e store and bedroom; did not lend oney to my sister before the fire; have id one note of $200 for her since; all e boots that were saved were taken er to Mr. Isaacs; there were some ots burnt on the shelves; could not say w many; am certain that nothing was ved on the back shelves.

To Mr. Moss—There are shelves on e partition; have seen burnt boots and oes on them.

Morris Moss—On the night of the fire as attending the synagogue; left there out 8 o'clock and walked with Mrs. orris as far as Johnson street; had some siness with Mr. Salmon and went to s store; left the store about 8:45; have ade claims upon Mr. Nuttall and he ld me he intended holding an inquiry.

To Mr. Mills—Did make a claim on r. Nuttall as executor; if I had not been ecutor I should not have written the tter signed by Mrs. Morris.

His honor then reviewed the evidence d pointed out to the jury their duties. e thought that the evidence so far adced did not throw any light on the igin of the fire.

Mr. Fullerton, foreman, said he would ke to have a look at the premises. His ish was echoed by the others and the urt was adjourned for half an hour.

After the jury returned from viewing e premises they gave a verdict to the fect that the fire was caused by the upetting of the lamp.

LATE CANADIAN NEWS.

risp Cullings from our Eastern Exchanges—What the Atlantic Papers Have to Say.

ONTARIO.

P. Purcell, M. P., denies that he will ive the government an independent upport.

The Ottawa Local Imperial Federation eague is going to discuss Imperial topics ublicly.

Mr. Kamper, the capitalist, will spend he session at Ottawa promoting his cheme to purchase the Intercolonial and he establishment of smelting works at Nova Scotia,

The Trent Valley commissioners are ngaged in parliamentary work and correspondence, arranging for taking evidence as to the desirability of extending he canal to Lake Simcoe and Georgian Bay.

It has taken the Kingston evangelical lliance a long time to wake up, but it has at length put on record its disapproval of gambling at the local fair, and hopes that the scandal and demoralization attending it will never again be experienced in the city.

At the Salvation Army meeting at Ottawa prayers were offered for the distressed and abused friends and co-workers in Quebec and at the conclusion of the religious exercises a liberal contribution was taken up to supply the sinews of war for the struggle in the citadel city. People outside the Salvation Army ranks altogether subscribed liberally, believing that protection and the right of parade belongs to all classes of the community.

QUEBEC.

Chief of Police Paradis, of Montreal, is dying.

Montreal has decided to have no carnival this winter.

The petition against Fiset, member for Rimouski, has been dismissed.

Lassiez, local member for Vercheres, is unseated for bribery by agents.

Premier Mercier has gone to New York in connection with the Quebec loan.

M. Tasse, editor of *La Minerve*, is mentioned as the probable leader of the Quebec Conservatives.

The price of sugar, both granulated and yellow, was raised at Montreal on Monday morning by wholesalers, one quarter of a cent.

One more Rouge has gone the way of corrupt politicians. Mr. Goyette, local member for Laprairie, resigned, admitting bribery by agents.

Judge Caron dismissed the petition against the return of McGreevy, M. P., Quebec, but notice of appeal to the supreme court was given.

A young Sioux Indian girl took the vows of the Grey nuns in the convent at Three Rivers the other day. She has been living there since her infancy.

The Quebec election cases will be appealed to the supreme court to test the question whether the time of the session of parliament counts in election petitions.

Joseph Nugent, of St. Ferdinand de Halifax, Megantic county, charged with killing his mother in 1886, has been arrested and placed in Arthabaska gaol to await his trial.

The gross earnings of the Canadian Pacific Railway for the ten months ending Oct. 31, 1887, were $9,468,434; working expenses, $6,839,123, net profits, $2,629,311.

The latest trade combination is that of Montreal local rubber dealers who want to coerce the wholesalers to refuse dealing with any traders who are not members and thus increase retailers' profits.

A leading fur house at Quebec was badly taken in a few days ago by a well dressed stranger who bought $800 worth of their finest furs and paid the bill with an $1,000 cheque, apparently accepted by the British North America bank, receiving back $200 in money. The next day when the cheque was presented it was learned that the maker was unknown and the acceptance a forgery. In the meantime he got safely out of the city with the plunder.

NOVA SCOTIA.

William Wheatley, commission merchant, Halifax, has assigned. His liabilities are $10,000, of which $8,500 are preferred.

MANITOBA.

Fraser was elected mayor of Brandon by acclamation.

There is some talk of an early dissolution of the Manitoba legislature.

Douglas has been re-elected mayor of Emerson, his opponent declining to stand.

A grain blockade on the Canadian Pacific has commenced, and loud complaints are heard in reference to the delay in receiving cars.

A deputation of the Knights of Labor waited upon the Lieut.-Governor of Manitoba in reference to calling a meeting of the legislature. They received the promise that the legislature would be called together on January 12th.

Galignani's Messenger says: "Never, probably, in the history of Paris, has the picture market been in so depressed a state as it is at this moment. A few great artists, like Bouguereau, Meissonier, or Benjamin Constant, find ready [illegible] for their works at very high pri[illegible] the rank and file have the grea[illegible]culty in making both ends meet [illegible] import duty on pictures for th[illegible] States were removed, American [illegible] would probably come forward in increased numbers, but until then there seems little hope of any improvement. As an illustration of the existing depression may be mentioned the result of the sale, after death, of the works belonging to M. Jacquinot, the artist-expert, which has just come to an end at the Hotel Drouot. Two thousand pictures put up to auction only produced 21,000f, or £840, being an average of 16s per picture. In some cases two or three canvases together were sold for 5f, and not one single work realized £20."

Steamer Ancon arrived at the outer wharf at 2:30 o'clock p.m. yesterday and left for Port Townsend two hours later.

The Victoria Weekly Colonist.

THIRTIETH YEAR. VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1887. VOLUME XXIX, NO. 51

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

Scenes Attending the Opening of Congress—Chamberlain's Appearance.

Should the United States Become its Own Telegraph Company?—Civil Service Reform—The President's Message—Newsy Notes.

[From our Own Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7th.

Washington is happy. The flower of American society is assembled here, and the winter season of gaiety has been fairly inaugurated. From this date the life of a congressman will be a constant round of hard work and social dissipation, and if some do not fall by the way before the end of the session history for once will neglect to repeat itself. Men accustomed to regular work and regular hours soon find that the machinery of nature gets out of gear when worked at high pressure at all seasons without the cooling influence of rest and rational recreation. A state dinner on the top of a regular dinner, and several bottles of something very dry on the top of a sequilation allowance of Kentucky Bourbon is apt to superinduce a gastric derangement such as has cut short many a brilliant political career in this city. New congressmen unaccustomed to the fleshly lusts cultivated in large cities are the greatest sufferers from the debilitating effects of late hours and too much eating and drinking. It is not work that kills our congressmen, it's society.

The news of the opening of Congress has already been flashed to you across the wires. The ceremonies did not differ materially from the ceremonies with which other congresses have been ushered in. Both houses presented an animated scene as the hour for the formal opening approached, though the greatest interest was manifested in the Senate.

MRS. CLEVELAND,

of course, was there, and the observed of all observers. Joe Chamberlain appeared unconscious of the attention he attracted as he viewed the scene with aristocratic *nonchalance* through his single barrelled eyeglass. The spectacle before him was a brilliant one. All the beauty, wealth, and intelligence of the nation seemed to be clustered in that spot. The air was musical with the hum of human voices and fragrant with the perfume of flowers, which wrought into artful and graceful forms hid the desks of popular senators. In the house this scene was in its main features duplicated. Amid the greetings which were general upon the floor, Blount of Georgia, and Breckenbridge of Arkansas, who came to blows on Saturday night over the doorkeepership, shook handscarcos the bloody chasm and became friends. The crank, as it manifests itself in Washington, is an irrepressible creature, and at the opening of the House he succeeded in making his presence felt. The chaplain had not been elected, and the proceedings were about to begin without an invocation of the Divine blessing when a mentally unbalanced revivalist called for the singing of the doxology. But a minority of those present knew what the doxology was. A few Congressmen thought it was a new drink until the crank, suiting the action to his words, reeled off the whole of the hymn to common sense before either he or his voice could be arrested by the sergeant-at-arms. Though Speaker Carlisle said nothing particularly new or startling in the course of his address upon taking the chair he voiced the sentiment of the nation in calling for wise, conservative and prompt action in abolishing all unnecessary taxation. While he directed attention to the fact that the prosperity of the nation hinges in a great measure upon judicious tariff legislation during the present session. By its treatment of the tariff question this session the Democratic party will do much to ensure its success or failure in the coming presidential contest. The balloting for seats in the house is a custom which promises in the future to be more honored in the breach than in the observance, and yesterday the rigid rule was slightly relaxed. Pig Iron Kelly, the father of the house, and Sunset Cox, another time-honored representative, were allowed to take their old seats without making their position in the house to the hazard of the die. There is a growing disposition to abolish the rule of balloting for seats, and to permit leading statesmen to take the places which they are entitled to on account of their long congressional service and pre-eminence in the domain of statesmanship. Under the existing rules veterans in the ranks are often relegated to back seats while raw recruits, fresh from municipal councils, sit right up under the speaker's eye. There is already a good deal of speculation in regard to

THE LEADING MEASURES

which will be brought before congress, and second only to the tariff, is the proposition that the United States should become its own telegraph company. This proposition involves an enormous expenditure on the part of the federal government and an absolute monopoly of the government of the telegraph business of the United States. It would be bad statesmanship for any administration to recommend the establishment of a new telegraphic service merely for the purpose of keeping down rates, and it would be simply playing into the hands of Jay Gould to purchase the Western Union system. There is no doubt that Jay Gould forsaw that a measure of this character would be introduced during the present session, and that he purchased the B. & O. lines for the sole purpose of removing the question from the field of practical politics for the time being. Then again the necessary time for a proper consideration of this important question cannot be secured this session, and after all it is questionable whether a government telegraph system would be more in the public interest. In England the party in opposition have always been seriously handicapped by the government telegraph, and to-day the Home Rule party cannot wire their friends in regard to important national matters because of *espionage* which the government can, and doubtless does, maintain over all messages, and especially those of a political character. Of course, ciphers may be used, but there is no cipher which cannot be deciphered by an expert in the art of resolving ciphers. Here, where party feeling runs very high on certain occasions, the administration with a government telegraph would hold a whip hand over the "outs." At present it is not intended to give the government a monopoly of the telegraph business, but a little reflection will show that the government could not enter into any scheme which would place it at the mercy of a private corporation. These are the sentiments of some leading men with whom I have conversed on the subject, who are not yet prepared to express their views publicly on the question which is as yet only in an embryolic condition.

Notwithstanding all that has been said and done against civil service reform it appears after all to have its uses. The army of office-seekers who used to take possession of the capital about this time is conspicuous by its absence. The rank and file of this army had few or no qualifications for clerical work, and they soon found there was no hope of preferment for them under civil service rules, and if civil service reform has done nothing else it has practically abolished one of the worst features of American political life—the importunate office-seeker. While, however, much can be said in favor of civil service reform much also can be said against it. It seems to be

A GREAT HARDSHIP

to require a candidate for office not only to attain a standard of sixty-five per cent. in his examination, but to be the most efficient of all examined with him. The examinations are practically competitive examinations, and in this way a discrimination is made in favor of the school boy as against the man who, though he may have forgotten much of his academic lore, is still able to pass a standard sixty-five per cent. examination. There is a growing feeling in favor of certifying all candidates who come up to the standard.

Mr. C. R. Taylor, the American minister to Liberia, is thoroughly disgusted with his diplomatic mission. A few days ago it was rumored that he had resigned and his enemies took advantage of the occasion to circulate a report that he had been ignominiously recalled. There, however, seems to be no ground for the base insinuation, and but little reason to doubt that Mr. Taylor is very fond of Liberian society. He reports that owing to the salubrity of the climate clothes play but a very perfunctory part in Liberia. The president is in full regalia when he dons a plug hat and a masher's collar, and according to all accounts the secretary of the interior when Mr. Taylor was introduced to him wore an umbrella and a breech cloth caught up with pieces of string. Modes generally are not subordinate to the idea that nature unadorned is adorned the most, and the belles of society are interesting studies of artistic anatomy. Mr. Taylor would not return to Liberia for all the untold wealth of its natural mineral resources.

The president's message was

A GENUINE SURPRISE

to both democrats and republicans. It is a very flat-footed document. It is an unequivocal free trade deliverance but withal so conservative in tone that it gives force to the statement of Mr. Baker, of Ill., that the message is an argument for protection of American industries. In a sense this is true. What the president virtually says is this: If we are going to protect anything let us protect American industries, and take the tariff off articles not produced in America—a tariff which is all disadvantage to the working man and no benefit. He says moreover: If we are to take the tariff off anything let us take it off the necessaries of life which the poor must have. In his message the president keeps the poor man constantly in view. The justness of the president's conclusions cannot be questioned though their expediency is open to criticism. It cannot be denied that there are a good many Democrats greatly pejected by the message, and if they refuse to be comforted they may succeed in complicating national politics very seriously. The message was largely in the nature of an executive bomb and I understand this evening that the President himself feared that his communication to Congress would be severly criticised. He, however, feels keenly the gravity of the situation and inclines to the belief that a heroic remedy is needed at this conjuncture. All that can be safely predicted in regard to the tariff legislation is that it will engross a large share of the time of Congress. In 1870 when the tariff was revised by the Republicans, the whole or part of some sixty different days was consumed in the consideration of the bill. It is assumed that if there is much filibustering the time consumed this year in the revision of the tariff will be much greater than in 1870.

The fisheries commission is proceeding slowly with its work, and has almost dropped out of the public mind. The fishery commissioners, however, are the high lights of the social world and will never be forgotten. Newspaper men have ceased trying to obtain any intelligence of the negotiations. None of the commissioners will talk fishery matters, and their subordinates are much closer than oysters. I understand that no one except the secretaries of the commission know what is taking place, and that the clerical work is so divided up among a number of clerks that no one clerk can make anything out of the papers he handles.

POTOMAC.

CONDENSED DISPATCHES.

The Crown Princess of Portugal is seriously ill.

Extensive deposits of gold bearing ore have been discovered near Puesas, Ala.

According to the *Official Military Gazette* Russia neither desires nor fears war.

It only takes 3 days, 21 hours now, to travel by train from San Francisco to Chicago.

Lord and Lady Lansdowne will preside at the opening of the picture exhibition at Montreal.

The Central Pacific Railroad has declared a dividend of one per cent., the first in four years.

The Belmont hotel, Los Angelos, was destroyed by fire yesterday. Loss, $100,000. Insurance unknown.

The French ministry promises to restore the financial equilibrium by the retrenchment of expenditures.

Henry S. Swalm, charged at San Francisco, pleaded not guilty. Clara Bell McDonald also pleaded not guilty.

Fred White says the charges of citizens of Battleford, N.W.T., against Commissioner Herchmer are unfounded.

Senator Stanford has introduced a bill in the senate for the establishment of a quarantine station at San Francisco.

The *National Zeitung* says that Professor Bergmann has suddenly declared his intention of not returning to San Remo.

The Imperial government is to be asked to take action against the publishers of anarchist and revolutionary periodicals issued in London.

The St. Petersburg *Invalide Russien*, government organ, declares it is not Russia, but Germany and Austria who are acting aggressively.

General Thomas Kirby Smith, a distinguished soldier of the war of the American rebellion, died in Philadelphia last Wednesday, aged 67.

It is believed there is a good deal of truth in the report that La Riviere and Harrison want the Dominion Government to buy out the Canadian Pacific monopoly.

An improvement in the breech mechanism of the Martini-Henri rifle, invented by Captain Greville Harstone, of the Grenadiers, Toronto, has been adopted by the British war department.

Lord Churchill spoke at Stockport, Eng., last night and said that the prospects of the Unionists were very bright and that their position had become better defined since the failure of the round-table conference.

CAPITAL NOTES.

Sir Charles Tupper Believes a Satisfactory Settlement of the Fisheries' Question Possible.

He Speaks Highly of Chamberlain—Rumored that the Government Will Take Over the C. P. R.—Poultry for New York—A Malicious Fabrication Nailed.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

OTTAWA, Dec. 17.—The Minister of Justice was interviewed to-day. He said he thought it feasible to arrive at a final settlement of the fisheries' question. He speaks highly of Chamberlain and says he co-operated heartily with Sir Charles Tupper.

The report wired here of two clerks of the fisheries department giving private government information to the Washington authorities is a malicious fabrication.

It is rumored in England that the government are going to take over the Canadian Pacific, but nothing is known of the matter here.

Twenty-two carloads of Christmas poultry were sent from Ottawa district to New York to-day.

OUR CABLE LETTER.

LONDON, Dec. 17th.

It has been amusing to hear the indignant reproaches hurled at Howard Vincent's head by the more cautious members of the Tory party. Fair trade they have said is all very well for the general election, but why on earth trot it out when there are no votes to be gained and many Unionist allies to be frightened off, and those who have so expressed themselves have not had a long wait for a justification of their beliefs. Lord Hartington, John Bright, and finally Hon. Geo. J. Goschen, have declared in favor of their old creed of free trade, nothwithstanding the declarations of the Liberal-Unionist leaders that they will not vote a duty on corn even to save the government. The Fair Traders intend introducing such a measure early in the next session of Parliament and will give the government a great deal of trouble in bringing the question promptly to the front. This threat and the recent developments of the agitators are regarded with grave anxiety by the Conservative leaders. Lord Salisbury and some of his colleagues have done their best to run with the hare while hunting with the hounds on this question, but the reactionaries at Newton the following make no secret of the fact that they had enough of this vacillation. They already have a grievance against the government arising out of their belief that Mr. Smith, the Conservative leader of the house, wilfully threw obstacles, during the whole of last session, in the way of the ventilation of their theories in parliament. The formal adoption by the Tory caucus of a protectionist policy is by no means the only difficulty which threatens the unionist alliance.

The adoption of woman suffrage as part of the Conservative platform is likely to prove troublesome to certain of the liberal unionists. Sir Henry James first made his mark in the house of commons by an elaborate and impassioned attack on the advocates of woman suffrage, and ever since that time has been an active, bitter and persistent opponent of the changes. Bright notoriously thinks that the less women concern themselves with public affairs, the better, even with reference to social and moral questions. Chamberlain is probably the most thorough-going advocate of what Mr. Mill called "the subjection of women," alike in its political, economical and domestic aspects, who have ever filled conspicuous places in English public life. If Chamberlain is as frankly loyal to his old opinions on this question as Bright is to his opinions about protection, a vigorous letter may be expected from America on the female suffrage question, and those who remember bygone debates in the commons on woman suffrage and the contributions made to them by so remote from the throne as the Duke of Cambridge will recognize that this subject affords unequalled scope for homely language.

The advanced wing of the Tory party find allusions to the forthcoming local government bill unsatisfactory and about the promised land purchase bill there is absolutely no enthusiasm, either among the old Tories or the new. The old electioneering hands of the party make no secret of the belief that the land purchase bill will be unpopular with the Conservatives in this country and may put the government in serious danger, but the explanation is to be heard on all hands, "it is Goschen's fad." In the same way that Goschen is blamed by the followers of Lord Churchill for having emasculated the local government bill, and by fair traders for making himself the stumbling block in the way of Salisbury's leadership of the protectionists. All this marks a line of clearage in the Unionist camp. Despite all the hard work Goschen has done recently for the Unionist cause he is not popular with the great bulk of the Conservative party and it is safe to predict that for any misfortunes which may overtake the government the Chancellor of the Exchequer will inevitably be made the scapegoat. His high-handed, dry, economical theories are proving more intolerable to Conservatives than they were ever to their opponents.

This time last year, it is instructive to remember, politicians were in prospect of the meeting of parliament on the 13th of January, and there was a disposition to negotiate, on the part of dissentient Liberals, which has now been entirely withdrawn. Then, as now, Gladstone was standing firmly on his principles of a subordinate parliament for the local affairs of Ireland, and an executive government arising out of that parliament. Of all the distinguished dissentient Bright was there alone in his attitude of "*Laissez faire.*" Those who were then apparently desirous of a compromise have fallen back into the current with Bright, and it may be said now with even greater emphasis than twelve months ago, that Gladstone's policy still "holds the field." Scarcely any one supposed a year ago that it would at this time have stood alone with no competition of any sort for a solution of the problem of Irish government and it is the absence of any policy but that of coercion which gives rise to doubts as to the longevity of this parliament.

Statesmen may as well try to run away from their shadows as to avoid the topic of a central European alliance and all that it includes, implies and pre-supposes. Optimistic politicians are seeking in vain for the pointed warning contained in the German Emperor's recent speech to the Reichstag. A war of revenge cannot be waged. At all events it is hardly likely that France will force it whilst affairs south of the Rhine are in a state of confusion, giving no sign of an early adjustment. Then again, say the critics of this easy-minded class, Russia has no immediate attention of crossing the Austrian frontier, and therefore it is not probable that the aid of Germany will be invoked for many months to come. Pessimists, on the other hand, perceive the possibility of French statesmen rushing, out of sheer desperation, into war in order to distract the attention of the people from the wretched state of affairs at home and to give the Republic, which has fallen into sad disrepute, a chance of achieving a splendid victory for France. If the soldiers of the Republic returned from the field triumphant monarchy would have received its death-blow.

Once more the statesmen at St. Petersburg take no pains to conceal their restiveness under the policy which prevents their resenting Austria's attitude towards Prince Ferdinand. How soon their patience may give out, and the Emperor William does not appear to believe in its long endurance, and how soon their imperial master may be thrust into hostile protest, it is difficult to forecast. Meanwhile Italy is beginning to ask what would be the result of an Austrian defeat by Russia? The latter would in such an event offer Austria an alliance which she could not refuse. Then there would be Russia, France and Austria in combination—a condition of affairs which would constitute the Czar master of the east and would endanger Italian unity, to preserve which Signor Crispi entered into the central alliance. These are a few of the problematical complications, the anticipation of which is occupying the minds of European statesmen. The part which England would play, in the event of hostilities between Russia and Austria, has been almost determined upon. Her fleet would support the action of the allied powers, and her interference would have for its main object the preservation of the integrity of Turkey. As the situation at present reveals itself it would be impossible to predict its next development. Only this is certain there is a general cry for "Peace" on the lips of European statesmen, whilst the word "War" goes resounding through their hearts.

Rumors of the reappearance of alarming symptoms in the disease of the Crown Prince are now received in a manner which leaves no doubt of the serious condition of the royal patient. Sir Morell Mackenzie, who a short time ago declined to express any save qualified opinions as to the progress of the malady now makes a statement of so unfavorable a character as to fill the minds of the German people with grave apprehension. Sympathy with the patient, which the bad news aroused, has not been confined to the Fatherland, but has been felt throughout Europe. There are ties which endear him to Englishmen among whom but a little while ago he took up his residence and from whose midst he departed believing that he had received great benefit. As husband of the favorite daughter of Queen Victoria, the Crown Prince has always been regarded in England as one of the royal family of Great Britain and has shared the national feeling of respect and admiration. The report that Queen Victoria has written to the Emperor of Germany with regard to making provision for the family of the Crown Prince is semi-officially denied to-day. Her Majesty has enough to think of in the future of her royal family at home. When the Prince of Wales was stricken down with serious illness the position of his family was very much like that of the family of the Crown Prince of Germany. The £40,000 a year which the Prince of Wales has from parliament is for life only and the £60,000 a year which is his probable income from the Duchy of Cornwall would, upon his death, pass at once to his eldest son. The estate of Sandringham, which cost in all about £400,000, represents by far the greater part of the property over which the Prince of Wales has the power of bequest. Since the Queen's accession Parliament has voted thirteen life annuities to members of the royal family, exclusive of the Prince Consort, amounting in all to £150,000 a year, which is the sum to be paid in the current year. It is not in the least likely that any member of the royal family, other than the Duke of Cambridge will receive in the younger generation an annuity of £12,000 a year from parliament. The scale of the royal annuities is diminishing and it is expected the government will in the next session propose the appointment of a select committee, which Gladstone suggested, to consider what, if any, provisions should be made for the younger generation of the royal family, practically limiting the enquiry to the children of the Prince of Wales.

HARD EARNED LIBERTY.

A Sailor Leaps From a British Man-of-War and Swims Four Miles.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 15.—James Briggs, a seaman from the British man-of-war Triumph, was brought into the receiving hospital last night in a half drowned condition. He explained that while the Triumph was in Esquimalt he made an application for twenty four hours' leave of absence, which was refused, and he insisting upon what he claimed as his right, he was ordered to go to work, which he declined to do. Briggs was thereupon made a prisoner, and on being tried on board the Triumph he was sentenced to eighteen months' in Portland prison, in the south of England. Last night he succeeded in freeing himself of his chains and gaining the deck unobserved. He dropped unseen into the water, and after a hard battle of four miles with the waves, he managed to reach a wharf, upon which he clambered and where he was found by Officer Fensier. He is a native of London, and says he enlisted in the English navy ten years ago. Briggs is about 28 years old.

"I jumped off the Triumph to gain my liberty," said the young sailor as he sank back on his cot in the hospital. "I've heard that a man is free in America, but in England he never is."

MAINLAND NEWS.

(Columbian.)

One of W. H. Vianen's fishing boats on Burrard Inlet caught what is supposed to be a conger eel. As this member of the eel family has hitherto been almost unknown to the coast, Mr. Mowat, inspector of fisheries, has some doubt as to its being the conger eel. He will have it preserved and sent to Prof. T. Brown Good, of the Smithsonian Institute for classification.

We understand that the case of Messrs. Woods, Turner & Gamble vs. Mr. James Kennedy, for libel growing out of a letter published some time ago in the *Columbian*, will be tried before a special jury on the 23rd inst.

A dead bear, weighing 515 pounds dressed, was brought down from Chilliwhack this afternoon. It is a monster.

Bark Ferris S. Thompson, in Esquimalt harbor, has coal for the Sandwich Islands from Wellington.

QUAMLET "NOT GUILTY."

The Jury Return a Verdict of "Not Guilty" in the Dring Murder Case.

The Judge Retain the Prisoner in Custody, Desiring that He be Tried for Murdering Miller—The Prisoner Remanded at the Pleasure of the Crown.

(Special to THE COLONIST.)

NANAIMO, Dec. 16.—Thirty-eight witnesses were examined in the Quamlet case, which has lasted eight days, the counsel having closed the argument this evening. At 1 p. m. the judge addressed the jury for more than one hour, charging against the prisoner. The jury, after an absence of twenty-five minutes, returned a verdict of "not guilty." The prisoner's counsel moved for the discharge of the prisoner, but the crown objected, as the prisoner having been tried only for the murder of Dring, it was still competent to try him for the murder of Miller. The counsel for the defence, whilst recognizing authority for the right of the crown to a second trial, urged that a decision should be speedily arrived at, as the presence of so many witnesses on both sides affords a better opportunity of investigation than can be expected again. The court sincerely in hold that the prisoner must be remanded during the pleasure of the crown.

ALLEGED CONSPIRACY.

The Hearing in the Above Case Resumed—Adjourned Again Until Wednesday.

In the police court yesterday, the case of Campbell and Kennedy, charged with conspiracy, was resumed. Mr. S. Perry Mills appeared for the prosecution. Mr. Pooley, Q.C., for Campbell, and Mr. Drake, Q.C., for Kennedy.

W. P. Sayward, re-called for cross-examination by Mr. Drake—Joined Mr. Gabriel in the Tumbo Island company about a year ago; it was about the time the Japanese went up to make an examination; received a verbal report from Mr. Gabriel that the property was good; the report was so favorable that I went to see the property; when I saw it I was not favorably impressed; was a party to spending some money before Mr. Campbell went up; saw Mr. Campbell's report in March last; the report made by Mr. Campbell is a geological report; this report says there are indications of coal; did not go so much on the report as I did on the conversation I had with Mr. Campbell; Mr. Prior went to the island with me, and his opinion coincided with mine; would have placed some reliance on Mr. Prior's report, only he had no opportunity to form a report; Mr. Prior is a mining expert; his opinion would have been better in my estimation than that of Mr. Campbell; know Mr. Wilkes; he took a contract to sink a shaft; Mr. Wilkes thought the measures good for coal; Mr. Wilkes' contract was to sink 400 feet at $10 per foot; for the $300 paid to Tatten we expected to get the mineral right; only saw Mr. Wilkes a few days ago; he made no statement to me regarding Tatten's lines and the place where the shaft was sunk; am under the impression that Mr. Wilkes was at Tumbo island before I paid Tatten $500; the reason why I think too much was paid Campbell and Kennedy was that he had been humbugged through reports and statements; Mr. Kennedy made no statements; Mr. Campbell always reported the mine in a favorable light; don't know that the reasons were correct; have no reasons for taking proceedings against Kennedy, only that he was a party to the conspiracy to get money out of the company; do not know whether Mr. Kennedy had something to sell; bought something from Mr. Kennedy; know nothing about the value of the property; it remains to be proved whether we paid too much; if we found a valuable coal field we would not have paid too much; we cannot tell the value of the mine unless we sink a shaft; had no knowledge of Kennedy's being a party to the conspiracy until these proceedings were taken (did not give instructions for these proceedings.

To Mr. Pooley—I think I introduced Mr. Wilkes to Mr. Gabriel and said he was an experienced miner and we could depend on his report; Mr. Wilkes went to the island with Messrs. Muirhead and Campbell; when Mr. Wilkes returned he said he was favorably impressed; after Mr. Wilkes return I let the contract to sink a shaft; if Wilkes had been unfavorable, I don't know what I would have done; was not present when an agreement was made to pay Mr. Kennedy $3,750; was in favor of paying him $2,500 and the balance when we struck bed-rock; was not in favor of paying him $3,000; we did not meet when the agreement was made to pay Kennedy $3,750; objected to the agreement before it was made; find no fault with Mr. Campbell's report on the coal mine; Mr. Campbell went up with Mr. Wilkes and made surveys; Campbell said Tatten would allow no one on his land unless he was paid; the result was that I sent Campbell to Tumbo Island for Tatten, and paid him $500 for permission to sink the shaft; Tatten agreed to allow us to open the mine and roads and to allow us to use timber for general mining purposes; I do not know how much work was done by the Japanese; if a witness states that there is only enough work done for a man to cover with his hand he is drawing on his imagination.

To Mr. Mills—Before proceedings were taken I heard Olsen's statement and Tatten's statement regarding the $500; I agreed to these proceedings before action was taken; Campbell valued the mine at $25,000, and thought if we got it for $10,000 we would get a good bargain; I did not place much reliance on the Japanese report, but I did place much reliance on Mr. Campbell's report; I inferred that Campbell and Kennedy were not friendly, and I did not know that they were holding meetings; I spoke to Mr. Wilkes before any arrangement was made and asked what he would charge for sinking in sandstone; Campbell went up with Wilkes and gave up the contract because it did not pay him.

Mr. Lang was called for cross-examination but did not appear.

Mr. Mills said the witness was here for examination at the last hearing. He had a one-twelfth interest in the mine and was a most reluctant witness at the examination.

B. E. Olsen went to Tumbo Island last spring; was on the Rosenfeld which was wrecked in the locality; Kennedy was in charge of the wreck and we took the coal out of her; in October I discovered the seam of coal; Kennedy did not discover the coal and show it to me; we found it together; went to Mr. Gabriel and told him about the mine; he said we need not go to Mr. Dunsmuir; he (Gabriel) would open the mine and would take a half interest; no agreement was then made in writing on these terms; twelve or fourteen days after I saw Mr. Gabriel; went back to Tumbo Island with Mr. Kennedy and two Japanese; they stayed two days and two nights; the first night they went halfway round the island in a boat; it was very dark; they did not have a light; about nine o'clock the next day one laid down and shoved his head in a hole; one of the Japs held a watch; they talked, and came to me and said I was rich, as there was lots of coal there; you bet I was pleased; Kennedy and I brought them to Victoria. We went up again about a year ago, and stayed up there about two weeks; saw Mr. Gabriel when I came down; he did not have much tossy. Saw Mr. Campbell the first time in October, 1886. A little man named Dick, a diver, introduced us at the Grand Pacific Hotel; I did not ask Mr. Campbell to make an analysis of the coal; he offered to do it; the analysis was made about the end of November; this was after the Japs were up there. I handed the analysis to Mr. Gabriel to look at a day or two after I got it.

I introduced Mr. Campbell to Mr. Gabriel the same day that I met him myself; did not hear all they said; did not ask Mr. Campbell to go up and see the mine; Campbell never told me my interest was worth anything; he said later that we might get $10,000 for it; for my part I said I would take it as I had no money to go on with the work, and the company had backed out of their agreement to go on with the work; I did not speak to Mr. Gabriel; I was thrown right clean overboard; the whole of them threw me overboard as they listened to Mr. Campbell; I may have received $1,200 from Mr. Gabriel in small sums; I can't say what the money was paid for; I suppose it was for the coal mine; I never asked Mr. Gabriel to pay me $5000; told Mr. Gabriel that I thought I was entitled to as much as Kennedy; Campbell and Kennedy told me in Mr. Gabriel's store that I had no right to the mine as the license was taken out in Kennedy's name; Gabriel told me the same; this was before I received any money from Mr. Gabriel; after the Japs Gabriel paid me money; after this they came to the conclusion that I was entitled to half; Mr. Kennedy came up to my house and said the company had paid him; he showed me a bank cheque; Campbell said in his house if I stuck out I would get my money; when I was shown the cheque I had received $20 from Mr. Gabriel; at one time I told Mr. Gabriel that I was entitled to as much as Kennedy; Campbell always wanted half of what he could get for me; I had reason to disbelieve Mr. Campbell when Kennedy showed me the bank cheque; they talked very loud in my house; I did not tell Mr. Campbell that if I had another share Gabriel would buy it; Lang was often in my house on other business.

To Mr. Pooley—I received my first payment about 31st March; that was $20; the next payment of $100 I received next day; I might have received $1,200 as my share; my wife received some of the money; the license was taken out by Mr. Kennedy unknown to me; never told Campbell in the presence of Mr. Muirhead that he should get my money from Gabriel; by right I should be a partner and Kennedy threw me; Campbell and Kennedy told me in my house to get my money from Gabriel.

To Mr. Mills—They wanted me to get my money and give half to Campbell; I picked up some coal and so did Kennedy; I was told by Kennedy that he was all right; he told me it was all right and I had a share in the license; in Mr. Gabriel's store Kennedy said he held the license and I had nothing to do with it; they thought I was stupid; threatened to go to law; Kennedy kept the coal he picked up; I did not give Kennedy my coal; they said to the company that Kennedy was entitled to the money.

The bail was extended and the case postponed until Wednesday next at 10 o'clock. Campbell's bail is $2,500 and Kennedy's $1,500.

THE LAST SPIKE.

Of the California and Oregon Railway Driven Yesterday.

(Special to THE COLONIST.)

ASHLAND, Or., Dec. 17.—It is now 4 p. m. and there are no signs of the San Francisco excursion train. The crowd is getting impatient. It is feared now that the darkness will interfere with the ceremonies.

4:30 P. M.—The first section of the San Francisco train is now approaching.

4:42 P. M.—The second section is in sight.

4:45 P. M.—Both trains are safely at the end of the track.

5:14 P. M.—The spike has just been driven, four strokes having been given.

SUPREME COURT.

(Before Sir M. B. Begbie, C. J.)

FRIDAY, Dec. 16th.

Mr. Drake, Q. C., on behalf of the Albion Iron Works, applied for a rule absolute by a writ of *mandamus* to allow the seal of the corporation to be attached to a contract with the Albion Iron Works for the construction of a steel conduit.

Mr. Thornton Fell appeared for the Mayor.

Affidavits stating the contract and the resolution by the council directing the contract to be sealed and the refusal of the Mayor to allow the seal to be attached were read.

Mr. Fell read the affidavits of Mr. Robinson, city clerk, and Mr. Russell, city treasurer, discussing the amount of money available for water work's purposes and the presumed cost of Mr. Summerfield's scheme.

Mr. Fell urged that the by-law for raising the $75,000 was only applicable to the scheme (Hendry's) that was then before the rate-payers.

The Chief Justice, after examining the by-law, said that the council were not confined to any special scheme under it. They were at liberty to adopt any they saw proper.

Mr. Fell then urged that there was no duty cast on the Mayor to attach the seal, and unless the duty could be shown the court could not compel him by *mandamus*. He also urged that the contract was *ultra vires* because it involved the expenditure of a larger sum of money than the corporation had at their disposal for the purpose. He then discussed some of the terms of the contract and argued that the majority of the corporation did not care what sort of contract it was so long as they could get it executed.

