

WRANGLERS' HOPES.

Two Canadian Railroads to Be Built and a Fleet of River Steamers.

The Great Preparations to Utilize the Stikine Route to the Gold Regions.

Much attention will, during the next few months, be centered upon Wrangel, where there is likely to be built up immediately a thriving and populated town.

Wrangel is the entrepot for the Stikine river, and the Stikine will be a scene of very great activity during the present summer.

Two of these are the Cassiar Central Railway Company, the promoters of which are men who have made their fortunes in the South African gold fields.

They are chartered by the government of British Columbia for the purpose of constructing from Glenora to a distance of 25th, and will return to give one of her attractive entertainments about April 19.

Miss JESSIE ALEXANDER, the talented Canadian elocutionist, is in Vancouver on route to San Francisco for the sale of Victoria on the 25th, and will return to give one of her attractive entertainments about April 19.

THE STEAMSHIP CENTENNIAL, advertised to sail to-night, will not leave Victoria till to-morrow evening, the delay being due to a number of the passengers not being ready to leave this evening.

THE ANNUAL PLATFORM MISSIONARY MEETING in connection with the Centennial Methodist church will be held this evening. The chair will be taken by Mr. D. Spencer, and addresses by Rev. A. B. Winchester, J. F. Betts and J. Bowell.

SHIPPERS' STATISTICS.

A Summary of the British and Foreign Shipping for the Year 1897.

Increase in the Tonnage Sold to Foreigners—Italy the Heaviest Purchaser.

Statistical tables of British and foreign shipping for 1897 compiled by Lloyd's register contain some interesting information as to shippers of which the following is a summary:

The total addition of steam tonnage to the register of the United Kingdom during 1897 was 736,274 tons gross. About 90 per cent. of this addition consisted of new vessels, not one of which was built abroad.

The tonnage sold to foreigners during 1897 reached the large total of 387,794 tons, exceeding the figures for 1896 and 1895. The steam tonnage which was deducted on this account amounted to no less than 236,743 tons.

Queen Margherita, of Italy, has made herself responsible for the execution of a plan to build an observatory at Mount Rosa, at a height of 5,400 feet. The new observatory will be higher than that on the summit of Mount Blanc, and the highest in Europe.

Two WINDY DAY FIRES. Mrs. Marsden's Experience Duplicated in Spencer's Millinery Department—Carey Castle Threatened.

Mrs. Marsden's narrow escape from injury by fire was in a manner duplicated yesterday afternoon, when the almost parallel case was reported from the millinery department of Spencer's Arcade.

Mr. Fraser Preferred to British Columbia Lawyers Simply Because He is a Stairwell Liberal.

WILL INTERVIEW THE GOVERNMENT. A Rossland Solid Citizen Visits Victoria—The Scope and Object of His Mission.

PRIVATE BILLS DAY.

Legislation Spends Most of the Sitting Advancing Bills Through the Committee Stage.

Farmers' Institute Amendment and Alice Arm Railway Read a Third Time and Passed.

Yesterday was devoted chiefly to private bills in the legislature and some progress was made in committee on several of these. The Farmers' Institute bill and the Alice Arm Railway bill were read a third time and passed.

THE LAWYERS' FEES. How the Liberal Government Revels in This "Corrupt and Indefensible" Expenditure.

THE YATES-STREET CITY PROPERTY. To the Editor:—I understand that the city council has decided to sell at about \$8,250 the Yates street property now in use by the fire department.

DISAPPOINTED ROBBERS. Boldly Attempt to Possess Themselves of Cash at Dowell, Carrill & Co.'s Office.

ADVERTISING IN VICTORIA. To the Editor:—In reference to your leading article in this morning's Colonist as to advertising Victoria, permit me to quote an extract from a letter which I received yesterday from an old established firm of solicitors in England.

Without a Peer—Works Miracles. Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart is without a peer. This great remedy relieves instantly the most aggravated and distressing forms of heart disease.

THE BEST SEEDS GROWN IN AFRICA. The best seeds known are the seeds sown in Africa.

Rigby waterproof peajackets, pants and smox. Very heavy. B. Williams & Co.

VICTORIA KNOWS HOW.

And Hence It Is That Intelligent Klondikers Come Here to Outfit.

Champion McCulloch to Abandon Speed Skating and Dig for Yellow Metal.

Fifty gold hunters from around Montreal, who have all outfitted in the city, are booked to sail on the Ningebow for the North to-morrow night.

Another party of twenty-five is expected to reach here about April 1. Other members of the party which arrived yesterday are: D. Roberts, L. Longlin, N. Pigeon, F. Monnet, M. Monnet, P. A. Conchard, K. Leprance, H. Longlin, St. Philippe, Victor Eyber, and Donance.

Among the Manitoban Klondikers expected to arrive here on their way North during the next fortnight is J. K. McCulloch, the famous Canadian speed skater of the world.

Mr. Isaac Ogden of Lac La Hache is a guest at the Oriental. He is en route to Eastern Oregon to make a coal and iron purchase about two hundred miles to be used for packing purposes in the North.

DISAPPOINTED ROBBERS. Boldly Attempt to Possess Themselves of Cash at Dowell, Carrill & Co.'s Office.

ADVERTISING IN VICTORIA. To the Editor:—In reference to your leading article in this morning's Colonist as to advertising Victoria, permit me to quote an extract from a letter which I received yesterday from an old established firm of solicitors in England.

Without a Peer—Works Miracles. Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart is without a peer. This great remedy relieves instantly the most aggravated and distressing forms of heart disease.

THE BEST SEEDS GROWN IN AFRICA. The best seeds known are the seeds sown in Africa.

TALK AGAIN.

Opposition Try to Solution Again Charter.

They Are Foiled Question Being Night 8.

The house yesterday unexpected night session by Mr. Helmecken to grant a charter to Mr. Corbett's opposition wanted until they got word of a result when six o'clock efforts to get an adjourned down by the majority session result time after six o'clock could leave the chair.

