

ALPHA WRECKED NINE MEN LOST

Unlucky Steamer Goes on the Rocks in Baynes Sound in the Storm on Saturday Night.

Samuel Barber the Owner, His Brother, Captain Yorke and Three Engineers Are Among the Drowned.

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 17.—The steamer Alpha is at the bottom of Baynes Sound. She crashed against the rock at the base of the lighthouse on Yellow Island, and nine brave fellows went to the bottom with her. She was bound for Japan with a cargo of 700 tons of salt salmon, consigned to Messrs J. B. Macrae, Johnson & Burnett, J. B. Macrae, and John G. M. Macrae.

some, about half, thrown into the hold in bulk, the Alpha sailed from here on Wednesday, December 20th for Yokohama. She had gone 200 miles when she was discovered, her hold increasing in depth with alarming rapidity. The engineer, William Gordon, who is in jail here serving a sentence of three weeks for desertion, reported the fact to First Officer Wilkinson, who at once ordered the steamer to be run to the rocks.

SMALLPOX AT VANCOUVER Two Mild Cases Discovered and Quarantined—Burglaries.

Vancouver, Dec. 17.—(Special)—Two brothers named Saint arrived from Seattle via the Albatross, and put up at the house of their brother-in-law, Mr. Madison. They complained of being unwell, and were quarantined. For three months Vancouver has ceaselessly worked, with the aid of the Dominion government, in keeping the disease, which has thus far affected men got in by way of Huntingdon. The cases are mild.

Rev. Robert Jeffrey, head of the Chinese missionary association in South China, says he learned while in Hongkong, en route to Canada, that Tibet had made overtures to Great Britain and Russia to open up Tibet to the commerce of the world. Tibet, being tired of being unwell, and being asked for aid when China is crippled. Robberies continue here almost nightly. Last night a watchman named Mr. Joseph Martin & Co. was robbed of \$100 in jewelry.

The residence of L. Thorber, Westminister, was entered and \$100 in jewelry secured while the family were absent. Mr. Joseph Martin & Co. had an operation performed for a diseased bone at St. Paul's hospital yesterday. The operation, it is said, will be successful.

Will be found an excellent remedy for tick headach, and for other ailments. Thousands of letters from people who have used them prove this fact. Try them.

WHOLESALE PROTESTS. Many Filed All Over Canada by Both Sides. Toronto, Dec. 17.—(Special)—Five more election petitions were entered in Ososode Hall to-day, and no more can now be entered, for the Ontario province. It is estimated that 40 days after election, the constituencies come out to-day's petitions are North York, Scarborough, and East York.

Among the protests filed already are J. Matheson (Lib.), Richmond, N. S.; P. B. Wade (Lib.), Annapolis, N. S.; Edward F. Carter (Lib.), Cumberland; Hon. W. S. Fielding (Lib.), Queens, N. S.; C. E. Kauback (Con.), Lunenburg; S. J. Proulx (Lib.), Terrebonne, Que.; E. H. L. Taylor (Lib.), West Astoria, Ore.; Walter Scott (Lib.), West Astoria, Ore.

Up-to-Date Styles at WEILER BROS.

Our first consignment of Fall Goods in the Upholstering, Drapery and Curtain Line are now on sale, and we can only say that for coloring, artistic effect and value we have surpassed ourselves in these last purchases.

Latest Novelties From Paris, Berlin, London.

WEILER BROS.

The Queen's speeches. It was as follows: My Lords and Gentlemen, I thank you for the liberal provision you have made for the expenses incurred by the operations of my army in South Africa.

De wet Has Again Escaped Though Twice Repulsed He Breaks Through the British Lines.

London, Dec. 17.—The report of another severe battle, resulting in a British victory, was given to-day by the Daily News. The fighting, which began at daybreak and lasted several hours, was the most severe since the Boers were completely defeated by the British on October 15.

Report of Boer Force Surrounded at Orange River and Badly Beaten.

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WRECK OF THE CITY OF TOPEKA She Went Ashore on Sullivan Island on the Way From Skagway.

Special to the Colonist. Seattle, Dec. 17.—The Pacific Coast steamer City of Topeka, Captain Olsen, was wrecked on December 8th while on her way down from Skagway. She was off Cape Mudge seven or eight years ago. She struck on the southeast end of Sullivan Island on what seemed to be a table rock.

DOWIE AGAIN. Clergyman Takes Out Libel Suit Against the Zionite.

London, Dec. 17.—The Rev. William Dowie, pastor of the Zionite church, has taken out a libel suit against John Alexander Dowle, the Zionite of Chicago, claiming that he was libelled in the issue of October 16, in which the Rev. Mr. Dowle is accused of fraud and immorality.