Mr. Drake replied that the municipal council were elected by the people. This was one of the duties cast upon them and they were the proper judges of what was best for the city. If the contract was *ultra vires* the Albion Iron Works would be the only sufferers. The majority of the council were entitled to have the control of the seal for the purpose of use in contracts and no personal responsibility attached to the mayor. That under the authority of the Queen *vs.* Kendall a *mandamus* issued to compel the person who had locked up a seal to attach it to a document approved of by a majority of the corporators.

The chief justice said that the matter was of considerable importance and he would have it further argued if he thought necessary on Monday next.

CAPITAL NOTES.

The Dominion Parliament Will Meet on January 31st.

Alex. Morris, Leader of the Crofter Movement, to Come to British Columbia to Report to Imperial Authorities.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

OTTAWA, Dec. 16.—The Imperial government has asked Alex. Morrison, leader of the land reform movement in the Highlands, to proceed to British Columbia to report whether that province is adapted for settlement by the crofters. This move has no connection whatever with the Imperial government's proposal to the British Columbia government regarding assisted immigration to points in the province. Everything now awaits the decision of the Provincial government.

At a meeting of cabinet ministers today it was decided to call parliament together for the despatch of business on January 31st.

Minister Justice returned to Washinton to-day. He does not despair of a satisfactory settlement of the fisheries question being arrived at.

Chamberlain is expected here on Wednesday next.

LATE CANADIAN NEWS.

ONTARIO.

Mrs. Short was struck by a railway train near Guelph and killed.

W. J. Spicer has concluded to decline the management of the Duluth, South Shore and Atlantic railway.

Byrnie, the American forger in custody at Brantford, has been handed over to the United States authorities.

A. P. Macdonald has a claim for $300,000 for extras and losses in building the Tay canal. Arbitrators will hear the case.

Rachel Littelton, of Toronto, probably murdered her husband David this morning while in a fit of jealousy. She was arrested.

Two criminal informations have been sworn out against

Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23RD, 1887.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING.

BY

W. H. ELLIS, A. G. SARGISON, W. R. HIGGINS. } ELLIS & CO.

THE COLONIST BUILDING, GOVERNMENT ST.

TERMS:

THE DAILY COLONIST.

PUBLISHED EVERY DAY EXCEPT MONDAY

Per Year, (Postage Free to any part of Canada).....$ 10 00
Parts of a year at the same rate.
Per week (if delivered).....25

THE WEEKLY COLONIST.

Per Year, (Postage Free to any part of the Dominion or United States.....$ 2 00
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From the DAILY COLONIST, Dec. 20.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

The Mails.

There were no through mails from the east last night.

The Mayoralty.

In another column Coun. Higgins announces himself as a candidate for the position of Mayor.

Calendars.

Messrs. Geo. Powell & Co. have placed on our table a very neat calendar for 1888.

Messrs. Isaacs & Co. have circulated an equally neat chromo calendar.

The Mates Ship.

The three mates of the ship Reaper succeeded in leaving Port Townsend for this city on Thursday last. They are the men against whom complaint was recently brought by the seamen of the Reaper for cruel treatment while on the high seas.

Immigration.

The number of immigrants arriving in Canada from January 1st to November 10th, was 138,000, compared with 309,000 for the same period last year. The number of passengers to the United States from Canada during the same period was 65,000.

A Costly Building.

Mr. E. H. Fisher has received an order from Seattle to prepare plans and specifications for a block of stores 240 x 100 feet. The building is to be four storeyed with basement, the material being cut stone and pressed brick. It will cost $175,000 to build, and when completed will be the largest and costliest edifice on the Pacific Coast, north of San Francisco. Mr. Fisher is already engaged on a building in the same town to cost $60,000.

Railway Movements.

J. H. Stiggles, a New York capitalist, is at Ottawa applying for a renewal of the charter to build a road from Calgary, Northwest Territory, north to Arthabasca landing, beyond Edmonton. He says his road will be built within a few years. Mr. Stiggles is also talking up a scheme to build a railway from Quebec to the east coast of Labrador, and to place a fleet of fast vessels on the Atlantic. He thinks this would solve the question of quick transit to and from Europe, claiming that the passage could be made from Labrador to England in three and a half days.

W. C. T. U.

The Women's Christian Temperance Union held their monthly entertainment at Temperance Hall last evening. Tea was served by the ladies, after which a good programme was gone through with, a very pleasant evening being spent. The Rev. Dr. Reid occupied the chair. The following is a synopsis of the programme: Address, Rev. Dr. Reid; recitation, Miss Cameron; address, Hon. John Robson; piano solo, Miss E. Horton; address, Rev. A. Beanlands; song, Mr. Shaw; address, Rev. J. E. Starr; song, Miss Gibbs; song, Mr. Kinnaird.

Feed and Flour Shipments.

The steamer Sardonyx is taking on board a large lot of bran and chopped feed for British Columbia and the Sound ports, and also a small lot of flour for shipment by the Canadian Pacific steamship to Yokohama. The Portland Flouring mills make no shipment by the 1st of January steamer to China, as it will arrive there just before the Chinese New Year, when but little business is done by Chinese merchants, who at that season pay up all their debts and square things generally. On the next steamer the Portland mills will ship 32,000 sacks of flour. It is quite probable that the recent disastrous inundation in China, which has covered a vast tract of fertile land where much rice was grown, may create an increased demand for flour.—*Oregonian.*

Jumped into the River.

Last night, says the *Columbian* of Saturday, a young man named Grant, who is employed by the C. P. R. as car cleaner, while performing his duties was interrupted by the appearance of a drunken half-breed named Jim Hutcheson who insisted that they should go and drink together. Grant refused to have anything to do with Hutcheson who became so threatening in his manner that Grant left the car and went in search of the police. Meeting constable Carty he told his story, and the two went down to the station yard, and were just in time to see Hutcheson making off with a broom and a duster. The moment the half-breed saw the constable he made off in the direction of the river. Constable Carty followed close and Hutcheson seeing he could not escape jumped into the river, where he would have drowned but for the exertion of the constable. He was brought before the police magistrate this morning, who inflicted a fine of $2.

Moody, the Evangelist.

Mr. D. L. Moody is on his way to the Pacific Coast and will probably spend two or three months on the coast, commencing about the first week in February. He goes to California at the earnest solicitation of the San Francisco Evangelistic committee, of which Mr. Robert Balfour (of Messrs. Balfour & Guthrie) is chairman, and associated with them on the committee are clergymen of every Evangelical denomination, and a large number of business men. Their invitation was sent nearly a year ago, but Mr. Moody has not seen his way to accept it until now, for the date given above. He will probably hold Christian Worker's conventions in different parts of the State, spending a few days at each place, and by this means will reach a large number of towns which he could not possibly visit when west formerly. Full particulars will be given in regard to the work which will be directed by the Evangelistic committee, in conjunction with the pastors in the cities Mr. Moody may visit. It is also hoped he may be induced to come to Victoria and other cities in this province. There is a correspondence going on with that end in view.

A Deliberate Untruth.

It is currently reported on the streets in this city this afternoon that Mr. Theo. Davie, Q.C., has been selected by the Government to perform political "missionary work" in Comox, and has taken his departure for the scene of his labors.

The above is taken from the *Times* of Saturday last. There is not a word of truth in it. Mr. Davie returned to this city from Nanaimo on Sunday, where he was successfully engaged defending the Indian Quamlet, charged with murder. He never had the slightest intention of going to Comox nor did it ever enter into the mind of the Government to ask him to do so. The story is made out of whole cloth. It is only another *Times'* fabrication.

Connection With the C. P. R.

Sinclair & Company have signed a contract agreeing to build and equip a line of standard gauge railroad from Seattle to a point on the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway in British Columbia. Colonel Scott, one of the members of Sinclair & Co., says the contract was signed in New York on December 2nd. Earle & Co., have the contract for grading the thirteen miles of road between Lake Washington and Soohomish City, and as soon as they have finished the work, Sinclair & Company will build a bridge across Soohomish river and lay the line as soon as possible. The contract requires them to build the road complete, iron, and equip it, and to operate it a certain time before handing it over the Seattle and West Coast Rail road Company.

SUPREME COURT.

(Before Sir M. B. Begbie, C. J.)

MONDAY, Dec. 19th.

The Chief Justice delivered judgment refusing the *mandamus* in the case of the Albion Iron Works *vs.* The Queen on the grounds that, first, no sufficient interest was shown in the applicant and it did not appear whether Mr. Bullen was applying or the Albion Iron Works Company; second, that the resolution of the council to have the seal attached to the contract did not appear to have properly followed the act of 1887; if the mayor refused to put a motion the council could ask whether the mayor should be sustained; but such a resolution must be put at the particular meeting and not at a subsequent one; third, that the contract itself seemed to be a one-sided one, and, fourth, that clause 8 of the act was obscure as to its meaning and there did not appear to be and obligatory duty on the mayor to attach the seal to any contract which the corporation might pass and unless such a duty was clear the court would not grant a *mandamus.* There was no written judgment, but the court seemed inclined to the view that there ought to be a full and complete scheme before any contract should be entered into. Here there appeared to have been no survey and no complete scheme before the council and as shortly there would be a new board, the granting of a *mandamus* being a matter of discretion, it would be better to allow the new council to deal with the question.

The Chief Justice remarked that the proper place to take the water from was Elk Lake and not a morass such as afforded the present supply and that Victoria had suffered for many years from the swampwater which they had been using because those who had the control preferred dirty water to a pure supply.

POLICE COURT.

[Before E. Johnson, Q. C., S. M.]

Robert Butt, Sophia Williams and Annie, Indian women, were fined $5 each, or one week's imprisonment, for being drunk.

Geo. Francis, an Italian, denied emphatically that he had supplied liquor to Indians; he had always been a respectable man and would not be guilty of so mean an action.

Officer Walker gave evidence with regard to arresting Francis and two Indians and said he had given them the liquor, after which his honor fined him $50 or three months' imprisonment with hard labor.

Pipette, the Italian charged with assaulting Joseph Larbonne, was again brought up. Mr. Stuart appeared for the prosecution and Mr. Mills for the prisoner.

Mr. Stuart asked that an interpreter be secured, as Larbonne being a Frenchman, was unable to speak English. Officer Abel then took the stand, was sworn, and interpreted the witness in a very *able* manner.

The evidence was of a lengthy character and, Mr. Stuart, who is something of a linguist himself, gave the court an exhibition of his talents so frequently that Mr. Mills was forced to rise and object, saying that as ours is an English court of law, he would protest against the examination going on in French.

The case was adjourned until Friday.

Geo. Price, charged with an attempt to administer poison with intent to murder, was remanded until to-day. Mr. Eberts appeared for the prisoner.

MARINE.

Steamer Mexico, Capt. Huntington, arrived at the outer wharf at 7 o'clock yesterday morning from San Francisco.

U. S. lighthouse tender, Manzanita, came over from Port Townsend yesterday morning and left again in the afternoon.

Bark California, 10 days from San Francisco to load lumber at Chemainus, for Australia, arrived in Royal Roads on Sunday night. She will be towed to Croft & Angus' mills to-day by the Pilot.

There are four vessels lying at the Moodyville Mill loading lumber, the ship General Picton, the bark Ottolina, the ship Pactolus and the barque Craigwhinnie. The barque George is lying in the stream waiting for a berth.

Bark Spartan, Capt. Cairns, 749 tons, arrived in Esquimalt 53 days from Callao, early Sunday morning. It is probable that she will load lumber at Moodyville. Capt. Cairns report that he was 7 days off the Cape, during which time he experienced very rough weather.

Steamer British Queen arrived at Halifax on the 16th inst. She had a terrific passage. On Sunday, seas broke over her washing overboard the fourth officer, Robert Hangs and Seamen Wells. Both were drowned. The waves stove in the hatches and carried away the boats.

Schooner Lion, Capt. Peters, arrived at Halifax after a passage of fourteen days from Bermuda. The captain and two of the crew, Stephen Waterman and Wm. Smith, were washed overboard. The captain and Smith got hold of the bobstay and were saved. Waterman was lost.

PERSONAL.

C. D. Rand returned to Vancouver this morning.

Mrs. L. M. Caldwell is spending the holidays at Nanaimo.

The Marquis of Lorne is seriously ill with disease of the throat.

W. Levings, who controls the destinies of the pupils of the Burgoyne Bay school, is also in the city.

Mrs. and Miss Bushby arrived on the Mexico yesterday morning and are visiting Lady Douglas.

William Sivewright, the popular principal of Beaver Point school, is spending his Christmas holidays with friends in the city.

T. F. Sinclair, one of the contractors for the Seattle and West Coast railway, returned from Seattle on the Olympian yesterday.

Geo. F. Kyle, who has been on Douglas Island, Alaska, for the past few months, arrived from the Sound yesterday, and left for Vancouver this morning.

General Gibbon, Capt. Woodruff and Major Canby, of the U. S. army and Capt. Debrie, U. S. N., arrived in port yesterday on the lighthouse tender Manzanita.

LOCAL BRIEFS.

A sidewalk, two feet in width, is being laid on the west side of Commercial alley.

The funeral of the late Robt. Wilson, J. P., took place yesterday afternoon and the remains were followed to Ross Bay cemetery by a large number of friends of the deceased. Rev. Mr. Fraser officiated.

Messrs Leask & Morrison, merchant tailors of this city, contemplate extending their business and will shortly open a branch store in Vancouver. Mr. Morrison will represent the firm in the terminal city.

A sidewalk is being laid on the west side of Wharf street. This is a decided improvement as well as a convenience, as pedestrians have been accustomed to walk through mud and slush during the wet season.

The Messrs. Dumbleton received a telegram from Oregon yesterday informing them that the court had confirmed them in the possession of a valuable tract of land which had been in litigation for a long time.

From the DAILY COLONIST, Dec. 18.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

Gasworks Burned.

The Winnipeg gasworks were burned on Wednesday night. Loss, $120,000.

A Port of Entry.

Senator Dolph has reported favorably from the commission on commerce on the bill making Port Angeles, on Puget Sound, a port of entry.

Chicago's Lumber King.

Mr. Chase, the lumber king of Chicago, went up to Kamloops on Friday. He is the owner of several timber limits in the mountains, and intends to erect a large saw mill at Sicamous.

The High School.

The timely assistance tendered by Mrs. A. Offerhaus at the High school is greatly appreciated by the educational department and the pupils. But for that lady's most efficient help the usefulness of the school during the last weeks of the term would have been sadly marred.

A Smelter.

Mr. F. Winter had an interview with the mayor and councillors yesterday with regard to the establishment of a smelter at or near Victoria. It was explained to Mr. Winter that the by-law passed in 1886 had lapsed; but the councillors were confident that it would be revived on a more liberal basis by the new council.

Local Importation.

During the past week Messrs. M. W. Waitt & Co. have added eight pianos to their already large stock of musical instruments. Six of these are from the well-known factory of J. & C. Fischer, New York, whose name is a positive guarantee that their pianos are in all respects first-class. The other two are of English make and are excellent instruments.

Rapid Transit.

A Tacoma bank cashier yesterday showed to a *Ledger* reporter a letter which was mailed in Victoria December 9th, and received here on the 13th. An ox team would be quite as expeditious. This is only one out of dozens of cases recently complained of here. The postal service is abominable. "Can Cleveland be re-elected under such circumstances?" inquired a by-stander. "Rather give us another more business-like democrat," he added. —*Tacoma Ledger.*

The Train's Delay.

The Pacific Express, says the Vancouver *News*, did not arrive until about midnight yesterday, owing to another washout at Nicomen. The passengers, mails and baggage had to be transferred from the train coming east to the one that left here yesterday and *vice versa.* A Howe truss bridge is being built for the place where these washouts occur, which are caused by the stream constantly changing its course, and will be placed in position as soon as the weather permits.

Passengers for San Francisco.

Following are the names of the Victoria passengers for San Francisco by the steamer Umatilla, which sailed at five o'clock yesterday afternoon: P. Murphy, Mrs. Bush, Mrs. H. S. Mason, Miss Emily Ross, Miss Melinda Sayyes, Chas. A. Whilhelm, Miss E. Carmichael, H. A. McDonald, Jas. Mitchell, W. R. Megaw, W. Cargyle, Miss Boyd, Mrs. W. S. Spettigue, G. U. Storey, W. E. Blackett and wife, L. J. Cross, H. Cooley, W. J. Taylot, J. S. Tabor and wife, N. Bichard, D. Dorning. There were also four through passengers *via* the C. P. R., and seventeen in the steerage.

Successful Operations.

Mrs. Skelly, of Clifton, Mason county, has just returned from Victoria. While there she was operated on for ovarian tumor. The tumor removed weighed fifteen pounds. Her recovery from the effects of the operation was rapid, and she is fully restored to health. In 1877 she had a similar operation performed, from which she completely recovered. On the ninth of this month, just before Mrs. Skelly left the hospital, her physician operated on another case of ovarian tumor. In this case the tumor weighed fifty pounds. When Mrs. Skelly left Victoria she states that the recovery of this patient was considered certain. Such are the achievements of modern surgery.—*Seattle Times.* These operations were performed in St. Joseph's hospital, the operator in each case being Dr. Davie, Hon. Dr. Helmcken, Dr. J. D. Helmcken, Drs. Powell and Matthews assisting. The second case referred to has also fully recovered.

B. C. Agricultural Society.

A meeting of the directors of the B. C. A. S. was held yesterday at the city hall. There were present, D. W. Higgins, M. P. P., president; G. A. McTavish, vice-president; Thos. Russell, secretary; E. G. Prior, M. P. P., W. H. Ladner, M.P.P., C. E. Renouf, James Tolmie, S. Sandover and E. Hodgson.

The president stated it had been ascertained that two of the lots purchased by the society near Beacon Hill were included in a street which was dedicated to the city as far back as 1865. The vendor, who resides in England, had been communicated with, and it was believed that the society would be recouped the amount paid.

A committee was appointed to inquire the rate at which adjacent property can be purchased for society purposes.

It was resolved to ask the government to liberally assist the society, who find their present premises too contracted.

It was arranged to have a prize list for the show of 1888 prepared and ready for discussion by the first week in February.

The board then adjourned.

Winnipeg Civic Elections.

The elections in Winnipeg resulted in the return of Ryan and Hutchings for ward four, Grundy and Black for ward five, and Callaway and Fletcher for ward three.

A Rough Passage.

The Princess Louise experienced rough and very blowy weather in the gulf last night during her trip down. She left Vancouver on time with the delayed passengers and mails from the day before. She brought nine bags of mail matter.

Home Again.

Mr. T. W. Pierre, the pioneer dyer, and daughter returned from Washington, D.C., last night after a very pleasant visit with their friends who had not seen Mr. Pierre for many years.

Mr. N. Pointer and wife also returned from Philadelphia last night. Mr. Pointer says that he had not seen his home in 33 years, and was pleased with the changes he found.

A Correction.

It was announced in yesterday morning's paper that the wife of the Ven. Archdeacon Woods, of New Westminster, had passed away. Our reporter's informant is a prominent citizen, and he stated the fact positively, and, as was quite natural, it was published, especially as the lady has been seriously ill of late. Happily, however, the information was incorrect, and we regret that the relatives were needlessly alarmed by the announcement in this paper. We are pleased to be able to state that Mrs. Woods is somewhat improving.

Football.

A game was played yesterday afternoon between sides captained by Messrs. Drake and Ward, and which resulted in a victory for the former by a goal and two tries to a goal. Several members of "C" Battery took part in the game and with a little practice will be a great acquisition to football here. The tries were obtained by Watson, Kennedy and Drake for the winners, the goal for the losers being obtained by Ward from a drop kick from the field play. Besides those mentioned, Crease, Ogilvie and Grant were most conspicuous for the winners, while for the defeated Swinnarton, Langley, Fenelly and Pemberton were seen to the best advantage. A match will be played on Beacon Hill on the 26th inst. between Victoria and Chemainus, and a team will shortly be chosen to represent Victoria.

Mysterious Disappearance.

Vancouver is at present in a great state of excitement, the cause of which is the mysterious disappearance of William Harkins. Mr. Harkins is the contractor for the laying of the sewers in the terminal city and on Thursday afternoon received $3,000 to pay off the men. In the evening of the same day he indulged too freely in drink and about 8 o'clock was seen very drunk in a saloon, where he was displaying large rolls of bills. After leaving the saloon all traces of him are lost. Those who have any business dealings with the missing man are strongly inclined to think that he has met with foul play. Thursday night was very dark and stormy so that the man might easily have been murdered and the body disposed of, nobody being say the wiser. Others believe that he has gone to join Hamilton and Otton on the other side of the 49th parallel and in support of their opinion point out that he had chartered the tug Emma to go to Port Townsend to tow up a couple of scows that he purchased the other day. Either a tragedy has occurred, or one of the cleverest ideas of slipping away quietly has been successfully carried out. He leaves a number of workmen unpaid and several creditors, some of whom are in for large amounts.

PERSONAL.

The Royce and Lansing company are registered at the Driard.

Neil Burgess and company are on the incoming San Francisco steamer.

Lieut.-Governor and Mrs. Nelson arrived down from Vancouver last evening.

Capt. Clancey of the O. R. & N. Co., came over on the Olympian yesterday.

D. R. Harris, C. Rhodes and W. H. Redmond, returned from Westminster on the Yosemite.

Major Prior, Lieut. Ogilvie, Mr. and Mrs. Sorby arrived from Westminster on the Yosemite.

Mrs. Bushby and daughter are on the Mexico which will be due from San Francisco on Monday.

G. U. Storey, of the C. P. R., Vancouver, leaves for San Francisco to-day by the Umatilla on a pleasure trip.

Commodore and Mrs. Irving, Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Rithet, Mrs. McKenzie and Mrs. Glenny Anderson and Mr. Stanton returned from attending the citizens' ball at Westminster on the Yosemite.

From the DAILY COLONIST, Dec. 17.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

Police Court.

W. B. Hunter, a drunk, did not appear and his bail of $5 was estreated.

Lilly West, a vagrant, did not appear and a fine of $25 was entered against her name.

Slide at Nicomen.

The Princess Louise came down at 10:30 last night without any through mails or through passengers. There was no train owing to a slide at Nicomen.

The Local Legislature.

By proclamation the Provincial Legislature has been further prorogued to the 16th day of February, 1888, not then, however, to meet for the dispatch of business.

The Westminster Ball.

Victorians who were present at the citizens' ball to Governor Nelson at Westminster on Thursday evening state that it was a highly successful event in every particular. Lieut.-Governor and Mrs. Nelson were highly delighted with the unbounded hospitality extended by the citizens of the Royal City, many of whom are among his honor's earliest friends.

Incoming Passengers.

The Mexico, which sailed from San Francisco yesterday has the following passengers for this port: P. Schwengers, L. H. Gulline, Mrs. P. Smith, A. Roberts, Neil Burgess and wife, W. Lee, J. Palmer and wife, Miss Robinson, P. Sage, C. M. River, J. W. Bowles, G. McVey, Mrs. Bushby and daughter, S. Gardiner and wife, Miss Snow, S. McDonald, W. Frazer.

Calendars.

Messrs. R. Jamieson & Co. have issued a neat lithographed office calendar for 1888. This calendar is a home production it having been designed and printed at THE COLONIST office, and speaks for itself.

A. Gregg & Son have favored our table with a very good example of the imported "Chromo" calendar, the subject being "Trooping the Colors" on the Queen's birthday.

Sad Death.

The death of Mrs. Woods, the wife of Ven. Archdeacon Woods, of New Westminster, is announced. She died on Thursday night. No particulars have as yet come to hand.

The C. P. R.

The Yale correspondent of the Vancouver *News* says: The past week has been a heavy strain on the physical and moral nature of railway men. The rock slide of Sailor Bar Bluff, which carried away about 150 feet of the bridge, was no sooner repaired than the bridge at Nicomen was swept away and necessitated an extension of about 200 feet. At the former place a night watchman has been stationed for greater security to the travelling public. The washout at Nicomen was about twelve miles west of Harrison and was caused by the heavy rainfall and snow melting on the mountains and rushing down a deep ravine, carrying with it trees of immense size, which came in contact with the small bridge (about seventy feet long at first) and swept away piles, timber, rails, and about three hundred feet of the road and piling up the obstruction about four hundred yards below. Here the stream expands into what is known as the Nicomen slough, whence it finds its way to the Fraser River. Mr. Jameson, Superintendent of Bridges, says that the road will have to be raised three or four feet and wing-dams constructed, and a wide span made when the drift wood will soon make a channel for itself and the washouts then will be avoided.

LICENSE COURT.

At a sitting of the licensing court, held before Mayor Fell, E. Johnson, S. M., Robt. Ward, J.P., Thos. Shotbolt, J. P., and W. Dalby, J.P., the following business was disposed of:

Transfer granted from L. LeLouis to W. Bailey at the corner of Government and John street; transfer granted from Mr. Pagden to Mr. Scott; transfer from D. Ellis to Geo. Bossi, granted; transfer of Mr. Bayley's license to Mr. Jensen was granted; transfer granted from Mrs. Astrico to J. Merrifield; transfer from Thos. Shaw to Bradbury & Barr, granted; transfer from John Hill to Mr. Bechtel for permission to sell liquor at the Vancouver Hotel, granted.

D. F. Fee applied for a license to sell liquor at his store on the corner of North Park and Quadra streets. The license was refused. Mr. Gannaway appeared for the applicant.

Mr. E. V. Bodwell applied for a transfer of the Club Theatre license from E. D. Morton to J. Roller.

Supt. Bloomfield said he had heard no complaints of the theatre and there was no immorality in the house.

Mr. Bodwell applied for a permit to lay the matter over until the next session of the court and that Mr. Roller be allowed a temporary license to sell liquor until that time; granted.

Joseph Keith & J. McBride applied for a transfer of W. Van Allman's license to themselves. The license was laid over until the next sitting of the court and a power to grant a temporary license was left in the hands of the mayor.

Robert McDermott applied for permission to sell liquor in the Boomerang saloon; granted.

Supt. Bloomfield said complaints were made about the Bee-Hive saloon. The parents of children were the ones who complained and they promised to appear against the proprietor.

Mr. Stuart appeared and said no boys were allowed inside the premises.

Supt. Bloomfield said he had received complaints against the Prince of Wales saloon, and Mr. Stuart, who appeared for the proprietor, said the people who frequented the house required liquor, and no one excepting Indians could be refused.

SCHOONER WALTER L. RICH

Arrives on Sunday Night—Six Months Ashore on Dungeness Spit, Cape Horn—A Terrible Experience.

The schooner Walter L. Rich, Capt. Jordan, which sailed for this port from Port Gamble, on January 31st, and which was reported ashore, arrived in Esquimalt on Sunday night. A reporter of THE COLONIST met the captain yesterday and interviewed him concerning the various reports which have from time to time reached Victoria.

"Well, captain," said the news-gatherer, "I understand that you had an experience on your voyage from Provincetown, which will last you a life-time, and which few men, who follow your calling have ever known."

"Yes," replied Capt. Jordan, "I guess I had. I was six months ashore on Dungeness Spit, Cape Horn, and that was no joke I can tell you."

"How did it all come about," queried the reporter.

It was all owing to a hurricane which, by all accounts, was one of the worst that was ever known in that part of the world. You can imagine how bad it was when I tell you that we were driven 920 yards from the water. The waves were mountains high and when we struck, the wind was blowing in a terrible manner and every time the breakers came up we were driven higher and higher."

"How did we get her off? It was only by dint of hard work, for no facilities were offered and the natives gave us no help; in fact they were troublesome, and the only materials we could get were forty-foot skids, on which we placed the schooner, sliding her to their full length, and so on, until at last we got her once more afloat and here we are, fifty-four days from Punta Arenas, Straits of Magellan."

Capt. Jordan is well-known on this coast, having raised the ship Earl of Dalhousie in San Francisco bay with Capt. Whitelaw, besides being engaged on other big marine contracts. The schooner flies the American flag and is 57 tons burthen. The Captain assured our reporter that her bottom did not suffer in the slightest, she being constructed of hard oak. She was brought into the harbor yesterday morning, where she will remain until the sealing season.

DONALD DOINGS.

The Calgary *Herald* correspondent says that a petition to Mr. Justice Walkem has been signed by nearly every resident of Donald. It sets forth the immoral character of the house kept by J. R. Ritchie, recently sent up for trial for rape, but since released on heavy bail. Other places of immoral character are also referred to. Judge Vowell recommended that such a petition be presented to the County Court Judge, but the latter said that such a charge should be heard by the magistrate first. The people of the mountain town are exercised over the numerous immoral places in town and are seeking for their removal.

A number of C. P. R. engineers have presented the Episcopal church at Donald with an organ.

MARINE.

Steamer Umatilla leaves for San Francisco this afternoon at 1 o'clock.

Tug Alexander left for Nanaimo yesterday morning to tow the ship Great Victoria to sea.

Tug Leonora, which was sunk in the north arm of the Inlet the other day, was successfully raised on Thursday by means of the tug Senator and two scows. She was then towed down to Moodyville, and is now being fixed up, and will be running again in a day or so.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Closing Exercises of the High School and of Johnson Street Ward School.

The closing exercises in connection with the High School took place yesterday morning and afternoon, Messrs. R. Offerhaus and J. Halliday and Mrs. Offerhaus examining the pupils in the various subjects during the morning. The preparations made by the teachers and scholars to render their school room attractive, and to provide a programme for the entertainment of their visitors were especially good. The room was beautifully decorated with evergreens, ivy, red and white berries, and moss. The frames of the blackboards, which run the full length on three sides of the room, were rendered pretty with these. The desks of the scholars were also lined with the same materials, and the generally unattractive school room was thus made bright and pleasing. There was a very large attendance of visitors, chiefly ladies, too numerous to here chronicle, but the great interest evinced of late years by parents and the public in the progress of the schools must have a very salutary effect on both scholars and teachers. The programme prepared was an exceedingly interesting one, the reading of the temperance essay, and of the girls' and boys' papers being specially attractive, while the various vocal and instrumental selections and the recitations were each deservedly well received by all. The march by the girls was a very pretty event. The columns were led by Miss G. Storey and Miss Rattray, the former's company wearing holly leaves and berries, and the latter's ivy leaves and white berries. Their evolutions were graceful, the columns marching and forming into fours with a nicety that would have drawn applause from a regular. The boys' paper, "The Leisure Hour," was contained in an elegant cover made of crimson silk plush, the title being worked in raised silk filosselle and embellished with flowers and leaves of the same material. It was read by the gold medalist, Master Francis Gibbs, and contained several good articles and numerous humorous, original and selected paragraphs. The general character of the paper was excellent in its get-up and contents. It was presented by the boys to Miss Julia Bradley, editor-in-chief of the "Girls' Own Paper," who is shortly leaving Victoria for California.

"The Girls' Own Paper," which was encased in a board cover with an artistic pen and ink design thereon, the work of Miss Alice Carr, was read by Miss Annie M. Hicks in a clear, well-modulated voice. The leading article (which we will reproduce in a later issue) was an excellent and thoughtful effort, appropriate in ideas and references. The general contents were good, in many instances consisting of witty sayings which produced considerable laughter. Miss J. M. Bradley is editor-in-chief; Miss A. L. Johnson, sub-editor; Miss Alice M. Carr, writer; and Miss Annie M. Hicks reader.

Following is the programme in detail:

Song—"Happy New Year".....By the School
Recitation—"Asleep at the Switch"....Miss M. McDonald.
Trio—Miss A. Johnston, Miss M. Tite, soprano; Miss G. Storey, Master R. Johnston, altos; Mr. R. Offerhaus, bass.
Reading of "The Leisure Hour."
March by the Girls of the School
Essay on Temperance.....Miss M. Pickard
Recitation—(Poem written by the late Hon. Allan Francis).....Master A. Francis
Reading "The Girls' Own Paper."
Organ Solo.....Miss J. Christie
Recitation—"McLean's Child".....Miss J. Herd
Song—"Freedom".....By the School

Mr. Pope, superintendent of education, read the standing of the senior division, the announcement that Master Francis B. Gibbs was head of the school being received with applause. The superintendent remarked that Master Gibbs, who by the way is a bright little chap, had obtained 100 per cent. in dictation and spelling, two of the most important branches of education. Miss Pickard had also obtained 100 per cent. in dictation. Three others had obtained 100 per cent. in mental arithmetic. This proved that if all scholars had exhibited the same diligence they might have been equally successful. One pupil in the junior division, Miss E. King, had obtained 99 per cent. in dictation and spelling. The superintendent said that, while not neglecting the higher branches taught, it should be the aim of pupils to keep up to the mark in the English branches. He preferred having a good average in each subject so that their education would be a good all-round one.

Mr. Offerhaus read the standing of the junior division, Miss C. Watson, head of the class, receiving enthusiastic applause.

Mr. Pope then called upon Hon. Mr. Robson to present the prizes awarded pupils. The majority, including a gold and silver medal, had been generously donated by their ex-teacher, Mr. J. Muir. This statement was vociferously applauded, and must have been gratifying to the late head master of the high school.

The honorable gentleman, in presenting the gold medal to Master Gibbs, complimented that young gentleman upon his success, and expressed the gratification he felt in awarding him the medal so generously contributed by Mr. Muir for competition by the school. Miss Julia Bradley, second in the senior division, was awarded the silver medal. Mr. Robson regretting her absence through illness. The other awards were also distributed, the honorable gentleman addressing a few appropriate remarks to each of the deserving recipients.

This accomplished, the Minister of Education said it afforded him great pleasure to be present to address a few words to them. This, he might say, was the crowning act of the Xmas examinations. They had examined the ward and Central schools, but this was the highest educational institution in the province. While they might and did regret the absence of a college or university in the province, yet it was a source of great satisfaction that the high school was doing a good work. From it had gone out many of teachers now instructing the youth of the country. But there was a higher consideration than that—it afforded the rising generation an opportunity of securing a higher education than that taught in the public schools. They could not attach too much importance to this "finishing" department of their education, and the boys and girls could not too faithfully pursue their studies, which were to prepare them for the stern business of life. He was glad that Canadian history now formed an important branch. They were all Canadians now, and he thought they all should feel proud of the fact that they formed a portion of the confederation that was fast approaching to a prominent place among the nations of the earth. (Applause.) The home government referred to the introduction of the study of anatomy, physiology and hygiene. He considered it one of the most important and useful in the school. It was but right that they should be made aware of the structure of the human frame and how to take care of it. He was gratified with the progress already made in the study, and was pleased with the reference made to it by the article in the *Girls' Own Paper.* It was also a pleasure to know that the study had been aided by the excellent lectures of Dr. Milne. It was a creditable fact that, though there were but two months' study accorded to the subject, yet one pupil had succeeded in securing 85 per cent. of a possible 100. It proved also that Dr. Milne's efforts had not been without effect. The manikins were now only placed in the graded schools of the province, but he hoped soon to see their usefulness still further extended. In closing the honorable gentleman made a few remarks in regard to the coming festive season, urging them to make it enjoyable for themselves and their parents and friends by unselfish acts of kindness. He referred in a highly complimentary manner to the high profession of the teacher, and the evidences to-day that their duties had been faithfully carried out. He wished them all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. (Loud applause.)

Hon. Mr. Robson then presented the prize of $5 from the W.C.T.U. for the best essay on temperance to Miss Pickard.

Rev. Dr. Reid said he did not come today to speak, but to hear, and he would say "ditto" to all that the Minister of Education had said. However, he would emphasize what he had expressed yesterday about the great interest that was now exhibited in the schools by the public in contrast with that of five or six years ago. It was exceedingly gratifying. He was very much pleased with the bright and sparkling papers that had been prepared and read by the boys and girls. The rev. gentleman illustrated the advantage that would accrue in after life to the pupils who pursued their studies with energy and faithfulness. They might rise to the highest position in life. He made some humorous allusions to the holiday season, and complimented teachers and scholars in pleasant terms, and in closing wished them every enjoyment during the Christmas and New Year's festivities.

Dr. Milne said it had been with infinite pleasure that he attended that afternoon. If, as was asserted, his lectures had been productive of good, it was a source of pleasure to him. The school had been told a good deal of how to spend Xmas, but he hoped that in order to make it a practical one they would all have a good dinner. (Laughter.) While this, no doubt, would be the case with all present, there were poor people in the city who might be aided, and in helping them to obtain enjoyment they would also create pleasure of the highest sort for themselves. He referred to the pleasant feeling existing between the trustees and the educational department. There were some defects in the school law, and it was the duty of the trustees to point them out, and one defect he would refer to was the absence of provision for a university. He hoped the day was not far distant when this desirable and necessary institution would be an accomplished fact.

Rev. Mr. Beanlands referred to the work of the High school in educating the youth of the province, regarding it as one of the best aids in preparing them for life. While he considered punishment as a necessary and salutary thing, yet as the attendance was to a great extent a voluntary one on the part of the pupils present, punishment should not form part of the curriculum. The reverend gentleman made some happy illustrations of the benefits of school life, and closed by wishing all a joyful holiday season.

