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Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, MARCH 22ND, 1889.

THE RAILROAD DEBATE.

The debate on Mr. Higgins' resolution, declaring that it is desirable for the Government to take steps during the recess that will ensure the extension of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway to some convenient point on the northern part of Vancouver Island, was a very important one. Railways are necessary to the development of British Columbia, and the nature of the country is such that their construction should be somewhat in advance of settlement. Prudence requires that the railway policy of the Province be prompt, bold and vigorous. Delays and half measures are worse than extravagance. It is the interest of the Province to make the most of all its resources in the shortest possible time. But this cannot be done unless the country is opened up at once, and the only way to prepare the country for settlement is to construct railways. This cannot be done by unaided private enterprise. It is the business of the Government to construct highways, and the most effective highway required for British Columbia at its present stage of progress is the railroad. Government, is therefore, only doing its duty when it takes into consideration the best ways of aiding in the construction of railroads to the parts of the country which are known to need them most. The extension of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo railway to the northern extremity of this island has long been seen to be a work needed to develop the resources not only of Vancouver but of the Mainland. Along its route are extensive tracts of fine agricultural land. In the belt from which it will draw traffic are large forests of the finest timber trees. Valuable minerals are already known to exist on the east side of the island, and a railroad along its whole length will do much to develope the fisheries of the northern coast and of Queen Charlotte Islands. The projected road, too, will shorten the route to Alaska very materially, and promote trade with that northern neighbor. It will be necessary to connect the Island of Vancouver with the railroad system of the continent. Bridge connection at one or more points can easily be made with the mainland, and the railroads that must in the near future be built to open up the splendid area of agricultural and mineral lands that are in the interior, and to connect the old settlements whose progress are almost at a standstill for want of railway communication with the coast and the centres of trade. There can be no question as to the desirability of constructing these lines of railroad, or as to the benefit to be derived from them when they are constructed. All that remains is to find the ways and means to build them. This is of course a very great deal. But we have no doubt that some feasible plan can be devised to consummate an end so devoutly to be wished. Land which when the roads are built will become very valuable can be utilized for this purpose. Grants of land to railway companies are not so popular as they used to be, but with the necessary conditions as to sale and settlement, they seem to be the readiest and most available means of encouraging private companies to construct railways through new countries. Whether the government aid should assume the shape of a cash subsidy or a guarantee of a certain rate of interest for a stipulated term, is a question which it will take deliberation and enquiry to decide. The subsidy system has been tried in the Dominion of Canada, but the results calculated upon have not always been achieved. In India, the Argentine Republic and, we think, in Australia the guarantee system has been tried, and it will not be difficult to find how far it has succeeded. The enquiry can be made, and the system which has produced the best results adopted. It appears to us that all the parties concerned are open to conviction, and that neither prejudice nor interest stands in the way of the adoption of the principle which has been found to work the best.

We were glad to see that the Legislature was nearly unanimous on this very important subject. There was, as perhaps was natural, a little sectional feeling displayed. The representatives of some sections of the province seemed afraid that if the Island extension are undertaken, roads that are as greatly needed on the Mainland would be neglected or delayed. We do not think there is the slightest ground for any such fear. The Province needs all the roads that were spoken of, and there is little doubt that when companies are found willing to undertake to build them; the Provincial Government will do all in its power to further their construction. The Federal Government, too, we believe, will readily give its aid to any feasible scheme of railroad construction in this Province. It is indeed as deeply interested in advancing its material interests as is the Provincial Government, and we confidently expect, when the time for action comes, it will be ready to do its share towards the development of the resources of the Province.

AN ABUSE OF PRIVILEGE.

