Orient.

A. C. Fimmerfelt was among the Victorians returning from the Malakal last evening.

GREEK ARMY DEMORALIZED

The Entire Force in Epirus Into a Helpless Panic by a Turkish Onslaught.

The Officers Neglected to Prepare for the Timely Arrival of Reinforcements.

Greeks from America Arrive En Route for the Scene of the Struggle.

London, May 3.-The Times correspondent at Patras, giving details of the fighting at Peloponnese, reports that the neglect of the officers for the timely arrival of reinforcements - a matter so difficult in the section of the country - was the real cause of their fierce onset.

"When the Turks opened the real attack the mere handful of Greeks did not realize that this one battle would throw the entire Greek army into a hopeless panic, and that the cause of the campaign. Six thousand men, scattered over the mountain, covered with bushes and rocks, and in the midst of a firing which was rapid and heavy. In spite of the fact that two Greek guns were abandoned from action since the fusillade began the Cypriotes bravely, but were compelled to abandon them. The Greek position was abandoned. There had been only no stand anywhere, the army crumpling up without any shot. We entered Kumandzi and there they descended a narrow where for hours we met no retreating and panic-stricken troops far ahead. About midnight we mournful procession of soldiers, the army rolling along the road. Crowded utter confusion, packed with humanity, tumbling on iron knees, without hurry and silent a strange panic was the cause of a strange panic, unexpected, still in the air. A resolution was passed to that effect.

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ATHENS, May 3.-The diplomatic mission may be summed up as follows: request for mediation has been addressed by Greece to the rest of the ministers of war and support upon the state of the Greek Pharsalos and elsewhere. They have not offered to meditate, they do not conceal the fact that they are not in a position to be responsible to them. Minister of Affairs M. Skouliotis says the situation has generally improved in Epirus and Thessaly, and that of the Greeks over the Turks at was brilliant.

Advises from Attra say that the local authorities and one hundred inhabitants of that place have fled. The panic, however, is not at Attra. All the stores are closed. Military authorities are withdrawing Greek troops from the vicinity. Direction of Filipinidis, a former Greek Army officer, has been sent to Attra to restore the morale of the Greeks in the public square.

HAILED WITH DELIGHT Britishers Still Talking About Canadian Tariff.

London, May 3.-The newspapers are full of news of the return of the Britishers from the Malakal last evening.