[From THE DAILY COLONIST, December 11.]

GREEN-WORLOCK ESTATE.

Creditors Have a Protracted Meeting Discussing How to Deal With the Real Estate.

Trustees Given Authority to Lease the Bank Premises and Reduce the Mortgage.

There was a prolonged meeting of the creditors of the Green-Worlock bank yesterday in the board of trade rooms. The meeting had been called for 2 o'clock, but as admittance was strictly by credentials it took an hour to dispose of the preliminaries, and it was 3 o'clock before the meeting was called to order with Mr. Noah Shakespeare in the chair. The interest of the creditors does not appear to flag, for over two hundred of them were present, among them a number of ladies.

An effort was made to exclude the press on the ground that matters were coming up which, while proper for the creditors to know, should not be made public. The great majority of those present, however, wished to have the press admitted and voted down by an overwhelming majority a motion made by Mr. A. Wilson, seconded by Mr. John Kinsman, that the press should not be permitted to be present.

Hon. Hobert Beaven made a statement on behalf of the trustees of the estate. The object for which the creditors had been called together was, he said, to consider what should be done with the city real estate in the hands of the trustees. He remarked in passing that the appointment of a committee of creditors to assist in the winding up of the estate had been very satisfactory in its results and he only wished such a provision were made statutory. One of the first difficulties in ad inistering the estate had been the lamentable condition in which the books of Green, Worlock & Co. were found. It was almost impossible to get at the bottom of them. For instance, there was a difference of some $21,000 in the amount shown in the ledger and the amount in hand. Then the $70,000 borrowed from the Crown Insurance Co. on the lots on which the bank premises were situated never appeared in the books. He went on to read the terms of partnership entered into between Mrs. Green and Mr. Worlock in January, 1892, by which Mrs. Worlock was to receive 75 per cent. of the net profits and Mr. Worlock 25 per cent. besides his salary of $250 a month as manager. One of the great defects in keeping the books after this partnership had been arranged was that every month the interest due on over drafts was entered to the credit of profit and loss, whether the account was good or bad. Mr. Beaven then went into a mass of figures, reading out the amounts owed by a number of the larger debtors to the estate. The list of all the notes and overdrawn accounts, footing up $250,000, was laid before the meeting. Among these was a sum of $45,000, which investigation and on the authority of several witnesses would seem to have been settled by a compromise in March, 1893, though Mr. Worlock said he had not released one of the members of the firm interested. There was little on the books to show how the buying out of the Garesche interest had been settled for prior to the partnership of Mrs. Green with Mr. Worlock. It would seem that $70,000 of this had been paid off by raising the money by mortgage on lots 166 and 166A, the property at the corner of Government street and Trounce avenue. The amount of this mortgage became due in April of this year, but there seemed to be a disposition on the part of the Crown Insurance Company, to which the property was mortgaged, to allow matters to remain for the present. At present the buildings on the property are bringing in $325 a month, while the payments for interest, taxes, etc., amount to $500 a month. The difficulty of renting the banking property was the condition that the trustees would have to impose, for they were unable to give a lease, and everyone who desired to rent the premises wanted a lease. For December $310 would be received but unless the premises occupied now by Mr. Cuthbert on Broad street were let there would be a reduction of $50 a month. The banking premises were set down in the books as an asset of $170,000 and were valued now at $120,000. The trustees had taken the liberty of offering the property for $100,000, subject to the approval of the creditors. The assessed value was $85,000 in round figures. Tenders for the property had been received, but not enough was offered.

Mr. E. Crow Baker having inquired how many tenders were received, Mr. Beaven replied that he did not think it advisable to state. On being pressed, however, he replied that there had really been only one tender that could be considered a definite one.

Mr. Beaven proceeded to say that on January 1 $2,100 interest would have to be paid on the property. It had occurred to him that it would be a good plan if a company from among the creditors were formed to buy the property from the other creditors. It would be easy to realize $50,000 on the property, so that it would only be necessary to raise the difference between that and the price which the other creditors wished the premises to be sold at. There were $13,000 in the hands of the trustees, and about $10,000 of this might be available for helping to pay off the mortgage if thought advisable. He then proceeded to read off a series of figures which showed that since May 22 last, when the last statement was made to the creditors, the receipts by the trustees were $85,000 and $72,000 paid out, leaving $13,000 on hand. The Denman island property, which had been valued on the books of the bank at $10 an acre, had been sold for $5 an acre or $21,670. As to the Gypswick property that was before the courts at present, so that he considered he was not at liberty to say much about that particular property. The amount absorbed by paying dividend No. 1 to the creditors amounted to about $20,000. He spoke of the increasing interest being taken by investors in the province and believed with the progress of the mining and other industries in another year the bank property might be sold at a good figure.

