

CANADA OUGHT TO HELP

Chancellor of Exchequer Declares She Should Contribute to Support the Navy

There May Come a Rude Awakening Entirely the Fault of the Dominion.

Great Britain Ready to Assist China in Paying the Indemnity to Japan.

LONDON, Jan. 19.—Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, chancellor of the exchequer, speaking at Bristol this evening, ridiculed the notion of providing granaries, as had been suggested in some quarters.

Referring to the coming budget estimates he said these would show that the government was fully alive to keeping up the standard of the army and navy, though he declared it was not creditable to Canada or fair to English taxpayers that such a colony should practically contribute nothing to the naval defenses of the Empire.

In concluding his speech the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that China had asked for assistance to pay the Japanese indemnity and that negotiations were still pending.

Replying to a deputation of sugar refinery workers that waited upon him to-day, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach said the government readily accepted Belgium's invitation to the sugar conference and would do its best to secure a satisfactory result.

HIS HEALTH FAIRLY SATISFACTORY AND LONDON EXCITED WITHOUT CAUSE.

CANNESS, South of France, Jan. 19.—The health of Mr. Gladstone is fairly satisfactory. He went out for a drive yesterday.

LONDON, Jan. 19.—There was a rumor to-day that Mr. Gladstone was seriously ill, the Pall Mall Gazette announcing the matter thus: "With deep regret we learn on the most excellent authority that Mr. Gladstone's health causes the gravest anxiety to those with him.

Mrs. Gladstone and Mr. Geo. Armistead, an intimate friend of the family, were interviewed this afternoon regarding the state of Mr. Gladstone's health. Both said there was no ground for the latest information to justify the alarmist reports.

FRANCE BOILING OVER. Anti Jewish Crusade Spreading Through Provinces and the Government Alarmed.

PARIS, Jan. 18.—Telegrams from most of the large towns show that the anti-Jewish crusade is assuming most menacing proportions. The government is seriously alarmed.

DANISH WEST INDIES. Experience of Former Negotiations With United States Not Encouraging.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—The Times this morning published a special article reviewing the history of the negotiations with the United States for the acquisition of the Danish West Indies in 1896.

MINISTER TO HAYTI. Successor to the Official Who Recently Humiliated the Government.

BERLIN, Jan. 19.—Dr. Michaels, councillor of the foreign office, has been appointed German minister at Port au Prince, Hayti, in succession to Count von Luxburg, placed temporarily on the reserve list.

RUSSIA'S NEW SCHEME.

To Place Her Subjects on the Salary List of the Chinese Government. LONDON, Jan. 18.—The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Mail claims to have excellent authority for the statement that the Russian minister, Count Cassini, has informed the Tsung li Yamen that immediately the German affair is settled Russia will restore Port Arthur to China and will withdraw her troops without demanding indemnity.

Edmonton-Dawson Railway Enterprise Asking a Guarantee Matiny for Spoils. (From Our Own Correspondent.) OTTAWA, Jan. 19.—"Free miners" certificates, which every man who intends mining in the Yukon must take out at a price of \$10 per head, will be ready for the public in a day or two.

CROWDING THE RUSSIANS. Great Britain Demands for China Free Access to Manchuria. PEKIN, Jan. 19.—The Tsung li Yan (Chinese foreign office) have had another conference on the subject of the loan, which is still unsettled.

TO MAKE WINNIPEG DRY. Fetter for Legislation to Close Bars While Folks Are at Leisure. WINNIPEG, Jan. 19.—(Special)—The Dominion Alliance have appointed a committee to wait on the city council to urge more stringent enforcement of the liquor law.

TARDY SUSPICION. Investigation of Supposed Suicide That Took Place Last Summer. BLYTH, Ont., Jan. 19.—(Special)—Provincial detectives are investigating the death of James Brown, a farmer, who was found hanging on July 31, and supposed to have committed suicide.

THE PARIS DISORDERS. Students Continue to Make Great Noise But Do No Damage. PARIS, Jan. 19.—A band of 200 students penetrated the Boulevard des Capucines with the intention of making a demonstration before the military club but they were dispersed.

THE ENGINEERS BACK DOWN. All Works Will Resume on Monday Unless a Further Hit Occurs. LONDON, Jan. 19.—At to-day's conference of the master engineers, called to consider the situation in view of the withdrawal of the 48 hours demand, it was resolved to reopen the works on Monday next, providing the union accepted the conditions of management.

Wm. Beck Dead. MONTREAL, Jan. 19.—(Special)—Wm. Beck, a well known Montreal business man, died yesterday at Almansa, Mich., of kidney trouble. He leaves a widow and one child.

WARSHIPS FOR SALE. RIO JANEIRO, Jan. 18.—The Brazilian government is considering the sale, probably to Germany, of the cruiser Abreu, now building on the Tyne, and the ironclads Dedodoro and Floriano, which are being built in France.

