





THAT PROGRESSIVE SUBSIDY.

In another column appears a brief digest of the acts relating to the British Columbia Southern Railway Company, which should make the present situation of the company tolerably plain. Yesterday we had something to say as to the assertion that the land grant of 20,000 acres per mile does not apply to the section of the road between Kootenay lake and the coast. In view of the clauses quoted from the acts of 1894 this assertion seems rather absurd, for no person reading those clauses could well come to any other conclusion than that the land grant is there extended so as to apply to that section. It is quite possible that the legislative assembly did not intend this extension of the grant, that the effect of the wording was not apparent to the legislators when the two acts were passed. The middle of the Municipal Act makes this appear all the more possible. If the acts of 1894 do convey more than it was intended to convey, then no time should be lost in amending them when the assembly meets. We have previously called attention to the rather insidious manner in which the privileges and favors conferred on the company were increased from time to time, and this very extraordinary increase of the grant, as to which so many people seem ignorant, is a striking example. The apologists for the legislation in favor of the company put forward the fact that with all the grants it has been found impossible to get money to build the road. If the inner history of the concern were written in detail, it would probably be found that the efforts of the company were far from being confined to the securing of money for road-building purposes. The further apologist is offered that the land grant system is one of long standing, both in the province and the Dominion, but it would puzzle any person to point to another instance of a company being allowed such a pleasant succession of increases in subsidy and extensions of time. If the British Columbia Southern company had gone to work and earned the grant by building the railway, we do not suppose there would have been any great objection to its possession of the property. Now, however, the legislature has secured nothing beyond the locking up of so much of the public domain, and at a time when the work for which the grant was given is fast to be a necessity.

A FRIEND'S CRITICISM.

The Vancouver World has so far yielded to the prevailing sentiment as to lose some of its admiration for the Turner Government's methods. Speaking of the approaching session of the legislature it says: "The tedious and protracted manner in which the legislation of British Columbia is conducted during the sessions of the house of assembly has been a by-word in the past. It is to be hoped that expedition and promptness will characterize the deliberations of the forthcoming session. In the interests of the people and economy, there is no reason whatsoever why the whole business should not be got through within a period of one month or five or six weeks at the furthest. What is accomplished elsewhere, where the work is many times greater than that to be transacted here, surely can be accomplished if only the windbags and obstructionists can be kept in order no matter what side of the Speaker they may be on." The government has this matter in its own hands. If it were to meet the assembly with business properly prepared, and with the sole idea of furthering the public interests, a long session would not be necessary. We may expect such a reformation from the Turner government about the time when the Ethiopian dons a white skin and the leopard exchanges his spots for the tiger's stripes. If the government did really effect such a change as the World suggests there would be some room for hope that it would properly transact the business of the province.

A NEEDED CAUTION.

The Toronto Globe gives its readers some advice in the matter of mining stock investments, and the advice it followed will probably be found of benefit to both the would-be investors and the mining regions. Nobody interested in the development of our mineral resources would like to see purchasers of stocks lose money on them, for the effect would inevitably be the frightening away of needed capital. To avoid this, caution on the part of the buying public is necessary; if they are reckless nobody can keep them on safe ground. The Globe puts the warning in this way: "The moral of it all is that investment in mines should not be made by people who cannot take the chances of losing. There are those who in view of the occasional great returns in mining will adventure their capital with a full knowledge of the risks, but for a man to venture sums which if lost would cancel the savings and economies of years and be productive of grief, if not of despair, would be folly indeed. Even in the case of smaller and less irrevocable investments caution and knowledge should go hand in hand. There will be good investments and bad investments, sound companies and un-

sound companies, as candidates for public favor. A shrewd man should be able to gather considerable information from the prospectuses, possibly more from what is not in them than from what is in them. He should ask himself, Who are the sponsors for the enterprise, what work has already been done on the property, what responsible and informed man has reported on the showings thus disclosed, what is the capital provided for development, are the promoters allowed to sell their shares contemporaneously with the sale of treasury shares; will the development capital be sufficient to provide against all the various ills that mines are heir to; will it be sufficient to set in place the expensive machinery that will be required when the handiwork has disclosed that the lead is worth the expense of a power plant? This is the most important point, and one that there will perhaps be much trouble about in the near future. The difficulties that will arise when the treasury is exhausted before a satisfactory determination as to value has been reached need not be pointed out. A little reflection as to where more money is to come from in the case of fully paid up and non-assessable shares" will convince any one that the last state of that property will be worse than the first."

It was once a favorite amusement of Tory papers to dwell upon the fact that more Liberals than Conservatives were unseated after the general elections of 1891. Perhaps they will now give some consideration to the fact that since the last general election five Conservative members have been unseated and not one Liberal.

A Montreal dispatch represents all the Catholic bishops of Quebec as ready to issue a mandement condemning the Manitoba school settlement and warning Catholic members against supporting it. We shall not believe that the bishops have so little sense until they actually take the course thus predicted. They must know that any such action would be accompanied by serious risk to their church.

Says the Toronto Telegram: "Possibly Sir Adolphe Caron may remember that he was thrown out of the Dominion government when the leaders were going to the country and taken in again when they came back shorn. It looks now as if Sir Adolphe was determined that the men who threw him out of the government would never have the chance to throw anybody else over the battlement. The spectacle of Sir Adolphe dictating a policy which must ruin the leaders who excluded him from the last Conservative government is one of the revenges of history."

EUROPE AND AMERICA.

London Spectator Discusses the Cuban and Other Questions. London, Jan. 2.—The Spectator, in an article on the position of the United States and Europe as affected by the Cuban question, after remarking that the Washington government has had an unpleasant surprise in the attitude of the European powers, proceeds to explain the reasons for the European antagonism to the United States, and points out that the great financiers of Paris who hold Spanish bonds are alarmed at the possibility that Spain, after fighting to the bitter end, might be compelled to suspend payment, and consequently they are urging the French government to intervene between Washington and Madrid. The Emperor William, it is said, also approves of this, for apart from his dreams of colonial expansion, which could be best gratified in Brazil, he is fond of American diplomacy. The Italian government, according to the Spectator, will support Spain, owing to the Italians in the United States being treated as if they were negroes or half Indians.

The Spectator then adds that the Austrian Emperor will support Germany in maintaining the independence of Spain, being actuated by weighty family reasons, not wishing to see the Queen Regent, who is an Austrian archduchess, and her son driven out of Madrid by a popular revolt following the loss of Cuba. The Dreihund, therefore, and France, the Spectator says, are ready to counsel President Cleveland to be moderate and "avoid threats which Spain could not tolerate and which might lead to a widespread maritime war."

The Spectator continues: "The United States could conquer any American state, and might, if they exerted their power, defeat a single European power, but cannot defeat all the European powers, even if England, through reasons of kinship remained neutral. The fact is patent to all that the United States will not be allowed to enter Spain out of her colony without renunciation from continental Europe, which might be followed by one of the combined fleets of the five powers and the landing of armies in Cuba and the French West Indies. The Spectator is deeply grieved at the attacks on United States Ambassador Bayard which have appeared in the Chronicle and says he did great service here in pointing out the gravity of the situation which the English thought was only a demonstration of spread-eagle-

British Columbia.

VANCOUVER.

The banquet tendered to Mr. Justice McCall, in honor of his elevation to the Bench on Saturday evening, was well attended, there being about twenty-five of the legal fraternity present. Mr. Chas. Wilson, O.C., presided and at his right hand was the guest of the evening, Mr. Justice McCredie, Judge Bole, Judge Forth and Mr. Aulay Morrison, M.P., were among those present. A special meeting of the city council was held Saturday morning for the purpose of meeting J. Selevor of Portland, Ore., who represents a syndicate who desire to put up a smelter and refinery in this city. Mr. Selevor sought a bonus of \$150,000, on the condition that the works cost \$450,000, and that 150 men would be employed. He explained that he had the promise of transportation of ore from Rossland to Vancouver at \$6 a ton. Other roads as well as the C.P.R. had made this promise. The subject was discussed for a while, but the aldermen were not prepared to give an answer yet.

NEW DENVER.

The Ledger.

There is some talk of Crown granting and stocking the Arlington in the spring. The Enterprise continues: "The top four carloads of ore a week to the smelter at Omaha. Assays from the tailings of the Slocan Star concentrator show as high as 22 ounces in silver to the ton. McNeill and Sons report that they have struck a fine ledge on the North Exchange after driving a 60 foot tunnel. The first rawhiding for Slocan City commenced last week. Mullen, the rascal, is now carrying on the ore from the Two Friends on the rawhides. The other claims on Springer will soon follow suit. It is said that R. C. Campbell Johnson, acting as a Scotch syndicate, has bonded the St. Paul and Snowstrom, extensions of the Arlington. The Rambler is making a name for itself as a shipper. Already five carloads of ore have been shipped from this property, and in a few days a shipment of two more carloads will be made. The Panama and Ironfaith, two promising claims on Ten Mile creek, and about three miles from the Enterprise wagon road, have been bonded to D. G. Stewart, of Vancouver, for \$15,000. The lead runs across both claims.