Mr. E. M. Johnson did not believe in holding on to the property; he favored realizing on the estate as soon as possible, and moved a resolution to the effect that the trustees be authorized to offer the property at public auction after duly advertising it, and to realize upon the assets and wind up the estate as quickly as possible.

Mr. P. Hickey seconded this motion.

Mr. John Kinsman opposed the resolution as the creditors would get nothing if it was carried out.

Mr. A. Wilson was also opposed to winding up the estate as proposed in the resolution. He favored using the $10,000 to decrease the mortgage and wished the trustees to press for the debts owing to the bank.

Ald. McLellan also spoke against disposing of the property at what he called slaughter prices.

At Mr. Yates' suggestion that the trustees be allowed to lease the premises; Mr. Thornton Fell moved that the trustees be authorized to lease the real estate for a period not exceeding five years, provided the consent of the mortgagees be obtained.

Mr. Johnson spoke strongly against this. It would be found that it would result in the property being sacrificed at the end of the five years and the creditors would get nothing.

The resolution of Mr. Fell was put as an amendment to that of Mr. Johnson and carried by a vote of 312 to 18.

It was moved by Mr. G. H. Brown, seconded by Mr. John Kinsman, and resolved that the trustees be authorized to use the available money in hand to reduce the mortgage, and to arrange for an extension of the balance of the mortgage, if that can be effected.

Another resolution was carried to the effect that the suit for the possession of Gypswick be vigorously proceeded with.

It was six o'clock before the meeting adjourned.

THE CREAMERY ASSURED.

One more step—and it a definite one—toward the establishment of a first class creamery in Victoria district, was taken yesterday, when the farmers of North and South Saanich met in Colquitz hall and decided upon the organization of the "Victoria District Dairying Association." The general desire of all sections interested to have the proposed creamery, had been long ago expressed in resolutions adopted at the series of public meeting held for the discussion of the project; it was left for yesterday's convention of delegates to take final action and either place the proposition on a business basis or kill it entirely.

The session lasted from 11 in the morning until 4 in the afternoon, luncheon being served at the noon adjournment by the ladies of the neighborhood, and during all the day not a voice was heard save in favor of the creamery. The gathering was distinctly representative and the enthusiasm displayed argues well for the success of the new industry, which is expected to prove a prominent factor in the development of the entire district.

Mr. Edward Johns presided at the morning meeting, for delegates only, while Mr. Stephens acted as secretary. In the afternoon the general public were made welcome and Mr. J. F. Chandler explained that all that was required, so well had the business of the morning been done, was to proceed with the formation of an association, a draft constitution and prospectus for which he proceeded to read. The question of name next arose, and was decided as above—the Victoria District Dairying Association — after which it was unanimously agreed, on the motion of Mr. Stephens, that the shares should have each a par value of $5, and that not more than fifty be allotted to any one individual.

The certificate of association was then submitted and signed by almost everyone present, and the company thus being formed the business of the day came to an end with votes of thanks to Mr. Chandler—the chairman of the afternoon—and to the ladies for their hospitality.

The site for the creamery buildings will, of course, be decided by the trustees of the association, a general meeting of whose shareholders will be called shortly by Messrs. Chandler and Stephens—two of the foremost promoters of the scheme.

"BEHNSEN" TEMPLE.

Mrs. Robertson, the chief organizer for the Pacific Coast of the Rathbone Sisters, is to-day a guest of the ladies who yesterday completed organization as Behnsen Temple, No. 30, of this now strong and important branch of Pythianism. The name of the new temple is especially well chosen, in compliment to Col. H. F. W. Behnsen, who has tenderly cared for Pythianism since its cradle days in this province, and the ladies' lodge starts life with a charter membership of upwards of thirty, and bright prospects for a prosperous and useful career.