PARIS, Vermont, Jan. 18.—The opera house block here, occupied by the post office, city clerk's office and two grocery stores, was burned to-day, causing a loss of about \$50,000, partially covered by insurance.

Ontario Elections. TORONTO, Jan. 18.—(Special)—Politicians of both parties are very active preparing for the general elections expected to take place on February 24.

Favoring Reciprocity. BOSTON, Jan. 18.—At the annual meeting of the Boston chamber of commerce to-day resolutions favoring reciprocity with Canada were adopted.

Music Hall Burned. CLEVELAND, Jan. 17.—The music hall built in 1889 at a cost of \$60,000 was destroyed on Saturday night by fire. The cause is supposed to have been electric light wires.

NEWS OF THE CAPITAL.

Points of Issue for Free Miners' Certificates Required by Those Prospecting in the Yukon. EDMONTON-DAWSON RAILWAY ENTERPRISE ASKING A GUARANTEE MATINY FOR SPOILS.

From Our Own Correspondent. OTTAWA, Jan. 19.—"Free miners" certificates, which every man who intends mining in the Yukon must take out at a price of \$10 per head, will be ready for the public in a day or two.

GENERAL BOOTH. The Veteran Accorded a Great Reception in New Brunswick. ST. JOHN, N.B., Jan. 18.—General Booth, head of the Salvation Army throughout the world, arrived in this city to-day.

Driving the Devils. CAIRO, Jan. 18.—The native troops from Kassaia have captured another dervish outpost, Mugalia, in West Kassaia.

German Sugar Exports. BERLIN, Jan. 18.—Exports to America from North Germany show a falling off during the last quarter of \$2,831,813. The decrease was principally in sugar.

Tarkey Borrowing. CONSTANTINOPLE, Jan. 17.—The Porte, it is announced, is negotiating a loan of \$1,500,000 with London bankers at 8 per cent, to be used for naval purposes.

Warning to Teneyck. LONDON, Jan. 18.—The Daily Mail says: "If young Teneyck tries to reappear at Henley as an amateur there will be trouble. It has been hoped that Teneyck would not venture again as an amateur.

One Hundred Years Old. LANCASTER, Jan. 18.—(Special)—David Richardson died to-day aged 100.

Countess Russell Dead. LONDON, Jan. 18.—Frances Anna Maria, dowager Countess Russell, widow of the celebrated Lord John Russell, is dead.

Germany's Eastern Squadron. ADELS, Jan. 18.—The German warships Deutschland and Gafon, from Kiel for China, have arrived here.

Mining Fatality. ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 18.—Forty persons were killed and eighteen injured by an explosion of gas in one of the mines of the Donetz company in the Taganrog district on the north shore of the Sea of Azov.

Jamaica Free of Fever. KINGSTON, Jamaica, Jan. 18.—The island of Jamaica has been declared free from yellow fever. Mr. Louis Dent, is issuing check bills of health.

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Rioting at Prague. PRAGUE, Jan. 18.—There were further street riots to-day between the Czechs and the Germans, and the streets were patrolled by troops.

Increasing the Army. LONDON, Jan. 18.—It is asserted that the government has decided to ask parliament to sanction an increase of the army by 10,000 men.

THE DOCTOR ACQUITTED.

Toronto Charge of Malpractice Thrown Out Without Reference to Jury. TORONTO, Jan. 18.—(Special)—Dr. Bessey, a well known practitioner, on trial before Justice Rose on the charge of procuring an abortion on a widow named Lizzie Thomas who died from operation has been acquitted.

OTTAWA WANTS THE REVENUE. The Millions From Yukon Collections Will Not Go to the Territories. OTTAWA, Jan. 18.—It is understood to be the intention of the government to introduce legislation in parliament this session defining the position of the unorganized territories in the Northwest and declaring them formally to be under the jurisdiction of the federal authorities.

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Train Wrecked in California. AUBURN, Cal. Jan. 18.—The west coast overland train jumped the track near Colfax this evening, wrecking the train badly. The engineer, fireman and one brakeman were killed.

Favoring Reciprocity. BOSTON, Jan. 18.—At the annual meeting of the Boston chamber of commerce to-day resolutions favoring reciprocity with Canada were adopted.

CHAMBERLAIN'S VIEWS.

Empire Must Respond to Colonial Overtures Without Seeking Pecuniary Recompense. SUGAR INDUSTRY OF THE WEST INDIES TO BE AIDED BY AN IMPERIAL GRANT.

LIVERPOOL, Jan. 18.—The Liverpool chamber of commerce gave a banquet this evening to Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal was among the guests.

