

NO CABINET MINISTER!!!

Further Confirmation That Controllers Prior and Wood are Subordinate Officers.

That Inalienable Right of Quebec Was Gobbled Up by Ontario To-Day.

Hon Mr. Montague Sworn in as Minister of Agriculture Vice Angers.

Ottawa, Dec. 24.—At eleven o'clock today John F. Wood was sworn a member of the privy council by Lord Aberdeen at Rideau Hall.

This bears out all that has been said in the Times as to the position of controller. What was done in Mr. Wood's case was to make him a privy councillor. It is simply a waste of time discussing such a ridiculous question.

Mr. Wood's status is fixed; it is that of controller of customs at \$5000 per year and privy councillor.

Col. Prior's status has now to be decided by the electors. He needs time to study this simple question and should be left at home to do so.

Ottawa, Dec. 24.—Messrs. Fielding, Emerson, Fraser, and Laurier all spoke at Montreal last night. There was an immense crowd and great enthusiasm was manifested for the Liberal leader and his lieutenants.

A. D. Provand, M.P., Glasgow, Scotland, of the Chiqueto Marine Railway scheme, leaves for British Columbia to-day.

The Shortt case came before the cabinet this afternoon. It has been decided to commute the death sentence to imprisonment for life, the strong pressure upon the government in this case having succeeded.

Advices received at the department of trade and commerce by the last Australian mail indicate the possibility of a great demand for Canadian wheat in Australia.

The Dominion and Ontario governments, through the fisheries and crown lands departments, respectively, recently completed the stocking of several lakes in the lake of the Woods district with black bass and other valuable fish.

Ottawa Journal, Dec. 16: Hon. John P. Wood, controller of inland revenue, has been offered and accepted the position of controller of customs, rendered vacant by the resignation of Mr. Wallace.

Lieut.-Col. E. G. Prior, M. P., Victoria, B. C., has been offered, and it has been offered and accepted the position of controller of inland revenue, which will become vacant by the promotion of Mr. Wood to the customs department.

Toronto Star, Dec. 17: The government newspaper to-day confirm the information stated exclusively in this column yesterday that Mr. Wood is to become controller of customs, and Lieut.-Col. Prior appointed controller of inland revenue.

The matter last evening. Both controllers are to be sworn in to the privy council so that hereafter they may have the privilege of writing the affix "Hon." to their names in life. They are not to be cabinet ministers, but will con-

tinue to be parliamentary heads under Hon. W. B. Ives, as the statute provides.

Wanipig Free Press, Dec. 19: Misapprehension appears to have arisen regarding recent ministerial changes.

The Premier informed your correspondent to-day that both Wood and Prior will be members of the cabinet, but their departments under the act of 1887 will still be subsidiary to the department of trade and commerce.

Vancover World, Dec. 24: Looks somewhat peculiar that if Col. Prior is to be a cabinet minister, he should not have been sworn in before appealing to his constituents for an endorsement of his conduct.

Cardwell, Ont., Dec. 24.—The first polling place heard from up to four o'clock.

Cardwell, Ont., Dec. 24.—The first polling place heard from in Cardwell gives Willoughby, Conservative, 41; Stubbs, McCarthyite, 36; Henry, Liberal, 42.

Latest.—Seventeen places in Cardwell give Willoughby, 812; Stubbs, 948; and Henry, 273.

A Man Cruelly Beats a Parson with a Rock, in Lexington.

Lexington, Va., Dec. 24.—Rev. Wm. H. March, Methodist preacher, of this county, was cruelly beaten with a rock by Alexander Calvert, a mountain desperado, near Goshees, a few nights ago.

Big Fire at False Creek.

About Thirty Thousand Dollars' Worth of Property Destroyed.

Vancouver, Dec. 24.—Fire broke out at 7:30 o'clock yesterday evening at False Creek, and the building was soon consumed.

The fire was caused by the upsetting of a lamp and its subsequent explosion. A fierce wind was blowing at the time and an immense conflagration was only prevented by the heroic exertions of the fire brigade, who worked manfully all night.

The New Gold Bond Issue.

To be Made at Once—Particulars not Yet Published.

New York, Dec. 24.—A special to the Herald from Washington says: At a conference of the cabinet officers with President Cleveland it was decided to issue bonds at once to replenish the gold reserve.

To get relief from biliousness, indigestion, constipation or torpid liver without disturbing the stomach or purging the bowels, take a few doses of Carter's Little Liver Pills, they will please you.

HAPPENINGS IN HONOLULU.

Trial of Conspirators—The Vacant Justice ship Given to Mr. Hartwell.

Sao Francisco, Dec. 24.—The steamer Australia brings the following news from Honolulu, December 16: The trial of Underwood alias Morrow, and Sheridan, two alleged conspirators, was postponed this morning for one week.

The vacancy in the supreme court caused by the death of Justice Bickerton will probably be filled by A. S. Hartwell, one of the leading lawyers here. The president and cabinet, the council of state and the bar association are unanimous in choosing Judge Hartwell.

Effect on Money Markets.

More Gold From America is Expected to Help Things in London.

London, Dec. 24.—The money market has undergone a temporary tightening under the influence of the American panic.

Managua, Nicaragua, Dec. 23.—President Cleveland's message to Congress fully endorsed by President Zeiler and all Nicaraguans.

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 24.—One result of the present war scare is the unanimous demand for the arming of the militia with the Lee-Metford rifle.

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THE STORM SUBSIDED.

Now That the Little, Loud-Mouthed Jingoists Have Blown Off.

Foolish People in Nicaragua Preparing to Join a Very Mythical Army.

Christmas Holidays May Cool Hot Heads on Both the Atlantic Shores.

New York, Dec. 24.—Of all the anti-war sermons preached in this city, the fiercest was preached in the Central Metropolitan church by the Rev. S. R. Cadman.

Continuing, he said, "The English people and the newspapers, I am sorry to say, are not so far from the truth on this side. The whole thing is characterized by a species of hydrophobia jingoism."

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fact, it is said the Sultan is ten times stronger than he was six months ago, and that he no longer fears the Turkish revolutionists, and less the Powers.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 23.—Latest reports from United States Minister Terrell, at Constantinople, show that there is grave reason to apprehend further religious outbreaks in Turkey, by which the safety of American residents there would be threatened.

Colon, Island of Cuba, Province of Matanzas, Dec. 21.—As this dispatch is sent away, heavy musketry firing is heard in the direction of Ajuria, a small town six miles from here, about twenty miles from the frontier of Santa Clara.

TERRIBLE STORMS.

London, Dec. 24.—Heavy gales prevailed to-day over the coasts of Great Britain.

Dublin, Dec. 24.—The British ship Moresby, Capt. Coomber, stranded yesterday off Ballinacorney lighthouse.

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terranque; displacement, 1462 tons; length, 237 feet; beam, 41 feet 6 inches; draught, 11 feet; speed, 15 knots.—London Times.

PERSECUTION IN GERMANY.

Severe Restrictions of Liberty and Their Probable Result.

Germany are a long-suffering race, constitutionally tolerant of bureaucratic interference, and, in fact, disposed to demand it to a degree of which we have little conception in this country.

Paris, Dec. 23.—It is rumored here that England will extend to the United States and Great Britain an offer to arbitrate the Venezuelan difficulty.

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AYER'S HAIR VIGOR advertisement with image of a bottle and text describing its benefits for hair restoration.

DESPICABLE METHODS.

The Colonist has its own campaign methods, and they cannot be considered at all nice by fair-minded people.

AFRAID.

Col. Prior is afraid of discussion. He has been invited to attend opposition meetings, and is assured of the fairest treatment, but he remains away.

GET AN EXPLANATION.

It seems to be time that misleading dispatches from politicians in Ottawa were replaced by some explanation of the process by which a controller can be changed into a cabinet minister.