Those who possess privileges should be careful how they exercise them. It is humiliating to see the use which some small-minded, vindictive, cowardly men make of an exclusive advantage. One would think that the man whose office or position gives him privileges which other men do not possess, would be most careful how he exercised them, and would scorn to use them in order to perpetrate an act of injustice to gratify personal spite or to gain a private end. And so he would if he were either a manly man or possessed the instincts of a gentleman. Members of Parliament necessarily possess large privileges and immunities. In order that the affairs of the country shall be discussed freely and thoroughly the utmost latitude is allowed them in debate. Their speech is, while they are performing their duties as representatives of the people, privileged. They cannot be called to account in the ordinary way for words uttered in debate. This is quite right. But the consciousness of immunity would make a man of right feeling all the more careful what he says of persons who are not present, and who do not possess the power of reply. No man of courage will strike an enemy whose hands are tied, and people are never at a loss for an epithet to apply to the bully who assaults a defenceless man. The attack made by the *Hon.* Mr. Humphreys on the Superintendent of Education on Monday was one of this kind. That official was not present, and if he had been, he dare not utter a word in his own defence. Although the Provincial Secretary reminded Mr. Humphreys of this fact, and although he took upon himself the whole responsibility of the act attributed to the Superintendent, Mr. Humphreys was insensible to the rebuke, and continued his attack on the man who was both absent and gagged. When we consider the nature of the attack, the conduct of the assailant appears the more unjustfiable. If he had some charge to prefer against the Superintendent, some specific act of misconduct, or some gross dereliction of duty, there might be some excuse for discussing it then, though both time and place were improper. But Mr. Humphreys had no charge to bring against the Superintendent of Education. His attack was nothing more than the violent scolding in which weak but ill tempered women are said sometimes to indulge. It was simply a piece of vague vilification. Nothing is easier than this style of attack when any one, calling himself a man, can lower himself so far as to resort to it. It requires no ability at all to heap injurious epithets on the best man alive, particularly behind his back and when his mouth is closed. Men of Mr. Humphrey's stamp can call Mr. Gladstone "a drivelling old dunce" with impunity, or declare that Edward Blake is "a senseless blatherskite." If they possess "the gift of the gab" and delight in nothing so much as to hear themselves talk they can go on blackening the characters of the most worthy men until their hearers are ready to conclude that they are such fools as to believe what they say themselves. All that is required to do this is a ready tongue, a boundless stock of impudence and a craven spirit. There is nothing in what Mr. Humphreys said of the Superintendent which would warrant any reflecting man in concluding that he is not a conscientious, painstaking efficient official. His vituperation would apply quite as well to the ablest and most discerning official in any of the departments as it does to Mr. Pope. Every one must see that Mr. Humphreys attempt to lower that official in the estimation of the public by vague but bitter denunciation is a gross and an inexcusable abuse of his privileges as a member of the Assembly. Being an outrage on the sense of justice of the people and their love of fair play it is, we believe, likely to have an effect exactly the opposite of that which the Superintendent of Education's assailant intended and expected.

HUMBLE PIE.

Humble pie is not a very pleasant article of diet, though perhaps for a change it may be sometiems wholesome. The London *Times* felt itself on the first of the present month compelled to make a meal of this very distasteful dish. It found that it had done wrong, that it had committed a most stupendous blunder, and without waiting to be forced it voluntarily and without a moment's unnecessary delay took its ration of humble pie. One cannot help admiring its promptitude and the courage it displayed in acknowledging that it had done wrong and in expressing its regret that it had preferred accusations that had been proved to be false against Mr. Parnell and his associates. It makes no excuses. It does not attempt to justify itself. It repeats the retraction made by the Attorney-General before the commissioners, and adds:

"We desire to endorse and appropriate every word of the foregoing statement. It is our wish, as it is our duty, to give expression to that feeling of sincere regret to which the Attorney-General referred. It was obvious that, after Pigott on his own showing had proved himself to be a person utterly unworthy of credit, and after he had made two confessions varying in detail but both admitting that the letters which he produced were tainted with forgery, our duty being unreservedly to withdraw those letters from the consideration of the judges." The article concludes with a second expression of regret. It says "Our desire is simply to express deep regret for the error into which we were led, and to withdraw unreservedly those parts of our original statements which we cannot honestly continue to maintain."

It must have been exceedingly painful for the managers of the first newspaper in the British Empire to make this acknowledgement and apology. They were proud of the position that journal occupied and they knew that the exposure of the series of terrible mistakes they had made would in a very great measure destroy its prestige, yet they did not attempt to shirk what they saw to be their duty. They knew perfectly well that confession and retraction made at that time could be easily misunderstood and misrepresented. This conviction made their tasks all the harder but it did not prevent their doing what they already saw to be their duty. It will be said that when Pigott confessed to having forged the letters no other course was left to the *Times* but to do what it could to repair the injustice it had done. This is so. But from the earnestness and sincerity displayed by the *Times* the reader cannot help concluding that its managers would under any circumstances have endeavored to make what reparation they could to the men it had injured.

The comments of its contemporaries were not the lightest part of the punishment which the *Times* had to bear. They all acquit it of intentional wrong-doing, but they accuse it of inexcusable mismanagement and stupidity. The hardest blows and the deepest cuts it received were from its friends. The *Telegraph*, for instance, which is strongly Unionist, says: "But, certainly no unprejudiced person, looking back over the course of the business, and noting its disastrous development, can contend for a single moment—how much soever the past history of this great journal may command respect—that even the most ordinary precautions were adopted or the slightest knowledge of the world evinced in the dealings in which our contemporary held with the crew of dangerous persons called into activity by its action. We make, of course, no question of its good faith, its patriotism, or its high purposes," etc.

It will be seen by this how little sympathy the *Times* has in its day of tribulation. As nothing succeeds like success, so nothing fails like failure. But however deeply the *Times* may have erred, it seems to have taken the best course to reinstate itself in the esteem of the public, and we would not be at all suprised to see it after it has digested its very big slice of humble pie, take its old position among British journals.

FREE SCHOOLS.