THE REINDER EXCURSION. Large Body of Drivers from Norway Will Be in the Party. WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—Dr. Jackson has called the war department from Norway that he has secured the services of 125 natives to drive the reindeer on the Klondyke relief expedition.

EVENTS OF VANCOUVER.

Mayor Garden's Tribute to His Predecessor—Tinkering With Mining Laws Discouraged. VANCOUVER, Jan. 18.—(Special)—An attempt is being made to establish a chamber of mines in Vancouver.

AN ITEM published recently to the effect that the Hudson Bay Company were going to double their working staff here caused Manager Lockyer to be overwhelmed with applicants for employment.

FOR our first meeting we are gathered together under the saddest and most tragic conditions ever faced by any council of this or, I may venture to say, any town or city in Canada.

THE STEAMER DUNN took 63 passengers from here, including Mounted Police, yesterday. The scene on the wharf was a busy one.

SEALERS MAY BE EASY. British Government Sees No Cause to Reopen the International Question. LONDON, Jan. 18.—Great Britain has again declined to reopen the sealing question.

MINERAL WATER IN CHUNKS. Imported That Way It Escapes the Prohibitory Duty of the Dingley Law. BUFFALO, Jan. 17.—The Washington correspondent of the Evening Star sends the following story to his paper.

Ives at Play. CHICAGO, Jan. 18.—Frank Ives and Wm. Patton played the opening game of the handicap billiard tournament last night in the Central music hall.



ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

WILL FIGHT IF NECESSARY.

Great Britain Will Keep Chinese Forts Open at Any Cost.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, chancellor of the exchequer, speaking at Swaneas last night, repeated the declarations of Mr. Balfour, first lord of the treasury, on the Indian policy of the government.

THE GLOBE this afternoon says: "What we want in China is trade. We want to make a market for the commerce of the whole world.

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The Colonist.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 1898.
OUTFITTING IN VICTORIA.

As time passes the superiority of Victoria as an outfitting point over any city of the United States is being more strongly demonstrated. In his interview, printed in the Colonist on Sunday, Mr. Lee Stanley, of Rochester, N. Y., says the saving by buying goods in Victoria, as compared with Seattle, is equal to 40 per cent. When to this we add the duty of 30 per cent. average, the contrast is still greater and tells more in favor of this city.

THE UNITED STATES AND CUBA. There is really more danger of difficulty arising between the United States and Spain now than there has been at any period since the rebellion in the island began. This is not because the condition of things on the island is more urgent than heretofore, but because President McKinley is an uncertain quantity and may at any time revise his policy of non-interference. It is plain to the most superficial observer that unless something can be done to withdraw public attention from the utter failure of the Republican party to redeem its pledges, made before the election of 1896, nothing can save it from ignominious defeat at the next presidential contest.

THE NEW REGULATIONS. The new regulations in regard to mining in the Northwest contain one clause that will meet with the hearty endorsement of the people of British Columbia. It is that requiring miners and persons employing miners to take out a miner's certificate. The Colonist believes that it is entitled to the credit of having made this suggestion and also of suggesting that these certificates should be put on sale in the British Columbia cities. At that time we said it would be a master stroke, and now that it has been made we have no disposition to withhold the warmest expression of approval.

NOT AS A PUBLIC PROSECUTOR. Rev. J. C. Speer is quite wrong in thinking that the Colonist wished him to act as a public prosecutor. All that this paper did was to give him credit for sincerity in his championship of reform in the morals of Victoria, and to suggest that he should place the information, of which he claimed to be possessed, in the hands of the police commissioners. If he will do this, and that body will not act upon the information, and he will furnish the Colonist with the facts, he will find this paper not backward in insisting that the commissioners shall do their duty in the premises.

which twist out a few links at a time and then break off. There is no visible reason why they should not, like Tenyson's brook, go on forever. They chatter, chatter as they go to join the brimming river of political rubbish that has flowed and will forever flow from the reservoir wherein are gathered jealousy, disappointment and self-sufficiency. There is nothing in all this world quite equal to the exhibition of the latter quality which our contemporaries give in the series in question. We go back to the circus, with its waltzing elephant, for a fitting comparison. The News-Advertiser jumped into the ring, and addressing the audience said: "Here we are, Behold us. We are about to smash the government. We will do it in a series of articles. Sir Oracle is about to speak. Let all lesser canines keep silence." Then the performance began, and at the end of each act our contemporary bows, throws itself a bouquet and pauses to be admired.

900 DROPS CASTORIA. Vegetable Preparation for Assimilating the Food and Regulating the Stomach and Bowels of INFANTS & CHILDREN. Promotes Digestion, Cheerfulness and Rest. Contains neither Opium, Morphine nor Mineral. NOT NARCOTIC.

