

The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

THIRTY-NINTH YEAR.

VICTORIA BRITISH COLUMBIA MONDAY DECEMBER 23 1896.

VOLUME XXXIX. NO. 4

LIFE OF THE QUEEN.

Her Majesty Preparing a Biography to Be Published Next Year.

Dreadful Weather at Sea—The Pope Receives the Season's Greetings.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—The St. James Gazette says the Queen will personally dictate and revise a biography of Her Majesty which will appear in 1897. The work will tell the story of the longest reign in the history of England, as the Queen herself regards it.

El Tiempo, of Madrid, asserts that a high political personage is to be sent to Washington to confer with officers of the government there regarding relations between Spain and the United States.

The White Star liner Majestic, Capt. Smith, from New York on December 10, which arrived at 11 o'clock this morning, reports having experienced dreadful weather, especially on Friday last, December 18, when she encountered a terrific sea. The Majestic passed a iceberg on December 19 in latitude 47.50 north and longitude 47.14 west.

Senor Romero, minister of finance in the Argentine, has resigned.

In a duel, fought with pistols, near Stuttgart to-day, between Baron von Wangerheim, secretary of the German legation at Copenhagen, and Lieutenant Count von Gyllenban, the former was wounded in the kidneys and the latter in the abdomen. Both were taken to the hospital.

The Pope to-day received in solemn audience the cardinals and prelates, who tendered him the season's greetings. The reception took place in the throne room. His Holiness appeared to be in excellent health, and in a clear voice replied to the usual protests against the position of the holy see. He asked what was the use of laws for the safeguard and dignity of the pope, when even his charitable and disinterested idea of consulting Italian prisoners in Abyssinia had been made a public target for outrage and calumny.

Great floods in Northern Greece have caused the overflow of the Salaminian river. Enormous damage has been done, villages have been inundated and a number of persons drowned.

It is believed that the band of men said to number only ten persons, bearing a Republican flag, were dispersed by the police in the city of Havana, after the capture of a number of bandits, although the report is spread that they were paid by Cuban agents to provoke a panic and divert attention from Cuba.

An Imperial Russian ordinance has been issued to sanction a new Eastern Chinese railway company with a capital of five million roubles, to construct and work a railway from the western frontier of Kihin in Manchuria to connect with branches of the Siberian railway. It is provided that the holders of shares must be Russians or Chinese.

The Figaro intimates that owing to difficulties between France and Great Britain in regard to Egypt and Turkey, the post of Baron de Courcel, French ambassador to the court of St. James, may be left vacant for a while.

It is officially stated that the plague is increasing at Bombay and Karachi. The report of Sindis is also declared to be infected. In ministerial circles at Madrid it is denied that the government intend to call out a fresh contingent of troops.

An Russian Embassy residence was destroyed by fire last night. It is rumored that the fire was of an incendiary origin. Since the trial of the Earl's suit against his mother-in-law, Lady Selina Scott, and three others, his lordship has been the recipient of several threatening letters.

A special from Kingston, Jamaica, says: "Matters are tranquil at Hayti at present, but it is stated that the revolution is bound to come later. The report that the French government has refused the recognition of Managat, as Haytian minister to the republic, is confirmed here. If he should return to Hayti from Paris, Managat may make trouble. Politics in Hayti are in abeyance on account of the ravages of the yellow fever, which is still epidemic. Among the recent victims of the fever is Henri Pasqual, French diplomatic representative. He was buried with military honor, the president attending the funeral.

Heavy rains have flooded the valley of Simeto river and much damage has resulted. Eight persons were drowned. Spanish securities were strong on the Paris bourse to-day owing to the report that a dispatch had been received from Washington which indicates that the United States was ready to recognize the continuance of Spanish sovereignty in Cuba on condition that the United States is invited to intervene and end the war.

"Une Idylle Tragique," a four act play from M. Paul Bourget's novel, was produced at the Gymnase last night before a brilliant audience containing a large American element. The play was applauded heartily from beginning to end. Madame Jane Hading's acting was superb, and the costumes and scenery were exceedingly good. Mr. James Gordon Bennett personally supervised the realistic opening yacht scene.

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR MINNES.

WINNIPEG, Dec. 24.—(Special)—A Vancouver dispatch published here says: "It is learned on good authority that Senator McInnes, of Victoria, B.C., will succeed to the Lieutenant-Governorship of British Columbia on the retirement of Hon. Mr. Dewdney. Mr. J. C. McLagan, of the Vancouver World, would then succeed to the vacant senatorship.

CAR STRIKE.

BOSTON, Dec. 23.—The tie-up of the West End road, if it should prove as complete as is now predicted, would cause widespread discomfort, not only to city residents, but to suburban residents for miles around. That the strike question is not a sudden decision is indicated by an interview with a union official. The official said: "The trouble between the corporation officials and the men has been brewing for some time.

From the nine divisions of the road, complaints have been received at the Union's headquarters that the divisional superintendent, the claims department and the other departments of the road have been crowding the men, overworking them, also letting them off and discharging them without sufficient cause. The men became so restive over their treatment that the union officers were obliged to take cognizance of the complaints.

The climax came when several employees who made individual complaints of their treatment were summarily dismissed. The effect of the treatment was that the men joined the divisional unions, and when they were sufficiently strong the union officials prepared an agreement which would obliterate the cause of complaints, which have been gradually increasing since the agreement of 1894 went out of existence.

On presenting this new agreement to President Little he referred the conference committee, who had charge of the matter for the union, to Superintendent Ruffe, with the statement that the latter official had full power to adjust matters. Two conferences were had between Superintendent Ruffe and the committee. They reported to the joint unions that practically all the things asked of the management had been conceded excepting the request for \$2.50 a day, an increase of 25 cents on wages at the present time.

Going to this demand the only objection to the completion of the agreement, the Union voted to leave the wages as before, namely, \$2.25 a day. This action of the Union was conveyed to Superintendent Ruffe by letter. The superintendent replied a few days later, saying that he did not have the power to sign the agreement, and referred the committee to President Little. A request was immediately sent to President Little for a conference, but up to the present time no reply has been received by the committee.

OVER A DOZEN LIVES LOST.

SAN DIEGO, Dec. 23.—A terrific storm occurred in the Gulf of Campeche, on the 11th and 12th of this month, and among other casualties reported is the wreck of the bark Jamaica, with twelve passengers and most of the crew lost.

The Jamaica was bound from Campeche to Vera Cruz and had a valuable cargo and some treasure aboard. As the ship remained in good condition she was sent scudding before the wind, and at one time Vera Cruz was sighted, but accident after accident finally made it impossible to live in the enormous sea. With almost all the sails blown away the vessel returned and attempted to get back here but without success. Most of the crew simply put on life preservers and jumped into the sea. The captain was one of these. He strapped one hundred Mexican dollars upon himself and, clinging to a barrel, tried to reach shore. The survivors said the sight was terrible; one passenger after another sank, the boats proving unmanageable. The crew were all drowned and only three men and a boy escaped of the passengers. The wreck occurred off the port of Dos Rosas, Tabasco county.

INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—As already outlined the life of the general arbitration treaty between Great Britain and the United States is purposely made very short—only five years—but this is with the expectation of a renewal for a longer period if it shall prove to work well, and also to afford easy opportunity for adoption. Its purpose is to dispose peacefully and honorably of such questions as arise between the United States and Great Britain, and to avoid the resort to the ordinary methods of diplomacy, excluding, of course, questions involving the national honor. The personnel of arbitration commission is to be of the highest character—men selected from the judiciary of each country in equal numbers, three from each side, and provision is made against a failure through a tie vote by the bringing in of an umpire. Neither the Venezuelan question nor the Bering sea issue are to go before this commission, but its first work will be to close up the Alaska boundary controversy. Unlike the Venezuelan boundary arrangement this treaty must go to the U.S. senate for ratification. The fate of the project in congress can only be conjectured at present. Some fear is expressed that the issue made by Secretary Olney over the Cuban question may somewhat jeopardize this crowning piece of diplomacy by inviting criticism and the display of ill-feeling on the part of some senators, who feel that their prerogatives have been invaded. There is no longer any doubt that the general arbitration treaty between the United States and Great Britain is practically completed to the satisfaction of both governments and that its presentation to congress may be expected in the near future. Several minor amendments have been suggested and accepted from time to time during the progress of the negotiations, but it is now confidently believed that the clear copy which was forwarded to Lord Salisbury by Sir Julian Pauncefote, about a week ago, will at once receive the formal approval of the British Premier and be returned to Washington in time to be presented to the senate for ratification.

RAILWAY COMPETITION.

CHICAGO, Dec. 23.—The Western roads say that they will not abandon their large commissions on business from Canadian points to points in Eastern Canada and New England, to which objection has been made by the Canadian Pacific. They say that they have put the commissions on to remain as long as the "So" line keeps up its competition, and they will not take them off until they have had satisfactory assurance that the "So" line has done or is about to do so.

AT FAMINE RATES.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—A Times dispatch from Calcutta says: "The official report of prospects in Behar says that the rainfall has had hardly any effect in lowering prices, which are still at famine rates throughout Bengal. The danger of famine has been removed in South Behar, but there is the gravest anxiety in many Northern districts.

LEAVING LAURIER.

QUEBEC, Dec. 23.—(Special)—It is reported that Charles Angers, M. P. for Charlevoix, has written to Hon. Mr. Laurier, withdrawing from him his support, in consequence of his action in regard to the Manitoba school question.

STAMBULOFF'S MURDER.

Opening of the Trial—Some Startling Testimony Offered to the Court.

Brutal in the Extreme—Stabbed, Shot, Hacked and Terribly Beaten.

SOFIA, Bulgaria, Dec. 23.—The trial of the persons accused of the murder of ex-Premier Stambuloff, who was stabbed in the streets of this city in July, 1895, resulting in his death on July 18, was formally opened in the court-house before a mixed tribunal and was continued yesterday. The accused are: Bonif. Georgoff, a former servant of Maj. Panitz; Atzoff, a Macedonian, the coachman who drove Stambuloff from the Union club to the scene of the crime; Natim. Tuffekcheff, an employe in the building department in the ministry of public works here, and brother of Dimitri Tuffekcheff, who died in prison, as is asserted as a result of torture inflicted by the direct order of the prime minister. Tuffekcheff was accused of complicity in the murder of the minister of finance, who was assassinated in the street in the presence of M. Stambuloff, for whom he was mistaken, on March 28, 1891.

A letter written by the murdered statesman to a friend some three months before his death was read by the judge amid profound silence. The letter was dated Sofia, March 16, 1895, and gave in detail the plot for Stambuloff's murder. This information, the letter asserted, came from one Cl. Zachariew, who was in close touch with a band of ten or fifteen assassins, who had sworn to free the country from "the tyrant Stambuloff." The letter declared that the assassins expected complicity from the minister of finance, and that a plot was also afoot for the murder of the prince himself. It implicates a number of other political agitators besides those now on trial. The letter continues: "I have written in order that it may be known that the plan of the murderer was known to me, and that sooner or later my friends and my children may demand their punishment."

The murder of M. Stambuloff was brutal in the extreme. He was stabbed, shot, hacked and beaten in a most terrible manner by his assassins, who stopped his carriage while he was returning from the office. The assassin, who was a young man, named Cl. Zachariew, was accompanied by a colleague, M. Petcoff.

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—(Special)—Word was received at the provincial police headquarters last evening that a cabin at Nanaimo river had been broken into while its occupant was at work, and that a gun, new suit of clothes, overcoat, etc., had been stolen; also a pair of blankets and \$4.50 in cash taken from an adjacent Chinese cabin. Constable McLeod found that the gun had been offered for sale as a second-hand store, but was disposed of at another place.

About 8 o'clock this morning the constable who had spent the night in an unsuccessful search for a further clue entered Taylor's second-hand store and had been there only a short time when the man who had sold the gun reappeared and offered the blankets for sale. The constable noticing a pair of pants under the man's coat suddenly pulled them out and asked if he was going to sell them.

But the constable grabbed him and a warm scuffle ensued, the man proving exceedingly strong. He was, however, finally subdued, and with the assistance of a couple of bystanders handcuffed and led off to the Provincial jail. When nearly opposite the court house he bolted with the constable at his heels and made for the steep cliff behind A. R. Johnson's house. The constable warned him not to go down, but he recklessly jumped over the bluff with his hands fastened. Constable McLeod made after him, the two rolling over each other all the way down until stopped by a big boulder. The man appeared to be somewhat injured, and was therefore taken to the jail in an express wagon. He again offered some resistance when he reached the jail and refused to give his name. He appears badly used up by his fall, though the constable's report says he escaped with a few scratches. The burglar is a tall young man with large cheekbones and a light moustache. He was unable to appear for preliminary trial to-day.

WILL BE COERCED.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 23.—All ambassadors have now received instructions to act in concert for fresh proposals with a view of improving the situation in the Ottoman empire. The proposals before being submitted to the Sultan will be referred to their respective governments. All the powers, including Russia, have repeatedly announced during the past few months that they have agreed on the expediency of employing coercion about the Sultan's resignation. But the form of coercion to be employed will not be determined upon until the emergency arises.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—As frequently announced from various capitals, since the visit the czar to the Queen at Balmoral in September last, the powers have finally become convinced that the Sultan's promises amount to nothing and they have determined to begin a policy of coercion. The Marquis of Salisbury, secretary of state, summoned the ambassadors to the foreign office and communicated to them the views of the British government on the definite proposals to Russia for a joint intervention in order that each ambassador might communicate them to his own government and thus enable the representatives of the great powers at Constantinople to be properly instructed.

It is believed that unless the Sultan within the next ten days shows deference to the wishes of the great powers, decisive steps will be taken by the joint powers. In this connection, the Novoe Vremya, of St. Petersburg, says it is probable that within a few days the Russian Black Sea fleet will appear in the Bosphorus, where it will be joined by the squadrons of other powers from the Dardanelles.

BURGLAR CAPTURED.

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COLUMBIA RIVER SALMON.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The report on salmon investigation conducted by the U.S. fish commission at the head-waters of the Columbia river, in Idaho, has been completed and published. The inquiry was begun July 20, of last year, and both the large and small fish had reached Idaho falls then. The important results of the investigation are summarized as follows:

It is probable that both the large and small forms of redfish are anadromous, though the evidence that the smaller comes from the sea is not complete. The migrations, so far as the spawning of the fish, etc., are practically all received subsequent to reaching the spawning grounds. The redfish all die soon after spawning.

The young redfish remain in the lakes and connecting waters for at least one year after the eggs are spawned. The chinook salmon, which come to these waters, die after spawning. The young chinook salmon appear to remain for about one year after the eggs are laid near where they are hatched.

RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—The annual statement of construction to be published by the "Railway Age" this week will show that during 1896 only 1,802 miles of railway lines were built in the United States. This is one mile less than the total reported for 1895, and is the smallest mileage built in any year since 1875. The number of lines on which this track was laid is 163, which is 11 less than the number of new lines added in the previous year. Track was laid in 35 of the 49 States. The longest line, 187 miles on eight lines.

The Railway Age states that many railway enterprises were under way early in the year which would have added hundreds of miles of track, but were stopped by the financial agitation preceding the election. Fully 2,500 miles would have been built in 1896 but for the uncertainty developed from the political campaign.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U.S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

BIG EXPRESS ROBBERY.

Train Held Up in the Blue Cut Near Kansas City.

The Scene of Several Extensive Operations by the James Gang.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 24.—The Chicago and Alton express which was held up by masked bandits in the Blue Cut near Independence, Mo., made famous by the exploits of the James and Younger bands, on Wednesday night, arrived at St. Louis this afternoon. V. G. D. Frier, the messenger in charge of the robbed car, two trainmen and the Pullman car porter and conductor were the only ones of the crew on board. The story as obtained from these men stated that the robbery was one of the cleverest and best pieces of work done by road agents during the year. Messenger Frier is in a bad state of mind. He feels terribly broken up over the matter. The first thing he said when the train was detached from the train was that the company had been hit hard. He says he cannot tell how much was taken. When seen, he said: "I was busy, especially so that trip, and thought we had stopped on account of a breakdown or something of that sort. I heard no voices outside. When the knock came I supposed it was a brake-man and opened the door, then I was helped. The robber threw my shotgun out of the car and broke it to pieces. They certainly knew their business and were very polite, but it would not have been safe to have resisted them. The politeness of the robbers impressed all who saw them. The trainmen said they were well dressed. The leader was a little under the influence of drink. He was so jovial that when he took \$4 from Conductor Nicholas, he gave \$2 of it back to him."

Frier told the story of the robbery thus: About five minutes after the express car was detached from the train he heard a rap at the side door, and thinking it was a train man, he opened, and a man with a shotgun compelled him to retreat into the car, while two others followed with revolvers and ordered him to throw up his hands. The men then pulled him from the car and asked him if he had any money. He was too excited to answer. They then picked him up and threw him bodily back into the car, and one of the men who wore a mask, as did the others, climbed in. The man got out a case and proceeded to the large safe and threw down a kit of tools in front of it. The other two held guns at Frier's head, while the third one proceeded to open the safe. Frier told the man who was at work on the large safe that it was useless for him to blow it open, as there was no money in it. One of the other men who stood at the door covering Frier all the time with a revolver, then said: "Well, you give us the keys for the small safe."

Frier refused to do this, and the two men, who had remained on the outside, jumped into the car. They leaped on Frier, pinning him to the floor and took the keys of the small safe away from him. He was then chucked up into a corner and, with two shotguns held at his head, told to stay there.

The third man then took the keys, opened the small safe and took from it a number of packages of money and after the robbers had secured the contents of the small safe, they again attempted to open the large one. A small hole about one-eighth of an inch was made in the large safe and two sticks of dynamite put in. Frier again told the men they were wasting time, as there was not a penny in the large safe.

At this they desisted from their attempt to blow it open and prepared to leave. Before they went, away one of the men walked over to Frier, and taking a \$2 bill from his pocket, said: "Here, help yourself to a Christmas present. We made a good haul."

As soon as the express messenger had been driven into the car the robbers boarded the engine and went at a high rate of speed about two miles, where it was abandoned.

The story is thus detailed in a Kansas City dispatch: At 9:20 o'clock the St. Louis & Chicago express, which left Kansas City at 8:45, was flagged at Blue Cut, and came to a standstill. Masked men immediately covered the engineer and fireman, and compelled them to get down from their cab. At the same time another member of the band uncoupled the express car from the rest of the train. The robbers quickly climbed on board the loco-

otive and express car, and before the surprised trainmen had had time to collect their wits the bandits were speeding down the steep grade beyond Blue Cut with the engine and express car. The express messenger, J. Frier, of St. Louis, was a prisoner in the express car.

It was at Blue Cut in 1885 that the James gang held up a Chicago & Alton express train and made one of the biggest hauls in the history of train robbery. A few years later another big train robbery was committed at the same place, and two months ago to-night, on October 23, the hold-up at Blue Cut occurred. The men who planned the robbery in October were local natives and got shot. Two members of the gang have since been arrested and are in jail. Their accomplices are known and are fugitives.

Though Blue Cut is less than 15 miles from Kansas City, it is in a wild and unsettled section and an ideal spot for such outlaws. It is a deep cut through solid rock, and, except in broad daylight, is almost as dark as a tunnel. For a long time it was patrolled day and night, but a few years ago, after the bandit gangs about here were supposed to have been effectually broken up, the guards were withdrawn. It is predicted that two train robberies there within as many months will result in a return to the old precautions.

TO FORTIFY PUGET SOUND.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—In the estimates required by the various departments to meet urgent demands for the service is included a request from the secretary of war for a lump sum of \$2,500,000, to be used at once in the construction of fortifications and other works of defense, including gun and mortar batteries and other fortifications to be erected on Puget Sound. A note from W. P. Craighead, brigadier-general, says: "The above estimate is submitted in order to comply with the provisions of the act of June 6, 1896, as follows: Provided, that the contracts may be entered into, under the direction of the secretary of war, for materials and work for construction of fortifications, to be paid for as the appropriations may from time to time be made by law, to an additional sum not to exceed \$2,500,000."