REPAYMENT. Mr. Higgins moved correspondence respecting cattle guards on the Island.

Another party of twenty-five is expected to reach here about April 1. Other members of the party which arrived yesterday are: D. Roberts, L. Longlin, N. Pigeon, F. Monnet, M. Monnet, P. A. Conchard, K. Leprance, H. Longlin, St. Philippe, Victor Eyber, and Donance.

Among the Manitoban Klondikers expected to arrive here on their way North during the next fortnight is J. K. McCulloch, the famous Canadian speed skater of the world.

Mr. Isaac Ogden of Lac La Hache is a guest at the Oriental. He is en route to Eastern Oregon to make a coal and iron purchase about two hundred miles to be used for packing purposes in the North.

DISAPPOINTED ROBBERS. Boldly Attempt to Possess Themselves of Cash at Dowell, Carrill & Co.'s Office.

ADVERTISING IN VICTORIA. To the Editor:—In reference to your leading article in this morning's Colonist as to advertising Victoria, permit me to quote an extract from a letter which I received yesterday from an old established firm of solicitors in England.

Without a Peer—Works Miracles. Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart is without a peer. This great remedy relieves instantly the most aggravated and distressing forms of heart disease.

VICTORIA KNOWS HOW.

And Hence It Is That Intelligent Klondikers Come Here to Outfit.

Champion McCulloch to Abandon Speed Skating and Dig for Yellow Metal.

Fifty gold hunters from around Montreal, who have all outfitted in the city, are booked to sail on the Ningebow for the North to-morrow night.

Another party of twenty-five is expected to reach here about April 1. Other members of the party which arrived yesterday are: D. Roberts, L. Longlin, N. Pigeon, F. Monnet, M. Monnet, P. A. Conchard, K. Leprance, H. Longlin, St. Philippe, Victor Eyber, and Donance.

Among the Manitoban Klondikers expected to arrive here on their way North during the next fortnight is J. K. McCulloch, the famous Canadian speed skater of the world.

Mr. Isaac Ogden of Lac La Hache is a guest at the Oriental. He is en route to Eastern Oregon to make a coal and iron purchase about two hundred miles to be used for packing purposes in the North.

DISAPPOINTED ROBBERS. Boldly Attempt to Possess Themselves of Cash at Dowell, Carrill & Co.'s Office.

ADVERTISING IN VICTORIA. To the Editor:—In reference to your leading article in this morning's Colonist as to advertising Victoria, permit me to quote an extract from a letter which I received yesterday from an old established firm of solicitors in England.

Without a Peer—Works Miracles. Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart is without a peer. This great remedy relieves instantly the most aggravated and distressing forms of heart disease.

THE BEST SEEDS GROWN IN AFRICA. The best seeds known are the seeds sown in Africa.

TALK AGAIN.

Opposition Try to Solution Again Charter.

They Are Foiled Question Being Night 8.

The house yesterday unexpected night session by Mr. Helmecken to grant a charter to Mr. Corbett's opposition wanted until they got word of a result when six o'clock efforts to get an adjourned down by the majority session result time after six o'clock could leave the chair.

REPAYMENT. Mr. Higgins moved correspondence respecting cattle guards on the Island.

Another party of twenty-five is expected to reach here about April 1. Other members of the party which arrived yesterday are: D. Roberts, L. Longlin, N. Pigeon, F. Monnet, M. Monnet, P. A. Conchard, K. Leprance, H. Longlin, St. Philippe, Victor Eyber, and Donance.

Among the Manitoban Klondikers expected to arrive here on their way North during the next fortnight is J. K. McCulloch, the famous Canadian speed skater of the world.

Mr. Isaac Ogden of Lac La Hache is a guest at the Oriental. He is en route to Eastern Oregon to make a coal and iron purchase about two hundred miles to be used for packing purposes in the North.

DISAPPOINTED ROBBERS. Boldly Attempt to Possess Themselves of Cash at Dowell, Carrill & Co.'s Office.

ADVERTISING IN VICTORIA. To the Editor:—In reference to your leading article in this morning's Colonist as to advertising Victoria, permit me to quote an extract from a letter which I received yesterday from an old established firm of solicitors in England.

Without a Peer—Works Miracles. Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart is without a peer. This great remedy relieves instantly the most aggravated and distressing forms of heart disease.

TALK AGAIN.

Opposition Try to Solution Again Charter.

They Are Foiled Question Being Night 8.

The house yesterday unexpected night session by Mr. Helmecken to grant a charter to Mr. Corbett's opposition wanted until they got word of a result when six o'clock efforts to get an adjourned down by the majority session result time after six o'clock could leave the chair.

REPAYMENT. Mr. Higgins moved correspondence respecting cattle guards on the Island.

Another party of twenty-five is expected to reach here about April 1. Other members of the party which arrived yesterday are: D. Roberts, L. Longlin, N. Pigeon, F. Monnet, M. Monnet, P. A. Conchard, K. Leprance, H. Longlin, St. Philippe, Victor Eyber, and Donance.

Among the Manitoban Klondikers expected to arrive here on their way North during the next fortnight is J. K. McCulloch, the famous Canadian speed skater of the world.

Mr. Isaac Ogden of Lac La Hache is a guest at the Oriental. He is en route to Eastern Oregon to make a coal and iron purchase about two hundred miles to be used for packing purposes in the North.

DISAPPOINTED ROBBERS. Boldly Attempt to Possess Themselves of Cash at Dowell, Carrill & Co.'s Office.

ADVERTISING IN VICTORIA. To the Editor:—In reference to your leading article in this morning's Colonist as to advertising Victoria, permit me to quote an extract from a letter which I received yesterday from an old established firm of solicitors in England.

Without a Peer—Works Miracles. Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart is without a peer. This great remedy relieves instantly the most aggravated and distressing forms of heart disease.

The Colonist.

THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 1898.

ADVERTISING VICTORIA.