ASHROFT. B. C. Mining Journal. A portion of the Kurtz and Lane grant has been sold by Messrs. Laird and Brown and work in the deep channel will be pushed there this season. It is reported that the price paid was \$6,000; if it can be worked successfully it is worth a hundred times that amount. Considerable improvements will be started at the Ashcroft station. The present quarters have been found to be too crowded for the large amount of business transacted here. The present station rooms will be changed and a baggage room built. Receipts at the Ashcroft station are second only to Pacific division, Vancouver alone being ahead of it.

F. T. Hamshaw, who came down from Beagle on Wednesday left the same evening for Chicago, where he is meeting parties interested with him in some mining claims on Summit creek, fifteen miles from Barkerville, the Van Winkle group of claims. These properties have been sold and will be worked extensively and hydraulically next season. Messrs. Fitzpatrick & Shuler are negotiating a bond on their Highland Valley quartz claims. For the amount of work done good results can be shown in the valley. Next season will see many men prospecting in that section, and through towards Kamloops. Copper ore assaying as high as 38 per cent, has been brought in, but not as yet found in large quantities.

Mr. Mitchell, who is the expert in charge of the work being done on the Bonaparte, 16 miles from Ashcroft, says that the outlook is good for valuable quartz veins in that region. Several small ledges carrying well in silver have been found and where the crosscut tunnel now being driven is in a few hundred feet Mr. Mitchell looks for a valuable strike. He is a visionary theorist, but a calculating and conscientious mining man who is not making the noise about what has been found that many companies would. While there is yet a certainty of sufficient quantities of ore to mine, he is not likely to be called to work. Mr. Mitchell says there is a good enough showing to justify the expenditure of at least a few thousand dollars in prospecting. The company has put up comfortable quarters and work can be done there. A new shaft being about a remarkable change on the Bonaparte.

ROSSLAND.

Rossland Miner.

Rossland, Jan. 2.—A dispatch to the Associated Press last Wednesday stated that the Iron Mask had struck a big ore body in the upraise from the big tunnel from the 200-foot level to the 90-foot shaft sunk near the west end of the claim, and close to the War Eagle. Since then a prospect has been driven on the 200-foot level to the south, and today the vein was cut. The Rossland Miner will state to-morrow that at this point the ore body is over seven feet wide. While no assays have been made there can be no doubt that the ore is very high grade as it carries a high percentage of copper and the ore from the bottom of the shaft 100 feet above was about as high as any ever shipped from the camp. This strike places the Iron Mask among the assured mines, as the ore chute has been proved to be at least 50 feet long on the 90 foot level. The Jumbo will begin shipping at once. Five carloads may be ready, and an average of at least two carloads a week will be maintained. The ore will have to be hauled in wagons two miles and will go thence to the smelter at Barkerville, consequently only half the ore can be shipped at present. The Commander will also begin shipping some time this month. Shipments to the smelter from Rossland in 1896 amounted to 22,000 tons. In complete returns for 1896 about 40,000 tons of ore were shipped last year. Shipments now and for some time past have averaged considerably less than the previous year, and it is expected to reach a total of 100,000 tons for the year 1897. The Red Mountain railroad took out its first car load of ore yesterday. The ore came from the Red Mountain mine. The identity of names is a coincidence which it is hoped may be a happy augury for the future. The ore was hauled from the mine down to a car which was then transported to the Nickel Plate yard. The car was filled to the top with ore. A car load on the Red Mountain road consists of 20 tons. There are several more car loads on the dump ready for shipment, and it is believed a car load can be sent about every ten days for the time being. Constable Hoosen notified the International hotel last night that the black jack game which has been in progress since Monday night must cease. The constables made a quiet round of all the saloons in the city last night for the purpose of ascertaining if the law is being violated with respect to gambling. It is evident that when the government puts a quietus on gambling wherever it may be found. Last Sunday the game at the Howard saloon was closed.

BY BOOK POST.

I have received from the publishers a copy of a collection of papers by Dean Farrar called "The Young Man Master of Himself." The essays are on allied topics, on the young man in the home, in business, in the church, young men and marriage and on with the latter title. A great deal of sensible advice is given and the wholesome lesson inculcated that the world was not created especially for young men. The author says in his introduction: "All good men who have themselves begun to enter into the Valley of the Shadow cannot but look with the deepest interest on those who will be fighting the difficult path of life in that warfare which has its discharge, long after they themselves are sleeping with their fathers." The earnest strain in which the work is written, the sympathetic insight into the trials and problems of those who are young in the world's wisdom, the simple straightforward language in which the counsel is couched will combine to make the affectionate regard which prompted the writing touch the hearts of all readers. No young man could read the book unmoved and assuredly no reader could go from the reading without fresh resolve in his heart, that the world should be a better place from his having lived in it.

OTTAWA LETTER.

Ottawa, Dec. 28.—In the month of August last information reached the federal government of the operations of certain agents from Brazil who were endeavoring to entice Canadians to emigrate to that country. The information was received from the British consul-general at Rio de Janeiro enclosing a copy of a letter of enquiry he had received from a resident of Montreal, and taking occasion to warn the government of Canada of the entire unsuitability of the climate and general conditions prevailing in Brazil to people from northern climates. Copies of the consul's letter and its enclosure were printed and widely circulated among intending emigrants in French and English, and although it was found that about 700 Brazilians had been influenced by the Brazilian agents to such an extent that they had determined on going, the agent who was writing this letter, and the effect of deterring over 300, some of whom actually left the ship after going on board with their families and effects. About 400 unfortunately embarked on this ill-fated expedition, and since then the foolish expeditions and the newspapers have contained many references to their suffering in that country, the expedition having proved disastrous. The people themselves, through the British consul-general at Rio and the deep channels of the press, have been making appeals to the government to assist them to return to their homes in this country. This is a matter which required delicate handling but after full and careful enquiry the government has decided to bestow the expense of repatriating thirteen adults and nine children, all reported to be in great distress. It is hoped that the experiences of these people will serve as a warning for all time to Canadian not to go to the land of the unknown and appreciate their own country better. G. R. Maxwell, M.P., has been here for the past few days on departmental business. He has had interviews with all the ministers and has been endeavoring to arrange certain postal matters and with Mr. Darte he has been trying to get some matters affecting the public works in the West attended to. Mr. Maxwell will be a great friend. The minister of public works invited the member for Vancouver to be his guest while in Montreal attending the Laurier banquet on the 30th inst. Mr. Maxwell accepted the invitation.

THE CITY OF JERUSALEM.

A recent visitor to Jerusalem writes: "Nearly all the places of interest in and about Jerusalem have been collected together, and are now exhibited under one roof, in the church of the Holy Sepulchre. Most travellers go there first, but they should not. One should go first to the Mount of Olives, survey and study the country." The visitor says: "There at your feet is the Garden of Gethsemane, and beyond the gulch of Jehosaphat (for it is not a valley) is the dome of the 'marvellous Mosque of Omar.' Looking along the wall you can see the Golden Gate with the decay of which the Mohammedans say will come the fall of Islam, just as the Sultan's power shall pass away when the last sacred dog dies. Looking down the canyon you see the old King's Garden, the Pool of Sion, the Virgin's Well, and farther down, some poor houses where the lepers live. Still farther, fourteen miles away, and four thousand feet below you, lies the Dead Sea, beyond which are the hills of Moab. If you have been lucky enough to come up here without a guide or dragoon with a bosom full of ivory-handled revolvers and long knives, you will sit for hours spellbound. The guide tries too hard to give you your money's worth. He will not allow you to muse over these things, which are reasonably real and true, but will tell you the most marvellous stories, which you cannot believe. He will show you the grave of Moses, and I am told that the Scriptures say, 'No man knoweth where his grave is,' yet, if you doubt the guide feels hurt. He will ask you to harken to the 'going in the mulleries,' and if you say you don't hear he is surprised. What strikes the traveller most forcibly on seeing Jerusalem for the first time is the littleness of everything. The Mount of Olives is a little mound; Mount Moriah is a slightly perceptible rise of ground; Mount Zion is a gentle hill; the valley of Jehosaphat is a deep and ugly gully, with scarcely enough the Tropicana Valley in an alley. The visitor in it to see a postage stamp and to look at the insupportable poverty and dreariness of the city. The mulleries are interesting because it is desolate, but it is an awful interest. The people—the beggars that bound you—are as poor, as dwarfed and as deformed and as diseased trees that try to live on the naked rocks.

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had a good deal of feed stored for such emergencies, and they managed to keep the cattle in fodder during the time the snow remained on the ground, but for a time it was just a question whether the snow or the fodder would disappear first. Luckily the Chinook winds arrived in time to avert the threatened disaster to the herds and they are now in good condition again. Mr. Lynch-Staunton, who is a son of Mr. K. H. Lynch-Staunton, of this city, has a herd of 800 cattle, and it may be imagined that the period of unusual snowfall was one of intense anxiety to him and the other large ranchers in the district, and the continuance of the severe weather for a few weeks longer would have practically wiped out the herds. Such a snow fall has not occurred there in the memory of the oldest ranchers and they hope it won't be duplicated in another 20 years.—Hamilton Spectator.