There seems to be some confusion of thought in the country and even in the Legislature on the subject of free education or free schools. The word "free," as applied to education, apparently leads to a misconception which is likely to produce serious results. The word in this connection does not mean without money and without price. Education in no country is free in this sense. Under any system education must be paid for and the money for its support must come from the people. There is no element of charity in the free school system as established in this province or in other parts of the continent. The parent can send his child to the public school without paying any fee directly either to the teacher or the trustees, but he does pay for the education of his child nevertheless. He pays for it in the same way as he pays for a hundred other advantages and conveniences he enjoys in common with his fellow citizens. We have no talk of free streets, free bridges, free legislation or free light. The citizen receives the benefits which they are capable of affording without making any direct payment. But they are no more free in the sense of being without cost than are the bread he eats or the coat he wears. It is found convenient to pay for some things which the inhabitants of the province use out of a common fund to which the law compels every one to contribute. The advantage is free to all and it is therefore fair that all should pay for it. Education in this province is included among these things. Wise men in different parts of the world have concluded that it is best for the community to have the education of children made public so that none shall be permitted to grow up in ignorance. Instead of each parent being free to educate his children or not as he may see fit schools are provided for all children and he is forced to contribute according to his means towards their support. As every man pays his share towards the education fund the shools are free to every man's children. In some countries the parent is *compelled* to send his children to the public or some other school. All schools, whether private or public, are supported by the people. The people pay for the education that their children receive, no matter what may be its form. The question of free schools, therefore, resolves itself into one of ways and means. As all education must be paid for by the people, the matter to be considered is which is the best way to pay for it. Is it best for every one to educate his own children and pay the teacher directly, or is it best to give the government charge of education and make it the trustee of the fund raised for its maintenance? There is a third system of free public schools, in which the money for their support is raised by local assessment. And there is still another in which the public free schools are supported by local rates aided by government subsidies. The people themselves have the choice of the form of payment, whether it should be a tax paid to the government or the municipality—or a fee to the teacher, but in no case is education to be had for nothing.

If the people want public education and common schools they must lay out, and they do lay out, to pay for them. When they establish a free school system such as obtains in this province they are under an obligation to no one. The government is merely their treasurer and administrator. It gives them nothing whatever. It is the duty of the people to see that education does not rob other branches of the public service of what is necessary for their support. If they want good roads and good bridges, as well as good schools, they must calculate upon paying for the roads, bridges and schools. It will not do to rob the roads for the sake of the schools, nor yet to neglect the schools for the sake of the roads. The proper maintenance of both must be provided for. If the people want the present system continued—and in the present condition of the province, they could not not have a better one—they must make up their minds to pay what is necessary for its support. If they are not willing to support the present system there is nothing in the world to hinder their trying some other, but we believe that in no other way can they educate all the children of the province so well and so cheaply as is done under the system that is now in operation and which is producing such beneficial results. It should be distinctly remembered by all who deal with this subject in any way that the public schools belong to the people, they are their peculiar property, they alone pay for their support, and they are under no obligation to any man or to any body of men for their continuance.

The Letter That Came

From Mr. J. Hayden, 139 Chatham St., Montreal, says: "I was troubled for years with biliousness and liver complaint, and I never found any medicine to help me like Burdock Blood Bitters, in fact one bottle made a complete cure." w-f-s

THE Remington Typewriter still leads. With one of the above superior machines, Mr. Frank McGurrin, in New York, last January, wrote 151 words in one minute, without an error, thus breaking all previous records of correct work, by 30 words per minute, and placing the Remington's speed still further beyond the reach of competition. M. W. Waitt & Co., Agents for B. C.

CABLE NEWS.

Subsidy to Connect the Rivers Elbe and Trave by a Canal.

Long and Bitter Fight Over the "Times" Case Expected in The Commons.

The Kaiser Refers to His Late Father As a Noble Example for King Milan.

A Noble Example.

LONDON, March 19.—It has come to light that Emperor William of Germany addressed an autograph letter to King Milan of Servia, shortly before the latter's withdrawal from the Servian throne, beseeching that erratic monarch not to abdicate. The letter was addressed to Milan in an extremely familiar manner, and was altogether, it is said, such a note as one young man might write to another who was his intimate friend. Among the arguments employed by the Kaiser to induce Milan to remain, he cited the case of his father, the late Emperor Fredorick, whose unexampled heroism in the face of death forbade his dropping the reins of government while life lasted. Even this noble example, however, failed to curb the cowardice of the Servian king.

Imperial Parliament.

LONDON, March 19.—In the Commons, this evening, Mr. Smith moved to give precedence to the vote on account until the full vote could be passed. Sir Wm. Harcourt opposed the motion, and accused the government of shirking the discussion by trying to introduce a new and surreptitious form of closure. The time was drawing near, he said, when the Commons would become simply a vestry for registering government transactions. He intended to challenge the government on the conduct of the ministry in placing Irish officials paid by the public at the service of the *Times* in connection with that paper's accusations against the Irish members of the House, and on the vote for the attorney-general's summary he should ask what state services Mr. Webster had rendered during the last nine months, and why his salary should be paid. Gladstone denied the right of the chancellor of the exchequer to calculate beforehand what time should be allowed for discussing the vote. Questions of great delicacy, he declared, must be discussed, and he denied the right of the Government to take away that right of the House to the time necessary for full discussion.