Inspector Wilson made a few remarks, referring to the pleasure it gave him to note the sympathetic reference in the girls' paper to the troubles and trials of their teachers. He wished them all a pleasurable time during the holidays.

This closed the exercises of the day and Trustee Milne proposed three cheers for the teachers, which were heartily given. He then asked the boys to give three cheers for the girls, and they gallantly responded.

"God Save the Queen" was sung and the scholars were dismissed until the 3rd January, 1888.

Following is a list of the standing of the first ten pupils, names being in order of merit, and also names of those who were first in the various subjects taught:

SENIOR DIVISION—R. OFFERHAUS, ACTING-PRINCIPAL.

Master Francis B. Gibbs (head of the school), Misses Julia M. Bradley, Alice L. Johnston, Millie Pickard, Flora Fraser, Jeanette Mebius, Master Ruther Wilson, Miss Mary Powell, Master Robert J. Johnston, Miss Alice Carr.

Reading—Miss M. Powell.
Writing—Miss M. Pickard.
Dictation and Spelling—Miss M. Pickard.
Geography—Master G. Gardiner.
English Grammar—Miss A. Johnston.
Composition—Miss M. Pickard.
English History—Miss A. Johnston, Miss J. Mebius, equal.
Canadian History—Miss A. Johnston.
Mental Arithmetic—Miss S Kermode, Miss C. Lorimer, Master G. Gardiner, equal.
Written Arithmetic—Miss M. Pickard.
Mensuration—Master W. Lawson.
Algebra—Miss M. Pickard.
Geometry—Master F. G

Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY DECEMBER 23, 1887.

A NEW RIVAL TO AMERICAN PETROLEUM.

The United States, which is only now becoming reconciled to the rivalry of Russian petroleum, is menaced by serious competition in a fresh quarter, nearer home. In Venezuela the petroleum deposits of Lake Maracaybo, which have long been known for their copiousness, are at length being opened up by capitalists, and there are rumors, reported by the American Consul, Plumacher, that the Rothschilds are likely to secure a monopoly of the affair. Lake Maracaybo is situated in the northern part of Venezuela, and by means of the Gulf of Venezuela has direct communication with the sea. The surrounding country, having an area of many hundred miles, is saturated with petroleum and asphalte, which flows in streams through the dense forests, and emits inflammable gas which often burst into sheets of flame similar to those which have been a phenomenon in the Caspian region for thousands of years. While the petroleum gas burning at Baku has secured that country the appelation of "The Region of the Eternal Fire," the petroleum gas perpetually flickering on the bar and along the immediate coast of Maracaybo has earned the phenomenon ever since the Spaniards discovered and conquered the country the title of "The Infernal Fire." According to Consul Plumacher, one of the streams of oil tested by a traveller was found to flow at the rate of nearly 6,000 gallons a day, the whole of which was wasted upon the sandy soil. The Venezuelan oil appears to occupy a midway position between the crude article extracted in the United States and Russia, yielding 50 per cent. of illuminating oil, or kerosene, of high quality as compared with the 70 per cent. of the former and the 30 of the latter.

IS IT TREASON?

The recent utterances of Mr. John V. Ellis, M.P. for the city of St. John, N. B., are calculated to bring that gentleman before Parliament on a charge of treason. For years he has been gradually leading his readers up to the culmination of his desires—absorption of the Dominion into the United States. Mr. Ellis wields one of the ablest pens in Canada. He is a terse, vigorous writer, a gentleman of unquestioned literary force and an earnest student of the higher culture. But he has always been a "crank" on this matter of annexation and has never allowed an opportunity to pass that might veer public opinion to his side of the question. Always a strong anti-confederate he has never hesitated to cling to his old opinions. It cannot truthfully be said that he has been successful in his self-imposed mission. No more loyal people exist than those to whom his paper, the *Globe*, caters—the citizens of St. John. Born of that good old stock which refused to live under an alien flag when the United States gained her independence, the Loyalists, for so they are lovingly called, emigrated to New Brunswick, and there upon the shores of the river St. John builded for themselves new homes, and enshrined therein their household gods. It would be ill-fitting such heroic sires that their sons should wish to change the allegiance which cost them so dearly. We believe that the same feeling of devotion to throne and country exists in the breasts of the people of New Brunswick, and especially of those of St. John to this day, and that all the efforts of those who would seek to dislodge it are futile. Mr. Ellis, who may justly be regarded as the leader of these is of Irish descent, born at Halifax, and a native of St. John since 1857. He is a man of about 52 years of age and was postmaster of the city during the Mackenzie *regime*. Owing largely to the fact that that he continued to abuse the government of Sir John Macdonald in his paper while occupying a position under it he was displaced. He sat in the House of Assembly from the general elections of 1882 untal January 1887, when he resigned to become a candidate for his present seat. He was first returned to Parliament at the last general elections and is a most pronounced Liberal. Mr. Ellis' chief prominence is due to the fact that he is one of the leading lights in the Grand Lodge of Free Masons, and an enthusiast in that cause. It is quite within the probabilities that his case will come before the Commons early in the session. It is difficult to see how it could be otherwise. One cannot swear allegiance to the Crown in one breath and break it the next.

THE MANDAMUS DENIED.

The Chief Justice has decided against the motion for a rule to compel the Mayor to attach the seal to the contract with the Albion Iron Works Co. The reasons for the denial will be found elsewhere. It will be seen that the Court condemns the contract as being one-sided and not in the interests of the city. In this connection it may as well be said that the contract was submitted to two legal firms—one representing the city and the other the Albion Co.—and by them it was prepared. As to the other points involved in the decision, it is scarcely necessary for us to say that the Council were driven to seek relief in Court through the obstinacy of the Mayor and not from their own choice. Those who have watched the proceedings for several months past will appreciate the situation in which the Councillors have been placed through no fault of their own. With regard to the rival schemes the Council are to be congratulated on the fact that they have not exceeded their authority or violated the law in declining to accept the Hendry scheme as the one approved of by the ratepayers.

THE COMOX VACANCY.

A great deal has been made by the Opposition organ of the unavoidable delay in issuing the writ for Comox, evidently with the view of leading the electors to believe that a great injustice was being done them. Having exposed the falsity of the *Times'* arguments, our contemporary still continued to hug the dear delusion to its soul that Comox was being terribly treated and that Humphrey's chances of election were daily growing beautifully less. That imperative word "Forthwith" was made to do yeoman service, notwithstanding the fact that it had long ago been given a different meaning from that contended for it by the *Times* by the Hon. Oliver Mowat, whom the *Times* would claim as a "great constitutional lawyer." The Vancouver *Herald* hits the nail on the head when it speaks editorially as follows:

> The *Times* has been wrestling with the Comox election case for several months past. The government did not come up to our contemporary's idea of promptitude, and it thought an injustice was being done to the electors of that constituency by depriving them of a representative. Mr. Stenhouse's sudden resignation left us under the impression that pressing engagements at Salt Lake required his immediate presence there, or we would have suggested to him the propriety of withholding his resignation until a month or two before the meeting of the House. If this had been done it is probable that no delay would have taken place, and Mr. Humphrey's peculiarities would have been saved from protracted hostile criticism. But is it a disadvantage to a candidate to be given time to interview the electors? It ought not to be. The Comox electors had only known of Mr. Humphreys through hearing about him, and as the reports were not very favorable time ought to have been regarded by him as an advantage instead of a drawback. Explanations were evidently necessary. They would have to be long and intricate, and of course required time. It is not in the interests of a constituency that an election should be sprung upon it. Mr. Stenhouse gave them no warning of his intended retirement, and the announcement had scarcely been made when Mr. Humphreys was after them full tilt for their votes. It was too sudden for anything, and the electors were fairly entitled to a short respite to collect their thoughts and recover from their surprise. Mr. Stenhouse's reasons for his resignation were very extraordinary. Was it possible that their representative had concealed his much marrying ideas, behind his bachelor state. If so, it behooved the electors to exercise some care and scrutiny respecting any stranger who might offer his services. Here was a man who had been living among them for a few years, and who was a disciple of Joe Smith, and they knew it not. This showed the need of an investigation concerning moral as well as political principles. The electors of Comox did not want the public to suppose that they endorsed the free and easy marital relations which exist among the Mormons, any more than any other free and easy method of making a living at the expense of others. They have been given time to look up a suitable candidate and, without any inconvenience or loss to the constituency, and they had better select one which they know in preference to one that they don't know. It is a matter which concerns themselves a great deal more than anybody else. Their choice, whosoever he may be, will not materially affect public affairs to any great extent. Their own interest should be their first consideration, after that the province. The higher the moral standard of her public men the greater will she be respected. It is the duty of every elector to consider moral worth as well as intellectual ability, and the constituency which underestimates the former is sure to suffer in some respects for its negligence.

In asking the electors of Comox to refuse to place in Mr. Humphreys' hands the well-being of the constituency, we do so the more earnestly because we believe that he does not possess that high moral standard which would properly represent the acknowledged character of the honest, industrious and hard-working people of Comox. In electing Mr. William M. Dingwall, Comox will have on the floor of the House a gentleman devoted to its interests, familiar with its needs, of unsullied reputation, and characterized by earnest devotion to duty. Is it likely they will voluntarily retard the progress of their district by returning one who has been rejected by three-fourths of the constituencies of the Province? We would fain believe not.

MR. STENHOUSE, EX-M. P. P.

Mr. Maitland Stenhouse, ex-M. P. P. for Comox, has sent communications to THE COLONIST office complaining of articles that appeared in this paper on the 27th and 30th November last, the one headed "The Comox Constituency," the other "The Comox Vacancy." Mr. Stenhouse declares the articles to be a tissue of falsehoods from beginning to end, and demands an apology. We have no desire to misrepresent Mr. Stenhouse or any one else; and as for having libelled him such was furthest from our thoughts. We believed, with many others here, that his resignation was due more to political or party motives than to his intention to join the Mormon Church; and so wrote. If we have misconstrued Mr. Stenhouse's real motive, and if our criticisms thereon have done him an injustice, we have only to express regret and to withdraw the same.

A REMARKABLE Gulf Stream phenomenon was observed on board the steamer Eureka, which arrived recently at New York from New Orleans. Her commander, Captain R. B. Quick, reports that he "found the Gulf Stream current setting to the westward one knot per hour along the Florida reefs until passing Caryafort." Thence, through the Florida Straits, until reaching latitude 30 degrees north, the Eureka had a northerly current of one and a half knots per hour, and thence to Cape Hatteras she had no current at all, though the vessel was in the stream. On leaving the stream at Hatteras the temperature of the sea fell from 72 degrees to 52 degrees in the ship's length. This extraordinary reversal of the most powerful of ocean currents was due to the great anti-cyclone of high atmospheric pressure which was hovering over the Atlantic coast. The northerly and northeasterly anti-cyclonic gales swept the Gulf Stream back upon its reservoir in the Gulf of Mexico. But the effect of these gales was probably limited to the surface water and extended but a few fathoms downward, the main body of the stream, more than one hundred fathoms deep, maintaining its momentum. Captain Quick's record of the Gulf Stream's eccentricities is very instructive, as it shows the navigator when off the Atlantic coast what winds and weather he may expect for some days ahead. When the regular northerly flow of the current is unusually high the indications are that southerly gales will prevail, but when the current is reversed the seaman has the best right to look for northeasterly gales from Florida to the Virginia coast.

THE following is a translation from the Singapore *Free Press* of a circular which caused some excitement among the lower class of Chinese:—On the 15th day of the 8th moon, a sound was heard proceeding from the bell and drum in the Thian Tai Hill Monastery in the Tong Jin Prefecture of the Kwui Chin Province, though no one was beating them at the time. An old man, 74 years old, suddenly appeared from Heaven in a sitting posture and spoke as follows: The Goddess Kwan Vim is going to descend from Heaven, so there will be a good harvest. But the people as well as the domestic animals will suffer, for the God of Plague has come down from Heaven to-day to examine into the conduct of the people. Those who do not believe this will do so when they see one half of the people die on the 15th day of the 9th moon (31st October.) Good people will escape but not the wicked ones. This prophecy comes from the Thian Tai Hill Monastery. It is true, for heaven would punish any one who invented such a lie. Any believer who makes one copy of this and passes it on to another person will save his whole family, and if he makes one hundred copies he will save the whole neighbourhood in which he lives. Any one who knows this and does not make it known will die of cholera, and his sin will increase ten-fold. But make amends for your sin and you will be protected from the coming calamity. On the 15th day of the 9th moon noxious winds will blow and a poisonous fog will descend. Children of both sexes must hide themselves for one hour, and every one must burn incense and return thanks to the Gods for protection against the calamity and Kwan Yin for the charm (printed on the top.) When a man has fallen ill, get a piece of yellow paper, write the character Chien War on it with a vermilion pencil, burn it and swallow the ashes.

IN THE Pitti Palace, at Florence, is a table which, for originality in the matter of construction and ghastliness in conception, is probably without a rival. It was made by Giuseppe Sagatti, who passed several years of his life in its manufacture. To the casual observer it gives the impression of a curious mosaic of marbles of different shades and colors, for it looks like polished stone. In reality it is composed of human muscles and viscera. No less than a hundred bodies were requisitioned for the material. The table is round and about a yard in diameter, with a pedestal and four claw feet, the whole being formed of petrified human remains. The ornaments of the pedestal are made from the intestines, the claws with hearts, livers, and lungs, the natural color of which is preserved. The table-top is constructed of muscles artistically arranged, and it is bordered with upwards of a hundred eyes the effect of which is said to be highly artistic, since they retain all their lustre and seem to follow the observer. Sagatti died about fifty years ago. He obtained his bodies from the hospitals and indurated them by impregnation with mineral salts. To add to the horror which such a piece of furniture is calculated to inspire in the minds of most people, the fate of Count Rittaboca, its last owner, may be related. On Christmas Eve he and his friends were playing cards on this table, when suddenly he jumped up, pale and agitated, overcome by the fixed gaze of these petrified eyes. Yielding to the sudden attack of violent mania, he stabbed himself and fell upon the table. His heirs, as may be imaginnd, were very pleased to sell this funereal object to the government, who installed it in its present situation.

TWO WRITERS in a paper read before the Royal Society doubt if sewer gas be really so harmful as is supposed, seeing that sewer rats endure it and that scavengers and plumbers are no more unhealthy than any other members of the community. They are inclined to blame another thing connected with imperfect drains—that is the incrustations and deposits around the edges of holes and defective joints of sewer pipes. May not such deposits around holes and lining dry, unused pipes be the real breeding-places of the micro-organisms believed to be productive of so much sickness in houses, every outward current of air passing into the room being loaded with them? The dangerous qualities of sewer air may be due to gaseous ptomaines, as suggested by these gentlemen, though their experiments to determine this were unsatisfactory, for reasons stated by them.

A WITTY clown, by name Durow, has been compelled to leave St. Petersburg for carrying jokes too far. He was giving a performance with a pig trained to various feats. At the man's command the animal took up from the ground a number of Russian coins, including imperials and small silver and copper coins. When, however, some rouble notes were thrown the pig refused to pick them up, even though whipped. Great amusement was caused by this discriminating act, and it was intensified as a voice cried from the gallery to the clown, "You blockhead, if the Finance Minister could not raise the paper rouble in four months, how can you expect a pig to do it?" Though a favorite with St. Petersburg audiences, the clown received orders to leave the city the following day.

OUR readers are aware that there is at present a very interesting marriage case before the East Indian law courts, viz., that of a Hindoo lady who was married when a child to a man who now claims her for his wife, but whose claims she resists as involving something worse than death. The case is creating a great amount of interest both in India and in Britain. One illustration of this is seen in the fact that Maharajah Holkar has subscribed 500 rupees to the lady's defence fund. Whatever others may think of the time-honored customs of his country, the Maharajah is bound to think and act for himself. He thinks child marriages are an abomination, and he therefore helps the afflicted lady to fight the battle to the bitter end.

NANAIMO ASSIZES.

TO THE EDITOR:—You were in error when you stated on Saturday last that the prisoner Quamlet was detained, the judge desiring his second prosecution upon the Miller charges.

The judge expressed no such desire.

Sentences upon the convicted prisoners were passed on Saturday morning, the half-breed Philip receiving two years for an unnatural offence, and Tommy and Johnny four years for assault with intent to murder. ON-LOOKER.

IS SHE THE HEIR?

A Romantic Episode Brought Before an English Law Court.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—Justice Sir William Sterling, sitting in chancery division of the high court of justice, to-day had before him a romantic marriage arising out of the death of Captain Bethell, R. N., who was shot by the Boers in 1884 in an engagement in which General Sir Charles Warren, now chief commissioner of police, also took part.

Captain Bethell, a few months before his death, had become enamored of a girl belonging to the Baralong tribe. He married her according to the rites of the tribe, the ceremony consisting of the slaughter of an ox, the head of which was sent to the mother of the bride, while the father was provided with a plow. The name of the bride was Teepoo.

About ten days after the death of Captain Bethel, Teepoo gave birth to a daughter, who was subsequently baptized under the name of "Mabetele," meaning the mother of Bethell.

In support of these statements Montsios, an African King and Chief of the Baralong Cavalry, made an affidavit to the effect that Teepoo was duly married to Captain Bethell. Captain Bethell, in his will, left certain numerous heifers to Teepoo, and directed that if a child were born that it should be educated in England after it reached eight years of age, and that if it were a boy, he should enter the English army; but that Teepoo should forfeit her property if she behaved improperly.

Captain Bethell left considerable property in Yorkshire, and the question before the court was whether the marriage was a legal one, and the daughter consequently legitimate and entitled to her father's property.

Mr. Hastings, Q. C., contended that this was not a polygamous marriage, and that it was consequently valid. There may have been polygamy in the Baralong tribe, but Captain Bethell lived with Teepoo as his only wife, and had no intention of committing polygamy. The case was not completed when the court adjourned.

LOOK OUT FOR THE HIRED MAN.

Young, Beautiful, Wealthy, Accomplished, but She Skipped all the Same.

A London despatch says: News has just been received here of the elopement of Miss Jessie Palmer (for several years a pupil at the Hellmuth Ladies' College here) from the home of her father, Mr. Arch. G. Palmer, one of the wealthiest farmers of Victoria, Cayuga county, N. Y., with a laborer on her father's farm, named Oscar Hughes. She is a handsome brunette of 19, and an only daughter. Her father was a widower. She had been home from college about a month last June when Hughes, who had the appearance of a tramp, visited the place in search of work. Hughes was a good horseman and this first attracted the young lady's attention. He taught her to ride, and was so much in her society that when the time came for her to return to college she pleaded illness and induced her father to extend her vacation till January. Meantime Hughes was constantly in her company, and the affair culminated on Friday last, when the couple disappeared and have not since been heard of. The news has created quite a sensation in certain circles here, where the young lady was a general favorite.

THE BALDWIN HOTEL.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 15.—Lucky Baldwin is having some trouble in finding a tenant who is willing to take the responsibility of running the Baldwin hotel upon the owner's terms, Mr. Rockfield, of Springfield, Ohio, had almost perfected a lease to conduct the hotel for five years, when, for some reason, he declined to accept the condition, Mr. Baldwin not being desirous of running the hotel himself, sent for A. W. Wilson and asked him to lease the place for five years. Wilson's acceptance or declination is yet an open question. Mr. Baldwin agreed to paint the hotel inside from top to bottom if Wilson would accept his terms and sign a lease.

TERRIBLE ACCIDENT.

The Caraquet Railway the Scene of a Tragedy—Eight Men Killed, One Dying and Three Badly Injured.

ST. JOHN, N. B., Dec. 19.—The following particulars have been received regarding the accident on Saturday night on the Caraquet Railroad in Gloucester County. The road is a branch of the Intercolonial Line, and has been in operation only one week. The engine of the accommodation train, with thirteen persons, who accompanied the driver, went forward with a snow plough to clear a drift on the bridge. Scarcely had the centre of the bridge been reached when the plough left the rails, and the next instant both plough and engine ran off the track and plunged into the abyss below, crushing through the thin ice that covered the river. Out of the thirteen who started eight were killed; another is dying and three others are badly injured.

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Absolutely Pure.

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INFANTILE SKIN DISEASES.

Our oldest child, now six years of age, when an infant six months old was attacked with a virulent, malignant skin disease. All ordinary remedies failing, we called our family physician, who attempted to cure it; but it spread with almost incredible rapidity, until the lower portion of the little fellow's person, from the middle of his back down to his knees, was one solid rash, ugly, painful, blotched and malicious. We had no rest at night, no peace by day. Finally, we were advised to try the CUTICURA REMEDIES. The effect was simply marvellous. In three or four weeks a complete cure was wrought, leaving the little fellow's person as white and healthy as though he had never been attacked. In my opinion your valuable remedies saved his life, and to-day he is a strong, healthy child, perfectly well, no repetition of the disease having ever occurred.

GEO. B. SMITH,
Att'y at Law and Ex-Pros. Att'y, Ashland, O.
REFERENCE: J. G. Weist, Drug'st, Ashland, O.

THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN

Are born into the world every day with some scrofulous affection, such as milk crust, scald head, scurf, or dandruff, sure to develop into an agonizing eczema, the itching, burning, and disfiguration of which make life a prolonged torture unless properly treated.

A warm bath with CUTICURA SOAP, an exquisite Skin Beautifier, and a single application of CUTICURA, the Great Skin Cure, with a little CUTICURA RESOLVENT, the New Blood Purifier, are often sufficient to arrest the progress of the disease, and point to a speedy and permanent cure.

Hence, no mother who loves her children, who takes pride in their beauty, purity, and health, and in bestowing upon them a child's greatest inheritance—a skin without a blemish, and a body nourished by pure blood—should fail to make trial of the CUTICURA REMEDIES.

Sold everywhere. Price, CUTICURA, 75c.; SOAP, 35c.; RESOLVENT, $1.50. Prepared by the POTTER DRUG AND CHEMICAL CO., Boston, Mass.

Send for "How to Cure Skin Diseases." 64 pages, 50 illustrations, and 100 testimonials.

BABY'S Skin and Scalp preserved and beautified by CUTICURA MEDICATED SOAP.

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Aching Sides and Back, Hip, Kidney and Uterine Pains, Rheumatic, Sciatic, Neuralgic, Sharp and Shooting Pains, relieved in one minute by the Cuticura Anti-Pain Plaster. The first and only pain-killing plaster. 30 cents.

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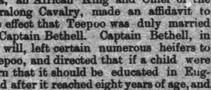

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ELOPED WITH AN INDIAN.

The Foolish Act of a Foolish Girl in New York.

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—The *Times* Niagara Falls, N. Y. special says: Considerable excitement has been caused here by the elopement of David Littlejohn, a full blood Tuscarora Indian, with Pauline, daughter of Rev. Gustave Switzer, of Swormville, Erie county. The Indian has been around here a good deal, and was quite a boy. The girl, who is only 17 years old, is a good-looking blonde, with dark eyes, and has been well educated. She met Littlejohn last summer on Goat island, having come here with an excursion. The Indian scraped up an acquintance, and assisted her to find her friend. He told her he was a Spaniard, and was a guest at the Prospect house. He visited her at Swormville, made love to her on the sly, and planned the elopement. Last Monday she left her home and met him at Tonawanda, and they went to Hamilton and were married.

On Thursday the Indian and his white bride returned to Swormville to be forgiven. The relatives of the girl would not listen, but chastised the Indian severely. The girl refused to give him up, and even though she understood that she had been duped, still insists that she loved him.

Plans were made to give Littlejohn a coat of tar and feathers, but last night he fled the settlement, and his whereabouts are unknown. He has not returned to the reservation. The girl's parents believe she was imposed on by a mock marriage. She was locked in her room yesterday, on account of her threats to follow her dusky husband.

PAINTING A PAIN.

A New Parisian Artist's Canvas Story of a "Rheumatic."

"Tell me, Mr. Wright," asked our reporter of the well-known art connoisseur of the Everect, New York, "is American art improving in character and excellence?"

"Very much so."

"Do Americans much patronize foreign art?"

"Yes. And as they pay the best prices, their private galleries contain gems of all the modern masters."

"Which are prefeared, works of the modern or ancient masters?"

"The modern. Historical scenes, real and ideal landscapes, and decided characters in figure are the most popular.

"The last time I was in Paris I picked up a very strong bit of drawing, which depicted a middle-aged man bolstered up in a much be-cushioned chair, his face and sorroundings indicating intense agony.

"His table is crowded with many a physicians' phials, abandoned bandages, and used-up blisters. Before him a tub of steaming water derisively sends its incense into his face, and the grate fire cheerily blazes in mockery of his unhappiness. His nurse is a type of dismay.

"I really enjoy looking at this picture!"

"I know how the old fellow feels! I myself was for twelve years a victim of inflammatory rheumatism. Every spring and winter perfect torture twisted me for two or three months, during which I was often unable to sleep for a week at a time; was tormented by continuous agony, and at one time was totally blind for a fortnight, the disease having settled in my eyes. I had the best medical skill, used all the most approved scientific specifics, visited the famed mineral springs of America, of Carlsbad and Paris, but every year the same mad fire literally burned me alive!

"I often laugh to myself as I think what an old 'bear' I too must have been, when suffering as that old fellow seems to be."

"Aren't you tempting fate by making sport of your old enemy?"

"Oh, no, I fear him no longer! My last tussle with him was over two years ago, and all the agony of the years of remission settled on me then. My physicians gave me no hope of recovery. I had faith in myself, however."

"Well, how did it work?"

"The rheumatism was in my case, as in nearly all others, caused by a disease of the blood, probably produced by unsuspected inactivity of the kidneys, for I had never had any pain in them. Twenty bottles of Warner's safe cure, however, completely purified my blood, and I never have enjoyed such robust health as now. Hundreds of friends in Europe and America have, on my recommendation, used it for general debility, malaria, rheumatism, etc., and I have never heard an unsatisfactory report from them."

Mr. Wright has a personal acquintance with the best art lovers of Europe and America, and his experience gives weighty testimony to the remarkable power of the celebrated preparation named.

"You think, then, Mr. Wright, that there is substantial art development in America?"

"I certaily do, and I have confidence that when the true American idea is settled upon, our development will be both rapid and excellent."

PLUSH Toilet Sets, at T. N. Hibben & Co.'s.

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Through Emigrant Sleeping Cars run on regular express trains full length of the line. Berths free. Lowest rates. Quickest time.

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ROBT. IRVING, Agent, Gov't St., Victoria. jul21

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For Tickets, Sleeping Car Berths, and further information, apply at the City Ticket Office, Government street.

D. E. BROWN, District Pr't. and Pass. Agent, Vancouver.
W. D. HUGHES, Acting Agent. fe23

Esquimalt and Nanaimo R'y

WINTER ARRANGEMENTS.

TIME TABLE No. 5,

To take effect at 9.04 a.m., on Thursday Dec. 1st, 1887. Trains run on Pacific Standard Time.

GOING SOUTH. READ UP.	No. 1 Passenger Wed., Sat. Daily.	No. 3 Passenger Wed. Sun.	STATIONS.	GOING NORTH. READ DOWN.	No. 2 Passenger Wed., Sat. Daily.	No. 4 Passenger Wed. Sun.
	At 1.40 p.m.	At 8.15 a.m.	VICTORIA		Ar. 4.15 p.m.	Ar. 4.15 p.m.
	1.50	8.25	SAANICH		4.05	4.05
	2.04	8.39	VESUVIUS		3.51	3.51
	2.14	8.49	CHEMAINUS		3.41	3.41
	2.34	9.09	WAKEFIELD		3.21	3.21
	2.44	9.19	CHASE RIVER		3.11	3.11
	2.50	9.25	NANAIMO		3.05	3.05
	Ar. 3.00 p.m.	Lv. 9.35 a.m.	WELLINGTON		Lv. 2.55 p.m.	Lv. 2.55 p.m.

CHEAP RATES.

Until further notice Return Tickets for one and a half ordinary fare will be issued to any point on the line, good for three days, including the day of issue.

R. DUNSMUIR, President. JOSEPH HUNTER, Gen'l Superintendent
H. K. PRIOR, Gen. Freight and Passenger Agt.

Esquimalt & Nanaimo R.R. Express

ON AND AFTER MARCH 1st, 1887, ALL Packages or Parcels for transportation over this Railway not exceeding 50 lbs. in weight nor measuring more than three cubic feet, will be received and receipted for at the Company's Office in Redfern's Block, on Government Street.

Money and valuable packages for warded. Collections made, and a general Express business transacted. no

Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway Company

LAND DEPARTMENT.

Notice to Claimants under the "Act Relating to the Island Railway, the Graving Dock and Railway Lands of the Province":

The Company is now prepared to issue Conveyances of Title to all claimants entitled to the same under the provisions of the above Act, and who have fulfilled the Requirements of the British Columbia "Land Act, 1884."

R. DUNSMUIR, President.
JOHN TRUTCH, Land Commissioner.
Victoria, B.C., July 25th, 1887. jul28-d-w

Victoria Nursery and Seed Establishment

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British Columbia Milling and Mining Company (LIMITED).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the following described Shares in the Capital Stock of the above-named Company have been sold by public auction, according to law, to cover Assessment No. 16 and interest and expenses, and that the certificates therefor have been and now stand cancelled, namely: John Irving, Certificate No. 949, for 1,000 shares; George A. Keefer, No. 1944, 100 shares.

The public are cautioned not in any wise to negotiate any of the above certificates or shares. GEO. A. SARGISON, Secretary.

Victoria, B. C., 17th December, 1887. 1w-d&w

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Highest Cash Prices Paid for Furs and Deer Skins.

TIMBER LICENSES.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, thirty days after date, I intend making application to the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a lease, for timbering purposes, of the following described tract of land:—Commencing at a stake planted at the S.W. corner of Lot 16, Sayward District; thence north 60 chains; thence west 80 chains; thence north 40 chains; thence west 60 chains; thence north 80 chains; thence west 160 chains; thence south 80 chains; thence east 30 chains; thence south 80 chains; thence west 30 chains; thence south 40 chains; thence east 40 chains; thence south 80 chains; thence east 120 chains; thence north 80 chains; thence east 60 chains; thence north 20 chains; thence east 80 chains, more or less, to point of commencement; containing 4,600 acres, more or less.

LEONARD G. LITTLE, By his agent, C. D. RAND.
Victoria, Nov. 28th, 1887. dec 9-w

NOTICE is hereby given that, 30 days after date we intend making application to the Honourable Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for a lease, for timbering purposes, of the following described tracts of land, situate west of Duncan Bay, Sayward District, B. C.

1. Commencing at the south-west corner of Sayward's lot (formerly on Menzies Bay); thence north 40 chains, along west boundary of said lot; thence west 200 chains; thence south 140 chains; thence east 40 chains; thence south 20 chains; thence west 40 chains; thence south 80 chains; thence west 60 chains; thence north 20 chains; thence west 80 chains; thence north 180 chains; thence west 60 chains; thence south 20 chains; thence east 60 chains, to shore of Campbell Lake; thence easterly and southerly following the shore of said Lake 400 chains, more or less, to a post planted; thence north 25 chains; thence west 20 chains; thence north 40 chains; thence east 110 chains; thence north 20 chains; thence east 311.50 chains; thence south 5.35 chains, to corner of Haslam & Lee's limit; thence east 20 chains; north 40 chains; east 20 chains; north 20 chains, along boundaries of said limit to Campbell River; thence easterly 20 chains, more or less, along left bank of said river to a post planted; thence north 113 chains to north-east corner of W. Powers' lot; thence west 80 chains; north 80 chains, along boundaries of said lot; thence west 60 chains; thence north 75.25 chains to A. R. Johnson's lot; thence west along boundary of said lot 194 chains; thence north 40 chains along west boundary of said lot; thence northerly 36 chains, more or less, along easterly boundary of Sayward's lot; thence west 60 chains to point of commencement; containing 25,000 acres more or less.

2. Commencing at the south-east corner of Wm. Powers' lot, Duncan Bay; thence south 100 chains; thence east 100 chains; thence north 40 chains; thence west 20 chains; thence north 60 chains; thence west 80 chains, to point of commencement; containing 380 acres, more or less.

JAMES G. ROSS, JAMES MACLAREN, By their agent C. D. RAND.

NOTICE is hereby given that I intend to apply to the chief

Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY DECEMBER 23, 1887.

THEN AND NOW.

Our evening contemporary bespatters Sir M. B. Begbie, Chief Justice, with praise because his lordship made uncomplimentary allusions to THE COLONIST when Mr. Thornton Fell the other day very foolishly asked for a ruling to have its publishers committed for contempt of court. The *Times'* fulsome flattery of last evening is greatly in contrast with the libelous utterances it gave voice to some time ago, having reference to the same gentleman it now hypocritically praises. If the chief justice is possessed of all the qualities with which the *Times* credits him—and we are very much inclined to doubt it—there can be no question that he will be amused with the article in last evening's issue—providing he reads it. Consistency and honesty in its journalistic course are not articles of the *Times'* creed—it snatches greedily upon anything that may, for the moment, tell for it. So far as his lordship's opinion of THE COLONIST is concerned, we can assure our contemporary it does not affect us in the least. We are convinced that language of so violent a character, and so entirely uncalled for, coming from the Chief Justice of the Province, carries its own condemnation upon its face. Our contemporary's change of base with regard to Sir Matthew is doubtless due to the fact that a forgiving spirit has, with the Christmas time, entered its sanctum. We are glad of it. Charity is the greatest of the Christian graces, and it must have required a very large quantity of it to suggest such obsequiousness towards His Lordship, who has during the year taken occasion to say some particularly nasty things of the *Times*.

POSTMASTER SHAKESPEARE.

We have to announce this morning the resignation of Mr. N. Shakespeare, M.P., junior member for this electoral district, in consequence of his acceptance of the position of Postmaster of Victoria, rendered vacant by the superannuation of the present incumbent, Mr. Robert Wallace. The latter gentleman, who is one of our oldest and best known citizens, and who at one time represented Vancouver district in the Commons, having passed the age when superannuation follows in consequence of a recent decision of the Government in the interests of the various departments, has been retired comfortably. His successor has been well selected, for the choice was that of the government, Mr. Shakespeare, we have reason to say, never having applied for the position personally. His is a well-known figure in the history of British Columbia. He has been identified with its interests for many years, and has never failed to perform conscientiously all the duties devolving upon him as a citizen. He has been President of the B. C. Agricultural Association, and during his term of office that body made great progress, largely owing to his individual exertions. He served in the municipal council for four years and the people elevated him to the proud position of mayor in January, 1882. At the general elections of the same year he was returned to parliament for the first time, and was reelected last year. The fact that he has occupied so many representative positions in the gift of his fellow-citizens may be taken as a sufficient index of the esteem in which he is held by them and of the confidence felt in his faithful discharge of any duties they might thrust upon him. That he has well and worthily borne out in his public conduct the good opinions formed of him is evidenced by his popularity as tested by the votes of the electors. In Parliament Mr. Shakespeare never failed to carry out the programme which he laid down upon his entrance into public life. As the friend of the working man he faithfully fulfilled every pledge he made to them and protected their interests in every way in his power. He never swerved from his anti-Chinese policy and never allowed an opportunity to go by when he could make others see the matter in the same light as he did himself. He did good service for Victoria in Parliament, in conjunction with his colleague Mr. Baker, and though he was not prominent in debate he did effective work in committee and in attending to the interests of his constituents in the various departments. Personally an eminently Christian gentleman, of a genial, obliging disposition, he will bring to the discharge of his new duties gifts of a nature peculiarly suited to them. The government have made, as they usually do in such cases, an excellent choice—one that will be satisfactory to all classes of our people. With the new year Mr. Shakespeare's labors as Postmaster of the city begin. We heartily congratulate him on this mark of the government's favor and trust he may live long to enjoy it. His resignation causes a vacancy in the district representation in the House of Commons, which will doubtless be speedily filled since the House meets on the 31st of January.

MME. LIMOUZIN.