We have before us some letters received by the Secretary of the British Columbia Board of Trade, showing that the work done by the advertising committee in making Victoria known abroad is having its effect in widely separated parts of the globe. One of these letters is from Australia, one is from India and two are from England. They all came by yesterday's mail. The writer of the letter from England is Mr. W. H. Sandon Perkins, formerly of Nanaimo, and now engaged in lecturing in Great Britain in the interest of Victoria. He writes from Ilkesham, Derbyshire, under date of March 3. He acknowledges the receipt of 5,000 folders, and previous to getting them he says he sent out 1,400 which he got from Mr. Vernon, the British Columbia agent-general. He finds all the shipping offices except those of the Canadian Pacific desirous of obtaining literature regarding Victoria for general circulation, and the only objection made by the C. P. R. was because it did not seem right for that company to advertise Victoria as against Vancouver. Mr. Perkins says: "I find that all the big shipping agencies and such concerns as 'Cooks' are well supplied and I must bear evidence to the good work which has been done by Mr. Vernon in this respect. He and his secretary have been untiring in their efforts to spread Klondike information in all directions." He distributed some copies among passengers going to Southampton to take the C. P. R. steamers Tartan and Athenian for this province; but said that most of them had already seen them. Mr. Perkins is also sending articles to the newspapers. Among other services he has rendered was in contradicting Mr. DeWindt's statement that Juneau was the proper place to outfit. Mr. DeWindt made public acknowledgement of his error and in his next lecture gave Victoria a highly favorable notice. He says that a great deal of interest is taken in England in the Klondike and if the gold output in the spring reaches two or three million pounds a very great many people will come out.

Allan Brothers & Co. write from Liverpool to say that they have received 4,000 copies of the Board of Trade folder from the Agent-General and express their desire to receive as much matter of the kind as possible, which they promise to distribute as wisely as possible.

Mr. Larke, who represents the Dominion at Sydney, N. S. W., says that Canada is becoming well known in Australia and largely through literature sent out by the advertising committee. He mentions the interesting fact that several steamers, advertised to sail for St. Michael's, have now arranged to come to Victoria and Vancouver, and to wait here until their passengers outfit. Mr. Larke does not anticipate that more than a thousand people will come from Australia owing to the cost, which he wisely puts at \$1,000 per man, including his passage and the expense of his outfit.

The Indian letter is from Rev. J. Wilkie, who says that there are quite a number of people in and around Lahore who contemplate going to the Yukon; but the chief interest attaching to his letter is because "Many officers about to retire wish a place to live in where the climate is not so severe, and where on a retiring allowance of \$350 a year they could live in comparative comfort and also be able to make something by investing." Mr. Wilkie thinks "Victoria would be an excellent retreat for such," and having sent a copy of the report of the Board of Trade he asks for a supply for distribution.

We think these facts show that the advertising committee has already done very satisfactory work in bringing the city under the notice of the world and that further efforts in the same direction ought to be made. This will call, of course, for the continuation of the generous subscriptions already made.

THE HISPANO-AMERICAN SITUATION.

Although there has been something of a lull in war-talk in the newspapers, we do not think the outlook more favorable for peace than it has been at any time since the destruction of the Maine. The feverish haste with which both the United States and Spain are getting ready for war, shows that the governments of both countries, while professing themselves hopeful of peace, regard war as an almost necessary outcome of the situation. The opinion is now universal that the United States court of inquiry will report that the destruction of the ship was due to external causes. We incline to think this opinion well-founded, because, if it were not, it is reasonable to suppose that there would have been at least a semi-official announcement made that such a conclusion on the part of the public is premature. A certain degree of secrecy must surround investigations of this character; but in view of the fact that public opinion is being worked up to a fever heat all over the United States by the almost universal belief that the Maine was destroyed by a Spanish mine, it is inconceivable that the government, if it has the least reason to suppose the report to be of the opposite nature, would not have taken some means to secure a suspension of judgment on the part of the people.

So far from this being the case, we find a paper like the New York Herald asserting that the President has positive knowledge that the report will attribute the explosion to external causes. It is obvious that the President will be informed of the conclusion reached, before it is made public, in order that he may have time to formulate his line of action. He has acted with a very great deal of good judgment in this critical time, and has shown a desire to preserve peace if he can do so without sacrificing the national honor. This affords additional reason for anxiety because of the silence of the Washington authorities as to the possible nature of the report.

On the other hand, it is quite certain that the Spanish court of inquiry will make a report that the explosion was due to internal causes, and if so it will be impossible for Spain to agree to any indemnity. Nor is it very easy to see how the Madrid government could agree to submit such a question to arbitration, even if the United States should be willing to do so. The question is one for experts, and the evidence to be submitted to a board of arbitrators would only be such as has already been submitted to the courts of inquiry, for it would hardly be possible now to secure any new testimony.

We regard the situation as extremely critical. Our fear is that, if the United States court of inquiry reports as it is expected to do, the tide of war feeling that will sweep over the country will inflame congress and precipitate action before diplomacy has a chance to do the least work for peace. In view, also, of the fact that the United States is likely to intervene in Cuba under any circumstances, it is probable that Spain will not wait very much longer in precipitating a crisis, which at best can be postponed only for a very short time.

It is impossible not to feel sympathy with the desire of the people in the Boundary Creek country to obtain railway connection at the earliest possible date; nor is it at all a matter of surprise that, disappointed in receiving it from a Canadian source, they have turned to an American road for assistance. At the same time it will not be good policy, we think, to permit Mr. Corbin's company to enter the province there, at least until after the plans, now well advanced, for securing connection with the Canadian Pacific and the Coast have been carried into effect. If after that Mr. Corbin desires to come in with a competing road, we do not know that there would be any serious objection. But he may not want to do so then; in which event the trade of the country will be likely to remain in the hands of Canadians instead of being drawn away to the cities of the United States, as it certainly will be if he builds his road before the Canadian Pacific gets into the district or the V. V. & E. road is constructed. In saying this, we do not wish to be understood as joining in the cry which unreasonable people have raised against Mr. Corbin and his railway enterprises. With commendable enterprise and wise foresight, he built into the Southern part of Kootenay, at a time when it was not possible to interest Canadian capital in such work. A very large part of the development of that section of the province is due to his energetic action. Our position is that as there are rival enterprises aiming to get the business of the Boundary Creek district, preference should be given to the Canadian projects. It is time enough to let foreigners come in and do our transportation for us when we cannot do it for ourselves.