DESTRUCTIVE CYCLONE.

Mooringport, Louisiana, Visited by a Terrible Storm on Saturday. Memphis, Tenn., Jan. 4.—A cyclone, leaving death and devastation behind, descended upon the little town of Mooringport, La., on Saturday afternoon. The reports from the stricken town are very meagre, owing to the complete destruction of all telegraph and communication wires, but a special received at Texarkana at midnight says that four people were killed outright and three are known to have been fatally injured. Mooringport is a town of 800 or 1000 inhabitants, situated on the Kansas City, Pittsburg & Gulf railroad, 25 miles west of Texarkana. Advice from southwestern Arkansas state that a violent wind and lightning storm prevailed there and in some instances railway travel is interrupted. A report from Benton, Ark., on the Iron Mountain railroad, twenty miles from Little Rock, says that a tornado struck that place late on Saturday and twenty houses were demolished. There was no loss of life mentioned in the dispatch. All communication with Hot Springs has been cut off. At Cameron, a small lumber station, five miles north of Texarkana, on the Cotton Belt road, the storm raged furiously and caused considerable damage. One man is reported killed at that place. Every effort is being made by the telegraph company to establish communication with Lewisville, McNell, Magnolia, Pine Bluff and the larger towns.

The relief train reached Mooringport at 7:35 p.m. in a downpour of rain, a relay wire was rigged up and at a late hour the report is that four are dead, three fatally injured, and twenty others more or less injured. The dead are: Willie and Mand Hall, and the infant son and daughter of Jesse Goodman, who is also injured, with his daughter Alice, his wife, and nephew Claude. St. Louis, Jan. 4.—A special to the Post-Dispatch from Little Rock, Ark., says: A destructive storm swept over Benton, twenty-five miles south of Little Rock Saturday afternoon, and from all accounts it extended a considerable distance south. It is impossible to get news from the scene of the storm, as telegraph poles were blown down for a distance of more than half a mile. News from reliable sources at the Iron Mountain depot that many dwellings were swept away. A visit to the Iron Mountain telegraph office corroborated the news of the storm and property loss. The operator says that the wires for a distance of several miles were blown down. The operator says that the only information he has received is that a number of houses have been wrecked. Later news says nobody was hurt at Benton.

PLAGUE IN BOMBAY. No Abatement in the Ravages of Bubonic Plague. London, Jan. 2.—Advice from Bombay show that the bubonic plague, is supposed to have been imported to that city from Hongkong, where it had great violence a year ago, rapidly extending among the natives who thus far have been the sufferers. Thousands of the pestiferous cases from the city. Business utterly paralyzed, owing to the plague. The volunteer aid is assisting the overworked health officers in combatting the disease.

TO RELIEVE THE CZAR.

A Supreme Court to Help Him Manage the Affairs of Russia. Berlin, Jan. 2.—A special dispatch from St. Petersburg to the Cologne Gazette says it is the intention of the court of relieving him of much of the burden of the city. The court will settle all the matters of the czar, except those of the greatest importance, which will, as before, referred to the czar himself. The Grand Duke Constantine, formerly a member of the czar's cabinet, appointed president of the court.

THE BOG SLIDE.

Unquiet Noises Were Heard in Peasants Previous to the Slide. London, Jan. 2.—The slide at Lakes of Killarney, which is the station of the week, has been enhanced story that about a week previous unquiet noises were heard in the vicinity, which the peasants of the lakes describe as resembling the creaking of the benches. These noises appear to have been a feeling of uneasiness and numbers of the peasants and their priests, who endeavored to ensure them. Subsequently the call however, caused the "universal" conclusion among the peasantry, who seemingly convinced that there was a supernatural connection between two affairs. A great mass of bog earth seven hundred acres behind the lake, has begun to slide and are in dread of still more terrible accidents.

WINNIPEG WRINGS.

Election of W. F. McCrea, as Member for the West. Winnipeg, Jan. 2.—A telegram has been received from the Bishop of St. Boniface, from Ottawa, supposing Rev. Father Cloutier as Chaplain of Stony Mountain penitentiary. Father Cloutier is present in the East. A protest has been entered.

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Windsor Salt. Ask your grocer for Windsor Salt. For Table and Dairy, Purest and Best.

Table with market prices for various goods including flour, sugar, and other commodities. Columns list item names and their corresponding prices.







A PEDLAR'S EXPERIENCE.

ILLNESS BROUGHT HIM ALMOST TO THE VERGE OF THE GRAVE.

Pain and Emaciated, Suffering From Excruciating Pains in the Back, Life Became a Burden and Death was Thought To Be Not Far Off.

From the St. Catharines Journal.

It is a curious pathological fact that spinal complaint has actually been mistaken for Bright's disease, and there is no doubt many have been mistreated for Bright's disease when spinal trouble was the real malady. George T. Smith, proprietor of St. Catharines, is one of those who suffered. His narrative is as follows: "In the fall of 1894 I began to experience alarming symptoms of what I thought to be spinal trouble. I resorted to lotions, plasters and other remedies, but to no avail, as I continued to grow worse. At this point my friends advised the services of a physician, which I gladly submitted to. The professional man made a minute examination and pronounced mine a case of Bright's disease, which quite naturally gave me a severe shock, as I deemed the death sentence had been passed upon me. The doctor said that he would alleviate my sufferings, but remarked that it would only be a matter of time with me. However, I accepted his medicine, and took it according to directions with no beneficial results. In the meantime a friend procured a remedy said to be a cure for Bright's disease. This medicine I took but with no effect whatever. Ten months had passed away, and I had become so emaciated, emaciated, stooped and miserable that my friends had difficulty in recognizing me. In fact, they, like myself, harbored the most painful apprehensions. At this juncture an aunt came to visit me, and strongly advised me to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Like a drowning man reaching for a straw I did so. To my great surprise, I soon noticed an improvement, the pain in my back began to leave, my appetite improved, my color returned, and by the time I had used eight boxes not an ache or pain remained, and I am able to travel about to-day as previous to the attack. I know that I owe my restoration to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and I urge those ill or suffering to give them a trial.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills strike at the root of the disease, driving it from the system and restoring the patient to health and strength. In cases of paralysis, spinal troubles, locomotor ataxia, sciatica, rheumatism, erysipelas, scrofulous troubles, and all other ailments, they are also a specific for the troubles which make the lives of so many women a burden, and speedily restore the rich glow of health to pale and anemic cheeks. Men broken down by overwork, worry or excesses, will find in Pink Pills a certain cure. Sold by all dealers or sent by mail postpaid, at 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50 by addressing the Dr. Williams Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont., or Schenectady, N.Y. Beware of imitations and substitutes alleged to be "just as good."

SLEIGHS MINUS HORSES.

The first heavy snowfall in New York and Paris this winter will see the arrival of a most novel invention for the sleighing season—a horseless sleigh. Heretofore the horseless sleigh has had a monopoly of transportation sensations, but French ingenuity has substituted runners for wheels and developed the "two-and-a-half-horse" sleigh. It is a half seated because there is a little seat for the driver in front and room for four persons at the rear. Perhaps it may seem a little out of place to find about driving a horseless sleigh, but if an engineer drives an engine, why is it not possible for a pretty girl to drive a sleigh driven by a gasoline motor? That is just what is going to happen. The sleigh does not differ from the regulation sleigh that we see every winter. Beneath the body of the vehicle is the mechanism that moves the runners. In front of the sled there is a pair of wheels which dig into the frozen earth and pushes the sleigh along as side wheels propel a steamboat. The teeth of this wheel are very strong. A paving stone has no effect on them as they are made of asphalt pavement. The wheel makes merry with it. Possibly this may be considered an argument against the horseless sleigh, but what's the use of borrowing trouble? Just back of the wheel is the motor. It is under the last seat. And the gasoline which moves it is contained in a little tank. The steering apparatus reminds one of that of a hook and a cable car. To guide the sleigh it is only necessary to turn a wheel. There is no danger of the sleigh running away. There is nothing about the steering apparatus or the motor that cannot be comprehended. Whether or not New York takes to the horseless sleigh remains to be seen. A well known carriage manufacturer has the American rights and is going to find out. It is to be hoped that the winter will be kinder to us in the matter of snow than usual, for New Yorkers like novelties quite as much as do the Parisians.—New York Herald.

SOCIAL PROBLEMS.

