[From the DAILY COLONIST, April 24.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

Confirmation.

The solemn rites of confirmation will be administered to a class of 13 candidates, by the Lord bishop of Columbia, at St. Barnabas church, on the evening of May 3rd. The confirmation services at the Cathedral will be held on May 10th.

At Cadboro Bay School.

Rev. Mr. Browne and his congregation gave a social concert at the Cadboro Bay school-house last evening, which was attended by a large number from the city and district, and was successful; as such events always are.

Hurry Along the Entries.

Entries for the spring races of the Victoria Jockey Club close on Monday, April 27, and racing men should remember that no entries will be considered that are not in the hands of the secretary, Mr. W. H. Bainbridge, before 6 o'clock of that evening. His office is at 61 Yates street.

Mail Contracts.

Tenders are invited by the P. O. department for the carrying of Her Majesty's mails between the undermentioned places: Victoria and Metchosin, once per week. Millward and Morley, twice per week. Quadra and Wharf, twice per week. Salt Spring Island and wharf at Vesuvius Bay, twice per week.

Special Prizes.

In connection with the approaching bicycle tournament, two good special prizes are already offered. The one is a gold medal for a two-mile championship of B. C. race, presented by the Times; the other is a silver trophy for a green race, presented by Mr. A. A. Clayton. Both are well worth contesting for.

They Feel Encouraged.

A short item in yesterday's COLONIST announced that the subscription list for the support of the Sunday afternoon band concerts was as yet a blank paper. This can not be said to-day. Yesterday, the people who enjoy the music on Sundays, flocked into Kurtz's and subscribed in all about $100. The band will play on Sunday, fifteen strong.

For the Lumber Trade.

Negotiations are on foot for the formation of a company with extensive capital, to construct and operate a line of sailing ships in connection with the Chemainus saw mills, whose output is expected to reach every quarter of the globe. This company is separate and apart from the sawmill company, which will also have its own ships. Everything going well, definite particulars will be published very shortly.

Those Dangerous Signs.

The city council was given an object lesson, yesterday, on the necessity of forbidding the hanging of any more signs stretching over the sidewalks, disfiguring the streets, and endangering the lives of pedestrians. A sign on Yates street came down with a crash during yesterday afternoon, striking, but not seriously injuring a little boy who was passing at the time. It was just by chance that he was not badly hurt.

Half an Hour in Jail.

The Nanaimo Free Press says: "On Wednesday afternoon, while the case of Root v. Slater was in progress, before Judge Harrison, an unfortunate man was detected smoking in court. His honor sentenced him immediately to half an hour's imprisonment, which he duly served. When released he was brought back to court and a severe lecture administered. The laughable part of the matter was that the man claimed he didn't know he was smoking until his attention was called to it by his sentence."

His Last Trip.

Engineer Gordon Grant will make his last trip on the Sir James Douglas, with which he has been connected for the past twelve years, to-day, the steamer going to Cape Beale. On the trip he will initiate his successor, Mr. William Cullum, formerly of the Lorne, into the mysteries of the engine room, over which he is to preside in future. Mr. Cullum, though a young man, is a first-class, certificated engineer, well liked by all who know him and esteemed for his knowledge of his chosen profession. Mr. Grant leaves for Scotland in a few days, to take charge of the new government steamer and accompany her to this port.

A Park at the Gorge.

As was mentioned by Mayor Grant at a public meeting, a few evenings ago, it is high time for the city to be moving, if a portion of the land in the neighborhood of the Gorge is to be acquired for a public park, before it is all taken up for residential purposes, and the people lose this attractive breathing spot. Every year, property along the Arm becomes more expensive, and if a park is to be created at the Gorge, now is the time. The city could easily dispose of the James Bay lots, given by the Government for park purposes, and apply the proceeds to the accomplishment of the object in view.

An Excellent Appointment.

Mr. Frederick Hussey, who has been an officer of the Provincial government in the interior for many years, has been appointed superintendent of provincial police. Mr. Hussey, for several years past, has been government agent at Kamloops. During his long service he has displayed good business capacity, but it is especially in criminal matters that he has shown great sagacity. Mr. Hussey is in all respects thoroughly qualified to fill the important post to which he has been appointed, and his long and excellent career in minor positions well entitles him to his present promotion. His many friends in all sections of the province will be pleased to hear of his advancement, for, besides being a good officer, Mr. Hussey is a thoroughly good fellow, and is liked by all who have had the pleasure of meeting him, socially or in the transaction of official business.

A Flat Failure.