CUTS HIS OWN THROAT Desperate and Wounded Notorious Train Robber Kills Himself.

New Orleans, Dec. 18.—Since the hold-up of the Chicago limited mail on the Illinois Central in the suburbs of this city, Thursday night, officers had searched in vain for two men who had escaped from them after a running fight near the scene of the hold-up. It was known that one was badly wounded and that he was a fugitive from the law.

NANAIMO WATERWORKS By-Law Carries By a Large Majority—Drowned at Nanaimo Bay.

From Our Own Correspondent. Nanaimo, Dec. 17.—The Waterworks Purchase Loan By-law, to borrow \$125,000, was carried to-day by a large majority. The vote was 279 for, 127 against.

Confirms Capture

General Kitchener Reports 100 Hundred Brabant's Horse Prisoners of Boers.

London, Dec. 17.—General Kitchener, in a despatch received by the war office, confirms the Associated Press despatch from Alval North, Cape Colony, announcing the capture of a detachment of Brabant's Horse on December 10th.

Administrator Resides at Johannesburg But Capital Question Still Unsettled.

The colonial office in announcing that Sir Alfred Milner succeeds Lord Roberts as administrator of the conquered territory in South Africa, says his taking up his residence at Johannesburg on account of his health must not be regarded as a settlement of the capital question.

Four Men of "D" Battery Sentenced For Looting Military Stores.

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ALASKA SCANDALS. Mr. Carter of Montana Will Move For an Investigation.

Washington, Dec. 17.—In view of the wide publicity of the charges against the administration of the United States district court of Alaska, Mr. Carter, of Montana, to-day introduced a resolution in the senate directing the committee on judiciary to investigate the conduct of the judges of the district court of Alaska located at St. Michael, and to report to the senate the names of all persons connected with the litigation before that court concerning which any improper influence or illegal conduct has been or may be charged.

ST. JOHN'S WELCOME. Preparations Made For the Reception of the First Contingent.

St. John, Dec. 17.—A large number of prominent citizens met to-day at the office of Mayor Daniel, to consider the reception of Col. Otter and the men of the first contingent from South Africa. From information received from Ottawa, it seems that the Western men will be here for only a few hours. It was decided that the officers and men while here be entertained by the city.

Boers in Cape Colony General Macdonald is Engaging Them Twenty Miles From Burgersdorp

London, Dec. 18.—The Boers have raided Cape Colony at two separate points, one hundred miles distant, says the Capetown correspondent of the Daily Mail. One commando advanced on Philippolis, between Colesberg and Kimberley. The other, supposed to be Herzog's commando, crossed the Orange river between Odendalstrom and Bethulle, northwest of Burgersdorp, its objective apparently being Cradock.

General Knox Has Some Success in His Fighting With Dewet.

London, Dec. 15.—Lord Kitchener wires the war office as follows: The South African Light Horse and heavy cavalry, five officers and nine other ranks, missing; eighteen officers and fifty-five other ranks of the 1st Natal Mounted Infantry were being tracked by two companies of the 3rd Natal Mounted Infantry in the neighborhood of Thaba Nchu. Dewet's force lost considerably.

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TERMS OF EVACUATION

Great Britain Wants Pechill Occupied Till the Chinese Fulfill Demands.

London, Dec. 18.—"Great Britain has instructed the Chinese Government to stand," says the Pekin correspondent of the Daily Mail, writing Sunday, "to urge the retention in the joint name of the word 'irrevocable', and the inclusion in the preamble of a declaration that until the British Government has fulfilled its demands of the powers, Pekin and the province of Chihli will not be evacuated by the allied troops. It is rumored that Germany is warmly supporting the British proposal, and I believe a majority of the powers and possibly all of them, will eventually accept the proposal which is laid here with delight."

Farmers In Session

Central Farmers Institute Meets to Discuss Many Vital Questions.

Monday was First Day at the meeting of the Central Farmers Institute, held across the bay in the rooms of the Department of Agriculture. There was an excellent attendance, the many aspects of the most important industry varied as it is throughout the province, being all well represented. As generally happens, however, this day was largely devoted to tinkering with the acts and rules, and so but small progress was made with the more useful business prepared.

Yesterday's Proceedings Formal—Members Advocate a Model Farm.

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THE GNEISENAU WRECK. A Heavy Loss of Life in the Disaster of the German Training Ship.

Malgas, Dec. 17.—The German training ship Gneisenauf, foundered on Sunday at the entrance to this port. Of the crew of 450 persons, 314 were saved.