"In the Cause of the People." To the Editor: There are so many things that are distinctly antagonistic to the interests of the people—the workers—and therefore to the progress of the country that it behooves us all to take an active part continually in public affairs. Spasmodic efforts are of no avail, constant, steady agitation is necessary to have the desired effect and bring about an improved condition of things—and prevent a national obduracy such as befel the country in the case of population as the result of the nation's wealth being governed by about two and a-half per cent of the entire population. Here among ourselves we have seen the process falling, our stockholders blindly fighting against Asiatic competition, profits reduced, the purchasing power of the people on the decrease, an army of unemployed and an increasing taxation which its employers have garnered; it has witnessed about one-third of its fellows permanently thrown out of em-

ployment by the introduction of machinery and then used as a factor at the point of its necessity to live, to reduce wages by its own unskillful actions, and has waited long and patiently for some modification of its almost intolerable burdens of necessity, toil and taxation at the hands of capital. It has waited in vain. If labor, which bears the major part of the burden, will insist upon legislation which will beneficially amend these conditions, capital will never formulate or put into operation any plan of its own. They have the instinct of a good-hearted but unthinking person is to fluninate against the government for allowing so many vils to exist, but the public has the matter in its own hands, and so long as it remains indifferent or lethargic so long will there be dissatisfaction and discontent. That we have been suffering from a lengthened period of depression many of us are only too well aware. Our lands have been alienated from the people and given to wealthy monopolists, the railroads are not managed in the interests of the public, and people by the hundred have been obliged to leave our shores for want of employment. To bring back prosperity to this province the Liberal administration must commence and steadily prosecute a work of reform. The Liberal party by introducing and passing into law beneficial measures will no doubt be stoutly resisted by the party of monopoly and stagnation. That there is room for much improvement, the whole world will witness, and it is time there came a change, for there is work to be done by men who are earnest and sincere, who mean what they say and will do what they do to the best of their ability. The old Conservatives who were afraid of any changes were proposed, and who neither had the courage to enter upon new enterprises nor the faculty to see ahead of them, are not the sort of people we want if we desire to see the resources of this province developed. We want bolder, braver and more progressive spirits and we have them in the present federal ministry.

So long as our politics remained so unscientifically based as they have been it was hopeless to expect the healing of our many national sores. So long as the people omit to recognize that the art of legislation is a fine art entailing not only good instincts but manifold qualifications that can only be acquired by without the aid of long and arduous study and social reform, so necessary in our midst, continue to be a laggard force. To prevent wealthy monopolists acquiring huge areas of the people's heritage and to provide means of settling the influx of Asiatics, to protect our employes against that growing curse, the "sweating system"—these and other reforms can be achieved if the voice of the people declare it.

To improve the condition of the masses is the truest Liberalism; to bring about the greatest good to the greatest number is the wisest legislation. To carry succor to those who want it apart from political expediencies or fiscal policies or any consideration on God's earth, is the basis of all good government and of most importance than protection and free trade in the building up of a young country like British Columbia. Let us hope that 1897 will see a new order of things and that it will be a year of peace, happiness and prosperity for our province—the dawn of the Christian socialism, when love and law shall join in grand accord.

NESTOR.

THE FIRE RECORD.

Very Small Losses During the Past Twelve Months. The losses by fire during 1896 show a marked decrease, and are lower by \$14,300 than the record of 1895. During the year 79 fires and alarms were received and the aggregate loss amounted to \$9,940. Within the fire limits the losses, covered by insurance, amounted to the small sum of \$1,500. In the residential districts, far removed from fire halls, the aggregate loss of fires occasioned losses estimated at \$4,750. During ten years 1889 shows a lower record than the present year, when the fire losses amounted to \$8,500. The fire department is to be congratulated on the showings made in the figures given below: Losses during ten years: 1887, \$42,188; 1888, \$16,000; 1889, \$8,500; 1890, \$10,705; 1891, \$20,182; 1892, \$2,187; 1893, \$18,900; 1894, \$57,560; 1895, \$24,243; 1896, \$9,940. Total, \$251,584. Monthly record, 1896: January, \$845; February, none; March, \$60; April, \$2,500; May, \$700; June, \$2,900; July, \$3,024; August, \$410; September, \$900; October, \$91; November, \$380; December, none. Total \$9,940.

SHIPPING.

Doings in Marine Circles During the Past Twenty-Four Hours.

San Francisco, Dec. 31.—Judge Morrow today rendered his final decision under the regulations of the tribunal of arbitration at Paris, known as the Paris award, in relation to sealing in Behring Sea. The schooner Jane Gray, owned by C. F. Nonnemann, and her cargo of sealskins, was condemned and ordered confiscated to the United States. The Jane Gray is one of the old time sealing fleet, and is perhaps one of the best known sealing vessels on the coast. She was caught sealing within the prohibited area of the Behring Sea on August 22 of this year, by the revenue cutter Corwin, and seized in accordance with the instructions of the treasury department. The owner of the vessel claimed that she was not within the sixty-mile zone surrounding the Pribilof group at the time of the seizure.

As there are still some rumors regarding smuggling and illegal fishing in northern waters, the minister of marine and fisheries has ordered the government steamer Quadra north to investigate. Arrangements are being made for the cruise and the steamer will probably leave on Saturday. She will remain away for several weeks.

According to a report brought by the steamer Puella, which arrived from San Francisco yesterday, there are no seals along the coast. She passed the schooner Mermad on the way up, and the lat-

ter then had no seals, nor were there any in sight. The Puella passed the steamer Truckee in latitude 59:19 north and longitude 124:40 west.

The Mexico will leave for San Francisco tomorrow with the following typical passengers: A. Lindsay, Roselle Madeline and J. M. Kincaid. This will probably be the last trip of the Mexico on this route, as the Umatilla has been repaired and will resume her old place next week.

As the schooner Shippee was being hauled out to sea last evening she got fast on a hidden rock and remained there a couple of hours when she floated with the high tide. She was not injured in any way and proceeded to sea.

The C. F. N. Co's steamer Tees will leave for the West Coast to-night. Among her passengers will be Frank Adams and Captain Cox, who are going down in the interest of their schooners, and P. L. Simpson and S. Fox.

The British bark Port Adelaide has completed loading lumber at the Hastings mill and will in a few days sail for Delaware Bay, Scotland. Her cargo is valued at \$9,687 composed of 852,770 feet of rough lumber and 129,992 feet of flooring.

The tug Hope, which left yesterday for Sooke, with the necessary lumber for the new bridge across Sooke river, ran on a sand bar at the mouth of the river yesterday afternoon. She probably floated off with the high tide this morning.

Capt. Cutler and W. Bragg, who were largely interested in the clipper sailing schooner Queen Macdonald, have purchased all the remaining shares. They will fit her out for a sealing cruise and will probably get away early next week.

Passengers for the Sound this evening are requested to remember that the City of Kingston will not come to the inner wharf. As she has considerable freight for the outer wharf she will discharge there and leave there at 8:45 to-night.

Forty tons of ore from the Van Anda Gold and Copper Company were brought down by the steamer Madam today. The ore will be sent to a smelter.

The Northern Pacific steamer Tacoma is expected from the Orient about Jan. 3. The Braemar will probably leave Tacoma for Yokohama to-morrow.

Yesterday the ships Addenda and Rosalie were towed into the roads. Both will load lumber at Chemainus.

The G.P.N. Co's steamer Tees will leave for Quatsino and other West Coast points on Saturday evening at 8 o'clock.

The C. P. R. liner Empress of Japan left Yokohama for Victoria and Vancouver yesterday.

The steamer Boscowitz returned from the north last evening.

The C.P.R. steamship Empress of China reached Hongkong yesterday.

The Aiki called at the outer wharf this afternoon on her way to Alaska.

The schooner Pioneer, Captain W. Baker, has cleared for a sealing cruise.

The Miowera is due from Sydney and Honolulu.

CHINESE IN THE SLOCAN.

The Chinese have always been boycotted in the Slocan, and while they have made several attempts to get a foothold, they have not been successful. In New York the club was immediately boycotted by a large number of people and its members had to pack their own water and "rustle" beef-steaks at Three Forks, as the local dealers in water and beef would not supply them. Some of the citizens called a meeting and appointed a committee to call on the members of the club and ask them to disperse with their cook. This was done, but the club did not take their departure. The effort of the people should not be directed against the Chinese, but against the committee which has caused much trouble and where it will end we cannot imagine. The effort of the people should not be directed against the Chinese, but against the committee which has caused much trouble and where it will end we cannot imagine.

CENTRAL AMERICAN REPUBLIC.

Negotiations which have been for some time in progress have resulted in the formation of what is known as the "Greater Republic of Central America." Into this federation Honduras, Nicaragua and Salvador have entered, by an agreement signed last September. The conditions of which were recently made public. It is hoped that Guatemala and Costa Rica may join later, in which case the word "Greater" will be dropped, and the federation will be known simply as the Republic of Central America. Of the three partners in this alliance, Nicaragua has the largest area, though the difference between her and Honduras is not marked. Salvador, the smallest of the three, is the most densely populated, with an area of only about one-seventh as large as that of Nicaragua, but a larger population than both of her bigger sisters. The total population of the three is about one million.

Under the terms of the agreement, each of the three republics entering the federation becomes a state in the new republic, with its rights of local government unimpeded. Each has an equal share in the federated government. Instead of a single executive head, an

arrangement which might provoke jealousy, the central authority is lodged in a "diet" composed of three delegates, with an equal number of substitute delegates, chosen annually by the several states. This diet will have power to legislate in the name of the republic, and to appoint diplomatic representatives and to act upon all questions affecting foreign relations.

One section of the constitution expressly provides for the submission of all disputes to arbitration. It is arranged that the diet shall meet in each of the capitals of the three states in turn, the order being determined by lot and the sessions to be for one year. The first session is to be at San Salvador.