Sealing with a steamboat, if the reports received from the Thistle are to be credited, is destined to prove a flat failure. With the expectation of reaping a rich harvest, the owner of the Thistle early this season fitted her out for a 100 days' cruise, supplied her with the best hunters in Victoria, and sent her to the West Coast to seek a fortune in seal skins for those interested in her. For several weeks she has been lost sight of, but yesterday morning the schooner Beatrice returned to port, and brought the news that she had spoken the Thistle in Neah Bay, on Monday, with nine skins aboard. She was at that time preparing to send out her boats again. The schooner E. B. Marvin was spoken by the Beatrice about two weeks ago, in splendid trim, and with a catch of 280 skins. The American sealer Henry Dennis was seen at Neah Bay with 170 skins. She had broken her main boom and was making a new one. The Sophia Sutherland was also at anchor in the bay when the Beatrice left. Capt. McKeef of the latter boat reports 59 skins, and the usual rough weather. He only came in to replenish his stores and prepare for Behring's Sea, for which he expects to sail to-morrow.

Gazette Notes.

The B. C. Gazette, of last evening, contains the following appointments:

W. S. Gore, surveyor-general, to be deputy commissioner of Lands and Works.

Tom. Kains, draughtsman to the surveyor-general of British Columbia, vice, W. S. Gore, promoted.

The Market Building.

After discussing the various tenders received for the construction of the public market buildings, at a meeting held yesterday afternoon, the Market committee decided to return the cheques of all but the two lowest tenderers, McGregor & Jeeves and Elford & Smith. A report upon these tenders will be laid before a special meeting of the Council, this evening.

The Turkish Bath Co.

The memorandum of association of the Victoria Turkish Bath Co. was duly filed with the registrar of joint stock companies on the 17th inst. The capital of the company is divided into 300 shares of $100 each, the period of its existence is 50 years, and the trustees are Dr. Ernest B. C. Haning ton, H. C. Beeton, and A. W. Vowell, who will undertake the management for the first three months.

Naval Movements.

H.M.S. Nymphe went into dock yesterday morning, and when her repairs are completed, is expected to sail for China, in company with the Daphne.

H.M.S. Melpomene is preparing to sail for the South on Monday morning. The Wartpite is expected to reach Esquimalt early in May, and the Satellite will leave England for this station about the same time.

Langford Lake.

Work is progressing in the lay out of a new town at Langford Lake. Already several brick buildings are going up. The soil is gravelly and there must in consequence be an abundance of fresh spring water. It is understood that the E. & N. Railroad Co. are prepared to run a track to connect with their road, which is only a short distance away, and this will afford all reasonable communication with the city.

Spring Movements.

The ice is reported to have left the Upper Fraser river. Capt. Dunlevy's boats are running as usual, up to Giscome's Portage, whence freight has to be packed seven miles to the head of Little river and thence, along McLeod's Lake, through the Peace river, to the Rocky Mountains. A number of people are going from Soda Creek and Quesnelle river, this spring, to conduct mining operations in the new creek near Omineca.

To Extend Birdcage Walk.

At yesterday's meeting of the Streets committee, the question of extending Birdcage walk, from Michigan street to Carr, and of widening the latter thoroughfare, was taken into consideration. The majority of the committee did not approve of the tramway company's proposed route, and a notice was posted of the intention of the chairman to introduce a by-law to provide the necessary money for expenditure in extending Birdcage walk and widening Carr street to the Dallas Road.

Complimentary.

The Port Angeles Times has the following: "Mr. C. E. Mallette, our enterprising townsman, has sold his interest in the real estate firm of Bouchier, Croft & Mallette, of Victoria, and will confine his future business operations to this city. He has purchased the entire interest of his associates in the water works system here and is now sole proprietor of that enterprise. When the works are complete, he will have something over $50,000 in the plant. In addition to this, Mr. Mallette has large landed interests in and around Port Angeles. He has unlimited faith in the place, and is full of the vim and vigor that are requisite to make a community go. A few more men of Mr. Mallette's calibre and worth are what our community needs most."

The Late Mrs. Sheppard.

The funeral of the late Mrs. Sheppard, wife of the Chief of Police, took place yesterday afternoon, and was numerously attended by sympathizing friends. When it left the house the procession was one of considerable proportions, which were materially increased as it slowly wended its way along to St. Andrew's Presbyterian church. The police force were present in a body. The hearse was filled with floral tributes, among them being an anchor, the gift of the brigade. The service at the church was conducted by Rev. P. McF. Macleod and at its completion the procession moved off to Ross Bay cemetery, where the remains were deposited in their last resting place. The pall-bearers were Messrs. Joseph King, P. Merriman, Sergeant Walker, D. Irving, George Deans and R. Irving.

The Project Still Lives.

Below is given the full text of the proposition submitted to the Council, on Wednesday evening, by Mr. Charles Wilson, on behalf of the Canadian Western Railway Company:

VICTORIA, April 21st, 1891.

To His Worship, the Mayor, and the Aldermanic Board of the City of Victoria:

GENTLEMEN,—I am directed by the promoters of the Canadian Western Railway Co. to ask whether you would be pleased to consider the expediency of submitting a by-law, for the approval of the ratepayers, to guarantee the bonds of the Company to the amount of $3,000,000 for, say, 25 years, at 5 per cent., Provided the actual work of construction shall be commenced within, say, eighteen months from the passage of the by-law, and proceeded with in an easterly direction at the rate of not less than fifty miles per annum? I am directed to say that the passage of such a by-law would greatly assist in launching the scheme, and with other expected aid might result in the construction of this great work.