The great discovery of gold reported from Salmon River will give a tremendous impetus to prospecting in the region between the Pelly and the Stikine. Salmon river enters the Yukon between the Hootalinqua and the Pelly. It will be noticed that as yet no extensive discoveries of gold have been made between the Yukon and the 141st meridian, which is the boundary of Alaska, the auriferous gravels so far found being east of the Yukon, and in such a position as to point to their continuance all the way from Klondike to Omineca. Undoubtedly this will be found to be the case, and we may expect thousands of prospectors to find their way up the Stikine this year, and into the great region drained by that river, the Hootalinqua, the Big and Little Salmon, and the tributaries of the Liard and the Pelly. One advantage of discoveries here will be that they can be worked all the year round.

A skeleton of a man, and close to its bony fingers a nugget of the gold he had died to win; the skeleton of his faithful dog beside him; gold scattered around him. Such is the weird story that comes from the North. No artist ever conceived of a more appalling picture of a quest for gold and its tragic ending. What a story the fleshless lips could tell if they could speak! A long and tedious search for the yellow metal; many disappointments; triumph, exultation; the homeward journey begun, the suffering by the way, exhaustion, and then death. Had he companions, and if so where are they? Did thoughts of home and children sustain him in his last struggle for life? These and countless other questions we may ask in vain; for the grinning skeleton on the Arctic desert tells only one thing that men will care to learn—namely, that somewhere beyond the desert there is gold.

THE YATES STREET CITY PROPERTY.

Hon. Robert Beaven, in a letter which we print to-day directs attention to the proposed sale of the Yates street city property and questions the authority of the council to dispose of it at present. The law of the case seems to be that no real property belonging to the city can be sold except after a by-law passed by the council and approved by the electors and been there may be no question as to the validity of the transaction. We doubt the validity of a sale made under a by-law passed in general terms in 1890 and another was passed in 1891, so Mr. Beaven says. He further says that the council proposes to act under authority of the 1891 by-law and expresses doubt as to the legality of such a course.

We think that Mr. Beaven's point is well taken, and refer to the subject now not for the purpose of defeating the proposed sale, but in order that there may be no question as to the validity of the transaction. We doubt the validity of a sale made under a by-law passed in general terms. We think that the intention of the legislature was to provide that before any real property belonging to the city is sold, the whole transaction shall be submitted to the electors for their approval. That is to say, it is not a mere naked authority to sell which the electors give, but a specific authority to sell a certain piece of property for a certain sum of money. It might very well be that, while the electors are unwilling to sell a certain piece of land for what it would bring, they might be quite willing to part with it for a price named.

On the general proposition that the city council in 1898 ought not to act upon a by-law of this nature passed seven years ago, there can hardly be any doubt. We incline to the view that the law ought to be interpreted as though it read as follows: When the city council thinks it advisable that any real estate belonging to the city shall be sold, and an offer has been made for it, the electors shall give their assent to a sale upon such terms. If this is the correct view it would follow that a by-law having been passed and no sale having been made under it, the by-law, which is nothing more than the assent of the electors to a particular bargain, would lapse. We understand the matter to consist of three parts: first the resolution of the Council that the property ought to be sold on certain terms, second the ratification of that resolution by the electors, third the sale. We think also that the Council of 1898 cannot resolve upon a sale and go back to a by-law passed seven years ago for authority.

We submit these views, with Mr. Beaven's letter, for the consideration of the Council, and as we have already said, without the least desire to embarrass that body, but solely in order that the transaction if carried through, may be legal.

WHY IS IT HOSTILE?

The hostility of the Victoria Times to the Stikine route is past comprehension. There is absolutely no justification for it. It is incoherent. It is based upon statements which are either ignorantly or maliciously false. It is not now worth while discussing the rate of progress being made by the fifteen hundred people or so who are now on the ice of the Stikine. Latest reports represent them as making fair speed, and it is a matter of course that they will get to the mouth of the Mackenzie and Mann's party have reached Glenora. Just what this means we do not know; but it is certain that the representatives of that company in Vancouver received word to that effect on Monday. Our own view is that it means an advance part of the expedition, but until further advice are at hand no one can undertake to say whether the teams now on the river will get through. Owing to the lateness of the season is not worth while to discuss this question now, for very few people, if any, will now be likely to start to go up on the Stikine ice unless word comes down within a few days that the road is in a satisfactory condition. The matter of summer travel is another question, and it is upon this point that the misrepresentations of the Times are likely to be mischievous. Its observations upon this point will be quoted by every enemy of British Columbia. Possibly it is the desire of such infamous notoriety that furnishes the explanation of its otherwise inexplicable course. The Times quotes an anonymous correspondent as saying that "the steamers at present available and under construction will not be adequate to handling the accumulation of passengers and material at present collecting at the mouth" of the Stikine. If there were a shadow of ground for this statement the Times would have some excuse for making it; but there is no ground for making it. There will be at least twenty and perhaps twenty-four steamers on the Stikine river this season. These can make seven trips each a month to Glenora and their average carrying capacity will be at least 100 tons of freight. This provides for the carriage every month of upwards of fourteen thousand tons of freight and fully fourteen thousand passengers, if the steamers are crowded all the time to their fullest capacity. To pretend that there are at present at Wrangell sufficient passengers and freight to keep this fleet busy for a single week, is to display an absolute ignorance of the facts or a complete disregard of them. It is quite likely that by the time the river opens there will be collected at Wrangell a large number of people and a great deal of material. It is probable also that the demand for transportation will be more than can be met at the outset; but unless the rush is greater than any one anticipates, the congestion will soon be relieved, and although the steamboat owners expect a busy season, none of them im-

agine that they will be unable to meet the requirements of the public.