In Aid of the Suffering.

LONDON, March 19.—Queen Victoria has given £100 in aid of the sufferers in the famine-stricken district of China.

Great Canal Project.

BERLIN, March 19.—The *Cologne-Gazette* says that the Prussian government has given a subsidy of 6,000,000 marks towards the making of a canal that will join the rivers Elbe and Trave. This canal will make it possible for vessels to go from the North to the Baltic Sea without going around the Danish Peninsula.

Manufacturing Dynamite Bombs.

ZURICH, March 19.—The police of this city have discovered that dynamite bombs are being extensively made here by nihilists and anarchists. Two Russians have been arrested in this connection.

The Ex-King of Servia.

PESTH, March 19.—Ex- King Milan visited Emperor Francis Joseph to-day. To-night the Emperor will entertain Milan at dinner.

Public Officials as Detectives.

LONDON, March 19.—Sir William Harcourt in a speech challenged the conduct of the Government in placing Irish officials, who were paid by the public for attending to public business, at the service of the London *Times* to work up evidence for the Parnell commission.

Worrying Tactics.

LONDON, March 19.—The ugly temper displayed on both sides in the commons to-night indicates that a long and bitter fight over the connection of Attorney-General Webster with the *Times*' case must ensue. The refusal of the liberals to accept Mr. Smith's challenge to give precedence to a vote on a motion of censure, points strongly to the fact that the liberals are resolved to pursue their worrying tactics to the end.

Steeple Chase.

LONDON, March 19.—The Derbyshire handicap steeple chase of 500 sovs was run to-day at the Derby Hunt meeting, and was won by the bay mare "Singlet."

THE BIBLE SOCIETY.

TO THE EDITOR:—We have a branch of the Canadian Bible Society in this city, and as the lady collectors find many on whom they call ignorant of the Society's work, and so unwilling to help it, I think it right to acquaint your readers with a few facts which will, I trust, lead to their taking a personal interest in the Society's work. The Canadian Society is affiliated with the British and Foreign Bible Society, whose headquarters are in London, Eng., and whose sole work is the spreading of the Bible over the earth. The parent society has been in existence since 1804, and has accomplished a wonderful work. Its issue of bibles and portions last year amounted to over four million copies, printed in 286 different languages, and its income amounted to one million two hundred thousand dollars. The Canadian Society dates from 1829 and has grown steadily throughout the Dominion along with other similar institutions. The income of the Canadian Society last year was thirty-two thousand dollars, which was spent in providing bibles for the people of Canada and in helping the parent Society. For many years the Rev. R. Jamieson has acted as the agent of the Society for this province, but has now retired after doing a noble work. I have undertaken his duties, and have spent a week recently on the mainland visiting the various branches and establishing two new branches at Kamloops and Chilliwhack. There are now six branches in the province, and I am sorry to say Victoria does not take the lead yet, in the amount of her contributions or the general interest of the people in the work. Already Westminster surpasses us, and Vancouver has the same ambition in this respect as in other things, and I trust we will at once claim our place in the front as becomes us as the centre of the wealth of the province as well as of the population. We propose holding our annual meeting on Monday the 25th of March, and so far we have come far short of the amount collected last year, and we therefore trust all who prize the Word of God will give their mite to help forward the good work. The Society is strictly unsectarian and has ever among its directors representatives of all the Protestant churches.

I am yours, etc.,

P. McF. MACLEOD.

P. S.—The Society spent this last winter $225 in this city on a colporteur, who labored for three months in selling bibles from door to door throughout the district.

AMERICAN NEWS.

Union Soldiers.

NEW YORK March 18.—Ex-President Hayes has sent a contribution to the fund for the confederate soldiers' home. In his letter he takes the ground that Union soldiers should receive an increasingly large amount in pensions, but that it is eminently proper and desirable that disabled soldiers of the other side who are now citizens of our common country should be generously aided by voluntary contributions.

Serious Fire.

PEORIA, Ills., March 18.—About 10:30 this morning, fire was discovered in Comstock & Avery's furniture store, a four storey brick, situated at 208 and 210 South Adams street. The flames spread with marvellous rapidity, and at 11 o'clock the walls fell out, wrecking a brick tenement on both sides. At noon the fire was under control, and the buildings which had been threatened had been saved. Loss, $150,000.

Railway Consolidation.

CINCINNATI, O., March 18.—A rumor is in circulation here that the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton Railway, the Wheeling & Lake Erie, the Toledo, St. Louis & Kansas City, and the Dayton, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroads are to be consolidated into a new company on much the same plan as the "Big Four" Bee line deal.

Drowned in the Ohio.

POMEROY, Ohio, March 18.—Joseph Rhodes and his mother, while attempting to cross the Ohio river at noon to-day, in a boat, were carried under a fleet of barges and drowned. The body of Mrs. Rhodes has been recovered.

A Pillar of Fire.