I have the honor to remain, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed.) CHARLES WILSON.

An Evening With the Minstrels.

"What is that white spot on your downy cheek?" was the question addressed by the interlocutor to one of the semi-circle of burnt cork artists, after the opening chorus at The Victoria, last evening. Sambo parleyed and parried the question adroitly, for a few seconds, and then explained that the house was so poor that he couldn't afford to decorate any more of his phiz.

The hit was a happy one. The audience was discouragingly slim, and a poor reward for the hard work of preparation and the meritorious character of the performance itself. The musical first part contained many features not possessed by travelling companies. The jokes and songs were, many of them, local productions, and fitted in neatly with the current gossip of the streets. This made them doubly enjoyable. The arrangements of the stage were exceptionally pretty, the choruses were strong, and the orchestration all that was needed. The soloists of the first part were Messrs. Pauline, Floyd, Roberts, Woollaston, Kent, Martin, Forester and Wootton. The second half of the evening was devoted to the oration of Prof. Sweetsmile, the local Cool Burgess, banjo jottings by Forester, and the musical novelty, "The Fogornaphone."

Texada Silver Mines.

The Texada Gold and Silver Mining Company resolved, at a meeting held last week, to commence work again on their claims at an early date. A number of men have been engaged and will, this week, proceed to the island. One difficulty they will have to contend with, this year, is the absence of a regular steamer communicating with Texada, unless a boat is put on the route.

A Splendid New Steamer.

On the 17th inst., reference was made in the local columns of the COLONIST to the contemplated constructed of a large steamer in this city, for service in the coast trade of British Columbia. The preliminaries have now been arranged, and the boat will be built at once, for a company in which it is understood the Messrs. Dunsmuir are largely interested. Mr. Colville has completed the model, which shows that the new boat will be a graceful as well as comfortable and speedy craft containing ample provision for the comfort of passengers as well as the handling of freight. She is to be 180 feet long, and to depend for her motive power upon twin screws. The machinery will be supplied by the Albion Iron Works, and that company is now inviting tenders, receivable until Tuesday next, for the construction of the boat. The plans and specifications are on view at the office of the company.

C. P. N. Steamer Arrangements.

The steamer Rainbow left yesterday morning on her initial trip of the season in the Bute Inlet trade. As will be seen by advertisement, it is proposed to send this steamer every two weeks, for the accommodation of the residents at the different logging camps on the Londales and Cardero Channels, on Jervis and Bute Inlets, as well as the points contiguous to them. This in connection with the regular trips of the Danube, on the 1st and 15th of each month, will afford a weekly service to these points.

The steamer Maude will leave for Alberni and other Barclay Sound points on Sunday evening. Intending shippers should remember that she will start sharp on advertised time, and their freight should therefore be at Spratt's wharf, previous to Sunday. The residents on the route will doubtless be glad that this steamer has again been placed on the West coast route.

The Islander, last night brought over 224 tons of piping consigned to Messrs. Richardson & Heathorn, for the use of the city water works. She took on board at the outer wharf the freight brought over for Vancouver from San Francisco by the Walla Walla.

A WORD TO THE POLICE.

Judge Harrison Addresses the Provincial Officers in Connection With the Wellington Assault.

After the evidence for the defence in the Wellington assault case had been closed, last Wednesday, His Honor, Judge Harrison, enquired of Chief Constable Sword if he was the head of the police of the district, and when this assault case was first reported to him.

Mr. Stewart replied that he was the head constable and had a staff of policemen for the district. The first report he had of the trouble was from Constable Stephenson, a week after it happened.

His Honor said it was extraordinary that an affair of this kind should occur on the public highway in broad daylight, and that one of the men should be identified and shown to Constable Stephenson and the man not be arrested. The constable made no report of the affair to the head officer of the district for a week. It was not in the interests of the peace or the community that this state of affairs should be allowed to continue. All persons were entitled to the free and untrammelled use of the highways. If it went abroad that the highways were not free and safe, that ample protection was not given to life, limb and property, and that families could not be brought up decently, it would militate against the progress and good name of this city and district. If the constables of the district could not act promptly in matters of this kind and do their duty fearlessly and impartially, the sooner they were discharged the better. It should not be said that an offence was committed in broad daylight and one of the participants identified, and not arrested although the assault occurred 12 days ago. If the government officers and constables of the district could not be trusted to carry out the law, either because they were in sympathy with any company or faction, they should at once be removed to some other sphere of duty. Nanaimo had now a large population, and required a correspondingly large police force, and that force should be composed of men who knew their duty and were prepared to execute it promptly, fearlessly and impartially. There was no ground for any word of complaint against Chief Constable Stewart. He had a good record—none a better one. He (His Honor) could not understand why the constable at Wellington did not report to constable Stewart, nor why he did not arrest the man identified. The police should not mix up in labor troubles or in any faction. Parties, to confine themselves strictly to their duty and do that—as he had said before—fearlessly and impartially.