HELP THE SOLDIERS. Employers Requested to Keep Places Open for Them—The Queen's Thanks.

London, Dec. 18.—The government publicly requests employers who have open places for Yeomanry, Territorial and volunteer to continue their patriotic efforts to maintain the full complement of the services of their country. The war office has issued the Queen's thanks to the Yeomanry, colonial and volunteers, expressing their reliance that those abroad will continue to aid her regulars.

THE NERVES RULE THE BODY

Feeble Nerves Are Aroused to Vigor and Life by the Use of Chase's Nerve Food (Pills). The movements, the functions and very life of each and every organ of the body are under the direct control of the nervous system. Whether weakened and exhausted over-work, worry or disease, the effect is to disturb the normal functioning of the organs, and the result is usually paralysis, locomotor ataxia, strabismus, epilepsy or insanity.

BOUNDARY SHIPMENTS.

Table with columns for ship names and cargo details, including Grand Forks, Dec. 15. The shipments for the past week of the Boundary are as follows:

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"Great Haste is Not Always Good Speed." Many people trust to luck to pull them through, and are often disappointed.

Keep the liver, kidneys, bowels and blood healthy by the use of Hood's Sarsaparilla, the faultless blood purifier.

HOOD'S SARSAPARILLA NEVER DISAPPOINTS

LOCAL NEWS. From Tuesday, December 18th.

Victims Clearing House.—The totals of the victims clearing house for the week ending December 18th, were \$632,815; balances, \$117,391.

Nunns-Shaw.—L. W. Nunns, assistant postmaster at Cumberland, was married to Miss Margaret Shaw, eldest daughter of Joseph Shaw, of Victoria, yesterday morning at 8 o'clock. Rev. W. L. Pennington officiated at the ceremony.

Not Legal.—Complaint has been made to the police that Indians have been using salmon trout and young salmon under three pounds weight. This is contrary to the fisheries regulations and action will be taken against the offenders.

Friendly Help.—The committee on Christmas work of the Friendly Help Society wish to remind visitors to help their lists in at once. The rooms in the Market building will be open every day this week.

Yukon Appeal.—In supreme court chambers yesterday Mr. Justice Drake made an order allowing an appeal to be made down to the county court.

Closing of Schools.—The public schools will all close for the Christmas holidays on Friday, the High School, Victoria West, Boys' Central, South Park and Hillside schools in the city, the North Ward and the Girls' Central in the afternoon. There will be no closing exercises at the South Park and Victoria West schools.

New Official.—A position in the office of the manager of the Victoria Harbour has been accepted by W. E. Bow, formerly of the C. P. R. car service in Victoria.

Sons of England.—From the account of E. H. Brakes' speech at the S. O. E. E. Society's annual banquet, which was held last week, it follows that the society is very much interested in the grand jubilee celebration of that order for 1899.

Sudden Death.—Henry Hancock, the proprietor of tobacco stores on Government street, died suddenly yesterday after a short illness.

Borne to the Grave.—There was a large attendance at the funeral of the late John Parker, which took place yesterday from the residence, 57 Kane street.

A Handsome Trophy.—Hiram Walker & Sons, Ltd., of Walkerville, Ont., presented a handsome trophy for the Ontario Rifle Association competition, which was won by Sgt.-Major McDougall, of this city.

High-Class Poultry.—Two pens of pure-bred White Plymouth Rock chickens have lately been imported from the United States.

Rough Trip.—G. L. Roy Dana, mining engineer, and B. Brown, a mine owner, had a most interesting and successful trip to the Yukon.

Consolidated By-Laws.—At the next meeting of the city council it is contemplated by-laws will receive their first reading.

The Farmers In Council

Institute Approves of the Suggested Importation of Song Birds.

Fruit Inspection—Size of Apple Boxes and Other Subjects Debated.

On Tuesday morning the Central Farmers' Institute resumed its session.

The fruit inspection committee, which was organized at the meeting of the institute held on the 14th inst., reported on the subject of the size of apple boxes.

The subject of the importation of song birds was discussed and the institute approved of the suggestion.

The question of the size of apple boxes was also discussed and it was decided that the institute should petition the government for a reduction in the size of the boxes.

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before the C. P. R. freight authorities were seen, as otherwise the company had so many schedules and rates that the delegates would easily be mixed up in the discussion.

The question of the payment for papers read at the meetings was brought up by Mr. Sloan, who also complained that some papers were published and some were not.

It was moved by A. Phillips, seconded by Mr. Sloan and carried: That this institute is of opinion that good work can be done by district institutes.

Several short speeches were made upon the subject of the size of apple boxes and the institute decided to petition the government for a reduction in the size of the boxes.

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