This is not the first time that the attempt has been made to hold the Central American republics in a confederation. Soon after they achieved their independence from Spain they were so united; but more than fifty years ago the slender ties which held them were broken, and since then they have been separated and often warring states.

ENGLISH RAILWAY TICKETS.

Last year there were issued in the United Kingdom little over 911,000,000 railway tickets, exclusive of season tickets and workmen's weekly tickets. It is not easy to realize such a number. If they had to be carried from London to Edinburgh, they would require 100 railway trucks, each carrying ten tons.

If they were stacked one upon another in a single column they would attain a height of 500 miles, and would be long enough to encircle the globe, and the line would be one-third longer than the equator. But no words can describe the bulk of these millions of tickets.

Until a few years ago the bulk of the tickets were manufactured by private concerns in London and Manchester. Later the large railways set up their own concerns for the making of their tickets, which, however, they still buy from outside workers in the form of blanks. It might reasonably be supposed that since the number of tickets is so vast they would be printed in large sheets and cut up afterwards, but this is not the case. Each ticket is specially made for the occasion, and the ink is not for the tickets, cut into blanks the size required, and printed and numbered one by one afterward.

ELECTRICITY FROM COAL.

One of the great problems of the end of the century—how to derive electricity direct from coal—is, in the light of recent discoveries, a stage nearer solution. The work of Dr. Jacques, in the direction, which has received the recognition of the highest scientific authorities, has been lately called in question on the ground that reports on the efficiency of his process are exaggerated. The amount of carbon contained within the pots, and no data has been given as to the amount of coal consumed upon the grate, or the power necessary to run the grate. The doctor's remedy might greatly modify the commercial efficiency of the apparatus when put into use. Dr. Jacques has now effectually answered these criticisms in a complete story of the invention. He proves that the phenomenon which is the generation of the current, was not due to thermo-electric action, but to the chemical combination of oxygen with carbon to form carbonic acid. He also demonstrates that under proper conditions the electric energy obtainable from one of the generators is substantially equal to the potential energy of the weight of carbon consumed within the pot. The invention is not yet by any means perfected, but the efficiency of the modern steam engines, only relatively small carbon electric generators, have as yet been built; and with this generalization in mind, the increased size means increased efficiency. A pound of coal, particularly in the coal consumed in the grate. A two-horse power carbon electric generator, in a few years, will be able to produce 32 per cent of that theoretically obtainable. This means an efficiency of 12 times greater than that of the average steam engine. The power plant in use in this country, and the times greater than plants of corresponding size. But while showing these extraordinary results, Dr. Jacques concedes that many details will still be worked out, and many improvements to be made before the carbon electric generator can be put into general commercial use on a scale comparable with that of the modern steam engine. The data given, however, are most encouraging to those who are now many—who regard the commercial obtaining of electricity direct from coal as a possibility of the very near future.

How to Prevent Pneumonia.

At this time of the year a cold is very easily contracted, and if left to run its course without the aid of some reliable cough medicine is liable to result in that dread disease, pneumonia. We know of Anaheim, California, purchased a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. We have used it quite extensively and it has always given entire satisfaction.—Olagh, Ind. Ter. Chief.

LIKE A VOLCANIC BUBBLE.

The Rev. F. C. Bortain of Puebla writes as follows: "It may be of interest to some of the readers of the Herald who visit Puebla to know of the volcanic eruptions in the vicinity of the City of the Angels. I refer to the Coxcomatec. It is about twenty minutes distant from Puebla, on the street car line to Cholula. Any street car conductor can point it out to the curiosity seeker. It is to the right of the car line, about 500 yards distant. It looks like a well-shaped pile of white snow on the car window to be a haystack. But upon closer inspection proves to be a tumulus of white calcareous stone, evidently of water formation, about 50 feet in height and 100 feet in diameter at the base. The form is that of a truncated cone. At the

Reasons why Shorey's Clothing is the Best. Because Shorey's are the only manufacturers of clothing who guarantee their work and their guarantee is as good as gold. All their materials are Sponged and Shrunk and will not shrink or crop off with rain. Their Bicycle Suits are up-to-date models of comfort and are all Rigby Proofed. They Rigby Waterproof all their Spring and Fall Overcoats and make no extra charge for it. Everybody is asking for Shorey's clothing but sometimes dealers try to persuade people to take inferior goods. Look in the pocket for Shorey's Guarantee Ticket.

Bone of Contention. Now that the good will to men period has set off every unfinished business start new ones. THAT'S THE "speaking of Helen" who arranged a tea cozy and ladies all were to call and have a cup of tea "we had will brew it while you are giving your The kettle away on the hob and a basket to serve you. Sample OUR BLEND.

Dixie H. Ross & Co. Government St. Knowledge, and it is hoped that the officials, English and French, in the neighborhood of the river allude may be able to arrange a look-out, that the tins may be secured and the parchment delivered to the proper owners. J. M. BARRIE AS A CHAIRMAN. Mr. J. M. Barrie, the well known Scotch author, was invited about a year ago by the Aberdeen Corporation to deliver a public lecture in that city. His reply was characteristic. "You are kind," he wrote, "and I thank you very heartily for this pleasant reminder of me that induced the committee to send me this invitation; but on very few occasions on which I have appeared on a platform I wished to get beneath a never did lecture, and I am very sorry that it is not generally known concerning the author of 'A Window Thru.' It seems that, on one occasion being induced to take the chair Burns supper at Ayr, he sat glumly at the head of the table, and none of those things which we expect of a chairman to do, not even simulating joyment. The papers chaffed him for his gaucherie, and the craziest chaff appeared in the National Observer, an article on 'Mr. Barrie in the Chair.' Most people who read it contended it went too far and showed personal animus, and so on. It eventually leaked that the writer was Mr. Barrie himself.

OLD NEPTUNE'S ROPE. The largest marine plant, and probably one of the highest plants known on this globe, is a gigantic seaweed, the necrocystis, the stem of which has been found to grow as much as 300 feet long. It was first discovered not far from the Alaskan coast, but has since been found floating in various parts of the Pacific ocean, along the American and Asiatic shores. This seaweed grows in a very curious manner. Large quantities of it are found at a distance from shore, and at depths not exceeding 300 feet. On loamy bottom large thickets of this plant take root, and a stem of the thickness of ordinary cord grows upward. At its top there is a pear-shaped balloon, which grows with the stem, and when it reaches the surface of the water it often measures six feet and more in length, with a diameter of four or five inches. This balloon has, of course, an upward tendency, and keeps the stem growing until it floats on the surface of the water. From the top of this balloon a large quantity of strong, thick spade-like leaves grows out, which, originally are not more than two feet long, and which grow and split until from the balloon a rose-like split from fifty to sixty-five feet in diameter covers the water's surface. The leaves, which are cut into narrow strips and used for twicker-work, the making of baskets and similar furniture.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

PERSONAL. Mrs. A. M. Zinn, Spokane, is a resident of the Diarrid. B. R. Seabrook returned from Mainland last evening. F. P. Page leaves for New York by Kingston this evening. R. J. Nott left for Rosland by Kingston last evening. W. A. Jack and wife, Clearwater, are guests at the Diarrid. Mr. Fred Richardson, of Vancouver, is visiting friends in this city. The New Westminster Rugby football team are registered at the Diarrid. E. W. Murphy and wife leave for Portland by this evening's Kingston. W. E. Drake, Vancouver, and J. H. Hogue, Winnipeg, are at the Diarrid. Miss Wilson returned on yesterday's steamer from Vancouver. Lloyd's surveyor, were passengers on the Islander from Vancouver last evening. Lindsay, auditor for R. Dunsmuir & Sons, will leave to-night for Victoria, where he will spend several days for the benefit of his health.

NEW YEAR'S GIFTS. We have remaining in our stock first class range and articles for New Year's gifts. Weiler Bros.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS. CURE SICK HEADACHE. Headache, yet Carter's Little Liver Pills are equally valuable in Constipation, Biliousness, Nausea, Dizziness, Diarrhoea, Colic, Pain in the Side, &c. While these remarkable cures have been shown to thousands of sufferers, they are still being cured. Headache, yet Carter's Little Liver Pills are equally valuable in Constipation, Biliousness, Nausea, Dizziness, Diarrhoea, Colic, Pain in the Side, &c. While these remarkable cures have been shown to thousands of sufferers, they are still being cured. Headache, yet Carter's Little Liver Pills are equally valuable in Constipation, Biliousness, Nausea, Dizziness, Diarrhoea, Colic, Pain in the Side, &c. While these remarkable cures have been shown to thousands of sufferers, they are still being cured.

After hearing some friends continually praising Dr. Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, Curtis Fleck, of Anaheim, California, purchased a bottle of it for his own use and is now as enthusiastic over its wonderful work as anyone can be. For sale by all druggists, Langley & Henderson Bros., wholesale agents, Victoria and Vancouver.