Constable Stewart replied that arrangements had now been made, that if another case like this occurred, the local police force would at once take action.

His Honor said it had been stated that one of the alleged participants resided at Wellington, two doors from where Root lived or was taken, and the policeman knew nothing, nor could he find out anything about him.

Constable Stephenson said such a man had never been heard of at Wellington, and the information was incorrect.

Mr. Irving said if he might be allowed to explain, Constable Stephenson had given immediate notice to Superintendent Langley, who had paid frequent visits to Wellington during the labor troubles. It had been found more convenient to handle the Wellington matters at Victoria than Nanaimo. It was also very difficult for Stephenson to get any information outside of the Wellington camp, for the men were all aware of his opposition to them.

His Honor said the constable could have applied to any J. P., for a warrant to arrest the man. He spoke in strong deprecatory terms of the system that required the local police to report first to the superintendent of police before taking action.

Constable Stephenson explained that he was for Wellington alone. He came to see Stewart, but he was at home with a sick child. When he saw the man at the house, he thought he was very excited, and thinking it was only a drunken brawl, which like a great many similar cases amounted to nothing, he did not make the arrest on the spot.

His Honor explained that the constable should have examined further into the matter, and if found to be serious obtained a warrant. It would not do in cases of this kind to wait for the instructions of the superintendent, for he might be away, and a miscarriage of justice might be the result.

Constable Stephenson stated he endeavored to get authority, but could not do so.

Constable Stewart explained since the trouble had been at Wellington, Stephenson had been on special duty, and the Wellington affairs were managed from Victoria, but the arrangements now being made would provide for working from Nanaimo.

His Honor stated that this was right, the affairs of the district should be managed in the district.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with pain of Cutting Teeth? If so send at once and get a bottle of "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for Children Teething. Its value is incalculable. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Depend upon it, mothers there is no mistake about it. It cures Dysentery and Diarrhœa, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, cures Wind Colic, softens the Gums, reduces Inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for children teething is pleasant to the taste and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States, and is for sale by all druggists throughout the world. Price twenty-five cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for "MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP," and take no other kind. my31-eod-w

ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY.

Annual Dinner at the Delmonico, Last Night. —A Most Enjoyable Time.

The annual dinner of the St. George's Society took place, last night at the Delmonico, the President, Mr. George Fairbrother, in the chair. He was supported on either side by Mayor Grant, Alderman Robertson, Mr. H. C. Beeton, Agent-General; ex-Mayor Redfern and Mr. Justice Drake, first President of the Society. Among others were the Presidents of the Caledonian and Pioneer Societies of the Sons of St. George, Mr. D. Brethour, Mr. S. P. Mills, Mr. W. K. Bull, &c.

Host Escalot supplied an excellent bill of fare which was well served. The cloth having been drawn,

Mr. Secretary Austin read letters of apology for non-attendance from His Honor, the Lieut.-Governor, and U. S. Consul Myers.

"The Queen and the Royal Family" and "The President of the United States" having been toasted by the president and heartily drunk,

Mr. John B. Lovell gave "The Governor-General," to whom he paid a warm tribute, saying that no class of men would bear more close criticism than the Governors-General of the British Empire.

Mr. Thomas Floyd having given a song,

Mr. Huxtable said he trusted all would fill their glasses and drink to the health of one whom they all respected, "The Lieut.-Governor of British Columbia.

Agent-General Beeton said he thought the Lieut.-Governor had well presided over our affairs, during his term of office, and the hope was felt that he would retire from office with all the honors he had fairly won. He had been one of the pioneers of this province, he had taken part in her struggles and now was looking with satisfaction upon her triumphs. British Columbia had not, it was true, marched with the progress that some of the colonies had manifested; but she would not lag behind. Australia could show greater results, for the same period, than Canada, but she had had greater advantages. However, under the circumstances, we had done as well as any portions of the empire. He looked forward to great developments and a glorious future, and we had only to be true and energetic and we should find that the seed sown during the last five years would bear abundant fruit.

Mr. Arthur Marion sang "Come, Fill Me a Tankard of Beer."

Mr. J. Braden proposed the "Army, Navy and Volunteers," a toast which, he said, required some consideration, particularly as he knew more about the ladies than he did of the army and navy. He referred to the manner in which the Guards were kept back at Waterloo. They were all Britishers, and were to be depended on. The British were not only fighters, but could stand all climates. He had been a volunteer. They were all of them, he knew, well skilled in their arms, and it was only the ladies who could defeat them.

Capt. Clarke, in replying, said that the wooden walls of England were never beaten, and when the time comes for her to fight, Britain would be where she ought to be.