Arrangements are in progress for making contracts for materials and work in accordance with this proviso. These, it is expected, will be in force January 1, 1897, and the sum of \$2,500,000 will be required for expenditure during the present fiscal year.

This \$2,500,000 is in addition to the \$2,400,000 already provided by congress for such works in the last fortification bill, and will probably result in work being begun at various points on Puget Sound early in the coming year.

VALLEJO, Cal., Dec. 24.—Though work has slackened somewhat at the navy yard, owing to the discharge of a part of the force because of a lack of funds, there is still a fair amount of work in progress, some 600 men being employed. Work still continues on the Baltimore, Concord, Mohican, Ranger and Pensacola, for which ships money was especially set aside by the last congress.

The cruiser Charleston, however, did not come under this head, and will probably have to wait until the appropriations of the present congress are available before her repairs begin. The gunboat Petrel, which was placed in commission on December 16, is at the dock fitting out with stores for a three years' cruise on the China station. She will probably be here for two months more, during which time she will be inspected by the board of inspection.

TO SHORTEN THE PASSAGE.

MONTREAL, Dec. 23.—(Special)—Robert Reid, of Montreal, who built the railway across the island for the Newfoundland government, has just awarded contracts in London for the building of fast steamers 250 feet long and 32 feet beam to ply between Port au Basque, Newfoundland, and Sydney, Cape Breton. The steamers will make the trip in about three hours, thus bringing Montreal, Boston and New York into closer connection with the island colony. Mr. Reid will sail for New York shortly. The railway which is now in operation is owned by Newfoundland.

Detective Goldson, of Pittsburg, Pa., who came on here and arrested one Louis Levi, has been annoyed by telegrams sent to his wife saying that he was in trouble with the police authorities here. Judge Dugas will render judgment in the extradition proceedings to-morrow.

KILLED BY HER ADOPTED SON.

NUNDA, Dec. 23.—Mrs. Sarah Jane Willet, who was bound, gagged and left tied to a bedpost at her home near here a few nights ago, died to-night at the home of her daughter, Mrs. H. S. Wakeley, at Rossburg. On her death bed she confessed that one of the men who maltreated her was her adopted son, George H. Willet. She stated that the father of the adopted son gave her \$4,000 in cash to be given to him when he came of age. Of this amount she had spent all but about \$150, having never told the boy that his father had left her any money for him.

CHATHAM, Dec. 23.—A. Cohen & Co., dry goods, have failed with liabilities of \$11,000.

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The Colonist.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1896.

A DETERIORATION.

Liberals have always claimed, and generally obtained, credit for a belief in a non-partisan civil service. It must be matter of great grief to find that men are being turned out of office who have done their work well and who have been guilty of no fault except that of being staunch Conservatives.

When these good people read that some of their prominent newspapers advocate the dismissal of the efficient deputy ministers who have been in office long enough to be thoroughly conversant with the duties they have to perform, and the appointment in their places of men who have only shown their fitness for their position by their loyalty to their political party, they must utter many a heartfelt sigh over the degeneration of the newspaper editors of these latter days.

Yet this is what the Winnipeg Tribune has done. It has gone further. It commends Mr. Sifton, the new Minister of the Interior, because "one of the first things he has done is to place a man at the head of the two departments over which he presides in whom he has perfect confidence and who is in political sympathy with him."

This is a nice way of saying that the office of deputy minister should be the reward of political services. There is no patriotic Canadian who has had the least experience of the evils of the spoils system who will not regret that the present government should interfere with the efficiency of the civil service by making appointments to its most important departments upon the vicious principle of that system.

RECOGNITION OF CUBA.

In the opinion of the New York Times the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee has thrown to the dogs the wisdom of Jefferson, Madison, Monroe and other founders of the Republic in favorably reporting the Cameron resolution on the Cuban question, thus giving its sanction to the recognition of a new sovereignty which is by no means an established fact, and inviting into the family of nations a few thousand Cuban troops dispersed in their mountain fastnesses, fighting with desperate heroism, indeed, for independence, but with no organized government behind and over them which an envoy could find or get access to.

The cases of the republics of Chili, Columbia and Peru, which were recognized by President Monroe in 1822 are referred to, but it is pointed out that as early as 1816 representatives of President Monroe had been sent to inquire into the condition and prospects of the revolted provinces of Spain. It was only four years later, after he had ascertained that their independence was a recognizable fact, that President Monroe felt himself in a position to declare in his message that "all those provinces of Spain are not only in the full enjoyment of their independence, but, considering the state of the war and other circumstances, there is not the most remote prospect of their being deprived of it."

It is pointed out that there is no comparison between the proposed recognition of Cuba and anything else in the history of the United States, and in fact the United States are asked to step aside from the safe ground of strict neutrality and to plunge into a bog of entanglements and complications of which no man can foresee the nature or predict the ending. The Senate Foreign Affairs Committee it is pointed out should be the grave of ill-considered propositions and not a cradle for their nurture. As contradistinguished from the position of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, which is supposed to belong to the more conservative element in the United States Congress, is the attitude of the leading members of the House of Representatives, both Democratic and Republican. They, it would seem from conversations had with them, object to any step which would, in their opinion, bring about a war with Spain on the ground that the McKinley administration ought not to be met at the very moment of coming into power by so serious an international problem, and in this conclusion the Democrats fully concurred. Others felt that it would be injudicious on the part of the United States to recognize either the independence or the belligerency of the Cubans until the real situation in the island is known. Thus far members of the House, at least, are in absolute ignorance, except so far as conflicting newspaper reports are concerned, of the strength of the rebels or their ability to maintain more than a guerrilla warfare.

It may be remarked that most of the reports from the island which have appeared in the papers of the United States have, despite what has been said in some of them as to the press censorship exercised on the island by the Spanish authorities, been of a pronounced pro-Cuban color. This is a consideration which cannot fail to have struck even the most casual reader of the dispatches, most of which have reached the public by way of New York, Florida and points not generally regarded as being on the lines of direct communication with Havana. In fact it

would not, we think, be going too far to say that not a few of the reports have been the product of the wish rather than of the fact. It would not, therefore, be surprising if, when the report of the Foreign Relations Committee comes up in the Senate, it will be debated almost indefinitely and in fact be kept in discussion in one or other of the Houses for the remaining two months of the life of the Fifty-fourth congress, which will expire on March 3. That this will be the fate of the Cameron resolution there is but little reason to doubt.

President McKinley and the Fifty-Fifth Congress would thus be left free to take any course which they might see fit to adopt, and possibly after more mature consideration it will be seen how foolish it would be to adopt the course advocated by Senator Cameron and the Foreign Relations Committee, which would involve a train of consequences that it is impossible at present to foresee.

A CHANGE.

In an article in its issue of the 19th on "Trade with Our Neighbours" the Toronto Globe deprecates the unfriendly spirit in which the United States discriminates against Canada and contrasts the readiness of the government of that country to enter into reciprocal trade relations with the republics of Central America with its refusal to exchange its productions with those of Canada. The writer says, very truly, that if the Americans by their unfriendly conduct expect to force Canada into annexation they are wrong, and that the only result of such a policy will be to cause the Canadian producer to find other markets, which although not so convenient, afford him a working profit. The Globe produces figures to show that this has been the result of the present tariff and intimates that if the Americans refuse reciprocity in the future Canada will live and prosper without it. We are glad to see that the great Liberal organ has so much confidence in the future of our country. But, we would ask, who are responsible for the feeling, almost universal in the United States, that Canadians are dependent on the markets of that country, if not for existence at least for prosperity? Is it not the Liberal organs, speakers and politicians who have manifested such eagerness to gain reciprocity in face of the plain determination of the United States Government not to grant it on any other terms than that Canada should adopt their tariff? The Globe will find it very hard now to counteract the impression which the subservient and unpatriotic conduct of at least an important section of the Liberal party, a few years ago, did so much to create.

USE OF FERTILIZERS.

The last meeting of the Victoria District Fruitgrowers' Association was marked by the reading of a valuable paper on "Commercial Fertilizers" by Mr. W. C. Grant, of Gordon Head, a gentleman who has given the subject studious attention, and whose observations are eminently practical and worthy of consideration.

"The subject is of two wide ranges to deal with in one paper," he said, "and if a little rambling over ground without explanation in detail is indulged in I hope you will bear with me on this account. I will only state my experience in handling chemical manures and in endeavor to compare them as a substitute for barn-yard manure, and from a financial standpoint reckon their relative value. I know in the offset that we cannot all agree to the conclusion, but as doctors differ in treating their patients, we may be excused if we differ in our methods of treating plants.

"Suppose an interviewer asked me what having expressed his belief that the ideal of Napoleon III was a union of the Latin element as a counterpoise to the Anglo-Saxon influence. Her Majesty is reported to have said, 'The nature of the Mexican expedition personally disquieted me in the direction of Cuba, and you may add that tentative negotiations for the independence of Cuba began before my abdication and were revived at the moment when Spain was harassed by internal struggles.'

The leading London weeklies again devote much space to the Cuban situation. The Statist thinks there is little prospect that Spain will soon be able to assert herself in Cuba, and urges Great Britain with or without the consent of the great European powers, to offer her good offices to the United States and Spain. The Statist attaches little importance to the general continental objection that the United States right to interfere would be dangerous to every European government with possessions in America, and says: "Unless one or more of the great powers are prepared to forcibly oppose American intervention, a mere verbal objection will not carry weight. In nearly every case they eventually become ruined, and the best friend of Spain is he who tries to induce her to come to some arrangement in time."

the Sheikh-ul-Islam with the nominal concurrence of the Ulema, a body comprising the clergy and chief functionaries of the law, over which the Sheikh-ul-Islam presides, although he himself does not exercise priestly functions. Without his assent no Sultan can legally be deposed.

The free trader who can extract comfort from the published accounts of the investigations of the tariff commissioners' labors in Montreal must be a veritable Mark Tapley. Manufacturers, mechanics, millers, grocers, dry goods merchants unite in upholding the principles of the National Policy. Protection for manufactured goods and the admission of the raw material free is the all but universal demand. If the ministers who listen to the evidence brought before them make changes in the direction of free trade, it will be in spite and not because of the opinions expressed by the men who control such a large proportion of the great manufacturing and mercantile interests of the Dominion.

The Central American States of Honduras, Nicaragua and San Salvador having united under the name of "The Greater Republic," it is thought that before long Guatemala and Costa Rica will join the union. "It is to be hoped," but scarcely to be expected, that a confederacy will be a long-lived one. If a good government could be added to the splendid natural resources of Central America the whole continent would be benefited. Heretofore the intestine strife and the revolutionary tendencies of the Spanish-American republics have retarded progress and prevented development.

Despite the many laws enacted in recent years to protect the lobsters once so abundant along the New England coast of the United States, their numbers are decreasing with alarming rapidity. The only way apparently of saving them from speedy extinction is to gain increased skill in rearing them by artificial means, and the efforts of the Fish Commission are now turned in that direction. Legitimate action cannot decrease the demand, and the conclusion arrived at that the only means of maintaining the supply is by artificial methods, which it is heartily hoped will be successful.

UNITED STATES AND SPAIN.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—The attitude of the United States towards Cuba continues to be the most engrossing subject of discussion in political circles here and on the continent. The crisis has revived the recollections in Paris of the ill-fated Mexican expedition, and interviews in connection with the Imperialist Generals, Barail and Gallit, M. Emile, Olivier and others have appeared in the French press.

Queen Isabel, of Spain, in the course of an interview quoted as having expressed her belief that the ideal of Napoleon III was a union of the Latin element as a counterpoise to the Anglo-Saxon influence. Her Majesty is reported to have said, "The nature of the Mexican expedition personally disquieted me in the direction of Cuba, and you may add that tentative negotiations for the independence of Cuba began before my abdication and were revived at the moment when Spain was harassed by internal struggles."

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plied in liquid form. If we allow one land to dry out, all forms of plant food become locked up and may as well not exist.

"Many fruit growers who are thoroughly conversant with which varieties to plant and how to cultivate them know not a little of the art of feeding them, and the time and way to apply fertilizers. This question receives too little attention at the hands of farmers, by growing double which I think is a mistake, as much importance is attached to it. Nitrogen, in the form of saltpetre or nitrate of soda, if applied in autumn, will be washed by the winter rains almost completely out of the soil or carried into the subsoil, where only deep-rooted plants can make use of it. Thus the greater part of this valuable fertilizer will be lost. Potash and phosphoric acid may be used at any time, as all the most juicy soils readily retain them. It may be, however, that this is not all that is necessary for the growth of fruits; they require above all things a deep, well-drained and preferably a light soil. As soils vary in their composition, it is first of all necessary to find out in which element or elements (necessary to plant life) the defect occurs. Suppose it to be potash; then is the question, at the least cost, to get the most direct as well as the most profitable way.

"Now my contention is that for those who are not expert at the orchardists are, without a home supply of fertilizer, by substituting commercial fertilizers are enabled to cut the working bill in two. We have no troublesome weeds, and heavy manuring nor spreading, etc., and the expense at first cost is small, being considered, is in favor of manure in concentrated form. We need no longer look for higher prices, but seek rather for a way which will reduce the cost of production. If the question of the quantity per acre of a superior quality of produce, as the cultivation, rent, taxes, etc., are alike for a full crop as the application of commercial fertilizers, we can put our fruit on the market superior in color, quantity and quality, enabling farmers to reap the profits they are so justly entitled to.

"Mr. R. M. Palmer joined in the discussion, and gave those present some valuable pointers on the comparative values of commercial and barnyard manure. A vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Grant for his very able paper."

The subject of spraying machines was then discussed, and the let day of January set as the time for a competitive exhibition of the various machines in the market. The chairman of the motion, appointed Mr. Palmer, Mr. J. A. Grant and Mr. Stephens a committee to arrange for the exhibit at some point convenient to horticulturists and others interested in such work. The representative of the Ruggles spraying machine was invited to participate and promised an exhibit. A meritorious exhibit of carrots was shown by Mr. W. C. Grant, illustrating most conclusively the value to his land of a liberal treatment of wood ashes, and alongside was another exhibit of carrots by Mr. Dove, the result of treatment by fish manure. The wood ash treatment was in favor of the liberal treatment. No new subject was assigned for the next meeting, which will be the annual meeting.

QUEEN'S CELEBRATION.

The Colonies to Play an Important Part—Recruits for the Navy.

Archbishop's Farewell—Ambassador Bayard Criticized By the Chronicle—Government Secrets.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—It is understood that Rt. Hon. Joseph Chamberlain has arrived at an important agreement regarding the part which the colonies are to play in 1897 in the celebration of the fact that Queen Victoria's reign has eclipsed in length that of any other English sovereign, and he will make a statement on the subject in the House of Commons early during the coming session.

It is stated in Canadian circles that the proposal of the Toronto Navy League that the Royal Navy be recruited from colonial as well as home seamen, has been coldly received by the Imperial authorities. Naval experts are criticized with seeing many difficulties in carrying out the scheme, and, according to the Manchester Guardian, they are doubtful of the alleged abundance of good material in the colonies. Even in the case of the sea-faring population of Newfoundland it is not thought that the colony would yield the class of men needed for the navy, while in the other colonies it is said the men likely to volunteer would be of very indifferent stuff. If the question of employing colonial seamen in the navy is seriously raised at a conference of the Imperial Defence Commission, it will be considered very unlikely that it will be found to be all smooth sailing.

Official and diplomatic circles are in a flutter over the outspoken criticism on Mr. Thos. F. Bayard, United States ambassador, in the Chronicle on Thursday last. The Chronicle on the occasion referred to gave great prominence to a Washington letter, saying that instead of rendering either country a service Mr. Bayard, by minimizing the gravity of President Cleveland's Venezuela message to congress, was a most dangerous representative for the United States during a great crisis, and that the Washington letter adds: "No thanks are due him that the heat of his tirade did not lead to most serious consequences." The Chronicle's correspondent further claims to have the highest authority for making the statement that President Cleveland and Secretary Olney are anxiously yearning that Mr. Bayard should resign; that all negotiations have been taken out of his hands, and that he has known nothing which transpired between Washington and the foreign office here, but has been content to be pushed aside without sending it.

The dispute between the Italian government and Prince Seiarra, respecting the latter's right to send out of Italy in full robes, preached an eloquent sermon. Mrs. Temple was made the recipient, on behalf of the ladies of the diocese, of a set of Chippendale furniture.

According to present arrangements, Dr. Nansen will arrive at Hull on his visit to England on Tuesday, February 2. He will come direct to London, and deliver his promised address before the Royal Geographical Society.

It is announced as a result of the conference between the Belgian minister of

MR. BLAIR AT CALGARY.

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Col. Donmill endorsed the minister's sentiments and promised to educate his constituents in the east to the same view.

Mr. Hewitt Bostock, member for Cariboo, passed through the city yesterday en route to Vancouver at the request of the Conservative leaders in Winnipeg and at other provincial points are actively preparing for the western Conservative convention to be held in this city about January 20. It is understood the convention is called at the request of Sir Charles Tupper, and there is a possibility that the party chieftain will journey to Winnipeg to be present.

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McKINLEY'S MINISTERS.

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Postmaster general, Henry C. Payne, of Wisconsin.

Secretary of agriculture, Judge Waymire, of California.

TO CHECK THE CHINESE.

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The Grits have dropped the West Toronto election protests. The trial of the East Durham petition takes place on Monday at Cobourg.

Thomas Glass died to-day as the result of blood-poisoning caused through cutting a corn on his toe.

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marine and the company which has undertaken to build the canal that is to make Brussels a seaport, that work on the proposed new water route to the Belgian capital will be commenced early in 1897.

The government is engaged making inquiries into the systematic divulgence of confidential information by persons employed in the department of state, and prosecution will probably follow. It is stated that foreign governments are better informed regarding secrets of the British service than is the case with the secrets of any other power.

It seems that Hubert Crackenthorpe, the author, who mysteriously disappeared in Paris during October, and whose body has been found in the River Seine, committed suicide in an excess of frenzy after receiving a letter from his wife announcing her intentions of commencing divorce proceedings. It is believed that he jumped into the Seine from the Pont Neuf after wandering all night in the Champs Elysees.

Arrangements have been made where-by "The Wishing Can," the new comedy by Wilson Barrett and Elwyn Barrett, is to be taken into the provinces by Cosmo Stuart, the young actor, who is a nephew of the Duke of Richmond, and given a trial tour.

Robert Buchanan's new nautical piece, "Ye Mariners of England," will be tried in the provinces by Herbert Heath, preparatory to its introduction in the metropolis. The great scene of the play is the death of Nelson.

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NEWS OF THE PROVINCE

More "Hold-ups" in Vancouver—Christmas Business Good—Sad and Sudden Death.

Snowfall at Vernon—Mining in the Okanagan—Seasonable Entertainment.

(Special to the Colonist.)

VANCOUVER, Dec. 26.—The talk of forming a vigilance committee still continues, and if, after the daring case of Wednesday afternoon, anything of a similar nature occurs without the miscreant being captured, the talk will undoubtedly take a more definite shape and result in action.

All the storekeepers in the centre of the city assured a Colonist reporter that the volume of Christmas business transacted was fully equal to that of last year. The streets on Christmas eve were thronged until a late hour by crowds of purchasers, and the amount of business done is taken as a healthy sign of returning prosperity.

A case of honesty of a nature not too often met with is reported. A physician of the city on Wednesday lost his pocket book, containing a large sum of money and some valuable papers, and had given it up for gone for good, when it was returned to him by the finder, Mr. Flynn, of Westminster avenue. Another pocket book was lost on the street yesterday by a lady who was shopping on Cordova street. The wallet contained a large sum of money in notes and has not yet been returned to its owner.