On her arrival from Tacoma yesterday morning, Mrs. Robertson was met by Mrs. G. E. Moss and Mrs. Charles Bush, a delegation from the temple. She was at once escorted to the Dominion hotel, where breakfast was served, and afterwards the delegates drove with her through the city, pointing out the various places of special interest.

In the afternoon the institution of the temple was proceeded with, and officers elected and installed as follows: Most excellent chieftainess, Mrs. George E. Moss; most excellent senior, Mrs. Charles Bush; most excellent junior, Miss L. Hall; manager of temple, Mrs. W. Wallace; M. of R. and S., Mrs. J. W. Walker; mistress of finance, Miss S. Townsend; protector of temple, Miss E. E. Kirkwood; guard of outer temple, Miss D. Couves; past chief of temple, Mrs. L. Arnold; wand bearers, Mrs. A. Jackson and Mrs. C. Hunter.

In the evening there was a reception at the Dominion hotel, which many Pythians attended. To-day at 1:30 organization of the temple will be completed, and this evening a social dance will be given at Castle hall in honor of Mrs. Robertson's visit.

THE annual meeting of the members of the Pacific Club was held last evening in their commodious reading room on Fort street. The report and balance sheet made an excellent showing; the business of the year has been conducted on a cash basis and showed a net profit of $200, after making a reduction of 10 per cent. on assets. The paying members now number 74. The reports and balance sheets were adopted unanimously, and after a cordial vote of thanks to the retiring officers, the following were elected office-bearers for the ensuing year: Charles Hayward, president; Dixi H. Ross, vice-president; and Wm. M. Wilson, A. G. McCandless, A. Holmes, Geo. Shedden and J. B. Giffen, managers.

ANTIPODEAN ADVICES.

Solomon Islanders Arrested and Taken to Fiji to Be Tried for Murder.

Having "No Character to Lose," a Litigant in a Libel Suit Shoots Himself.

(By Steamship Miowera.)

H. M. S. Ringdove having left the Solomon Islands for Fiji with a number of natives on board charged with murder, advices have been received from Captain Bremer of the cruiser that the Ringdove arrived at Suva on the 20th October with two natives on board, charged with the murder of Captain C. S. Atkinson, and one native charged with taking the life of a native woman. According to four native witnesses who have been taken to Fiji, the motive for taking Captain Atkinson's life was revenge, he having struck one of his native crew the night preceding the murder. The two natives taken by the Ringdove deny that they were the assailants of the deceased captain, and affirm that the two men who committed the deed swam ashore from the ship on which the murder took place, and that one of the perpetrators of the crime was killed by the head-hunters and cannibals of Guadalcanar, the other escaping to the bush. The native charged with the murder of a woman, a lad of 16, migrated with his father and mother to Gela, where he states his parents were killed by the tribe to which his alleged victim belonged, and that under such circumstances he would be justified according to the established amenities of Gela warfare.

The case of Constable Howard versus A. Graham ended in a verdict of a farthing, without costs. His Honor ssid that plaintiff had no character to lose according to the evidence. Howard immediately returned to the barracks and shot himself in the head with a revolver, death being instantaneous. At the inquest the jury returned a verdict that the deceased shot himself while temporarily insane. In his pocket was found the following letter written previous to his committing the rash act: "To my darling wife and children, mother, and all at home,—I cannot face the world after what has come out to-day. Forgive me for what I am about to do. Good-bye to all.—J.H." A very high character was given him by his superior officers, and no complaints were ever made against him during the four years he was in the police force.

A circular was issued to the ministers and congregations of the Presbyterian, Wesleyan Methodist, the Minor Methodist, Congregational and Baptist churches of Victoria, setting forth that in view of the severe drought with which a large portion of the colony is threatened, and the widespread distress which must follow, they were earnestly invited to observe Sunday, the 17th November, as a day of humble and united prayer to God for the manifestation of His mercy in the gift of rain.

THE CITY.

RIGHT Rev. Bishop Cridge officiated yesterday at the funeral of the late James Harrison. The following gentlemen acted as pall-bearers: James Dempster, T. G. Searld, M. Porter, J. Rowland, John Christian and F. G. Brocks.

THE board of licensing commissioners for the city hold their quarterly meeting to-day. There are numerous applications for transfers listed for consideration, and some unpleasant disappointments are said to await more than one of the applicants.