Mr. Austin said, in reply, that he, as the first name on the list, had been sworn in as the first volunteer in London, in 1858, at the time of the anticipated French trouble. Playing soldiering then meant hard times, much labor and great expense. The volunteers of to-day were quite as ready as the men were in those days.

Mr. Phillips sang "Pulling Hard Against the Stream."

Mr. W. E. Bull gave "Old England, Our Native Land," which was never to be forgotten, particularly on St. George's day. He dwelt upon the troubles with which Great Britain had of late to contend. Among them was the conflicts between capital and labor, but he ventured to predict that both parties would come out the better, chastened, enlightened and purified. He eloquently reviewed some of the achievements which had contributed to Britain's proud position. Among these he enumerated the Spanish Armada, the Protestant Reformation, the struggles in the days of Charles I. and James II., the Napoleonic wars, the Reform Bill agitation, but never more than at present. He dwelt upon the loss of America and the British colonial system which had first been inaugurated by the sending forth of her convicts to Australia. He showed how the policy of "ships, colonies and commerce" had been carried out, our colonial system being far ahead of any other, supported as it was by three nationalities, and guarded by that familiar form and figure, John Bull.

Mr. Arthur Fox sang "Simon the Cellarer."

Mr. H. Hepworth announced the toast of "the Local Government and Legislature."

Mayor Grant, M.P.P., said he had hoped to see here some members of the local Government and Legislature, all of whom were personally friends of his own. Taking them all in all, outside of Governmental matters, they were all jolly good fellows (cheers). This was a time of government by majorities, and if no one wished worse for the present Government than he did they would have a long lease of life, and prosperity with it. As far as concerned legislative work, there was a great deal to learn. Outside of the Legislature, whatever their differences, all the members were friends. He spoke of the severe strictures passed upon the members of the Legislature by the Westminster Columbian, and their dealings in connection with the Enabling Bill. He explained the object of that measure as to whitewash the actions of the Council in spending money illegally That was granted, but the House would not whitewash them for the future. He hurled back in the teeth of the Columbian their cowardly accusations, adding that during his nine years in the House he had never known a man who had been bought with money. When a man was ready to accuse his neighbor of ulterior motives, look out for him. He regarded that paper and its editor as purchasable.

Mr. Penketh, of the Sons of St. George, sang "Hearts of Oak."

Mr. Austin in proposing "The Mayor and Corporation," remarked upon the fact that the only two representatives present were Scotchmen. He wished them all every prosperity.

The Mayor again returned his cordial thanks. All people did not think alike, and it was only through differences of opinion and the search for new ideas, that perfection was arrived at. He was not one of those who believed that what was good enough for his fathers was good enough for him. We had to keep abreast of the times, and if the people would only support the council they would for all time occupy the vanguard among the cities of the coast. There was no doubt that the schemes before the Council would receive all consideration. There were many schemes what he would like to see carried out. Among them was the James Bay flats improvement. His idea was to cut off Spring Ridge and dump it in and to buy the whole of the property up to the Reformed church, and this, when the flats were filled in would sell for a price that would pay for all the necessary work. He concluded by expressing the hope that Victoria would continue to advance as she had done during the past few years.

Ald. Robertson remarked that most of the aldermen were Scotchmen, but for his own part his better half for over thirty years had been an Englishwoman. Councillors might have differences of opinion, but they all worked for the interests of the city. The worst of it was that they had not sufficient money to spend.

Mr. Redfern sang "The Holy Friar,"

Captain Clarke briefly proposed the "Bench and the Bar."

Mr. Perry Mills congratulated the society on the fact of one of its members having been elevated to the Bench. As to the Bar, he said "avoid litigation. There is more jaw than law."

Mr. Braden having given a song,

"The Press" was proposed by Mr. Redfern and responded to by Mr. Jno. F. Norris.

Mr. Marion sang "The Men of Merry, Merry England."

In the absence of Mr. H. A. Lavin.

"Sister Societies" was proposed by the chairman, and responded to by Messrs. Lovell, president of the Pioneer Society; Robertson, president of the St. Andrew's Society; and Penketh, president of the Sons of St. George.

Mr. Martin toasted "The Ladies," which was suitably acknowledged.

Prof. Haynes' orchestra supplied the music for the occasion.

ALWAYS ADJOURNED.

The End Not Yet in the Cathedral Contract Case—Items in the Police Court List.

It is quite a long time since Philip Chalk has made his grand salute to the police magistrate and court. He has managed to keep straight for an unusually long period—for him, and he deserves credit accordingly. Yesterday's court was honored with his presence. The charge was the old reliable "drunk and disorderly," and the blush of penitence that suffused Philip's face as he said "guilty," almost rivalled the hue of his luxuriant beard. He paid his $5 without a murmur.

The case of George C. Mesher was dismissed upon payment of costs, and that of J. F. Harbottle, on remand, was next called.