A GOVERNMENT DEFEAT.

Cardwell has emphatically condemned the government, not only on its school policy, but on its trade policy. It is especially significant that the Catholic electors of the riding should have voted against the government, and that circumstance shows plainly that they clearly see the true import of the proposal to coerce Manitoba.

Premier Bowell offers \$5000 for a British Columbia coercionist. It looks as if he would get his money back.

SNAP SHOTS.

This bye-election is a finish fight between hoodle and principle. Which will win?

Prior could not get the postmen their pay, but he got \$5000 for Prior. That's the difference between Prior and the postmen.

If Wallace and Prior were weighed as patriots, which would kick the beam?

Some one who believes in the old saw, "a place for everything and everything in its place," should hoist a flag labelled "The Bowell government" on the San Pedro. Both are wrecks.

Some men will do anything for \$5000. There are no tags in town now. They are all working against Manitoba.

Question: If Wallace is a patriot, what is Prior?

Premier Bowell has great consideration for the wishes of the people of Victoria.

We have been vainly endeavoring to get the San Pedro off the rocks for three years, but we can get a controller in a minute.

A great majority in Cardwell said: "No coercion!" A great majority in Victoria will re-echo this declaration.

The C. P. R. steamers should call at the outer wharf until after election day. It would be more consistent and might help the Colonel.

He who accepts the statements appearing in the Colonist as correct should have a guardian appointed at once, to save him from being run over by the cars, or otherwise injured.

Montreal Herald: When one considers that Clarke Wallace regards the election in North Ontario as supporting his stand against remedial legislation, while Hon. J. A. Oimmet sees in it a triumph for remedial legislation, it is not surprising if Sir Mackenzie Bowell does not derive much comfort from the result.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT METHODS.

To the Editor: I wish to call public attention to the following letter from Mr. D. Spragge, which appeared in the Times on Saturday last:

THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT. To the Editor: I wish to enter an emphatic protest against the brutal methods adopted by the health department of this city in dealing with patients who have been unfortunate enough to suffer from scarletina.

D. SPRAGGE.

Now Solon, who lived 500 years before Christ, was once asked, "which is the most perfect popular government?" His reply was, "that where the least injury done to the meanest individual, is considered as an insult to the whole constitution."

WILLIAM BERRIDGE.

PRIEST AND PARISHONER.

Miss Maggie Melody, of Hamilton, used Dr. Agnew's Celebrated Catarrhal Powder, on Recommendation of Rev. Father Hinchey, and found it a Grand Remedy for Influenza.

Having himself been benefited by the use of Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder, Rev. Father Hinchey, of St. Posaeph's church, Hamilton, Ont., followed the counsel of the good book, and carried the good news to others.

One short puff of the breath through the Blower, supplied with each bottle of Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder, diffuses this powder over the surface of the nasal passages.

There are 48,000 artists in Paris, more than half of them painters. The number of paintings sent in to the exhibitions last year was about 40,000.

Golfers is the latest name applied to the impressionist school of art, because they try to do their work with the fewest number of strokes.

Green tea cigarettes are said to be much used by English women. They are very injurious.

ROYAL Baking Powder. Highest of all in leavening strength.—U. S. Government Report

THE DISPUTE AT SANDON.

How the Kaslo and Slocan People Cleared the Ground.

Sandon is about four miles from Three Forks on the upper end of the town. It consists of quite a number of hotels and stores on each side of a street thirty feet wide, all the buildings but two being below the line of the K. & S. railway.

THE RING.

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 26.—Martin Julian and Bob Fitzsimmons had some words last night at the opera house, where Fitzsimmons is giving exhibitions, and Julian announced to the reporters this morning that he would have nothing further to do with Fitz. It is thought the quarrel will be patched up.

FOOTBALL.

RUGBY MATCHES.

A team captained by J. F. Foulkes on Tuesday defeated a team from the navy by 6 points to 5.

YACHTING.

New York, Dec. 26.—The steamship Tonic arrived this morning with Lord Dunsuir on board.

CUP COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

New York, Dec. 24.—A report has been made by the American cup committee to the New York club about the conditions governing the international races and their correspondence with Lord Dunsuir.

It's sweet to love; And it's just honey With lots of money.

THE OCEANIC STEAMSHIP COMPANY

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fully entitled to it, and he could not see what right the N. & S. railway could possibly have to the property in question.

At Sandon the feeling seemed to be that the K. & S. people were in the right, but at the same time it was thought that some arrangement might be made to divert the wagon road as they wanted to do.

The whole case will doubtless be fought out in the courts and the lawyers engaged will have plenty of work before it is finally settled.—Nelson Miner.

SECRETING INTELLIGENCE.

Events of Interest in the Amateur and Professional Field.

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TRANSPORTATION.

CANADIAN PACIFIC NAVIGATION CO., (LIMITED).

TIME TABLE NO. 27.

Taking effect June 21st, 1895.

VANCOUVER ROUTE.

Victoria to Vancouver daily, except Monday at 2 o'clock.

NEW WESTMINSTER ROUTE.

Leave Victoria for New Westminster, Sunday at 7 o'clock.

NORTHERN ROUTE.

Steamships of this Co. will leave for Ft. Simpson and intermediate ports via Vancouver the first and 15th of each month at 9 o'clock p.m.

BARCLAY SOUND ROUTE.

Steamer Maude leaves Victoria for Albers and Sound ports on the 10th, 20th and 30th of each month.

ESQUIMALT & NANAIMO RY.

TIME TABLE NO. 25.

To Take Effect at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, October 28th, 1895.

GOING NORTH.

LV. Victoria for Nanaimo and Esquimalt, Monday, 8:00 a.m.

GOING SOUTH.

LV. Wellington for Victoria, Tuesday, 8:30 a.m.

FOR RATES AND INFORMATION APPLY AT THE COMPANY'S OFFICES.

A. DUNSMUIR, President.

JOSEPH HUNTER, Gen. Supt.

ESQUIMALT & NANAIMO RAILWAY.

Str. JOAN.

L. P. LOCKE, Master.

Sails as follows, calling at way ports as freight and passengers may require.

LV. Victoria, Tuesday, 7 a.m.

LV. Nanaimo for Comox, Wednesday, 7 a.m.

LV. Comox for Nanaimo, Friday, 7 a.m.

LV. Nanaimo for Victoria, Saturday 7 a.m.

For freight or store cargo apply on board, or at the Company's Office, Victoria, Station Street.

BELLINGHAM BAY S. & T. CO'Y.

Victoria-Wharton Route.

Str. ISLAND BELLE

Leaves Wharton on Wednesdays, calling at Roche Harbor, Friday Harbor, West Sound and East Sound, connecting at Sidney with the V. & S. R. R. afternoon train for Victoria.

Returning leaves Sidney on Thursdays, calling at way ports and making close connections with the Great Northern and C. P. R. trains, north and south, and with steamboats for up-bound.

For freight and passenger rates apply to T. W. PATERSON, General Manager, Wharton, Nov 23-1895.

HONOLULU, BY O. S. S. CO.

The Oceanic Steamship Company

Carrying United States, Hawaiian and Colonial Mails, will leave the Company's wharf, foot of Polson St., San Francisco.

FOR HONOLULU ONLY

S.S. AUSTRALIA (3,000 tons) Saturday, Dec. 28th, 1895, at 10 a.m.

For Honolulu, Auckland and Sydney without change.

The Splendid New 800 ton Steel Screw Steamer Alameda, Thursday, Jan. 9th, at 2 p.m.

Or immediately on arrival of the Kaitumaik.

For passage apply to 114 Montgomery St. For freight apply to 827 Market Street.

J. D. SPRECKELS & BROS., Co., General Agents.

R. P. RITHEBT & CO., Agents, Victoria.

Victoria & Sidney R'y

Trains will run between Victoria and Sidney daily as follows:

Leave Victoria at 7 a.m., 4 p.m.