SEE THAT THE FAC-SIMILE SIGNATURE OF EVERY WRAPPER OF EVERY BOTTLE OF CASTORIA. IS ON THE WRAPPER OF EVERY BOTTLE OF CASTORIA.

SCOTLAND Expects Every Man to Do His Duty BY DRINKING WATSON'S DUNDEE WHISKY. OBTAINABLE THROUGHOUT CANADA. Agents for British Columbia—EARSMAN & CO., 37/39 Langley Street, VICTORIA.

How SMALL. Some people feel after the elections? You will feel the same when you find that you have been throwing your money away by not taking advantage of our offerings. BLOATER PASTE - 5c Tin. MUSTARD AND SPICED SARDINES - 2 Tins for 25c. FLOUR—Same prices as last week. FINE CREAMERY BUTTER - 25c lb. also small tubs for family use. ...DIXI H. ROSS & CO.

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

THE PRESENT ISSUE OF THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST SEVEN COLUMNS. EIGHT PAGES.

Contains all the News INCLUDING FULL REPORTS OF ALL THE LATEST INFORMATION FROM YUKON GOLD FIELDS. If you want to keep your friends informed, you cannot do better than send them THE SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST. PRICE 5 CENTS PER COPY. PER ANNUM \$1.50.

NEW RULES FOR Miners and Mining Companies. Have Licenses Before Claims. Length of Locations Hundred and Fifty for Discovery. Royalty of Ten Per Cent Above Twenty-Five Dollars. From Our Own Correspondent. OTTAWA, Jan. 17.—The Yukon mining regulations the third within eight months have been issued. In Sifton started the country ruling on mining in Yukon following month he had to chief features of the were: Reduction of claim length; reduction of from \$100 to \$15 yearly; royalty of 10 per cent. on put of \$500, and of 20 per cent. besides the reservation of a state claim. From the end of the mining these regulations were as ruinous and impracticable. Then Mr. Sifton began to retreat, and after his return to the coast it was announced that a large reduction would be made. The royalty proposed. The provisions carry out these provisions recognition of "miners' matter of registration at the license system is adopted. Under the new regulations licenses will be issued for a definite time for individuals and companies, and the fee for will be \$15 with an annual \$15. Claims will be 250 feet and the government will re-allocate block of ten claims. River or digging claims will in five mile sections for \$100 mile. Claims producing over \$2,000 will pay a royalty of 10 per cent. on the net proceeds of the mine. If a miner has a gold claim, he may elect their own recorder their claims within three months. The Times' special despatch says this states certain of the laws:— Every miner and employer will require to take out a certificate for the fee for which in case of a company is \$50 or \$100, according to amount of the capital. The miner's license will confer the right to fish, hunt, and the timber necessary for mining will be made for obtaining certificates at a number of towns, such as Montreal, Ontario, Winnipeg, Calgary, and Victoria. The general size of mine will be 250 feet, and discoverers 500 feet. Every alternate lot shall be reserved by the government. Subsequent mining licenses will be issued in five mile sections of \$100 per annum and the royalty. Provisions are made to speculation in claims by the claim owner to entry which has worked a certain number of days. Reasonable cause is shown, and a record shall not for more than one claim to any the same locality. NOTES FROM THE CAP An Effort for Reprieve of Mrs. St. The New Military Equipm. OTTAWA, Jan. 17.—Mr. Gauz new member for Temiscouata, the address in the Commons. The cabinet was in session discussing Mrs. Sternaman's papers will go to the Governor tomorrow. Mr. German for the prisoner, had a three hour conference with the ministers this morning. Deputy Surgeon General C. Halifax, has arrived here to arrange the militia Department for the militia. Lieut. Thorp, A. D. C. to error-General, has been promoted captain and command of a company of the Rifle Brigade. General manager Hayes and general manager Wainwright, of T. R., were engaged all afternoon. Messrs. Blair and Schriber, general freight agent Harris of the discussing arrangements for the dissection of the Government railway real and terminal facilities. Although it will be spring Dr. Drummond county road is taking Mr. Blair wants to settle the debt of the Grand Trunk as soon as possible. ONTARIO CATHOLIC BISHOP A Joint Pastoral Declaring Their School Question. MONTREAL, Jan. 17.—(Special) Bishops of Toronto, Hamilton and don have issued a joint pastoring their people to acquiescence of the supreme power persevere in preserving their national rights. At Montreal a stone the encyclical was read comment. Small Pox Over. MONTREAL, Jan. 17.—(Special) Irvine hospital closed to-day had 24 cases of small-pox since being fatal. Toronto's City Engineer TORONTO, Jan. 17.—(Special) Engineer Keating has resigned a position with the street railway.

The Colonist.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 1898.

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W. H. ELLIS, MANAGER.

TERMS: THE DAILY COLONIST. Published Every Day except Monday.