Mme. Limouzin, who is at present, owing to the great scandal connected with the sale of decorations, the *femme a la mode*, has furnished the French reporters an opportunity of showing their agility in interviewing. As soon as she was provisionally released from detention it was a steeple-chase among them for the first place, and the contest was so warm that half a dozen of them arrived abreast at the winning post. The winning post, in this instance, was the celebrated hostelry of the *Chat Noir*, where the heroine of the moment "received" after her liberation. Not one of them being able to get an exclusive interview, the reporters had the idea of offering the adventuress a champagne dinner, knowing that she would be glad enough to talk and thus keep herself before the public. The dignified editors, who would certainly have condemned the act elsewhere, gave the place of honor in their papers to the idle gossip that this woman, full of champagne, rattled off against all the men occupying any political or governmental position whatever. Even Blowitz came near being at this festive repast. He got wind of the dinner and sent up his card by his secretary. When it was handed to Limouzin, she said: "Blowitz? Blowitz? Who is he? Can I receive him?" And her hosts were obliged to explain to this woman who is so well known in the political world, that Mr. de Blowitz was the correspondent of the *London Times*. Gifted with an astonishing memory, this intelligent adventuress appears to be much cuter than that other intriguer, Mme. de Kaulla, who, seven years ago, caused General de Cissey's downfall. During the now-celebrated dinner, Mme. Limouzin repeated from memory the contents of several letters received from prominent persons and that have mysteriously disappeared from the lot seized at her house, and explained an historical point that had hitherto been obscure. It appears that four years ago, when King Alphonse passed through Paris, she was *au mieux* with General Thibaudin, the Minister of War. Her patriotic sentiments were shocked at the idea of a French minister's going to the railway station to meet a sovereign who had been made honorary colonel of a Prussian regiment, and so she retained him at her house on that afternoon. The Radicals, therefore, owe to Limouzin's "patriotism" what they have heretofore credited to Thibaudin's independence. This strange and not uninteresting character who has caused such an upheaval in Paris has just passed her forty-first birthday. She pretends to be a grand-niece of General Kleber. She is thin, with a pointed nose, dark and searching eyes, pencilled brows and jaded features. All her life has been spent in adventures. She has sought by preference the company of influential persons, and has used and abused this acquaintance to swindle the credulous beings who have more money than brains. Very agreeable in her manners when it is a question of duping somebody, a bright conversationalist, endowed with a powerful will and a great memory, this woman, who has thus far lived by her wits, expresses her entire confidence in her ultimate acquittal. Married the first time to a M. Poulain, who committed suicide, she took for a second husband M. Limouzin, a widower, who had practiced law unsuccessfully, and who, when he wedded the widow Poulain, announced that he "quitted the law to make a brilliant marriage!" He has benefited by all of his wife's intrigues, for, in the boulevard language, it is she who has *fait marcher la marmite*, while he has covered her with his name. In short, he is closely related to the hero of M. Dumas' *Monsieur Alphonse*.

THE SCOTCH CROFTERS.

Mr. Alexander Begg, who is now in Great Britain endeavoring to secure the emigration of crofters to this province, has, says the London *Canadian Gazette*, laid his proposals before the Scottish office. The desire of the British Columbia Government is to secure the gradual settlement in the province of some 1,250 families of the crofter fishermen now on the verge of starvation on the West Coast of Scotland. For this purpose the Imperial Government is asked to make a loan sufficient to place £120 at the disposal of each family. The repayment of this loan would, it is represented, be guaranteed by the British Columbia Government, who would also make every provision for the transit and settlement of the crofters. This provision would include the outfit of the colonists, their transit to the province and reception there, the provision of "locations" on the Island of Vancouver, where combined farming and fishing operations could be engaged in with every prospect of success, and also the general supervision of the Colonies thus established. There are many localities on Vancouver Island peculiarly suited to such a Crofter-fisher settlement. Surveys have recently been made from the present terminus of the Nanaimo and Esquimalt Railway through the centre of the island to the extreme north, and it is clear that sufficient land of value is available for agricultural purposes. The coast is, moreover, very similar in configuration to the west coast of Scotland, having excellent natural harbors and affording every facility for successful inshore and deep sea fishing in conjunction with agricultural pursuits such as the Crofters have been accustomed to in their native home. It is thus apparent that excellent provision can be made for the future of many deserving Crofter fishermen who are hardly so well suited as their fellow-countrymen at the Gordon-Cathcart colony to the purely agricultural life which the prairies of the Northwest afford. The desire of the British Columbia government, acting in conference with the large practical experience of Mr. Begg in emigration and settlement matters on both sides of the Atlantic, is that the Crofters should, as far as possible, have the working out of their future in their own hands. Temporary buildings would of course be erected for their reception, and the necessary surveys be made of their lots and farms, but each Crofter would be looked to to erect his house, for which ample timber is available, and to recognize that while everything will be done to aid him in his work, his success in the future must depend upon his own individual endeavors. To attain an honorable independence would thus be within the reach of each without the introduction of any pauperising element in the transaction. There would, moreover, be no severing of family and racial ties, inasmuch as the Crofter fishermen would be settled in Colonies with at least as great religious, educational, and social advantages as they were accustomed to in their native land. The suggestion of Mr. Begg is that five or six Crofters, selected from estates on the west coast of Scotland, should visit the Colony next spring, and, with every possible government assistance, make a careful inspection of the locations which may seem suited to the purposes of settlement. The Crofters at home would thus learn from the mouths of their own representatives what are the prospects of life in the new settlements. Mr. Begg is, however, awaiting the decision of the Imperial Government before proceeding to the Highlands to make the necessary arrangements. The hope and expectation is that, seeing the great distress now prevalent among the Crofters, and seeing the peculiar suitability of British Columbia to their fishery and agricultural pursuits, the declared readiness of the British Columbia Government to guarantee an Imperial loan for their removal, should form the basis of an arrangement without any such demand for interest on the loan as the Treasury has made in other proposals. Lord Lothian has, we learn, been much interested in the proposal which Mr. Begg has made, and promised to give it his full consideration.

ASPIRANTS FOR OFFICE.

Mr. Shakespeare's resignation of his seat in the Commons was the chief talk on the streets yesterday, and the question as to who would be his successor was also discussed. During the afternoon a requisition to Mr. E. G. Prior, M. P. P., was numerously signed, urging that gentleman to offer himself as a candidate in the Conservative interest, and he has accepted. The gallant major will make a strong fight for the position, and his many friends are confident that he will be elected by an overwhelming majority. Mayor Fell is also announced as a candidate, probably in the Grit interest, as his candidature is heralded by that Grit extremist, the *Times*. The present occupant of the civic chair has twice before endeavored to induce the electors to send him to Ottawa—the first time he lost his $200 deposit, and last February saved it by four votes. However, he had similar defeats in civic matters, and he probably is of opinion that, by keeping at it, he will get there some time. Whether the Liberals will select some one to sacrifice himself in the cause of "the pairty of purity" (?) on this occasion is not yet known, but it is presumed that they will.

The decision of Mr. Prior to stand for Ottawa will render a vacancy in the legislature for Victoria city, and already several possible candidates are mentioned, among them being Coun. D. R. Harris, Coun. Barnard, and Mr. Simeon Duck, ex-Finance Minister.

INDIAN TEA IN CHINA.

A recent issue of a North China paper contains an advertisement stating that a Tientsin firm has just received a consignment of Indian tea. It is remarkable enough that Indian merchants should seek a market for their goods in the very region where, one would fancy, they were least likely to find it; but the fact becomes still more remarkable when we consider that large markets exist at their very door which they have as yet scarcely tapped. Last year, for instance, the imports of tea into India amounted to nearly four-and-a-quarter million pounds, much the highest point yet attained. Of this the great bulk came from China, but there were considerable shipments also from Ceylon and Java, and for the first time on record there was a consignment of 6,800 pounds from Batoum of all places in the world. Nearly all these imports are re-exported either by sea up the Persian Gulf, the tea being distributed through Persia and Central Asia, or by land across the frontier to Kabul. While only 200,000 pounds of Indian tea found their way to Persia last year, nearly 1½ million pounds of foreign tea went to the same country by way of Bombay. A writer in the *North China Herald* said the reason why Indian planters left this large and increasing trade to foreigners, was that the imports from China consisted for the most part of green tea of the hyson kind, which has hitherto not been produced at all in India; but this statement requires verification, and does not at any rate apply to the teas of Java and Ceylon. How the Batoum consignment was ever directed to India is a still greater puzzle.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL Powell, who accompanied Sir Adolphe Caron to Victoria, after a description of his trip to the coast, thus sums up his impressions:—"After my long service in the militia, my eyes naturally seek for evidences of strength or of prospective strength, both natural and that which can be acquired by the ordinary courses followed in other countries. In looking to Canada as a whole, to its population, to its agriculture, manufactures, mines, fisheries and forests, to its harbors on the Atlantic and the Pacific, having on both sides magnificent dry-docks, deposits of iron and coal near by, and a more than ordinary ownership of ships and vessels, it seems to me we possess a country which contains all the elements needed to ensure success and a prosperous future."

MR. JOSEPH POPE has just issued an interesting table of figures respecting the last general elections. The total number of voters on the electoral lists of Canada is 993,914, an actual increase over 1882 of 190,327. The total vote polled for the Government was 370,342, for the Opposition 354,718. The total Government majority was 15,628. The average majority of the Government candidates was 307, of the Opposition 351. The number of members elected with majorities under one hundred was 34 Government and 25 Opposition. Mr. Pope has gone to the trouble to work out the figures for each province, and altogether has produced a most interesting chart of election statistics.

OTTAWA *Citizen*: The *Mail* blames Sir Adolphe Caron for stating, as his opinion at the banquet given in his honour at Victoria, B. C., that Commercial Union would pave the way for annexation. It is not very long ago since both the *Mail* and *Globe* told their readers that such a result would certainly follow a Commercial Union arrangement. If the *Mail* and *Globe* choose to go back on their views, it does not follow that Ministers of the Crown should endeavour to emulate them in the practise of inconsistency.

From the DAILY COLONIST, Dec. 22.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

The "Empire" Launched.

The *Empire* made its appearance in Toronto on Monday.

A Local Election.

In the Northumberland, N.B., election for the legislature Mr. Morrisey was successful by some 53 votes.

Donations.

The Royal Hospital management beg to thank the proprietors of the Bavaria Brewery for a ten-gallon keg of beer, which they gave as a Christmas present.

The Yukon.

An Ottawa dispatch says: Ogilvie's party has found an easy pass through the mountains, and it is probable the dominion and provincial governments will construct a road through the pass to the headwaters of the Yukon.

Illustrated London News.

The American edition of the Illustrated London News is again to hand with all the usual interesting features which make this paper the leading journal of the world. To be able to buy the News at the nominal price of $4 per annum brings it within the reach of all classes of society.

Appointment.

The last issue of the *Canada Gazette* contains the following: Richard Jones, of the city of Victoria, in the province of British Columbia, Esquire; to be Collector of Inland Revenue for the division of Victoria, in the province of British Columbia.

A Serious Charge.

Three youths named Lawless, Freak, and Burns, were arrested at Nanaimo on Saturday charged with breaking into a section house on the E. & N. Railway and taking a hand-car therefrom. They propelled the hand-car along the track for some distance, and there left it. They were taken on Monday to Chemainus to have a hearing before the Cowichan magistrates.

Insane and Sane.

Deputy Sheriff Langley took Ah Wah, the Cassiar murderer, to the lunatic asylum at New Westminster on Monday and brought down yesterday from that institution Victor Howland, who has been incarcerated therein for eleven months, and being now judged sane, will fill out the term of his imprisonment in the Provincial jail for rape.

Yosemite vs. Premier.

The steamers Yosemite and Premier had another test of speed on Monday, and according to all accounts the latter was badly beaten. Both steamers were in excellent condition and a fair start was given and the gulf was as smooth as glass. The steamers were going at a terrific rate of speed when, to the astonishment of those on the Premier, the old Sacramento favorite began to gain and gradually drew ahead, leaving her young and tony rival behind a considerable distance.

Beechy Bay Terminus.

We hear that soundings and surveys have been taken at Beechy Bay, the southern terminus of the Island Railway, and the harbor from which it is believed a line of ferry boats will be run, to connect with the American railway system on the other side of the straits. The result is said to have been very satisfactory. The harbor is said to be well sheltered from every gale. This announcement is not made with the object of throwing the *News-Advertiser* into another fit of hysterics.

Salmon from the Pacific.

A Campbelltown, N. B., dispatch of the 9th inst., to the *Union-Advocate*, says: Mr. J. P. Mowat received to-day twenty-four thousand pounds of frozen salmon from Fraser River, British Columbia. A part of this immense quantity of fish will be smoked and a part reshipped frozen. The freight charge over the Canadian Pacific and Intercolonial Railways on this consignment was alone $650. Mr. Mowat is one of a company which has purchased 150,000 pounds of salmon in British Columbia.

Chinatown Row.

Last night, about 10:30 o'clock, suppressed shouts as though some one was being choked, came from a store on Cormorant street, above Government. The door was suddenly opened and two Chinamen staggered on to the sidewalk, one holding the other by the throat in a vice-like grip. The poor wretch was struggling to free himself and at times emitted a blood-curdling yell. He evidently having satisfied himself, the other let go his hold when his victim fell to the ground writhing in pain. He was carried into the store and his assailant fled to one of the dark alleys, where he was seen no more. Like all other previous rows in Chinatown the cause of this one is wrapped in mystery.

Death and Burial of Mr. James Akenhead.

On Sunday morning Mr. Akenhead, proprietor of the Nanaimo market, died very suddenly of an affection of the heart. The deceased was a native of Northumberland, England, and was 37 years old. He leaves a wife and six children to mourn the sudden loss of a loving husband and a fond father. Mr. Akenhead was a member of Black Diamond Lodge, No. 5, I. O. O. F.; Nanaimo Lodge, No. 53, A. O. U. W.; and Court Nanaimo Forester's Home, No. 5,886. The members of the three societies preceded the hearse to St. Paul's church and the cemetery, where the religious services were conducted by the Rev. J. B. Good, the burial ritual of the Foresters being read by Mr. E. McG. Van Houten, chief ranger; the Workman service by Mr. B. H. Smith, master workman, and Mr. W. M. Hilbert, chaplain; the Oddfellows funeral services by Noble Grand B. Baker and Past Grand Geo. Norris.

Wedding Bells.

Last evening Mr. N. C. King, cashier of the Moodyville Saw mill Co., was united in marriage to Clara Amy, eldest daughter of Capt. Gardiner, of this city. The ceremony was performed at the residence of the latter, Rev. P. Jenns officiating. The bride's sister, Miss E. J. Gardiner was bridesmaid, and Mr. J. Carsman ably supported the groom. Only the immediate friends of the high contracting parties were present. The happy couple leave this morning on the Olympian for their honeymoon.

AT NANAIMO.

Mr. John Shaw, principal of the Nanaimo public schools, was yesterday united in marriage to Miss Kate Haggart, daughter of Mr. Haggart, underground manager of the South Wellington mines. The happy couple arrived in the city last evening.

Another marriage is on the *tapis* to take place on the 24th instant, in which another teacher and one of Nanaimo's fairest maidens are the contracting parties.

Keep in Good Humor.

This injunction applies not only to the mental but the physical welfare. Salt rheum, erysipelas, and all obstinate humors of the blood are perfectly curable by Burdock Blood Bitters. tu-th-sat-dw

A Frequent Annoyance.

Who is there that is not frequently annoyed by distressing headaches? Sufferers from sick or nervous headache will find a perfect cure in Burdock Blood Bitters. Sold by all dealers in medicine. tu-th-sat-dw

THE POSTMASTERSHIP.

Mr. N. Shakespeare, M. P., to Succeed Mr. Wallace.

The Latter Gentleman Superannuated—Our Late Member Resigns His Seat—A Vacancy in the Federal Representation.

Information was received in this city last night of the superannuation of Mr. Robert Wallace, postmaster of this city, and the appointment of Mr. N. Shakespeare, M. P., in his stead. The junior member for the electoral district of Victoria has duly resigned his seat, causing a vacancy in the Commons' representation. The new Postmaster will enter upon his duties on January 1st. It is understood that the superannuation allowance of his predecessor is very generous.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

The regular weekly meeting of the city council was held last night, when there were present His Worship Mayor Fell, and Couns. Grant, Pearse, Braden, Vigelius, Styles, Higgins, Coughlan and Barnard.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted.

COMMUNICATIONS.

From Wm. A. Miller, stating that were a sidewalk of six feet width laid on Beechy street he would build a house there. Referred to street committee.

From A. DeCosmos withdrawing his offer of $25 towards laying a sidewalk on Government street.

From W. Walker, secretary of the school board, requesting that Spring Ridge school (Miss Horton's) be supplied with water.

From Frank Campbell asking a Christmas favor to the extent of granting him permission to repair the damages done to his verandah on Government street by a recent runnaway accident.

Coun. Grant moved that the matter be referred to the city surveyor, the chief engineer and the fire wardens to ascertain the extent of damage to the verandah. Carried.

MOTION.

Coun. Grant moved the first reading of the by-law governing the election of mayor and council. Carried.

MUD-SCRAPER.

From J. Robertson, presenting an account of $300 for a machine scraper.

Coun. Styles stated that, as yet, the machine had not been a success.

Referred to the street committee to report.

WATER WORKS AGAIN.

A bill of $15 was read from Drake, Jackson & Helmcken, for advice on the water works contract given to Coun. Coughlan and Mr. Bullen.

After some discussion the bill was referred to the water works committee to report.

Coun. Pearse here rose and said all through the contention about the water works the committee had been shamefully treated. It had been entirely ignored. One member of the council (Coun. Higgins) who owns a newspaper, had actually stated through the columns of that paper that "he" had taken the matter out of the water committee's hands and that "he" ought to have done it four months before he did.

Coun. Higgins said he had not intended to speak, but he wished to refute the statement of Coun. Pearse. He had never made such remarks in or out of the paper. What he did say was that if the council had taken the matter out of the hands of the water committee long before it did, there would have been a different state of things.

His worship stated that as far as the bill of Drake, Jackson & Helmcken is concerned he would neither pay or allow it to be paid during his term of office.

The bill was referred to the water committee.

REPORTS.

From the electric light committee saying they had examined the requirements of Spring Ridge *re* the application of Mr. Henry T. Behnsen, asking for two lamps for that part of the ridge. Owing to topographical features, light from the present lamps does not reach that portion of the city. Taking into consideration the number of inhabitants residing on the other side of the Ridge; the committee deem it advisable to recommend that as soon as wire can be obtained for the extension of the circuit, that one lamp be taken from the mast at North Park street and placed on a suitable mast at or near the old Spring Ridge waterworks. An improvement had been made in armatures for the Sperry dynamos which, if procured, would increase the lighting capacity of the two that belong to the city works by from 20,000 to 32,000 candle power, at a cost of about $1,100. To be added to this there would be a charge for wire, poles, etc., per mile of about $350. If this improvement were made, it would enable the council to provide several parts of the city with a better light. The committee visited also after night, nearly every part of the city, to ascertain the several localities requiring more light, and in their opinion the following districts are entitled to consideration in this respect: On Spring Ridge, two lamps; on Cook and Yates, one lamp; on eastern side of town, one lamp; on south-eastern side, between Cook and Vancouver streets, one lamp; on south side, one lamp; on the peninsula toward the outer wharf at suitable points, three lamps; and on Rock Bay side, two lamps. The committee also reported that during the last year about 100 of the Sperry dynamos, of the same pattern as this city possesses, have been altered by the improvement suggested in the report.

Coun. Higgins drew attention to the appalling expense incurred in the consumption of fuel at the electric light works.

Coun. Grant explained the cause as being due to the fact that the proper fuel cannot be obtained.

Coun. Higgins asked what the annual cost of running the electric light would be?

Coun. Grant said that the cost would be under $9,000.

His worship said the electric light was a legacy that was left by the council of 1885. If the city would sell the whole thing it would be better. (Laughter.)

Coun. Grant added to the report that wire be purchased to supply Spring Ridge with light.

Coun. Higgins seconded the adoption of the report, which was carried.

MR. HARGREAVES BILL.

The water works committee reported as follows:

GENTLEMEN,—We beg respectfully to report in respect of the claim of Mr. Hargreaves for remuneration for services as engineer of the water works, that we have obtained the opinion of the city barrister on the question of said remuneration, which is to the effect that the appointment could not take effect until it was communicated to and accepted by him. He took no notice of this communication until the 9th and then only asked for information. On the 28th he declined to attend on the ground that he was about to resign and on the 5th of April he resigned and acknowledged that he had not even commenced work. It may be doubted whether he is entitled to anything, but advise that he be tendered $150, without prejudice.

We beg to recommend that the amount of $150 be so tendered to Mr. Hargreaves.

B. W. PEARSE,
JOHN GRANT.

A lengthy and acrimonious discussion ensued.

Coun. Pearse spoke forcibly in opposition to the bill, saying that Mr. Hargreaves had done nothing to earn the money. He (Hargreaves) had actually asked the dimensions of the reservoir after his appointment.

Coun. Higgins said Mr. Hargreaves had been most unjustly treated by the water committee. Was it not natural for him to ask for the plans of the scheme of which he had been appointed consulting engineer?

The report was adopted.

STREET COMMITTEE.

The street committee reported that a section of James Bay was under water and presented a plan of a proposed dam to cost $950.

Coun. Barnard warmly advocated the immediate drainage of the lots.

Coun. Higgins described the condition of the inhabitants which was deplorable. He hoped early relief would be given.

Coun. Grant spoke to the some effect.

Coun. Styles was anxious to know how the funds stood.

On motion of Coun. Barnard, seconded by Coun. Higgins it was finally resolved to call for tenders if the funds would hold out.

SMELTING WORKS.

Coun. Higgins handed in a by-law for a smelting works, which was laid over for action by the next council.

PRIVILEGE.

Coun. Higgins said that Coun. Pearse had made a statement reflecting on him which he could not allow to pass uncontradicted. The councillor had said that he (Coun. Higgins) owned a newspaper, and that he had boasted through its columns that "he" had taken the water works out of the hands of the water works' committee, and that "he" was sorry "he" had not done it before. This was, to use the mildest term, incorrect. He had never made any such ridiculous or untruthful statement. He challenged Coun. Pearse to show that he had done so. If he did do so, he (Coun. Higgins) would donate $50 to any charity Coun. Pearse might name.

Coun. Pearse said he had corrected his first statement and said THE COLONIST had said so.

Coun. Higgins—That is also incorrect. THE COLONIST did not say so, and so my owning that paper a visit to the registration office would show that he did not own it.

Coun. Grant said that Coun. Higgins had stated that the matter had been taken out of the water works' committee's hands, and that it ought to have been taken out long before it was.

Coun. Higgins—Exactly. I did say so, and I repeat it now. But I did not utter the egotistical nonsense attributed to me.

Coun. Pearse—There was a systematic obstruction of business of the committee, and the council had acted wisely.

The mayor said that Coun. Higgins might be right this time, but he had written many articles for THE COLONIST.

Coun. Higgins stated that his worship had written many articles for the papers. He was a great genius in that respect.

Coun. Styles—Yes, and there are others besides the mayor who have written offensive articles for the press in this council.

The mayor said he never wrote over a *nom de plume*.

WAGON TIRES.

Coun. Pearse's by-law for wide tires was laid over for one week.

The council then adjourned.

PERSONAL.

S. M. Robins, of Nanaimo, is at the Driard.

Rev. Dr. Maconochie, of ritualistic fame, is dead.

The Roman Catholic Bishop of Hamilton died at Cork on Monday last.

R. Hall, of Hall, Goepel & Co., returned from a brief visit to Seattle yesterday.

Sir T. G. Grove, Unionist member for Milton division, Wiltshire, has turned Gladstonian.

Rev. Mr. Silcox, of the Congregational church, Winnipeg, has accepted a call to San Diego, Cal.

W. P. Lindley, who has received the chief engineership of one of the Sound steamers, is in the city on a brief visit.

James Wilson, superintendent of C. P. R. telegraphs, has returned to New Westminster from Toronto with Mrs. Wilson.

Geo. Vincent, son of the Church of England clergyman of that name now engaged in work among the Indians of Northeastern Canada, was recently baptized into the Roman Catholic church at Lac la Biche.

Rev. Mr. Pitblado, pastor of St. Andrew's church, Winnipeg, has received a call to a church in San Francisco, at a salary of $5000. He has not yet signified his intentions.

Dr. Montague, M.P., the political hero of Haldimand, is at Vancouver. He with Wm. T. Sawle, publisher and proprietor of the Welland *Telegraph*, and Dr. J. T. Carrol, of Welland, Ont., will leave this city for San Francisco on a pleasure trip.

MARINE.

Collier Empire is due at East Wellington from San Francisco.

Ship John L. Briggs will complete her cargo of Wellington coal to-day.

Tug Pilot brought the bark Malay into Esquimalt from Chemainus yesterday.

Collier Wellington passed up for Departure Bay yesterday morning from San Francisco.

Ship Carondelet, Stetson, arrived at Port Townsend on Monday, eight days from San Francisco.

Ship Earl of Dalhousie will finish loading Nanaimo coal on Saturday and will have quick dispatch for San Francisco.

The Seattle *Post-Intelligencer's* Port Townsend correspondent says that a crew of runaway sailors arrived at the latter port on Friday night last.

Collier Antonio, under command of Capt. W. M. Crawford, sailed from Departure Bay on Tuesday evening with 2,550 tons of Wellington coal for San Francisco. Capt. Crawford takes the place of Capt. Wallace, who retired on account of ill-health. He has been for nearly twenty years navigating in the China waters and the sudden change of climate proved too much for him. Capt. Crawford was first officer of the collier.

LOCAL BRIEFS.

Yesterday was the shortest day in the year.

Chas. Bush and Capt. D. Hansen, of San Francisco, will row a race at 3 o'clock this afternoon for $100 aside, over the usual course.

The ladies of the various churches in the city are making extensive arrangements for the decorations on Christmas Day. In many instances they promise to surpass in beauty any previous efforts.

WHAT SOME PEOPLE SAY.

That the Imperial Parliament is officially summoned for February 9th.

That reports again declare that Mr. Royal will be Lieutenant-Governor of the Territories.

Bear it in Mind.

That pure blood is the life nourishment of the body, and means perfect health no one can deny. Cleanse the blood from all impurities with B.B.B., the best blood purifier known. tu-th-sat-dw

STEAMER BURNED.

The San Vincente of the P. C. S. S. Line Burned Off Pigeon Point—Eleven Lives Lost—The Queen of the Pacific to the Rescue.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 21.—Last night as the steamer Queen of the Pacific was nearing port, and was off Pigeon Point, she came upon the Pacific Coast Steamship Company's steamer San Vincente in flames. Rescuing boats left the Queen, all the while cries of help coming from the crew of nineteen aboard the doomed vessel. The first boat took off the first mate and four seamen, and the other boats rescued two more men; one of the latter was found in a small boat belonging to the San Vincente. He was no longer able to cry for help; the boat was half filled with water. He was in a dying condition. All efforts to restore him were of no avail, and nearly two hours were spent in these efforts, but the unfortunate seaman finally expired. The rescued alive are the captain, first and second mates and four seamen. The lost and unaccounted for are the purser, first and second engineers, three seamen, the cook, waiter, driver and two firemen. The San Vincente left port yesterday at 4 p. m. She is a small steamer of about 350 tons burden. As to the origin or cause of the fire none of the rescued officers and men can assign any probable cause. The captain had gone down below deck only ten minutes before the alarm was raised. There were but two boats on the steamer. The captain ordered that they be launched, but the men were panic-stricken. As soon as the first boat was lowered a number of men sprang into it. The iron stanchions which held the boat were red hot, and the tackle to which it hung was quickly burned, and the boat spun round and round, the men trying to keep a grip. The first obliged to let go was the purser, next the engineer. The rest quickly followed and sank forever.

Later—All the sailors say the fire was caused by an explosion of oil which was on top of the boiler. The vessel was valued at $30,000; no insurance.

ALLEGED CONSPIRACY.

Charles Wilkes and Allan Muirhead Examined—Defendants Bound Over to Appear at the Next Assizes.

The examination of witnesses in the W. G. Campbell and G. W. Kennedy conspiracy case was resumed in the police court yesterday morning before Edwin Johnson, S.M. Mr. Mills appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Pooley, Q.C., for defendant Campbell. Charles Wilkes was the first witness examined, and said: "I have been a coal miner for 28 years; Mr. Sayward sent for me and introduced me to Mr. Gabriel; they asked me to explore a mine on Tumbo Island; went there and selected a spot for a shaft; when I returned to Victoria told Mr. Sayward I saw the best indications for coal on the island; Mr. Gabriel said to me that the Japanese told him the indications were good; went to Tumbo Island in the steamer Hope to sink a shaft; there were nine men at work, and Messrs. Campbell, Wilkes, and Muirhead arrived there next day and started to work; Tatten came to the shaft where we were at work; we started to sink the shaft on Tatten's ground.

To Mr. Mills—I did not say what date I went to survey the land; had a contract to sink the shaft at $30 per yard; threw up the contract because the men would not work; was not going to work all summer for nothing; from the word go the company acted the scoundrel towards me; Mr. Sayward would not pay me and sent me to Mr. Gabriel; I don't know anything about signing the contract; you will get very little out of me.

Allan Muirhead, sworn, said: I know all parties connected with this case; went to Tumbo Island on 3rd May with Wilkes and Kennedy; Campbell left us at Clover Point; on the 5th we reached the island; after arriving there I marked a tree and Mr. Wilkes said it was the best place to sink a shaft; in the evening Tatten came to the tent and Wilkes asked him to look at the shaft; Tatten said he wanted the lines changed and the shaft would then be on his (Tatten's) property; Tatten said if they could afford to pay Kennedy $4,000 they could pay him $1,000 for sinking the shaft; we went for Mr. Campbell on Thursday; did not get him; on Monday they brought Campbell; Tatten showed me his boundary post and his line; the eastern line was cut through the bush; the shaft was about a chain and a half outside Tatten's line; we started surveying and Mr. Campbell was chief surveyor; next morning Tatten told Campbell that he wanted the lines changed further east; he said "I have the first right on the island and will have the lines where I like;" he finished the survey, and before he left Tatten came to the tent and said he wanted $1000 before he would allow the company to sink on his land; Campbell said he might get $200 or $300; Tatten said he would not take less than $500. Tatten also said the company did not use him right, and he was going to make them pay; they had no water on their land, and he was going to make them pay for water; we returned to Victoria; Campbell called a meeting of the company; I was present; Mr. Campbell told the company that Tatten wanted $500. Wilkes corroborated Mr. Campbell's statement and said the best indications for coal existed on the island. Mr. Gabriel asked me to draw up the agreement with Mr. Tatten; I returned to the island with Mr. Campbell and ten others; we laid out the shaft and Mr. Campbell told Tatten to come down, the company wished to see him; Tatten told Wilkes not to start work on the shaft before he returned from Victoria; when I returned to Victoria, Campbell asked me to take the agreement to Mr. Sayward's office; the company held a meeting, and there were present Messrs. Hall, Sayward, Gabriel, Tatten and myself; Mr. Gabriel told Tatten the company had no right to pay Tatten $500; Tatton became angry and said he would go back; finally they agreed to pay $500, and the agreement was signed; I went into the outer office to insert a clause regarding timber for mining purposes; Mr. Gabriel followed me and said that he wanted to get even on Tatten who could neither read or write; he asked witness to insert a clause, giving the company all the timber they required; I refused to insert the clause; Mr. Gabriel left the meeting in company with Mr. Tatten; I went to Capt. Clarke's store with Mr. Campbell; after leaving Capt. Clarke's we met Mr. Tatten; the latter was shaking a cheque and said he had $500 from the company and intended to get $500 more; Tatten asked witness to identify him at the bank; I did not care about going and told Tatten to ask Mr. Campbell to identify him; Campbell came from the bank about five minutes before Tatten; the latter came to us and said he banked the money. After the contract was thrown up I was engaged to go to Tumbo Island to take charge of the company's tools. I remained on the island for two months, excepting a few days when I came to Victoria to find out whether the contract was let. I did not know Mr. Kennedy when he received $3,350; Mr. Campbell and myself met Olsen one Sunday afternoon near Wriglesworth's store; Olsen asked Campbell to help him get some money from Gabriel as he believed the company would try to swindle him. Campbell said he would have nothing to do with it; during my stay on the island I was friendly with Tatten; he did not say Campbell gave him $250.

To Mr. Mills—Mr. Campbell introduced me to Mr. Gabriel; I have known Mr. Campbell for two years; Mr. Campbell engaged me to survey the island; I went to Mr. Campbell's last night; what we were talking about you will never get from me; we talked about everything in general and nothing in particular; we did not speak about this case; on Sunday last went to Mr. Campbell's; we spoke about the case; I wrote the agreement at Mr. Campbell's residence; a portion of the agreement was taken from a form supplied by Mr. Campbell; I received no assistance in drawing up the the agreement from Mr. Campbell; Mr. Gabriel instructed me to draw up the agreement; Mr. Campbell told me to take the agreement to the meeting of the company; I was first introduced to Mr. Campbell by Mr. Eli Harrison; I have had a little experience in engineering; I remember meeting Messrs. S. P. Mills and Gabriel, and I said the company had treated me right; Campbell had used me like a gentleman and I did not wish to say anything about the case; Mr. Campbell introduced me to Mr. Kennedy.

Mr. Muirhead closed the evidence for the defence, and after some argument from counsel on both sides the defendants were bound over, Campbell in the sum of $2,500 and Kennedy in $1,000, to appear at the next assizes.

MAINLAND NEWS.

(Inland Sentinel.)

Wednesday morning, about 1 o'clock, a fire broke out in Wilson & Robinson's Hotel, at Griffin Lake. In less than half an hour the building was burned to the ground. The fire is supposed to have originated in the bar. The flames had broken through the ceiling of the bar into the bedrooms above when discovered. Nothing was saved, and it was with difficulty the occupants of the house escaped, some of whom had to jump from the windows of the second storey, taking such clothing as they could conveniently lay hands on. The building was a two-storey frame and was insured for $2,000. The total loss is estimated at $5,000. It is expected that the proprietors will rebuild in the spring.

Snow has almost entirely disappeared.

W. H. Smith has tendered his resignation as a member of the provincial police force. Mr. Smith has discharged the troublesome duties of a policeman in town for upwards of three years, and has concluded that

Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23rd, 1887.

CABLE NEWS.

Balfour-Betty Married.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—Gerald W. Balfour, M.P., brother of the Irish Secretary, was married to-day to Lady Betty, eldest daughter of the Earl of Lytton.

The marriage of Gerald Balfour to Lady Betty, daughter of Lord Lytton, at Knebworth House, Stevenage, Hertford, to-day, was an unusually quiet affair as compared with the customary manner of celebrating by the aristocracy in England. The ceremony was strictly private, and the Earl of Lytton, father of the bride, took his departure for his post of duty in Paris immediately after the performance.

A Rumor About Prince Ferdinand.

A rumor which was started in Vienna the birthplace of fully three-fourths of all political stories true and false that arise in Europe, that Prince Ferdinand had formally resigned the rulership of Bulgaria has had the effect to stiffen all of the continental Bourses, and probably the originators had that end in view. Nothing since has been heard in confirmation of the rumor and although Prince Ferdinand's ultimate action may be such a story as described, yet this particular yarn may be set down as without foundation. Doubtless Prince Ferdinand would be well pleased to drop the entire business and get out of Bulgaria with as little delay as possible, but it is quite plain that the power in whose interest he is acting and whose support he relies upon to protect his person and cover his retreat when the time comes for his abdication, but does not believe that it has come.

Meeting in Trafalgar Square.

The Law and Liberty League is making an effort to organize an immense meeting in Trafalgar Square on Christmas. The police will, of course, prevent the meeting, but the radicals seem determined that the "bobbies" shall have their Christmas holiday spoiled, and that a large force of swell special constables shall have something to do.

Two More Ocean Vessels.

Inman's Ship Company is building two vessels of 10,000 tons burden, each to compete with Umbria and Etruria.

A Clergyman Shot At.

DUBLIN, Dec. 21.—A tremendous sensation was caused in society and other circles to-day by an attempt to shoot the Rev. Henry Melville, a young clergyman, made by Capt. Dunne, formerly a governor of Castle Bar jail and an officer in the Union army during the American war. Captain Dunne charges Melville with having seduced his daughter while she was residing with Melville's wife, and after the discovery of illicit relations of the pair, Melville eloped with the girl and went to the continent. They returned to England after a while and were discovered by Dunne in London. Melville then fled to Ireland and was pursued by Dunne, who traced him to Dublin. While Melville was being driven in a cab to-day Dunne saw him and made a dash for the vehicle, firing a revolver at its occupant. Melville saw his assailant coming and held a cab rug in front of him, stopping the bullet. Dunne was arrested and committed for trial. Public sympathy is entirely in his favor. At the examination of Capt. Dunne, Melville testified that his real name was Peter Higginson, and that he had been both customs clerk and horse dealer during his career. His first wife, whose maiden name was Janes, had obtained a divorce from him in America, and he had then married the widow of an author by the name of Whyte. Under the assumed name of Melville he was ordained to the ministry in South Africa, but with the exception of the religious services he had conducted in his own household, he had performed no clerical duties. Widow Whyte was, when he married her, a wealthy woman and kept one hundred servants. He admitted that he had been assaulted on two occasions by insulting women and acknowledges he had seduced Dunne's daughter. She was not happy before he had made love to her, he said, but he hoped and believed that he had made her happy. Capt. Dunne gave Melville a severe beating before shooting at him. Bail in a large sum was offered for Dunne's release, but the court refused to liberate him.