Leave Sidney at 8:15 a.m., 5:15 p.m.

SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS.

Leave Victoria at 7 a.m., 2 p.m.

Leave Sidney at 8:15 a.m., 5:15 p.m.

STEAMER MARY HARE.

Running in connection with the Victoria & Sidney Railway, will sail, weather permitting and business offering, as follows:

MONDAYS—Leave Sidney on arrival of morning train for Cowichan, Maple Bay, Vesuvius Bay and way ports.

TUESDAYS—Leave Sidney on arrival of morning train, for Ganges Harbor and way ports.

Returning, connects with evening train for Victoria.

WEDNESDAYS—Same as Monday.

THURSDAYS—Leave Sidney on arrival of morning train, for Nanaimo via Ganges Harbor, and way ports.

FRIDAYS—Leave Nanaimo at 7:00 a.m. for Sidney and way ports, connecting with evening train for Victoria.

For further particulars apply to the captain on board, or to Victoria and Sidney Railway agents.

T. W. PATERSON, Manager.

TRANSPORTATION.

GOING TO CHICAGO OR ANYWHERE EAST?

If you are, see that your ticket from Minneapolis, St. Paul or Duluth reads via

THE NORTH-WESTERN LINE

(C. St. P. M. & O. Ry.)

Three (3) First Class Trains Leave Minneapolis and St. Paul for Chicago on arrival of trains from Victoria as follows:

Leave Minneapolis 7:30 a.m.; St. Paul 8:10 a.m.

Daily, Budget State Express, Arrive Milwaukee 8 p.m.; Chicago, 9:45 p.m.

Leave Minneapolis 6:00 p.m.; St. Paul 7:35 a.m.

Except Sunday, Atlantic & Southern Express has Wagner Buffet and Sleeper Coaches to Chicago. Sleeper to Milwaukee, Breakfast in Dining car, Milwaukee reaching Chicago, Arrive Milwaukee 7:30 a.m.; Chicago 9:30 a.m.

For Illustrated Folder Free descriptive of Splendid Train Service via this line, to St. Louis, Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha, St. Paul, Milwaukee, and Chicago, call on your Home Agent or Address

T. W. TEASDALE, General passenger agent, St. Paul, Minn.

W. H. MBEAD, General Agent, 248 Washington St., Portland, Ore.

F. W. FARBER, Puget Sound Agent, 601 Front St., Seattle, Wash.

Spokane Falls & Northern Ry.

NELSON & FORT SHEPPARD RY.

ALL RAIL TO NELSON, B. C.

The only through line to Nelson, Kaslo, Kootenay Lake and Simola Points.

THROUGH TRAINS SEMI-WEEKLY.

Daily except Sunday, between Spokane and Maricopa.

7:00 a.m. Lv. Spokane, Arr. 5:30 p.m. Commencing January 8th, on Wednesdays and Saturdays trains will run through, arriving at Nelson at 5:40 p.m., making close connection with the steamer Nelson for all lake points, arriving at Kaslo at 8:00 p.m. same days. Returning passengers will leave lake points and Nelson on Tuesdays and Fridays, arriving at Spokane at 5:30 p.m. same days.

GREAT NORTHERN

Shortest and Quickest Line

KOOTENAY COUNTRY.

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GOVERNMENT DEFEATED

Cardwell Roman Catholics Perceive the Danger of the Remedial Bill.

Colonists' Falsification and Misrepresentation Brought to Light.

Stubbs is Sound on the School Question and the Trade Policy.

Mr. Foster's Little Deficit Has Grown—The Cost of a Premier's Funeral.

Ottawa, Dec. 26.—The Gazette, Montreal, says, "John F. Wood, the new controller of customs, was sworn in as one of the privy council before His Excellency, the Governor-General, at Rideau Hall."

The result of the Cardwell election has been the greatest blow that the government has yet sustained. The ministry have realized that Ontario, at all events, will not submit to see Manitoba coerced. Liberals took warning from dividing their forces, as in North Ontario, by making their preference for their candidate and voting for Stubbs so as to defeat the reactionists and trade restrictionists. Mr. Stubbs is sound on both.

Boyd, M. P., the government whip in Manitoba, is here seeing Premier Bowell as to what lines the opposition to the Greenway government will take. British Columbia ought to stand by Manitoba, as it may be her turn next. Public opinion is growing here against coercion. Roman Catholics in Cardwell voted against it.

The public accounts, which were distributed to-day, show a deficit for the year of a greater sum than was expected, namely \$4,153,875. The public debt is increased by \$6,801,897. Sir John Thompson's funeral cost \$23,831. An additional amount will be asked next session for the Alaska boundary. The cost so far is \$44,565. Additional sums of \$12,857, on account of the paid Royal commission on the liquor traffic and \$45,000 on the colonial conference.

The country's finances are in a terrible shape. Under the head of "Season's Greetings," the Colonist presented its readers on Christmas day with a compound of malice, falsehood and misrepresentation which was peculiarly unbecoming for the day. Here is one specimen from the nasty mess. The Colonist paraded the following dispatch to the Montreal Gazette as supporting its own side of the case, but it deliberately suppressed the portion which appears here in capital letters:

"Ottawa, Dec. 16.—Mr. John F. Wood, the controller of inland revenue, was honored, this morning, by Sir Mackenzie Bowell with an offer of the office of controller of customs, to which he was appointed temporarily on Saturday, accompanied with appointment to the Privy Council. THE CONTROLLER LOYALLY ACQUIRED IN THE WISHES OF HIS CHIEF, AND ACCEPTED THE IMPORTANT POST ASSIGNED TO HIM. ACCORDING TO THE REPORTS OF THE CABINET TO-DAY, AN ORDER IN COUNCIL WAS PASSED MAKING MR. WOOD THE PARLIAMENTARY HEAD OF THE CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT. IN DUE TIME HE WILL BE SWORN IN AS ONE OF HER MAJESTY'S PRIVY COUNCILLORS. THIS IS SOMETHING MORE THAN AN EMPTY HONOR AND WILL GREATLY FACILITATE THE WORK OF THE CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT. IT WILL ENABLE MR. WOOD, WHEN OCCASION REQUIRES, TO BE PRESENT AT THE MEETINGS OF THE CABINET, AND GIVE HIS COLLEAGUES THE ADVANTAGE OF HIS SPECIAL KNOWLEDGE HE WILL ACQUIRE CONCERNING CUSTOMS MATTERS. The transfer of Mr. Wood to the customs department leaves a vacancy in the inland revenue department, to which it is understood Mr. Prior was appointed to-day. Besides being controller of inland revenue Col. Prior will also be sworn in as a privy councillor. Before coming to Ottawa to take oath of office he will submit himself to the endorsement of his constituents. The bye-election in Victoria will take place at the earliest possible day, so that the new controller of inland revenue may be in his seat in parliament before the session is far advanced. Col. Prior's opponent lost his deposit, polling only 449 votes, whereas the Colonel polled 1031. It is altogether likely that there will be no opposition to his re-election under the circumstances."

The newspaper that would thus delicately garble in the endeavor to make a point is not to be trusted in any of its statements of fact. That is precisely the view the electors must take for their own protection in this contest; there is no depth of deception, falsehood or trickery to which the Colonist is not ready to descend in the interest of its Ottawa masters. Here is another instance. Though pretending to quote from all the eastern papers on the cabinet minister question, the Colonist pointedly ignores the following dispatch to the Conservative Toronto World:

"Ottawa, Dec. 16.—It is understood that to-day's meeting of the cabinet will result in the appointment of Mr. J. F. Wood as controller of customs and Col. Prior, M. P.

for Victoria, controller of inland revenue. Mr. Wood's transfer leaves the greatest revenue-producing department in the hands of an Ontario man, and he gets in addition to considerably more work, the honor of being made a member of the Privy Council. THIS, OF COURSE, DOES NOT MEAN THAT MR. WOOD ATTAINS FULL CABINET RANK, BUT THAT WILL COME IN DUE TIME, as John F. has demonstrated his capacity as a departmental administrator. Nevertheless, it is an honor much sought after and will give him the title of honorable for life.