The city street cars only ran from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. yesterday, for the purpose of affording the employees an opportunity of participating in the Christmas festivities.

A free dinner and entertainment in the library, were given by the librarian, an assault-at-arms by the Gordon Highlanders' Boys' Brigade, in the Market Hall, and a Christmas tree entertainment by the Japanese Christian Endeavour Society, constituted the public attractions afforded in the city on the evening of Christmas.

The public notices announcing the election of Mayor and Aldermen, usually posted in the city, have this year, owing to some mismanagement, been taken in to the hands of some person to post who, having no boardings, has tacked them up on telegraph and telephone posts with the result that hardly one is to be seen. Owing to this want of publicity, some doubt exists as to the date of nomination day. There is still some talk of Alderman Brown's name being before the electors as a candidate for Mayor, which would leave a vacancy in Ward 4.

The second and third foreclosures, who has figured repeatedly in the police court on the charge of receiving stolen goods, was yesterday fined \$50 for failing to make entries of property bought by him according to law.

A substantial reduction in the water rate is recommended by the water and market committee. The present rate is \$9 per year for households, with 20 per cent. reduction for advance payments.

The committee recommended a reduction to \$7.50, with a similar reduction for prepayment. This will be just half what was charged when the waterworks was owned by a private corporation.

City Clerk McGuigan met a masked man near the B. C. Iron Works last night. The man ordered him to throw up his hands. Mr. McGuigan pointed his pipe case at him and he disappeared. The same night a woman was robbed of fifteen cents, and a man with a brown beard jumping out of the bushes and confronting her. Other cases are reported. Several suspicious characters have been arrested. Five detectives have been added to the force. The citizens are arming themselves with revolvers and rifles.

Burglars entered Edwards Bros., photographers, establishment last night and stole a quantity of valuable goods. Entrance was effected by smashing the windows of the front door.

At midnight Christmas a masked man pointed a pistol at the head of James Sheriff, ordering him to hold up his hands. Sheriff did not obey and the man fired but missed, when Sheriff knocked him down. The man, however, jumped up and escaped.

WESTMINSTER, Dec. 26.—The very sad death of Arthur Jones, the eighteen year old son of Mr. J. J. Jones of this city, occurred on Thursday afternoon from brain fever following an attack of la grippe. Much sympathy is felt with the bereaved family, the deceased being a general favorite in the city.

The steamer Lakme, which finished discharging cargo for the Automatic Car Company, cleared yesterday for Portland, Ore.

Special services were held yesterday in all the places of worship.

Rev. John Reid officiated at the marriage of Mr. John Jackson, an employe of the tramway company, to Miss Walmesley of Sapperton.

MIDWAY. (From the Midway Advance.) The Joe Dandy deal has at last come to a head, and the syndicate represented by Lord Sudely while the negotiations were in progress have put men to work.

The Joe Dandy and his sister claims are among some of the richest and best in Camp Elbert. The ore milled at the camp was taken from the Joe Dandy, and although put through a three-stamp mill it was of such a rich character it easily paid all the expenses incidental to the working of about a half mile. It is proposed to thoroughly develop the claims with shafts, tunnels and drifts, and to do this a large amount of money will be expended. Mr. Thomas Davis and associates were the original owners and locators.

Development is rapidly progressing on the coal claim at Rock creek, as during the past week the tunnel has been extended some fifty feet, all in solid coal. The vein so far shows a width of about a foot, and the walls are now beautifully smooth and clear. Samples of this coal were brought to Midway a few days ago and the product is already being generally used by blacksmiths and others in the district.

Mr. D. A. Carmichael came over from Fairview a few days ago, and reported

lively times at the camp. He says never in the history of Fairview has the outlook been so bright as at present, as properties are changing hands and more men are being put to work every day.

VERNON. (From the News.) Charles Taylor, of Montreal, who has been in the city for several weeks, has been giving careful attention to the mining interests of this section, and it is probable that he will make some investments in this section before his return to the East. Mr. Taylor is interested in the manufacture of an improved quartz crusher and also a machine for saving gold in placer diggings, both of which he is anxious to introduce here if he can find a suitable location.

One of the heaviest falls of snow ever known in this district took place on Friday of last week, when fourteen inches fell.

Mr. W. A. Armstrong is a candidate for the mayoralty. Mayor Meyer will also allow his name to be put in nomination.

This year no poultry has been imported for the holiday trade, and the cash that formerly was sent to the country for turkeys, geese, etc., was kept at home.

The price of wheat is higher in this district now than for years. The Armstrong mill is offering \$35 per ton for it.

NEW DENVER. (From the Ledger.) W. K. Richmond has given a 30-day option on his interest in the bond on the Ocean group to M. G. McLeod.

The lead is just coming in sight on the Westmont.

The bond on the Exchange and Victoria will be transferred from Bremner's syndicate to R. C. Campbell-Johnstone. The Enterprise ships four carloads of ore this week. Ten tons a day are being brought to the lake, and 33 men are working in the mine.

The Two Friends makes another shipment this week. The new superintendent is very pleased with the outlook. The shaft on the Erin, on Robertson creek, is down twenty feet and is improving every foot.

On this property situated at the head of Eight Mile creek six men are working day and night. They have run a cross-cut tunnel in 60 feet and have drifted in on the ledge for over 50 feet. The paystreak is from 5 to 16 inches, all high grade ore.

A one-quarter interest in the Crusader, Boulder and Hidden Treasure has been sold to W. H. Hellyar, of Brandon, Manitoba, for \$6,250, of which \$1,250 was paid in cash, the balance to be paid on July 5.

The tunnel on the Phoenix, on the north fork of Carpenter creek, is now in 80 feet. In the last ten feet the paystreak has increased from 6 to 13 inches of almost clear ore. The indications are that it will grow wider as the ore chute is approached.

The report that the body of Hubert Crackenthorpe, the author, had been found in the river Seine is confirmed. The body was almost unrecognizable, and had apparently been in the water for about six weeks. There were no signs of violence about the remains. Mr. Crackenthorpe disappeared during October and foul play was suspected.

The North German Lloyd steamer Sprea, Capt. Meyer, from New York Dec. 10 for Bremen, arrived at Southampton to-day, had an experience similar to that of the American liner St. Louis, which arrived this morning after encountering very heavy winds. Several of the Sprea's boats were stove in and the ship was completely covered with snow and frost.

DR. ZERTUCHA SCORED. NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Thomas Estrada Palma, Cuban delegate to this country, issued the following statement to-day: "I am not very much surprised to see Dr. Zertucha rush into print for the purpose of distracting attention from himself by attracting it to a scandalous charge which can only aid him with the Spanish. For me it is sufficient indication of the man's character that he surrendered to the enemy under the conditions in his case, and that he is treated in such a kindly manner by the Spaniards. What more natural than that his combination with Spanish diplomacy, should be the instrument by which the revolution should be discredited."

"I know from letters received from Gen. Antonio Maceo, personally as well as from a person whose name I cannot communicate, that Maceo was not in the desperate straits depicted by Zertucha. The following extract from a letter lately received will show that Maceo was well satisfied with the condition of affairs: "Pinar del Rio, Nov. 30. My distinguished friend.—The active operations of the campaign have prevented me, against my wishes, from answering your letter. The communications of the 19th and 25th ult. General Ruis Rivera happily disembarked with all the war material sent, which was well employed in a series of hard combats which we sustained for that our enemies, published as all most signal victories for us."

"The plan of General Weyler was to imprison our army between two fortified lines and then make us suffer a tremendous battle, meaning that our men's attacks by force, previously placed in those positions, but the most brilliant success crowned our efforts; six of the enemy's columns, which tried to impede our progress after our saving the exploring expedition of General Ruis Rivera, being destroyed.

"As late as December 6, the day it is reported that Maceo was killed, a person of confidence and veracity had a conference with Maceo. I am informed that Maceo then stated that the Cuban forces in the province of Pinar del Rio, were in excellent condition under the command of Ruis Rivera, and that he was well satisfied with his position. Zertucha's last published interview differs in detail from all the others previously published. His assertion of Maceo's disappointment is absolutely groundless. Zertucha's gratitude toward his former companions in arms are not such as to win for him the credence of any honest man."

LANDING OF FILIBUSTERERS. KEY WEST, Fla., Dec. 24.—Passengers from Cuba report that the Three Friends expedition has landed at Guanabo. They also say that the insurgents have burned a monastery near Moro castle on Havana bay, within range of the guns of Moro castle.

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In Havana much speculation is indulged in as to why Weyler changed his mind and went to Pinar del Rio section, instead of going to Matanzas into Santa Clara province as had been arranged. The solution is that bad news was received from the Spanish front near the trocha, and that the Spanish command, not wishing to stand the responsibility, wired for Weyler.

The last reliable reports from Manzanillo says Maximio Gomez has finally taken up his march with an escort in the direction of Santa Clara.

CASTORIA For Infants and Children.

According to the Washington Star, the old-fashioned molasses, which was disappearing as an article of commerce, said a prominent grocer, and in its place have come a number of syrups, which are more costly and by no means as satisfactory, especially to the little ones, who delight as we did when we were young, in having "lasses on their bread. Most of the molasses goes into the distilleries, where it is made into rum, for which, notwithstanding the efforts of our temperance workers, the demand is constantly increasing, especially on the part of the New England States and for the export trade.

ONE OF THE IMMORTALS

Succeeds de Lesseps in the Academy—An Incendiary Sentenced to Death.

Rough Experiences of Atlantic Liners—Author's Body Found in the Seine.

LONDON, Dec. 24.—A dispatch from Rome to the Daily News says: All indications here seem to prove that Spain has been preparing for the event of warlike complications with the United States. The hurried manufacture of a large quantity of cartridges has been ordered at Brescia, and four cruisers have been ordered from the Ansaldo yards in Genoa.

A man named Simon was sentenced to death in Paris after having been convicted on a charge of setting fire to life-guards with a view to defrauding insurance companies, and thereby causing the death of a man by burning.

Three convicts who were returning today at Dartmoor prison, from outdoor labor, made a desperate attempt to escape. One of them was shot dead, and the other two escaped. Of the two convicts who escaped, one was wounded by a shot from the guards, and was afterwards arrested.

M. Anatole, poet and literateur, was received to-day as a member of the Academy and pronounced an eloquent tribute to the memory of the late Count Ferdinand de Lesseps, who died December 7, 1895, and whose seat M. Anatole took. He summed up the great Frenchman as being imprudent and rash, but as having devoted his life to noble and peaceful tasks.

Arthur Pratt, alias Edward R. Taylor, who, while serving in the army, was convicted for burglary, confessed that he had murdered an insane patient in the Eastern Kentucky asylum, for which he was arrested while leaving jail at Oxford, Mississippi, on an application of the S. S. Eames, examined at the City of Bow Street, London, court to-day and was remanded.

General Meredith Reid, formerly minister to Greece, is seriously ill in Paris. He is about 70 years of age. The report that the body of Hubert Crackenthorpe, the author, had been found in the river Seine is confirmed. The body was almost unrecognizable, and had apparently been in the water for about six weeks. There were no signs of violence about the remains. Mr. Crackenthorpe disappeared during October and foul play was suspected.

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FOREIGN POSTAL CARD.

New Issue to Be Made Shortly—Christmas Day at the Capital.

Tariff Investigation—Two Immigration Agents Appointed for the Old Country.

(From Our Own Correspondent.) OTTAWA, Dec. 26.—The attention of the government has been called to the fact that a two-cent post card used in communicating with foreign countries contravenes the regulations of the Postal Union. One of the infractions complained of was the border on the address side of the card and the addition of the words "British American Bank Note Company." A new plate was therefore prepared to replace the present one. It is of a neat design, with the objectionable frills removed. The color of the stamp and printing have been changed from green to madder red, similar to the three-cent stamp. As soon as the present supply of post-cards is exhausted the new one will be issued.

Captain Sinclair, secretary to the Governor-General, left for Scotland to-day via New York.

Christmas Day passed off quietly in Montreal. The weather was comparatively mild, but reasonable.

The tariff investigation committee will hold a meeting in Ottawa on Monday, January 4.

Mr. Sifton has appointed two immigration agents to work in the old country. One goes to Wales and the other to Ireland.

SYMPATHY WITH CUBANS. SAN DIEGO, Cal., Dec. 24.—The patriotism of Mexicans and their fervent love of liberty is shown in their strong sympathy with the Cuban insurgents. Every day during the past six months there have been encounters in the City of Mexico between Mexicans and Spaniards, and the general government is taking severe measures to quell any public demonstration of hostility to Spain.

In the city of San Luis Potosi the feeling runs so high that serious trouble is threatened. Last Wednesday night a mob gathered in that city, inflamed by a circular said to have been written by a Spaniard, and defaming Mexicans and Mexican institutions, especially with reference to the part taken in sympathy with the Cubans. This circular precipitated a riot. A crowd gathered early in the evening, constantly growing in numbers and violence, until at 10 o'clock it had reached the proportions of a mob about 2000 strong.

The mob gathered in front of the Spanish consulate and threatened to demolish the structure, but was finally controlled by one or two cool heads. Banners, inscribed with huge red letters, were fastened before the consulate, and violent talk and insults bandied. The Spanish consul was in great peril and appealed to the authorities to protect him. The mob finally left, after severe threats were made by the police, and plans were hurriedly made to disperse any subsequent gathering.

KOOTENAY TRADE. SEATTLE, Dec. 26.—Spokane is making a hard fight to control the immense trade now going into the Kootenay country as a result of the heavy mining operations going on there. Canadians are making a bid for this trade on the ground that it is in their own territory, but as the bulk of it is now going up by way of Spokane, the merchants in the latter city do not like the idea of losing it. The following is the way the situation is outlined by the Spokesman-Review:

"The importance of the Kootenay country from a commercial point of view is shown by the enormous amount of supplies which are constantly going in, not only from the United States but from points in Canada. A railroad man who was in the city yesterday said there were 200 cars of freight about an expedition awaiting shipment to the Southern Kootenay.

"It is only recently that the Canadians became aware that there was a growing country in the Kootenay which must be supplied from some point, and it was only when they ascertained that Spokane merchants were quietly doing the business and making no fuss about it that they awoke to the fact that a portion of their trade belonged to them. Now they are straining every nerve to wrest the trade from the Spokane merchants."

FIRE AT SPRINGHILL. HALIFAX, Dec. 26.—About 5 o'clock on Thursday evening the coal mines at Springhill were discovered to be on fire. The fire originated in the pipe way of the east slope in the 800-foot level. It soon gained its way into the 1,300-foot level, which it has converted into a raging furnace. Mr. Cowans being in Montreal, Government Inspector Gilpin was wired for and was soon on deck. The fire was issuing from every opening of the mine. Two cupolas were burned down and the bank head had to be torn away. The miners worked hard to save their source of livelihood, but all efforts in that direction were fruitless. They tried to prevent the air from going into the mine by stopping up every airway. Mr. Gilpin had to call the men away from their work, as it was increasing great risk to stand the explosion occur, which is expected at any minute. The flames shot about 100 feet in the air, the reflection being visible at Amherst. The loss of the east slope is believed to be complete. The machinery must be ruined. At 6 p.m. the west slope was reported all right, but men will have to work hard to save it.

The fire caught from an overheated steam pipe connected with the driving shaft. The men worked up to the time the fire caught and all got out safely. The mine has three slopes, the north, east and west. It was just five years ago that the mines were wrecked by a great explosion and 130 lives lost. It took the best part of a year to get the colliery in working order again. It was

splendidly equipped, gave employment to one thousand men in the pits, and had an output of 375,000 tons a year. Robert Cowans, of Montreal, is president, and Hon. G. A. Drummond is vice-president. From the meagre dispatch received it appears that the fire has complete possession of the underground workings of two of the three slopes.

SPRINGHILL, N.S., Dec. 26.—The proportions of fire in the mine are not as great or as alarming as at first reported. The fire is confined to No. 1 mine. Nos. 2 and 3 slopes are free from danger, and all air passages leading to and from the fire districts are closed. The situation is hopeful, but nothing definite can be said for a day or two. The insurance on the building, etc. is all in the Halifax agency of the Commercial Union and amounts to about \$40,000. The insurance company minimized the danger.

RAILROAD TO MANCHURIA. LONDON, Dec. 26.—A Times dispatch from St. Petersburg says: It is alleged that the Russo-Chinese treaty, which recently caused so much comment, is not between the two governments but between the Chinese government and the Russo-Chinese bank, which was founded a year ago by the directors of the Russian International Bank. The treaty is dated September 8.

The Russo-Chinese bank formed the railway company which an imperial organization recently sanctioned under the name of the Eastern Railway Company with a capital of 5,000,000 roubles to construct and work a railway from the western frontier of Hei-Tung-Chiang to the eastern frontier of Kirin, in Manchuria, to connect with the branches of the Siberian railway, it being also provided that the holders of the shares must be either Russians or Chinese. The Russian government will fully guarantee the capital and interest of further obligations to be issued as required, reserving to themselves the right of taking, upon payment to the company, of a price to be mutually agreed upon.

The Russian minister of finance will be complete master of the enterprise, his approval being required for all administrative and technical appointments and instructions. China obtains nominal control by appointing the president, but the real chief will be the vice-president, and will be appointed by Russia. China may purchase the railway after 36 years, or take possession without payment at the end of 80 years. Goods in transit will be free of all Chinese taxes, and Russian goods will be otherwise favored.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—A dispatch to the Graphic from Paris says: It is stated that a Russian fleet of six vessels has been stationed at Vladivostok to watch Japan, which is suspected of meditating another blow in China.

CHRISTMAS IN LONDON. LONDON, Dec. 26.—Christmas weather has been of the mildest description, foggy and without snow, but the holiday trade was the best in years, and especially in jewelry, fancy articles, books and mechanical toys, which formed the chief attractions for the shoppers. The receipts last Monday in one of the big co-operative stores alone was \$112,000. An average of 200,000 parcels were handled daily at the main parcel office, where 1,400 clerks have been working night and day.

On the other hand the distress among the poor of London was equally marked, over seven hundred persons being relieved out of the funds from the poor box at Bow street police court in three days, some of the cases being most pitiful.

The Queen's Christmas was celebrated very quietly at Osborne, the death of Prince Henry of Battenberg having made all the usual festivities unseemly. Only the old traditional customs of the table were uninterfered with and the usual presents were given to-day. The royal baron of beef, which is the principal dish on the Queen's sideboard, was cut this year from a Devon ox, which was fattened on Her Majesty's Flemish farm, Windsor Great Park. The joint was roasted at Windsor and sent to Osborne Christmas eve, along with a boar's head and a woodcock pie. All duly appeared on the sideboard yesterday. Her Majesty received from Her grandson, Emperor William of Germany, as usual, a quantity of German preserves at Springle, Hanover, and another from the Duke of Coburg, besides a quantity of German cakes and sweetmeats.

Christmas day here was sunshiny and very quiet. Many of the old customs were followed out in the true spirit of the English Christmas. At Queen's College, Oxford, the ancient ceremony of bringing the boar's head was solemnly gone through in the presence of the University Dons.

At Rochester six poor travellers enquired the Watt's charity, in the shape of an old-fashioned dinner and a present of fourpence. In Liverpool 20,000 poor people were given to the poor, and the impoverished people of this city were well cared for through thousands of free breakfasts, dinners, etc., in many parts of the metropolis. In the London workhouses 104,593 paupers enjoyed the Christmas celebration, and 4,667 hospital patients were made as comfortable as possible under the circumstances.

DECADENCE OF COBDEENISM. NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—A dispatch from London says: Comment has been provoked by the feeling shown at a recent meeting of the London county council whose committee having suggested that tenders for new fire engines be had from abroad, the proposal was received with a howl of disapproval showing that "made in America" is apparently regarded by members of council with equal aversion to "made in Germany."