Captain H. H. P. Deasy, of the Sixteenth Queen's Dragoon, left England some time ago for a journey across Tibet from west to east, says the London Times. He intends on the way to throw soldered-up tins containing parchment notices in English and French into the tributaries of the Teasoo and into the other large rivers which he may meet with, in the hope that some of them may be picked up far down stream, possibly in Brahmaputra, Salween, and Mekong, and thus help to solve the vexed problem of the origin and connections of these rivers. The notices will be consecutively numbered and the tin in which they will be enclosed will have a bearing label soldered on the outside, bearing the words "Please open this" in English and French, and Captain Deasy's name. The parchment inside bears the request that it be forwarded without delay to the Royal Geographical Society, London, with an accurate statement as possible as to where it was picked up. Captain Deasy is trying to render an important service to geographers.

British Columbia. A big strike is reported to be in the City of Spokane mine. This mine was the property of the Fraser River & Cariboo Gold & Silver Mining Co. The mine was bought by them for \$47,500, and upwards of \$300,000 has been spent in equipping and developing the property. The Fraser River & Cariboo Gold & Silver Mining Co. has a meeting of its directors in the hall of the International Hotel, there to be held on Monday next. A committee appointed to look into the matter and report.

A strike of some importance is in the tunnel of the Nevada, in the City of Spokane. The mine is in the hands of the Nevada Mining Co. in the Giant which adjoins.

OBITUARY. Cheminus, Dec. 28.—Christina, wife of Mr. E. J. F. Cheminus, died at her residence in the City of Spokane. She was 78 years of age. Her husband was a prominent citizen and a member of the City Council. She was a devoted wife and mother, and her death is a great loss to her family.

The ship Lyderhorn is now here; she will probably take cargo of lumber ever shipped to the City of Spokane. The ship is owned by the Lyderhorn & Co. and is a fine vessel. She is expected to arrive in the City of Spokane on Monday next.

The mills here will shortly be night and day to fill orders. The mills are owned by the Lyderhorn & Co. and are a fine establishment. They are expected to be in full operation by Monday next.

H. Allar and wife spent the holidays with Mrs. E. J. F. Cheminus in the City of Spokane. They were a very pleasant party and their visit was a great pleasure to all concerned.

There will be a dance in the hall on New Year's eve. The dance is to be given by the Lyderhorn & Co. and is expected to be a very successful one. It is to be held on Monday next.

Prof. Oliver will give dancing here once a week after the first of the month. The dancing is to be given in the hall on New Year's eve.

Mr. Howell, of Victoria, is in charge of the store of the mill. He is a very capable man and is expected to do a very good job. He is to be in charge of the store from Monday next.

Mr. Welsh is expected here in a few days, after which services will be held every Sunday in the hall. Mr. Welsh is a very capable man and is expected to do a very good job.

Miss Peckham, of Seattle, is the holidays with Mrs. E. J. F. Cheminus in the City of Spokane. She is a very pleasant party and their visit was a great pleasure to all concerned.

The shaft of the War Eagle is 320 feet, and the best ore yet taken is from this depth. The War Eagle is a fine mine and is expected to be in full operation by Monday next.

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Best Clothing is the Best... Their work and their guarantee is as good as gold...

Attention.

Now that the good will to man period is over... We are ready to settle any unfinished business...

Co. Government St.

knowledge, and it is hoped that the officials, English and French, in the neighborhood of the rivers alluded to may be able to arrange a lookout...

J. M. BARRIE AS A CHAIRMAN

Mr. J. M. Barrie, the well known Scottish author, was invited about a year ago by the Aberdeen corporation to deliver a public lecture in that city...

PERSONAL

Mrs. A. M. Zinn, Spokane, is expected to arrive at the Diarrid. B. R. Seabrook returned from Mainland last evening. P. Paget leaves for New York by Kingston this evening.

We have remaining in our stock first class range of articles suitable for New Year's gifts. Weiler Bros.

British Columbia.

ROSSLAND. A big strike is reported to-night in the City of Spokane mine. This belongs to Horner-Payne's syndicate. This belongs to Fraser River's Cariboo Gold Fields Co.

A strike of some importance is reported in the tunnel of the Novelty. The ore is of the same character as is found in the Giant which adjoins.

OBAMAUS. Chamaus, Dec. 28.—Christmas passed off very quietly, there being very little drinking and no disorder of any kind.

The ship Lyderhorn is now loading here; she will probably take the largest cargo of lumber ever shipped from British Columbia.

R. H. Altar and wife spent yesterday in Duncan's visiting friends. There will be a dance in the town hall on New Year's evening.

H. Howell, of Victoria, is now in charge of the store of the mill company; he will remove his family here in a few days.

Rev. Mr. Welsh is expected to arrive here in a few days, after which Baptist services will be held every Sunday in the town hall.

Miss Peckham, of Seattle, is spending the holidays with Mrs. E. J. Palmer.

The Miner contains a manifesto of the squatters' committee to the citizens of Rossland asking for funds to resist encroachments on the lands granted to the Nelson & Fort Sheppard railway until the title is cleared.

The shaft of the War Eagle is down 320 feet, and the best ore yet taken out is from this depth.

Machinery is now on the St. Paul and before the end of the week a steam drill will be working night and day continuing the tunnel which is fifty feet to strike the main lead of the claim.

At 3 o'clock on Sunday last the International hall was packed, the occasion being a meeting of the squatters on the Corbin townsite.

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W. A. Jack and wife, Cleveland, are guests at the Diarrid. Mr. Fred Richardson, of Vancouver, is visiting friends in this city.

The New Westminster Rugby football team are registered at the Diarrid. E. W. Murphy and wife leave Portland by this evening's Kingston.

W. E. Drake, Vancouver, and J. H. Hoag, Winnipeg, are at the Diarrid. Miss Wilson returned on yesterday's Kingston after a six months' visit to friends in Washington.

Ald. Partridge and D. Cartwright, Lloyd's surveyor, were passengers on the Islander from Vancouver last evening.

A. Lindsay, auditor for R. Dunsmuir & Sons, will leave to-night for California, where he will spend several weeks for the benefit of his health.

Arthur S. Appleby and William Jones were brought before Judge Harrison on the charges of housebreaking and theft. Each of them was sentenced to three years in the penitentiary.

The customs collections for this port in 1896 were \$50,564, as compared with \$60,185 in 1895. The inland revenue for the past year amounted to \$10,000.

There is now in this mining district, according to statistics obtained from Gold Commissioner Bray, a total of 422 mineral claims of which 22 were located before the 1st of January, 1896; 100 were transferred to this district on the changing of the district boundary in reference to Texada Island, and just 300 were recorded during 1896.

A large number of these are on Texada Island. James Jamieson, a Gabriola Island settler, came over to Nanaimo on a sail boat on Tuesday last, and left on his return voyage about two o'clock the same afternoon.

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months ago to the Trail smelter ran a little over \$90. The Danube Mining Company has taken over the Parker group, situated a mile north-west from Quartz creek and between Wild Horse creek and Porcupine creeks.

ENGLISHMAN'S RIVER. Englishman's River, Dec. 28.—On Christmas Eve the Parkville school house presented a bright and animated appearance.

VERNON. The directors of the Morning Glory mine have decided to shut down work for the present, pending the securing of a

the position of mayor of Kamloops Mr. Thos. Roadley, who contested Ward One unsuccessfully, will this year run for the positions of mayor and alderman for Ward Two.

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ledge is three feet wide and well defined. The ledge on the Elkhorn has been exposed for 80 feet, and as yet no hang-wall has been reached.

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the purchase of the Great Northern and Riverview claims in summit camp, which are owned by Simon Shaw and George Carroll.

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VICTORIA MARKETS.

Table listing various market goods and their prices, including flour, wheat, corn, and other commodities.

Must not be confounded with common cathartic or purgative pills. Carter's Little Liver Pills are entirely unlike them in every respect.

PASSENGERS.

Per str. Islander from Vancouver.—B. R. Seabrook, W. S. Gordon, Thomas Shaw, John Partridge, D. Cartmel, A. McPhadden, F. Cawley, W. J. Barber, G. M. Leishman, A. McDermott, W. E. Drake, F. V. Austin, R. G. Penn, W. J. Briggs, H. C. March, G. B. Courbion, J. V. Cotten, C. D. Peale, E. V. Martin, R. J. Parkam, Chas. Woodward, J. H. Bushnell, J. Taylor, H. Springer, R. O. Connor, T. J. Mahony, T. S. Hardy, H. R. Jorand, G. A. Bont, P. Saunders, F. Evans, A. Tyson, T. M. Tyson, J. Casement, D. H. Smallwood, T. Hendley, M. O'Brien.

CONSIGNEES.

Per steamer Islander from Vancouver.—Lenz & Leiser, Consolidated Railway Company, John Flacey & Co., B. C. Furniture Company, Clark & Pearson, W. J. Hanna, M. W. Waitt & Co., Weiler Bros., D. Spencer, Erskine, Wall & Co., Simon Leiser, S. A. Stoddard, Wilson Bros., Langley & Co., Ames Holden & Co., R. Day, Sidney Shore, Beatty & Co., Victoria & Sidney Railway, R. P. Rithet & Co., Johns Bros., J. & A. Clearhine, W. Bonnas, C. M. Cookson, R. E. Cooper, T. C. Haynor, Albion Iron Works, A. B. Erskine, G. H. Magrath, Hudson Bay Co., Martin & Co.