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For week, if delivered.

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ment referred to is allowed to make itself a very conspicuous feature of the community. The Colonist has been told that there is no use trying to bring about a change in this respect. That is all rubbish. There will be a change just the moment the police authorities realize that public opinion demands a change. It is idle for any one to say that the police are powerless; because the Chief of Police can abate the nuisance in twenty-four hours.

Our position on this question is this: There will always be in this or any other community an element of the kind referred to, but it should be kept as inconspicuous as possible. The evil effect produced by permitting richly dressed women of ill-repute to exhibit themselves in the most conspicuous positions is incalculable. It poisons the mind of the young. Girls growing up and seeing this sort of thing tolerated are apt, especially when thrown more or less upon their own resources, as so many girls are nowadays, to conclude that the evil cannot be as black as it is painted, and in this way a poison enters the soul. The Colonist is not fanatical on this subject, but in the name of the purity of the young girls of Victoria it demands instant and resolute action on the part of the police authorities.

THE CANADA EASTERN.

There is considerable discussion in the Eastern papers over the proposal to purchase the Canada Eastern railway. This railway extends from Chatham, N.B., to Fredericton in the same province, crossing the Intercolonial railway. It has at least one branch line. In all the mileage is 136 miles. The important saw-mill and cotton mill town of Marysville is on the line. The railway runs through an agricultural and lumbering section. It is a very easy road to maintain. Its business has grown steadily from the day of construction, and there is no much doubt that it is a fairly good piece of railway property. It is said to pay its way, and doubtless if operated in connection with the Intercolonial railway could be given more business and would not be any burden to the taxpayers. We believe all these propositions are admitted; yet there is considerable opposition to the proposed purchase. If the cost of the line to the government, in the event of a purchase has been agreed upon, we have not seen the figures. The road, as it stands, cost its present owners \$2,045,433. The principal owner is Mr. Alexander Gibson, of Marysville, one of the most extensive business men in Canada.

There does not appear to be anything to say against the proposed purchase from a business point of view; but a question arises, and it must be faced at once, as to whether the policy of extending the Intercolonial system by the acquisition of branch lines is to prevail. It was the policy of Sir John Macdonald to grant bonuses to railways that, when constructed, would become feeders to the Intercolonial. This was generally recognized as judicious. For a time the Intercolonial looked very much like a white elephant upon the hands of the government, and there is no doubt that the policy of aiding in the construction of branch lines contributed materially to the increase of business for the government road, as well as to the development of the districts through which they were built. The Toronto Globe gives the mileage of the roads so constructed at 993.25 miles, and the cost at nearly \$20,000,000. Towards this cost the Dominion government contributed upwards of \$3,000,000 and the provincial governments considerably more. The greater part of the balance was raised by the selling of bonds, very little being actually put up by the people who held the charters.

We asked before the people of Canada are thanked to ratify any agreement to purchase the Canada Eastern, they should be told what they are to understand by it. If it is a single proposition involving nothing more and committing the country to no line of policy, different considerations will prevail to those that must be taken into account if this purchase is the first step in the inauguration of a policy under which the government will become the owners of all lines built as feeders to the Intercolonial. Sir John Macdonald gave the country the policy of aiding the construction of feeders. Are we to understand Mr. Blair as intending to inaugurate the policy of buying these feeders and so making the Intercolonial a great system, with branch lines extending in all directions? This is a matter of very grave importance. It will involve millions, and that, too, at a time when there are parts of the country calling for aid in railway construction. This is the chief phase of the subject upon which we would like to be enlightened. We are by no means averse to seeing the Intercolonial put upon the best possible basis from the railway standpoint. We do not wish, however, to see the interests of other parts of the Dominion even temporarily sacrificed to attain that object.

MINERS' LICENSES.

We reprint an editorial from the Kootenian, heading and all, in order that COLONIST readers may get an exact idea of what some people regard as a proper way to deal with political questions, and in order that the beauty of the Kootenian's language may lend what force it may to its argument. In regard to the special subject dealt with, we may say that when the question of