The Conservative newspapers claim to see in this incident an evidence of the decadence of Cobdeenisism, and express the opinion that Great Britain must certainly have travelled a long way from the position taken by the old free traders, when a popularly elected body like the London county council approves of the idea that no work must be given to foreign countries while Britain need employment.

OTTAWA, Dec. 24.—Justices Tait, Jette and Taschereau, of the Queen's Bench of Quebec, are here trying to secure higher salaries.

A Wonderful Medicine.

BEECHAM'S PILLS

For Bilious and Nervous Disorders, such as Wind and Pain in the Stomach, Sick Headache, Dizziness, Flatulence and Swelling after meals, Dizziness and Drowsiness, Cold Chills, Flushing of Heat, Loss of Appetite, Shortness of Breath, Constipation, Blotches on the Skin, Disturbed Sleep, Frightful Dreams, and all Nervous and Trembling Sensations, &c. THE FIRST DOSE WILL GIVE RELIEF IN TWENTY MINUTES. This is no Fiction. Every sufferer is earnestly invited to try one Box of these Pills, and they will be acknowledged to be WORTH A GUINEA A BOX.

BEECHAM'S PILLS, taken as directed, will quickly restore Females to complete health. They promptly remove any obstruction or irregularity of the system. For a Weak Stomach, Impaired Digestion, Disordered Liver, they act like magic—a few doses will work wonders upon the Vital Organs; Strengthening the muscular system, restoring the long-lost Complexion, bringing back the keen edge of appetite, and arousing with the Rosebud of Health the whole physical energy of the human frame. It is the most powerful and pleasant of all purgatives, and its action is so gentle and so sure, that it is especially recommended to the delicate and the debilitated. These facts, admitted by thousands, in all classes of society, and one of the strongest guarantees to the Nervous and Debilitated, is that Beecham's Pills have the Largest Sale of any Patent Medicine in the World.

PREPARED ONLY BY THOMAS BEECHAM, ST. HELENS, ENGLAND. OF ALL DRUGGISTS.

CECIL RHODES' DECLARATION. PORT ELIZABETH, Cape Colony, Dec. 26.—At a banquet tendered to Cecil Rhodes here, he made a speech in the course of which he declared that his public life was not ended, and that he would not give up his seat in parliament until he was turned out. He asserted that no savage country can remain a part of Africa. Cape Colony, he said, must be the dominant power south of Central Africa. His idea was to assimilate the tariffs and the peoples. This, he said, could be done in the North. It was not a question of race, but of unity. He urged his hearers to cultivate a closer union with other South African communities. He stated that when he was negotiating with the late Charles Stewart Parnell, Parnell had promised him that a clause should be inserted in the home rule bill which would permit representatives from the colonies to sit at Westminster.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—Cecil Rhodes' speeches at Port Elizabeth, Cape Colony, are exciting much comment both here and in Cape Town. In the course of his speech on landing in Port Elizabeth he said: "I am going to meet and be examined by my fellow-countrymen. I know their unctious rectitude, but I know that I also have your sympathies in the trouble I am about to meet." In his speech at the banquet tendered him at Port Elizabeth he referred to the mother country as a power out of sympathy with him to whom he had presented a new colony.

The Times protests against Rhodes' invitation to the British public, who stood by him during a year of trouble and who are prepared to accord him a fair hearing.

BRONCO PETE KILLED. BOISE CITY, Idaho, Dec. 24.—News has reached here of a tragedy at Hagerman. An altercation took place between Marion Garner and Harry Kline, alias Bronco Pete, during which Pete shot, and it is supposed, fatally wounded Garner. Pete at once mounted his horse and struck for the cattle camp of the Shoelace outfit. A posse at once started in pursuit, and as he had stopped to see a woman to whom he was engaged to be married, the posse overtook him. He was ordered to throw up his hands, and replied by opening fire on the posse, who in turn shot him dead. Bronco Pete was a cowboy and all-round bad man from the locality where Diamond Field Jack and others recently killed several shepherders.

WHEAT STRONGER. NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—In their report Dun & Co. says: "Wheat has grown a little stronger in spite of the disturbance of the Chicago market. The exports have been 1,471,443 bushels, flour included, for five days, and 8,392,587 for four weeks, against 8,227,569 for the same week last year, which was large. Western receipts are still small amounting to 8,455,631 bushels in three weeks of the month, against 14,344,869 last year. The volume of business, all branches included, is not large. The failures for the week have been 297 in the United States against 322 last year, and 44 in Canada against 40 last year.

PUBLIC CHARITIES. WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Mrs. Belva A. Lockwood, of Washington, who was one of the delegates from the United States to the International congress, which was held at Genoa, Switzerland, in September last, to consider the administration of public charities and the protection of children, has made a report to the department of state relative to the proceedings of congress. The societies were represented in the association and about 65 delegates were in attendance. The congress was in session for six days, during which many interesting and valuable reports were presented and ably discussed. Among the important topics considered were the education of abandoned women.

JAPAN AND PERU. WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—An interesting ceremony occurred at the Japanese legation at 11 o'clock this morning, when the final ratifications of the new treaty between Japan and Peru were exchanged by Minister Hoshi, of Japan, and Consul-General Bergmann, acting plenipotentiary of Peru. The new treaty is one of a series which Japan is effecting with all the nations, and is almost identical with the one concluded with the United States a year ago.

FOSTER IN CORNWALL.

The Late Minister of Finance on the Issues Before the Country.

Ministerialists Afraid of Discussions—The Spoils System—Manitoba School Question.

(From the Montreal Gazette.) Hon. Mr. Foster, who followed Sir Adolphe, expressed his pleasure at his second opportunity of addressing a Cornwall audience. He said that instead of making a speech he was going to point out a few of the peculiar things which he had noticed in connection with this election.

Did they accept this fair challenge? (Loud cries of no and cheers.) No, they would not accept this challenge, and although nine or ten cabinet ministers and several of the rank and file had spoken in the country, they had neither allowed a Conservative to appear on their platform nor had they appeared on the Conservative platform; no, they don't want a fair and open discussion where both sides of the question can be put fairly before the electors.

Mr. Laurier and his ministers were all here, but because he was afraid these men who had for years been denouncing the National Policy in parliament and out of parliament would forget themselves and attack it here, Mr. Laurier kept at home these sturdy champions of free trade. To talk free trade in Cornwall and Stornont would play the dickens with the East.

The axe is raised over the head of every official in the employ of the government. He could see this in the state of affairs in the Civil Service in Ottawa and it could be seen here in Cornwall. The Liberals had planted in one hand and bribes in the other, were endeavoring to drive the electors of this constituency to do as they wished.

PLAYED OUT. S. SYRUP ADOPTED. The axe is raised over the head of every official in the employ of the government. He could see this in the state of affairs in the Civil Service in Ottawa and it could be seen here in Cornwall.

Mr. Foster then said that since his last visit the people of Cornwall had heard last night Hon. Mr. Laurier. These gentlemen seemed to think that all that was expected of them was a lot of abuse of people who were miles away. In these days of telephones, telegraph and newspapers, it was difficult to lie about an absentee and not be found out.

Referring to the school question, Mr. Foster said that the Catholic minority of Manitoba had asked for the restoration of their rights they enjoyed previous to 1890, when their separate schools were taken away from them.

in the bill. Neither did we at any time even attempt to dispose of the financial affairs of the Empire of Russia. In both cases there was the same good and efficient reason. The constitution did not give us such power. It would have been waste of paper to have attempted to do a thing which the constitution did not empower us to do.

THE ARBITRATION TREATY.

(From the N. Y. Times.) The announcement that the negotiation of a general treaty of arbitration between the United States and Great Britain is about completed will be received with genuine satisfaction wherever the English tongue is spoken. While the exact details of the proposed covenant have not been made public, its main features are sufficiently known to indicate its scope and character.

It was the dream of the poet that a day would come when the "war drum should trow no longer and the battle flag be furled in the parliament of man." So far as the world is concerned, such a dream may still be a dream, but unless all signs are amiss the English speaking races of the globe are gradually being drawn together by a community of interests and sympathies.

CUBAN AUTONOMY.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Whatever course congress may finally take with respect to the Cameron resolution, the efforts of the present administration at least will continue to be exerted in behalf of an autonomous government for the Cubans. During the correspondence between this government and Spain, the Canadian system has been repeatedly referred to as a model which might be well to follow in granting home rule to her Cuban colonists.

The manager of the London-Brazilian bank at Para, Brazil, committed suicide the Central railway station. Mowbray, Dec. 23.—The premises of the Canada Life Co., Ltd., were damaged to the extent of \$10,000 by fire yesterday; insured.

HOME RULE FOR CUBA.

Its Congress to Be Entirely Elected by the People of the Island.

Similar Reforms for Porto Rico to Be Granted by the Queen To-Day.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Another important step towards the plan of Home Rule for Cuba has been taken by the Spanish authorities. The former plan proposed, but not executed, some months ago, provided for a Cuban congress of thirty members, of whom the Queen Regent was to name fifteen and the people of Cuba were to elect fifteen. It is now proposed to do away with that part providing for the naming of members by the Queen Regent, so that the entire Cuban congress will be elected by the Cuban people.

AS THOUGH RATS WERE GNAWING HIM.

In the original preface to his "Confessions," De Quincey said that he was the first Lord Sidmouth, once said to him of the poor De Quincey entertained the same idea for himself, and went to Professor Wilson for advice. The professor said: "De Quincey I am shocked at you. You say you are a genius, and yet you are gnawing at the bottom of your stomach."

ANTI-CANADIAN LAWS.

(From the Montreal Gazette.) Two bills, one of them plainly aimed at Canadians, are now before the United States Congress for the purpose of retarding immigration. One provides that every male immigrant coming into the country shall pay a duty of \$100 at the port of embarkation, that he shall be a man of character, able to read and write, and that he shall be ready to renounce his allegiance to the land of his birth.

It is stated that before the next session opens the Governor of Maine will appoint an inspector to see that the law passed in the spring regarding the standard of quality of American sardines and the quality of oil to be used to the case is enforced in all of the packing factories. The legal quantity of oil to the case is four quarts, but there are rumors that in some instances not more than one quart has been used.

THE CROW'S NEST PASS.

Vancouver Parties Want to Build the Railway—The C. P. R. Getting Ready.

Destitute Canadians Shipped from Rio Janeiro—The Premier Loses His Valise.

(From Our Own Correspondent.) OTTAWA, Dec. 24.—Mr. Drinkwater, of the C.P.R., says the company is getting ready to tackle the construction of the Crow's Nest railway. Vancouver parties give notice in the Canada Gazette for a charter to build a railway through the Crow's Nest pass. The Premier lost his valise in Cornwall. It contained valuable papers. Gilbert Parker is out with a strong defence of the "Unspeakeable Turk."

"A MERRY CHRISTMAS!"

Some Reflections on the Day Which the Christian World is Celebrating. "Christmas comes but once a year," as the old saying has it, "but when it comes it brings good cheer." The day which the Christian world celebrates is one that ushered in a wonderful epoch in the history of the world.

ON LITERATURE.

Sir E. J. Poynter, president of the Royal Academy, was recently entertained at dinner by the Royal Society Club, St. James' street. Sir Clements Markham, president of the club, occupied the chair. Dr. Conan Doyle, in responding for literature, said that if to be prolific was a sign of prosperity, literature should be more prosperous than ever.

THE RESIDENTS OF CEDAR HILL DISTRICT.

hold a public meeting at the schoolhouse next Tuesday for the purpose of discussing the assessment rates.

MUSIC PUPILS.

Judgment and Tact Required to Interest Them—Four Hand Pieces.

How shall we interest our pupils, hold their attention and bring out the best work? It is a problem to many teachers of music. A teacher writing in The Etude says: First and perhaps one of the hardest tasks of the teacher is for him to be always full of interest himself and to let the pupil feel it, because you cannot expect a child to show an interest in a lesson if you are indifferent and careless and only trying to hurry through and on to the next one.

Emerson said, "The chief want in life is somebody who shall make us do the best we can." Why can we not apply this to music? It seems to me that it just strikes the keynote of the subject. And how can we better achieve this success than by inspiring in them a love of their work from the very beginning? One of the best means that I have found for combining study and pleasure at the same time is the practice of four hand pieces. My little pupils always enjoy playing them with me and eagerly look forward to the next "duet," and thus learn as quickly as possible the intricacies of the instrument. I have also found that this playing of duets is a great help in training them to keep good time. Then some of my pupils always ask me to play for them after the lesson, and though it takes a little extra time I almost always play something, if only part of a piece, and tell them what it is and perhaps something about the composer. In this way I try to leave in their minds a pleasant impression of the lesson and at the same time teach them to become familiar with different composers.

A LIBRARY PARTY.

We had what we call a library party, where every young lady dressed in some costume that suggests the title of a book. There was a librarian and pages to wait upon the readers. Each gentleman came to the librarian and obtained a "reader's card," which had his name written across the top. When a gentleman drew a book—in other words, a young lady—the librarian wrote her name on his card, and in the course of the five minutes during which he was allowed from her costume to title of the book she represented and write that title opposite her name on his card. When the hour for closing the library came, the cards were taken in and compared, and the one who had guessed the largest number of books correctly received a prize. It was much easier than at first it would seem to prepare a costume, says Housewife.

FASHIONABLE CANNINES.

Dentistry forms an important item in canine toilet clubs, both in London and Paris. Many a pet dog is to be seen in the Bois whose teeth are as false as its complexion—or rather color, for fashionable dogs in the gay capital are frequently dyed to meet the exigencies of a passing mode.

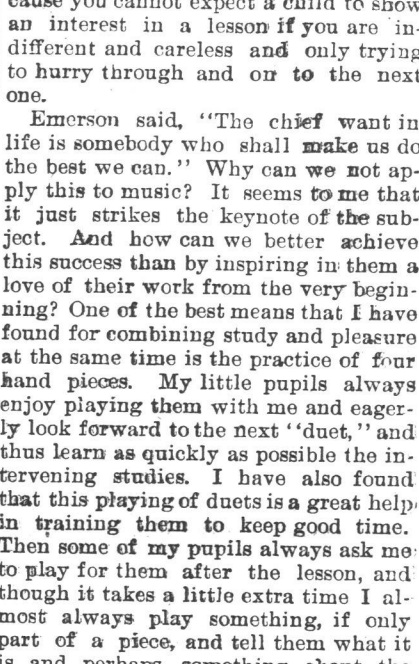
DRESS SLEEVES.

Dress sleeves are not so full nor so high on the shoulders, but are still far from the tight sleeves promised for this fall. The styles for sleeves are legion, and the New York Sun illustrates some which are being used extensively at present. One sleeve is gathered tight to the shoulder and finished there with three full flounces, each edged with narrow velvet. A plain tight sleeve, with one large plaited flounce, is pretty for heavy goods. Another tight sleeve of muslin has the big puff caught in at the top of the shoulder. The puff is made of the main and insertion. The sleeve that is very tight, with a very small puff on the shoulder, used for silk gowns and is quite the latest style. The short full puffed sleeve, with a deep pointed cuff above the elbow, is pretty for an evening gown or for a young girl, and the sleeve with the small puff at the elbow is very graceful for thin material. The puff above and below the elbow is banded with a broad piece of embroidery or passementerie.

VICTORIA ROLLER FLOUR MILL.

BEST FAMILY FLOUR, XXX Brand. SUPERFINE FLOUR, WHOLE WHEAT MEAL, Recommended by the Medical Profession. GRAHAM FLOUR, SELF-RAISING FLOUR, Prepared on Scientific Chemical Principles, and no deleterious substances used in its manufacture. No Baking Powder, Yeast or Salt required. GROUND FEED, BRAN, SHORTS, ETC. RICE MEAL AND BROKEN RICE.

If your Grocer does not keep these in stock, write direct to the Mill. 125-d-aw



THE LIT ON BURNS mas Tires A CURT Chinese former in their fam The leg will be as for supply water fro W. W. Hilton Tenting of a here short NOTICE is published by Yale Dis Kootenay THE tr committee Christma Council of M. Robin coal. WILLIAM Wilson was witness of last event was perfo in present only Mrs. G husband's at the age was a nat leaves a h funeral ta noon. Mr. J member of C. Co. at managem pany's Vi on Januar Toronto. THE ni propriat Building The committee Munn, W evening, belonging Mary sha LIET, S. M. S. Wille erroneous Col. at evening, in the Ref Right Rev Fanny of the late N. Lieut Joseph Sle Ripple Co SEVERAL incorporat section of being for Vand bonding for the s build a room point on U minister, t file of the to co to the Gulf of week's B. w also, i or Canada will be as bell, as sol the comple for four ye THE Ca Christmas Monday ev sive preson mas had seated on that each view of the ing from t down with all. The t evergreens girls amo head a cro the effect. V siding at songs, cho by the pup solos by dr Canada. I of the en in an app and after their appe as a result the preser teacher of thank all enabled m ed with the dress. And Mrs. o of many o substantial to appreciate district du A LONG p anies ap evening, a B. C. Exp sive preson Big Six G Rossland, Camp H Co. of Ver Canadian Co. of Sant Dry Bell don; 1,000; Fourteen Rossland; Golden Co. of Var Granite Spokane; Ibe; M. Slocan, Ka Kootenay Rossland; \$5,000; Olive G Thompson; Ottawa; \$200; land; Scotch ment; Sp Spencer; ation, of L minister; \$300,000; Wash Spokane;

THE CITY

THE little folk of the Baptist Mission on Burnside road enjoyed their Christmas tea on Wednesday evening.

A CHRISTMAS dinner was given at the Chinese Rescue Home yesterday to the former inmates who have married, and their families.

THE legislature at the coming session will be asked to incorporate a company for supplying the town of Nelson with water from Anderson creek.

W. W. BUCHANAN, editor of the Hamilton Templar, and a temperance lecturer of considerable fame, is expected here shortly to give a series of lectures.

NOTICE is given in this week's Gazette that application will be made to the legislature to incorporate Greenwood City, Yale District, and Rossland, in West Kootenay.

The treasurer of the Refuge Home committee acknowledges with thanks a Christmas donation from the Mayor and Council of \$25; also the gift from Mr. S. M. Robins, of Nanaimo, of five tons of coal.

WILLIAM HAWKSBY and Miss Emma Wilson were joined in marriage at the residence of Mr. Tyler, 51 Hillside avenue, last evening. The wedding ceremony was performed by Rev. Solomon Cleaver in presence of the most intimate friends only.

MRS. GLENROY CLUNES died at her husband's residence yesterday morning at the age of thirty-three. The deceased was a native of New Westminster and leaves a husband to mourn her loss. The funeral takes place on Saturday afternoon.

MR. JAMES L. FORRESTER, becoming a member of the firm of George Shedden & Co., at the end of the present year, the management of the Canada Paint Company's Victoria branch will be assumed on January 1 by Mr. W. T. Andrews, of Toronto.

The ninety-second drawing for an appropriation of the Vancouver Island Building Society was conducted by a committee composed Messrs. H. A. Munn, W. Scott and J. H. Meldrum last evening. The successful number was 92, belonging to Mr. C. Booth and Mrs. Mary Shaw.

LIEUT. SAMSON SLADEN, R.N., of H. M.S. Wild Swan, whose wedding was erroneously referred to in yesterday's COLONIST, was not married until last evening. The marriage was performed in the Reformed Episcopal church by Right Rev. Bishop Oridge, the bride being Fanny Harriet, the eldest daughter of the late Lieut. George Sayer Boys, R.N. Lieut. Sladen is a son of Colonel Joseph Sladen, of the Royal Artillery of Ripple Court, Kent.