PROF. Odlum, of Vancouver, who lectured on "The Voice of Nature" in the Centennial Methodist church on Monday evening, addressed a second audience in the Metropolitan Methodist church last evening. Prof. Odlum is a very entertaining speaker and his lectures on both occasions were very much enjoyed.

ALEXANDER Stuart, a Chicagoan, who when last heard from by his daughter living in that city, was in Seattle on his way to Victoria or Vancouver, is being anxiously inquired after by his friends. He is an elderly man, tall and red haired, and when heard from last was accompanied by his son. A letter from Charles Burchell, of Chicago, to Mr. H. F. W. Behnsen asks the latter to endeavor to find him.

MISS Grace Tozier, daughter of Capt. Tozier of the United States revenue steamer Grant, was united in marriage to Dr. William G. Simpson, surgeon of the United States Marine hospital service, on Tuesday last, the ceremony being witnessed by a large gathering of friends at St. Paul's church, Port Townsend. The wedding is spoken of as the social event of the season on Puget Sound, where, as in Victoria, both Dr. Simpson and his bride are deservedly popular.

A SUBSCRIPTION amounting to upwards of $200 was taken up at Ashcroft last week to send John Stanley, an unfortunate resident of the charitable interior town, to the Jubilee hospital here. Last year while working with a threshing machine, Stanley received severe injuries to one of his knees. He had been partially blinded in one eye, and while working on the road struck a rock with a pick, shivering from the rock a splinter of stone which struck him fairly in the other eye, entirely blinding it. Thus, the two disabilities combined entirely disabled him.

OFFICER Robert H. Walker and Mr. Tom Dougherty were attracted to the waterfront late last night by shouts for assistance, the exact location of the applicant for aid being at first very difficult to ascertain. In reply to the officer's "Where are you, man?" there finally came a voice from below—"I'm hanging to a pile here, and if you don't come soon I'll be gone, for I can't hold on much longer." Lantern and ropes were quickly procured from the electric light station and William Rountree was eventually rescued from a cold and very dangerous position. He had come into town for the first time since he was unintentionally the cause of his friend Williams' death, and had walked off Porter's wharf in the darkness. His dog, a fine Irish setter, first brought help to the scene, and did all in his power to aid his master. Rountree was carried into the electric light station, and there warmed and cared for; he is not likely to suffer any permanent injury from his misadventure.

THE city council were to have discussed the milk by-law last night; but owing to the lateness of the hour at which a board of health meeting closed, the by-law was left over for another meeting. At the discussion on health matters the principal item of business was a motion of Ald. Macmillan, seconded by Ald. Humphrey, that the medical fraternity be invited to meet the board and talk over health matters generally. Ald. Bragg was the only other member who was in favor of the resolution, which was accordingly voted down, the majority considering that no necessity for the conference exists.

THE initial exhibition of the Art Union of British Columbia, to be opened on Monday next, promises to be a great success from the social as well as the artistic standpoint. Upwards of a hundred and fifty notable pictures have been loaned by some of the most prominent residents and enthusiastic collectors of Victoria. Among these are several works by artists of repute, notably some very fine water-colers by Smart, d'Aubiniere (well known to Victorians), Keeley, Hallswelle and others. His Hon. the Lieutenant-Governor has promised to open the exhibition at 8:30 in the evening, when exhibitors of loan pictures will be invited to attend.

THE Full court yesterday heard argument in Manson v. Howison. This is an appeal from Mr. Justice McCreight, trial judge. The plaintiff had sued the defendant for rescision of an agreement for the purchase of property opposite New Westminster and for the return of his deposit. The defendant counterclaimed for specific performance of the agreement. Mr. Justice McCreight held that the plaintiff was entitled to rescind the agreement, but did not order the return of the deposit, though without prejudice to the plaintiff bringing another suit therefor. The defendant's counterclaim was dismissed. From this judgment the defendant appealed. The argument before the Full court took up all yesterday and will probably occupy most of to-day. Mr. A. J. McColl, Q.C., appears for appellant (defendant); Mr. E. P. Davis, Q.C., and Mr. Aulay Morrison for respondent.