In respect to the navigability of the Stikine itself, it is too bad that, after the libels on the subject circulated in the United States had been answered, a Victoria paper, a paper published in the city that hopes to profit so much from the falsehood on its travels. All those persons who know anything about the Stikine say it is navigable from May until some time in November. It has been so navigated every year since the Cassiar excitement. There was a meeting of the Board of Trade a few weeks ago at which the whole subject was discussed. Every man who has navigated the Stikine has given it as his opinion that it is a perfectly feasible route. The alleged correspondent of the Times speaks of the rush of drift wood through the Big Canyon, which he says may impede travel for the week. The only canyon through which steamers have to pass is three-quarters of a mile long and a straight run. Whether drift wood will impede boats there at any time during high water one can tell in advance. Drift wood sometimes troubles steamers on other rivers, and it may do so on the Stikine; but the man who ventures to say that the navigation of that river will be interrupted for three weeks this year by drift wood does well to keep his identity concealed and permit an irresponsible newspaper to bear the disrepute attaching to so wild a proposition. Capt. Hickey, with whom a Colonist reporter had an interview, published this morning shows how small an obstacle drift wood is likely to be.

We again express our inability to understand the attitude which the Times has seen fit to take. Senator Templeman, who is nominally responsible for its utterances, is at Ottawa, and in his absence it is most unfortunate that there is no one having the welfare of Victoria at heart who is in a position to keep the paper from playing into the hands of the enemies of the city. The strange tactics of the Times began, when for some purpose best known to itself, it chose to make a personal attack upon the editor of the Colonist in connection with the Stikine river route. To this the Colonist paid no attention, but the Vancouver World did, and this set the Times in a rage. On top of this came news that the winter travel was better than it had asserted. There was nothing surprising in the fact that it made a mistake, but there is a class of individuals who fancy themselves infallible, and when found in error they vilify every one and everything in connection with the subject matter. This has led the Times to join hands with the alien enemies of Victoria in representing to the world that the Stikine is not an available summer route to the Yukon. We do not know how to characterize such conduct. It is certainly very base.

THE JAMES BAY BRIDGE.

The attention of the Colonist has been drawn to the by-law which prevents the tramway company from using its large cars on any street in Victoria. The reason, presumably being that the bridges to be crossed on the other lines are not strong enough for the heavier cars and their complement of passengers. If this reason is good, we suggest that the margin of safety on the bridges is altogether too narrow. The lack of large cars is especially noticeable on the outer wharf line, owing to the great amount of traffic caused by the Klondyke trade.

We also suggest that the time has come when the question of providing a permanent roadway across James Bay cannot be longer postponed without detriment to the interests of the city. Any one who has occasion to use the bridge must be impressed with the rapidity with which traffic over it is increasing. It is thronged nearly always, and there are certain hours of the day when the tide of travel is such as to compel pedestrians to use the carriage way. What is needed is a substantial stone causeway, with a wide carriage way and a broad space on each side for foot passengers. Douglas street ought to be extended across at least to Bell street, and we think to Michigan; but if the latter seems beyond the ability of the city just now, the replacing of the present James Bay bridge by a stone structure that would keep the tide out of the upper part of the bay ought to be undertaken at the earliest possible moment.

The statement of the Inland Sentinel, to which Hon. G. B. Martin drew attention in the house yesterday, was very careless. The Sentinel said that the Royal Inland Hospital is maintained entirely by public contributions. It will hardly be said that a grant by the legislature of \$3,000 annually can be called a public contribution in this connection.

The Columbian takes exception to Mr. Speaker's ruling on Mr. Sword's motion regarding the repayment of certain advances by the Dominion to the Province. We think that the proper test on a matter of this kind is to ask whether a bill to give effect to the proposition laid down in the resolution could be introduced without a message from the Lieutenant-Governor. A little consideration will show the Columbian that it could not be, and as the only object of Mr. Sword's resolution could be to lay the foundation for such a bill, it was clearly out of order. We are not disposed to argue for a rigid rule in regard to the introduction of public measures by private members, but there are some rules, which are fundamental and cannot be departed from without effecting the principle of responsible government. One of these is that all measures or resolutions dealing with financial affairs must be introduced by the government.

An Ottawa dispatch says that Mr. E. J. Livernash is at the capital and has protested against the Stikine-Teslin railway charter on the ground that the American railway companies are quite sufficient for the traffic and that he ob-

jects to the land grant. This is a piece of impertinence on the part of Mr. Livernash. How long would United States senators listen to a man from Canada, who sought to defeat a measure before Congress on the ground that Canadian transportation companies were sufficient for the business of a part of Alaska? If this was not the freest country in the world Mr. Livernash would have been told to get about his business. It is bad enough to allow Americans to take up what mining claims they want in the Yukon without permitting them to dictate the policy of the country.

A question agitating some of our eastern contemporaries is as to when a letter ceases to be the property of the writer and becomes the property of the person to whom it is addressed. As we have always understood the law, a letter ceases to be the property of the sender when it is posted. A contrary rule has been acted on in the United States, but we think British precedents are the other way. There are manifest reasons why a person should not be allowed to claim a letter after it has been posted.

The New York Journal is authority for the statement that a flaming sword appeared in the sky over New York a week or so ago. This is an old tale told. A similar object was said to have been visible in the heavens just before the Indian Mutiny, and there are many other stories to a similar effect. The flaming sword is said to be a sure precursor of war and is one of the most cherished of ancient superstitions.

Speaking of the Alaska boundary the New York Commercial-Advertiser says that Canada is "a persistent mischief-maker" and that Great Britain shows a disposition to ignore her wishes. We suppose that the New York paper would call a man a mischief-maker if he declined to let his neighbor pick his pockets.

We remind the World that the provision in regard to the selection of judges from the bars of the several provinces is not an "alleged regulation," but a part of the British North America Act.