the abolition of miners' licenses was before the legislature last winter, it was well known that the government were ready, if the house wished, to exempt workmen in mines from the operation of the law; but it was represented by persons well able to speak for those particularly interested that the tax was not unreasonable in the conditions then existing in Kootenay, because the amount of the licenses was all that the great majority of workmen paid into the revenue of the province, and it was reasonable that they should pay something. It is an open secret that if there had been any strong pressure from the working miners themselves last winter for the removal of the tax the government would have cheerfully met it; but no such demand was forthcoming and the tax was allowed to remain for the time being. We do not think that there is the slightest probability of the tax being extended to cover the case of the coal miner; but we can discover no reason why "the coal barons" should trouble their heads about the matter one way or the other any more than that any other citizen should do so. There would be no justice in imposing such a tax upon men who work in coal mines. We concede freely that there is no justice in imposing such a tax upon those who simply are workmen in mines, who have come into the country with the intention of remaining here. The law under which the license is imposed was framed under conditions very different to those now existing in the province. Then the only mining, except coal mining, was placer mining, and it was conceded to be reasonable that every man engaged in placer mining should be required to take out a license in order to meet the cost of administering the government and providing public works in the localities where his operations were. When quartz mining began, the law was on the statute book and it has been allowed to remain there, and during the earlier stages of this industry, when every workman was a prospector when he had a day off, the tax was reasonable. Now that quartz mining is a settled industry, the case is altered, and we submit for the consideration of the legislature whether, if the government proposes to remove the tax from mine operatives, it ought not to be done. We do not think it would be advisable to abolish the license fee as a prerequisite to locating claims.

The reported illness of Rt. Hon. William E. Gladstone will evoke much sympathy. Differ as people may as to the wisdom of the policy championed by the venerable statesman during late years, no one will withhold from him credit for being one of the greatest men of the century. In the natural order of events it cannot be long before he goes to his long rest, and when he does so he will leave a record that is unique.

The necessity for the early construction of the Pacific cable grows more apparent every day. We are unable to understand the apparent apathy of the Dominion government in this matter. Steps ought to be taken at the earliest day to place this question beyond the domain of speculation.

A GUARANTEE of interest on \$2,000 a mile for 1,500 miles of railway from Edmonton to Dawson is asked. There would be no use in granting it. The money could not be raised on such a guarantee, for it would be impossible to show that such a line could compete with those from the Coast.

THERE is great complaint as to the manner in which Seattle people are using those who have been deluded into going to that city to outfit. If there were a case of killing the goose that laid the golden egg, Seattle is affording it.

It appears that the COLONIST was wrong in saying that its holiday number was the largest paper ever issued in the province, and that the World issued a larger paper in June, 1896. We offer the amende honorable.

IF ONE may judge from newspaper letters, the only man in Victoria who does not know how to lay out the Parliament grounds is the man who is doing the work. This is said, but it is sadder yet to think that no two of the critics agree as to what he ought to do.

THE Post-Intelligencer denies that its government is permitting the passage of goods across the passes as per agreement with Hon. Mr. Sifton. We believe the Washington government is more honest than that implies.

THE refusal of the British government to reopen the sealing question is very proper. There is no use in making agreements if they are to be upset at pleasure by one or the other of the parties to them.

THE CANADIAN PRESS.

THE NORTH YALE SEAT. Our opinion is, however, that Mr. Martin has held the best end of the stick at present.—Vernon News.

WHAT SAY YOUR MASTERS?

Has the Victoria COLONIST received any intimation as yet from its masters as to whether or not they will permit the government of British Columbia to abolish the tax upon the working miner during the coming session of the local legislature? It is certainly incongruous if any miner should be compelled to pay a yearly tax to the government, while the coal cutter goes scot free. The incongruity has been allowed to continue, because the masters of the Colony and of the Turner government were not prepared to give up their special immunities. If the tax has been a just one in the past, the principle should be continued and extended as a legitimate and profitable source of revenue.

BY WAY OF VARIETY.

Landlady (to new roomer)—You must be so careful in leaving the front door open when you come in at night. About a year ago burglars got in and cleaned out every room in the building.

But I thought—For heaven's sake, madam! Fire your chambermaid and leave the front door open every night.—New York Herald.

"I understand Scribner's play strikes a new note."

"I should say so. The villain reforms and marries the heroine; and the hero, from a victim of wine, turns missionary and goes to South Africa."—Philadelphia North American.

The Cigar—Well, old chap, how are you feeling to-day?—The man who has just returned from the Pipe—Oh, first class. Getting stronger every day. How are you?

The Cigar—Dead to the world. I'm to be cremated this morning.

Tourist—What's that crowd over the way?

Native—That's our string band.

Tourist—Preparing to give an entertainment, I suppose?

Native—Yes; going over the river to lynch a horse thief.

Lady (to applicant for place)—Are you married or single?

Applicant—Naythor, fum. It's a lone widdy lookin' for an engagement that Oi do to be.

Mrs. Skinner—Oh, but I wish I was a man.

Mr. Skinner—Why so, my dear?

Mrs. Skinner—I was just thinking to-day if I was only a man, how happy I could make my wife by giving her a diamond necklace for a birthday present.

He will come to-night, the curried Beryl. She drew the curtains and gazed out into the darkling dusk; for her father's house was built with a view to convenience, and she could do that.

"What shall I do?"

The horse show was no more; the six-day bicycle race was a thing of the past. She did not understand football.