Col. Prior will also be sworn a member of the Privy Council. The Colonel is admittedly an able man. During the twenty years that he has been in British Columbia, he has built up a successful hardware business, which is the largest in the province. Col. Prior has long been identified with prominent enterprises in British Columbia. He is a Yorkshireman by birth.

"BY CREATING MR. WOOD AND MR. PRIOR MEMBERS OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL, WHEN MATTERS AFFECTING THEIR DEPARTMENTS COME UP AT CABINET MEETINGS, THEY MAY BE INVITED TO A SEAT AT THE COUNCIL BOARD, BUT WITHOUT A VOTE."

Of course this could not be quoted by the Colonist, since it exactly bears out what the Times said and makes the Colonist contentions look extremely ridiculous. The omission, however, is all the more significant from the fact that THE TORONTO WORLD'S OTTAWA CORRESPONDENT IS ALSO THE COLONIST'S CORRESPONDENT.

There are a few more extracts from the eastern papers which the organ either ignores or dishonestly endeavors to twist to suit its purposes. The following editorial note from the Montreal Gazette is peculiarly significant:

"It is announced that Messrs. Wood and Prior, the new controllers of customs of the Privy Council. It is not known whether this step is intended to be preliminary to restoring these positions to their old status of cabinet offices, but it seems to be in that direction. The duties of the controllers are quite as important as those which attach to some other cabinet portfolios, and the present plan must often result in incongruities if not misunderstandings. It is a little anomalous to have in the same government members who do not hold portfolios, and portfolios which do not have members in the government council. The plan of having half-ministers was an experiment, which the public has not yet developed an affection for, and if it was discarded no one would object."

The editor of the Gazette, like all other newspaper editors and correspondents in the east, failed to see how a man could be a controller and a cabinet minister at one and the same time. The controllerships are the "portfolios" which do not have members in the government council. Here are two extracts from the Montreal Herald:

"In the studied refusal of the premier to provide information as to what post the new comer is to fill, it is to be presumed that the genial colonel from British Columbia is to take Mr. Angers' place in the cabinet. Sir Adolphe Caron and Col. Prior are known to be great friends personally, but it is a question whether Sir Adolphe's pleasure in the acquisition of such pleasant companionship in the council chamber will offset his French-Canadian fellow countrymen's chagrin that they should be deprived of any portion of that cabinet representation which custom has hitherto allowed them."

The Ottawa Citizen is not very enthusiastic over Col. Prior's admission to the government. It does say, however, that "the Colonel can sing a good song, and is popular with the ladies, but this does not prevent him from possessing those solid qualities such as would make him valuable at the head of a department." No, it does not prevent him, but the gallant Colonel's social graces are the only qualifications he has exhibited during several sessions at the cabinet.

The writer of the first paragraph does not understand a man being a member of the cabinet without a portfolio, and, therefore, assumed that Col. Prior was to succeed Mr. Angers as minister of agriculture. The Montreal man hit upon the idea that Victorians might have supposed would occur to the government. Why was not Col. Prior made a minister, when there was a department vacant?

Winnipeg, Dec. 23.—The Manitoba legislature has been dissolved, and an appeal to the country will be made on the school issues. Polling will take place on January 15, and the new house meets January 25. Premier Greenway, in an address on the issue, says: "I assert that our people, perfectly competent to deal with our own educational concerns, and I resent the imputations that they have treated any portion of the community with injustice or in a spirit of intolerance. I protest against the proposed action of the Dominion parliament to destroy our national school system, without investigation, and in ignorance of the circumstances."

Politics were given a rest yesterday, but the interest was increased to-day. Candidates are being nominated in county constituencies, and there is a prospect of contests in most of them. In the city all three divisions will be contested, with the probability of a three-cornered fight in North Winnipeg.

Norman H. Taylor, a popular young man, died yesterday of consumption.

IS OUTGENERALLED.

General Campos, Spain's Most Able Officer, Badly Fooled by the Cubans.

The Insurgents, by a Clever March, Outflank Him and Get In-side.

Havana, Dec. 24.—Shortly after noon to-day the startling news received from Matanzas that Gen. Gomez, at the head of the insurgent army, said to number about 12,000 men of all arms, fairly well supplied with artillery, had by a feat turned the left flank of Capt. Gen. Martinez Campos, who, in command of the Spanish forces at Colon, had attempted to stop the advance of the enemy upon Havana, and were all to the westward of Colon and threatening Matanzas to the southward and preparing to strike directly at Havana.

The receipt of this startling news has caused the greatest excitement here, both in official and unofficial circles. As previously detailed in these dispatches, the insurgents, a little over two weeks ago, entered the province of Santa Clara from the province of Pinar del Rio, and there defeating Principe, at Igua, and a Spanish column, Col. Segura, and a Spanish column, Col. Saez, made a wonderful advance through the province, passing through the flower of the Spanish army assembled there, said to number about 5000 men. After some sharp skirmishes in which the Spaniards were worsted, Gen. Campos transferred them to Cienfuegos, with the announced intention of personally commanding the troops which were to check the insurgent advances.

But in spite of the repeated reverses the insurgents pressed onward, and a heavy column, Santa Clara, San Juan de Luperon, Ranchuelo and other towns pushed on for the frontier of Matanzas. At one time it was reported that they intended to attack Santa Clara, but their tactics seemed to be to pass the big towns and press on for Havana. It was only a few days ago that the announcement was made that the insurgents were at Las Lajas and marching onward to Havana. Then came the news that the insurgents had entered the province of Matanzas in a hurry in the night. Before this, however, Gen. Campos had changed his headquarters to Colon, and he commenced hurriedly concentrating his forces there, intending to compel Gen. Gomez to fight a pitched battle before passing that place. A day or so ago the insurgent army, under Gen. Gomez, was heard at Ajua, about fifteen miles from that place, and reinforcements were sent to the front, but this turned out to be little more than an outpost affair, and while the Spanish troops made for this point, the main body of the army passed south to Colon near the line of railroad and headed for the frontier province of Havana, turning the flank of the captain general, who, with the bulk of the Spanish forces in the island of Cuba, is now all to the rear of the insurgent columns.

The latter are moving more rapidly than the Spanish troops, who, utterly unused to travelling in thickly wooded country, without regular roads and with heavy grasses and low hedges, had to interfere with every movement, and not thought likely to catch up with the quickly moving Cubans, whose marches clear a road for their advance, and who are much more familiar with the country and accustomed to the climate, and can easily disconcert the Spaniards, only recently brought into the country.

Gomez, by a beautifully executed countermarch, has turned the flank of the famous Spanish commander, and to-day, with his army, made his appearance close to the town of Jovellanos, within a few days of the Spanish headquarters at Matanzas, and the movement of the insurgents was an example of splendid generalship, accomplished under the most trying circumstances and in the face of overwhelming numbers of Spanish troops commanded by the best officers of Spain. The insurgents burned the railroad station of Quintana, east of Jovellanos, and destroyed the railroads behind them to prevent the advance of the Spanish troops upon their rear.

The news received here, that he had passed Linoamar, a small town only a few miles from Matanzas, and were pushing for the railroad which connects Matanzas with Havana.