LAFAYETTE, Ind., March 19.—The Lafayette Natural Gas Co. struck another gusher at Kempton, Lipton County. A drill had penetrated Trenton rock twenty-five feet when the pressure became very great, and the drill was withdrawn. When near the top, in some manner the gas ignited, and instantly a stream of fire leped forth. In the little room around the derrick were fourteen persons, and every one was more or less burned, four very badly.

Warning to Amateur Detectives.

BERLIN, Pa., March 19.—A government detective named Wisma has been sentenced to two year's imprisonment at Altoona, near Harrisburg, for falsely accusing two men of being anarchists.

New War Vessels.

WASHINGTON, March 19.—The secretary of the navy has directed the chiefs of the bureau of ordinance, equipment and recruiting, construction and repair, and steam engineering, to proceed without delay to prepare plans for the construction of the new vessels authorized by the naval appropriation act, approved March 2nd, of this year. The vessels provided for are one armored steel cruising monitor of not less than 3,000 tons, at a cost not exceeding $1,500,000; two steel cruisers or gunboats of most approved type of 85 to 125 tons displacement, and to cost not more than $700,000, and one ram for harbor defence.

CAPITAL NOTES.

The Debate on the Budget Consumes a Whole Day.

Sir Richard Cartwright's Amendment Defeated by a Majority of 44—Effort to Secure the Admission, Duty Free, of Victoria's New Fire Escape.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, March 19.—Col. Prior saw the minister of customs to-day, and endeavored to secure the admission duty free of the new fire escape for Victoria. Hon. Mr. Bowell said he could not give much encouragement, but would lay the matter before his colleagues.

The city is overrun with delegations today. The Montreal, Toronto and Hamilton boards of trade are opposed to the anti-combines bill. Others object to the increase in drop letter postage.

In the House the budget debate was continued during the whole session, Cockburn, Davies, Madill, Weldon, Haggart and Dickey taking part. There was a division at one o'clock. Sir Richard Cartwright's amendment was defeated by 44 majority for the Government.

THE PROVISIONAL ALLOWANCE.

TO THE EDITOR:—The item in this morning's issue has given some wrong impression as regards the action of the department. The facts are simply these: Eight months ago the department cut down the provisional allowance from 40 per cent. and 25 per cent. to 22 and four-fifths per cent and 14 and four-fifths per cent. The intention at the opening of the present session was to abolish provisional allowance *entirely*, but through the exertions of Col. Prior the department have agreed to allow the reduced amount to be continued. The Winnipeg letter carriers receives 35 per cent, and as a partial measure of justice the department seemed to think British Columbia entitled to 22 per cent.

CIVIL SERVICE.

March 19, 1889.

WHISKY SELLING.

TO THE EDITOR:—In this morning's issue it is stated that the notorious Raby has again been "pulled" for selling whisky to Indians. I notice he got the six months' imprisonment which he deserved, but would it not be in keeping with the spirit of the law if the person who supplied Raby with the liquor was aso brought before the judge. The present is about the twentieth time that Raby has been convicted of supplying liquor to Indians, and the saloon keeper who sold the spirits to Raby knew perfectly well that Raby only acted as a go-between, and if I am correctly informed the saloon keeper is equally guilty with old Raby.

COMMON SENSE.

March 19, 1889.

Found Drowned.

The body of an unknown man was found in Departure Bay on Sunday, and was taken to Nanaimo. From the appearance of the body it must have been about two months in the water. It is thought to be the remains of a sailor who was lost off the steamship Willamette while she was at Departure Bay two months ago.

A Feeble Failure.

Many persons become feeble and fail in health from disease of the blood, liver, kidneys and stomach when prompt use of Burdock Blood Bitters, the grand purifying and regulating tonic, would quickly regulate every bodily function and restore to perfect health. w-f-s

Important to Workingmen.

Artizans, mechanics and laboring men are liable to sudden accidents and injuries, as well as painful cords, stiff joints and lameness. To all thus troubled we would recommend Hagyard's Yellow Oil, the handy and reliable pain cure for outward or internal use. w-f-s

From THE DAILY COLONIST, March 20.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

The Late Wm. Marshall.

The funeral of the late Mr. William Marshall will take place to-morrow afternoon from the Gorge Hotel at 1 o'clock, and at 2 p. m. from Odd Fellow's Hall, Douglas street.

Night Sessions.

The night sessions of the provincial legislature begin this evening. The House will adjourn at 6 p.m. until 7:30, and will continue in session until about 11 p.m. An evening session will also be held on Friday.

Kootenay Mines.

Judge Vowell, of Kootenay, arrived down last night from Donald and registered at the Driard. He has recently recovered from a severe illness. Mining matters are quiet at the present time, but the prospects for a most successful season are very bright. The Kootenay Lake region looks specially good, while south-eastern Kootenay placers will probably turn out large quantities of gold during the present year.

The Young Men at Home.