There was nothing left but weather and currency reform.—Detroit Journal.

Brooks—Why do they call an unlicensed driver a blind pig, anyhow?

Rivers—Because of its woe without ice. See? It's swine without—

(At this juncture the light.)—Chicago Tribune.

Patience—What is the cheapest looking thing you ever saw about a bargain counter?

Fate—A husband waiting for his wife.—Yonkers Statesman.

THE RETAIL MARKETS.

Mill Feeds Advance—The Flour Market Shows a Little Weakness.

In volume, business is growing gradually, the outfitting of sealers and the Yukon, and the supplying of the biggest naval fleet ever in Sequim, being factors of trade that have been greatly and beneficially felt during the last few weeks. The flour market for some time has been steady, but that steadiness appears to be now giving way. On the other hand mill feeds are stiffening and one merchant predicted yesterday that in consequence of the Northern rush they would advance to \$35 a ton. Farmers who now have hay appear to entertain this belief, too, and it would not be surprising to many merchants to see a shortage of this provender before spring is over. To-day the Brackman & Ker Milling Co. turn out the first dog meal ever produced in the province, and will make their first shipment to Vancouver. As yet they have made no quotations for it and the demand for it will likely lie almost entirely with outfitters.

The current city retail prices are as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes Flour-Ogilvie's (Hungarian) per bbl \$6.50, Lake of the Woods (Hungarian) 6.50, Snowflake 6.00, Premier 6.25, Three Sixes 6.00, Superfine 4.50, Hungarian (Armstrong) 6.50, XXXX 6.00, Strong Bakers 6.00, Graham, per 10 lbs 35, Wheat, per ton 39.50, Potatoes, per lb 20, Straw, per bale 60/75, Onions, per lb 2 1/2 @ 25, Barley, per ton 30.00 @ 22.00, Middlings, per ton 22.00 @ 25.00, Bran, per ton 22.00 @ 24.00, Ground feed, per ton 25.00 @ 30.00, California per ton 25.00 @ 30.00, Corn, whole, per ton 25.00 @ 28.00, cracked, per ton 25.00 @ 30.00, Cornmeal, per ton 25.00 @ 30.00, Oatmeal per 10 lbs 40 @ 45, Rolled oats, per 7 lbs 30, Potatoes, per lb 20, Cabbages, per lb 2 @ 21, Hay, baled, per ton 15 @ 16 @ 10, Cheese, per lb 15 @ 20, Eggs Island, per doz. strictly fresh 15 @ 20, Imported, per doz 25, Butter, fresh, per lb 25 @ 30, Creamery (Eastern) per lb 27 1/2 @ 30, Dairy (Eastern) per lb 25, R. C. Creamery, per lb 30, Hams, American, per lb 18, Canadian, 16, Bacon, American, per lb 16 @ 18, Rolled Lard, per lb 14 @ 19, Canadian 14 @ 16, Shoulders, hams, per lb 12 1/2, Glasgow Beef, 12 1/2 @ 15, Lard, per lb 12 1/2 @ 15, Golden Cattle, per lb 12 1/2, MEATS—Beef, per lb 5 @ 15, Sides, per lb 7 1/2 @ 8 1/2, Veal 10 @ 13, Mutton, 15, Pork, fresh, per lb 9 @ 12 1/2, Turkeys, per lb 16 @ 22, Geese, per lb 15 @ 28, Fat.

Apples, Island, per lb 4, Lemons, California, per doz 20 @ 25, Bananas, per doz 35 @ 50, Pineapples, 50 @ 75, Cranberries, per lb (local) 10, (imported) 20.

Fish—Salmon, per lb 10 @ 12, Kipper, per lb 20, Halibut, per lb 10 @ 12 1/2, Rock Cod, per lb 6 @ 8, Smelt, per lb 6 @ 8, Flounders, per lb 8 @ 10, Bloater, per lb 6 @ 8, Kipper, per lb 12 1/2, Lin Cod, 6 @ 8, Finnan Haddies per lb 12 1/2, GAME—Deer, per brace 35 @ 40, Wildgeon, per brace 30 @ 35, Mallards, per brace 75, Brant, per brace 1.00.

Economy in Buying Seeds. Economy is not paying less money for a thing than you expected to pay. True economy is good management, and about the best management a farmer can be guilty of is to buy cheap seeds and thus to cut the value of his crops in half—or worse. A siren cannot flow higher than its source, and a crop cannot be any better than its seed. Real seed economy is buying seeds that bear the stamp of a house that is known to be reliable; then the planter is absolutely sure that he gets what he wants and what he pays for. In every part of the country dealers sell the absolutely reliable seeds of D. M. Perry & Co. of Windsor, Ont., which have been uniform good results for the last 42 years. Perry's Illustrated Seeds Annual for 1898, containing information that no farmer or gardener can afford to be without, will be sent free to anyone making application to the firm.