It seems there is nothing likely to prevent them from capturing Havana within the next few days, for the Spaniards appear to have entirely lost their heads, and, unless Campos has accomplished a miracle of daring strategy in allowing Gomez and his friends to slip by, in order that the Spanish troops may be hurried to the aid of the sortie from Havana catch them between two fires, the insurgents are masters of the situation. The odds against the Spaniards being able to press on after the triumphant insurgent army are very heavy. Not only have the insurgents destroyed the railroads behind them, thus burning their ships, as it were, but they have in many other ways done everything possible to impede the progress of the Spanish army, and the friends of the insurgents here are confident that the arrival of Gomez before Havana will shortly be announced. As it is, the insurgent cavalry have been sighted within fifty miles of Havana, to the westward of Matanzas, and had apparently taken possession of the roads joining that report to this city.

Railroad and mail communication between Jovellanos, Colon and Matanzas are interrupted and it is believed to be only a few hours when the telegraphic communication with Matanzas will be cut. General Campos has ordered the Spanish commanders nearest to the insurgents, Generals Valdez and Navarro to do everything possible to attack the insurgents under any and all circumstances, but it is not thought likely that these generals will dare to do what the captain general had been unable to do.

A later dispatch says Captain General Campos has managed to get out of Colon, and that he has placed himself at the head of the Spanish forces at Linoamar, twenty miles east of Matanzas, where he expects to be able to strike thousands of people from all parts of the country around Matanzas are flocking in terror into that city, according to the official dispatches, but other reports say that in the main they offer to join the insurgents, who are being plentifully supplied with provisions by the inhabitants of all the towns along the route they follow. The little town of Jacon, Santo Domingo, where a detachment of soldiers under a captain and two lieutenants of the Spanish army, were attacked and for the most part cut to pieces by the insurgents, is almost deserted. Christmas evening is ushered in with something like dismay in this city, and the apprehension is hourly gaining ground that Havana will be besieged by armed forces before Christmas day is over. The insurgents' advance at latest advices seems to be uninterrupted, thus contradicting a report sent out during the afternoon that they had been turned back in pitched battle by Campos himself, and were striving to make their way back into Santa Clara province. This rumor stated in great detail that General Campos in person, at the head of the Spanish forces, were besieged in coming face to face with Gomez and his forces at the plantation of Coliseo, which was in flames. The plantation is situated twelve miles from Cardenas and twenty-one miles from Matanzas. The insurgents, it is said, were besieged in the field. The troops' loss, it was reported, was comparatively insignificant, being only fourteen and Generals Valdez and Laque had already started to Semanilla del Incomodum, supported by several other columns, in pursuit of the flying insurgents, who are supposed to be making their way back to Santa Clara province at their best speed. This report had the effect of generally restoring confidence here, and it was generally believed for a time, as it indicated that Gomez had given up his campaign for lack of support in Matanzas.

BROUGHT INTO PORT

The Strathnevis Towed Into Port Townsend Yesterday by the Mineola.

Miowera Had the Disabled Steamer in Tow, but Lost Her in a Storm.

Grave Fears for the Australian Liner, Which Suddenly Disappeared.

Early yesterday afternoon two big steamers were seen to pass Rate Rocks, and hugging the American shore make for the Sound. Immediately the news spread that the Strathnevis was safe, for it was easy to identify her, but not so easy to identify the steamer that had her in tow. Shortly afterwards the City of Kingston arrived from the Sound and confirmed the good news. She had passed the Strathnevis in the straits in tow of the collier Mineola.

The steamer Miowera, of the Canadian-Australian line, had the Strathnevis in tow for five days, but lost her in a terrible storm ten miles off Cape Flattery last Sunday afternoon. Two steel hawsers broke, and the Miowera disappeared in the storm. Grave fears are entertained for the Miowera, as it seems unlikely that she would leave such a rich prize after having towed her so far and reached so near port.

Here is the story of the Strathnevis' experience as told by Capt. Pattie in the Times correspondent at Port Townsend:

Port Townsend, Wash., Dec. 26. The Northern Pacific steamship Strathnevis, which sailed past this port seventy-four days ago, bound from Tacoma from Hongkong, was towed into this port last night in a disabled condition by the collier Mineola. The safe return of the vessel was the occasion for great jubilation in the bay last night at ten o'clock. Just as soon as the anchor of the Strathnevis was dropped and all fell secure after the terrible experience, the crew of the disabled marine monster flew forward and gave three cheers for the officers and crew of the Mineola. The cheer was returned from the latter and the Strathnevis' siren whistle blew out three cheerful blasts. This was replied to a moment later by the Mineola's air siren. The Strathnevis then fired her rockets, and for an hour expressions of goodwill were exchanged.

The morning after the Strathnevis left Victoria her propeller shaft, that necessary adjunct for making headway, broke off near the propeller, which went to the bottom. There was no help for the accident, and all that could be done was to make sail. This was a tiresome task. Days went by and not a sign was seen. Finally the bark John Gambles came in sight, and in reply to signals, came alongside. A statement of the accident was made to her, and having no means at hand to assist, the sailing vessel crowded on all sail and made for Victoria. Here the accident was reported. At the time of the accident the Strathnevis was 1700 miles off the coast. Between the time she broke down and when the mail steamer Miowera picked her up she had drifted into within 700 miles of the coast. The Miowera gave her up, she had drifted in to within 70 miles of Destruction Island, which point was reached Sunday last. That evening the hawsers parted. It was bad weather, and despite the fact that every effort was made it was impossible to pick the Strathnevis up again. The Miowera, stood by all night but the next morning disappeared. The sudden disappearance of the Miowera, in view of the dangerous proximity of the shore to the disabled vessel, leaves no conclusion but that she herself met with an accident. It is not thought that she would desert her prize after the long tow successfully made with her. At Destruction Island the second mate and three men were sent ashore in a boat, just before the Mineola was in sight. They were to look for help, and they are still at the light house. The Mineola beat the Costa Rica in the race for the prize by five minutes. While nothing has yet been done, it is expected that at least \$50,000 will be the salvage received by the Mineola and her owners.

It is a conspicuous fact, proving the seaworthiness of the Strathnevis, that despite her disabled condition in the westerly and southwesterly gales which prevailed all the time she was out, she shipped but one sea. Only one fatality occurred during the entire term of the terrible voyage. That was the death of a Japanese foreman in the restaurant business in Tacoma. He was going home to die, but expired en route, and was buried at sea.

The stories about a scarcity of bread and rice and riots among the Japanese and Chinese passengers are untrue. As soon as the larger vessel was emptied the steward dived on the cargo, and had the vessel been out a year no one would have gone hungry. There were two hundred souls at the mercy of the elements for seventy-four days on the Strathnevis. Of these 124 were Chinese, 54 Japanese and the remainder, 33, were white men, comprising the crew. She was commanded by Capt. Pattie.

On Monday last all hope of saving the vessel was abandoned. The boats were made preparatory to leaving the vessel as she was in imminent danger of drifting ashore on Destruction Island. Finally she reached safe anchorage, and had her anchors down when picked up. One of the most interesting features in connection with the return of the ship is the enormous amount of money to be made by the insurance men who had the courage to take risks on her.

RELIGIOUS RIOT IN BUFFALO. Feud Between Catholic Factions Creates Much Excitement. Buffalo, Dec. 2.—A feud which has existed for some time between the congregation of St. Adelbert Polish Roman Catholic church and the dissenters who formed the church of the Holy Rosary, broke out to-day in a riot of serious proportions. The leading cause of the outbreak was the action yesterday of Father Flacek, of St. Adelbert's church, in seizing by replevin a banner of the Holy Rosary church. A number of the latter congregation surrounded the priest's house and stoned the windows until they were driven off by the police.

To-day a dinner was given by Father Flacek to the Polish Roman Catholic priests of the city, in honor of Saint Thomas day, and the event was made the occasion of a determined attack upon the priests by the dissenters. When Father Flacek and his guests saw the mob, numbering one thousand, they at once barricaded the doors. The mob yelled and jeered and hurled stones and other missiles through the windows. The police appeared on the scene and dispersed the mob, making thirteen arrests.