DEAD HORSE!

gramme by the school children, assisted by musical friends, Mr. Gaetchen being chairman. Dialogue, Haze and John First, Mary and Elsie Plummer; recitation, Preston McMillan; song and chorus, 'Tardy Scholar'; dialogue, 'I Wish', by Florence Davis, Winnie Davis, Sadie Davis, Charlie Curtis, Jessie First, Ian Davis; chorus, 'Christmas now returns again'; recitation, G. Hurran; recitation, H. Plummer; dialogue, E. Plummer and W. Davis; recitation, May Orump; chorus, 'The Bells'; recitation, 'Thomas First and John First. Now apples oranges and nuts were handed round, when presently sleigh bells were heard jingling, and Old Father Christmas made his appearance to every one's delight.

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competent manager and superintendent. A large quantity of ore is now on the dump, and Mr. W. H. Ireland, who has set up his test smelter, will be in a position to run it through in the course of a few days.

BOUNDARY CREEK. Boundary Creek Times. Mons. Gire, representing the French syndicate operating in Central camp, proposes to treat his ores by an electrical process. He asserts that ore can be treated so inexpensively by this process that he will be entirely independent of railroads.

On Wednesday Mr. J. C. Haas, P. M., acting for the British Canadian Gold Fields Company, purchased from the lessees, Messrs. C. S. Galloway and G. A. Randall, the Ethiopians in Lona Lake camp. The price asked for the claim was \$3000 cash.

Mrs. Garland has bonded her one-eighth interest in the Jewel claim, Long Lake camp, to Mr. P. B. Smith, acting as agent for the British Columbia Prospecting Syndicate. By this bond the syndicate obtain full control of the Jewel claim, and they have lately obtained control of the adjoining property, Denoro Grande. The consideration of this transfer is \$6000; \$500 down, 20 per cent in six months and the balance in ten months.

Sharp and Ed. Williams have run a tunnel on the Surridge lead for 50 feet, and are down 30 feet with the shaft. The ore is copper and iron sulphides, assaying as high as \$35 in gold, 10 in silver and 20 per cent copper. The

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KOOTENAY HAS MADE THE MOST STARTLING CURES OF RHEUMATISM EVER RECORDED. WRITE FOR PAMPHLET CONTAINING SWORN STATEMENTS. S. S. RYCKMAN MEDICINE CO. HAMILTON.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS. CURE SICK HEADACHE. Ache they would be almost needless if they were not for this little pill. It is the best of all pills. It is the best of all pills. It is the best of all pills.







Was Purchased by Welch, Rithet & Co., and Registered at Victoria.

Sierra Blanca Chartered to Load Rice in China-Lumber Charters.

Messrs. Welch, Rithet & Co., of San Francisco have purchased the four-masted clipper ship Fort George.

To-night the C.P.R. steamer Empress of India will call at the outer wharf of her way to Yokohama.

Yesterday the Northern Pacific steamer Empress called at the outer wharf en route to the Orient.

Since yesterday the Rosalie has been running on a new schedule.

The ship Sierra Blanca, now unloaded coal at the wharf yesterday.

The sealing schooner Sadie Turner, Capt. A. S. Crane, has cleared for sailing cruise.

The ship City of Florence received orders yesterday to proceed to Tacoma to load lumber for Australia.

The ship Indore is having ports out the Albion Iron Works.

The ship Kate Thomas has been ordered to load lumber on the Sound.

J. M. BARRIE AS A CHAIRMEN

Mr. J. M. Barrie, the well known Scottish author, was invited about a year ago by the Aberdeen corporation to give a public lecture in that city.

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Recollections of Captain Wilkie.

By A. CONAN DOYLE.

Who can he be? I thought, as I watched the second-class carriage of the Dover railway.

It was not alone in the compartment these days we have all pretty well seen that "three o'clock" stock of mine.

"No, thanks, said he. I have given up to go. It was the hardest wrench of all.

"I can see without looking," he answered. "I thought you were a detective, at first, but I couldn't recall your face at the time I knew the form."

"I was one of your perfect," said I. "No, but I was real out-and-out. A 'take, you know, to start with, and afterwards a crackman."

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queter tone, "or they would never back a single hour at such short odds with a field of thirty."

"There was something in this speech of his which tickled me immensely. I suppose it was the odd way in which he blended religious intolerance with worldly wisdom."

"You speak as if you understood the matter, at any rate," I remarked.

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there was nothing in his job. I hurried off with my prize, and got it stowed away in safety, intending to have it melted down next day.

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the branch you have been talking of," remarked, "than there is in burglary."

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escape. We had to give up as a bad job, so we set down again, and made up our minds to the worst.

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the window. It was so contorted and agitated that I hardly recognized the features which I had been gazing upon during the last couple of hours.

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FORTUNES IN THE WASTE.

Talking about the saving of the copper held in solution in the water taken from the copper mines, John D. Henry, an old Missouri miner, said: "For a long time the water at the copper mines around Butte was allowed to run off, the owners of the mines not seeming to understand the importance of treating the water for the copper in solution."

"Some years ago I visited the copper districts of East Tennessee in the interests of some parties who were talking of engaging in the business, and while there saw a copper mine in which water was very important factor in the saving of values. The mine was very wet and the ore was extremely susceptible to the action of water."

"The owners told me that the copper recovered in this way represented the profits of their operations—Denver Republican."

ENGLAND'S LIST OF SEAMEN.

Fanciful intelligencers in naval matters have lately been striving to take entire possession of the public ear. Not only this, but the country has been surfeited with a lot of nonsensical stuff about the numbers of all rank available for sea service.

How are these 35,818 officers and men ready to go anywhere at an hour's notice made up? Petty officers and seamen number 56,420, but only 27,580 belong to the seamen class. Engine room officers and stokers absorb 19,023 of the difference.

But here is a big disparity in numbers existing between the 55,420 men in the petty officers and seamen class and the 35,818 available for sea service. Marines account for 15,000 of this difference.

OLD NEPTUNE'S ROPE.

The largest marine plant, and probably one of the highest plants known on this globe, is a gigantic seaweed, the necrocytis, the stem of which has been found to grow as much as 300 feet long.

It was first discovered not far from the Alaskan coast, but has since been found floating in various parts of the Pacific ocean, along the American and Asiatic shores. This seaweed grows in a very curious manner.

This gigantic weed grows in such quantities that near the shore large meadow-like islands are formed, which impede navigation. The natives of the Aleutian islands make manifold use of the plant.

—Hungarian Flour for \$1.35 at Bros.



# LEFT UNDECIDED

### Victoria Chess Team Accepts a Draw in Last Night's Game With Frisco.

### Strong Game Played by Both Teams - Frisco Adopts New Plan of Attack.

### Fifth Regiment Rugby Team Scores Another Victory - Shoot at Sidney.

The chess champions of Victoria and San Francisco had another royal battle, but the right to supremacy still remains undecided. Last year each side won a game and last night a draw was declared. Last night's match, opened about 7:15 in the Dental reading room, which was placed at the disposal of the Victoria players and in the Mechanics' Institute in San Francisco. The Victoria chess club was represented by Mr. T. W. Piper, assisted by W. C. Chapman, Ben Williams and Dr. Hands. The San Francisco team were W. S. Franklin, O. Samuels, R. Kendrick and Valentine Huber, the latter player coming in half an hour after the game started. Dr. Marshall acted as time-keeper for Victoria at San Francisco while C. A. Lombard filled a similar position here at the time-keeper for the home team here. Mr. W. Christie, the local manager of the C.P.R. telegraph manipulated the wire from the Dental, Dr. Martin had charge at the Mechanics' Institute and J. M. Emley watched the interests of both parties at the repeaters at Vancouver.

In the drawing, San Francisco won the move and opened the game with P4. Victoria decided to accept the open game and followed suit. The Frisco players proceeded with a Ruy Lopez opening and but up a very strong game. The attack, however, was successfully met by the Victoria contingent. At the end of the 25th move San Francisco wired as follows: "Mr. Piper, captain of the Victoria team. The players here propose a draw? What do you say?" Mr. Piper was of the opinion that the game might continue for hours, but as it was then only one o'clock he declined a draw, adding that a Britisher never liked to surrender. The answer came back: "If Mr. Piper can win he is the best player on the Coast." The game went on.

At the end of the 29th move the Victorians had a most slight hope of winning, but in meeting the very strong attack of their opponents their forces were so wasted that a victory at best could only be obtained after hours of tedious play. At 3 o'clock the home players wired that they would accept the draw, and one of the hottest of chess games was at an end.

Both teams played a strong game. San Francisco players adopted a form of the Ruy Lopez, about which their opponents had but very little information, with the result that the home players were thrown on their resources. The game was a considerable one for the Frisco players had later information on this form of attack than was obtainable in Victoria and from the fact that they had the attack itself in a matter of minutes means a considerable advantage. In a return match should Victoria get the move they would have much better chances to win.

The wireless admirably and there was no the slightest hitch from the opening to the closing of the game. Each side had to make ten moves in an hour. The longest time taken over a move by Victoria was in the 18th, 19th and 20th moves Frisco was hard pressed for time.