SEVERAL projected railways will seek incorporation by private bill at the next session of the legislature, one of them being for the construction of a railway from Vancouver to Trail, Mr. G. E. Corbould, of Westminster, being solicitor for the applicants. The object is to build a road from Vancouver to some point on the Columbia river via Westminster, thence eastward on the south side of the Fraser to Trail, with power to construct a branch to some point on the Gulf of Georgia. Another application of which notice is given in this week's B. C. Gazette by Mr. F. E. Ward, as agent, is for a railway from Ashcroft or Kamloops to Barkerville. Application will also be made by Wilson & Campbell, as solicitors, at the same time for the completion of the Cariboo railway for four years.

The Cadboro school children had a Christmas tree and entertainment on Monday evening, for which quite extensive preparations had been made with most happy results. The pupils were seated on a platform raised in tiers, so that each child had an unobstructed view of the huge Christmas tree, reaching from floor to ceiling and loaded down with beautiful and useful gifts for all. The room was nicely decorated with evergreens and mottoes, and each of the girls among the pupils wore on her head a crown ornamented with gilt stars. The whole scene presenting a very pretty effect. With Mrs. J. M. Campbell presiding at the organ a programme of songs, choruses and recitations was given by the pupils and much appreciated, and solo by Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Thomson and Mr. Taylor were a pleasant feature of the entertainment. Santa Claus put in an appearance during the evening and after complimenting the pupils on their appearance gave them a little good advice and then proceeded to distribute the presents. Mr. J. M. Campbell, the teacher of the school, took occasion to thank all those whose generosity had enabled him to pay all expenses connected with the Christmas tree and to purchase a dictionary for the school. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell were the recipients of many compliments and of more substantial tokens of the good-will and the appreciation of the people of Cadboro district during the evening.

A LONG list of newly incorporated companies appears in the Gazette of last evening, as follows: B. C. Exploration Co., of Rossland; with capital stock of \$100,000. Big Six Gold and Copper Mining Co., of Rossland; \$1,900,000. Camp Hewitt Mining and Development Co., of Vernon; \$1,000,000. Canadian Mining, Milling and Smelting Co., of Sandon; \$2,000,000. Canada Prospecting and Mining Co., of Vancouver; \$100,000. Cardiff Mining and Development Co., of Sicoun; \$1,900,000. Dry Belt Mining and Milling Co., of Sandon; \$1,000,000. Fourteen Gold Mines Consolidated Co., of Rossland; \$5,000,000. Golden Cache Extension Gold Mining Co., of Vancouver; \$600,000. Granite Mining and Smelting Co., of Spokane; \$300,000. Ibez Mining & Development Co., of Sicoun; \$300,000. Kootenay & North West Mining Co., of Rossland; \$1,000,000. Kootenay Mercantile Co., of Rossland; \$5,000. Robbess Gold Mining Co., of Rossland; \$150,000. Olga Gold Mining & Milling Co., of Tacoma; \$1,000,000. Ottawa & Ivanhoe Silver Mines, of Rossland; \$250,000. Scottish Columbia Mining & Development Co., of Vancouver; \$1,000,000. Spencer Consolidated Mining Corporation, of London; \$5,000,000. Sinclair Canning Co., of New Westminster; \$200,000. Tin Horn Quartz Mining Co., of Victoria; \$200,000. Washington Mining & Leasing Co., of Spokane; \$1,000.

GOVERNMENT TENDER "QUADRA."

It is worth noting that while the attention of the Dominion Government has been directed to the urgent necessity of placing a second vessel on this coast, the Quadra during December was for an extended period placed at the disposal of visiting ministers. On December 1 she left for Seattle to meet the Minister of Marine and his party, and it was not until the following Saturday that she returned to port—six days' loss of time for both vessel and crew. All this time the ordinary passenger steamers were running regularly. Then on the night of the 13th inst. the Government steamer was again called into requisition to carry the minister to Vancouver. Two days later she was again ordered to Seattle to meet the Minister of Railways, and there she cast anchor and patiently awaited his arrival for a couple of days more, not returning to Victoria until the 17th—three more days, the Quadra's cruises of this description only ending when the Minister of Railways was safely set ashore at the Terminal City. Ten or eleven days altogether were in fact employed in conveying ministers, and necessary work was waiting to be done, such as looking after buoys, lighthouse tending or fulfilling the numerous and important duties which the steamer has to attend to. It is true that when Hon. Mr. Bowell and his party were here they used her for a trip up the Northern Coast, but that was essentially a business trip, the services of the vessel being required to reach remote settlements on the Coast which had to be visited.

THE TIDES DISAPPOINT.

Captain George Roberts, of the steamer Willapa, which plies on the Alaska-Puget Sound route, is spending his Christmas at home. Concerning his Christmas at home, the effect that a large and palatial steamer was to be placed on the Alaska route in connection with the Willapa, Captain Roberts has no news to give. So far as he knows Captain Clements will continue in command of the City of Kingston. To the report that he is to take charge of the new vessel on the Alaska line to work in connection with the Willapa, he gives no credence whatever. When Captain Roberts was last in Alaska, the weather was fine, and he thinks that Captain Moore, the Canadian mail carrier, who is long overdue from the upper Yukon, may be looked for here some time in February, as by then a journey from that remote part of the world will be possible owing to the rivers and lakes being frozen over.

NO CAUSE FOR ALARM. Either owing to an absence of wind, which, as predicted, meant that there would be no cause for excitement, or to the fact that there will be no change of moon until next week, there was no extraordinary tides yesterday. Wharfingers, however, rejoiced at the scare, for not in a long time have the sheds been free of freight, and all they hope for is that the "high tides" will come more frequently. The water yesterday was not more than a few inches higher than it usually is.

CADBORO DISTRICT SCHOOL.

ONE week ago today a large number of the residents of Cadboro district assembled at the schoolhouse for the purpose of witnessing the closing exercises of the term. The children were examined in the various subjects taught during the term, including history, arithmetic, reading, writing and grammar, the customary practice of entertaining the visitors by a programme of songs and recitations being abandoned by the present teacher, Mr. J. M. Campbell. The manner in which the children marked their advancement in their various exercises was a pleasant surprise to all present. At the conclusion of the examination, the steady made by Messrs. J. Deans, Watson Clark and the trustees, who congratulated the children on the progress they had made and urged them to take advantage of having a good teacher who was well qualified to make them all good scholars. Mr. Campbell was complimented by one and all for the standard of progress he had succeeded in maintaining in his school, and the examination was brought to a close with three cheers by the children for their teacher.

"THORNTON" CASE OPENED.

The case of the schooner Thornton was opened at the Behring Sea Claims Commission sitting yesterday morning by Sir Charles Tupper, who stated that in many respects the claim was similar to that of the Caroleina, and evidence in the one case would in some measure be applicable to the other. The schooner Thornton was seized in Behring Sea on August 1, 1886, by the United States revenue cutter Corwin, and condemned. The Thornton was built in 1861 at Dungeness, Washington, and was registered as a British bottom at Victoria. H. J. Cook, who rebuilt the vessel in Victoria in 1877, said in the witness box that in 1886 the vessel was in good condition at every point, and was worth \$5,000. Walter Walker put the vessel's value at \$6,000, with the steam auxiliary power, and Capt. Warren claimed that in 1886 she was worth between \$5,000 and \$6,000. Several other witnesses gave evidence as to catchers, and the Commission adjourned early in the afternoon until to-morrow morning.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellow-men. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge, to all who desire it, this simple and effective remedy, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, this paper to W. W. POWERS, 229 Powers' Block, Rochester, N.Y.

MONTREAL, Dec. 24.—(Special)—Archbishop Langevin will spend a few days here before going home. His Grace declares that he will hold out for separate schools, and contends that, as the remedial order still stands, the minority has not lost its right of appeal to the Dominion parliament. It is understood that the question will come up again next session.

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE

A Woman Held Up and Robbed at the Door of Her Home. Billiard Tournament—Grippe in Westminster—Travel on the Fraser—Ore Shipments.

Billiard Tournament—Grippe in Westminster—Travel on the Fraser—Ore Shipments.

(Special to the Colonist.)

VANCOUVER.

VANCOUVER, Dec. 24.—Public feeling in the city is at fever height this morning caused by the publication of the news that Mrs. R. C. Ferguson was held up by a robber at the door of her own residence yesterday afternoon in broad daylight, and her purse containing \$11 taken from her. The facts of the case are briefly as follows: About half-past three yesterday afternoon Mrs. Ferguson sent the nurse out on a message and immediately afterwards there came a knock at the door. Mrs. Ferguson answered the knock personally and found a man standing outside, who asked if it was the door of the house was in. Being informed that he would not be home until dinner time, the man pulled some papers out of his pocket and said he would leave, but when Mrs. Ferguson advanced for the purpose of taking them from his hand, the man whipped a revolver out of his pocket and held it at Mrs. Ferguson's head, telling her she needed money and she had better go upstairs and keep quiet while he had been inside to what he could find. Mrs. Ferguson told him all the money she had in her purse and handed it to him, who took it and decamped. Mrs. Ferguson at once telephoned to her husband and information was given to the police, but up to this writing no trace of the man has been found.

An offer to bond in a large amount the Victoria claim, an extension of the Argo mining claim adjoining Sandon and the extension of the Argo mining syndicate. It is altogether likely the offer will be refused as the owners do not consider it large enough. Mr. G. D. Scott, of the Vancouver mining bureau, is one of the principal owners. There is still some talk of a third candidate for the Mayorship in the person of Alderman William Brown, at present representing Ward 4. Candidates for aldermen are coming forward in large numbers. In Ward 2, Walter Hepburn and Charles Bowman, both members of the Trades and Labor Council, are freely spoken of. In Ward 4, ex-Ald. Sanders, J. A. Tomlinson and John Dickenson are probable candidates.

A parade of the local companies of the Canadian artillery took place last night, when the drum and bugle band made its first appearance in public. Favorable comment was universal. A dance was given last night by the firemen at hall 10, 2. It was the widow of a late employe of the city, who is in destitute circumstances. The net proceeds for the evening were nearly \$100, and the affair was a brilliant success.

Mr. William Nicholson and Miss F. E. Vancouver, who were married yesterday by Rev. W. T. Stackhouse, and left on the afternoon train for their future home in Revelstoke.

The organ recital and concert in Christ church on behalf of the building fund of the term. The performers acquitted themselves admirably, and the attendance being good the collection realized a goodly sum. A hockey match is announced for Christmas Day, and the Ladies' Hockey Club will give exhibition of their public form on Monday.

The billiard tournament at Hotel Vancouver is creating great interest, and the fourth round having been reached and the game a most interesting condition. On Monday Mr. A. W. Curtis, who is a hot favorite at 200, plays Mr. Loewen, second favorite at 300. Considerable money will change hands over the game, the winner being practically the winner of the tournament.

WESTMINSTER. NEW WESTMINSTER, Dec. 24.—An epidemic of the grippe is prevalent here just now. Mr. J. C. Brown and family, and Mr. Pearson, children are severely ill. The steamer Transfer brought down a heavy cargo of freight but few passengers yesterday. Travel on the river is exceptionally light this season, owing to a not too prosperous season amongst the farmers of the valley during 1896.

Table with 4 columns: Tons, Value, Dest'n, and other details. Includes entries for Idaho, Mountain Chief, Monitor, and Sicoun Star.

A MESSAGE TO MEN. Proving That True Honesty and True Philanthropy Still Exist.

If any man, who is weak, nervous and debilitated, or who is suffering from any of the various troubles resulting from excesses or overwork, will take heart and write to me, I will send him confidentially, and free of charge the plan pursued by which I was completely restored to perfect health and manhood, after years of suffering from Nervous Debility, Loss of Vigor and Organic Weakness.

The Japanese government has appropriated, it is said, the sum of \$12,800,000 in the extension of telephone lines. The work of construction is being rapidly carried out at various important places, the intention being to complete by 1898 the expansion of the service connecting Tokio, Osaka and Yokohama, as well as the new constructive work in other cities, and to establish a telephonic connection between Tokio and Kobe.

BANK OF ILLINOIS.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—W. A. Hammond, second vice-president of the National Bank of Illinois, who has been charged with pulling the wool over the eyes of the directors of the defunct bank, would not talk when seen at his home in Evanston. Through an intimate friend, however, he made a statement calculated to implicate several directors, as well as two or three men not connected with the bank.

W. A. Hammond is to be made the scapegoat of the failure of the National Bank of Illinois, said the friend. "He is a broken man to-day, but is not any more to blame for the amount of money loaned on Calumet securities than are members of the finance committee of the bank and its directors. It was necessary to their purposes for a man connected with the South Chicago City Railway and an officer of one of the best known banks of this city to depreciate the Calumet electric road's stocks, and to this end these two men brought about the wrecking of the Bank of Illinois. Of the bank's funds, \$2,435,000 had been loaned on Calumet securities. The plan was to depreciate Calumet stock, and then buy it; then to combine this valuable property, with sixty-three miles of new track, equipment and franchise, with the South Chicago railway, eventually combining with the Chicago City Railway and to make a fortune of millions within five or ten years."

Members of the finance committee and certain directors of the National Bank of Illinois have known the amount loaned on Calumet securities and have made individual fortunes on the success of the venture. Four years ago W. V. Jacobs, who started the Calumet road, borrowed \$115,000 and paid it up in full. After that the road passed into their hands, and a man was made on the securities with the full knowledge of the finance committee of the bank and by President Schneider himself. This loan was too large, but it had been supposed to be for a few weeks only, and the bank, finding itself in a hole, had to take the loss or go ahead."

Director Page, of the defunct National bank, went on to explain how the business of the bank as far as the directors were concerned was conducted. Said he: "The directors were not concerned among themselves what you might term for convenience sake an auditing committee. The plan was to let one director drop out each month, some other taking his place. Each day the committee would meet at the bank, the business being to pass upon the applications for loans. A record of these applications was kept in a book designed for the purpose. In this book was also kept, record of the collateral offered to effect the loan. When the committee was ready for business, President Schneider would come into the room, bringing with him this book, and another book, in which was recorded the debit balance on the would-be borrower, and also a record of how much he had previously borrowed."

The Post contains the following: "The loan was increased with the full knowledge of members of the finance committee, and the same was made known to the directors. Members of the finance committee and officers of the bank were given stock, and the purpose of the deal was to sell the roads, and besides paying the bank loan, make a good thing out of the directors."

"There has been a severe contest between the General Electric and South Chicago City railway to secure control of the bonds of the Calumet road, and the stocks which go with them, and it was thought that the road could finally be sold for something like \$3,000,000 or \$4,000,000. It was a brilliant idea for a man connected with the South Chicago City railway to wreck the bank, and the man who had been backing the Calumet road through the bank, he succeeded, and the probabilities are that the Calumet Electric will be sold to the South Chicago City railway man and his friends, the banker who lent his name to the scheme to make a good pot out of the deal for himself."

"The part the banker took in the matter was a safe one. He called the attention of the bank examiner to the fact that Calumet securities had disappeared somewhere, intimating that the National Bank of Illinois had a good share of them and probably had them all. The officers of the bank, finding out that the bank examiner was hot on their trail, began to push the transactions they had on foot for the sale of the road securities, and the clearing house became alarmed. Could the matter have been delayed thirty or sixty days, the Calumet Electric securities would not have been found among the bank assets. The sale would have been effected possibly at a loss to the bank, but without disturbance to the public or heavy loss to stockholders of the bank."

"But this course would not suit the purpose of persons trying to control the Calumet Electric road. Three years ago E. S. Dreyer alone owed the bank \$1,000,000, and for three years Mr. Hammond had been trying to reduce that. It was reduced one-half when the doors of the bank closed, and it was due to Vice-President Hammond that this was accomplished. One director in the bank, who had been talking a great deal since the condition of the concern became public, took \$12,000 out of the bank Saturday afternoon. There was no excuse for falsification of accounts, for the directors knew the amount of the Calumet loan. You can't cover up a \$1,000,000 loan in a bank where directors do their duty."

LONDON, Dec. 23.—The election trials have been postponed till January 18. The costs up to date amount to \$10,000.

TENDERS

Will be received for the purchase of the Hetherington Farm, being lot 107, on the official map of Comox, containing about 400 four hundred acres, more or less, about 110 one hundred and ten acres are under cultivation; the balance is in pasture, and orchard and rights are included. The land can be divided into two parcels of 100 and 300 acres or plan of the farm with proposed divisions into four parts can be seen at the office of Messrs. Cross & Co., 105 Water Street, Victoria, when applications will be received up to 30th December, 1896.

JOHN WILLIAMS, Trustees. ALEX. EQUHART.

WE CAN GIVE POSITIONS.—To persons of all grades of ability. Agents, Bookkeepers, Clerks, Farmers, Lawyers, Messengers, Physicians, Preachers, Students, Married and Single Women. Positions are worth from \$20.00 to \$2,000.00 per annum. We have paid several of our canvassers \$50.00 for their year. Many have started poor and become rich with us. Particulars upon application. State salary expected. J. H. LINDSCOTT, Manager, Toronto, Ont.

We Have Been Laying for You



SOME CUTS FOR CHRISTMAS BOXES. Bon Bons less than cost, we are clearing out. 200 boxes lap oranges, to arrive, way down in prices. Bring your own straw, we have Ontario sweet apple cider, no bung in the barrels. Those fat, soft plums reduced to 3 lbs. for 20c. Cleaned Currants reduced to 3 lbs. for 20c. French Imperial, in bottles, \$1.25. Port 50. Sherry 50. Navel Oranges 40. Raisins and Almonds, 75. Sultan Chests in jars, \$1.75. Dewar's Scotch, the best blend ever left the Land of Cakes. Morgan's Oysters, Luscious Bivalves.

Dixie H. Ross & Co., Government St.

JUST OPENED... The Meakin Hotel, AT TRAIL, B. C. The best appointed in the Kootenay Country, with all modern improvements. The choicest Wines, Liquors and Cigars. MRS. M. A. MEAKIN, Prop.

THE FACT REMAINS FOOTWEAR is the Most Comfortable, Stylish and Durable in the Market. OUR RUBBER GOODS Are just the thing for the dirty, sloppy weather, AND NO ONE SELLS THEM SO CHEAP. JIM MAYNARD'S 119 DOUGLAS STREET, OPPOSITE CITY HALL.

Our Christmas Prices. 35 PER CENT OFF FORMER RATES. 2-oz. Solid Silver Cased Waltham or Elgin Watches... \$7.00. 3-oz. Solid Silver Cased Waltham Watches... \$10.00. 3-oz. Solid Silver Cased P. S. Bartlett, 15 Jewels... \$12.50. 3-oz. Solid Silver Cased P. S. Bartlett, fine nickel movement... \$15.00. 3-oz. Solid Silver Cased Appleton, Tracer & Co... \$16.50. 3-oz. Solid Silver Cased Crescent, St. 17 Jewels... \$27.50. 3-oz. Solid Silver Cased Elgin, Watch Co., 17 Jewels... \$32.00. All stem-wind. The three last named are adjusted to climate and position, and warranted 20 years.

TO BRITISH COLUMBIANS. Our customers will see that prices with us are a clear come-down of 25 to 30 per cent. Any of the above goods will be sent on approval to would-be purchasers. Gold Chains, Pins, Brooches, Rings, Diamonds, Rubys, Emeralds, Sapphires, Opals, Pearls, Settings. Ladies' Solid Gold, 14-karat, Waltham or Elgin Watches, from \$25.00. Ladies' Gold Filled, with jewelled Waltham or Elgin Movement, from \$10.00. S. A. Stoddart WATCHMAKER AND JEWELLER, 65 Yates St. Victoria, B.C.

NOTICE. STOCK CERTIFICATES, STOCK LEDGERS, STOCK JOURNALS, MINERS' PAY SHEETS, MINERS' CASH ABSTRACTS, MINING REPORTS AND PLANS SEALS. THE COLONIST, VICTORIA. STATE ORE SAMPLING WORKS. A general Ore Market. Largest Works in Colorado. Modern Mills and Machinery at Denver, Idaho Springs and Black Hawk. Ore Sold on Competitive Bids. Write for our reference book. Address STATE ORE SAMPLING CO., Denver, Colo. Gold bullion bought.