THE DEMOCRATIC SUBSTITUTE Coinage of Silver Seigniorage—Redemption of Greenbacks. Washington, Dec. 26.—A plan has been drafted by ex-Speaker Crisp and Mr. Bailey, of Texas, which will be offered as a substitute for the Republican measures to be presented on Thursday. It is based on the old bill for the coinage of the silver seigniorage which was passed by the last congress and vetoed by the president. But to this bill, modified, will be added a feature for the redemption of greenbacks. The principal change in the seigniorage bill will be the omission of that part which rendered available the seigniorage before it had been coined, by the use of silver certificates based upon it. The framers of the bill hold that this feature is not necessary, because there is no immediate deficiency in the treasury. The new feature of the plan will provide for the redemption of greenbacks in silver whenever the amount of gold in the treasury falls below one hundred millions. This may be offered as an amendment to the seigniorage bill, as more votes can be mustered for the former than the latter proposition. The democrats who favor the plan intend, of course, merely to place themselves on record as consistent in their financial policy.

LOOKS LIKE WAR DOESN'T IT?

The Ottawa Government, in all the Empire War Wind, Disbands Troops.

Bar Portage, Dec. 26.—The war scare cannot be troubling the powers that be at Ottawa to any great extent. They have decided to disband the 96th Battalion. Some time ago they decided to disband three companies, but to keep up one at the Sault, one at Port Arthur and one here, but the order now comes for the remaining companies to turn in their outfits, and the officers are now getting the equipment in shape to hand over to the deputy adjutant-general.

THE DISPATCHES DOUBTED. Even Cubans Scarcely Believe Gomez Has Been So Bold.

Washington City, Dec. 26.—The officials of the Spanish legation appear not to be disturbed by the news coming from Havana. They ridicule the idea of the insurgents taking a city like Havana, with its population of 200,000 people. Minister de Lome has received several dispatches from Havana, showing in part the condition of affairs. A dispatch from Gen. Andrus, who is second in command, reports that at 1 o'clock to-day he had just had a conference with Gen. Campos, then at Linoamar. Gen. Campos intended to start for Guanabana, where he expected to pass the night. The latter is a regular point of railroad communication, and is to the west of Linoamar. Yesterday, the minister is advised, Campos met the band of Maximo Gomez, the engagement taking place on a plantation where fires had been started by the insurgents. The Spanish loss was twelve wounded, who were taken to the hospital at Matanzas. The insurgents fell back and divided into groups. Gen. Valdez and Laque are in the vanguard of the army, in full communication with the commander-in-chief.

A dispatch received by the minister to-day reported that the bands of Maceo and Gomez are avoiding fighting, and burning the cane fields. All the engagements, the dispatch says, have been satisfactory to the government.

New York, Dec. 24.—Members of the Cuban revolutionary party residing in this city express a doubt concerning the authenticity of the reports from Cuba to the effect that the insurgents are rapidly advancing upon Havana. Emilio A. Gramonte, prominently identified with the local Cuban societies, said to-day that he had received no official confirmation of any of the press dispatches received from Cuba. He did not believe there was any possibility of any attempt on the part of the insurgents to capture Havana at the present time. The policy of the Cuban generals was to fight in the open fields, not caring to be surrounded by the Spanish troops in the vicinity of a large city like Havana, where at least 30,000 citizens would be impressed into the Spanish army by the authorities in case of the near approach of the rebels.

CONTINUOUS SUFFERING UNNECESSARY. One or Two Doses of South American Kidney Cure Will Give Relief in the Most Distressing Cases of Kidney Trouble.

It is a fallacy to argue one's self into the belief that suffering when it comes upon us must be patiently endured. Usually suffering can be removed, if one knows of the means and way. Much suffering is borne by those who are troubled with kidney disease. The distress at times is keen. But in South American Kidney Cure, medicine that is kidney specific and nothing more, though nothing less, a sure, safe, and speedy remedy is to be found. Relief is sure in less than six hours. Sold by Dean & Hiscocks and Hall & Co.

The campaign in Chitral showed England that in spite of its carrying power, the new Lee-Netford magazine rifle was not effective in checking the onset of an attacking force, as the wounds inflicted by the projectiles in many cases did not disable the men temporarily. The battalion sent to Ashantee, which was trained to use the Lee-Netford gun, has been equipped with the Martini-Henri rifle, which is now believed to be the better at short range, and will have to learn how to use it as though it were a new weapon. Another innovation is learned from the French-Madagascar expedition. Instead of sending out one of the regular battalions of an army, a composite battalion has been formed, made up of small detachments of volunteers or of drafted men from several regiments. Another lesson has been learned from Madagascar, that a force of only two or three factors accompanied the small force.

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AFRAID.

No plainer indication that Col. Prior is afraid to face the issue can be produced than the fact that he has arranged to hold a meeting at Spring Ridge on Thursday—the date of the opposition meeting at the Victoria theatre. Col. Prior has been invited to speak at the latter and all other meetings held by the opposition candidate. He is afraid of discussion.

THE MINORITY.

Col. Prior at last night's meeting had a great deal to say about the rights and privileges of the Manitoba minority. Yet he proceeded to ask his hearers whether they were going to turn out a good loyal Protestant and Orangeman and be governed by a Frenchman and a Roman Catholic. That little portion of his speech showed exactly how much regard Col. Prior entertains in his inmost heart for the rights of the minority. When he talks about the minority his sentiments are purely official.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE.

Col. Prior at the Cedar Hill meeting said the ministry of agriculture, vacated by Mr. Angers, could be given to no other than a Quebec man. Dr. Montague, who is an Ontario man, was sworn in as minister of agriculture today at Ottawa, so the Colonel's statement was decidedly erroneous. Why could not the portfolio have been given to a British Columbian as well as to a man from Ontario? If Col. Prior had been made minister of agriculture he would have been a bona fide member of the cabinet, and there would have been no occasion for the "fake" which Sir Mackenzie has devised in his behalf.

A POLITICAL ECONOMIST.

Col. Prior, at Cedar Hill: "He might mention that one of the reasons why the steamers are subsidized is that we want to sell to China, to secure for Canada a share of the great trade which may be done with her." Out of the profundity of this knowledge of political economy the Colonel might point out how Canadians are going to sell goods to China if they do not take Chinese goods in return. Do the Chinese send over their money in payment of Canadian goods? Has Chinese money come over to Canada to pay for the goods already sold there? If so, what has become of it? Let the Colonel answer.

PRIOR VERSUS WALLACE.

Colonist report of Cedar Hill meeting: "Col. Prior answered that it is the government he is supporting, and he has every confidence that they will turn out to be right. It will be plenty of time for him to oppose them when he finds them going wrong." Clarke Wallace's explanation of his resignation: "I felt so strongly the undesirability of interfering with the province of Manitoba in the control of its educational affairs, and so strongly against imposing the separate school system on that province against the will of its people, as to convince me of the propriety of the step I have taken, and I look for the confidence and good will of my friends in that step."

Col. Prior by accepting office says that Clarke Wallace deserves no confidence or good will, and that he was wrong in his course of action.

ONLY A BRANCH.

On Dec. 14 the Colonist's Ottawa correspondence contained the following: "The department of customs being a branch of the department of trade and commerce, little inconvenience will in the meantime be felt for lack of a departmental head, all the customs business coming in the natural course of events before Mr. Ives. It is unlikely, however, that the department of customs will be without a controller for any length of time. Indeed it is probable that at the council meeting of tomorrow Hon. John F. Wood will be appointed acting controller of customs. Since he has been a member of the government Mr. Wood has demonstrated that he is a most capable administrator with an enormous capacity for work, and although it may come pretty hard on him for a while to control both the inland revenue and customs departments, he is quite able to do the work."