Everyone who was so fortunate as to be present in Association Hall last night, enjoyed himself. The members of the Y. M. C. A. had provided a musical programme which, for variety and excellence, it would have been hard to beat, comprising, as it did, rousing songs and choruses, as well as piano, flute and cornet solos. An address was also delivered by the travelling secretary, Mr. Jacks, which was replete with sound common sense, as well as eloquence. The entire evening will long be remembered as one of profit and thorough enjoyment.

Cannery Men Uneasy.

The *Oregonian* says: Cannery men who have sent outfits to Alaskan waters this season, are considerably alarmed by a report that small-pox is prevalent among the Indians in that region. As the Indians are depended upon to a large extent to catch the fish for canning, it is feared that on account of the small-pox the catch may not be as large as usual. This, with the recent orders from the secretary of the treasury in regard to building weirs and dams across the streams in Alaska, is enough to make those interested in canneries there feel uneasy about the outcome of their ventures.

A Will O' the Wisp.

Another chase for Tascott has ended in failure. A. J. Stone of Chicago started out after the fugitive three weeks ago. He went to Winnipeg, from there to Rat Portage, then to a little town near the American boundary line. From there to Vancouver; thence by boat to Tacoma, on to Portland and San Francisco, and from the latter place to a Southern California town, where Stone heard his man was in custody; but on arrival he saw at a glance that the person who led him such a long chase did not in the least resemble Tascott. Mr. Stone estimates the length of his trip at 8,800 miles.

Collision on Puget Sound.

At about 5:30 o'clock on Saturday morning the steamers Eliza Anderson, which was running from Upsalady to Coupeville, and the George E. Starr, which was going from Coupeville to Utsalady, collided during the thick fog prevalent at that time about two miles out from Upsalady. The Starr's bow struck the Anderson's port side just ahead of the wheel, and as a result the Anderson is minus a wheelhouse and her machinery is badly damaged, while the Starr escaped comparatively unharmed. The Starr towed the disabled boat back to Utsalady and continued on her course to the north, and on Sunday morning the Anderson was brought to Seattle by another of the Washington Steamboat Company'y boats. The damage done the Anderson is very great and cannot be closely estimated at present, though it will be somewhere in the region of $2,000.

A Successful Entertainment.

Last evening the Gorge Road church was crowded to the doors with a pleasant company, it being the occasion of one of the delightful social concerts given by the ladies of the congregation. The programme presented was an excellent one, and was much appreciated by the audience. One of the features of the evening was the appearance of Messrs. M. Humber and N. Shakespeare as vocal soloists. The former sang "At the Cross," and the latter, "Where is My Wandering Boy To-night?" A vote was taken as to the opinion of the audience on the merits of the soloists, and the genial postmaster was awarded the palm. The other numbers of the programme were well rendered, and with a slight intermission for refreshments, a most delightful evening was brought to a close by singing the National Anthem.

Through on a Pullman Car.

By the steamer Princess Louise last night there arrived from Ontario a splendid selection of draught horses purchased by Mr. James Bryce for the Victoria Truck & Dray Company. The horses were secured with great care at Paisley, Ontario, and Mr. Bryce there chartered for their safety and comfort during transit a Pullman car, fitted with padded stalls, water and feeding appliances. When they started on their journey the selection consisted of sixteen, principally from the Clydesdale strain; but one from a celebrated imported Suffolk "Punch." On arrival at Vancouver four of the horses were sold at good figures and yesterday a team could have readily been disposed of at $500, but the offer was declined. The car with its valuable cargo made the trip through from Paisley to this city, *via* the C. P. R. in fourteen days, and the capital condition in which they reached their final destination shows that Mr. Bryce thoroughly understands his business. In weight the horses go from 1,500lbs to 1,600lbs apiece, and are distributed amongst the stables of the company. A visit to the Fashion Stables on Fort street will well repay the curiosity of those who take an interest in equine strength and durability.

The Charge Against the SS. Walla Walla.

The steamship Walla Walla returned to Port Townsend on Monday afternoon, and the $5,000 bonds in which the vessel was held lapsed. She was placed in the hands of the deputy U. S. marshal, and was then allowed to proceed to Seattle. She is held on a charge of being engaged in the smuggling trade, and the penalty of conviction is confiscation of the vessel. As near as can be learned the Walla Walla has been engaged in smuggling, in this manner. On her arrival at Tacoma on February 10, she brought two barrels marked "Sauer Kraut," which really contained opium, consigned to one J. Light, at Ellensburg; and on her arrival of February 24 she brought three barrels marked "Skid Grease," containing in reality opium, consigned to J. Dark, Ellensburg. These were regularly shipped to San Francisco from Ellensburg, but they were seized on the Oregon Railway & Navigation Company's dock at Tacoma two weeks after their arrival. These consignments appeared regularly on the freight manifest, but they were not on the coastwise manifest, and that, it seems, is what the charge against the steamship is based upon. Bonds were given for the return of the Walla Walla when she is needed, and the steamer will make her usual trips.

THE BURGLARS' HARVEST.

Five Burglaries Committed in a Night and not $50 in all Secured.