The Montreal Witness reminds the people of Canada that great as are its gold fields its agricultural resources are greater and more enduring. We showed the other day that the hens of Canada yielded annually a great deal more money than the gold mines had yet done in any year, or any two or three years for that matter.

In view of the explanation made by the Colonist and the positive declaration of Hon. Mr. Turner on the floor of the house, the News-Advertiser was positively indecent in making the allegations to which the Premier referred yesterday on a question of privilege. This recalls an observation of the News-Advertiser which we had forgotten—namely, that the Colonist said Mr. Turner had furnished it with the speech in question. The Colonist never said anything of the kind, nor anything that could be by any perversion of language be made to mean that Mr. Turner had done so. As a matter of fact Mr. Turner has never furnished the Colonist even with notes of speeches delivered by him in the legislature, except on the occasion of his budget speeches, when he gives the press the advantage of using the notes which he prepares for his guidance.

DAVID HOPKINS tells this about the Edmonton route to the Yukon:

"We are now camped on the Little Slave lake, 40 miles from the post and 400 miles from Edmonton. Words would fail to convey the state of the road. The hills are such as I have never experienced. It took us four days to travel 14 miles so you may judge of their roughness. In that distance we passed 30 dead horses and lost 21 of our own. I do not know of any enemies I have in Ottawa, but if there are any who are going to the Klondike, I would advise them to come this way. We are now over the worst of our difficulties between this point and the Peace river crossing. We arrived here with 100 horses out of 142. Have sold all our horses, sleighs and harness, and will get our freight hauled to Peace river, which we will go down to the Slave river, across Great Slave lake, and down the Mackenzie and up the Peel. All the other parties who came this way have got to the same, as it is impossible to get through to the Liard or Nelson."

BY WAY OF VARIETY.

The Publisher—We can publish your book of epigrams if you will guarantee us the cost of printing and binding.

"The Post"—I do not. I never could enjoy witticisms at my own expense.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

"Here, hold on there boys! What are you chasing that child for?"

"He's a Spanish sympathizer, that's why."

"Spanish sympathizer? What do you mean by that?"

"His ma washes him with castile soap—come on, kids!"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"Et de average voting man," said Uncle Eben, "ud be willin' ter go froo as much hardship ter git useful knowledge as he did leavin' ter smoke his fist cigar, dar would'n be nigh ez many regrets in dis here life!"—Washington Star.

"Poor Cuba," sighed Mrs. Callahan, "its sad fate is strikingly similar to the fate of many poor women—starved and downtrodden by their lordly husbands."

"I don't see why you should have any complaint to make," replied Callahan, "for I recognize you as a different twenty years ago."—Atlanta Journal.

Mannikin Meek—"My dear, you forgot to mend that rip in my coat this afternoon."

"Mrs. Meek—"No, John. I didn't forget, but my whole afternoon was taken up at the Lenten sewing circle."—Philadelphia North American.

"So, Silas, you were right in the middle of the cyclone. Were you not struck by the gravity of the situation?"

"Spec' I wuz, Miss Mollie, fur suthin' 'bout the size of a washtub knocked me klean eroud de boss lot."—Atlanta Journal.

If you once try Carter's Little Liver Pills for sick headache, biliousness or constipation you will never be without them. They are purely vegetable, small and easy to take. Don't forget this.

900 DROPS CASTORIA. A Vegetable Preparation for Assimilating the Food and Regulating the Stomachs and Bowels of INFANTS & CHILDREN. Promotes Digestion, Cheerfulness and Rest. Contains neither Opium, Morphine nor Mineral. NOT NARCOTIC. A Perfect Remedy for Constipation, Sour Stomach, Diarrhoea, Worms, Convulsions, Feverishness and Loss of Sleep. EXACT COPY OF WRAPPER.

SEE THAT THE FAC-SIMILE SIGNATURE OF EVERY BOTTLE OF CASTORIA IS ON THE WRAPPER. Castoria is put up in one-ounce bottles only. It is not sold in bulk. Don't allow anyone to sell you anything else on the plea or promise that it is "just as good" and "will answer every purpose." See that you get C-A-S-T-O-R-I-A.

Klondyke Outfits. PRICE LISTS NOW READY. B. WILLIAMS & CO., VICTORIA, B.C. CLOTHIERS and HATTERS, 97 and 99 Johnson Street.

A Peaceful Mind! A HEALTHY BODY! Good Digestion! Refreshing Sleep! Full of Ambition! DR. SANDEN'S ELECTRIC BELT. Restores nerve force and checks all waste of strength in 30 days. Its electric current gives life to weak nerves. Read the book, "Three Classes of Men," sent sealed, with mautrux, free on application. DR. A. T. SANDEN, 156 St. James Street, MONTREAL, Quebec.

DR. SANDEN'S ELECTRIC BELT. Restores nerve force and checks all waste of strength in 30 days. Its electric current gives life to weak nerves. Read the book, "Three Classes of Men," sent sealed, with mautrux, free on application.

KING PINS ON OUTFITS. KLONDIKE CLOTHING KLONDIKE BOOTS and SHOES. We have outfitted more men the Klondike than any other retail store in town. THE Leading House in this line in VICTORIA. Gilmore & McCandless, JOHNSON STREET.

EXAMINE.... Our stock of delicacies. You will be convinced that what we tell you is true. We are bottom in price and top in quality. Our Blend tea for 20 cents has no equal. Fresh Island Eggs, 2 Doz. 35c. Condensed Milk, 2 Tins for 15c. Deviled Crab. 25c. Marmalade, 7 Pound Tin. 1.00. Mail orders given special attention.

DIXIE H. ROSS & CO.

VAN HORNE'S. The C. P. R. Press the Globe on Rival Appl.

Would Be Against Traffic as E.

Government Contr. Guarantee Agaid by Mon.