Col. Prior has been made controller of inland revenue, which is an even less important branch of the department of trade and commerce than is the customs sub-department, yet the Colonist's Ottawa correspondent said the latter could be left for a time with little inconvenience, and one man could administer both without any great difficulty. This is the post which Col. Prior has been given. Col. Prior may say what he likes, in the government of Canada he ranks only as a controller and the subordinate of the minister of customs.

TUPPER'S CONCLUSION.

Sir Hibbert Tupper went to New York to meet his father, and while there was questioned with reference to Canadian politics by some of the New York papers. Of this interview E. E. Sheppard, a good Conservative, writes as follows in the Toronto Star: "Tupper, jr., is in New York to meet Tupper, sr., and is telling the newspapers that North Ontario proves that the remedial order suits Ontario exactly, and will be shown to be precisely what the Tories of this province want. The opposite will be demonstrated before long, together with the fact that the Tupperes are loyal to no principle but self-interest, and to no person who is not a Tupper or married to one. It was the Tupperes who forced

the remedial order upon the government, and everyone who knows the inside history of the thing is aware that Sir Hibbert had his whole policy prepared before the decision of the Privy Council was known in Canada, and announced it before the ink on the cablegram was scarcely dry. He and his father were doubtless working together, and soon the precious pair will be in Ottawa together to help poor old Sir Bowell—further into the whole." Mr. Sheppard knows a good deal of the inside history of events on his own side of politics, and will readily be accepted as an authority.

THE CONTROLLERS.

Yesterday we gave Dr. Bourinot's statement in regard to the relative position of cabinet ministers and controllers. To-day we quote the provisions of the statute of 1878 creating the office of the controller, the terms of which can leave no doubt in any reasonable person's mind as to the subordinate position the controllers occupy. The reader will observe the distinction made between ministers of the crown and the controllers, the latter being appointed by order-in-council and removed at the pleasure of the council. The sections of the act which have to do with the matter are as follows:

1. The department of customs and the department of inland revenue respectively shall, from and after the coming into force of this act, or of so much thereof as relates to either of the said departments, in accordance with the provisions hereinafter contained, be under the control and supervision of the minister of trade and commerce, or of the minister of finance, as the governor in council from time to time directs, and the offices of minister of customs and minister of inland revenue shall cease to exist so soon as this act is brought in force, as respects the department of customs or the department of inland revenue, as the case may be.

2. The governor in council may appoint an officer who shall be called the controller of customs, and an officer who shall be called the controller of inland revenue, each of whom shall hold office during pleasure, and shall, under the general instructions of the minister of trade and commerce, or of the minister of finance, as the governor in council directs, be the parliamentary head of the said departments respectively.

3. The said officers shall each receive a salary at the rate of five thousand dollars per annum.

4. Wherever by any act any duty is assigned to, or any power is conferred upon the minister of customs or the minister of inland revenue, such duty shall be performed or such power shall be exercised by the controller of customs or the controller of inland revenue respectively; but any duty or power assigned to the controller of customs or the controller of inland revenue shall be performed or exercised subject to the supervision and control of the minister of trade and commerce, or of the minister of finance, as the governor in council directs.

7. Whenever any person who holds the office of controller of customs or controller of inland revenue and is, at the same time, a member of the house of commons, resigns his office, and within one month after his resignation accepts any of the offices mentioned in sub-section three of section nine of the "Act respecting the Senate and House of Commons," and becomes a member of the Crown and a member of the Queen's privy council for Canada, or having so resigned, accepts any office created by this act or by the act of the present session intitled "An Act to make provision for the appointment of a Solicitor General," other than that which he holds, he shall not thereby vacate his seat unless the administration under which he held office as controller of customs or controller of inland revenue has resigned and a new administration has been formed.

BETTER FACE THE TRUTH.

Though the government, or at least blunders, it is evidently in reality convinced that its contentions with regard to Col. Prior's position, are wrong. Nothing more than its own dispatches are needed to show that whatever position the government may think of giving Col. Prior in the future, it cannot at present make him a member of the cabinet. If he is a de facto cabinet minister now why should it be necessary to propose the legislation which was foreshadowed by the Colonist's correspondence yesterday? It may have been noticed that the same correspondence was all in the future tense. Sir Mackenzie Bowell's (alleged) statement to Col. Prior reads: "You are controller of inland revenue, privy councillor and a member of the cabinet." The Colonist's correspondent says: "Premier Bowell informed your correspondent today that both Hon. John F. Wood and Hon. E. G. Prior will be members of the cabinet." From "are" to "will be" is a peculiar change. Nothing more is needed to show that an attempt has been made to fool the people of Victoria, an attempt which Victorians are bound to resent as an insult. Our Ottawa dispatches to-day make the matter still plainer. The Colonist's Ottawa correspondent is also the correspondent of the Toronto World, and is on peculiarly confidential terms with the premier. His announcement in the World is therefore extremely significant. Besides, it is evident that everyone in the east, including Minister Ives and Cartwright, Wood, regards it as an impossibility that the controllers can be cabinet members. We should not like to think that all those people ought to be in lunatic asylums. To any man capable of thinking for himself this matter should be perfectly clear. The controllers are the subordinates of the minister of trade and commerce, and they could not have seats in the cabinet on an equality with their superior officer. That state of affairs would be absurdly anomalous, and would be a violation of the law. It would be better for Col. Prior if he

and his friends were to stand upon the truth and value the position he has been given at its exact worth. Deception and trickery will not avail.

OPPOSITION.

The Liberals have undoubtedly taken the right course in deciding to oppose Col. Prior's return to Parliament. Opponents of a government are sometimes justified in permitting the re-election by acclamation of a representative who has accepted office as a minister of the crown, but the conditions which would justify this in the Controller Prior's case are not present. The endeavor to create a false impression here in regard to the office given is in itself a reason for condemning the government and voting against it. As the affair stands no Victorian of independent spirit can harbor the slightest feeling of gratitude for what the government has done, and it is an insult to say that he should. Then the circumstances which have led to the appointment plainly indicate the necessity of opposition. The vacancy which Colonel Prior has been called to fill was caused by the retirement of Mr. Clarke Wallace, who found himself unable to remain in office with a government determined to coerce the province of Manitoba and trample on its rights. It is openly stated that no Ontario member of parliament could be found to accept the vacant office and with it this policy of coercion. The unopposed return of Col. Prior would certainly be taken to mean that Victoria and all British Columbia approve this policy, an impression which the people of the city and province cannot allow to go abroad. It would be a nice conclusion, surely that British Columbians have less sense of justice or place a lower value on provincial autonomy than the people of the east. Then the fiscal question had to be considered. Victoria could not afford to give an unequal approval of the policy which imposes an enormous burden of taxation on this province and gives comparatively little in return, and that is what Col. Prior's re-election by acclamation would mean. For all these reasons the Liberals were bound to offer opposition, and for these reasons the electors of Victoria district, we are thoroughly convinced, will negative the return of Controller Prior.

Speaking of the North Ontario election ex-Controller Wallace said: "I am pleased to see Mr. McGillivray victorious for he assured me definitely that, if elected, he would oppose any coercion of Manitoba. He went to North Ontario asking the electors to pledge him to no definite line of action on the school question, but to judge of his record. The electors, remembering the stand he took in the Meredith campaigns, and the fighting he did in opposition to any extension of the separate school system in Ontario, thought that such a record was good and elected him." Unless Bro. McGillivray cruelly deceived the Grand Master, the government's jubilation over North Ontario was rather limited.

Controller—An officer appointed to keep a counter register of accounts, or to examine, rectify or verify accounts.—Webster.