An M. P. Sentenced.

Mr. David Sheehy, member for South Galway, was sentenced at Clonwell to-day to one month's imprisonment for violations of the crimes act in addressing prohibited league meetings.

Refuses to Wear Prison Clothes.

Commoner Hooper, who is serving a two months' sentence for the same offense that Mr. O'Brien was imprisoned for is following the latter's example, and refuses to wear a prisoner dress and remains in bed day and night.

Freedom of the City.

The common council of Drogheda have conferred the freedom of the city upon William O'Brien.

LATE CANADIAN NEWS.

Crisp Cullings from Our Eastern Exchanges—Breezy Notes from the Provinces—General and Political.

ONTARIO.

Wm. Jenney, for thirty-seven years a resident of Guelph, is dead.

E. Cochrane (Conservative) and Dr. Mallory (commercial unionist), were nominated in East Northumberland.

The excitement in Toronto over the Central Bank failure continues. Many of the shareholders will be left penniless.

In the future all medals for D. R. A. matches will be made by Ellis, of Toronto; badges to be obtained in England.

The children of Sealand, who was killed in a railroad accident at St. Thomas, will receive $15,000 from the Grand Trunk.

The average height of the men of the Governor-General's Foot Guards, Ottawa, is 5 feet 9 inches, and chest measurement 38 inches.

The Anglican clergymen of Ottawa have decided to co-operate with ministers of other denominations in the license reduction campaign.

It is reported that Chamberlain will be elected for Carleton and hold the seat for a time in order to strengthen his position as fisheries commissioner.

Two Northern & Northwestern freights collided at Allandale. Both engines were wrecked. Thos. Moore, driver, is believed to be fatally injured.

At a meeting of the presbytery of London held at St. Thomas, Principal Grant was unanimously nominated as moderator at the next general assembly.

Dr. Platt, Wiman's great ally, has been unseated for bribery in Prince Edward, and Dr. Chamberlain, Grit M.P.P., Dundas, is also a victim of the election law.

Mr. Spooner, of Glenburnia, near Kingston, while feeding a young bull was gored to death, and his wife, who ran to his assistance was seriously injured.

There was nearly a big row in the Ottawa county council. In the warm debate an Irish councillor was with difficulty restrained from felling a French colleague with a chair.

W. J. Lake, of Battersea, sent his son to his grandmother's, across Longhboro Lake for some bread. The little fellow not returning, his father went in search of him and found his body against the ice near the shore.

The firm of Dubs & Co., Glasgow, Scotland, assumed the management of the Canadian Locomotive works at Kingston, and it will be a branch of the great Scottish works. Some foreign orders will be filled at Kingston.

Judge Henderson has given judgment in a telephone case, taking the ground that any person paying a rental for a telephone had a perfect right to let whom they choose use it, in spite of any rule of the company to the contrary.

The post office at Norwood was burglarized early Sunday morning, the safe blown open and $11,000 cash, $200 in stamps, and $10,000 in notes and securities and registered letters carried off. No clue to the perpetrators.

Wm. Bates, found drowned near Oak Point, Wolf Island, was a sailor and was returning home. The body was found lying on the shore the face just covered with water, into which he had fallen. A black bottle close at hand told the story of the unfortunate man's death.

Hamilton is being flooded with $5 bills of the Bank of Montreal, Bank of Commerce and Merchants' Bank which have been cleverly raised to tens. The raising is so cleverly done that as a general thing the merchants do not discover the difference until they present their deposits at the banks.

H. P. Dwight, of the Great Northwestern telegraph company, writes to the papers declaring that several of the worst losses made by the manager of the Central bank were never brought before the directors at all. Mr. Allen, the manager, is very ill, and there is talk of arresting him on a criminal charge.

A few weeks ago Jane Carroll, living near Strathroy, was found hanged in her husband's barn. An inquest was held, and the jury returned a verdict of suicide. Charles Carroll, her husband, and John Carroll, a cousin, have been arrested, charged with murder. It is alleged they first killed the woman and then hanged her to a beam.

A Government return shows the votes on the list last February were 190,000 more than at the previous general election. This is an increase of 20 per cent. The total votes on the list are 993,000. Manitoba has on the list 39,051 voters. This is 15,518 more than in 1882. The percentage increase is 65.94. The Northwest has got 10.315 voters; British Columbia, 7,637.

QUEBEC.

Raoul DeBesangen, ex-M. P. for Coteau du Lac, died at Coteau du Lac.

The Montreal *Herald* has resumed its old eight page form, and looks as it did before the fire.

George Demers, a wealthy merchant of St. Henri, is likely to be appointed to the legislative council.

A jubilee address and two hundred dollars has been forwarded to the pope by the Cercle Catholique.

A Montreal tough attacked and half killed a policeman, and after his arrest he was let out on $20 bail.

Vicar-General Langevin, brother of Sir Hector, has had the honor of Monsigneur conferred upon him by the Pope.

An old man, George N. Gauthier, confined for the last fourteen years in the Beauport lunatic asylum, was found dead in bed.

D. E. M. Lee, superintendent of the Intercolonial railway, was instantly killed at Sherbrooke by falling off a train in motion between the two last cars.

Rev. Abbe Martineau died suddenly of inflammation of the lungs at Montreal. The death was caused by over zeal in parochial work. He was 56 years old.

Joseph Chapleau who attempted to murder Grocer Vernette at Montreal while burglarizing his store, was sentenced to fourteen years in the penitentiary.

The local government will take action against 200 commercial firms for non-payment of the commercial tax which was declared by the privy council to be constitutional.

As a result of the recent bucket shop expose, Frank Bond and Mrs. Hanrahan will take proceedings against the *Witness* for alleged libel. The former asks $75,000 damages, and the latter $50,000.

The rumors about pending changes in the *personnel* of the local Opposition are officially denied. Hon. Mr. Taillon has no intention of accepting a judgeship and Mr. Tarte has absolutely refused to reenter politics.

In the Montmorency contested federal election, Judge Pelletier dismissed a motion by a sitting member to reject the petition, and granted another on behalf of the petitioners to extend the delay for trial to the 1st of March, 1888.

MANITOBA.

In many of the Winnipeg city churches on Sunday no service was held owing to the want of gas.

The mill owned by Leitch Bros, at Oak Lake, Man., has been destroyed by fire; loss, about $18,000.

Van Zandt, who was arrested at Winnipeg for forgery alleged to have been committed in Butte City, was released for want of evidence for extradition.

Emmanuel Burns, a Yorkshire man, shot Thomas McLean, a fellow laborer, on the C.P.R., at Rat Portage, during a dispute. McLean was removed to Winnipeg hospital. He will lose his leg, if not his life.

An eloping couple from the Oak Lake country—a farm hand named Thompson and a fifteen year old daughter of a farmer named Malverlon—were arrested in Winnipeg while *en route* to Ontario, and were returned home.

An explosion was the cause of the destruction of the Winnipeg gas works. An employee named Avery was burned to death. The loss is $50,000; no insurance. There were also minor conflagrations in the C. P. R. shops and in Stobart & Son's block. An inquest was held on the remains of Avery and a verdict of accidental death was rendered. Owing to the fire the city will be without gas till Christmas.

La Riviere, in Montreal, declined to say anything regarding contemplated changes in the Manitoba cabinet, but an intimate friend of his said that he had been told that everything had been arranged at Ottawa, and that some interesting announcements would take place shortly. One thing, he says, is pretty well understood, that Norquay will have to go, and that he will probably be replaced by Harrison.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Robert Barry, of Cork, fourth officer of the steamer "Britisher" was washed overboard and drowned.

W. S. Symonds & Co.'s iron foundry at Dartmouth, was burned. Loss, $60,000; insurance, $6,000. The machine shops, general foundry, stove plate shop and carwheel and pipe foundry were all destroyed.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

The supreme court has seated Perry for Prince's.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Conductor Kearney and seven others were killed and several were wounded in the Caraquet railway fatality.

The story of the finding of a buried treasure at St. Martins has caused a sensation. The amount of the find up to the present time is stated to be several bushels. The parties who are acquainted with the location of the treasury say that it is in the shape of Spanish guineas bearing date of 1765.

AMERICAN NEWS.

A Terrible Gas Explosion.

ROCHESTER, Dec. 21.—About 3:30 p.m. an explosion of gas took place at the Jefferson and Clinton mills on Mill Street, and they were immediately enveloped in flames. While the fire department was hurrying to the fire the entire city was alarmed by a number of explosions in rapid succession, and huge clouds of smoke rose from half a dozen different points on Mill and Platt streets. The Washington mill, which adjoins the Clinton mill, also caught fire and the rear of Whitney & Wilson's mill was also in flames in a few minutes. While the firemen were laying the hose half a dozen man-holes on Mill street, which had been covered with ice and snow, blew up. Thousands of people who had been attracted to the scene by the fire and explosions were thrown into confusion by more explosions in Platt and State streets. They fled in all directions, but seemed to be met everywhere by a repetition of the mysterious explosions which continued at such frequent intervals as to cause a complete panic. The sidewalk of an old furnace on Platt street, between State and Mill, was blown up. Fortunately no one was injured there, the building was immediately fired, however, and at the same time flames issued from half-a-dozen man-holes in State street. By half-past six the fire was practically under control so far as the mills were concerned, but the sewer mains were still sending up volumes of flames. Explosions, also, were occurring in the cellars of mills, street buildings and along the neighboring streets. People were thrown violently to the ground and in many cases severely bruised.

The Referee's Cable and Reply.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Richard K. Fox, proprietor of the *Police Gazette*, received the following from the referee at Kinson of the Kilrain-Smith fight to-day:—

"LONDON, Dec. 21.—The *Sporting Life* newspaper has the following bulletin in the window of its office: Kilrain arrived in London last night in the best of condition. He is ready and willing to fight Smith to-morrow. His only injury is a black eye and his hands are sound. Kilrain claims the championship of the world and the *Police Gazette* belt, which he proposes to defend against all comers. Smith refuses to renew the fight; the stakes therefore must be drawn, in accordance with the decision of the referee. Kilrain is pronounced the greatest fighter of modern times. Smith's backers awarded him his share of the stake money and Kilrain claims similar treatment. Cable instructions. (Signed) ATKINSON."

Mr. Fox cabled the following reply:—"NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—To George W. Atkinson, referee of the Smith-Kilrain fight, London, England.—If Smith won't fight I claim full stakes and the championship of the world for Kilrain and will present our champion with the entire stakes. Smith's back down must be publicly announced. (Signed) RICHARD K. FOX."

A Severe Storm on the Coast of Hayti.

The steamer Sawana, Captain Bermpohl, which arrived in this port to-day from Hayti reports that on December 6th a heavy gale prevailed in the West Indies, and that on entering the port of Porta Phata she vainly sought anchorage for two hours and was compelled to put to sea again and return next day, when the weather was calmer. The French bark Chasseur put into Cape Hayton with her main mast broken off close to the deck. Several vessels are reported wrecked on the coast of the island of Hayti. All vessels in the port of Monte Christo were blown ashore. A coastwise schooner was capsized while entering Cape Hayti and thirteen out of fifteen men on board were drowned. The schooner Viola from Lunenburg for Jamaica put into Turk's Island in distress; she was caught in a hurricane and sustained serious damage. A heavy wave washed the whole crew and captain overboard, but all except two who were lost were thrown back on deck by the same wave. The British man-of-war Wrangler is at Turk's Island in distress. The storm is pronounced to be the worst they have had along the Hayti coast for twenty years.

A Counterfeiter Captured.

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—Captain Hooper has succeeded in arresting an alleged counterfeiter, named Charles P. Collins, *alias* Morris. A search of his room resulted in finding a counterfeiter's complete outfit, including a dozen moulds for coining dollars and half dollars; besides these there were discovered various liquid plating apparatus and everything pertaining to the counterfeiter's craft. Capt. Hooper regards this as one of the greatest captures of the year.

Embezzler Sentenced.

C. F. H. Arnold, S. A. Kean & Co.'s clerk, who embezzled $2,500 of his employer's money, pleaded guilty this morning, and on the recommendation of Mr. Kean was given the lowest penalty under the law, which is one year in the penitentiary.

Snow Storms Delaying Trains.

ST. PAUL, Dec. 21.—Reports received in St. Paul from the various signal stations to-day, show that a storm has extended generally over the country in the Northwest. The fall of snow ranged from four to twenty inches, the heaviest in Iowa. The storm centre has remained over the lakes, which accounts for the fact that the thermometer in this section has not fallen to any great extent. The cold wave has extended to Kansas, Missouri and Arkansas, while it has been much colder in Iowa, Nebraska and Missouri than in Minnesota. At Moorehead the thermometer this morning indicated 16° below zero. The storm has interfered with the running of trains; freight trains generally are at a standstill, and passenger trains are much behind time.

Two Passenger Trains Collide.

MASON CITY, Ia., Dec. 21.—Two passenger trains on the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railway collided about two miles west of Colman this morning. Both engines and cars were overturned and piled up in confusion. Engineer Loup and fireman Brannigan, both of this city, were caught in the debris and it was over three hours before they could be extricated. Neither can live. The baggagemen of both trains were badly injured. The accident was the result of a misunderstanding of the time table.

A Child Smothered to Death.

RACINE, Wis., Dec. 21.—On Monday evening last George Wheeler and his wife put their three year old son and an eleven months old daughter tod be and went out to call on some friends, and on returning they found the little girl dead, the boy having in his sleep put his arm around his sister's neck and pulled the cover over her face so that she smothered to death.

Another City in Darkness.

POTTSVILLE, Pa., Dec. 21.—The gasometer on the reservoir tank that holds the entire supply of gas for Pottsville, exploded this afternoon wrecking everything and causing a loss of $15,000. No one was hurt but the city will be in darkness throughout holidays.

Remarkable Billiard Run.

BOSTON, Dec. 21.—In a match at three ball carom billiards between Harvey McKenna of Detroit, and Harry Eames of this city, which began to-night, McKenna ran 2,497 and left the balls in as good a position for resuming play to-morrow night as when he began the run. This is the most remarkable run on record, the previous best score being Vignaux, 1,531 made at Paris.

No Beer, No Work.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec 21.—A novel strike is on at the Betts Street furniture factory. Twenty-two machinists and their helpers walked out this morning because the firm would not permit them to wash down their lunch with beer.

From the DAILY COLONIST, Dec. 23.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

Mr. Prior for Ottawa.

A requisition asking Mr. E. G. Prior, M. P. P., to stand for Ottawa, was largely signed yesterday.

The Nevada Bank.

It is reported that this bank will be sold to a Scotch syndicate and run on new lines with Mackay, Fair and Flood on the retired list.

The Police Uniforms.

The *Times* does not like the police in their new uniforms. Our esteemed friend is not the only person who is uneasy when the police are about!

In the Field.

We are authorized by Coun. F. S. Barnard to state that he will be a candidate for the city representation in the local legislature in the event of Mr. E. G. Prior, M. P. P., resigning his seat.

"C" Battery Barracks.

J. Holland has secured the contract to erect the barracks for "C" Battery on Work Point. There will be three buildings, 20x112 feet, to be completed by the end of June, 1888. They will be devoted to the use of the surgeon and men of the battery.

A Broken Leg.

A young man named Simms entered a store on Fort street yesterday afternoon in an intoxicated condition. In an effort to remove him by the proprietor the young man fell and broke his left leg. He was conveyed to the Royal hospital for treatment, where at last accounts he was doing well.

Installation of Officers.

A meeting of Vancouver-Quadra Lodge No. 2, of the Masonic order, was held on Wednesday evening, when the following officers were elected: Morris Moss, W.M.; Munro Miller, S.W.; P. Z. Irving, J. W.; Mr. Becker, treasurer; A. B. Erskine, secretary; and J. C. Lucker, tyler. The installation of officers will be held on St. John's Day (Tuesday next) by the Grand Lodge. Robert Morris, Masonic poet Laureate, is expected to be present as he is now in Portland.

The Starr Estate.

A San Francisco dispatch says: "Eliza Jane Starr, relict of the late Capt. Lewis M. Starr, Wednesday, at San Francisco, applied and was allowed a family allowance of $1,000 per month out of the estate. William Starr, Bridget Gallagher's son, who asserts himself to be an illegitimate son of deceased, and claims an interest in this estate in consequence, offered no objection. It is understood that he will offer no contest until the final distribution takes place."

Another Triumph Description.

A San Francisco dispatch of the 19th inst. says: A. W. Smith, fireman of the English war ship Triumph, escaped today. He was given leave to come on shore with a number of others, but did not return with them.

James Briggs, the sailor who recently deserted from the triumph, was shipped to-day on the whaling bark Eliza, by boarding-masters, but he was rescued from his position there by half a dozen sailors who went to the house and took him away by absolute force.

A Provincial Artist.

There is on exhibition in J. Sommers' window a very clever water color painting in two colors, by Mr. S. Maclure, formerly of this city, but now of New Westminster. The subject is a bit of scenery at Shawnigan Lake, this side of the Morton House, and depicts an island, which in the calm eveningtide stands with its counterpart reflecting in the placid waters of the lake, in front, the mountains rising behind the hills in the distance, and the reflection of light from both sky and water is very faithfully reproduced on the canvas. The disposal of lights and shades has been very successfully treated, and the result is a picture which proves Mr. Maclure a young painter possessed of no small amount of natural talent.

From Portland.

The steamer Sardonyx, Capt. Meyer, arrived from Portland last evening at 8:30 o'clock. The trip up is reported as one of the finest ever experienced, the sea being as smooth as glass. On the trip from this port the steamer was detained a day and a half outside Columbia river bar. The steamer brings a large cargo the consignees of which are as follows: C. P. N. Co., 13 pks; H. Chaffey, 221 pks; J. & A. Clazihue, 708 pks; McLachlan Bro.'s, 268 pks; M. R. Smith, 800 pks; Clark & Co., Vancouver, 107 pks; Wm. Templeton, 26 pks; C. McDonough, New Westminster, 400 pks; J. A. Mara, Kamloops, 47 pks; A. R. Johnson & Co., Nanaimo, 395 pks; Hirst Bro.'s, Nanaimo, 995 pks; N. E. P. Society, 60 pks.

A Vanished Goose.

A worthy citizen, whose "country cousins" were mindful of the approach of the festive season, sent him a fine goose for his dinner on that anniversary of plum pudding and indigestion. By a strange fatality the bird was shipped alive, and "thereby hangs a tale." On its arrival the goose was handed over to John Chinaman, who was to do the needful in the way of refreshing it after its forced fast of some twenty-four hours, but in an evil hour the heathen released the auserian biped from the box in which the journey had been made. From a humanitarian stand point this was good and proper, but the erstwhile owner "blankety blanks" the Chinaman for his foolishness. No sooner had the goose got fairly on its feet than with a scornful "quack, quack" he spread his "airy pinions" and made a "B" line over back yards, across lots, and away out of sight. As the owner saw his Christmas dinner gradually disappear in the dim distance he was heard to say with a sigh—

Oh for a taste of that vanished goose.
And the sound of his voice so shrill.

Fatal Snowslides.

A Donald despatch of Monday last says: The mild weather of last week brought down several snowslides. On Thursday one from Mount Macdonald struck the gallery work of shed 14 (last year's work) making a complete wreck of 250 feet of the roof. The timber, trees, etc., were piled in first-class shape on the track and against the crib work. Workmen were busy clearing away the *debris*, when they were warned that another avalanche was coming towards them. Every man made a rush to get a safe place. Two Findlanders were too late; one, in jumping from the roof of the shed, landed on his head and broke his neck, and the other, caught in the edge of the drift, had one leg crushed and broken. Mr. Marpole, Superintendent, and Mr. Balfour, Inspector of bridges, were with the workmen and the former had a very close call, having been dragged for two or three hundred feet under one of the cars, but escaped uninjured. We are not likely to have another block before the middle of February.

Saanich Bazaar.

The bazaar held at the Agricultural Hall, South Saanich, on Wednesday night, was a grand success. The articles offered for sale were of the most useful description, and considerable money was turned into the treasury. The affair was closed with a concert, after which dancing was indulged in until an early hour the following morning. Among those present from the city were: Archdeacon and Mrs. Scriven, Miss Lawson, Miss Viddler, Mr. Worsfold, Major Prior, M. P. P., and Mrs. G. A. MacTavish, from North Saanich.

Christmas Trade.

The retail trade during the present week has been favored with pleasant weather, and merchants generally seem gratified with the business done. The bewildering display of novelties suitable for the holiday season was never before excelled, and our store windows will rank in beauty and variety with any metropolitan centre. In every line of business a special effort has been put forth to attract custom, and as above remarked, not without success. This is very satisfactory, for with increased competition and reduced profits, it is cheering to know that grumblers are few and far between.

Presentation.

R. P. McLennan, Vice-Grand of Columbia Lodge, No. 2, I. O. O. F., was the recipient last evening of a handsome testimonial in the form of a magnificent cathedral clock together with an address, which referred to his recent happy union with one of the fairest daughters of River John, N S. Mr. McLennan and his bride were waited upon at their residence, James Bay, by the Noble Grand and a number of other members of the lodge, who passed a very pleasant hour away. Mr. and Mrs. McLennan were taken completely by surprise, but the former made a neat little reply in which he thanked his brothers in the warmest terms.

Schooner Triumph Clears.

The Halifax *Herald* of the 13th inst. says: The schooner Triumph, 106 tons register, recently purchased by parties in Victoria, British Columbia, cleared yesterday for that place. Besides her captain, Daniel McLean, of Sydney, she takes with her a crew of thirteen. Their names are: Alfred Bissett, of Cape Breton, 1st mate; Thomas Lowell, of North Sydney, 2nd mate; Harry Hilford, cook and steward; R. B. Gibbons, of Sydney; John McCormick, of Cape Breton; Lawrence Burke, of Magdalen Islands; Thos. Moore, of North Sydney; Daniel McVicar, of Louisburg, and Peter McLean, of Sydney, the latter being carpenter.

Depositing Salmon Ova.

Mr. Thos. Mowat, inspector of fisheries, shipped 800,000 sockeye salmon eggs to Nanaimo on Tuesday morning on the steamer Rosamond. The eggs will be deposited in the Nanaimo river, which, it is hoped, will be stocked with salmon in a few years. Mr. Mowat is also about to ship 600,000 spring (quinnat) salmon eggs to New Brunswick, where they will be deposited in the best salmon streams. This will be the first shipment of salmon eggs to New Brunswick. As the ova requires much care every day, it is probable a man will be sent along to look after them so that the success of the experiment will not be marred by want of proper attention.

KAMLOOPS AND OKANAGON.

Kamloops Provincial Buildings Inspected—The South Thompson Bridge—The Steamons Wagon Road—Weather Fair.

Hon. Mr. Vernon returned last evening from a hurried trip to the Kamloops and Okanagan country. The public buildings erected at Kamloops this summer were inspected, as well as the bridge across the South Thompson. This latter structure will probably be finished by the contractor, Mr. D. F. Adams, by Christmas Day, and will prove an incalculable benefit to the inhabitants of that portion of the district. The bridge, under the experienced supervision of Mr. A. Stevenson, has been constructed in a most creditable manner and gives general satisfaction.

The new wagon road, built by Mr. Neil Black from Sicamous to Enderby, some 24 miles, was also traversed and found to have been completed in a highly satisfactory manner. We learn that stages will shortly be placed on this route now that the line is completed, so that Priest's Valley, re-christened Vernon, can be reached from Victoria in about 36 hours. The Columbia Mill Co. at Enderby were making preparations to have flour conveyed over this road to Sicamous. As soon as the river freezes up a number of teams will be continuously employed all winter carrying flour to the track, returning with freight for the numerous stores.

So far the winter has been exceptionally fine. There has been no snow-fall and stock of all kinds are in splendid condition.

QUEEN'S MARKET.

A Grand and Imposing Display of Meat—The Shop's Management Excels Itself.

The firm of Goodacre & Dooley, in seasons past, always gave an excellent showing of meat at Christmastide and every year added something of an artistic nature to their display. Last evening Mr. Lawrence Goodacre, now the sole proprietor of what is known as the Queen's Market, one of the oldest established in the city, excelled himself. From six o'clock, the time when all arrangements were completed, a continual stream of people poured in and out of the shop, which being brilliantly lighted up, an effect tending to capture the epicure was gained. Everywhere a certain uniformity is observed in the arranging of the meats. Huge sides of beef are hung on either side and around the shop; young lambs elaborately decorated hang from the hooks above the beef and on the counter are sucking pigs, sausages, turkeys, (one weighing twenty-four pounds) saddles of mutton, etc. Hanging on the hooks outside the shop are two bear cubs and an old bear, beef and mutton. The bears are from Skeena River. The decoration of the meats has evidently been long studied, as nothing of the kind has ever been witnessed here. From the verandah hang turkeys of all sizes, and Mr. Goodacre assured a reporter that he has over 1,000 on hand, the best the market affords. The beef displayed is all stall fed and is from Harper's ranch, and the lambs are from Musgrave's farm, Salt Spring Island. A very handsome model of a cow's head, which was lately imported from London by Mr. Goodacre, is also exhibited, and it is so perfect in its delineation that it was frequently taken for a real head, decorated. Mr. Goodacre has reason to be proud of his efforts, which are most praiseworthy.

LOCAL BRIEFS.

The council will view the operation of the mud-scraper.

The new steamer Badger returned from Nanaimo yesterday with a load of coal.

Either the Fyke Opera Company or Webster & Brady's Dramatic Company will be the next attraction at The Victoria.

MR. POWELL'S LETTER.

TO THE EDITOR: Although I have not the least inclination to enter on another Metlakahtla controversy with Commissioner Powell, yet as a friend of Mr. Duncan's I cannot allow some parts of his letter which appeared in the Philadelphia *Public Ledger* of the 2nd inst. to remain unanswered.

Those in this country who know Mr. Duncan need no assurances from me or from any other person, as to his integrity and high minded principles, but in other parts of the world his reputation might be damaged in the opinion of some of the readers of a letter published in a public journal from so distinguished a functionary as the Indian commissioner of British Columbia, and although any statement of mine may not have the same weight as his, yet I intend the public to be in possession of them, and allow them to form their own conclusions.

I will first allude to the Commissioner's cruel and malicious insinuations as to Duncan's "misusing the funds of the society." He knows perfectly well that he cannot, and dare not make a specific charge of that nature against Mr. Duncan, he therefore has recourse to the cowardly expedient of making a base, cruel and damaging allusion under which he may escape legal consequences. Repeating gossip, lies and slander, may be levelled against any one, even against the Commissioner. A scandal could just as easily be insinuated about him as it has been by him in Duncan's case, whilst both would be equally untrue.

This false story was first circulated, I believe, by the agent of the society on the assumption that because some leaves had been cut out of a book in which Mr. Duncan kept the society's accounts, previous to handing it over to the agent, therefore he must have some dishonest record to conceal. The society in London knows every penny placed at Mr. Duncan's disposal; they also know that he accounted for the same and that they passed and approved his accounts. Had it been otherwise and anything found wrong with them, it is only natural to suppose that the agent at Metlakahtla, with the aid of the commissioner, would have left no stone unturned to bring Mr. Duncan to task, but they know that the whole story is false.

The leaves in question contain some of Mr. Duncan's private accounts; he has them in his possession; has shown them and is always willing and glad to show them to his friends, but does not think it worth while explaining the matter to his enemies.

Had the commissioner known these facts before he penned his letter he might have hesitated. As it is, he has taken an unmanly, cruel, and malicious course by so foul an allusion to an honest man who is not in a position to defend himself.

In comparison with this, the other parts of the commissioner's letter are not worth noticing, and I will conclude by stating that Mr. Duncan did not beg, or ask, or pass the hat round for a dollar in the United States, but some kind friends are raising a fund for him and his Indians, all of which he told me he intends to devote to the extension of mission work, and none of which has been or will be used in bribing the Metlakahtlans to leave their homes. There was no occasion for that; they required no coaxing. Even although Mr. Duncan wished some of them to remain at Metlakahtla for the winter, they could not be persuaded to do so.

W. J. MACDONALD.

MARINE.

Ship St. Paul arrived at San Francisco on Monday from Hamburg.

Fears are entertained at the non-arrival of the United States cruiser Alert at Vladivostock.

Bark Malay did not arrive in Esquimalt from Chemainus as reported, but will be ready for sea to-morrow.

Tug Pilot arrived down from Chemainus early yesterday morning, having towed the bark California there.

The following tonnage statement was reported from San Francisco on Monday. In port, engaged, 27,500 tons; in port disengaged, 89,000 tons; listed to arrive, 265,000 tons.

Br. bark Maiden City, 1,200 tons, will load steel rails at Maryport for Portland. She is the eighth vessel of a fleet announced for such loading, five of which have already sailed. It is reported that half a dozen others are to follow.

The steamer Idaho ran into the stern of the Olympian at Seattle, Wednesday night, doing considerable damage to her 24 inches, was also traversed and found to have been completed in a highly satisfactory manner. We learn that stages will shortly be placed on this route now that the line is completed, so that Priest's Valley, re-christened Vernon, can be reached from Victoria in about 36 hours. The Columbia Mill Co. at Enderby were making preparations to have flour conveyed over this road to Sicamous. As soon as the river freezes up a number of teams will be continuously employed all winter carrying flour to the track, returning with freight for the numerous stores.

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CABLE NEWS.

The Queen Annoyed at H. R. H.

LONDON, Dec. 22.—The Liverpool *Post* says the Queen is greatly irritated by the Prince of Wales' visit to John L. Sullivan and that Her Majesty has expressed annoyance in a letter sent his Royal Highness.

Pilgrims Journeying to Rome.

Hundreds of pilgrims are journeying from all parts of Europe to Rome to attend the great Jubilee. The pope has ordered that 60,000 tickets of admission to St. Peter's be issued for the Jubilee Mass, which will be an imposing spectacle. A number of presents which have already arrived for his holiness are found to be more than enough to fill the space which was originally intended should be used for their exhibition; accommodations therefor are being hurriedly extended. The estimated value of gifts will amount to $3,000,000. They will include 60,000 chasubles, 12,000 cups, 8,000 crucifixes, and an immense number of garments, mitres, slippers, etc., so that the exhibition will have the appearance of a huge bazaar. One noticeable fact with regard to the Jubilee is that Russia is almost the only country which holds aloof from the affair.

Sullivan Deposits 500 Pounds.

John L. Sullivan has deposited £500 with the editor of the *Sportsman* to bind the agreement for either Smith or Kilrain, or both, to fight.

Rose and Bubear to Row.

Wallace Ross and Bubear are matched to row for the championship of England, the race to take place on the Thames on February 13th.

Agreed to Draw.

Smith and Kilrain met at the office of the *Sporting Life* this morning and agreed to a draw.

Father Ryan Sentenced.

DUBLIN, Dec. 22.—Father Ryan, one of the originators of the plan of campaign, was to-day sentenced to one month's imprisonment for inciting people to violence.

Father Ryan when removed to the prison refused to abandon his clerical attire and don the prison garb. The warders, who were Catholics, sustained him in his refusal, and declined to use force towards the prisoner to compel his submission.

Expects to be Called to Rome.

It is expected that Archbishop Walsh will be called to Rome immediately.

Canadian Pacific Steamers.

GLASGOW, Dec. 22.—Three steel steamers, of 3,000 tons burthen, have been contracted for by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. The steamers are to be built at Fairfield's yard on the Clyde, and will be used in the Canadian Pacific and Japanese service.

The Movement of Troops.

VIENNA, Dec. 22.—A semi-official statement was published to-day to the effect that no communication has yet passed between Austria and Russia regarding the present situation of Bulgaria, nor had Russia given any intimation concerning the movement of her troops on the Galician frontier.

Discussing the Military Preparations.

BERLIN, Dec. 22.—The *Post* in discussing the military preparations says: "No onlooker can deny Russia's preponderance in cavalry strength on the Galician frontier. It would enable her the instant war was declared to flood Galicia most effectually and derange Austrian mobilizing, inflicting incalculable moral and material damages to measures which Austria should have taken long ago. In recent military councils at Vienna, Herr Von Tisza, Hungarian premier, urged that the financial resources of the monarchy have been husbanded as far as possible and that the expenditures are to be made only in cases of absolute necessity."

Limited Furlough.

Letters received from Moscow say: "A number of Russian officers stationed there have been warned not to arrange for their usual holiday furlough.

Rumored Resignation.

VIENNA, Dec. 22.—It is rumored that Count Kalnoky, minister of foreign affairs for Austro-Hungaria, is about to resign.

AMERICAN NEWS.

A Severe Snow Storm.

WICHITA, KAS., Dec. 22.—Additional and final details of the results of a recent blizzard were received to-day which proves it to have been the worst ever known in this state. The number of deaths from freezing and starvation is now believed to be at least 60. Two men named Jno. Henry and John Cotte *en route* to Texas left Ashland an hour before the storm began; their bodies were found the next day on the prairie frozen stiff. As soon as the storm had ce

Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23RD, 1887.

From the DAILY COLONIST, Dec. 21.

LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL.

Christmas Donations.

Loewen and Erb, Victoria Brewery, have sent a fifteen gallon keg of beer, and S. E. King, baker, a Christmas cake to the Royal Hospital.

The Holidays.

Monday, December 26th, and January 2nd have been appointed public holidays by the Ontario Government, owing to the fact that Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on Sunday.

To Be Hanged.

It is said that the Government will not interfere with the sentence of the two Chinamen, Lee Sim and Fat, who have been condemned to be hanged on January 30th, for the mudrer of a Chinese woman.

Last Spike Excursionists.

The last spike excursionists left Portland on Tuesday morning on a steamer for an excursion up the Columbia river as far as the Cascades. Over three hundred were on board with a band of music, and everything was prepared for a grand time.

A Quartz Strike.

News has reached New Westminster that a well-defined auriferous quartz ledge has been discovered near the Harrison Hot Springs. Mr. Whiteside, a well-known expert, has gone on behalf of our local capitalists to investigate the matter, make the necessary assays, and report results.

The New Uniforms.

The new police regulation uniforms were issued yesterday and worn by those "cops" on the night shift. The men presented a fine appearance and were the observed of all observers. The uniform is a decided improvement on anything previously designed. The helmet is similar to those worn by the Glasgow police and is dark blue in color, with a shield in front. The coat and trousers are of heavy material, being of an iron grey color. The former is lined with silver plate buttons, while the trousers have a white stripe down the sides of the legs.

Willis Bond and C. U.

To-morrow evening Mr. Willis Bond, one of our best known citizens, will deliver a lecture in Philharmonic Hall on "Commercial Union." Mr. Bond is a gentleman of more than ordinary capacity as a speaker and usually deals with the subjects he discusses from a philosophic point of view. His wide knowledge of all questions of political economy and his ready familiarity with the mawkish sentiments of Ras Wiman, Ben. Butterworth and "Wandering Willie," cannot fail to enthuse his hearers and expose the fallacies which the supporters of the "fad" have been putting forward in the backwoods of Ontario. We want light—*we will have it!*

Salvation for Vancouver.

The Salvation Army has opened out in Vancouver. There is evidently great need of it, as the *Herald* says: "The great majority of the audience were those who never see the inside of a church; and although as a rule they are wild as Arab steeds, they must be credited with listening attentively while those young women addressed the audience. * * * There were among the assembly last night many poor, worthless, broken-down individuals, who have almost lost even the image of man. If the army can, even for a time, rescue them from the gutter they are wallowing in, or even bring them to look at themselves, it deserves the sympathy of all right-minded people."

Frye's Object.

In reply to a senate resolution introduced by Frye of Maine, Secretary Fairchild has sent that body all the correspondence in the Treasury Department relating to the recent bonding of the Pacific Coast Steamship Company and the traffic agreement with the Canadian Pacific Railway Company for the transportation of goods, wares and merchandise between San Francisco and Canadian points. Frye was asked what was the object of the resolution. He replied: "I wanted to see if the Secretary had allowed Canadian goods to come into any port in this country while Canada refuses to permit our fishermen to ship their fish in bond from Canadian ports to places in this country."

Delays in The Mails.

There would seem to be something decidedly wrong in the way in which mail matter for way places on the E. and N. Ry. reaches its destination. Frequent complaints reach this office of unusual delays, and in some cases the total disappearance of papers. Mention was made in these columns a short time ago of a postmaster who was not on hand to receive the mail for his office, in consequence of which the train mail clerk very properly refused to deliver the bag to anybody else. The same thing happened again yesterday, and in consequence the mail for that particular post office will be twenty-four hours late. This is scarcely as it should be, and the matter certainly deserves investigation.

Lecture on Dr. Hannington.