Among the interested spectators were several of the members of the Behring Sea Commission. They watched the game from a side table and the moves they made showed that they were no novices.

- Below are the moves:
- |                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| <b>SAN FRANCISCO.</b> | <b>VICTORIA.</b> |
| 1-P to K4             | P to K4          |
| 2-Kt to K B3          | Kt to Q B3       |
| 3-B to Kt5            | Kt to B3         |
| 4-Castle.             | Kt takes Pawn.   |
| 5-P to Q4.            | B to K5          |
| 6-P to Q3.            | P to Q3          |
| 7-B to K2.            | P to K5          |
| 8-P takes Kt.         | P takes Kt.      |
| 9-P takes P check.    | B takes P.       |
| 10-B takes P.         | P takes B.       |
| 11-B to B4.           | P to K3.         |
| 12-Kt to Q B3.        | P to Q B3.       |
| 13-R to K square.     | R to K square.   |
| 14-B to Kt5.          | Kt to B4.        |
| 15-Q to B3.           | B takes B.       |
| 16-Q to B2.           | B takes B.       |
| 17-Q takes B.         | Q to B square.   |
| 18-Q takes Q.         | Q's R takes Q.   |
| 19-Q's R to Q's sq.   | Kt to Kt5.       |
| 20-B to Kt5.          | B to Kt5.        |
| 21-B to K3.           | W's R to Q's sq. |
| 22-K to B sq.         | R takes R check. |
| 23-Kt takes R.        | R to Q's sq.     |
| 24-B to Q5.           | R takes R.       |
| 25-P takes B.         | P to K B3.       |
| 26-P to K B3.         | K to B2.         |
| 27-P to Q's R3.       | B to B4.         |
| 28-B to K2.           | K to K2.         |
| 29-B takes B.         | Kt takes B.      |
| 30-K to K2.           | K to K3.         |
| 31-K to K3.           |                  |

Kt to Kt6 was recorded by Victoria

Awarded Highest Honors—World's Fair, DR. **ROBEY'S** CREAM BAKING POWDER MOST PERFECT MADE. A pure Grape Cream of Tartar Powder. Free from Ammonia, Alum or any other adulterant. 40 YEARS THE STANDARD.

# THE GUN.

Several of the members of the city gun clubs went out to Sidney yesterday and enjoyed a good day's shooting. The most important event was the match for 100 birds between F. S. MacIure and C. W. Minor. The scores were small for these crack shots, probably because they were new to them. Minor won with 77 birds, MacIure's score being 66. In the sweepstakes which followed, better scores were made, the majority of those taking part making over 40 points. The five bird shoot furnished plenty of amusement. The pigeons were caught in the vicinity of Sidney a few days before and left the traps at noon. They were again the winner, missing only one of the thirteen live birds offered.

# 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 youthful folly, 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 have been completely restored to perfect health and manhood, after years of suffering from Nervous Debility, Loss of Vigor and Organic Weakness. I have nothing to sell and therefore want no money, but I know through my own experience how to sympathize with such sufferers, I am glad to be able to assist any fellow being to a cure. I have been a member of the Mechanics' Institute, for I myself was deceived and imposed upon until I nearly lost faith in mankind, but I rejoice to say that I am now perfectly well and happy once more and am desirous therefore to make this certain means of cure known to all. If you will write to me you can rely on being cured and the proud satisfaction of having been cured is a reward in itself. I need will be sufficient reward for my trouble. Absolute secrecy is assured. Send 5 c. silver to cover postage and address, Mr. George G. Strong, North Rockwood, Mich.

# THE CLAIMS COMMISSION.

### A Very Uninteresting Sitting Held This Morning.

The sitting of the Behring Sea Claims Commission was continued this morning. The session was quite uninteresting. The claim of the Thornton was resumed, in which case Mr. Dickinson submitted a statement from the case of Warren vs. Bosworth in the Supreme Court of British Columbia in order to show that J. J. Bosworth was an American citizen. Mr. Peters objected, arguing that it was not a suitable evidence on the subject. The commissioners decided that it be allowed to go in subject to Mr. Peters' objection.

Mr. Dickinson also submitted a statement to show that the schooner Thornton and several other schooners were fitted out and sent to Behring Sea by J. J. Bosworth under the management of Captain J. D. Warren, who was to act as commander and treatment of the crews at Sitka. This witness was master of the Anna Beck.

Captain Olsen also gave evidence in the cases of the schooners Anna Beck, Grace, Dolphin and W. P. Hayward, and also in the case of the schooner the crews at Sitka. This witness was master of the Anna Beck.

Captain McLean told of the weather on the coast of the seas at Clayport Sound when the Thornton was ashore at one time. The commission then adjourned until 2:30 o'clock this afternoon.

# BANKER SUICIDES.

### Was Proprietor of one of the Private Banks That Failed.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—Suffering from depression, caused by financial reverses, Otto Wassmendorf, a well-known banker of this city, fired a bullet into his brain on Sunday and died almost instantly. His sons, William G. and Otto, Jr., were in the parlor beneath their father's bedroom, and hearing the report of the revolver rushed up stairs. Running into the room the horrified sons saw their father lying in the bed, dying, a 32-calibre revolver at his side. He had shot himself in the right temple and a small stream of blood was running down his cheek. Everything in the room was in a state of confusion. The deed apparently had been deliberately planned.

Mr. Wassmendorf was a member of the private banking firm of Wassmendorf & Hennemann, which failed a week ago as a result of the failure of the National Bank of Illinois. The failure of the bank had a crushing effect upon Mr. Wassmendorf, and also seriously affected his wife, who is ill. The banker for several days was unable to eat or sleep. The criticism of unfortunate depositors weighed him down, and he was in a constant troubled state of mind. Sunday morning the banker appeared brighter and less troubled in spirits than upon any other day since the financial crash that ruined him. After breakfast with his family, with whom he chatted pleasantly, he glanced over the morning papers. He then engaged in a frolic with his little grand-daughter, after which he retired to his room. Fifteen minutes later the fatal shot was heard by the two sons. The young men were overcome with grief, and said they never had the slightest suspicion that their father contemplated suicide. Mrs. Wassmendorf is prostrated.

At the time of the failure the assets of Mr. Wassmendorf's bank were given at \$350,000 and the liabilities at \$415,000. Mr. Wassmendorf had been a banker in this city more than a quarter of a century, and during all that time he was a member of the firm which went down in the crash last Monday. He was of retiring and unobtrusive nature, and was known in the business community as a conservative and honest man. He was about 35 years of age.

# B. C. RAILWAY POLICY.

### SECOND LETTER.

To the Editor: In my former letter I gave some reasons why it appears timely to discuss the construction of a railway through Central British Columbia. These substantially were that as the Dominion government is about to decide upon a railway policy, it is desirable that the provincial government should co-operate with it and endeavor to secure along such lines as will lead to the symmetrical development of the province and the conservation of the interest which the Coast has and ought of right to maintain in the progress of the great interior. Other reasons point to the same conclusion.

The next census will be taken in 1901, and upon it will depend: The representation of the province in the federal parliament for the decade next hereafter ensuing; and The amount of federal contribution to the revenue of the province for the same period.

It is therefore of the utmost importance that immigration should be attracted to the province at the earliest possible day, and also that the increase of population should not be confined to one section.

There can be no manner of doubt that before very long government aid will be extended to a railway through the coast region north of the Canadian Pacific. I shall in a future letter show why it seems to me that the only way, from a federal and provincial standpoint, to penetrate that country is by a line from the coast. I shall also give in detail the reasons why we may expect that portion of the province, when opened up by a railway, to rapidly fill up with people. For the present I will only ask the reader to accept these points as already established. Sooner or later, then, a railway will be built with government aid to open Central British Columbia, and its construction will be followed by a great influx of people. How great will that influx be? I conversed yesterday with an American mining expert, who has been through several great mining booms in the United States. He asked him how many people he expected there would be in Kootenay by January 1st, 1898. He had just returned after spending the whole of the summer in that district. He replied that he expected to be between 40,000 and 50,000 by the end of next year, and 100,000 by the close of the century. If arrangements could be made for the beginning next spring of a line of railway from the head of Inlet to say, Quesnel mouth, a distance of 231 miles, the road would probably be completed in 1898, so that there would be upwards of two years after its completion before the next census would be taken. Let it be understood that such a railway will be built immediately, and next summer will witness a host of prospectors in the interior. There will be a rush to acquire new properties and to acquire those already known. The demand for farm produce, which will result from railway construction and increased activity in the mining sections, will induce settlers to locate upon the fertile lands in the river valleys, so that even before the railway is completed the population will begin to flow in and the conditions will be ripe for a great advance at the beginning of the 1898-99 winter. The succeeding winter was particularly severe. Large numbers of our birds perished of starvation through their usual supplies having been cut off for weeks. It was also very numerous. The birds mentioned as found among the victims of the frost are starlings, thrushes, blackbirds, robins and larks. During January and February gulls and English sparrows were seen in the fields, crops and trees, the arrival and departure of insects and so on, throughout every department of nature. At first sight the last issue of the report would seem to lend some corroboration to the claims of weather-lore. 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