MONTREAL, March 17.—William Van Horne has been Globe defending the Canadian Pacific in court. Corbin's Kettle River. Sir William writes urged before the committee, and adds: "The titution" has charms and terrors for the untold ride all arguments, be point out that when it sary to build the railway the governm covered that there was way to make the interest permanently secure in istic, and that was to and worked by the C. Company. It followed the territory beyond the Crow's Nest railway m developed by lines of the Company, and to gen effects usually attribut the government took gre vide for absolute cont not only on the Crow but on all lines of trolled now or in by the Canadian Paci British Columbia south and not only in local rate rates between Eastern C district; and they even provided for the right to powers to other railwa interests so well secured tion of competition or m have little weight in the Corbin's charter. Wisely or not, the C.P. for the purpose of devel West of Canada, and r trade beyond in the inter try at large. Enormous and private money have and it has become commercial arm of t It cannot efficiently a pose for which it was strength is sapped co private ends. To be kept strong. Every line enter Canadian territory is a weapon in the hands of the Canadian Pacific, at this time an illustration of them.

FIGHTING IN E. Anglo-Egyptian Forces. Ho Attack—Derives Klondike Salutes.

ALBAMA Camp, Nubia, M. Anglo-Egyptian force is ing an attack.

During a false alarm at the last evening a shot was fired unknown quarter and the brigade stood to arms with etc. In the pitch dark lander rushing to his place on a comrade's bayonet. The army marched to-d Bashudi, and is now away ports of the patrols who the dervish army.

All Digna, brother of has been attacked by the pe but the friendly natives h succeeded in defeating him one in all.

BUSINESS is once more on basis with the direct Baptist church, arranged this end having been per annual meeting of the ch. cluded. The church has special appeal for funds, a collection of \$145.35 was the three seasons of we day. The treasurer's rep receipts of the past year t \$1,172, and the expenditu to \$1,162, there being a ba \$500 at once. A. J. Pine Spofford were appointed McGregor and G. No McGrears; and W. Noot, deacons.

A PRELIMINARY meeting terday afternoon to make for a course of cooking lectures to be given in th The lecturer, Miss Living most successful in many East, and in Winnipeg lectures were attended by number of people. Ther courses—invald cooking, ordinary cooking, twelve high class cooking, twelve ter. It will be low. A year has been appointed by the of Women, who will short to issue full particulars. While Mrs. Higgins, conv A. D. Cameron, secretary, to give any information.

A SIMPLE CATAP. I have spent nearly fifty y ment of Catarrh and have e that any specialist in the h As I must soon retire fro this time on, send the mea I have used in my practice, I to every reader of this paper, this loathsome, dangerous a case. This is a dangero free to accept. Address PRO J. A. Lawrence, 114 West 32

FREE. Let us send you a Free igit to the spot and quickly tuation. Headache, Dizziness, Kidney Troubles, Liver CO., Form 30, New York.

The Colonist.

THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 1898.

Published Every Monday and Thursday

The Colonist Printing & Publishing Company, Limited, Proprietors.

W. H. ELLER, MANAGER.

TERMS:

Published for the Proprietors by the Colonist Printing & Publishing Company, Limited, Proprietors.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Special Commercial Advertisements, as distinguished from ordinary advertising, are charged at a special rate.

VANCOUVER.

Branch Office of The Colonist, 622 Hastings Street, A. GOODMAN, Agent.

MR. MACPHERSON'S BILL.

We direct attention again to the amendment to the "Master and Servant" act, introduced into the legislature by Mr. Macpherson, which passed its second reading a few days ago.

spect, we do not know why they could not, without violating any further the principles upon which the union is based, proceed to enact that contracts for the purchase of goods in other provinces, when similar goods can be obtained in the province, shall be void; nor can we see why cities might not discriminate against each other in the same way.

A WARLIKE OUTLOOK.

The prospects of war between the United States and Spain are growing more serious. Every day sees new statements made to the effect that the Maine was destroyed by external causes, and not a word is uttered by the administration to the contrary, although every one sees that the people are being carried along in a resistless current towards hostilities.

MORE OBSTRUCTION.

An afternoon and evening wasted by the opposition in obstruction of the rancid kind—this was yesterday's record in the legislature. This thing has got to such a stage that it is a scandal and a disgrace to the men who are responsible for it.

So far as we are able to judge the feeling in this city is that the United States cannot retreat from the position it has reached, partly through its own fault and partly through accident, without great loss or prestige, and that the only course left for President McKinley is to declare once and for all that the war in Cuba shall cease, quite irrespective of the responsibility for the Maine disaster.

There is not the shadow of a doubt that, if Great Britain were in the place of the United States, Spain would have been brought to her senses long ago. The weak point of the policy of the Washington government has consisted in the fact that it has delayed too long what every one has for some time seen was inevitable.

TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING.

A few days ago the Premier moved, seconded by the leader of the opposition, and the house adopted a resolution asking the Dominion Parliament to impose a duty on lumber and shingles in order to offset the duty on Canadian lumber and shingles imported into the United States.

The Kootenay Mail seems to be in a chronic "state of mind" over the parliament building. Did it think the legislature ought to meet in a tent?

AGAIN POOR CHINA.

This Time It Is Internal War That Threatens Her With Further Misery.

Victoria's Chinatown is in a ferment of excitement in consequence of letters from the inhabitants of the Chinese coast districts (the Bon-das) to the barbarous people of the hills, with whose customs they have for centuries been in antagonism.

Under the same federal government there has been feudal war between the two classes since time immemorial, and in 1858 the rebels made repeated attempts to capture the country of the Bon-das and exterminate its inhabitants.

During the past twenty years they have been engaged in strengthening their strongholds, Teo Teong, Yang Yung Fow, Hen Hu and Teo Kai, at the same time obtaining funds by subscription for the purchase of modern arms.

She was well informed in science, and had studied each appliance that drives the wheels of mechanism.

She was glib on meningitis, Likewise appendicitis, And neuritis she set her tongue apace; For she snuffed her head with knowledge.