THE COLONIST, VICTORIA. NOTICE. Lease of Timber Limits, QUEEN CHARLOTTE ISLAND. SEALED TENDERS will be received by the Honorable the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works up to 4 o'clock p.m. on Thursday, 21st January, 1897, from any person, partnership, or corporation, for permission to lease the under-mentioned lands for the purpose of cutting spars, timber or lumber, subject to the provisions of the Land Act, and amendments thereto, viz.: Lots 22, 33, 34 and 35, Queen Charlotte Island, containing in the aggregate 10,314 acres. The competitor offering the highest cash bonus will be entitled to a lease of the premises for a term of twenty-one years. Each tender must be accompanied by a certified bank cheque to cover the cost of survey, \$1,985.70, the first year's rental, \$1,547.10, and the amount of the bonus tendered. The cheques will be at once returned to unsuccessful competitors. W. S. GORE, Deputy Commissioner of Lands & Works, Lands and Works Department, Victoria, B.C., 23rd November, 1896. n25-1m

MEYER BROS., 87 Church Street, Toronto. NOTICE is hereby given that 60 days after date I will apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase the following described land, situate on Quashka Creek, Smith Inlet, commencing at the south-west corner of Lot 7, Range 2, Coast District; thence easterly along south boundary to the southeast corner of said lot; thence south 30 chains, more or less, to shore line; thence north and west along shore line to point of commencement, and containing 169 acres, more or less. H. BELL-IRVING, 1111-1112-1113-1114-1115-1116-1117-1118-1119-1200-1201-1202-1203-1204-1205-1206-1207-1208-1209-1210-1211-1212-1213-1214-1215-1216-1217-1218-1219-1220-1221-1222-1223-1224-1225-1226-1227-1228-1229-1230-1231-1232-1233-1234-1235-1236-1237-1238-1239-1240-1241-1242-1243-1244-1245-1246-1247-1248-1249-1250-1251-1252-1253-1254-1255-1256-1257-1258-1259-1260-1261-1262-1263-1264-1265-1266-1267-1268-1269-1270-1271-1272-1273-1274-1275-1276-1277-1278-1279-1280-1281-1282-1283-1284-1285-1286-1287-1288-1289-1290-1291-1292-1293-1294-1295-1296-1297-1298-1299-1300-1301-1302-1303-1304-1305-1306-1307-1308-1309-1310-1311-1312-1313-1314-1315-1316-1317-1318-1319-1320-1321-1322-1323-1324-1325-1326-1327-1328-1329-1330-1331-1332-1333-1334-1335-1336-1337-1338-1339-1340-1341-1342-1343-1344-1345-1346-1347-1348-1349-1350-1351-1352-1353-1354-1355-1356-1357-1358-1359-1360-1361-1362-1363-1364-1365-1366-1367-1368-1369-1370-1371-1372-1373-1374-1375-1376-1377-1378-1379-1380-1381-1382-1383-1384-1385-1386-1387-1388-1389-1390-1391-1392-1393-1394-1395-1396-1397-1398-1399-1400-1401-1402-1403-1404-1405-1406-1407-1408-1409-1410-1411-1412-1413-1414-1415-1416-1417-1418-1419-1420-1421-1422-1423-1424-1425-1426-1427-1428-1429-1430-1431-1432-1433-1434-1435-1436-1437-1438-1439-1440-1441-1442-1443-1444-1445-1446-1447-1448-1449-1450-1451-1452-1453-1454-1455-1456-1457-1458-1459-1460-1461-1462-1463-1464-1465-1466-1467-1468-1469-1470-1471-1472-1473-1474-1475-1476-1477-1478-1479-1480-1481-1482-1483-1484-1485-1486-1487-1488-1489-1490-1491-1492-1493-1494-1495-1496-1497-1498-1499-1500-1501-1502-1503-1504-1505-1506-1507-1508-1509-1510-1511-1512-1513-1514-1515-1516-1517-1518-1519-1520-1521-1522-1523-1524-1525-1526-1527-1528-1529-1530-1531-1532-1533-1534-1535-1536-1537-1538-1539-1540-1541-1542-1543-1544-1545-1546-1547-1548-1549-1550-1551-1552-1553-1554-1555-1556-1557-1558-1559-1560-1561-1562-1563-1564-1565-1566-1567-1568-1569-1570-1571-1572-1573-1574-1575-1576-1577-1578-1579-1580-1581-1582-1583-1584-1585-1586-1587-1588-1589-1590-1591-1592-1593-1594-1595-1596-1597-1598-1599-1600-1601-1602-1603-1604-1605-1606-1607-1608-1609-1610-1611-1612-1613-1614-1615-1616-1617-1618-1619-1620-1621-1622-1623-1624-1625-1626-1627-1628-1629-1630-1631-1632-1633-1634-1635-1636-1637-1638-1639-1640-1641-1642-1643-1644-1645-1646-1647-1648-1649-1650-1651-1652-1653-1654-1655-1656-1657-1658-1659-1660-1661-1662-1663-1664-1665-1666-1667-1668-1669-1670-1671-1672-1673-1674-1675-1676-1677-1678-1679-1680-1681-1682-1683-1684-1685-1686-1687-1688-1689-1690-1691-1692-1693-1694-1695-1696-1697-1698-1699-1700-1701-1702-1703-1704-1705-1706-1707-1708-1709-1710-1711-1712-1713-1714-1715-1716-1717-1718-1719-1720-1721-1722-1723-1724-1725-1726-1727-1728-1729-1730-1731-1732-1733-1734-1735-1736-1737-1738-1739-1740-1741-1742-1743-1744-1745-1746-1747-1748-1749-1750-1751-1752-1753-1754-1755-1756-1757-1758-1759-1760-1761-1762-1763-1764-1765-1766-1767-1768-1769-1770-1771-1772-1773-1774-1775-1776-1777-1778-1779-1780-1781-1782-1783-1784-1785-1786-1787-1788-1789-1790-1791-1792-1793-1794-1795-1796-1797-1798-1799-1800-1801-1802-1803-1804-1805-1806-1807-1808-1809-1810-1811-1812-1813-1814-1815-1816-1817-1818-1819-1820-1821-1822-1823-1824-1825-1826-1827-1828-1829-1830-1831-1832-1833-1834-1835-1836-1837-1838-1839-1840-1841-1842-1843-1844-1845-1846-1847-1848-1849-1850-1851-1852-1853-1854-1855-1856-1857-1858-1859-1860-1861-1862-1863-1864-1865-1866-1867-186

THE CITY.

The large Christmas cake raffled by Messrs. Kepper & Botsford Thursday evening was won by Miss Stella Wilson with ticket No. 46.

A DESERTING bandsman from the flagship was arrested yesterday by Provincial Constable Beaven and handed over to the naval authorities.

A MEETING of the electors of South Victoria is to be held at the Cedar Hill schoolhouse on Tuesday evening for the further consideration, besides other matters, of the petition to the government for a reduction of assessments.

PETITIONS are being circulated for signature by those approving Mr. Sorby's harbor improvement project. The petitions when signed will be sent to Ottawa, asking the Minister of Public Works to give the scheme his favorable consideration.

THE funeral of the late Mrs. Clunes took place yesterday from the family residence on Johnson street. Rev. Dr. Campbell officiating at church and cemetery. The pallbearers were Messrs. H. Smithurst, H. Hornbrook, T. Farrell, W. Johnston, C. Hughes and W. Stoddart.

ALL that was mortal of the late Mrs. W. J. Deasy was laid at rest in Ross Bay cemetery yesterday morning. Rev. Father Nicholas officiated at the funeral services, and those who acted as pallbearers were Messrs. D. Henry, D. McDonald, W. P. Smith, Thos. Kinsey, James Hay and Charles Bush.

The second Victoria company of the Boys' Brigade will give a concert in their hall on Kingston street Tuesday evening, for which an excellent programme has been provided, the principal items being drill by the boys, a farce and instrumental music. The Central Presbyterian Sunday school's annual Christmas treat will also be held the same evening.

THERE was a fair attendance at the Y. M. C. A. concert last evening, the programme furnished being as follows: Solo, Mr. Rowlands; solo, Miss Dora Wolf; solo, Mr. Epper; solo, Miss Penketh; club singing exhibition, Miss Emma Wolf; recitation, Miss Nicholls; vocal solo, Mr. Wheeler; reading, Mr. Jackson; solo, Mrs. Rowlands, and solo, Mr. Rowlands.

"THE NEWPORT," one of Yates street's fashionable lodging houses, was the scene of a small fire last evening, with the loss of a good carpet as a result. The cause of the blaze was the careless handling of phosphorus, but thanks to the presence of mind and energetic action of Mr. Frank Sherborne it was extinguished without the calling out of the fire department being necessitated.

THE fifty-eight children of the British Columbia Protestant Orphanage will have their usual activities, including a mammoth Christmas tree and a real live Santa Claus, on Thursday afternoon next at the Home, Hildebrand avenue. Donations will be thankfully received, and if at R. Porter & Sons' stores will be delivered free of charge. The ladies' committee will be pleased to welcome all the friends of the institution.

Every boy and girl belonging to St. John's Sabbath school is looking forward to their Christmas entertainment on Tuesday evening with anticipations decidedly pleasant. Elaborate preparations are being made for the event, and as everyone who attended is promised a brick—one of the many that will go to make up Santa Claus' chimney—containing something in the shape of a present, there should be very many in attendance. The programme is to be presented under Mrs. Beaven, and will conclude with the amusing little farce "Granny Cringle's Christmas."

THE Onward case was taken up by the Behring Sea Claims Commission yesterday. This schooner was the third of the British vessels taken in 1886, the United States cutter, the patrol vessel, on August 2. The Onward was built in California in 1871, and was registered afterwards as a British vessel in 1878. Several witnesses were called as to the vessel's value. It is stated that in 1886 she would have been worth between \$4,000 and \$5,000. Orlando Watson agreed with this opinion, and Alexander Watson gave \$4,325 as the vessel's value. Walter Wilson valued the schooner at \$4,000, and Samuel Sea at \$5,500. Charles Spring, who fitted out the Onward for her Behring sea cruise in 1886, testified to this fact. He gave the cost of provisioning the Indians at \$5 a month, and stated that if the schooner had not been seized she would have remained in Behring sea until September in 1886, as he had given the captain directions to that effect before she sailed. The cross-examination of the witness by the counsel of the United States was reserved, and after Hon. Mr. Peters had put in the inventory taken by the United States officials after the seizure, and extracts from the Onward's log, the commission adjourned till tomorrow.

THE Sandon Paystreak, in its issue of the 19th inst., has the following in reference to the bonding of the Victoria claim, of which D. G. McMartin, a former Victorian, is one of the owners: "Yesterday the negotiations for the bonding of the Victoria and Elvira, that have been pending for some time, were brought to a conclusion and the property bonded for \$25,000 to Thomas Clarke, who is representing English capital. The payments cover a period of nine months and are as follows: \$5,000, \$7,000 and \$13,000, at intervals of every three months. This being two-thirds of the sum, D. G. McMartin and B. M. Walton, is situated only a short distance above Sandon and is a very valuable proposition indeed, both for the value of the ore that has been exposed to view in the recent developing operations, and on account of its proximity to the railroad, which places the cost of transportation at the very lowest figure. It will be energetically worked this winter a force of six men having been engaged to go to work immediately, besides, the contract for 250 feet of tunnelling will be let in the course of a few days. D. G. McMartin, to whose energy the closing of the deal is to be attributed, will take the management of the property and he intends to do everything in his power which will tend towards the placing of another shipper at our very doors."

HAMILTON, Dec. 24.—Thomas Hall, a miner, attempted to commit suicide by taking laudanum.

BRANTFORD, Dec. 24.—Ira Vanderlip, of Langford, was found dead yesterday.

QUEBEC, Dec. 24.—August Gavel, of St. Antoine, Baie Ste Paul, has been frozen to death.

TO PLAY SAN FRANCISCO.

A Chess Match Over the Wires Arranged for New Year's Day—Football of Yesterday.

An international chess match has been arranged to take place on New Year's between the San Francisco Mechanics' Institute Chess Club and the Victoria Chess Club. This match is for the purpose of deciding the tournament held by telegraph last season, in which San Francisco and Victoria won one game each, leaving the match a tie. Mr. Piper will be in charge at the Victoria end, and an interesting game may be looked for. The Canadian Pacific Railway Co.'s telegraph and the Pacific Postal Telegraph Cable Co. will give the free use of their wires for the occasion and a direct wire will be run into the Dryard, where the match will take place. This match is the result of a challenge sent from Victoria, the reply coming yesterday to Mr. William Christie, local manager of the C.P.R. Telegraphs, as follows:

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26. "The Mechanics' Institute class room will have a table ready January 1 at 7 p.m. The Examiner will appoint a timekeeper." (Sd.) JOSEPH MCCUMMIN, Secretary.

RUGBY FOOTBALL.

THE Rugby match played at the Canteen grounds yesterday afternoon between the V.R.F.C. and the navy turned out a victory for the club after a decidedly rough game, which will leave several of the players feeling rather sore to enjoy their holiday season. Scholefield, of the Victorias, had a couple of sinews in his arm injured, and Miller is enviously looking at Scholefield's swing and wishing he could carry his swollen leg around as easily. One of the Navy men is reported to have a broken collar bone, but the city men can gaze back with satisfaction on the bloody field and proudly remember they did up the salt water men by eleven points to a duck's egg.

JUNIOR WANDERERS DISAPPOINT.

The Wanderers failed to "show-up" at Beacon Hill yesterday afternoon to play out their engagement with the Y.M.C.A.'s, so the Columbians played in their place, the result being a draw, 2 to 2, after a very close game. Both teams were in excellent trim, the Columbians showing great improvement from their last match.

The match at the Canteen grounds Thursday between the Navy and the Nondescripts resulted in a win for the Navy by one point. The ground was very muddy, but good plays were frequently made on both sides. In the first half the Navy failed to score, while Goward and Foulkes each scored a try for the visitors, the first being converted. After half time the Navy forwards brought the ball to the visitor's quarters, and so irresistible were their rushes that they quickly placed three tries to their credit.

GOLF.

MONTHLY MEDAL HANDICAP.

The monthly medal handicap events of the Victoria Golf club were played yesterday on the Oak Bay links, the weather being delightful for the games, and the meeting being large, and the games well contested. In the B class events Mr. G. V. Cuppage scored highest, his record standing thus, 111.7-104. In the A series Mr. Harvey Combe went to the front with a score of 88.2-86. Mrs. Combe came next in the order of medal winners of the day, following the lady handicap with a score of 67.

HOCKEY.

MONTREAL, Dec. 26.—(Special)—Yesterday the Victoria hockey team left on their journey to Winnipeg to do battle for the Stanley cup. The members of the team are in perfect condition, and while confident of victory, do not underestimate their Winnipeg opponents. The team will be as follows: Goal, Gordon Lewis; point, H. Henderson; cover point, M. Grant; forwards, Shirley Davidson, Ed. Macdonald, Graham Drinkwater. President Edward Wilson and Secretary Paul de Sternick accompany the team to Winnipeg.

FIFTH REGIMENT NEWS.

The Band Benefit on Tuesday—A Camp of Instruction to Be Formed Next Year.

The public have a chance to enjoy themselves and to swell the Fifth Regiment fund by attending the general Webbing Sisters' entertainment at the drill hall on Tuesday evening. A stage has been erected and seats will be arranged for 1,000 people, the admission being 25 cents to the party of the hall. Besides the clever Webbing Sisters, Bandsman A. P. Freimuth will make his debut as a violin soloist, and the ever popular regiment band will be heard in new popular and classic music, "Rigoleto" and the Introduction and Grand Chorus from Wagner's "Lohengrin." The concert is under the patronage of the Lieut.-Governor.

The champion field gun detachment of No. 1 Company, Fifth Regiment, have been photographed for the purpose of sending the picture and the record to the Navy and Army authorities.

It is understood that arrangements will soon be completed for the employment of a qualified instructor in the Drill hall gymnasium. The new commanding officer and the adjutant are giving things a general overhauling in connection with the interior of the First Battalion. Big gun practice is one of the probabilities for the year 1897; a 64-pounder being mounted at Finlayson Point.

It is the intention to mobilize the entire Fifth Regiment during the approaching season, so that all hands may have the benefit of a course under Lieut. Colonel Rawlstone, R.M.A. and his staff of instructors. Recaulay Point is the proposed camping ground.

THE J. B. A. weekly whist tournament will take place on Wednesday evening next, and not on Thursday, on account of the latter being New Year's eve.

BRANTFORD, Dec. 24.—Thomas Hall, a miner, attempted to commit suicide by taking laudanum.

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DETERMINED TO DIE.

Poison and the Knife Resorted to by a Despondent Visitor to the City.

His Name and Circumstances Unknown, and Likely so to Remain.

There is an element of mystery at the present time unsolvable in connection with the tragic death of a staid-looking German who was a passenger to this city from San Francisco by the last direct steamer, and whose funeral takes place to-day. "Louis Ila" was the name under which he registered, in handwriting unmistakably that of an educated man, and "San Francisco" appears on the hotel book as his place of residence. Whether or not the name and address are genuine is, however, matter of mere conjecture; the question of who the stranger was and whence he came forms part of the mystery, as inexplicable at present as the reasons that prompted the deed of death.

It is, that by the name of the unfortunate, attracted the attention of his fellow-passengers on the Walla Walla during the journey north, by his very apparent melancholy. He discovered his affair with no one, although several endeavored to cheer him up by engaging him in conversation—and so far as known mentioned his name to none. Thomas Randall, who perhaps saw more of him than anyone else on the voyage, gathered that he was on his way to Spokane, and that he had had more than his share of trouble and ill health of late.

He went to the same hotel on reaching here, but once taking up his quarters in Victoria saw little of either. On Christmas day the hotel porter became somewhat alarmed, as the taciturn German guest had not left his room for several days. He went to his door and looked through the transom, after knocking repeatedly at the door, and to his horror discovered the dead body of the visitor. It was in a standing posture, the hands were upon the breast, and a large clasp knife being held in the left hand. Everything about was saturated with blood, for the knife had been drawn across the throat in a hideous zig-zag fashion, which meant almost immediate and horrible death. It was evident, however, the suicide had determined to make assurance doubly sure, for an emptied laudanum bottle was standing close at hand, and subsequent investigation showed that before using the knife the man had taken an excessive dose of the poison.

The police were, of course, notified at once, and a coroner's inquest was held yesterday. The officers made a careful examination of every scrap of clothing in the value or on the person of the unfortunate. They found, however, no single scrap of paper that would give a clue to his identity. The laudanum bottle was examined, and the analysis of Brooker of Red Bluff, C. P., of medicine and measuring glass in the value indicated that the poor fellow had been "doctoring" for some time. The analysis of Constable Anderson told the finding of the body and how long it had been discovered in the property of the suicide; and Dr. Redmond described the manner of his death. The jury returned a verdict of suicide, in accordance with the meagre facts available.

It is, that by his name, was a well-built, thick set man, of between 40 and 50 years; 5 feet 7 inches tall, and quietly but well dressed. He had lost two joints of the index finger of the right hand, and several reddish tattoo marks on the forearm may also serve as a clue to the esoteric of his identity. To the casual observer he was a well-to-do man, a respectable, fairly well-to-do mechanic, unmistakably German, and of perhaps more education than the majority of his station in life.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

Election of Officers and Christmas Entertainment.

At the last regular meeting of Loyal Daughters Lodge, C.O.O.F., degrees were conferred, one by membership received, and the following were elected for the ensuing term: Noble grand, A. Neal; vice-grand, H. Waterman; corresponding secretary, Hansen Churton; Vice-master, James B. Regan; lecture master, Samuel Fulk; conductor, Walter Noble; treasurer, T. Pearce; warden, Samuel Fulk; and representatives to Grand Lodge, I. T. Pearce and James B. Regan. The officers were installed by D.D.G.M. J. Walsh, in a very impressive manner, he giving the officers some very good advice in the hope they should conduct their respective duties.