P. H. Donovan, sworn, said:—"I am an architect by profession; have been for the last 16 or 17 years. I am superintendent of works of the new R. C. Cathedral. On the 10th of March, last, I notified McDonald, the contractor, that I had condemned certain stone supplied by the defendant. This stone was not in accordance with the plans and specifications."

Cross examined by Mr. Eberts—"I don't remember showing defendant a paper in December of last year, stating that he had only to do $800 worth of work to complete his contract." (Document containing this statement produced.) "I may probably have put in that document, that only $200 worth of work was required to complete the contract. I wouldn't swear that that isn't my writing; I won't swear that it is. The document I believe is in my writing. Yes, I will swear that that sentence $800 worth of work to complete contract, is in my writing." (Document placed in evidence, and another paper produced and read, in which the superintendent stated that a balance of $3,300 worth of work still remained to be done by McDonald. This also was placed in evidence.)

"I have not been in the habit of taking commissions from subcontractors, though I have received them sometimes. In explanation of the item appearing in Exhibit B, I may say that '$800 worth of work to finish,' was put in after asking defendant what work still remained to be done by him; and he answered, 'About $800 worth.'

Stephen A. Donovan, sworn, said—I am at present a draughtsman, and an clerk of the works at the R. C. Cathedral. I never occupied any other position in connection with this contract. I prepared the detailed drawings. I was present when the stone was destroyed by Harbottle. He broke three pieces on March 24th. They would be worth about $5 each. I condemned the stone and reported to the superintendent, some time in February, when I was clerk of the works. I am the son of the superintendent. I was not in partnership with McDonald at the time he took the contract, nor at any time since. I swear that positively. Also that I never had any conversation with Harbottle or anyone else in relation to his giving me $1,250 out of his contract. I never asked Harbottle for any money.

The case was here adjourned for one week, when startling evidence is promised.

SLAVE TRADE STILL EXISTS.

The Efforts to Abolish it in Zanzibar Not Successful.

LONDON, April 23.—A dispatch from Zanzibar says that the German commissioner at Iogo has imposed an annual tax of £40 on traders. The efforts on the part of the British and Germans to abolish slavery in Zanzibar and on the African coast are not meeting with complete success. New slaves are smuggled into the houses of the Arabs and other slave-holding residents and are represented as having been held there from childhood. The slave trade, however, is no longer carried on with its former boldness, and many of the Arabs formerly engaged in it have settled down to lawful pursuits.

THE PROPOSED BONUS TO THE CANADA WESTERN.

TO THE EDITOR:—I see by the COLONIST of this morning, a proposal has been submitted to the City Council that they should guarantee a $3,000,000 loan to this company, and I should like those who entertain such ideas of the ease of building and operating railways to look at some figures and see if they are not doing their best to make the city look ridiculous. This proposed railway would be about 600 to 700 miles long, traversing a country much of which cannot grow oats enough to feed the horses of the cowboys who are the only inhabitants. The line would have to depend on through traffic from the East or the States to this city, a place of some 20,000 inhabitants. It will be well to see how far this $3,000,000 would go towards building and operating a road of this magnitude. To do this a few figures from other railways may be of use. Take the Grand Trunk. Its capital and debentures foot up to $282,000,000, most of which is hopelessly gone. The line has cost so much, and to that we must add large cash and land subsidies, and cash borrowed from the Dominion Government and not returned or likely to be. The Canadian Pacific's capital and debentures foot up $131,000,000, but the line cost much more. 700 miles constructed, were given to the company by the government, 25 millions in cash and 25 million acres in land. These have to be added before you can arrive at the true cost of the line. They had great stretches of country very easy of construction, but with all that no private company would have undertaken such a work without the government at their back. Now, let us look at this Canada Western. The city is asked to bonus it to the extent of three million dollars. They are promised a subsidy of 20,000 acres a mile when the line is completed to the satisfaction of the government, and they are to be allowed to raise loans on these lands at not more than a dollar per acre. The company could not sell their land at one dollar per acre, much less raise that on it. The construction of a railway would cost, at least, three times per mile what a prairie line would cost, and, when done, it must be made a present of to the C.P.R., as there is no other line to connect with, unless they go as far as Winnipeg. If Canada was to undertake the financing of the line it might be done, but it is too absurd of 20,000 people to talk about it.

JAMES ANGUS.

P.S.—The Canada Western charter is up in November. I wonder if the company ever held a meeting.

AN OPEN LETTER TO PRESIDENT VAN HORNE.