She had learned Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She discussed the dread bacillus, And talked of modicum to kill (This girl acquainted with varied kinds of lore).

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

The World says the Times has a perfect right to make a fool of itself. We dispute the proposition. No one has a right to attempt to improve upon nature's perfect work.

The U.S. battleship Oregon left San Francisco for Callao on Saturday last, and it is expected that she may be ordered to the Atlantic coast. If so the Pacific coast of the United States will be left in rather poor condition to repel an attack from the sea.

Here is a little prediction. If the United States and Spain go to war and hostilities are prolonged for any length of time, Russia and France will consider the time auspicious to press their pretensions in China.

"All we can say is that it is time for a change." So says the News-Advertiser. This is quite true, but our country has been saying for months back ever since the fiasco of which a certain member for Vancouver was a hero last winter.

The news which Mr. Lukes, of the Mackenzie-Mann company, gives as to the condition of travel on the Stikine will be very satisfactory to those persons who have friends on the river.

The Kootenay Mail seems to be in a chronic "state of mind" over the parliament building. Did it think the legislature ought to meet in a tent?

"I," said the professional pugilist, "I began at the foot, and have gradually risen to where I am now." "I understand from that," replied a bystander, "your career began by blacking men's boots and have now gotten up to blacking their eyes."—Yonkers Statesman.

She—I see there's an invention by which locomotives consume their own smoke. He—Yes, but the inventor would do the public a greater service by applying it to a cigarette fiend.—Philadelphia Record.

Grace—What do you mean to say that Charlie is earning his own living now? May—So he says. Grace—Goodness, we must invite him to dine with us tonight. The poor boy must be starving.—Harlem Life.

He had been boasting of his family tree, and Miss Cayenne interrupted with the question, "Is it something like the orchard?" "In what respect?" "All branches and no doots."—Washington Post.

Returned traveller—One of the sailors lost both legs when the boiler exploded. Friend—Poor fellow! Did the passenger take up a collection for him? Returned traveller—Oh, yes! Quite enough to put him on his feet again.—Brooklyn Life.

She—It seemed so funny to-day to see young men in deerskins taking young ladies in to treat them to ice cream. He—Yes, too bad I left my overcoat at home.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

SHE WAS LEARNED, BUT—OH—MY! (Edwin J. Shoppe in Indianapolis News).

She had views on protoplasm; And the prehistoric man; That separates the monkey from the man; And by means of various data "Cleared from geologic strata" Could calculate the years since Earth began.

She was well informed in science, and had studied each appliance that drives the wheels of mechanism.

She was glib on meningitis, Likewise appendicitis, And neuritis she set her tongue apace; For she snuffed her head with knowledge.

She had learned Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She discussed the dread bacillus, And talked of modicum to kill (This girl acquainted with varied kinds of lore).

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

She had learning Oriental—Occult and monumental—And in Sanskrit e'en she ranked exceedingly high.

COLUMBIA FLOURING MILLS CO. Enderby and Vernon. Brands HUNGARIAN, PREMIER, SUPERFINE AND *** SPECIAL R. P. RITHET & CO., Victoria Agents.

R. P. RITHET & CO. WHOLESALE MERCHANTS, Wharf Street, Victoria, B.C. Groceries, Wines and Liquors KLONDIKE OUTFITTERS & MARINE UNDERWRITERS Agents for the Pacific Coast Steamship Company's Direct Steamers to all Klondike Ports.

THE BREATHING SPELL. Klondike Transportation Companies Await the Big Rush With the Spring. A Prospect of Rate Cutting Discussed—Movements of Local Shipping.

THE RETAIL MARKETS. Scarcity of Beef—The Orange Crop Suffers From Frost—Eggs Plentiful. Not for some considerable time has beef been so scarce as it is at present, and the shortage seems only attributable to the enormously increased demand for the Klondike trade.

Free Trial To Any Honest Man The Foremost Medical Company in the World in the Cure of Weak Men Makes this Offer. HEALTH AND ENERGY ASSURED. HAPPY MARRIAGE, GOOD TEMPER, LONG LIFE.

PERCHANCE A JONAH. The "Nellie G. Thurston" With Fair Mrs. Bowles on Board Is Now Anxiously Looked For.

THE SPRING TOURNEY. Large and Promising Entry List for the Spring Meeting of the Golf Club Opening To-morrow.

ARE YOU Troubled with pains in the small of your back? Hudyman's Backache Remedy will cure you.

HUDYMAN'S BACKACHE REMEDY. Circulars and Testimonials. HUDSON MEDICAL INSTITUTE.

FORT FORT. MR. GLADSTONE. A CANCEROUS GROWTH BRINGS THE TO LIFE. OPERATION IMPROVED TO AGED AND CONDEMNED. AGED SUFFERERS PITIFUL LOOK BELIEF IN. PALLIATIVES WITH ACTION AND END NE.

New York, March 23. The following correspondent to-day is dying of a cancerous growth of the face tissues passages. The melan admitted privately by bert Gladstone, and his family.

The unanimous verdict of the specialists who have regarding the case is the impossible owing to the feeble condition of the patient.

Winnipeg, March 25. The very best section station during last night the heavy westing last travellers, three section settlers on board from 300 returning from the train and by the Three from Kansas left monoton and five from.

It is stated to-day on it that at an early date the Rockton Year of inspection and will visit a large number of separate schools, which are being inspected in public schools at amendment. Upon the inspection will follow in due course the visit of the six of Premier Greywood.

A Much Better Showed the Frontier Year Manager Com Toronto, March 25. to the Evening Telegram says: The half-year Grand Trunk railway, receipts for the period 22,471,151, an increase of 10 per cent over the previous year.

HUDYMAN'S BACKACHE REMEDY. Circulars and Testimonials. HUDSON MEDICAL INSTITUTE.

ARE YOU Troubled with pains in the small of your back? Hudyman's Backache Remedy will cure you.

HUDYMAN'S BACKACHE REMEDY. Circulars and Testimonials. HUDSON MEDICAL INSTITUTE.