ALEXANDER FENCE and Mrs. Joseph Cosky, who now calls herself Mrs. Fence, arrived in Victoria on Sunday with the intention of becoming permanent residents. They are from St. Paul, Minn., and have recently received considerable notoriety by reason of their abrupt departure from St. Paul on Thanksgiving day. The day after the elopement, for such it was, Cosky secured a warrant for his wife's arrest, and started in pursuit. He overhauled the fleeting couple before they reached Tacoma, and they were duly arrested and compelled to undergo a judicial examination. Mrs. Cosky in her deposition said that her husband had failed to provide for herself or her four children, and that she loved Fence better than she had ever loved her legally wedded spouse. It was her ambition, she declared, to get a divorce and marry the man for whom she had left her home. Mrs. Cosky and Fence were released on Cosky's intimation that "that settles it," and continued their journey to Victoria.

THE FLAGSHIP INSTEAD.

The flagship Royal Arthur, instead of the Dominion steamer Quadra, will after all perform the official search for the disabled steamer Strathnevis, now drifting somewhere in North Pacific waters. This decision was arrived at yesterday in consequence of the Quadra's condition, she having been badly strained in her recent accident at Fulford reef and being consequently in no condition to put to sea. When in the graving dock a few weeks ago the keel of the Dominion steamer was found to be broken about amidships, and if this showed when the vessel rested easily on the blocks her injuries must be such that to send her to sea on a hard cruise would be, to say the least, impolitic. It is expected that she will now carry out her original programme, going into dock this week for thorough repair.

The flagship will wait until Saturday for further news of the disabled liner, and in the meanwhile will make ready for towing her any distance should she be the one first to locate the cripple and proffer aid. To-day the taking on of several hundred tons of coal will give the crew plenty of employment, and on Sunday morning it is expected that port will be left behind. The crew have been notified to prepare for a Christmas at sea, as several weeks at least will be taken up in the search, unless good fortune brings speedier sight of the missing vessel.

It is quite possible that H.M.S. Hyacinth, now proceeding home with a disabled shaft and due to arrive Sunday, may fall in with the Strathnevis, and if not able to render assistance herself at least supplement the information furnished by the skipper of the John Gambles.

FOOTBALLERS AFIELD.

On Saturday next the Navy Rugby team will meet Victoria at the Caledonia park, and as owing to the probable departure of H.M.S. Royal Arthur for England early in January this may be the last time that these two famous teams will meet on the football field, the match is exciting great interest. In the league series Vancouver has a slight advantage over Victoria, but if the Navy defeat the Terminal City men next week, and they are very confident of so doing, Victoria will have a long lead. By the outcome of next Saturday's match a very accurate forecast of the result of the Navy-Vancouver match can be made, as between Vancouver and Victoria there is little to choose, and a close contest between the Navy and Victoria means that the former will have a good chance against their Mainland opponents. The Victoria club will do everything in their power to make this, probably their last battle with the Navy, a great success. They will put their strongest team into the field and if the weather is at all inviting, will give an afternoon tea upon the grounds.

COWICHAN DEFEATS THE NAVY.

The Cowichan and Navy association football teams met on the canteen grounds, Esquimalt, yesterday, and a hard contested game resulted in a victory for Cowichan by three goals to nil.

A SPLENDID CARGO.

The Miowera Filled to the Hatches With the Golden Fleece From Australia.

A Quick Trip Completed Yesterday—Wages Going Up—Sealing Shares Sold.

The Royal Mail Steamship Miowera, Captain Stott, has had a month's holiday since she left here in September last—in consequence of the Warrimoo having been repaired in time to take the October trip—and as a result of the overhauling of machinery and cleaning of hull the good ship has arrived here a day ahead of time, berthing at the outer wharf at 2:30 yesterday morning, and surprising all concerned, for she had not been reported from the signal stations in the Straits. The Miowera left Sydney, now in the enjoyment of midsummer, on the 18th of November, and with glorious weather Suva was made on the 24th ultimo and Honolulu on the 2nd of December. A circus party brought from Fiji to the Hawaiian capital gave variety to the life on board for that part of the trip. Leaving Honolulu at 7 p.m., on the second, the Miowera made a smart run up, fine weather still prevailing, and arrived off Flattery early enough to have reached Victoria long before midnight had not fog caused a delay of three or four hours in locating the entrance to the Straits. Interesting as bearing upon the drift of the Strathnevis, Captain Stott reports strong westerly winds prevailing during the last few days of his voyage. Having landed a large mail and a few passengers here she proceeded to Vancouver at 5 a.m.