Burglaries and rumors thereof formed the chief topic of conversation on the streets yesterday. Crime of this nature has been such a novelty of late in Victoria that when the news of five daring robberies, attempted during the dark hours of Monday night or Tuesday morning, became generally known, it is not to be wondered at that it created an apparently inexhaustible topic of talk.

The first announcement of the work of the "crooks" came from Mr. John Weiler's office on Fort street. The discovery of their visit was made by Mr. George Weiler as soon as he entered his store in the morning. An entrance to the office had evidently been effected through the new addition which is now being erected on Broughton street. The lock of the back door of the office had been forced with a "Jimmy," and the door stood wide open, while two sticks of giant powder lay on the floor, in company with steel filings and broken drills. The broken drills told their own story. A very earnest attempt had been made to gain possession of the contents of the safe. Five holes, none of them drilled through, had been started. Their position showed that the would-be burglars did not know their business, as the holes were placed so that they could do no possible good. The safe contained less than $20 in all, so that, had the midnight visitors been successful in forcing it, they would have been very poorly rewarded for their pains.

Mr. J. McB. Smith's residence at the corner of Birdcage Walk and Superior st. had also been entered during the night, or rather early in the morning. At about 4 o'clock Miss Bowden heard a noise on the stairs and called to Mr. Smith, asking why he was getting up so early. Her question awakened Mr. S., who hearing the noise in the house that had reached Miss Bowden's ears, got up at once, just in time to see a man rush down the stairs. Mr. Smith followed in hot haste, but the man or men had disappeared. A look through the house showed that they had "gone through" it thoroughly. Coming through the dining-room window, they had, first of all, pulled down the blinds. Then lighted the gas, and after spreading a cloth on the table, helped themselves to a light lunch and a couple of bottles of beer. They were just proceeding to business, when their footsteps aroused the household.

Mr. W. S. Gore, surveyor-general, on reaching his office had also a tale of adventure to tell. His home on Church Hill was entered at about three o'clock, or at least that was the hour that the creak of his bedroom door caused him to wake from a sound sleep, in time to see a tall, powerfully built man enter. The intruder seeing Mr. Gore's eyes open, advised him to "lay quiet," with the supplementary caution that he would get "a hole in him" if he didn't. He then turned and took his departure with greater speed than he had displayed in entering. In this case the man, Mr. Gore is positive in stating, was tall and powerful, while Mr. Smith is equally confident in affirming that the scoundrel who visited his place, and whom he saw descending the staars, was a lietle man, which goes to prove that more than one is at work.

At about two o'clock in the morning, the Occidental Hotel was also visited, the burglar coming in by the bar-room window. The till containing $40 in all was emptied, a bottle of whiskey appropriated, and the intruder left as quietly as he had entered. The night watchman must have been sitting in the office at the time the burglary was committed, but it was all done so quietly that not a sound was heard.

A Government street clothing store was also entered by the back window sometime during the night, papers in the office tossed about in the search for something more valuable, but nothing taken, as the visitors were evidently disturbed in their work.

On the whole the burglars had, for them, a very unsatisfactory although a very busy night. The total amount of their haul consisting of $40, two bottles of beer, and a bottle of whiskey, being very poor reward for their labor. It would be well for everyone to keep doors and windows securely fastened, until the gang who appear to be at present working the town are placed safely behind the bars.

PERSONAL.

T. W. Osborn and wife, of New York, are at the Driard.

R. Irving returned from a flying trip to Portland yesterday.

Capt. B. Thomson, R.N.R., of Liverpool, is a guest at the Driard.

J. M. Bowell, collector of customs at Vancouver, arrived over last night.

E. J. Mackay, a prominent railroad man of St. Thomas, is at the Driard.

E. A. Magee and A. P. Black, two rising barristers of Vancouver, are registered at the Driard.

A. W. Vowell, Stipendiary Magistrate and Gold Commissioner, for Kootenay District, is at the Driard.

Page Ponsford and Mrs. Ponsford, of Vancouver, were passengers over on the Islander last evening.

Fred Townsend, of Portland, Ore., inspector of the Bank of British Columbia, came over on the Sound steamer yesterday afternoon.

Mrs. Dewar, one of the English tourists who are making the circuit of the globe on the yacht "Nyanza," which is now at San Francisco, was a passenger to this city by the Umatilla on Monday evening, and is now visiting Victoria friends. The "Nyanza" will reach Victoria from the Bay City some day this week.

Alberta Cattle.

The 5 car-loads of Alberta cattle which arrived at Westminster on Sunday night, from Calgary, were in fine condition, says the *Columbian*, the animals not showing any signs of having suffered from their long journey. This is the first consignment of Alberta cattle to arrive on the British Columbia coast, and the success which has attended this shipment will probably encourage the importers to continue their enterprise.

Was Charles Dudley Lying?

As a further proof of the fact that Victoria has not lost her grip on the commerce of British Columbia, it may be stated that over $12,000 in duties were paid at the Victoria customs house on Monday last. This is a pretty good showing for a city which Charles Dudley Warner stated had lost its importance as a port.

LITTLE LOCALS.