The Ladies of Hope lodge No. 1, Degree of Honor, hold their "Farewell to Leap Year" social dance on New Year's Eve, in the A.O.U.W. hall. "Leap year" rules will be enforced by the committee until midnight, when an excellent supper will be provided by those in charge.

At the regular meeting on Monday evening last, Victoria Lodge, No. 83, of the Daughters of St. George, the following officers were installed for the ensuing term by the Worthy District Deputy, Mrs. G. Penketh: W. President, Mrs. Churton; Vice-president, Mrs. T. Bradburn; Chaplain, Mrs. Brakes; Financial Secretary, Mrs. Mulcahy; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Nun; Treasurer, Mrs. Greenhalgh, and First Conductor, Mrs. Pearce.

The election of officers for the ensuing term will take place at the next regular meeting of Seghers Council, No. 85, Y. M. I., tomorrow evening. The Council will hold the sixth of their whist parties next Wednesday evening in their hall on View street.

The Daughters of England have arranged to give another social and dance in the A.O.U.W. hall on January 1. The best local talent has been engaged and Hon. Col. Prior has consented to act as chairman. The Wolf orchestra will be in attendance.

The Companies of the Forest, ever on the alert for something new and attractive, promise that the Surprise ball tomorrow evening will eclipse any former effort. The secret of the surprise still

remains carefully guarded by the committee, but it will be all the more pleasant. A pretty soiree will be received by every guest and a nice luncheon will be spread. The hall will be decorated for the occasion, and a great source of pleasure will be the music of a carefully arranged programme by Wolff's orchestra of seven instruments. The committee, composed of Companions Miss Sinclair, Mrs. Trace, Mrs. Dudgeon, Mrs. Hawk and Mrs. Lang, assisted by Mr. Trace, Mr. Snider and Mr. Rennie, all well known workers in the society, are leaving nothing undone to make the affair most pleasant to all who attend; and everyone will be sure of an enjoyable evening.

BRAVERY REWARDED.

Two Young Victorians Presented With the Royal Canadian Humane Association Medals.

A Large Gathering at the Drill Hall Cheer the Gallant Lads.

Robert McLean and William Laing, the two young men who so gallantly saved the lives of three people from drowning a year ago, were presented last night with the medals of the Canadian Royal Humane Association. The ceremony took place amid the plaudits of a large crowd of people, at the Drill hall, at the Fifth Regiment band concert.

Lieutenant-Governor Dewdney, who made the presentation, was accompanied on the platform by Mrs. Dewdney, Hon. Col. Baker, Miss Allison, Lieut.-Col. Gregory and Mr. Herbert Kent, acting for the association.

The two young men who were to receive the medals stood modestly in the background, while the Lieutenant-Governor briefly told the story of the medals. His honor was, he said, glad of the opportunity of presenting to the two young Canadians, born in British Columbia, the medals, which had been won by their bravery and pluck at the risk of their own lives in saving three of their fellow-citizens from drowning. He thanked Lieut.-Col. Gregory for allowing the medals to be presented on this occasion, as the Canadian Royal Humane Association were most anxious to have the presentation made as publicly as possible. The association, he might, perhaps, say, as it is not yet well known to many out here, is a young one, only formed in the spring of 1894. It was first called the Canadian Humane Society, but was afterwards allowed by Her Majesty to include the word "Royal." The president was Mr. Adam Brown, of Toronto, who was noted for his humane feelings and views. Many of these present knew him well. Some assistance had been given the association by the Dominion government and the Ontario government, and he wished to make these remarks now for the purpose of applying for a small grant would be made at the next session of the legislature. The association had already presented medals and he would add that its officers are honorable. The medals which he had now the pleasure of presenting were special ones given by two ladies of Ottawa, Mrs. J. Billings and Lady Grant, in recognition of a special occasion.

The governors of the association had considered several cases, and from the information they had received determined to present them to Messrs. McLean and Laing. His honor briefly referred to the circumstances which had led to the brave young fellows their medals. It was on the afternoon of November 10, 1895, that two men and two boys started in a small sailboat from the outer wharf, which had gained the attention of the officers on duty. The boat was strong breeze sprung up and in endeavoring to put about the boat was capsized, throwing the occupants into the water. Three managed with difficulty to get to the bottom of the boat and the fourth was drowned. Seeing the accident from shore and, heedless of the high wind and rough sea, McLean and Laing rushed to a boat house, broke it open, secured a boat and, at the risk of their lives, set off to the rescue, and succeeded in saving the three people who but for them would have perished.

William Laing was then called forward amid the cheers and applause of the crowd, and presented with his medal. In handing it to Mr. Laing the Lieut.-Governor said he had great pleasure in presenting on behalf of the Humane Society the special medal given as a reward for extra courage and daring in the rescue. Further meetings with the endeavor to save the life of fellow men. Robert McLean was presented with his medal in somewhat the same words, the crowd cheering him as lustily as his companion. These rousing cheers brought the interesting little ceremony to a close.

The medals are of silver, the obverse featuring a crown, with the words "Royal Canadian Humane Society" surrounding it, the reverse bearing the inscription of the act for which the medal was presented. McLean's medal was the one given by Lady Grant, Laing getting the one Mrs. Billings contributed.

PROPOSED NEW STEAMERS.

Within sixty days Victoria's fleet of tug-boats will be increased by the addition of a little new steamer which will be up to date in its every appointment. The contract for its building has been awarded to the Albion Iron Works, and construction will be immediately commenced. The owners will be the British Columbia Cable Company, representing by Findlay, Durium & Brown, the city, who will employ the vessel in tending to the cable have 13-foot beam. Her engines are being compounded, 7½ x 14, with a 12-inch stroke.

MARINE NOTES.

Plans are being prepared, it is said, for a new steamer to be built here in the near future. The vessel will be larger than anything yet turned out of a Victoria shipyard.

The latest charter reported by the Shipping Guide is that of the American barkentine Addenda, at Astoria, from Chemainus to the Government steamer Quadra will go out of commission for the winter months. Her crew are now engaged re-pointing some buoys.

Barks Chehalis and Harvard, the last received arrivals in the Royal Roads, received charters to load grain on the Sound.

IN THE FATHERLAND.

Christmas Celebrated by the Army—Allegiance Again Pledged to the Kaiser.

New Artillery Arm—Political Libels—Dockers' Strike—Comments of the Emperor.

BERLIN, Dec. 26.—Christmas eve, which is the principal festival of Christmas in Germany, was celebrated in the usual quiet manner. There were Christmas trees not only in every family but in the hospitals, public institutions, asylums, prisons, soup kitchens, casualty wards and barracks. Snow fell and made the streets indescribably filthy. Business has been remarkably good and a thorough festal mood was manifested, with an absence of the note of uneasiness and dissatisfaction usually present in the press.

At the new palace of Potsdam the festivities began with the Emperor and children presenting gifts to the servants. The Christmas trees for the court were lighted up at 5 o'clock in the beautiful hall of shells. At one end of the hall stood the Empress at a table, whereon were many works of art, and near by was the Emperor's table, on which were presents, including a tall carved clock from the Grand Duchesse of Baden, a goblet and wine jug of very finely carved silver. The children's tables, standing at the other end of the hall, had over them their trees, the smallest for the Princess Victoria and then each a little higher were tables and trees for each of the Imperial children up to the Crown Prince, who had the highest. The tables were crowded with playthings, books and useful presents. The Emperor was somewhat serious in his demeanor, but the Empress was in good spirits and the children were full of delight.

In the barracks everything was as stir. After religious service the officers entered, the men sang in chorus and each soldier received a present. In some regiments they were allowed to choose pipes, clothing, writing desks, purses, etc., and each man also received a basin of "goodies" and some cigars from his commander. In each barracks the commander spoke as follows to the soldiers: "The soldier shall also know that Christmas is a festival of love. What you had at home with your parents you have also with the troops. In the face of these brightly burning candles and gifts of love, remember each of you his oath which he swore to his Emperor and each renew this oath to be an obedient, zealous soldier, upon whom the commander-in-chief can fully rely."

The announcement in the French press that the Conseil Supérieur had decided to reorganize the French artillery has caused considerable sensation here, and if the news is true Germany will proceed to substitute for the present field artillery a gun equal, if not better, than the new French arm, which is recognized in Germany as being far superior to the present German weapon, in range, quickness of fire and general efficiency. The sum of 200,000,000 marks will be required for this re-organization of the German army, which it is intended should be accomplished by 1899. If France re-arms, Germany, it is stated, will do so at once.

In spite of the Christmas truce, the political controversy and social bickering arising out of the Von Tausch trial is still the center of interest. The preliminary enquiry into the conduct of the former commissioner of detectives, charged with libel and fourfold perjury, is assuming considerable dimensions. Lieut. von Bruzowitz, (the lieutenant who killed a peaceful pleading mechanic for accidentally knocking against his chair in a cafe) been forgotten, particularly in view of another case of military brutality reported from Starobog, in Poland, in which an officer who, according to his own account, was attacked by street urchins, drew his sword and chased the children. One of them stumbled and fell and was hacked to death by the officer. The boy in question is now suffering from concussion of the brain and severe scalp wounds. The affair is causing the liveliest indignation.

References to the dockers' strike at Hamburg occupy a prominent place in the reports of the press. Strike meetings were held at Hamburg yesterday, and the Socialist deputies, Molkenburg and Sereno, urged the men to continue the fight. Further meetings with the same object in view, were held to-day. The dispute seems to be taking a turn less favorable to the employers than appeared likely a week ago. In view of the holiday, a number of workmen have taken the strikers' places here and Hamburg, and it is now said they will not return. In consequence, some of the employers are trying to come to terms with their own men.

Considerable irritation continues everywhere at the utterances attributed to the Emperor in regard to the strike. His Majesty is credited with having expressed, at Prince Hohenlohe's banquet, his pleasure at the attitude of the Hamburg employers, in "staunchly resisting the unjust demands" of the dockers, and to have dwelt at length upon the idea of founding a coalition of employers, adding that "such a step upon the part of employers would be a blessing for the seduced workmen and enable them to resist the incitement of hatred within the world of labor." It is probable now, however, that some agreement between the employers and strikers will be reached within the next few days.

The Times Paris correspondent says: "The Washington government has been confidentially informed, although in very friendly terms, that the European powers would not remain passive should the United States recognize the Cuban insurgents. Intimation is further given that Spain is quite ready, even now, to take Spain's side should the United States show a disposition officially to side with the rebels."

Advices from Lorenzo Marques, Portuguese East Africa, announce that a Portuguese warship there has saluted with twenty-one guns the German war vessel Condor, which replied in kind. In addition the district governor called

Act on the Liver and the Kidneys—

MACK'S PILLS

For that Rheumatism of Yours.



NOTICE.

Assessment Act.

Notice is hereby given that the Court of Revision and Appeal will sit as follows: For the Electoral Districts of Victoria City and Canada:—At 46 Langley street, in the City of Victoria, on Monday the 29th inst., at 11 o'clock a.m. For that portion of North Victoria Electoral District known as North Saanich:—On Saturday the 12th day of December, 1896, at the Sidney Hotel, Sidney, at 12 o'clock noon. For the Electoral District of Esquimalt:—On Friday the 18th day of December, 1896, at Henry Price's Parson's Bridge, at 11 o'clock a.m. For that portion of the Electoral Districts of Comox and Quadra Land Districts:—At Esquimalt, at 11 o'clock a.m. For that portion of the Electoral Districts of Esquimalt and Barclay and Claydon Electoral Districts:—At Langley street, Victoria, on Tuesday, the 22nd day of December, 1896, at 11 o'clock a.m. Dated at Victoria, this 24th day of November, 1896. J. PERRY MILLS, Judge of the Court of Revision and Appeal. del-3rd&w

Christmas

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upon the German consulate and offered apologies for the recent attack made upon the German consulate.

The Prussian government is systematically repressing the agitation in the Polish province. The archbishops and bishops have been notified that unless they stop the propaganda they will lower Polish clergy, and among the members of the Society of Sokil at Benthien, and President Dombarek were arrested. All the Polish Sokils are closely watched.

NEWS OF THE DOMINION.

Special to the Colonist.

WALKERTON, Dec. 26.—F. C. Messner, a private banker here, whose solvency has never been suspected, has assigned. The liabilities are believed to be \$80,000, and assets \$40,000.

COBourg, Dec. 26.—Richard Horne, one of the oldest residents, is dead, aged 87.

QUEBEC, Dec. 26.—A mandement, signed by five bishops, forbidding the faithful from reading L'Electeur, will be read in all the Catholic churches tomorrow.

OTTAWA, Dec. 26.—Before the tariff commission on Monday and Tuesday, the 4th and 5th of January, some of the leading lumbermen will be examined.

QUEBEC, Dec. 25.—The death is announced of Lorette of Grand Chief Bastien, of the Huron Indian tribe. The deceased has been ill for some time and was aged 76.

A TOTAL FAILURE.

St. John's, Nfld., Dec. 26.—An official report to the government says that the herring fishery at Fortune bay, mainly undertaken by American vessels is a total failure, and that thousands of people along the harbours in the vicinity of Fortune bay are usually caught where the herring are in abundance. It is estimated that about 4,000 people are seriously affected and that most of the number will become a burden upon the colony.

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A VISTA OF FASHION.

WARMER WRAPS AND SUBSTANTIAL GOWNS FOR AUTUMN.

Capes, Short Coats, Long Coats and Ulsters Are All in Evidence—Covert Coatings and Fine Faced Cloths Popular For Wraps—Coat and Skirt Costumes.

The first touch of autumn is upon us, and it is high time to be thinking about warm wraps and other substantial garments of cloth, tweed and serge. The early importations make it apparent that covert coatings and fine faced cloths in many shades of tan, green and blue are employed in the making of fall wraps. Capes are again in evidence. The dressier ones are of velvet, satin or fine cloth, sumptuously trimmed, while those of the tailor made type are fashioned with severe simplicity from thick covert coating, tweed or all wool frieze. Long coats and ulsters are included among autumn wraps, and there is authority for the statement that ulsters will be much worn. An ulster made in dark green cloth is close fitting and with high collar. Braiding and frogs furnished the garniture. Long coats already in the shops have strapped seams and come in tans and dark blues and greens.



Autumn Capes. A stylish cape in green velvet attracts attention from its novel trimming. A festoon of Russian sable extends from shoulder to shoulder, terminating in loose tails that fall over the top of the arm, and the exceedingly high collar is of the same fur. Another pleasing model in dark green satin has fronts and side panels of cream velvet closely but lightly embroidered with gold, while curled ostrich tips form the neck ruche and adorn the front. A third model is a smart and serviceable wrap of thick fawn beaver cloth strapped right round and down each seam and having a straight, double breasted front, with big horn buttons. The cozy collar is of skunk fur.

New coats, with cape sleeves, are not only graceful, but wearable over any dress sleeve. These wing or cape sleeves are also exceedingly becoming and afford a dressier effect than the ordinary coat sleeve. Sack coats are also in favor. So are the close fitting double breasted coats.

Coat and skirt costumes are as popular as ever and show this season in some instances high flaring collars. Braiding is a feature on some of these costumes. Dress skirts are narrow around the bottom, with much fullness at the waist in the back. Sleeves are not so tight as was predicted and are out in a variety of styles.

There is an attempt to popularize tartan material. At present the darker tartans are chosen and are only used in small quantities as vests and underbodices to cloth dresses, except in the case of some new traveling cloaks which are made entirely of tartan and are decidedly effective. The tartan coloring is also being brought out in a new autumn material, with rough curled surface, which just shows the plaid ground of the fabric in rather a pretty manner. There are also some effective new bengalines with a very much raised rib set very close together just showing the groundwork, which appears to be woven with a metallic stripe. Bengalines of a like description are also made to show a bright color such as sapphire blue, green or mauve between the ribs. Basket cloths are employed in the making of tailor gowns. So are the chevrons and Scotch tweeds.



Coats with Cape Sleeves. Coats are chosen and are only used in small quantities as vests and underbodices to cloth dresses, except in the case of some new traveling cloaks which are made entirely of tartan and are decidedly effective. The tartan coloring is also being brought out in a new autumn material, with rough curled surface, which just shows the plaid ground of the fabric in rather a pretty manner. There are also some effective new bengalines with a very much raised rib set very close together just showing the groundwork, which appears to be woven with a metallic stripe. Bengalines of a like description are also made to show a bright color such as sapphire blue, green or mauve between the ribs. Basket cloths are employed in the making of tailor gowns. So are the chevrons and Scotch tweeds.

Ripe Tomato Preserves. Take 7 pounds of yellow tomatoes, peeled, 7 pounds of sugar and juice of 3 lemons. Let stand overnight. Next morning drain off sirup and boil it, skimming well. Put in the tomatoes and boil them gently 20 minutes. Take out the fruit in a perforated skimmer and spread upon dishes. Boil the sirup down until it thickens, adding, just before taking it up the juice of 3 lemons. Put into jars and fill up with hot sirup. When cold, seal or tie up.

When Selecting a Carpet. Be sure and take a carpet the colors of which harmonize with the wall paper and hangings. A large or decided pattern will make a room appear smaller. Do not select too dark a carpet, as it is much harder to keep clean and shows wear much sooner than a lighter one.

VARIOUS NOTES.

New Materials, Gloves, Dress Bonnets, Household Linen, Etc.

There is a new material for winter capes which looks exactly like suede in grain and finish. This comes in all the usual colors—gray, beige, tan, mastic and the like. The capes made of this skin are lined with white kid or chamolia. The fashion is likely to be a fugitive and exclusive one, as the skin is easily soiled and expensive.

Gloves of white, cream or ivory kid are still preferred to the darker ones, which are nevertheless more serviceable and more becoming. For a dress bonnet for half mourning a small frame covered with steel and jet and trimmed with black ostrich tips and mauve flowers is permissible. All household linen is much better hemmed by hand than by machine. It takes longer, but looks infinitely daintier and more refined. Napkins and tablecloths are best hemmed with a German hem, as it is called—that is, a hem which is made by folding the goods back where it meets the turned down fold of the hem and sewing the two together overhand instead of hem-



Bookwood and Japanese Pieces. These dear ladies can see little beauty in a bouquet limited to but one or two varieties of flowers. With respectful obedience to the shade of a certain great aunt—a maiden lady with a tangled garden, but prim bouquets in her parlor—I confess that on occasions I do love to arrange an old time nosegay—principally roses of every color that in the garden grow—and I put it in an old china bowl.

And then, sometimes on the polished top of an ancient "chist," I do love to see the reflection of a conventionally arranged mass of snowballs, lilacs, bleeding hearts, feathery "sparrow grass" and half yard lengths of ribbon grass. There are some flowers that appear at their best intermingled with other varieties, notably our wild flowers, while most fruit blossoms and that "pet-of-fashion and queen of blossoms," the chrysanthemum, one of the "eight princes in the floral kingdom of Nippon," should be given a vase or a bowl by itself.

Let each maid within the garden live to her own light, yet allow me to obtrude certain simple arrangements that have proved satisfactory to a lover of bouquet making in the land of sunshine and flowers, southern California. As clear glass detracts not at all from the beauty of fine flowers, I usually put my finest roses in unadorned, clear glass vases, in which also hyacinths and carnations look well, although for the hyacinths the water must be changed frequently. Heliotrope discolors the water. A mass of this delightful bloom is most effective in a plain brown jar, arranged sometimes with pink Dubouché or with Marechal Niel roses. A Chinese ginger jar, unstripped of its wicker net, makes a quaint receptacle for wild flowers, for daisies, and for red roses.