The following is a summary of the lecture on the late Bishop Hannington which was so ably delivered by the Ven. Archbishop Scriven at the Cathedral school last week:

1. Sketch of the church in Eastern Equatorial Africa. Discovery of Lake Victoria Nyanza by Speke in 1858. First missionaries sent there in 1876. In 1882 the Church Missionary Society determines to send out reinforcements. Hannington offers.

2. Early life of James Hannington. His love of travelling and adventures. His life at Oxford, at Martinhoe (first as pupil, then as curate of my Father) and at St. George's Hurst-pierpoint. Anecdotes showing his courage, eccentricity and earnestness.

3. First missionary journey. Dangers of African travel. Adventure with lions. Forced by fever to return home. His health being restored he accepts the Bishoprric of Eastern Equatorial Africa.

4. Last journey and death. His desire to open out a new and more healthy route to Victoria Nyanza. Passes safely through the Massai, a dangerous nomad tribe. Mwanga, King of Uganda, hearing of his approach, sends secret orders for his murder. Account of his death by an eye-witness. Recovery of his diary; the last entry being on 29th Oct., 1885, the morning of his murder.

Wood-Borthwick.

Mr. J. B. Wood and his lovely wife, Miss A. Borthwick, of this city, arrived home on Tuesday by the Olympian, and were met by a large number of their friends who escorted them to their new home, where a pleasant evening was spent. Last night Mr. Thos. Aylward, chief clerk at the Driard House, on behalf of many admiring friends, including many *attaches* and permanent guests of the Driard, presented Mr. Wood with a beautifully lithographed address and an elegant shaving set. Mrs. Wood was also the recipient of a handsome and costly toilet set, expressive of the esteem in which she and her husband are held by their friends, whose best wish is that theirs may be a life of unalloyed happiness. THE COLONIST returns thanks for wedding favors.

A Well-Known Pioneer Dead.

George Blackall, an old pioneer, formerly owner of the Albion saloon, corner of Waddington Alley and Yates street, and at one time well-known here, died at the Provincial insane asylum about ten weeks ago, to which place he was committed over a year previously. His wife who resides here was informed of his death yesterday.

The Seal Fisheries.

Special Agent Tingle, who was sent by the U. S. Treasury Department to the Seal Islands in Alaskan waters last year to supervise the taking of seals, has made his report. He says few seals perished on drives and fewer were killed by clubbing than formerly. He recommends that a 20-ton steam yacht be sent to the islands, provided with one small rifled gun. Such a steamer could run into the lagoons in search of marauding schooners.

RUNAWAY.

A Team of Infuriated Horses Dash Into the Adelphi Verandah and Do Considerable Damage.

Last evening about six o'clock Frank Campbell's corner presented a scene of wild excitement. The usual crowd of people were standing under the verandah, some discussing the general topics of the day and others reading the news. Suddenly a loud voice in the street proclaimed the approach of a runaway team, steering in a direct line down Government street. The bystanders were on the alert almost immediately, and the hackmen began to make way as quickly as possible, expecting every moment to see the infuriated horses, attached to a lumber wagon, run past the post office and on to James Bay bridge. Not so, however, for turning suddenly at the corner of Yates and Government streets, they made directly for the Adelphi corner. Loud shouts of warning were heard, and a second later a loud crash and a heavy thud filled those in the vicinity with horror for the verandah was dashed down and it was thought that those who were under it had not had time to run from danger. Crowds gathered about the spot and it was then seen that the whole north side of the awning had been torn away and the horses lay panting beneath it on the sidewalk. Attempts were made to extricate the animals from their unfortunate position and after some exertion one horse was dragged from the ruins apparently none the worse for his fall. The other lay as though dead. Attempts were made to drag his supposed dead body from the mass of *debris*, and he was drawn out but a few feet, when with a sudden bound he sprang up, scattering the people right and left. Mr. Frank Campbell was standing behind his counter all smiles just before the crash came, but when it did his jaw dropped and like poor Joe Willet, in "Barnaby Rudge," when the rioters, headed by Hugh, demolished the Maypole Inn, he could not say a word, only standing there with glassy eyes and an unintelligent expression on his usually brilliant countenance. The only difference between Mr. Campbell and Joe, is that Frank got over his shock, and was soon about making the best of a bad job. Frank said: "I would not have minded so much if they had not torn my old pump down." Regarding the pump, it was always recommended to thirsty individuals by the genial proprietor of the *Bulletin*, and the loss of it has filled him with despair. The lamp which usually lighted the traveler on his weary way home at an early hour in the morning was not burning last night.

PERSONAL.

R. E. Leman, of Revelstoke, arrived last evening.

W. and E. Langley arrived from Ashcroft last evening.

Justice and Mrs. Walkem arrived down from Kamloops last evening.

E. H. Fletcher, inspector of postoffices, returned from the mainland last night.

H. B. W. Aikman, of the Dominion lands office, Westminster, was a passenger by the Louise last night.

W. H. Russel, inspector of steamboats, was last evening a passenger by the Princess Louise from Vancouver.

Old "Bob" Ridley is still confined to his room since his return from California, and is improving very slowly.

Mr. Jordan, of Goodwin & Jordan, lately received the intelligence that his younger brother had been appointed head piano tuner and tone regulator of Mason & Hamlin's, the great Boston manufacturers. He received his first instruction in the work from Mr. Jordan of Victoria.

The Princess Louise brought down over one hundred passengers and 35 sacks of mail from Vancouver last night.

INDIANS FROM ALASKA.

Arrival of Four Girls to be Educated Under the Patronage of Mrs. Shepherd.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Sheldon Jackson, with four native born damsels from Alaska, called on Commissioner of Indian Affairs Atkins to-day to present these girls, who had been brought out through the generosity of Mrs. E. F. Shepherd, daughter of Wm. H. Vanderbilt, to be educated as teachers. From this city they will go to New York to pay their respects to Mrs. Shepherd, and then they will proceed to Carlisle, Pa., where they will be entered as pupils of the female seminary.

Mr. Jackson also brought with him from Alaska three boys, who are now at Capt. Pratt's school in Carliale. The girls were neatly dressed and spoke English. They also wrote their names in a legible hand on a sheet of paper, for the edification and information of some who came in to see them. Mr. Dawson, commissioner of education, who was in Alaska this summer, came over to see the girls, and at his request they sang several Sunday school hymns.

THE following articles are now in stock or daily expected, and to prevent disappointment consequent upon the increasing demand, early orders for the same, and other articles in our line, are respectfully solicited by

T. N. HIBBEN & Co.,
Victoria, B. C.

XMAS AND NEW YEAR Cards and Novelties—English, Canadian, American and German, in endless variety.

XMAS ILLUSTRATED PAPERS — London News, Graphic, Sporting and Dramatic, Pictorial World, etc.

ALMANACS—London News, Bow Bells, Cassell's, Leslie's, Punch's, Whittaker's, Zadkiel's, Canadian or any other Almanacks.

ANNUALS—Boy's Own, Girl's Own, Routledge's, Every Boy's, Chatterbox, Little Folks, Little Wide Awake, and other Xmas Annuals.

DIARIES—Lett's and Canadian Office and and Pocket Diaries. *w

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP should always be used when children are cutting teeth. It relieves the little sufferer at once; it produces natural, quiet sleep by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes as "bright as a button." It is very pleasant to taste. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for diarrhœa, whether arising from the setting or other causes. Twenty-five cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP, and take no other. d&w

POLICE COURT.

Geo. Price Called Again—His Daughter's Pitiful Recital—Prisoner Committed for Trial.

(Before E. Johnson, Q. C., S. M.)

The case of George Price, charged with an attempt to poison with intent to kill, was brought up again yesterday morning in the police court.

The public were, as before, excluded from the room, and Miss Mary Price being sworn testified that she resided at Mr. Lombard's residence in this city and knew the prisoner; he called to see her on Friday, the 9th inst; on that morning a man called at the door and asked for Mr. Johnson's residence; witness did not know then that it was her father; but knew it now; being told by witness that she did not know of Mr. Johnson, he asked where Mr. Lombard lived; witness replied "here"; he then asked "where is Miss Price?" witness replied, "I am Miss Price;" he said "don't you know your father, I am your father," and asked if witness could not invite him; when he sat down witness inquired why he had come over; he replied, "to see how you were getting along"; he then said "you look as though you had been up all night," and shaking an umbrella, which he carried, in witness' face, he proceeded to inform her that if he thought she had been up all the previous night he would smash her brains out; he said he was going to write over to Portland for some money; said Mr. Dolph had the money and also that if he had not so many children he would have money like the rest of his brothers; "if some of them were gone" he explained, "it would be better," and looking at witness said a second time he would smash her brains out; he then asked to see Mrs. Lombard, who came in and asked him to come and have a cup of coffee; she said she had to go out and that he might stay till she came back; she said as he was going to San Francisco the next day I had better keep him home, as he might get drunk and spend his money and not go; she then went out; witness went to get dinner and prisoner kept following her round the kitchen; she told him to go and sit in the dining room; witness afterwards went to see if everything was all right, as she knew he had a habit of putting jewelery and valuables in his pocket; prisoner did not hear her at first, and she saw, as she approached him, that he had a small box in his hand which he quickly placed in his pocket as soon as he discovered her presence. The box was like one produced; saw him working his hands; he was holding them over the table, he then put them under the table-cover; he asked the little boy if he would have some candy, and offered witness some. She looked at them and said those he had offered her were dirty and had green on them. The candies produced are the same, though there was more green on them. He then emptied the bag of candies and threw it in the fire and laughed, saying it was "all over." Witness threw the dirty ones in the yard, they were all sticking together. Prisoner kept laughing all the time. After a while he went and looked in witness' face, and said: "Did you eat those candies? I don't want you to throw everything away that I give you." He got a glass of water and put some whisky in it and asked if witness would have some. She refused. He then drew a glass of water and asked her to have a drink. She replied that she could get the water when she wanted it. Looking at witness again in the face he said "you did not eat those candies; I know you didn't." Witness got frightened and told prisoner she had to go to town. He said he would go with her. She went down to Mr. Lombard's and spoke to him. Prisoner went into Hibben's and got a little picture and after coming out he said "I suppose you have some business to attend to, I will see you at five in the evening." Mr. Lombard and witness then went up to the City Hall to see the police. After going home she found the candies in the yard and gave them to Mr. Lombard.

To the Supt.—The prisoner referred to some money which my grandfather had left to his children, the interest on which the prisoner was to draw all his life, and at his death we were to get the principal.

He referred to the children when speaking to me and seemed to think if the children were all dead, he would get the principal.

The money is in the care of Mr. Dolph, Portland.

To Mr. Eberts—I have been here for two years; did not live with either my father or mother for two years before I came here; was working for two years after I left the convent: have corresponded with my mother but not with my father; when prisoner came to the house he did not seem at all glad to see me; he was not at all affectionate; once he came up to me and tried to put his arms around my neck; but I was afraid of him and pushed him away; did not throw away all the candies he gave me away; kept the clean ones; my grandfather died in Victoria; he told me to stay here and not go over to Portland; never saw my grandfather's will but I saw about the disposition of the property in the papers; know Senator Mitchell of Portland; he is my uncle; that is, he is married to my father's sister; made up my mind that the prisoner intended to poison me when I went into the dining-room and saw the box; suppose he intended to poison me to get hold of the money: they were afraid for me to stay over in Portland; the prisoner did not act as if he were drunk when he came to the house. There is no great love between my father and me on account of the way he has been acting the last eight years; was not glad to see him over here because I knew he would make trouble; came over here to have peace and be clear of him; laid the case against him of my own accord because I was afraid of him.

To the Supt.—It was after Mrs. Lombard left the house that I saw the box in prisoner's hand.

To the Court.—I am 19 years of age; I have two brothers and two sisters; the two youngest are at school in Vancouver, W. T.; my father was inspector in the custom house in Portland for a while, since then he has been doing almost everything; he has not kept the family for eight or nine years; he came home occasionally when out of trouble; about nine years ago he used to live at home like other people; mother was sickly and I had to leave home to earn my living, as there were four others to support besides me; the candies were given to me in such a way that the dirty ones would be under and the clean ones on top; never knew my father to bring me candies before.

The prisoner was then committed for trial at the next assizes.

THE ORIENT.

Explosion of a Powder Magazine at Amoy—Coolies for Panama—American Otter Hunters.

The steamer City of Sydney, which arrived at San Francisco on the 15th inst., brought files of papers from Hong Kong to November 22d, and from Yokohama to the 29th. Additional details of important occurrences heretofore announced by telegraph are given below:

CHINA.

The following is taken from the Hong Kong *Mail* of November 29th:

A terrible disaster is reported from Amoy. A powder magazine exploded and a great loss of life and property occurred. The magazine was connected with the forts, a little to the south of Eamungkang, a populous suburb to the south of Amoy. The large fort nearest the village was of a rather formidable nature and well mounted with guns. Close to the forts were a sort of fortified barracks, in which the soldiers lived. There were generally about 1,000 soldiers in these barracks. Provision was made for 5,000, but although that number were on the list, four-fifths of the men were earning their livelihood in the town. Judging from the great loss of life it is supposed that a large number of soldiers were victimized. There were also a large number of coolies generally hanging about the place, and many of them have lost their lives. After the explosion a fire took place through the houses falling, and it speedily burned down 100 houses, but was eventually stopped by the sea beach, as the wind was fortunately blowing that way. One strange thing is that a large josshouse near the magazine, with small plaster figures on the roof, has almost entirely escaped.

The *Courrier d'Haiphong* of the 30th ult., contains particulars of a scheme which is being carried out in Haiphong for the supply of Chinese coolies to work on the Panama canal. The Association of Grand Works of Panama has entered into arrangements with a Chinese merchant of Haiphong to furnish 1,200 coolies, and has chartered the steamship Cachemire, of the Campagnie Nationale de Navigation, to transport the laborers to Panama. The Cachemire arrived in Halong bay at the beginning of October, and by the end of the month 600 coolies had been embarked, while the full complement were expected to be on board and the vessel sail early this month. The emigrants are to receive $20 each as soon as they embark, and from their arrival at Panama, during the three years of their engagement, they will receive $20 per month, free lodging, food and medical attendance. At the end of their contract the association engage to send them back to their country. The coolies voluntarily enter into the contract without being constrained in any way.

JAPAN.

The Yokohama *Gazette* of November 29th contains the following:

The American otter-hunting schooner Arctic, Captain Hoskins, arrived in port on the morning of the 23d inst. from the North Pacific. Her voyage has been wholly unprofitable, her crew having been unable to make a single catch. While cruising near Robin Island she was boarded by a party of fourteen Russian men-of-war's men and an officer who had been left on the island to protect the inhabitants, arrested and towed into the bay. When they found she had no catch, however, they left her, and she sailed for this port on the 8th inst. On that date she sighted the otter-hunting schooners Nemo and Rose. It is expected that several of the crew of the Arctic will be summoned to give evidence in the Hakodate shooting case. The Nemo and Rose, both empty, arrived here on the 29th instant.

W. H. Talbot of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha has left for Mexico to make preliminary arrangements for opening a steamship line between Japan and that country.

The *Koron Shimpo* says that the Government has ordered the post office not to distribute the *Shin Nipon (New Japan)*, a newspaper which is published in San Francisco by Japanese and forwarded to this country.

COREA.

It is stated that the Corean Government has decided to engage three military instructors from America.

The *Choya Shimbun* publishes a rumor to the effect that the Corean Government has negotiated a loan of $1,000,000 from an American firm, hypothecating their customs and gold mines. It says it is also stated that a member of this firm is to superintend the working of mines in Corea.

DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

Cadboro Bay School.

At the examination of the above school, of which Miss M. Wilhams is the respected and efficient teacher, notwithstanding the inclement state of the weather, quite a number of visitors were present, among whom were Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Jobson, Mrs. Fuller, Mrs. Ohison, Mrs. Evans, Misses Irvine, Scott, Lee, Colman, Evans, Messrs. Thistle, Landella, Jas. Deans, and Geo. Deans, Secretary of the Trustee Board.

About fifteen or twenty healthy and tidy children sat down to their various studies, and delighted the visitors by rendering very nicely the following programme:

Opening hymn, "Lord, a Little Band;" spelling lesson; simultaneous reading, Longfellow's "Psalm of Life;" class singing, carol "Merry Christmas Bells;" reading, "Regulus Before the Roman Senate," E. Harvey; class singing, carol, "God Rest ye Merry Gentlemen;" recitation, "Measuring the Baby," Miss S. Hilvert; class singing, carol, "Children, Can you Truly Tell?" recitation, "Suppose," Nels. Ohlson; reading, "New Year's Eve," Miss M. Jobson.

The children were addressed by the Rev. Mr. Taylor, Mr. Landella, Jas. Deans, and the Secretary of the Trustee Board, each congratulating the children on the manner in which they had marked their proficiency during the past six months.

LYTTON.

The Christmas Holiday examination of the Lytton School was held on Friday last. Mrs. Stevenson, the Rev. Mr. Wright, Mr. and Miss Seward, Mr. and Miss Loring, Mr. Couvreau, Mr. Bleachford and others were present. Mr. Wright, Mr. Seward, Secretary of the Trustees, and Mr. Scott, the teacher, acted as examiners. Special prizes were given by Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Wright, Mr. Cuvreau, and Mr. Scott. The examination was highly satisfactory.

DON'T

let that cold of yours run on. You think it is a light thing. But it may run into catarrh. Or into pneumonia. Or consumption.

Catarrh is disgusting. Pneumonia is dangerous. Consumption is death itself.

The breathing apparatus must be kept healthy and clear of all obstructions and offensive matter. Otherwise there is trouble ahead.

All the diseases of these parts, head, nose, throat, bronchial tubes and lungs, can be delightfully and entirely cured by the use of Boschee's German Syrup. If you don't know this already, thousands and thousands of people can tell you. They have been cured by it, and "know how it is themselves." Bottle only 75 cents. Ask any druggist.

SENATOR HOAR'S BILL.

It Proposes to Survey a Line of Railroad from Spokane Falls to Alaska.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Senator Hoar of Massachusetts has introduced a bill to facilitate and develop the resources of Alaska, and to open an overland commercial route between the United States, Asiatic Russia and Japan. The bill directs a survey to be made of a route for the construction of a railway by the most feasible route from the northern boundary of the United States through British Columbia and Alaska to a desirable harbor on the southern coast of the Alaskan peninsula, on Behring's sea. It is intended to begin at or near Spokane Falls, on the Northern Pacific road, and run north on the eastern side of the Rocky Mountains, deflecting westwardly for a branch line to Sitka, the main line to be continued north and west to a desirable harbor on the Alaskan peninsula. One hundred thousand dollars is appropriated for the survey.

CABLE NEWS.

Hartington's Visits to Goschen and Smith Looked Upon With Considerable Suspicion.

The Attempt on the Life of the Czar Officially Denied—Riot Among the Students.

The Marquis of Queensbury Offers a Gold Medal in a Contest Between Smith and Kilrain.

Doherty Sentenced for Life.

LONDON, Dec. 20.—Dan. Doherty, who shot and killed Geo. Graham, of Rochester, N. Y., was to-day found guilty of manslaughter and sentenced to life imprisonment.

Suspicions of Hartington

Hartington's visits to-day to Messrs. Goschen and Smith have revived the rumors that gained ground before recess, that the Tory household were exceedingly anxious for that Unionist Marquis to become domesticated in their fold. It is apparent that the Tories still desire him to accept an office in the cabinet and so gain him to their cause. The fact that every Tory bill that is formulated is submitted to Hartington as soon as it is drafted can be regarded as evidence of the truth of such a statement that he will drift naturally to his quondam opponents, and be prevailed upon not long distant to enter Salisbury's cabinet or form one of his own, is considered an undoubted result of the friendly negotiations he has recently carried on with the Tories.

It Would Please Gladstone.

Gladstone in a letter written to a friend recently, said, "that nothing would please him better than to see the Tories returning to the position which they appeared to be in two years ago, and by granting autonomy to Ireland and bring about a hearty indissolubable union between Ireland and Great Britain," "but," said he, "if they leave the decision of the question in the hands of the Liberals we will overcome, not for first or twentieth time by constitutional means their resistance."

War in Europe Almost Certain.

It is stated that during his recent visit to San Remo the Duke of Edinburgh expressed his opinion that war in Europe was almost certain to come soon.

The Smith-Kilrain Fight.

To-night it is generally conceded in sporting circles that Kilrain won the fight yesterday with Smith and that the American was the better man. It is looked upon also in the light of a moral victory. As prize fights go they are brutal affairs at the best, but yesterday's fight seemed to demonstrate the fact that such combats could be more closely confined to the realms of science than is usually the case. The Kilrain-Smith affair was perhaps the best and most gentlemanly conducted fight in modern times. All sections of English society unite in applauding the American champion for his prowess, his science and gentlemanly bearing

Kilrain and party left Paris for London to-night.

The Marquis of Queensbury offers a gold medal to the winner in a glove contest of eight rounds between Kilrain and Smith.

John L. Challenges Kilrain and Smith.

John L. Sullivan sends out a challenge in which he offers to fight Kilrain the first week in April and Smith the first week in May, or *vice versa*.

Christmas Greeting to the Hussars.

BERLIN, Dec. 20.—Prince William in offering his Christmas greeting to the German hussars to-day said, "The times were grave and the future uncertain, and no one could tell what might happen." He bade them recollect the Emperor, and called for honor, valor, and obedience as the pillars of the army.

Sarah Bernhardt's Son Married.

PARIS, Dec. 20.—Maurice Bernhardt, son of Sarah Bernhardt, was married last night to Princess Verginia Clotilde Jablonowski, the great-grand-daughter of Lucien Bonaparte.

John L. Sullivan in Glasgow.

GLASGOW, Dec. 20.—John L. Sullivan gave another exhibition here to-night. He has issued a challenge to fight either Smith or Kilrain for £1,000 a side.

Trouble Ahead.

VIENNA, Dec. 20.—Reports which are considered authentic have reached here that large numbers of Cossack regiments are massing in Poland near the frontier.

Officially Denied.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 20.—It is officially denied here that any attempt was made on the life of the Czar yesterday.

Riots Among the Students.

Owing to riots among the students of the university at Keefe, the old capitol of little Russia, and at Kazan, the universities have been closed.

LATE CANADIAN NEWS.

ONTARIO.

The whisky detectives implicated in shooting Brown at Myrtle were sent to Whitby for trial.

The Ontario *Gazette* contains a proclamation convening the Legislative Assembly on January 26th.

The design of Percy Wood, sculptor, for a monument to the Ottawa victims of Cut Knife hill is accepted.

James Cavers, of Galt, has been sent to the penitentiary for three years for swindling a German farmer on orders for fruit trees.

In Westminster township Thomas Pargeter, aged 61, was killed and his nephew Will Pargeter, seriously injured by falling trees.

Chancellor Boyd has appointed Messrs. Campbell, Gooderham and Howland liquidators of the Central bank, each to furnish $20,000 security.

A Hungarian, Francis Fibich, foreman in La Liberte's fur establishment, Ottawa, was arrested for stealing furs. He drew a revolver, but it was wrested from him.

W. T. Jackson, grocer; Mrs. McMaster, millinery, and J. Cane, barber, were burned out at Georgetown Dr. Roe owned the buildings; insured for $1,200. Most of the contents were saved.

A cabinet minister stated that he did not believe the report about abolishing free postage on newspapers sent direct from the office of publication. At any rate, the matter had not come before the council.

Reuben Brown, of Gananoque, disappeared. His hat was found on the wharf, and his pocketbook and other papers floating on the water. Subsequently his body was found some forty feet from the dock. Brown was about 37 years of age, married, and had several children. He was accidentally drowned while seeing his sister-in-law off on the boat from Kingston.

There is an uncertain feeling in political circles on the settlement of Mormons in the Canadian Northwest Territories. Fifty Mormon families have already taken up land near Fort McLeod. The impression prevails at Ottawa that new arrivals will not be molested. The introduction of such an element into Canada will, however, be made the subject of inquiries in parliament next month.

The Japanese government has made overtures to the Methodist Church of Canada on the subject of educational work, offering to pay the traveling expenses and salaries of teachers whose qualifications are attested by the missionary board. A revival, said to be the most extensive that has ever taken place in Japan, is in progress in the Methodist Anglo-Japanese college.

Sir John is said to be seriously perplexed as to whom to appoint to the vacant judgship of Russell and Prescott. Personally he wishes to have Mr. Peter O'Brien appointed, who, despite his Irish name, is a Scotchman; and the French-Canadians want L. A. Oliver, and as two-thirds of the population of the united counties are French-Canadians the Premier is in a predicament as the French want their man and there will be a kick if a Frenchman is not appointed.

Darcy Boulton, of Toronto is dead.

Petley, the retail dry goods man, of Toronto, has failed.

The East Northumberland provincial election has been voided.

The petition against Fischer, Liberal, Brome, has been dismissed.

The Norwood post office, was burglarized and nearly $25,000 in cash and securities carried off.

The Kingston locomotive works are constructing 500 new cars for the Canadian Pacific.

The government is said to contemplate the imposition of a moderate rate of postage on newspapers from the office of publication.

A man named Deerey fell from a coal wharf at Ottawa, on to the ice in the canal and was so badly injured that he died shortly afterwards.

Ald. Larose, of Ottawa, was unseated for want of qualification, having held the position of liquor license commissioner when elected.

The refusal of the Czar to make public the names of those concerned in the forged Bismarck letter is attributed to the fact that Russian officials are implicated in the plot.

A man named Woolfolk was sentenced yesterday in Macon, Ga., to be hanged. He was convicted of the murder of his father and six members of his family in August last.

A gang of counterfeiters is at work at Hamilton. Many merchants have been victimized. The notes are on the Bank of Montreal, Merchants', and Bank of Commerce. Most of them are $10 notes.

One of the directors of the Central bank is said to have fled the country to avoid prosecution. A meeting of the bank has been held here. It showed $250,000 to be due by the directors, for which there is little or no security.

Lord Rosebery spoke at Huddersfield recently advocating home rule for Ireland. He quoted the United States of America as an example and said that had the constitution of one of the states been suspended the civil war would never have been brought to a successful issue.

QUEBEC.

The appointment of Canon Norman, of Montreal, to the rectorship of the English Cathedral, Quebec, has been approved by the nominating committee.

Judge Bourgeois, of Three Rivers, refused to apply the six months' rule to the Maskinonge election, and rejected a motion to dismiss the petition on that ground.

Le Canada, the organ of the French-Canadians of Quebec, is threatened with a $10,000 libel suit for the publication of an article reflecting on the honor of a Quebec newspaper man named Arthur Buies.

Lawrence C. Rose, merchant, who disappeared a few weeks ago from Montreal, has been discovered at Portland, Me. The troubles necessitating his flight were of a financial character, but to what extent is not yet known.

L. J. Demers, Quebec, has instituted an action for dissolution of partnership between himself and his brother. He also claims $60,000 for damages, alleged to have been sustained through the partnership. The brothers publish *Le Canadian* and *L'Evenement*.

Desormeau has been committed for trial for the murder of his brother last week.

Harrahan, proprietor of a Montreal bucket shop, has taken an action for damages against the *Witness*.

Judge Taschereau, will shortly publish a thousand page book on the criminal laws of Canada.

Judge Wurtelle decided that Papineau, though seigneur of the Papineauville district, is liable for school taxes.

The rector of St. Patrick's school, brother John Thomas O'Brien, dropped dead during service in St. Patrick's church, Quebec.

Judge Taschereau denies his alleged intention of retiring from the Supreme court bench. It was reported he was to be succeeded by Senator Lacoste.

An old man named Fortier, aged 83 who was sent to penitentiary last April for the murder of Michael Keenan, at St. Sylvester, has been pardoned on account of illness.

Le Canada newspaper, Conservative, attacks Perley, M. P., of Ottawa, for inconsistency in assisting Sir John in the Federal campaign and supporting Premier Mercier's candidate in Ottawa county.

Sir John has approved of a scheme whereby Mr. Tasse, M. P., and J. T. Tarte will enter the Quebec legislature to strengthen the Opposition. Mr. Taillon, the leader, gets the first vacant judgeship.

Canadian Pacific Railway company's earnings for the week ending December the 7th were $274,000; same week last year $203,000. The above does not include earnings on the Southeastern railway.

At a Quebec city council meeting Mayor Langelier made a manly speech in defence of the city's action in regard to the Salvation army, and the council unanimously decided to pay the costs of both sides in the test case now before the courts.

Eng. Noviliac, a young Parisan officer in the Chasseurs, who, through the influence of a Superiar court judge, obtained employment in the Civic Road Department, Montreal, is reported to have skipped for France, leaving numerous creditors behind to mourn his loss.

Coroner Woodward, of Sherbrooke, at Quebec with the stomach and viscera of a woman named Marcesau, who died about a month ago in that vicinity, under circumstances said to be strongly open to the suspicion of poisoning. He handed them over for analysis to Professor Valle, of Laval University, upon whose report of the result the adjourned inquest will hang.

Mr. Van Horne, said he understood the owners of the Orient line, the Andersons of London, were among the tenderers for the Atlantic mail service, and if they were successful they intended putting a line of boats on which would beat anything afloat. If they do so and reduce the time on the Atlantic so much as they cut the record from England to Australia we may expect five day trips.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

By fire in St. Stephen the following losses were sustained: Murchie Bros., groceries, $3,000, insurance $2,000; N. Marks, $3,500, insurance, $1,800; Stewart & Thickens, confectioners; $6,000; insurance $2,000; A. D. Taylor, grocer, $3,500, insurance $2,000; J. Talbort, suspender factory, $600; no insurance.

The protest against Kenny, of Halifax, has been dropped.

AMERI AN NEWS.

Sixty Chinese Women Ordered to Return to China by the United States District Court.

A Railroad Accident on the St. Paul & Duluth—The Engineer Killed and a Number Injured.

Railroad Officials Suspended—Knights of Labor Refuse a Charter to Chinese for a Local Assembly.

A Verdict of Suicide.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—The coroner's jury to-day found a verdict of suicide in the case of Nellie Southwick, the young woman found with a bullet hole in her breast in the yard of a house on 21st street, where she lived with Robt. Montgomery, an actor. It was proved to the satisfaction of the jury that Nellie had shot herself because Montgomery scolded her on account of pawning a diamond ring he had given her. She had pawned the ring in order to get him a Christmas present.

Elevated R.R. Accident.

The up-town train on the 6th Avenue Elevated railroad, and crowded with passengers, was thrown from the track near Franklin street station, on West Broadway, this afternoon. The cars bumped along over the ties and would have fallen into the street but for the fact that at the point where the accident occurred a third track is being put in over the middle of the street, and the timbers to sustain the additional track had been thrown across between the tracks on both sides of the street. The derailed train was therefore sustained by these timbers. The passengers were terribly frightened and panic stricken, but no one was hurt. They left the cars and climbed upon the structure and along it to the Franklin street station where they descended to the street. Traffic on the road was suspended for two hours while the train was being replaced on the track and damage to the road-bed repaired. The accident is attributed to a defective rail not to be fully explained until an investigation is made. This is the first time in the history of the road that the cars have entirely left the track so as to be in danger of falling to the street. The officials have always claimed that such a thing was impossible.

Chinese and the Knights of Labor.

An application for a charter to form a Knights of Labor Assembly has been received and denied by the General Assembly of the order. The application came from the Chinese laundrymen of New York. General Secretary Litchman decided not to grant the charter without positive instructions from the General Executive Board and the latter held the matter in abeyance until the General Assembly acted upon the case. The result was the general assembly endorsed Secretary Litchman's course and the charter was refused. This is the first instance in the history of the Knights of Labor in which the Chinese have applied for membership in the order. The application was refused on the grounds that the Chinese are the very men who are charged with causing a reduction of wages in the various industries throughout the country.

A Tremendous Raft Adrift.

The steamer Miranda which, undertook to tow a big raft from Goggins, N. S., to New York, arrived at Whiteston, L.I., this morning without her tow. She reported that the raft was lost last Sunday morning during a heavy storm on the Nantucket shoals. The Miranda was considerably damaged. The great raft was shaped like a cigar, somewhat flattened on two sides and having the two ends cut off entirely. It was 560 feet long, 65 feet wide, 38 feet high and had a draught of 19 feet 6 inches. When launched it contained 27,000 sticks varying from 35 to 65 feet in length. Iron chains 2½ inches in diameter ran lengthwise through the center and was ribbed to which numerous pieces were fastened by smaller chains. It cost $30,000, and was built and launched on the Bay of Fundy and was consigned to J. D. Leary of this city.

Cigar Manufacturers in Trouble.

The war between the cigar manufacturers and the cigar makers union over the tenement house factory question will be renewed on Jan. 1st. The manufacturers are determined to save rent, gas bills and the expense of heating the factories by making their employes work at home. The union will make a desperate fight against this, and they will have the backing of the Federation of Labor and which they say is now more powerful than the Knights of Labor, which refuses to recognize the union.

Railroad Accident.

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—The St. Paul and Duluth limited express train went through a misplaced switch at Pickering, Dak., on Monday, and the engine, one baggage car and one passenger coach went over a thirty-foot embankment. The following list of the killed and injured is believed to be correct: Wm. Thomas, engineer, killed, the eccentric rod of the engine running up through his body and disembowelling him; Mike Lynch, fireman, left hip fractured; A. J. Gray, of Duluth, hurt about the head and hand; A. Lumbery, of Duluth, hurt about the groin; G. M. Kerr, Titusville, Pa., had his head cut and arm hurt and was injured about the chest; H. B. Goitcher, Titusville, Pa., is injured in the back and legs; A. G. Cattell, of the New York produce exchange, had his nose broken and left side hurt and was injured internally. One woman was wedged into the seats and had to be cut out, but was only slightly injured. Dr. S. W. Ingraham, physician of Chicago, slightly bruised.

**A

CABLE NEWS.

Russia has Decided to Despatch Reinforcements of Troops to Galicia.

Bismarck's Gloomy View of the Situation---Desires to Avoid War While the Emperor Lives.

Parliament Will Assemble a Fortnight Earlier Than at first Announced.

Reinforcement of Troops.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—It is reliably reported at Berlin that Russia has decided to despatch large reinforcements of troops to Galicia at the beginning of January. Such a movement would decide the present hesitancy at a blow, and an Austria-German joint note would at once be sent to St. Petersburg demanding explanation. Bismarck's view of the situation is said to be gloomier than even that held at Vienna, but it is understood he desires to avoid war while the Emperor lives. With this object it is stated Germany and Austria are willing to make temporary truce with Russia, and to throw a sop to the Muscovite Cerberus in the person of Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria, who would be politely told to leave Bulgaria. If this arrangement were effected Russia would undertake to desist from her concentration of forces on the Galician frontier and to remove her troops from Poland. Both the Austrian and German agents at Sofia have been granted leave of absence. This lends color to the supposition that Ferdinand may be sacrificed.

The Opening of Parliament.

The Queen has decided not to open parliament in person. The ministerial circle are confident of a successful session with regard to government measures, and expect to go through it with a solid Conservative triumph. Their position is certainly strengthened by the promise of a treasury balance of between £2,000,000 and £3,000,000, which will enable Goschen to present a popular budget. It is impossible, moreover, for Gladstonians to disprove the exploited statement that some measure of success has attended the coercion policy of Salisbury's government in Ireland. Agrarian crime is actually diminishing under Balfour's rigid repressive administration, and the power of the League appears to be steadily growing less. The Irish policy of the government has at least the semblance of complete success, and Parnellites are uneasy lest this semblance shall become a strong reality before they are able to prevent it.

Cairns-Behrens Marriage.

The Earl of Cairns, formerly Lord Garmoyle, and engaged to Miss Fortescue, the actress, and Miss Adele Grant, was married to-day to Miss Behrens. The addition to Cairns' fortune through the marriage of Lord Cairns to Miss Behrens to-day is £30,000, which more than compensates for the outlay incurred by his Lordship's engagements to Miss Fortescue and Miss Grant. Miss Behrens is a member of a very wealthy Hebrew family in Manchester, and will probably receive large legacies from time to time in the event of her surviving some of her older relatives. Lord Cairns was remarkably cool during the marriage ceremony and ignored the not too covertly-made expressions concerning his previous matrimonial attempts with commendable grace. The couple will spend their honeymoon at Cairo.

Lord Mayor Sullivan.

Lord Mayor Sullivan is beginning to realize the lengths to which the officials of Tullamore jail are disposed to go in order to add to a prisoner's discomfort. He has made the discovery that his keepers, either on their own account or by direction of their superiors, bored a hole in the door opening into his room for the purpose of observing what is going on within, and in an interview with the governor of the jail to-day he forcibly resented the indignity. The governor, it is said, disclaimed any knowledge of the attempt to interfere with Sullivan's privacy, but it is not stated that the Lord Mayor's remonstrations resulted in the removal of the source of complaint.