The passengers who disembarked here and at Vancouver included the following in the first cabin, nearly all ticketed to points in Eastern Canada, the United States and Europe: Messrs. Julius M. Price, F.R.G.S., W. Wright, Dr. V. J. Capron, Mrs. Capron, Miss de Lion, Messrs. W. C. Wilder, F. Boukhus, W. J. Sharp, S. Ryder, H. A. Betts, Mr. and Mrs. Grier and family, J. Barrow, Miss Collier, Mrs. Weir, Messrs. W. J. Stoddart, J. A. Pelkey and A. M. Beattie. There were thirteen in the second cabin.

This month's cargo gives the Miowera the distinction, it is said, of bringing the largest consignment of wool ever sent by steamer to this side of America. Her freight capacity was taxed to the utmost, and of the 4,000 packages beneath her hatches the bulk was the golden fleece of Australia, consigned to Boston. The rest was made up of skins, hides, etc., besides the usual consignments of fresh fruit from Sydney, Suva and Honolulu.

The promotion of second officer Lawrence to be chief on the Warrimoo, vice Arundel, left the service, and of third officer Anderson from the Warrimoo to be second on the Miowera, leaves the latter's list as follows: Commander, Lieut. A. Stott, R.N.R.; chief, C. W. Hay; 2nd, W. Anderson; 3rd, F. A. Hemming; 4th, E. J. Page; chief engineer, P. Smith; purser, T. B. Young; surgeon, Dr. Scott Conklin; chief steward, F. Whittingham.

MARINE NOTES.

No definite action has been taken by the Seamen's Union of New South Wales in regard to a general increase of seamen's wages; an intercolonial conference on the subject is said to be contemplated. There have been many increases on individual ships, however, the sailors on the Canadian-Australian line benefiting to the extent of £1 a month. Shipping in New South Wales is said to be exceptionally active.

Mr. Richard Hall yesterday purchased for $150 the five shares in the Annie E. Paint offered at sheriff's sale.

The Warrimoo, bound south, was met by the Miowera on November 28, in lat. 6.22 N., long. 167 W.

Steam collier Wellington passed up to the mines for cargo yesterday.

The British ship Nineveh will load lumber at Moodyville for Sydney, and the Chilean ship Hindostan will load lumber for Valparaiso.

The bark Ardmore towed up to Vancouver yesterday.

THE AUSTRALIAN SERVICE.

Mail advices by the Miowera received yesterday indicate that the public men of the enterprising colony of New Zealand have not cooled in their desire for direct steamship connection with Canada, and that the postponement of the arrangement whereby Mr. Huddart's line was to receive a handsome bonus is but a temporary one, due to complications arising from the manner in which the proposition was brought forward. The steamship subsidy was it appears so connected with the reciprocal duties bill that when at the close of the session it was thought advisable to put over the tariff proposals until the legislature next meets, the subsidy arrangement could not very well be put through. There is little reason to doubt, however, that it will prove acceptable again next session; and in fact it is said that the delay will be of advantage in maturing the scheme.

New Zealand's offer is £30,000 per annum if the terminal port of the line is located in that colony, and £20,000 if the steamers run through to Australia—this for a four-weekly service. It is believed that the smaller amount will be accepted in preference, three splendidly equipped fast steamers to run from Sydney to Auckland or Wellington and thence to Honolulu and Victoria; while subsidiary boats—those now in the service, perhaps—make close connection with the Fiji Islands and with Melbourne.

In any event there is no reason to think that the present service will be discontinued—as a recent report from San Francisco predicted, for the business is steadily improving. This trip for instance, to make room for the valuable cargo of wool offered her for Boston via Canada, the Miowera gave up coal storage space, and the B. C. collieries will profit in consequence, as she will coal at Vancouver for her return trip.

THE trial of the Nelson & Fort Sheppard railway v. Jerry et al was yesterday fixed for the 30th inst.; costs to be plaintiffs' costs in the cause. Messrs. Bodwell and Irving appeared for the plaintiffs, and Messrs. Eberts and Taylor for the defendants.

THE FLAGSHIP'S FAREWELL.

For the second time this season the great sail loft at the Esquimalt naval yard was last evening the scene of merry-making, Captain Frank Finnis and the officers of the Royal Arthur being the hosts on this occasion, and between four and five hundred ladies and gentlemen their guests at a farewell ball—for the flagship is to leave for home before the present winter draws to a close.