Pink roses are especially pretty in an old blue and white "chiny" pitcher or bowl. Marechal Niel and the other yellow roses are lovely in dark brown pottery; red roses in the same, and also in dull blue vases. As stiff flowers are best in vases with straight lines, lilies require vase, long necked vases. Shal-



Juvenile Fashions. Suggestions as to Styles and Materials For Plain and Party Dresses. The fashions for small and large girls always follow those of maturity to a certain extent. The trimmings as well as the general form of grown up modes are imitated, and the sleeves are often identical with those worn by women, but the materials and adornments are not so rich, even in the most extravagant cases. The sleeve now worn by little girls whose mamma's like to make them the glass of fashion and the model form is exactly similar to those mamma's own sleeves—that is, it fits the arm closely up to the shoulder, where there is some sort of decoration to give a broad effect. Ruffles or platings forming a draping epaulet, buttery drapery held in the middle by a strap or a button or a very large bow, so large as to make the trimming unnecessary, is the prevailing style. In velvet the bow is particularly liked, now

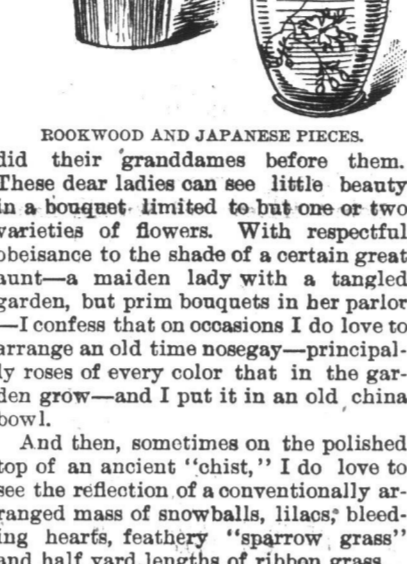
that velvet is becoming fashionable as a trimming material, for it then matches the collar, belt, revers or plastron. Very soft silks, washable, china and surah, are employed for the frocks of little girls from 4 to 6 years old. After the latter age wool goods and cloth are used, wool being in high favor now, and all sorts of out of door and visiting costumes for children are composed of these materials. For party dresses white or very light silks are employed and are trimmed with ruffles and platings of gauze or large collars or revers of embroidery, lace or gullure. Robes of all over embroidery over silk are also much liked. Costumes composed entirely of velvet are worn by children of all ages, chestnut, brown, beaver, green, dark blue and black being preferred. Many mothers like velvet better than velvet for children, considering velvet too old and too rich a material. Velvet is the same general effect, wears better and is more suitable because simpler. Sketches are given of two very pretty new sleeves. The first, which is intended for a dinner gown, is of mauve and white tulle and fits the arm closely. At the wrist it flares very much, forming two large points edged with platted silk gauze of a pale mauve color. The very full epaulet consists of two platings of pale mauve silk gauze. The second is of gray and gold brocade silk. The drapery at the top is lined with white satin and forms oscillate at the inside of the arm. The medieval wrist is finished by two fans of old point lace.

FLOWERS AND VASES.

REMARKS BY ONE WHO ENJOYS MAKING BOUQUETS.

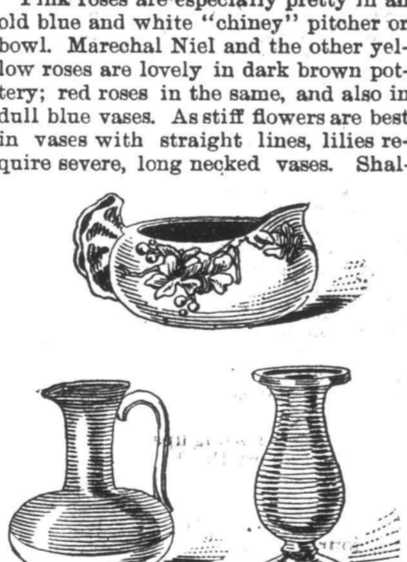
The Arrangement of Flowers—An Old Time Nosegay In a "Chist"—What to Do With Chrysanthemums—How Heliotrope Is Most Effective.

Let each maid within the garden live to her own light, yet allow me to obtrude certain simple arrangements that have proved satisfactory to a lover of bouquet making in the land of sunshine and flowers, southern California. As clear glass detracts not at all from the beauty of fine flowers, I usually put my finest roses in unadorned, clear glass vases, in which also hyacinths and carnations look well, although for the hyacinths the water must be changed frequently. Heliotrope discolors the water. A mass of this delightful bloom is most effective in a plain brown jar, arranged sometimes with pink Dubouché or with Marechal Niel roses. A Chinese ginger jar, unstripped of its wicker net, makes a quaint receptacle for wild flowers, for daisies, and for red roses.



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MOURNING COSTUMES.

The Fabrics Employed—How Crapes Used Than Formerly—How Widows Dress.

It is a curious fact that while fashions may change, the fabrics used for mourning costumes remain the same. Henrietta cloth is, when trimmed with crape, considered the deepest mourning. Serge and crepon, showing long, deep waves exactly like crape, are also worn.

The mourning period for a widow, one young enough to expect to lay aside her black, lasts two years. During the first year she is limited to gowns of henrietta cloth trimmed with crape. The next six months she may wear endora cloth with lighter trimmings of crape and, for the next six months endora cloth, crepon, serge or any all black material she may select, without crape decorations.



Mourning for a parent requires a dress of henrietta or endora cloth rather simply trimmed with crape, and having on the bonnet a crape veil that reaches just below the belt. For a brother or sister a gown of black serge, with a collar, belt and cuffs of crape and very short crape veil, is proper. The bonnet worn by a widow is really nothing more than a foundation for holding the veil. The milliner fits a frame to the head, covers it plainly with crape and then drapes the veil

over it. This veil hangs below the knees in front and is about the same length behind. Almost all widows wear white crimped ruching inside their bonnets. The foregoing information is gleaned from The Ladies' Home Journal, which illustrates several mourning costumes, including one for a widow. As described by the authority already quoted, the widow's first costume is made of henrietta cloth and crape. Usually the skirt is made in the received flaring fashion and is decorated with one deep fold of crape headed by a narrower one, so that the crape trimming reaches quite to the knees. A plain, close fitting bodice, pointed at the front and back and arching over the hips, is the design counted most proper for the bodice. A crape collar, crape cuffs and a fold of crape around the edge of the basque are the only decorations. The bodice closes in front in such a way that the hooks and eyes are hidden under the few soft folds of henrietta cloth that are down the front. The bonnet is a pointed toque covered with crape and having the usual long veil draped over it. For the first three months the veil is worn over the face.

Worth Trying. If a fruit jar with a screw top like Mason's refuses to open, turn the top down in a basin of water (hot) and let it remain a few moments, and then try it. Glass stoppers may be removed from bottles the same way, when a strong arm could not start them beforehand, says a writer in Good Housekeeping, who also advises that if tablecloths and napkins are stained with peaches, berries, pears, coffee or tea before being washed they should be spread over a small tub, pouring boiling hot water through the stains. Have plenty of it, and do not be discouraged if the stain does not start at once. Try, try again. Then wash as usual.

Advice From a Veteran Cyclist. To secure ease in riding and command of the wheel, the handle bars should be on a level with the hips. To place them higher, as many ladies do, makes riding difficult and ungraceful, especially hill climbing. To place them lower is likely to give poor control of the wheel, as well as a cramped, uncomfortable position. Many ladies wonder why their machines run so hard. It is because of high handle bars and low seat. The seat should be so adjusted that the ball of the foot will just reach the pedals. The saddle should always be placed in front of the seat post.

Odds and Ends. For flowers there are quaint shaped vases in cut glass, with colored glass feet. If a strip of webbing two inches wide is sewed tightly on the underside of a rug close to the edge, it will prevent the edges from curling. German beer mugs, with metal caps, afford a wide field for selection as regards variety in decoration, coloring and inscription. Raisins can be easily seeded if put in hot water and allowed to stand 15 minutes before beginning to seed. A useful trifle for the tea table is a silver standard on which to rest the tea ball when not in actual use. Put a handful of salt in the last rinse water for clothes that might possibly streak in the drying. If it is not convenient to fill flannel bags for the sickroom with sand, bran will answer the purpose very well and will retain the heat a long time. The artistic tendencies of designers is pleasingly illustrated in the newer tortoise shell articles for the toilet and writing tables. Their intrinsic as well as artistic value is enhanced with gold or silver mountings.

Walking Gown. A finish around the foot of the skirt and a trimming on the bodice. All colors are used, but black velvet ribbon on bright plaid goods is particularly pleasing. Boys now wear the sailor costume, with long or short trousers, up to 13 years of age. Felt hats trimmed with immense bows of velvet and ostrich plumes are worn by girls, as are more elaborate hats of velvet, likewise trimmed with ostrich plumes, the bows being of satin. Wide brims and high crowns are mainly seen. Sometimes the brim is caught up with a cluster of ostrich tips; sometimes it is left loose. A brim of dark velvet and a light colored crown combine to rival the partnership of a dark velvet crown and a light brim. The crown is often encircled by ribbons held by little buckles. The illustration shows a costume of hazel brown wool goods. The godet skirt is adorned with two horizontal bands of tucks. The bodice has a square yoke of embroidery and is laid in large, horizontal plaits. The collar is of moss green velvet, as is the belt, which has long, floating ends at the back. The close sleeves have a platted drapery at the top and full epaulets. The hat of maroon felt is trimmed with moss green velvet and ostrich plumes.

NOTES ON THE BOLERO.

It is Sometimes Made of Fur—Notes of Corsets and Gowns.

The sleeve of the fashionable bolero is more simple than those of gowns, and, of course, somewhat larger. In order that the bodice should slip conveniently inside it. The bolero itself is bordered all around with bands of ostrich feather trimming or fur and straps of fur, running horizontally, close to the front. There are epaulets and a collar of fur, and cuffs and sleeve bands also, as well as revers. Sometimes the bolero is made entirely of fur.

For indoor wear the bolero may be added to a full chemise or blouse. Bolero effects in embroidery, lace and passementerie are likewise applied to all styles of bodice, whether they are plain or gathered, or have a point, basques, postillions, belt or



Chignon Costume. Beaded fabrics, cut in the proper shape and closely applied, are also very effective. Corsets of wide ribbon or platted silk are very much worn. The corset and bolero are, as a matter of fact, monopolists of dark shades of a different color. They are both usually of a color or material contrasting with that of the body of the gown and afford opportunity for numberless combinations and effects. The two are frequently seen together and companion each other very satisfactorily. Velvet and cloth, which compose many of the new models, are well suited to this style, the gown itself being of cloth and the accessories of velvet of a dark shade or even of a different color. Velvet corsets, however, must be made with skill in order to avoid an appearance of clumsiness, for clumsiness can be better endured anywhere in the costume than about the waist.

A sketch is given of a walking gown of nickel gray crepon. The godet skirt closes at the left side, the edge being ornamented with an application of velvet embroidered with steel. The bodice is close fitting in the back, while in front it forms an open bolero, bordered with velvet and steel embroidery. The full chemise of white lace has a lining of pink silk. The wide belt and the collar are of black velvet fastened with steel buttons. The sleeves are of pink silk, made very tight, and have bracelets of black velvet above the elbow and epaulets of white lace.

French Fashions. Scotch Plaids in Bright Colors Are Again Popular. Little French children wear low shoes with spring heels when it is not too cold, but in the winter these shoes are replaced by boots with a low, flat heel, if gaiters are not adapted for out of door use. The gaiter over the low shoe is becoming more and more fashionable for both boys and girls, and it is a sensible style for chilly weather, since a child's legs naturally need more protection in the open air than in the house. Scotch plaids in bright colors are again seen among the fashionable wool goods of the season and are to be much used for children's costumes. Narrow ribbon velvet sewed on in flat bands is one form of the prevailing velvet decoration which characterizes the season and is much seen on girls' dresses. Four or five rows are generally applied, forming



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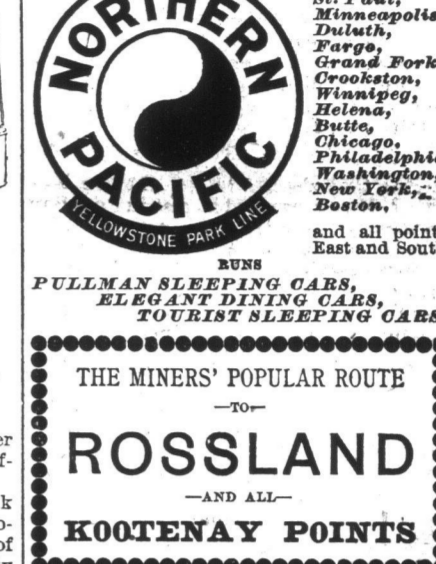
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Esquimalt & Nanaimo Ry

TIME TABLE No. 37. To take effect at 8 a.m. on Monday, November 2, 1896. Trains run on Pacific Standard Time.

Table with columns for Train Name, Destination, and Schedule (Daily/Sat/Sun). Includes routes to Victoria, Nanaimo, and Esquimalt.

For rates and information apply at Company's office. A. DUNSMUIR, President. H. K. PRIOR, General Freight and Passenger Agent.



THE MINERS' POPULAR ROUTE. ROSSLAND AND ALL KOOTENAY POINTS. TIME SCHEDULE. In effect November 28th, 1896.

For Spokane, St. Paul and East... 6:00 p.m. For Portland... 12:30 p.m. For Olympia... 8:30 a.m. For Gray's H. and S. Bend... 12:30 p.m. For Tacoma... 8:30 a.m. For Tacoma... 12:30 p.m. For Tacoma... 6:00 p.m.

O. R. & N. UNION PACIFIC. (THE OVERLAND ROUTE) R. H. H. Clark, Oliver W. Mink, E. Ellery Anderson, John W. Deane, Frederic E. Conder, Receivers. IS THE DIRECT LINE TO THE EAST.

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Still the Fastest. BUFFET GREAT NORTHERN LIBRARY CAR ROUTE TO ALL POINTS EAST. ROCK BALLAST—NO DUST. OVERLAND... Leaves Seattle 8:00 p.m. COAST LINE... Leaves Seattle 9:15 a.m. For further information call on or address R. C. STEVENS, 7. H. ROGERS, Agent, G.W.P.A., Seattle, 76 Government St.

The Colonist.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1896.

Published Every Monday and Thursday by The Colonist Printing and Publishing Company, Limited Liability.

W. H. Ellis, Manager. A. G. Saragoss, Secretary.

TERMS: THE DAILY COLONIST. Published Every Day except Monday. For year, postage free to any part of Canada...

THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST. For year, postage free to any part of the Dominion or the United States...

ADVERTISING RATES. REGULAR COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING, as distinguished from every other kind of advertising...

CHRISTMAS.

We often hear that in these days people have grown cold and selfish. Every faculty of the mind as well as every energy of the body is taxed to the utmost in order to obtain the necessities...

Last week the scholars brought, many of them not of their abundance, gifts for the children poorer than themselves.

How the children hug the treasures they are bringing home for father, mother or baby brothers and sisters...

Then if we visit the homes and watch and listen to the children we shall feel that not only the spirit of kindness of sympathy and love are abroad in the city...

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ARBITRATION.

A great step has been taken toward the civilization of the world when the great nations have decided to agree to submit to arbitration all questions in dispute between them as they arise.

That nations have at length learned that their honor does not require them to resent every insult or to avenge every injury...

So far as England and the United States are concerned arbitration has passed beyond its experimental stage.

The first concerned the claims arising from the war of 1812, which was referred to the Czar. This was settled to the satisfaction of all parties.

There may, and, no doubt will, in the future, arise cases where the honor of a nation is so wounded that no compensation or no apology can avert war...

TOO HIGH A PRICE.

There is a good deal of talk just now about a reciprocity treaty between Canada and the United States.

It is not to be supposed, of course, that the United States would consent to have the customs frontier between the two countries wiped out unless Canada would agree to levy the same duties upon the products of all the rest of the world...

Any time that the United States might want Canada it could get it by holding out the alternative of annexation or a return to the old custom house system under a higher scale of duties.

THE SPANISH COLONIES.

The war in Cuba still continues. Whether Maceo's death—if it has really occurred—will make the conquest of the island easier or not does not yet appear.

It is thought that both Japan and Russia would like to obtain possession of the Philippines, but whether Spain would be any more willing to part with her troublesome possession in the East than she is to grant self-government to her rebellious colony in the West is doubtful.

CHINESE POLITICS.

China is a paradise of bootlers. Every official from the highest to the lowest is bound to make all he can, fairly or unfairly, out of his office.

The brothers Li have grown wealthy from the proceeds of several tens of years of vice-regal power, and the money spent by them to purchase official rank for their sons and nephews...

This denunciation of Li in the official organ of the Government does not appear to have discomfited Li Hung Chang very much.

EDITORIAL NOTE.

The following shows that in India the bungling of long-winded, conceited city councillors can be put a stop to by the government when the health and comfort of the inhabitants of the city require it.

OTTAWA, Dec. 23.—Hon. Mr. Borden, Minister of Militia, General Gascoigne, Adjutant-General Aylmer, Quartermaster-General Lake and others inspected the proposed site for the new rifle range for the Dominion matches in Nepean township east of the city yesterday afternoon.

LA PRAIRIE, Dec. 23.—The town water works were destroyed by fire to-day. Loss, \$4,000.

A ONE-SIDED STORY.

Something With Respect to Spain's Side of the Cuban Question.

Of Spain's side of the Cuban question we hear nothing. Though there is a legion of war correspondents whose racey pencils keep the American press overlaid with fresh news from the shifting scenes of hostilities...

The story of Maceo's death is an example. That seems to have been an afterthought, and on the face of it bears but little trace of probability.

It is further to be remembered that the ministry of Sagasta went some distance to meet the demands of the Spaniards for home rule, inasmuch as it conceded that half the council of administration should be elected, and that some portion of the budget should be determined by the two bodies.

In the New Review Mr. James Fitzmaurice-Kelly shows that the Cuban question is by no means what the purveyors of news to United States readers make it out to be.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Christmas at the White House will be observed this year just as it has been in the past during the present administration.

WINNIPEG, Dec. 23.—

About twenty deputy returning officers, who officiated during the June election in the Macdonald constituency, were arrested to-day charged with tampering with the ballot.

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LEA AND PERRINS' OBSERVE THAT THE SIGNATURE OF Lea & Perrins IS NOW PRINTED IN BLUE INK DIAGONALLY ACROSS THE OUTSIDE WRAPPER OF EVERY BOTTLE OF THE ORIGINAL WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

HER M... No App... Death o... tom... (P... OTTAWA who visit... weeks ag... the New... Majesty's... no appe... and he th... to field... It is... lock, Pos... Oolo... dian del... Postal U... Washing... James... of custom... day. He... birth... Nearly... building... tentious... intended... any one... amount \$... \$7,500... SPAIN A... New Yo... to the W... It is be... Spain wi... sition of... tary Ome... ready wi... American... inating o... Cuban ta... McKinley... It is r... has laid... insurgent... cover the... their obje... with a vi... ving the... Cuban w... Spain an... official... ment... the insur... sign... One... Spanish... Gen. Wes... to clear... Havans... weeks is... a military... more to... markets... have ex... the recen... March of... At pres... dispose... the value... the proc... of the... monthly... at least... prescri... ury has... guarantee... and nat... and by p... revenue... The mon... the Span... taxpayer... the shap... 000 ann... sinking f... to meet... Cuban w... could not... even if... consider... deficits a... fore the... WINNI... A. G. Bl... reached... Mr. Blai... ing pros... said thi... through... The E... been p... Sun, of... hands... James... don this... will at... tion und... Ottawa... Mrs. G... erich of... hospital... fall int... The cu... the Sult... been sol... No deal... The V... treat ha... champio... impress... their w... those w... There a... lots of... THE... SEATT... millions... contract... Great N... the Cas... six mon... everythi... work on... be one... in histo... a half m...