The Alleged Dynamiters.

The proposition made by Mr. O'Brien, counsel for Callahan and Harkins, alleged dynamiters, that the substance seized on the premises occupied by the former, and claimed that the dynamite should be experimented with to test its genuineness, astounds the authorities. It is hardly possible however that they can refuse to do this, and it seems very strange they have not already done so. If tests are made, and the substance fails to explode, the case against the prisoners of course falls to the ground; if it does explode the conviction of the men is assured, and their sentence to penal servitude for life certain.

Mgr. Persico Using His Influence.

Mgr. Persico is dallying with the government and has already used his influence through the instrumentality of Irish bishops who are not associated with the league, to induce priests to operate upon their flocks against identifying themselves with the league in opposition to the government. The price to be paid by government for this service is the endowment of a Roman Catholic university in Ireland, and increased grants of funds to both primary and secondary scholars under papal domination.

War Scarce Will Blow Over.

All of the continental bourses were in better tone to day than on Saturday, and it is believed the war scarce will blow over. From present advices it appears that Russia deems the powers tolerance of Prince Ferdinand in Sofia and their cons quent breach of the treaty of Berlin a grevious and studied insult to the Czar's government, but would be content with an apology implied by their ceasing to countenance the Bulgarian Prince's illegal rule.

Doherty on Trial for Murder.

The trial of Dan Doherty, for the murder of Capt. Graham, began to-day. Newspapers are devoting a great deal of space to the case, but thus far there is nothing to be found in the columns of verbatim testimony they publish promising Doherty's conviction. The prisoner made a powerful plea accompanied by an exhaustive statement in favor of his contention that the shooting was accidental. It is expected to-morrow.

The Crown Prince's Condition.

Court advices from San Remo are gloaming. Dr. McKenzie's semi-public communication to the press does not agree with his views as they are sent to Windsor. These do not attempt to disguise the fact that the new growth in the Prince's throat is a thing by itself and does not alter the conditions or impair the accuracy of Sir Morell's former diagnosis of the disease as cancerous.

Donations to the Party Purse.

The general situation is rather gloomy for home rulers, and a desperate game of bluff, which is being tried by Harcourt and Sir Arthur Trevelyan, unionists, increases in strength constantly, and enthusiasm and excitement to unionist activity abound. This is especially true in the monetary impulses which now prevail with whig and tory magnates who give lavish private donations to the party purse.

Salisbury on The War Scare.

Lord Salisbury in his speech this evening said, that as far as he was advised of diplomatic information there was no ground whatsoever for the war terror that had seized the bourses and newspapers of Europe.

Lord Lyons Changes His Faith.

It is now known that Lord Lyons, long before he left Paris, attended services of the Catholic church, and that he only awaited the termination of his diplomatic career to make a public profession of his change of faith.

New Oratorio "Marie Magdalene."

Massena's new oratorio "Marie Magdalene" was performed for the first time in Paris yesterday with the greatest success. It is pronounced worthy of rank with the finest contemporary compositions.

Parliament to Meet a Fortnight Earlier.

The ministers formally decided, at a cabinet council Saturday, on a meeting of parliament for February 9th, a fortnight earlier than the date previously contemplated.

Sugar Conference.

Delegates to Sugar Conference signed a protocol to-day advocating abolition of sugar bounties, with request to various Governments to accept or reject it before 1st March.

Dillon's Warning.

Dillon's warning against the Vatican trying to control the popular movement in Ireland may possibly check the present intrigues of the Pope's representatives.

Gladstone Will Visit Rome.

Mr. Gladstone is expected to visit Rome after he has been to Venice. In February he will be invited to an audience with the Pope at Ramola.

The Queen's Movements.

The Queen will pass Christmas at Osborne and her majesty intends to do San Remo about the middle of January.

Gladstone Declines to Interfere.

Gladstone has written a letter declining to interfere actively in the international arbitration movement.

The Queen is Indisposed.

The Queen is indisposed. She caught cold on Friday while in London.

Dr. Mackenzie this evening said he did not regard the complete recovery of the Crown Prince as impossible.

The Crown Prince.

BERLIN, Dec. 19.—The *Freisinnige Zeitung*, in an article believed to have been prompted by Prof. Virchow, says that cicatrization in the Crown Prince's throat is a most favorable symptom, indicating that the affection is not cancerous.

Resigned His Post.

Count Perponcher, chief marshall of the Imperial household, has resigned his post owing to Bismarck, on the occasion of a banquet which was given to the Czar during his recent visit at Berlin. Perponcher did not allot the place opposite the Czar to Bismarck, which was befitting his rank. Count Perponcher has offered to explain; but Bismarck refused to receive him.

Attempt to Kill the Czar.

VIENNA, Dec. 19.—A paper in this city publishes a despatch from St. Petersburg stating that another attempt has been made on the life of the Czar, and that the Czar was wounded. It also says that a revolutionary movement has broken out in St. Petersburg.

THE POET McLACHLAN.

Meeting in Toronto—Sketch of the Sweet Singer of Amaranth.

TORONTO, Dec. 9.—The friends of Poet McLachlan have issued an appeal to the Scottish national societies throughout the United States and Canada, and to Scotchmen generally, for assistance, and the movement was formally launched at a public meeting held last night, when the objects of the promoters were explained and the subject advocated by Reverend Principal Grant, of Queen's college; Hon. G. W. Ross, Minister of Education; Dalton McCarthy, Q. C., Dr. Daniel Clark and other prominent gentlemen. There is probably no Canadian poet whose writings have gained a wider celebrity than those of Mr. Alexander McLachlan. For about thirty years his works have been before the public and have been increasing in popularity with every new edition that has been published. They breathe the genuine poetic spirit and are appreciated by lovers of poetry not only in Canada, but in the United States and Great Britain, where they are well known. While his poems are essentially Canadian, there are many of his published pieces which show an intense love in the poet's heart of the land of his birth, as well as a quick and instinctive knowledge of the subtleties of the Scottish character. In his poetic tribute to Hugh Macdonald, author of "Rambles Round Glasgow," he pours out in smooth musical verse a brother poet's love:—

'Thy flowering fern shall never die,
Thy gowan's aye in bloom,
The lark is always in the sky
The linnet in thy broom.
For poesy has touched thy heart
As with a living coal,
And Nature's voices evermore
Keep singing through thy soul.'

The days of his youth were spent in scenes rendered classic by the sweet muse of Tannahill and many other notable Renfrewshire bards. Born in 1820 at the Brig o' Johnstone, near Paisley, he was almost within a 'stane throw' of the 'Dusky Glen' of Katie Clinkie's Falls, and near the 'Braes of Glenniffer' and the historic 'Pesweep Inn,' where spirits, kindred and venturesome, forgathered to worship the nine and draw the divine afflatus by intellectual contact and contest. He emigrated to Canada in 1840 and settled down in the backwoods to clear a farm. His hardships and toils as a settler are the themes of several poems. He became well known to a wide circle of friends, who esteem him highly as a man and cultivate his society as of the highest worth. He is of a lovable disposition and is endowed with exceptionally good conversational powers. One of his warmest friends was the late Mr. D'Arcy McGee, with whom he was on terms of the most intimate friendship, and who in meny ways showed his appreciation of the poet's talents. In 1874 he re-visited Scotland in the interests of immigration. He has for many years lived on his farm at Amaranth, Ont., where he is surrounded by a devoted family, but where, also, the reward of his literary work and farming combined have not succeeded in averting what is not usually a poet's fate—more glory than gear. His straitened circumstances having come to the knowledge of some of his admirers in Toronto, they have now undertaken to raise funds for a testimonial, sufficient to place the poet in a comfortable and easy position for the remaining years of his life.

WALES' ACCIDENT.

LONDON, Dec. 17.—H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, it is stated, was accidentally shot in the nose and cheek yesterday, while hunting. The unlucky shot also wounded the sportsman firing it. The accident was caused by the gun being defective.

THE SMITH-KILRAIN FIGHT

Declared a Draw---Both Men Show Signs of Exhaustion and are Badly Bruised.

Smith's Friends Give Three to One With Few Takers—Kilrain Proves to Have Had the Best of It When Time Was Called—The Referee Compliments Kilrain on His Manly Conduct in the Ring.

(Special to THE COLONIST.)

LONDON, December 19. — The result of the Smith-Kilrain fight has caused the greatest excitement in clubs and sporting circles in this city. News reached the city shortly after 9 o'clock to-night and was instantly posted on newspaper bulletins throughout the city. The news spread with lightning rapidity and in a short while the streets in front of newspaper offices were jammed with the excited and howling mobs. Crowds yelled for particulars and pushed and hauled each other in the effort to get nearer the building in most indescribable ways. The result as reported has disgusted many of Smith's admirers, who believed that their man would make short work of Kilrain. A despatch from Rouen timed 10 p. m. says some of the spectators of the mill have reached that place and say it was a most terrific encounter. Both showed good grit and up to the time Smith began his dropping tactics the fight was a manly one. Kilrain was undoubtedly the better man and got in some effective work on his opponent. He would certainly have whipped his man if the fight was allowed to proceed a few minutes longer. Kilrain forced the fight from the start, and and appeared very confident. He showed by his actions he was determined to win if he could. His manner gave his backers great confidence, and from the time he landed his first blow it was evident he in no way feared his man. He sent in some sledge hammer blows, and repeatedly sent his opponent to grass. Smith was unable to knock Jake off his feet in his rushes. He succeeded, however, in gaining first blood. The manner in which Smith led for nothing and the way he deported himself won the plaudits from the Englishmen present, and when fight was ordered to be stopped, several of them walked up to Kilrain and shook hands with him and complimented him on his fighting qualities. Smith was a hot favorite at the start, and odds were freely offered of two and three to one that he would win the fight. Jake's admirers took many of the bets, but their supply of funds was not so great as that of Smith's admirers, and just before time was called, although offers to bet on Smith were as plentiful as ever, there were few takers. As the fighting progressed Smith, who had received several heavy blows on the body and head from the Kilrain mauls, began to wince and showed a decided tendency to avoid punishment as much as possible, and soon began slipping down, and some of the spectators hissed him for his apparent cowardice. Smith evidently had concluded that Kilrain was too much for him, and his only hope in avoiding defeat was by trying to tire his man out. Conceivable until darkness should intervene. His tactics, however, were rapidly exhausting him and it was plain, long before the fight was ordered to be stopped, that he was a gone man. Another ten minutes it is believed would have settled the fight, but the referee decided it was too dark to continue the mill and ordered the contestants to their corners. A hasty consultation followed between the referee, backers, and seconds of the men. Kilrain's friends on seeing their man had the best of it clamored to have the fight go on, but the referee was obdurate. At one time it looked as if a row would occur but the more aggressive spirits of the Kilrain crowd were finally persuaded to abide by the referee's decision. The referee then decided that the fight should be finished to-morrew, but the principals and their backers later decided to call the fight a draw notwithstanding the orders of the referee. The battle ground was Screbeen Island in the River Seine, about 40 miles from Rouen. Referee Atkinson was high in his praises of Kilrain, asserting that he was the most manly fighter he ever saw in the ring.

The fight took place on the island of St. Pierre, in the Seine. There were about 100 persons present and there was no police interference. The conductors of the battle were G. Watkinson, referee; Jack Balderck and Jack Harper, seconds for Smith, and Charley Mitchell and Ned Baldwin, seconds for Kilrain. A great deal of wrestling was indulged in throughout the battle. Kilrain dealt Smith a terrible blow on the ear in the fourth round, which dazed the Englishman for a time, but he recovered and retained a comparative freshness to the end. One hundred and six rounds were fought in exactly two hours and thirty minutes.

Another Account.

The fight began at 2 o'clock, and betting was in favor of Smith at the start but turned in favor of Kilrain later. There was a great deal of wrestling throughout the fight which might have been omitted and fighting substituted to the advantage of Kilrain. Smith had the best of the fight at the beginning, and forced the fighting for a time, but Kilrain had an advantage in wrestling. In the 18th round Jake struck Smith a terrific blow on the left ear which caused a painful swelling as large as a hen's egg, and knocked the Englishman down. Kilrain's right eye was visited several times, but Smith's was finally closed. The fight varied in respect of advantage to the 15th round, when Kilrain led his left in the 19th round, knocking Smith down three times and being himself knocked down once, the swelling on Smith's ear relieving him greatly. After this Smith's strength returned and he held his own to the end, having the best of the last six rounds. Both men fought as actively and strongly in the last round as they had fought in the beginning. The referee expressed his intention to order the fight to be resumed to-morrow, but later the fighters declared their respect for one another and swore eternal friendship and agreed to call the fight a draw, each pledging himself to fight Sullivan. It is the general opinion that the battle was the gamest heavy weight fight of this generation.

Among those present at the ring side were Lord De Clifford, the Marquis of Queensberry, Sir Hugh Drummond, and many other English notables, most of whom left Paris in the Rouen train.

Kilrain fought at 186 lbs and Smith at 180. In the wrestling contests Kilrain fell heavily on Smith, greatly impairing his wind. After the fight had been declared a draw both men left for Paris, reaching that city at a late hour to-night.

The fight was the gamest on record, and the conduct of the spectators and all interested parties was most exemplary. Though Louverain Island is near Vernon, where the fight occurred, it is beyond the reach of the French Gende Arms, and completely isolated even from a telegraph station. Some of the press reporters employed pigeons for the purpose of communication, and the first message announcement of the result that reached London was by way of Vernon. All of the reporters making a break for Paris as soon as the fight was over in order to avail themselves of telegraphic facilities. In the first and second rounds Smith forced the fighting, and exchanges were rapidly and promptly met on both sides. During the next few rounds Kilrain displayed splendid judgment in landing his heavy blows very effectively. Smith fought for the face with his left and at the same time endeavored to reach Jake's body with his right, but without effect. The 6th round was in Smith's favor, as odds of four and five to one on him was offered and no takers. The seventh round was a repetition of the sixth, and the next six showed no difference, both men working hard. There was considerable wrestling, which was deprecated by the spectators. In these bouts Jake invariably had the best of the clinches. Round after round now followed, Kilrain holding his own but getting no advantage, and Smith generally leading with his right and stopping Kilrain's counters. Kilrain did most damage with his right, but always before much harm was done, when the men closed and fell together. In the 18th round Kilrain knocked Smith clear off his legs with a right hander and raised a lump on his ear. After this Kilrain seemed to be less distressed than Smith In the 20th round Smith made a desperate effort to put Kilrain on the defensive, but was unable to establish a lead. By this time Kilrain's right eye was closed, and Smith's left ear was increasing in size. In the 22nd round Smith was badly punished, Kilrain finishing the round by falling hard upon him. In the 25th round Smith was very weak and sparred for wind to the end of the round. In the 30th round Smith's condition was much improved, and Charley Mitchell appealed to the referee to allow a foul against Baldeock, one of Smith's seconds, for gouging Kilrain while separating the men in the end of the thirty-first round, but the referee would not allow it. The next four rounds were in Smith's favor and then matters became equal again. The weather was cold and very trying to the men, and Kilrain's right eye was closed, but Smith's swelled ears burst and relieved him of the acute pain it had caused him. In the thirty-sixth round Smith rallied though a minute before he had looked like a sure loser. The seconds now busied themselves with both men and so handled them that in the fortieth round both were stronger, though Kilrain was the better of the two; indeed, it soon became apparent to Smith that he was, as he found himself obliged to fall frequently in order to avoid punishment the American was beginning to deal out to him. Odds were now offered in favor of Kilrain, though in the 45th round both men grew weak again, but fought determinedly, however, but there was more closing and wrestling than fighting from this point. In the 90th round the friends of Smith did not conceal their anxiety, as Kilrain held every decided advantage and knocked Smith down three times, though Smith returned the compliment once. One hundred rounds were now fought in two hours and twenty minutes and both men were still strong in the legs, but the light of day was fast fading, and the cold also increased. Smith's seconds repeatedly urged the referee to stop the fight, claiming that the time keepers could not see their watches and the referee himself could not see whether a foul occurred or not. Smith appeared to improve greatly in the last six rounds, but Kilrain kept on in his old style, cool, collected, and wary. At the 106th and last round both men were fighting as fast as at start, but as it was now quite dark the referee ordered the fight adjourned until to-morrow amid the cheers of the spectators.

LATER.—Smith and Kilrain met on board the steamer, and agreed to call the fight a draw, as both wished to fight Sullivan, and the resumption of the battle would debar the looser from challenging the Boston fighter. Opinion is generally expressed that it was the best fight that has occurred between big men for many years. Snow began falling immediately after the fight, and the party were somewhat delayed in consequence on the return to Paris.

The fight opened under a bright sunshine. Smith won choice of corners, and stood with his back to the sun. Before the men began sparring Smith offered to bet Kilrain £400 to £200 that he would win the fight. Smith's costume was white knee breeches and green socks, and Kilrain wore black tights and brown socks.

ROUEN, Dec. 19.—All sorts of reports have reached this city in regard to the Kilrain-Smith fight. All agree, however, that the battle was a stubborn one. A message just received says that Smith, finding his opponent was game, and certain to give him all he could do to hold his own, repeatedly slipped down to avoid punishment, and this prolonged the fight until it grew so dark that the men were hardly able to see each other. Under this state of affairs the referee after consulting with the men's seconds, who evidently feared treachery, ordered the men to stop fighting. Both men showed marked signs of exhaustion, and were badly bruised about head and body.

The New York Star's Account of the Fight.

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—The *Star's* special cablegram about the Smith-Kilrain fight, says Kilrain had the best of the fight all through. He won first blood in the 11th round and gained the first knock down in the 18th round. In the 2nd round Kilrain planted a vigorous blow on Smith's stomach. Smith responded with a sharp blow on Jake's forehead. Up to the 10th round the advantage was all with Kilrain. In the 11th round, Kilrain landed a number of effective blows on Smith's ribs and nose, drawing blood. A claim of blood for Kilrain was made and allowed. From the twelfth to the fifteenth round the exchanges were all in favor of Kilrain. Kilrain punished Smith severely about the chest. From this on Kilrain had everything his own way. He knocked Smith down repeatedly, hitting him whenever he pleased. Smith became very groggy and looked at one time as if he would faint from pain and loss of blood. He responded bravely every time to the call of time, but as soon as Kilrain would rush at him he went down to avoid punishment. The rounds were all short and savage the longest being the 50th round which lasted two minutes and fifteen seconds. Darkness then set in and the referee, Atkinson, postponed the fight for the time being. It will probably be resumed to-morrow or the day after. The American contingent urged that the fight proceed by candle light in a barn, but the English sports would not consent. Smith's ears were badly cut and swoolen, the right side of his face was terribly bruised. Kilrain had a lump or two on his forehead, and his left eye was nearly closed, otherwise he was in good shape. The fight lasted two hours and twenty minutes. At a conference of the pugilists it was decided to make the fight a draw. Smith's powers as a wrestler did not stand him in such good stead as his backers had hoped for. Kilrain weighed 186 pounds upon entering the ring and Smith 182.

Mr. Fox says he will match Kilrain against Sullivan for either $5,000 or $10,000.

THE O. R. & N. LEASE.

It Has Not Yet Been Signed—An Early Agreement.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—The *Tribune* says to-day: "The joint lease of the Oregon Railway & Navigation company's property by the Union and Northern Pacific company's has not yet been signed. Indications are favorable to an early agreement, it is said, but the reluctance of the Northern Pacific to carry out the arrangements authorized by the stockholders is susceptible of different meanings.

CAPITAL NOTES.

The Government do not Intend Assuming Control of the C. P. R.

Great Satisfaction Expressed at the Early Meeting of Parliament—Election Petitions Being Daily Dismissed.

[From Our Own Correspondent.]

OTTAWA, Dec. 19.—Sir John informs me that there is not a word of truth in the report cabled from London that the government is going to assume control of the Canadian Pacific. The rumor was started out of spite by a financial paper which the company refuses to buy.

Great satisfaction is expressed on all sides at the early meeting of Parliament.

Election petitions are being dismissed daily under the six months rule, two Judges only refusing to dismiss them.

CONDENSED DISPATCHES.

Three more cases of smallpox have been discovered in San Francisco.

Russia's endeavors to raise a loan at Brussels and at Amsterdam have failed.

The universities at Cherkeff and Odessa have been closed owing to disorders among the students.

The Paris *Le Paris* states that on New Year's day, President Carnot will pardon all political prisoners.

It is reported from Calcutta that the forces under Rumbin Jung have been dispersed with great loss of life.

The bodies of Spies, Parsons, Fischer, Engel and Lingg were buried in Waldheim cemetery, Chicago, on Sunday.

Iverson and company's art supplies store, Milwaukee, was burned down yesterday morning. Loss about $120,000.

During a fire at Jijipa, Equador, which did damage to the extent of $600,000, two women and a child were burned to death.

Sylvester G. Crandall, a prominent real estate agent in Troy, N. Y., shot his wife, mother-in-law, step-daughter and himself yesterday morning.

A story of fire in the Vienna Opera House on Sunday night created a panic. Strauss' Semlicus was being presented for the first time. No one was hurt.

The steamer Etruria, which arrived at Queenstown on Saturday, made the fastest east-bound trip on record, her time from New York to Fastanet being six days and [illegible] hours.

The Pope gave an audience in Rome to the Duke of Norfolk on Saturday, and among other things stated that he was animated by feelings of the greatest affection for the English people.

Kilrain and Smith fought for two hours and a half, on a lonely island in the Louis, France, without either man gaining an advantage. Sixteen rounds were fought, the fight being one of the pluckiest on record. The referee decided the fight a draw.

ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

The Mayor Again Shirks His Duty and Takes the Cars for Home by the Corkscrew Line.

A special meeting of the city council was held yesterday morning. Present—The Mayor, and the Couns. Coughlan, Higgins, Grant, Braden and Styles.

COMMUNICATIONS.

J. P. Elford was granted permission to use a part of Bastion street while building.

From W. M. Chudley, secretary of the jubilee hospital committee, asking for a grant of $1,000 to make up the amount required towards the $20,000 necessary to obtain the government grant.

Coun. Grant said that he was strongly in favor of making a donation, but an act of the legislature was necessary before $1,000 could be contributed.

Coun. Styles said the council donated $1,000 to the Nanaimo sufferers, and should do something to assist in the construction of this hospital.

Coun. Higgins spoke in favor of a donation, and moved, seconded by Coun. Grant, that the communication lay over until Wednesday night to allow the city treasurer to bring in a statement showing the amount of funds on hand. Carried.

H. H. McDonald's application to be allowed to remove a boulder, was referred to the street committee.

P. R. Young was granted permission to plant shade trees.

J. Auld was granted permission to remove a house.

TENDERS.

Tenders for digging water pipe trenches were read. James Baker was the lowest bidder for two sections, and Frank Lakin for one section.

Coun. Grant wanted the letting postponed till the decision of the supreme court about the seal had been announced.

In reply to Coun. Higgins the clerk said the contract involved the expenditure of only $743.

Coun. Higgins—Then I shall vote to let the work.

Coun. Styles—The work must be done by contract. The water works' act does not permit of day's work.

Coun. Braden instanced one case out of several to show that city work should be done by contract.

Coun. Coughlan asked if it was the custom of the council to give notice of motion before letting contracts.

The Clerk—No. The call for tenders is deemed sufficient notice.

Coun. Coughlan—An affidavit was read in the supreme court yesterday from the clerk, which stated almost in words that it was necessary to give notice of motion and that it had been neglected in the matter of the Albion Iron Works contract. How did the affidavit come to be made.

His Worship—That is not the question. I refuse to put the motion.

Coun. Higgins—Will you state your reason?

His Worship—I refuse to put it.

Coun. Higgins—That is not a reason.

The Mayor—You have your remedy.

A pause of several minutes here occurred.

His Worship—If you are not going on with the business I shall leave.

Coun. Braden—Why don't *you* go on with the business. Put the motion.

His Worship here left the chair and wound his heavy way down the corkscrew stairs.

FINALE.

The board being left without a quorum by the act of the Mayor, was about to break up when Coun. Grant, with an expression of funeral grief resting on his mobile countenance, in his solemnest and deepest tones said: "Gentlemen, I'm sorry to inform you that Turner, Beeton & Co. decline to execute the contract for the cast-iron pipes."

Coun. Coughlan—Why, *you* shouldn't be sorry. You are no doubt very glad. You didn't want the contract let at all and now you say you are sorry it has not been executed.

Coun. Grant claimed that he had as much right to express sorrow at the failure as any other councillor.

Coun. Coughlan—Be consistent, Grant, say you're glad.

Coun. Grant vociferated in tones that rang through the emptying hall like a Chinese gong in a cheap eating house, which when beaten always seems to say, "What we lack in quality we make up in noise," that he was really sorry, and as for consistency his record for that virtue was as good as that of any other member of the board.

The two councillors descended the stairs in a rather disturbed mood, but when they reached the serene presence of the urbane clerk, who sat smiling in his office, they cooled off and parted good friends, apparently.

DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

Craigflower School.

The examination of the above school was held day before yesterday, beginning at 1 o'clock p. m., and notwithstanding the very unpleasant state of the weather there was a very fair number of visitors present. The school was tastefully decorated by the children for the occasion. The examination of the different classes was conducted by the teacher, Mr. Bannerman. The conduct of the pupils throughout was such as to reflect credit on themselves and their teacher whilst winning praise and compliments from trustees and visitors. Among the visitors present were: Mesdames Porter, Thomas and Andrews, and Misses Austin, Parker and Calvert, as well as Trustees Porter and Stewart, and Messrs. Crogan, Williams and Carter.

After the exercises were gone through Mr. Porter addressed the children, expressing the pleasure it gave him to see them improving their opportunities, and concluded by encouraging them to renewed efforts after their holidays.

West Saanich District School.

On Friday last the examination of the above school, in charge of Mr. Geo. H. Slugget, took place in the presence of a goodly number of parents and friends, among whom were Trustee Hagan, Messrs. Baker, Brooks, Greg, Reynard, Turgoose, Sluggett and Matthews; Mesdames Thomson, Hagan, Baker, Richardson and Slugget; Misses Thomas, Turgoose, Sluggett and Heard. Following was the

PROGRAMME:

Opening song, by the school; exercises in arithmetic; song, "The Fox and Geese," Hugh Thomson and Geoffrey Baker; recitation, Geo. Parker; exercises in mental arithmetic; song, "Chickadees," May Baker and Sarah Baker; dialogue, John Brooks and Chas. Pagden; exercises in spelling; song, "Old Black Joe," Gladys Butler and Rosa Matthews; recitation, "The Night before Christmas," S. Butler; "Winter," Agnes Grace Thomas and R. Slugget; intermission; recitation, Hugh Thomson; exercises in geography; recitation, "Little Dorrit," Ada Matthews, George Verder and Chas. Pagden; song, "Meadow Lark," Grace Thomson and R. Slugget; grammar and spelling match; song, "Happy Boys," by the school.

The distribution of the prizes from the well-loaded Christmas tree was a very interesting part of the programme to the little ones.

The National Anthem was sung, Christmas greetings exchanged, and all dispersed to their several homes.

Tolmie School.

The closing exercises of this school took place on the 16th inst., in presence of Hon. J. Robson, Supt. Pope, Trustees Revely and Tolmie, Mr. Anderson, M.P.P., Rev. Mr. Taylor, Mesdames Caldwell and Bellamy, the Misses Tolmie, Todd, Armstrong and Pope, Trustee King, of Cedar Hill, and others.

The classes were examined in the usual school work by the teacher, Miss Pope, the Superintendent of Education and Miss Todd, and acquitted themselves most creditably.

The Hon. Minister of Education complimented the children on their intelligent appearance, and promises to do all in his power to furnish them with all necessary conveniences. He hoped they would follow the good example set by their teacher; while a pupil she was always amongst the first in her classes, frequently outstripping all competitors. He hoped to see the grounds improved and a plank approach made to the school as soon as possible.

Supt. Pope complimented the Trustees on their school, and the interest manifested by them in the interests of education, forty-five visits being recorded during its short existence.

Trustee Revely expressed himself delighted with the order and the decorations of the building.

Trustee Tolmie was glad the minister of education and authorities had seen the approach in the condition it was, that they might be more willing to aid in removing the difficulty.

Rev. Mr. Taylor, in speaking to the children, told them they had the nicest school house and site of any of those in the district.

Trustee King, of Cedar Hill, was delighted at what he had seen and heard.

Recitations were given by Bertha Wraight, "A Little Maid;" Nettie Speed, "Try Again;" Charley Revely, "Only a Boy;" Henrietta Speed, "Queen Victoria;" Harry Wraight, "Little Blacksmith." The songs were well rendered, and as they now have the use of an organ, much improvement will be made in this accomplishment.

The proceedings closed with the National Anthem, three rousing cheers being given for the teacher.

FROM THE WEST COAST.

Return of Mr. Halpenny and Party from Port San Juan—Gloomy Reports From Bear River.

The steamer Maude returned from the west coast on Sunday Morning. Capt. Jones reports that the vessel left here on the 11th, intending to go to Port San Juan and Bear River, but when she got down the Straits the weather was so rough that he was forced to put into Clallam Bay and Neah Bay for shelter. Port San Juan could not be approached owing to the heavy seas that were coming in from the south-west, and two days were thus lost. Mr. Halpenny with his party was at last landed at Port San Juan, when the Maude left for Bear River, where about seventy-five Chinese miners were taken aboard for Victoria. On the way back Mr. Halpenny and the gentlemen who were with him were again taken aboard.

The Government guide reports that there are between 12,000 and 15,000 acres of good land along San Juan river, but that an immense timber jam on the river prevents settling. If this were cleared away about one hundred people could find enough land to form a settlement.

The Chinese from Bear River bring with them the most gloomy reports of their mining operations during the year, and say there is very little gold on the river, at least it does not pay to look for it.

DESPERATE DESERTION.

Two More of the Sailors on H. M. S. Triumph Swim Ashore.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 16.—Two seamen of her British majesty's ship Triumph, tiring of navy discipline, deserted early yesterday morning. It is said that the Triumph has been ordered home, and several of the men aboard, who desire to try their fortunes under the stars and stripes, took this heroic means of doing so. Stainly and Rider, the two seamen referred to, after having secured life-preservers, jumped overboard at 4 o'clock Thursday morning. After swimming and battling with the strong currents three hours, they were eventually picked up off Fort Point, by some Italian fishermen, in a thoroughly exhausted condition and landed at Seaside gardens. Rider had $40 in silver hung around his neck and Stainly had $26 similarly fastened. They are now in the safe keeping of friends and will remain quiet for the present, though it is said that the British officers are powerless to arrest them now that they are on American soil.

AMERICAN NEWS.

Annual Meeting of the Labor Federation at Baltimore---Welcomed to the City by the Mayor.

The New York Board of Trade---Commercial Union---The Question to be Considered.

Bennet Sued for Libel---Bell Telephone Stock Falls---St. Paul's Carnival ---Chinese Concessions.

Copper and Steel.

NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—The price of copper and steel, advancing when the market opened to-day, was 20 points higher than at the close. Yesterday's market was feverish and it is expected at the Metal Exchange that this afternoon's session will be exciting.

LATER—Another advance of £1 2s 6d in the London market was cabled to the New York exchange to-day. It is predicted that before the holidays the London market will reach $80 per ton.

Telephone Stock Falls.

The Bell Telephone stock dropped to 196 in Boston to-day, the lowest figure in years. Drawbagh's telephone syndicate stock was considerably inquired for in this city. The movements were supposed to be on speculation as to the supreme court for the coming Bell patent decision.

Bennett Sued for Libel.

The Tortilita gold and silver mining company brought suit in the supreme court to-day against James Gordon Bennett for $50,000 damages for libel. Jos. H. Reall, president of the Tortilita company, also brought a personal suit for $250,000 damages against Bennett for libel.

Commercial Union.

The board of trade and transportation to-day adopted for presentation to the national board of trade at Washington in January, among others, the following recommendation: That the question of commercial union with Canada should be considered.

A Western Union Dividend.

The directors of the Western Union to-day declared a quarterly dividend of 1¾% payable on January 16th.

The Labor Federation Meet.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 13.—The annual meeting of the Federation of Labor began here yesterday. The delegates were welcomed to the city by Mayor Latrobe. President Gompers in his annual address referred to the large increase in the number of women and children employed in many industries. He thought the federation should organize laboring women in the trades unions and secure education for the children. Referring to the displacement of men by machinery he suggested that the remedy is in shorter hours. He thought the workingmen have a right to demand legislation in the interest of the wage workers, who form such an important factor in our country. There was no need of a conflict between the confederation and the K. of L., and he hoped soon to see the two bodies united. He praised his efforts to save the Chicago anarchists from being executed, but disclaimed any sympathy with anarchy. His action had been entirely in the interest of humanity and to prevent anarchists hereafter making capital out of the execution to further their cause. The American Federation of Labor continued in convention this morning. Shortly after opening the convention went into executive session, from which reporters were excluded. The session was taken up in receiving reports of officers and various committees. A charter was granted to the Brotherhood of Painters and Decorators of America.

St. Paul's Carnival.

ST. PAUL, Dec. 14.—At a meeting of the officers of the carnival association held last evening the contract for building the ice palace was given out and work will be begun at once. International snow shoe, skating, and other sports heretofore held in Montreal will be held here this season during the two weeks' festivities.

Probably Persecution.

Gen. Anderson, chief engineer of the Northern Pacific, was asked to-day what was meant by the indictments brought in Montana against the officers of the road. He expressed the opinion that these indictments were in the nature of a persecution, and that the fact of the country being unsurveyed was the ground-work of the whole trouble. He did not think the indictments would amount to anything. Vice-President Oakes and Counsel McNaught are out of the city.

The Chinese Concessions.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 14.—Referring to the concessions of the Chinese government to the American syndicate, W. Sartcn Bartter said to-day: "We have those concessions firmly in our grasp and nobody else in the world has them. There were some changes necessary in the contract and an envoy has gone to China to attend to them. That is all there is in the stories about the revocation of the concessions; their value remains to be determined."

Stayed the Sale.

HAMILTON (Ohio), Dec. 14.—Judge Vanderveer this morning issued an order restraining the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton directors from transferring or selling the million dollar's worth of notes issued for the purpose of raising funds with which to take up the claims of H. S. Ives & Co.

Burned to Death.

DENVER, Dec. 14.—During a fire in the Lesher, Monasser & Harris livery stable last night Ed. Barr, a stock dealer, who was sleeping in the loft, was overcome by the heat while trying to reach the stairs and was burned to death.

Irish Leaguers in America.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Esmonde and O'Connor, envoys to the American branches of the land league, arrived here this afternoon. To-night a grand reception will be tendered the Irish patriots at the Masonic temple.

Powderly's Health.

SCRANTON, Pa., Dec. 14.—Mr. Powderly was very restless last night and his condition is not considered as favorable to-day, although physicians say there is no immediate danger.

Elevator Burned.

WARREN (Minn.), Dec. 14.—The Warren Manufacturing company's elevator, containing 30,000 bushels of wheat was burned last ev

Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23RD, 1887.

HONORS TO A POET.

The sweet poet of Amaranth is being honored in his lifetime by his fellow citizens. This is well. Better to make him comfortable while living than rear a costly monument over his grave when he is dead! Alexander McLachlan was born with the spirit of song strong within him and has made the world of Canadian letters better for his presence. We are glad to find that his Toronto admirers have enthusiastically taken up the project of presenting him with an unencumbered farm and making his declining years happy ones. Relieved of financial cares our clear-throated Scottish-Canadian singer will carol even more delightful melodies than those to which he has given voice in the past. Would it not be well if our local Scots, supported by the public generally, assisted in making the proposed testimonial a magnificent one? As the poet has himself said, "We're a' John Tamson's bairns."

ASSEMBLING OF PARLIAMENT.

The definite announcement that the Dominion Parliament will meet so early as the 31st of January for the dispatch of business was not unexpected. It was well-known that the estimates were being prepared, and that the heads of the various departments were pushing on their reports preliminary to the assembling of Her Majesty's faithful senate and commons. The government will meet the house under more favorable circumstances than perhaps ever before in the history of the Dominion. In the first place they are numerically strong. The bye-elections have resulted advantageously to the ministry, testifying in a sufficiently marked degree to its popularity with the electorate. Then again the year has been a prosperous one throughout the country. The budget speech will disclose the fact that the finances of the Dominion are in a safe condition, notwithstanding the loud Jeremiads of the Liberal press. It is very probable that the session will be a short one. No great questions have yet been mooted as likely to come before the Commons and it is said the number of bills to be presented are less than at any previous meeting of that body. The whilom leader of the Opposition, the Hon. Edward Blake, will not occupy his seat during the coming session as he proposes extending his travels to Egypt and Palestine, and the public will look forward with much interest to his successor's attitude and political conduct. As a statesman he is now on trial and will be subjected to the severest criticism, hardly less of his supporters than his opponents. Though silver-tongued and affable we fear the Hon. Wilfrid Laurier will prove no match for the man against whom he is pitted, the greatest of Canadian statesmen—the veteran Premier.