Trains between Winnipeg and the coast will now run every day in the week.

A dead dog at the end of James Bay bridge mutely appeals to the sanitary officer for interment.

There was a large list of passengers on the Islander last night. 130 alone coming through by the C. P. R.

Mr. Frank G. Richards, jr., of Victoria, and Mr. W. C. Haywood, of Vancouver, have decided to open a real estate exchange in Westminster.

George Keyes, purser of the steamship Wilmington, who was charged with smuggling opium, was declared innocent by the jury at San Francisco on the 13th instant.

The remains of the late Robt. W. Love, who died in this city of consumption on Monday last, will be forwarded this morning by Mr. Chas. Hayward to Nanaimo for interment there.

The Chemainus sawmill started up in full blast on Saturday last, and cut 47,000 feet of lumber in nine hours and twenty minutes. It is the intention of the company to open lumber yards in all the cities of the province.

No news has yet been received of Mr. J. R. Holman, who mysteriously disappeared from Nanaimo Sunday. It is rumored he has gone to Vancouver, but no cause has been assigned for his sudden departure.

A by-law to borrow $30,000 for streets, roads and general improvements, was submitted to the ratepayers of Nanaimo on Monday, but was defeated by a vote of 83 to 33.

The funeral of the late Alex. W. Marshall, which took place at Nanaimo on Monday afternoon, was the largest seen in Nanaimo since the fatal explosion of May 3rd, 1887.

Another rich strike is reported at Texada. Mr. Hugh Kirk has located claims on the island, from which rock has been taken which is the richest yet struck, and the Texada excitement has again been revived.

The ladies of the Pandora street Methodist church will hold a congregational social to-night in the schoolroom. A good programme has been prepared, and an enjoyable evening is assured all who attend.

David Kenny, a native of New Brunswick, aged 40 years, and an employe at the Nanaimo sawmill, died in the Nanaimo hospital on Sunday of typhoid fever. William Webster, a native of Lancashire, England, also died in the Nanaimo hospital on the same day, and a victim of the same disease.

CITY POLICE COURT.

(Before Hon. A. N. Richards, P. M.)

William Raby, charged with supplying liquor to Indians, was convicted and sent down for six months.

Jim, an Indian toper, had no money, and went down in default of a $5 fine.

Mary, klootch to the above named, went to jail for three months.

Neil McKinnon, a vag., six months.

MARINE.

The sealing schooner Mary Ellen cleared from San Francisco for Victoria on the 15th inst.

Steamship Walla Walla was to have left Port Townsend at 3 o'clock this morning. She will leave for San Francisco, as advertised, at 1 o'clock this afternoon.

The full-rigged ship Macduff, 1,200 tons register, is on her way to Westminster to load lumber at the Royal City Mills for England. She will be the largest vessel that has entered the Fraser river. The barque Don Adolpho will probably arrive in a few days to load lumber for Samoa.

Steamship Batavia was to have left Vancouver last evening for the Orient. She has one thousand five hundred and five tons of freight, mostly flour and cotton. There are eleven first-class passengers and twenty-eight steerage.

THE SEAL FISHERIES.

The President Urged to Issue a Proclamation Warning all Persons from Trespassing in Behring's Sea.

Ex-Congressman Felton has had an interview with President Harrison and the Secretary of the Treasury urging the early issuance and publication of a proclamation by the President, warning all persons from trespassing in the American waters of Alaska and Behring's Sea for the purpose of taking the fur-seal, under pains and penalties, etc., as provided in the act just passed Congress. Mr. Felton was assured that immediate action would be taken. It will be remembered that Mr. Felton, as a member of the House Committee on merchant marine and fisheries, and as one of the conferrees on the part of the House with the Senate on this measure, took great interest in the bill, believing its passage absolutely necessary for the preservation of seal life, and much was due to his efforts to secure its passage through both Houses of Congress during the closing hours of last Congress.

SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

WRESTLING.

Pietro Arena, an Italian wrestler, is hunting a match with some middle-weight and his manager, J. D. Simmons, challenges any man on the Pacific Coast for $500 and upwards, Græco-Roman style, best three falls in five. The men are now in Seattle.

FOOTBALL.

At a meeting of the committee of the Vancouver football club on Monday night it was decided to decline another game with New Westminster in consequence of the action that club had taken with regard to the Mainland match. If possible the return match with the Island will take place in Victoria on the 30th instant.

BASEBALL.

The schedule committees of the James Bay, Mayflower and Maple Leaf baseball clubs met last evening, completed arrangements and signed agreements for a series of fifteen games for the amateur championship during the present season.

The Vancouver baseball club will play a game with the Amities on the 25th of May.

A Life of Ease.

Miss Lizzie Ratcliffe, writing from Falkirk, Ont., says: "I had such a cough I could not sleep and was fast going into consumption; I tried everything I could hear of without relief, but when I got Hagyard's Pectoral Balsam I soon got ease. It is the best medicine I ever tried." Lizzie Radcliffe, Falkirk, Ont. w-f-s

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