The decorations of ball, supper and reception rooms were in keeping with the importance of the event and with the acknowledged artistic taste of the naval men. In fact their efforts were never more successful in this respect. The arrangement of the various rooms was on the same general plan as for the Admiral's ball of a few weeks ago; the sitting out rooms—cosy little nooks and corners, all bright with many colored lights and fragrant with the breath of flowers—were, however, more numerous than ever, and the supper room was "a veritable dream of loveliness."

Holly was very appropriately used here in profusion—for Christmas is now close at hand—with all the treasures of the hothouse and conservatory, and electric fountains, forming the centrepieces of each of the three long tables, gave the necessary crowning effect. The pretty idea of lighting the tables from underneath was again carried out, and with admirable results. The supper was in charge of Mr. Brown, the flagship steward, assisted by Mr. Fox, Admiral's steward, and the catering as well as the service was unexceptionable. Here is the menu:

Clear Soup.
Dressed Salmon (cold). Prawn Salad.

Truffled Turkey. Game Pie. York Ham.
Fillets of Pigeon in Aspic. Capon.
Spring Chicken.
Pressed Tongues. Corned Beef. Salad.

Orange Jelly. Meringues.
Tipsy Cake. Pineapple Jelly.
Apricot Bavroise.
Trifle. Genoese Pastry.

The guests began to arrive soon after 8 o'clock and were made welcome by Captain Finnis and a committee of his officers, including Lieut. the Hon. Victor A. Stanley, Lieut. Frederick H. Walter, Lieut. William O. Poothby, Fleet Engineer James M. C Bennett and Surgeon R.H.J. Browne. The dancing commenced at 9 o'clock, the flagship orchestra presenting a programme of fourteen dances with seven supper extras, and not until well past 2 in the morning was the last measure merrily trod and the last homeward car boarded by the well pleased guests of the evening.

NOBODY'S AS YET.

A district order now on the notice board in the drill hall settles the fate of the prize offered by Lieut.-Col. Peters, D.A.G., in August last, when he wrote: "I will give a prize of $20 to the company making the highest score" (in the class firing of the B.C.B.G.A. of 1895), "provided not less than fifty men per company take part, and that the five companies compete."

The district order referred to notes with regret that the prize cannot be presented, owing to No. 1 Company failing to send more than twenty men to the targets; but adds that the $20 is again offered for 1896. The "class-firing," it may be mentioned, consists of firing twenty shots per man, evenly divided between the four distances, 100, 200, 300 and 400 yards; and in addition, where possible, five rounds in volley firing by sections. The scores made this year have not yet been promulgated; but in connection with the Herbert cup competition No. 4 Company, of New Westminster, leads in the credits on class-firing account with 6.33 marks, No. 3 Company, Victoria, being next with 6.17.

Last year No. 1 Company was amongst the first to perform class-firing, and then on account of bad weather some of the other companies could not complete it. This year in Victoria it was not carried out by companies, but by men from all three going out whenever convenient, commencing near the close of September; and in addition to the target practice the men were summoned to eleven regular drills in the month of October.

A TREATY OF PEACE

Fifty cents to Seattle or two bits to Port Townsend are still the rates announced by the morning steamer Sehome, while her energetic rival, the Rosalie, continues to command a fair share of patronage at $1 and 50 cents. Those who have waited and watched for a further cut by either steamer and have noted with pained surprise that it cometh not, are likely to continue waiting, for on the one hand the Rosalie people express themselves as satisfied to end the slashing of rates at the present point, and on the other the Sehome's managers do not seem disposed to accommodate the Christmas holiday makers with the nickel-in-the-slot arrangement. Though no move in the rate war has been definitely announced as yet, the calm that has settled over the opposing factions is said to have a cause, and the waterfront fraternity were given a quiet tip yesterday that a treaty of peace had been concluded. By this, if report speaks truly, the Rosalie emerges from the fight victorious, and the Sehome retires not from the contest alone, but from the route.

Just when she will make her exit is not determined, but it will probably be before Christmas time. The City of Kingston will continue to afford her efficient afternoon service, and the Rosalie will once again enjoy a monopoly of whatever profits are to be found in the morning business.

"WORTH A GUINEA A BOX."
A box of
BEECHAM'S PILLS
constitutes a family medicine chest.
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