Will Outfit Here. Victoria Possesses Advantages That Men Returned From Dawson Are Quick to Understand.

The news brought by Mr. Joe Fox from Skagway on Monday that in view of the mutual arrangements between the United States and Canada for bonding goods, the American authorities have done away with the necessity of an inspector to accompany goods over the trail, should set at rest any lingering doubts that this troublesome business is ended. This is an additional reason for outfitting in British Columbia, bearing in mind that with cheaper prices than Seattle and no duty to pay on Canadian goods going into the Yukon, Victoria already has an advantage that Seattle cannot hope to overcome. As Mr. Fox himself remarked in speaking of Victoria, "a tremendous outfitting trade is secured to your merchants." Mr. Fox, it must not be forgotten, said that he would return to Victoria to outfit in March, and he said in his interview that nearly all the people who came on the Corona would also outfit here.

BY WAY OF VARIETY.

Cost of Study.—"Seems to me it costs you a good deal to study," said the father, as he handed his son money to buy books with. "I don't understand the youth, poking gratefully a \$10 bill, and I don't study very hard, either."—Harvard Lampoon.

Doubtful Recommendation.—Buyer—Is this dog affectionate? Dealer—I should say so! I have sold him four times, and every time he's come right back to me.—Chicago Blade.

Quo Vadis.—First Sweet Thing—Oh, by the way, have you read "Quo Vadis"?

Second Sweet Thing—Yes; and I don't see where the title comes in; there is no such character as Quo Vadis in the book. New York Tribune.

The Greater Benefactor.—Teacher—The inventor of pins did more for the world than the builder of the pyramids. Why is that, Johnny? Johnny—Thickhead—Because, ma'am, you—er—can't bend a pyramid and put it on the seat of a chair.—Puck.

THE KLONDYKE

Great THROUGH WINTER ROUTE From VICTORIA TO DAWSON CITY

Under the Direction of the Klondyke Mining, Trading and Transport Corporation, Limited, of London. Capital, £250,000.

HON. SIR CHARLES TUPPER, BART., CHAIRMAN, LONDON, ENG. HON. E. DEWDNEY, CHAIRMAN VICTORIA. J. T. BETHUNE, LOCAL BOARD. C. H. LUGRIN, LOCAL BOARD. C. ASHWORTH, LONDON DIRECTOR.

The expedition, which will be accompanied by eighty teams of horses, sleighs, and three trains of dogs, will be in charge of Hon. Edgar Dewdney ex-Minister of the Interior of Canada and ex-Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia and will be accompanied by Mr. Caldwell Ashworth, of London, a Director of the Corporation.

The expedition will proceed to Port Wrangel on its own X 100 A screw ocean steamer "Amur," by some other suitable vessel, leaving Victoria about the 15th February.

At Wrangel it is proposed to transfer to the Stickeen River and continue the journey on the ice via Stickeen River and the villages of Glenora and Telegraph Creek. At Teslin Lake boats and scows will be built to convey the party and their outfit to Dawson City as soon as the Hootalinqua opens; that is, the expedition will follow the ice down that fine navigable stream, thereby avoiding the dangerous White Horse rapids, and arrive at Dawson City at the earliest possible date thereafter in the spring.

The plan of the Corporation is to provide shelter and good substantial food for the parties accompanying the Expedition from the day they leave Victoria until they reach the destination. While waiting at Teslin Lake for the ice to break up they will have the opportunity of prospecting the very promising ground in that vicinity. The price of the ticket covers transportation, food, shelter and the free carriage of 400 pounds baggage.

Early in January an advance party with horses will be sent up the Stickeen River to build shelters with stoves for cooking and warmth and establish supply depots. After the Coast Range on the Stickeen River has been passed the expedition will go through a country where the snowfall is generally light and along the greater portion of which a white population has been living for some years.

The Corporation will establish trading posts at Teslin Lake, Dawson City and other Yukon points and will furnish supplies to purchasers at reasonable prices. The price of a ticket covering the accommodations above mentioned is \$200, one-half of which must be paid into the Bank of Montreal at Victoria at the time of signing the contract for transportation, the balance to be paid before the sailing of the steamer from Victoria.

As the number of persons by this route will be limited, applications should be made at once, and to secure a ticket, each applicant must with his application forward a Post Office order for \$20.00 payable to the Bank of Montreal at Victoria.

The Corporation reserves the right to select members of the expedition and will return all payments made to unsuccessful applicants.

SPECIAL RATES ON EXCESS BAGGAGE.

The provisions included in the 400 pounds of personal baggage can be purchased from the Corporation before leaving Victoria. The Corporation will, at a later date, be prepared to transport passengers in their