SIR,—I undertake to address you on my own behalf, and on that of my fellow-citizens who may agree with me, because I recognize in you what Carlyle would call "a born Captain of Industry," a man who has attained to eminence by sheer force of character and breadth of intellect, and who is therefore ready at all times to receive new light from any source, and who is not likely to mistake darkness for light or light for darkness. Will it prejudice my case if I say at the outset that I am a citizen of Victoria, and proud of that distinction, and that I desire in this letter to plead her cause? First of all, let it be understood, that we, in Victoria, have neither been surprised nor displeased at your strenuous efforts to build up the city of your own creation, nor have we wondered that you should have supposed it possible a few years ago to transfer the commerce and manufactures of our city to the railway terminus. What we have complained of, and we believe with justice, has been the conspiracy to build up Vancouver at the expense of Victoria. I am prepared to prove, from my own personal knowledge, that the maps and time-tables prepared a few years ago discriminated against Victoria. I am prepared to produce one map, which left out the Island altogether, and another which had only one place marked upon the island, viz. Sooke, no mention being made of Victoria. I can bring forward many witnesses, who will testify that they were warned against Victoria, by the officials of your company, and assured it would be a waste of time and money to go to it. And what shall I say about the boomers of Vancouver, why, they have lied so persistently about our city that I believe some of them have reached the sad condition of being given over to a strong delusion to believe these lies. I have had testimony again and again of their endeavoring to keep men looking for a home from visiting our city, and I have often heard indignant protests from those whose eyes have been opened by a few days residence among us. Nor have we only had to contend with your great corporation, but with a power with which you are somewhat closely allied, viz., the Dominion Government, and it has only been by dint of the faithful services of our city members that we have not as yet suffered the losses which long ago the Vancouver papers announced would accrue, by the removal of C Battery, etc. Now Sir, I don't desire to overstate our case, but I am within the truth, when I say that every effort which could be made by open lying, by secret intrigue, or by bold conspiracy, has been tried to stay the progress of Victoria, by those who foolishly considered that Vancouver's prosperity could only be achieved by Victoria's decline and fall. But what has been the outcome of all this opposition? Why just this, that Victoria has doubled her population within the last four years, that her commerce has advanced with gigantic strides, as is witnessed by the custom house receipts, that her manufactures have increased and are on the eve of vast development, that a new city of magnificent residences, noble churches, and extensive warehouses has sprung into existence, and the old wooden shacks have disappeared that told of the early days of struggle and defeat.

But, sir, if this progress has been effected in the face of all the difficulties put in our way, what may we not expect when your great corporation recognizes our importance and comes forward to assist our growth. You cannot rob us of our glorious position as a seaport. You cannot take from us the beauty of our scenery or the salubrity of our climate. You cannot prevent the development of the vast resources of this Island in coal, iron and timber, not to speak of the more precious metals. You cannot hinder the rapid increase of our population. You cannot delay the approach to us through ferries from Port Angeles and Port Crescent of the transcontinental lines to the south of us; then why not take an active part in furthering our onward career. You are aware that a large proportion of your through freight and passenger traffic is for this city, and that it is neither business nor patriotism to throw us into the arms of the United States lines through a refusal to do us justice. We gladly recognize as the first step towards a better understanding the calling of the Japan and China steamers, but we are sure that your well known enterprise will not be satisfied by so small an acknowledgement of our commercial importance. We are well aware that a railway must sooner or later reach us by the old Sandford Fleming route, and at the present moment whispers are rife of various proposals in that direction. Would your interests be served by the existence of such a competing line to Edmonton? Would it not be wiser in you to prevent the carrying out of these proposals by the immediate building of the road between Edmonton and Victoria? In conclusion, I do not ask you to love Vancouver less, Victoria has no need to envy the prosperity of any other city in the province. Every step they take in advance helps our growth, and we cannot prosper without proving helpful to them. But I do ask you to be just, nay, even generous, to the city that has shown her power to hold her own in the face of all the obstacles which have been placed in her path.

JUNIUS.

EXPLOSION AT ROME.

The Historic City Shaken as if by an Earthquake—Many People Injured and Much Property Destroyed.

ROME, April 23.—About 7 o'clock, this morning, a tremendous explosion shook the city to its foundation, spreading terror and dismay on all sides. People rushed affrighted from their houses into the streets, houses rocked, pictures fell from the walls, thousands of panes of glass were broken everywhere, crockery shattered, furniture overturned, and chimneys crushed down upon roofs, and in some instances toppled over into the street below.

The cupola of the house of parliament, immediately after the explosion, shook violently, and then collapsed with a crash, which added still further to the feeling of terror.

The scene on the streets and in the houses after this fearful explosion have possibly never before been equaled during the history of modern Rome. All the thoroughfares are strewn with brick, stone, splinters, and other debris hurled there by the force of the powerful concussion. The doors, windows and cupboards of houses were burst open, rents and cracks appeared in the walls, plaster fell from the ceilings and general desolation prevailed.

In many instances people were thrown from their beds by the shock, and cries of terror filled the air as thousands of families rushed out into the streets, parents with their children in their arms, children leading aged parents, the younger helping the elder. All made for the streets as if their only chance for salvation was dependent on reaching open air.