THE COMOX ELECTION.

There seems to be very little doubt that Mr. Dingwall will be chosen for the second time as the representative of Comox in the Local House. We are constantly in receipt of the most confident assurances of a government victory in that district where the vacancy occurred through the former member's extraordinary resignation. The writ having gone forward the election will soon be over and the destinies of one of the most prosperous districts in the province definitely decided. If the electorate chooses Mr. Dingwall rather than Mr. Humphreys they will conclusively prove that they are alive to their own interests; if on the contrary they prefer "the great rejected" of so many constituencies in the province, they will make one of the biggest mistakes of their lives, retarding as they will, the onward progress of Comox. At this time it is almost imperative that that portion of the Island should have a voice in the affairs of the province, a voice that will be of some avail, not one that is discredited by both government and opposition. Mr. Dingwall is not burdened with the volubility and plausibility of Mr. Humphreys, but he has what the latter lacks—an honorable record and an unsullied name. He will effect more lasting good for the district, if elected, in one session than Mr. Humphreys could during the whole term. All the latter's stories about "turning the government out" are mere buncombe. The present administration is solidly seated in the House, a firm, compact party, while the opposition, a hopeless minority, are all at sixes and sevens, to which Mr. Humphreys, if returned, would only bring added confusion. We sincerely trust that Comox will be true to herself and elect the government candidate—Mr. Wm. M. Dingwall.

ALWAYS AN ANNEXATIONIST.

Mr. John V. Ellis, M.P. for the city of St. John, N. B., has always been an annexationist. His editorial utterances, contained in his paper the *Globe*, which appear in another column this morning, convey nothing new. Perhaps they are the least little bit bolder than anything he has previously written, but he has always been regarded as the most red-hot annexationist in the Maritime provinces. Though sowing the seeds of treason for many years neither Mr. Ellis nor his newspaper have made the slightest success in bringing them to fruition. The people of the Lower Provinces do not share Mr. Ellis' views; they are loyal to the British connection and determined foes to Canada's absorption into the United States. Mr. Ellis' sentiments come to us with a flourish of trumpets through the American press as if he was a recent convert to annexation. His madness is no new thing. Commenting on the *Globe* article the *Telegraph*, also a Liberal organ, under the heading of "The *Globe* throws off the mask," says: "It is always best that the real sentiments of public men should be known, and so far the public is the gainer by the *Globe's* open confession. If Mr. Ellis were now to resign, and put the sentiment of the St. John electorate to the test and could show that St. John is in favor of annexation, so much the better for his scheme. If, on the other hand, he has lost the confidence of his constituents, he ought to give up his seat." The Halifax *Recorder*, the organ of the Nova Scotia government, says: "Nothing now fills Ellis' soul with pleasure but to talk of a red-handed rebellion and the streaked and spotted flag of the neighboring nation, and the inciting of such fools as he may be able to influence, to join in a treasonable conspiracy."

THE CROFTERS.

The announcement that Alexander Morrison, the leader of the land reform movement in the Highlands, has been deputed by the Imperial government to come to British Columbia to spy out the land and report upon its fitness as a home for the crofters is a most important one. The crofters are an industrious, hard-working body of people and would be a valuable addition to the population of the province. The local government will not fail to assist Mr. Morrison in his mission and to point out to him the desirability of those in whom he is interested settling here, where they have ample opportunity to make for themselves a happy and prosperous future. The most available lands will doubtless be pointed out to him as well as the many avenues open to the crofters for making a living. It is hoped that as a result of Mr. Morrison's visit we shall be able during the coming year to welcome a large contingent of those hardy men to whose welfare he has for so many years devoted his untiring energies.

INCOMPREHENSIBLE DISTANCES.

It is conceded that the stars are some distance off, so far that the human mind fails to get even a faint comprehension of the distance, but the astronomers are always giving us new figures. In one of the English magazines speaking of the star Alpha Centauri, it is said to be in round numbers twenty billions of miles off from the earth. Now, a billion means a million of millions, so that the distance of Alpha Centauri may be stated to be twenty millions of millions of miles. The astronomer supposes a train to leave the earth, traveling day and night at the rate of 50 miles an hour without stoppages. In six months it would reach the moon, in 200 years it would reach the sun, and in 6,000 years it would reach the planet Neptune, the orbit of which forms the extreme known limit of the planetary system. The same train, however, would not reach the star Alpha Centauri in less than 42,000,000 years. One more illustration may be useful. Comets, in general, revolve in very eccentric orbits. When a comet is in the perihelion of its orbit it is comparatively near to the earth; on the other hand, when it is at the aphelion it is remote—in many instances very remote from the earth. For instance, the celebrated comet of 1858, known as Donati's comet, one of the greatest comets of modern times, at the time of its passage of the perihelion was distant from the sun 50,000,000 miles, but when it has attained the aphelion of its orbit (which will occur in about 1,000 years hereafter) its distance from the earth will not be less than 30,000,000,000 miles. Now our typical railway train starting from the earth would not reach the aphelion of the orbit of Donati's comet in less than 60,000 years, and yet the aphelion distance of Donati's comet is only one-seven-hundredth part of the distance from the earth to Alpha Centauri, the nearest of the fixed stars.

THE $75,000 LOAN BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE.

If the resolution of Coun. Barnard which steered the mayor into the supreme court should have no other effect, it will at least put an end to the twaddle that has been indulged in by the minority at the council board, and which has formed the burthen of several of Coun. Grant's ponderous letters in the *Times*. The opinion of Messrs. Drake and Davie did not convince the minority; so they sent Mr. Thornton Fell before Sir M. B. Begbie yesterday to plead that the majority of the council, in discarding the Hendry and adopting the Summerfield scheme, had acted illegally. In support of his plea Mr. Fell laid before the Chief Justice the $75,000 loan by-law. His Lordship having examined the by-law informed the learned counsel that the city council were not confined to any special scheme for the extension of the water works system. After the mass of abusive hyperbole to which the majority of the council have been treated by the minority and their friends, and the misconstruction which the mayor and the councillor with two faces under his hat have placed upon the legal opinion of two eminent Q. C.'s the ruling of Sir M. B. Begbie is more reassuring. All friends of water extension on a sensible and inexpensive basis will rejoice and be glad that the sky is clearing, and that the action of the majority has been vindicated in a manner so marked as to dispel all doubts as to the legality of their course.

MONTREAL'S SENSATION.

Rarely, if ever, have the citizens of any city on this continent been so startled as were the people of Montreal on Saturday morning last, when it became known that Private Detective Fahey, City Detective Naegel, son of the deputy chief, and City Constable Bureau were arrested on a charge of complicity in a number of robberies perpetrated in that city during the last few years, the principal one being that at the G. T. R. *depot* some six weeks ago, when $1,200 was stolen. The story of their discovery is a startling one. During the summer months Harry Phillips, the well-known sporting man now in England as John L. Sullivan's manager, left his house while away in charge of Detective Fahey. During his absence the house was mysteriously robbed, and as Fahey could not find the culprit, Phillips determined to employ an American officer. He accordingly brought on Frank Wilson, a celebrated New York detective, who, as a first step, got acquainted with Fahey and in due time Naegel and Bureau, the latter at that time being in the employ of the G. T. R. as special constable. After this criminal intentions soon developed, and as Wilson let them think he was as big a scoundrel as the next one he got to know all their secrets. As a first haul among many, it was resolved to rob the Grand Trunk, and Fahey proposed that they should attack Paymaster Wright, who is over 80, on his next trip up the line to pay the hands and relieve him of $16,000. Part of the plan was to knock the old man down. Wilson, in order to better serve the ends of justice, suggested that they should instead take Fahey's other proposal to rob the safe at the *depot*, which accordingly was done in full daylight one Sunday afternoon by means of a false key. After this Wilson notified the G. T. R. and Crown officials, who told him to go ahead and see how far Fahey and Naegel would go. Chief Detective Flynn, of the G. T. R. service was brought on from Detroit, and a few days after he and Wilson left for Boston, at which place they received incriminating letters from Fahey asking for burglars' tools. Wilson returned from Boston with a Chicago officer named Maxwell, who also entered into the plans of the gang, which now reached an extensive scale. Amongst the safes proposed to be robbed were those of the street railway company, two retail stores and two barrooms, and it was also arranged that an attack be made on the old G. T. R. paymaster last Tuesday. On Friday night last it was thought the time had arrived to nip the conspiracy, and accordingly Fahey was arrested in the Richelieu hotel along with Wilson and Maxwell in a room where the conspiracy was hatched, Naegel in the central police station and Bureau, who had been taken on the city force after his dismissal by the G. T. R., after a robbery, on his beat. The two Americans spent the night in the lock-up with the other prisoners, and it was only when they were brought into court in the morning that Fahey and his pals knew how they had been duped. They were remanded for a few days to allow depositions to be completed. Bureau afterwards confessed his guilt and expressed a desire to turn Queen's evidence. Fahey admitted to Wilson being the author of many mysterious robberies at Montreal, including one from the city hall a few years ago, when $1,800 was stolen, and also said he had insured his house in the east end for $6,000, had it burned down and pocketed the proceeds. Naegel also confessed to similar doings. Some years ago the latter distinguished himself by shooting a desperate criminal and saved the lives of two comrades, and received a medal from the city council therefor, but lately has been in bad repute, and had resigned a few week's ago, though his resignation was not yet accepted. It was through him that the notorious counterfeiter, Racine, was allowed to escape two years ago, and people are asking how many of the robberies in the city of late years have been committed by those who were paid to guard their interests. Fahey told Wilson of a plan to steal Sir Donald Smith's famous painting by Jules Breton, "Les Communicants," now on exhibition in Toronto, and hold it for ransom. Constable Plante has also been arrested on a charge of complicity with Fahey, and there are rumors afloat of further arrests, but the authorities are said to be very reticent, and it is impossible to obtain information.

THE RABBIT PEST.

British Columbia was very properly thrown into a state of alarm by the announcement that 2,000 rabbits were to be imported into the province. Looking at the results in "the Colonies" we felt that it would be an act of the grossest injustice to foist upon us a nuisance which has been the cause of so much destruction to property, and the extinction of which is now troubling the minds of our friends at the Antipodes. The Montreal *Herald*, however, puts a different face upon the matter. It says:

Senator Schultz, of Winnipeg, has suddenly vaulted into almost world-wide fame, the innocent cause thereof being the little, common-place, timid rabbit. Some months ago the senator, following out the bent of his well-known philanthropic and humanitarian instincts, obtained a Senate Committee to investigate the present capability of the North-West Territories, as an exchange port, for supplying subsistence to the Indians, and made several suggestions whereby the expenses to the government could be reduced. In his statement he advised the sowing of some particular kind of rice, and expressed the opinion that the rabbit would thrive well in that country, and, whilst providing a toothsome morsel for the noble Indian, would also afford him so much sport in his capture, that it would affect a great physical and moral change for the better in those interesting people. The news fiend of the telegraph got hold of the story and scattered it to the four winds of heaven over the wires, but in a mutilated form. Whether by accident or design the rabbit idea got separated from the remainder of the report and travelled around on its own account. Having crossed the Atlantic pond and got into the fogs of London, the rabbit paragraph was taken up by that staid and respectable, but influential, organ of public opinion, the *Standard*, which built upon it the story that a shipment of two thousand rabbits was to be made to British Columbia. As in duty bound, that paper very thoughtfully and earnestly warned the people of British Columbia of the dangers which a determination to go into the rabbit business might entail, and held up the history and present conditions of the Australian colonies as a terrible example. The story has recrossed the Atlantic and got to the Pacific coast, where ingenious mathematicians are engaged in abstruse calculations as to how long it will take for the increase from these 2,000 rabbits to devastate that fairest portion of this western hemisphere. San Francisco papers have taken the alarm, not that they care very much about British Columbia being swept by an invasion of rabbits which, it is assumed, would be worse than a visitation of locusts or mice, but because the grape vineyards of that fair and happy land are in danger. The situation was complicated by the report that the rabbits were to be imported from Wales, and immediately the term "Welsh rabbits" alarmed the owners of Eastern cheese factories. An Eastern paper, discussing the situation, transmogrified "Welsh rabbits" into Welshmen, and at once visions of the dire mischief to be wrought by "assisted" importation of foreign labor alarmed the working classes, and general dismay was the result. That the innocent rabbit should be the occasion of so much perplexity and confusion was probably something never dreamed of in Senator Shultz's philosophy. It is expected that if the rabbits reach British Columbia in safety, Congress will be appealed to to pass an act providing for their destruction if they cross the border, and probably Great Britain will be notified under threat of war that she must compel the British Columbians to keep their rabbits at home. The San Francisco *Examiner* does not take quite so serious a view of the case, but thoughtfully expresses the hope that the people of our Pacific Province will be sufficiently alive to their own interests to either "ship the cargo back to England or have it dumped into the sea." To dump the rabbits into the sea would be cruelty to animals which cannot be tolerated in this humanitarian age, and might breed scrofula amongst the salmon. If they are to be shipped back to England they might be utilized to feed the hungry unemployed poor of London. Or they might be shipped to Anticosti where they would furnish a means of subsistence to unfortunate mariners cast away on that lonely isle—provided they could catch them. If the 2,000 rabbits reach British Columbia we tremble to think of the possible consequences should some of them stray into California. The only recourse will be to ship them to Alaska, where they will furnish food for explorers and for the fur-bearing animals with which that country abounds. By this time of day Senator Schultz can surely understand what dread possibilities hang upon his rabbit report—how easily it may develop into a grave international problem, in comparison with which the fisheries dispute will be a mere trifle. He has acquired fame enough to last him for the remainder of his life.

This statement notwithstanding it is hoped Senator Schultz, in the *role* of the humanitarian, will give over his scheme, which is about as absurd an one as could well have been imagined. It is understood the Senator is to make his summer home at Harrison Lake, in this province. He will be very welcome to British Columbia—without his 2,000 rabbits.

A PAPER in a recent number of *Scribner's Monthly* graphically describes a diplomatic transaction which exhibits the United States government in a most unfavorable light. The experience of the civil war having demonstrated the unprotected condition of the Atlantic coast line, the American wiseheads came to the conclusion that they ought to have a naval station somewhere among the West Indies, and after due consideration the Danish island of St. Thomas, one of the virgin group of the Antilles, was decided upon as best suited for the required purpose. Of the thousand islands in the Caribbean sea, not one is owned by the United States. After years of correspondence on the subject with the Danish government, a price was at last agreed upon fly which this territory should become an American possession—that is, a certain sum was offered by the United States and accepted by Denmark. The transaction was perfectly regular, and the honor of both governments fully pledged. A regular treaty was drawn up, and the Danish Reichstag ratified it without debate, and the King as promptly signed it. Meanwhile a political cyclone was raging in Washington, and those who should have looked after the matter were devoting all their attention to the safety of their own political heads. For a long time the instrument was unnoticed, and then the foreign relations committee, of which Charles Sumner was then chairman, recommended a suspension of action on the St. Thomas treaty. The matter was never brought before the senate. To this day the Danish government has not received a word of explanation regarding the strange conduct of the republic. It is said that Denmark, from that moment, has viewed the United States with deep distrust, and, officially speaking, has no more to do with her than is absolutely necessary.

THE first annual meeting of the stockholders of the Keeley Motor Company since 1883 was held at Philadelphia on Thursday. The board of directors in their report say they are more than ever satisfied that the enterprise is absolutely based upon the application of new motive powers; that Keeley has under-estimated in many particulars the time necessary to the completion of his work; that the chief difficulties have been removed, and they are now in sight of results. Keeley made a long report in which he reviewed his work. He has recently become possessed of a new and important discovery. Hereafter his operations will be conducted without either vaporic or etheric forces. What name to give his new form of force he does not know, but the basis of it all is vibratory sympathy.

THE Bishop of Liverpool is not afraid to speak out when occasion requires. Addressing lately a diocesan conference, he spoke with regret of the comparatively small number of communicants in his diocese; complained of the few candidates for confirmation, the abuses of bazaars and other questionable ways of raising money; mourned over the wide-spread tendency of men to bet, and enjoined the necessity of keeping the Seventh Commandment, which is so woefully outraged. He was also hard upon sensational preaching, and as to harvest homes, he added that the custom of gathering on such occasions sacks of potatoes, beet roots, carrots, turnips, huge vegetable marrows, and profusely placing them around the church, made the House of God look more like a vast greengrocery than a place set apart for worship.

THE reported movement of Russian troops along the Austrian border is probably true enough, but such an event need, of itself, cause no alarm. The fact of the matter is, Russia has had a large body of troops massed within easy reach of the Austrian boundary for a long time past, and just at present their commanding officer may be moving them about a little. But any person who imagines that peace is assured is mistaken. It does not seem a sign of peaceful times that the great Steyerer rifle factory in Austria recently and quite quietly took on 7,000 additional hands, in consequence of a Government order.

Le Canadien: We are proud of the marks of esteem given to one of our compatriots, Sir Adolphe Caron, in a province such as British Columbia, where the French element does not form any group.

THE Bishop of Lincoln spoke at a meeting recently of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Lincoln. He said that the attention of some present might have been drawn to a speech on Mahommedanism; but he thought they need see no cause for alarm. He did not know the gentleman who had made the speech, but it seemed to him about the sort of speech he should have made himself some fourteen years ago, just after reading a book by Bosworth Smith on Mahommedanism, when he was in a frame of mind to try and find out the good elements in those different bodies. He was then thrilled and delighted at seeing the amount of good elements there were in Mahommedanism, but the fourteen years which passed since then had enabled him to arrive at a much wiser estimate with regard to the relative value of the Christian and other systems of religion, and he did not think that anybody there, knowing the good elements in Mahommedanism, ought to be in any way scared or dispirited. Islam was a creed that did not simply conquer with the sword, but that made wonderful strides in the matter of philosophy and medicine, and that built universities and founded libraries; but yet in the face of that they need not be intimidated, for they knew that in God's own time the Cross must prevail over the Crescent. Indeed, it was a matter of satisfaction that in Mahommedanism there should be such a peculiar power, and why? Because of all heathen systems of religion they had been enabled to arrive at a great truth, the belief in one God, and they ought to expect there would be great force come from such a near approach to the exact truth.

THE French crisis is over—for the time being. But how long a period is the "time being" in this connection? M. Sardi-Carnot is a respectable non-entity, who has been hoisted into the Presidential chair of France by the force of circumstances. He did not win his position; nay, more, he did not, as regards his standing, services and capacity, deserve it. He is another Hayes, but France is not another United States. At the time of the Hayes episode the American republic was in a condition which would have enabled it to go along quietly in its career had an Egyptian mummy occupied the office of President. Both in regard to external and internal affairs at the present moment, France requires at her head a man of marked character and ability. For the moment it would seem as though the election of M. Sadi-Carnot had set the Republic once more upon a firm foundation, and had settled all the heated disputations of a week or two ago. But we venture to predict that this is an error which will soon be made manifest. The election of M. Sadi-Carnot has changed nothing except the occupant of the Elysée. The same conditions exist. The same enormous taxation is necessary in order to meet the same enormous budget. The same great armament still calls for the same great outlay. And the same selfish, quarrelsome, and at times venal instincts, continue to prevail throughout the council halls of the nation, and will characterize any ministry which can be drawn therefrom. To summarize, the same irritant causes which produced the recent nervousness still exist. An opiate has been administered, but the root of the disease has not been touched.

Winnipeg *Call*: Sir Adolphe Caron's visit to British Columbia must have been a very satisfactory one to him, as he has been received with the utmost enthusiasm, his prompt action in regard to matters there under the control of his department having met with general approval. It is a significant fact that at the banquet in his honor the speakers were unanimous in the condemnation of the commercial union movement. British Columbians have frequently been represented, or rather misrepresented, as anything but Canadian in sentiment, but it is evident that the completion of the C.P.R. has effected a great change in this respect.

THE BELL CHARGE—LETTER FROM MR. H. P. BELL.

TO THE EDITOR:—I have been edified by the perusal of a discussion about the waterworks, that took place at the council meeting of the 9th inst. Mr. Fell would like to put me in the witness box. I would reciprocate the favor, and if I had Mr. Fell in the witness box for half an hour, feel confident that I could extract many interesting facts about the drainage plans of the city.

Mr. B. W. Pearse says I overcharged. It ill becomes a man who was willing to throw away $75,000 on useless work to talk about overcharges. Mr. Pearse got the council to pay for Mr. Mahood's report. Was it worth anything to the city? The fact is Mr. Pearse does not appear to know what customary charges are for that class of work. Mr. E. S. Chesboro charged the city of Winnipeg for a report that took him about ten days $1,000, and paid him also $1,000 per year that the city engineers might refer to him for advice. The city of Winnipeg paid me $15 per day for making strain sheets and valuation of the city bridges and paid the bill without question. The Dominion government paid me $20 per day over a long period of time for remeasuring a disputed contract. The Canadian Pacific Railway Co. paid me at the rate of $400 per month to locate the site and approaches of the Saskatchewan bridge. I don't know what Mr. Keefer's charge might have amounted to per day, but I am well aware of the fact that he might have charged as much as the late Mr. E. S. Chesboro, and in the absence of a bargain the city would have had to pay it. I received a note from Mr. B. W. Pearse about my remuneration last spring (I forget the exact time), but remember well after he returned from some days' absence in the country bringing up the subject one morning that we met at the city hall, and he did not appear to have time to discuss the matter, but simply said it would be all right. If he assumed that I would do work of that kind for less than $12 per day that is his fault not mine.

H. P. BELL.

Texarkan, Texas, Nov. 30th, 1887.

COUN. PEARSE REPLIES TO MR. BELL.

TO THE EDITOR:—Your issue of to-day contains a letter from Mr. Bell in respect of the amount charged by him for professional services in reporting on the Hendry scheme, and which in my place at the council board, I denounced as a "gross over-charge." Mr. Bell admits that I wrote to him last spring asking him what remuneration he would expect for his services, and continues "but remember well after he returned from some days absence in the country, bringing up the subject one morning that we met at the city hall, and he did not appear to have time to discuss the matter, but simply said that it would be all right." This latter statement I regret to be compelled to say is untrue. When Mr. Bell received my letter asking him as to his remuneration, in order that I might report the same to the council, he replied "let the matter stand over for a few days," and intimated that the work would not take very long. This threw me off my guard, and I forgot to again allude to the subject. Now sir, if Mr. Bell had given a *straightforward and consistent* report on the water works scheme, I should not have found fault with his charge of $12 per day. But what do we find? His report dated 4th May *fully approved the scheme and its general principles*, and endorsed Mr. Hendry's various calculations in respect of it.

And on the 15th June he writes another report condemning the scheme *in toto*. Now, I ask any man of common sense whether he thinks a charge of $628 for two reports of a diametrically opposite nature on the same subject is a just one, or whether my expression of "gross overcharge" is or is not applicable to it?

B. W. PEARSE.

Victoria, Dec. 16, 1887.

EXPLORING NEW GUINEA.

Adventures of Two Expeditions—Rich Country Found.

Advices from Cuthbertson's exploring expedition in New Guinea show that much good work was done, although heavy rains fell during most of the time. His plan was to undertake the ascent of Mount O'Bree, one of the leading heights of the Owen-Stanley range this season and then trust, if successful, to have better support to further extend the work in the direction of the rest of the range next season. To quote from the explorer's own account: "We started on August the 2nd for the Owen-Stanley ranges with over 100 carriers, and the numbers increased at every village. The country between Kappa Kappa and Mount Douglas, about seventeen miles inland, is of limestone formation and consists principally of beautifully grassed flats and large hills, also well-grassed, the timber being stunted gum. This class of country extends far to the northward and also to the south, and is especially suited for horse and cattle breeding. The jungle lands which cover the river banks are suitable for the growth of all classes of tropical produce, and are mostly of rich black, loamy soil; sugarcane of very good quality is grown by the natives for their own consumption. Passing Mount Douglas easterly and northerly, the country changed considerably, the formation being chiefly slate and granite hills and mountains generally covered with thick jungle, though the soil is mostly of a dark loamy description; the natives clean this jungle away and form gardens on the mountain slopes. The districts are largely populated and many villages are scattered on the mountain tops, and here we purchase most of our supplies. We were going up 8,000 feet on one side and down 1,500 feet on the other side, one range after another, all day long, and when not doing this the expedition were up to their waists in water all day, following up the bed of the Margaret, a fine creek, which leads up to the base of Mount O'Bree, running in rapids at the rate of ten to eleven miles an hour. On August the 30th, we arrived on the summit of Mount O'Bree, which is 8,000 feet high instead of 10,000, as given in the charts. From the summit we could only see the tops of the clouds in every direction, with the exception of Mount Owen Stanley, which towered above them to a great height. The natives who had now increased to 300, became frightened, believing this mountain to be inhabited by the spirits of their departed relatives, and that on its summit a devils' village may be seen. They picked up everything and bolted down the range, and our party had to follow suit, having no blankets or provisions. We reached Port Moresby on September the 19th." Mr. Cuthbertson speaks highly of the natives, who were friendly throughout the trip, and always ready and willing to assist, never receiving a growl or unkind word from them.

Another expedition into the interior was made by C. Livesay, in search of gold. The expedition starting from Veinouri River, went in a northwesterly direction, and reached the summit of the main range at an elevation of between 6,000 and 7,000 feet. They spent several weeks in the main range, prospecting the heads of the Aroya and Kabadi River. Subsequently they discovered an easy and practicable way across the main range, and further east could have crossed; but their provisions were exhausted, and they were forced to return. They came across good indications of gold, but Mr. Livesay declines to give any information as to the locality. The party endured great hardships, being often for weeks together without meat of any kind, and frequently existing for days on occasional meals of rice and jams. In once crossing the flooded river, Mr. Livesay was swept away by the current and narrowly escaped drowning. Another of the party named Anderson was lost for six days in the bush, and was found in an exhausted state, having tasted no food for five days.

THE NUMBER OF STARS.

Some astronomers have devoted special attention to counting the number of stars which may be seen with the naked eye, and the result has been that, even to persons gifted with more than ordinary powers of vision, there are not so many as 4,000 stars at any time visible above the horizon. But a very different result presents itself when the heavens are surveyed through a telescope. Countless numbers of stars then come into view which were previously invisible, and the more powerful the telescope used the greater number of stars revealed to observation, until finally the conclusion is arrived at that the number of stars visible in the heavens is limited only by the optical capacity of the instrument which the observer may employ in his survey. A familiar illustration of this is furnished by the well-known group of stars known as the Pleiades. Surveyed with the naked eye, this interesting object is seen to consist of only some six or seven stars; but when observed with an ordinary opera glass the entire field of view is filled with a beautiful congeries of distinct stars. The great astronomer, Sir William Herschel, who far surpassed other astronomers in the profundity of his explorations of the stellar heavens, has left upon record some striking results of his observations illustrative of the immense multitude of stars which a powerful telescope is capable of revealing. It may be proper to remark that when the stars are surveyed even with a telescope of moderate capacity they are seen travelling in quick succession through the field of view of the instrument, an optical illusion attributable to the diurnal revolution of the earth upon its axis. Herschel, while engaged in surveying some regions of the Milky Way, found that in the short interval of a quarter of an hour as many as 116,000 stars passed through the field of his telescope. On another occasion he estimated that in forty-one minutes there passed in review before him the immense number of 258,000.—*Good Words.*

THE NORTHERN RAILWAY.

A Sketch of the Route Traversed by Mr. Gray, C. E., and Party.

The following account of the explorations of Mr. Gray, C.E., who was deputed by the provincial government to make a preliminary survey of the route to be followed by the proposed extension of the Island railway, has been kindly furnished by that gentleman:

"Leaving Comox on August 13th, the party travelling north in two canoes, reached Alert Bay four days later, from which point on August 14th the whole started on their journey inland, up the Nimpkish river to the south end of the large lake of the same name. At this point, where a river of some importance (the Kla-Auch) flows into the lake, the party divided, Mr. Gray with one canoe and half the men crossing the Nimpkish into Anntz lake, while Mr. Fry, similarly equipped, ascended the Kla-Auch river.

Mr. Gray failing in his attempt to ascend Hoostan river, which flows into Anntz lake from the south-west, abandoned his canoe and went through to Hoostan lake overland, returning thence with a portion of the party (the remainder by canoe) to his starting point at Kla-Auch river, along the foothills bordering Hoostan river and Anntz and Nimpkish lakes. Some good timber land was seen on Hoostan river, but the land on both lake and river is of little or no value. The country bordering Anntz and south end of Nimpkish lakes is of good quality and large area, containing also some fine timber.

This party next moved up to the north end of Nimpkish lake and proceeded on foot through the mountains enclosing this end of that lake. A favorable pass for a railway was found and an excellent farming country traversed to as far as the head of Port McNeill, whence could be seen stretching beyond Fort Rupert a country similar in character to that just passed through.

Port McNeill was the most northerly point visited by the expedition. Resuming their canoe they returned down Nimpkish lake and ascending the Kla-Auch river to its junction with a small stream called the Woss, joined forces with Mr. Fry on August 31st.

Mr. Fry had in the meantime ascended the Woss river into the lake of the same name, and crossing the divide to the head waters of the Tahsis river, followed that stream to the West coast at Tahsis canal, besides making an exploration towards Robson's bight on the East coast. Good land and fine timber in patches is to be found all through the Kla-Auch valley.

Proceeding south-east up the Kla-Auch river, at about nineteen miles from its mouth, an unknown river comes in from the east. Here again the party divided. Mr. Fry continuing on up the Kla-Auch towards the large lake it was supposed to drain, while Mr. Gray ascended the stream to the east. After exploring this valley, of greater extent than any hitherto met with, a rolling country well watered with good lakes and streams, good timber in patches, and land for the most part of excellent quality, a flying visit across the mountains was made to Mr. Fry who was found camped on what was erroneously supposed to be the Big Muchalat lake, he having succeeded in bringing his canoe and supplies up the Kla-Auch to this point. Immediately after this Mr. Gray and the main party returned to the coast, Mr. Fry remaining to prosecute explorations east towards Campbell river.

Having refitted, Mr. Gray and a small party started overland on October 3rd from the mouth of Campbell River (some 30 miles north of Comox), the object being to explore a favorable route for a railway towards the west, the hope also being entertained of meeting Mr. Fay coming from that quarter.

The country passed through for the most part consists of good land and some fine timber on the ridges gradually rising back from the coast. About six miles in, Campbell lake, a fine sheet of water some six miles in length, was reached. The land and timber in the immediate vicinity of the lake is of poor quality. Two miles westerly from the west end of Campbell lake, after crossing a low rocky ridge, good country is entered, low ridges fairly well timbered, alternating with open and bushy meadows and small lakes. After penetrating twenty-two miles the party returned to the mouth of Campbell river, not having found any signs of the other party.

On October 14th this same party left Comox in canoe, and reaching Salmon river three days later, ascended that stream to its confluence with the White river from south. Leaving canoe, the valley of White river was traversed for 25 miles to its head waters on the western slope of Victoria Peak. This valley, though at first confined, a few miles up the river opens out to from half to three-quarters of a mile wide, containing excellent land for that width and free from overflow. Returning to the canoe, the Salmon river was further ascended to its forks and thence on foot to a point fifteen miles from its mouth, when the river trending to the northeast, the divide southeast from Salmon river was crossed and twelve miles further the country previously explored west from Campbell lake reached.

The Salmon river valley averages one and a half miles wide, for the most part heavily timbered and all excellent land, though subject in portions to overflow at flood water. With the exploration of the Salmon river country, the expedition closed operations, returning to Comox on November 17th, having been greatly delayed and incommoded by incessant rain since the beginning of October.

The extent of the country explored would in a straight line be 100 miles (Campbell river to Fort Rupert), though the actual distance covered by the different parties would reach more than double these figures. Throughout no great obstacles to railway construction were seen.

A SALTED MINE.

English Sovereigns Filed to Make Gold Dust.

The New Zealand *Herald* summary of November the 7th gives the following details of a mine-salting fraud: In our last summary we mentioned that at Waiota gold had been found in fine particles in the soil of an extensive plain, and that, if the bulk of the stuff would produce at the rate of the samples that had been tested, a large and wealthy gold field was at our command. Unhappily, things have turned out badly, and there is no doubt that the samples taken were "salted" with particles of gold put in, thereby giving tests of high values. The first samples of stuff tried were from the farm of J. B. Smith. Mr. Smith was a recent settler at Waitoa from the South island, and upon the faith of the assays made by Sir James Hector and Professor Hutton of Christchurch and trials made by Mackay's pans by George Fraser & Son, a company was floated in Christchurch. One thousand acres were purchased from Mr. Smith at the rate of £14 per acre. The shares were owned entirely by residents there. Two shillings per share was paid on the 30,000 shares issued, but so much confidence was felt in the good faith of all concerned that they were soon saleable at over £2.

In Auckland skepticism arose respecting the field. Years ago trials had been made of stuff from the valleys of Thames and Waikato, but although gold was always found, it was not in quantity to pay, and did not approach the values obtained from the stuff produced by Mr. Smith. A few Auckland gentlemen associated themselves together under the title of the Waitoa Prospecting Association, and determined to test the ground. Several of their number went up with boring rods to obtain fair samples of the wash dirt. Several samples were obtained, and the result was most curious. Very poor returns were obtained from all the places except once, which was very rich in gold. But the stuff from this one place was liable to the suspicion that it had been "salted."

When the gold particles were examined through the microscope it was found that they were filings off an English sovereign. That they were filings was unquestionable from their form, as no gold could possibly occur in nature of the same shape. That they were from an English sovereign was also clear, because they had precisely the same alloy of copper as an English sovereign. The Australian sovereigns are alloyed with silver. How the swindle has been perpetrated is as yet a mystery, but it is to be hoped that it will be discovered and the perpetrator severely punished.

LATE CANADIAN NEWS.

QUEBEC.

It is now pretty well decided that there will be no winter carnival at Montreal this year.

The petition to unseat Dr. Fiset, member of the Commons for Rimouski, has been dismissed.

P. Valtier's furniture factory, Quebec, with contents, was destroyed; loss between $75,000 and $100,000; no insurance.

The C. P. Ry., will build immense stables at Montreal to accomodate four hundred horses, owing to the large export of ranche horses shortly expected.

Geo. Olds was examined by the railroad commission at Montreal and denied that the Canadian Pacific had given differential rates to the Ogilvies or any others.

Dr. Devlin, son of the late Bernard Devlin, M.P., has been appointed successor of the late Dr. Howard as Government inspector of Longue Pointe asylum.

In the court of appeal Hon. Mr. Garneau, member of the Mercier Ministry, was mulcted in $350 for having slandered ex-Lieutenant-Governor Robitaille in the late local elections.

Melvin Smith, a well-known man about town, Montreal, was arrested on a *capias* issued at the instance of his wife, claiming $80,000 capital sum and $5,000 alimony awarded by the courts in their famous divorce case some years ago. He has not paid a cent and as she heard he was selling his property preparatory to going to the States she had him arrested.

An elopement case of a rather singular character has just been settled. H. G. Sim, aged 20, whose father keeps a hotel in Ottawa, passed through Montreal to take up his residence in New York, but his friends were very much surprised when he suddenly turned up at a Montreal hotel at the beginning of the week. It now turns out that the young man had won the affections of a Mrs. Barker, of New York, and she eloped with him, putting about $1,000 in his hands. But after obtaining possession of the money he left her. She immediately put the matter in the hands of a detective agency, with the result that he was found and a meeting arranged with the lady, when a settlement was arrived at. The youth then went home and the lady west.

MANITOBA.

W. R. Plummer was killed at Meadow Lea, by the accidental discharge of a gun.

Winnett's furniture store on Main street, Winnipeg, was destroyed by fire to the extent of $1,500.

Van Seadt, a forger, of Butte City, Montana, was arrested at Gretna. He will be extradited.

Rushbrook, a Moose Mountain settler, has not been heard from for some time and it is believed he has been lost on the prairie.

NOVA SCOTIA.

In Shelburne, Laurie (Tory) and Robertson (Liberal) and in Yarmouth, Crosbett (Tory) and Levitt (Liberal) have been nominated.

Clinton Crawford and Thomas Gutro were ordered at Halifax to come out of a slope where they were working, but refused, and a few minutes later were crushed to death by a great piece of frozen clay.

Miss Armstrong, of Inverness, went to a well a few days ago to lower some milk when she fell into the water and though she managed to drag herself out she was found dead shortly afterwards from exhaustion.

Application for an extension of time for commencing the