The general opinion was that Rome was visited by an earthquake shock, and that a second shock might reduce the city to ruin. Many fell on their knees and prayed aloud. Finally, when something like order had been restored, the real cause of the shock became known. It was discovered that the immense powder magazine at Pozzi Pantaloe, four kilometres from here, had exploded and that it had caused enormous damage to the neighboring fort, which was filled with soldiers.

The reports of the affair which have reached here say that, happily, the officer in command of the fort heard a rumbling sound previous to the final explosion, and hastily ordered the soldiers to leave the fort, and thus succeeded in avoiding a terrible catastrophe. As it was, several peasants, who were in the vicinity of the scene of the explosion, were killed outright and a number of others injured.

King Humbert and his military staff, accompanied by the Italian premier, Marquis di Rudini, and all the members of the Italian cabinet, have left the city for the scene of the disaster.

Around the ruins of the powder magazine and fort a cordon of troops has been drawn, in order to keep back the crowd of people, who, now that the cause of the explosion is known, have flocked to Pozzi Pentaloe.

All the houses within a radius of a kilometre of the scene of the explosion were seriously damaged. The exact number of killed and wounded is unknown. Two officers were dangerously wounded and fully 125 civilians are suffering from wounds or bruises caused by the explosion.

King Humbert used his own carriage to convey the wounded to the hospital.

The races which were to have taken place this morning have been postponed on account of the disaster.

The vatican shook with the rest of the city's buildings with the force of the explosion, and several stained-glass windows were shattered. A full estimate of damage cannot yet be made, but it is heavy. The interior of the old palace and several churches were severely injured.

Another report says five persons were killed in addition to the large number of wounded already mentioned.

The magazine contained 250 tons of powder. The cause of the explosion is unknown.

THE PRESIDENTIAL TOUR.

In the Land of Oranges—The Reception at Riverside—The Governor of Oregon Standing on His Dignity.

SAN DIEGO, April 23.—The President and party spent two very pleasant hours at San Diego this morning. The entire population turned out and paid him every possible honor. The programme included breakfast at the Hotel del Coronado, a street parade and public exercises on the plaza, which was profusely decorated, as were almost all the business houses along the route. Thousands of yards of bunting marked the line of march, and the ships in the harbor were alive with steamers.

RIVERSIDE, Cal., April 23.—The Presidential party arrived at Riverside this afternoon after a delightful trip from San Diego. Short stops were made at Oceanside, Santa Ana, Orange and South Riverside. The President received a cordial welcome at each of these places, and expressed his thanks in brief speeches complimentary to the people and their country. The party was received at Riverside with great enthusiasm. They left the train at Arlington station, six miles distant, and drove to town in flower bedecked carriages, through a continuous lane of orange groves and the celebrated Magnolia avenue. On reaching the high school, they were received by a large crowd, including hundreds of school children with waving flags.

The President had just concluded a brief address to the school children when the horses attached to the carriage containing Secretary Rusk, Mrs. Harrison and Mrs. Dimmick took fright at a shower of flowers and dashed wildly into a crowd of children who were standing in the open road. A panic ensued, and the children tumbled over each other in a precipitate flight. There were four horses to the carriage, and the leaders became unmanageable. They tripped on the traces and fell down. Secretary Rusk, who had jumped out of the carriage at the first alarm, was at their heads in a moment, and with the assistance of some of the by-standers soon had them under control. Several children went into hysterics from fright, but beyond that no harm was done. Mrs. Harrison was very nervous over her narrow escape, and declared that she would never again ride in a procession behind four horses unless men walked at the head of the leaders.

The beautiful city of Pasadena was illuminated, to-night, in honor of the Presidential party. They arrived here at 7:30 o'clock, and were welcomed by Mayor Lukens and a committee of citizens, amid firing of cannon, ringing of bells and cheers of the populace. The approach to the train was marked by huge bonfires on each side of the track. The reception committee was assisted by local militia and civic organizations. The President and party were escorted to the Hotel Green, where the President held a short public reception. The party was afterwards entertained at a banquet at the hotel, which was attended by all the leading citizens of this and adjacent cities.

STANDING ON HIS DIGNITY.

PORTLAND, April 23.—A Democratic paper this evening contains a lengthy interview with Governor Pennoyer, in which he is made to say that he considers it the President's place to call on him instead of he calling on the President. Being asked in regard to the matter this evening, the governor said: "I would give anything in the world if that article had not appeared. In the first place, all I said was given in strict confidence, and what is printed misrepresents me. I do not wish to convey the meaning that the President has to hunt me up on arriving here, but I do maintain that it is not the place of the governor to rush to the boundary line of a state to meet a presidential party. That was never done before, and I have my doubts as to its propriety. I will not go. The place for a governor of a state to receive the President of the United States is in the state house, and there I intend to receive President Harrison with all the courtesy and respect that is due his position. I will participate in no other reception, as my official duties keep me at the state house on the day the President is in Portland."

The governor was very angry, and pronounced the reporter on the evening paper a traitor