By using Hall's Hair Renewer, gray, faded, or discolored hair assumes the natural color of youth, and grows luxuriant and strong, pleasing everybody.

GOSSIP ABOUT GEMS.

The Diamond is Deposed From the Premier's Place. Americans are buying dukers this year. They have no money for diamonds, says Lone Raabe in the Boston Transcript. The importations of these precious stones have gone away down to the hard times. In 1894 they dropped to a lower point than for many years, only \$6,768,000 worth being brought to this country. The growth of luxury in the United States is fairly measured by the imports of diamonds, which in 1867 amounted to barely more than \$1,300,000. In 1889 they reached nearly \$11,000,000. In 1890, \$13,000,000; in 1892, \$14,000,000. This was the high water mark. They have fallen off to less than half that figure since.

The notion of buying diamonds by the ton seems almost absurd, yet, practically, that is what is done nowadays by the great English syndicate which purchases the whole output of the South African mines for a sum stipulated annually. The stones are bought in the rough and are cut in London. On this account the business of cutting diamonds has been moving to the British capital, which has become the great centre of the industry formerly almost monopolized by Amsterdam. In January of the present year the dealers of Amsterdam and Antwerp formed a combination and tried to break the English control of the market by offering higher prices than the English syndicate had bid for the yield of 1895. The Britishers, however, made an offer yet higher, securing the goods for the enormous sum of \$17,500,000 in cash.

Only a few months ago the greatest demand ever known in the history of the world was found in one of these South African mines—the Jagersfontein. It weighs 971 carats, far exceeding the celebrated "Great Mogul." It is a blue-white and flawless, except for a slight spot in the centre, hardly visible to the naked eye. The value is stated at \$2,000,000. Experts say that a "drop" or "brilliant" of over 400. Of all forms for cutting diamonds the brilliant is the most beautifully and optically effective, but it is apt to be wasteful of the precious material. A report was published to the effect that Emperor William of Germany was going to buy the gem, but whatever the reason may have been, it did not become his property. It was presented to the Pope by the president of the Transvaal Republic.

It is a great mistake to suppose that diamonds are the most precious of gems. In market value they are far surpassed

by rubies. A four-carat ruby of true pigeon-blood color is worth \$9000, while a fine large diamond of the same weight will sell for \$1000. Most of the rubies to-day come from Siam, but the finest are from Burma. Of the latter the supply is very small, however, owing to the difficulties which attend mining in Burma.

In view of these facts, much interest attaches to a statement soon to be published by the United States geological survey, to the effect that great deposits of rubies have been discovered recently in a valley in North Carolina. The valley is three miles long by half a mile wide, traversed by a stream. The gems are found in a layer of gravel from two to ten feet thick, and from three to twenty feet below the surface of the ground. Exploration has proved that the ruby-bearing gravel extends through the entire valley, but not beyond it. Many of the stones already picked up are of large size.

The most important precious stone of the ruby class, commercially speaking, is turquoise. In 1861 there was mined of it in this country \$150,000 worth; in 1892, \$175,000 worth; in 1893, \$145,000 worth. Immense deposits of it, some of which were worked anciently by the Indians, have been found in Arizona and New Mexico. Recently a new mine was discovered in Texas, to the north of El Paso. Whereas theaboriginals before the coming of the first white man, took out the turquoise by the crudest methods, building fires against the rocks to crack them, the deposits to-day are attacked on scientific principles, and are made to yield stones of great purity. The gems up to sixty carats weight, and valued at \$4000 each, have been cut from them. A great advantage which they have over most imported turquoise is that they do not change color. Owing to the stringency of the laws, however, the output of turquoise in this country in 1894 was worth only \$30,000.

The legislative assembly of Arizona has addressed a memorial to Congress, asking that the lands covered by the "trifoliate forest" be withdrawn from entry and made a public park. This so-called "forest" of chaledony is in Apache country. An area of ten miles square is covered with trunks of agate, and some of which measure two hundred feet in length and ten feet in diameter. Ruthless curiosity seekers are destroying the trees by blasting them to pieces in search of the pretty crystals which are found inside of many of them. Similar pieces are shipped away by carloads to be ground up for various purposes. It is urged that to make the tract a public park would preserve it from vandalism and would injure nobody, inasmuch as there are no settlers upon it. The other day a cowboy rode over the "agitated bridge" on horseback, trying to break down the tree that spans the chasm, and was disappointed at not succeeding. During the last year deposits of very beautiful agate were discovered 25 miles west of Phillipsburg, Mont., on the eastern slope of the Bitter Root range. The crystals are scattered over an area of 1500 acres and 75 pounds of them have been obtained already. They are of light shades of blue, pink, yellow and purple. The forthcoming bulletin of the United States Geological survey, freely quoted in this letter, if from the pen of Mr. G. F. Kunz, Tiffany's famous expert in gems. He says that a few months ago the Trenton Flint and Spar Company, of Topsham, Maine, while mining for feldspar, came upon a number of pockets filled with remarkable crystals of beryl, green, yellow and white. Some of them were as much as five inches long and one inch in diameter. Nearly all were transparent and capable of yielding gems equal to those of the Ural Mountains.

Mr. Kunz says that during the last few years the Indians of the Navajo reservations have found so many garnets and peridot that the supply has succeeded the demand. Thus at present there is a large surplus of these stones on hand at the various agencies. The Indians collect them from ant hills and scorpion holes, the occupants of which bring them to the surface. Some of the garnets are half an inch in diameter. They have a better color by artificial light than South African garnets. During the last twelve months a valuable ledge of moss agate was discovered at Hartsville, one hundred miles north of Chebogue, Wyoming. It is six inches thick, five feet wide, and runs for a distance of half a mile. It was found by prospectors who were looking for copper. The material, as quarried in the crude, sells for \$200 a ton. It is not so many years since moss agate was considered a precious stone, and was highly valued. It has only ceased to be so regarded because of the finding of great deposits of it have made it a drug on the market.

ROYAL CATS FROM SIAM.

A Notable Addition to the Feline Tribe in Paris. Dogs are always credited with having their day, and why should there be any exception in the case of cats? The feline tribe is having more than its share of attention just now in Paris, and the star of the cat is now in its ascendancy. The dogs of least for the time being, are not in it. All this stir in the cat world is caused by the arrival of a distinct new species, hitherto unknown to catdom in Europe and America. The royal Siamese cat, by which name the new-comer is known, is the reigning sensation of the hour. The Persian feline, which has till now held undisputed supremacy in the realm of cats, is ignominiously retired, says the Chicago Chronicle. The Prince of Orleans during his last visit to Siam, was very graciously received by the king. In exchanging the parting courtesies the Siamese ruler, as a special token of the high regard in which he held the prince, gave him three superb specimens of the royal Siamese cats. A man who had always seen to the wants of these aristocratic pets, was detailed to accompany the gift to France. As soon as they arrived in Paris, the prince gave the precious cats in charge of Mr. Milne-Edwards, superintendent of this department in the Jardin des Plantes. They are installed in the commodious quarters and are taking kindly to their change of home. There has been an addition to the family since their arrival, and a very respectable sum has been offered for the kittens, which are now being reared by the prince.

They are really extremely handsome specimens of the cat tribe, being of very pure blood. Their appearance is a very peculiarly written in Siamese, is a terribly long one. In appearance these royal cats look somewhat different from the ordinary Siamese ones. Their bodies are a little more elongated, and they have a tendency to roundness so noticeable in the ordinary house cat. An awkward cat is an impossibility, and the Siamese is the very ideal of graceful movement. They seem to be particularly strong in bone and muscle, and very easy to take. One or two pills make a dose. They are strictly vegetable and do not grip or purge, but by their gentle action please all who use them. In vials at 25 cents five for \$1. Sold everywhere, or sent by mail.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

Sick Headache and relieve all the troubles incident to a bilious state of the system, such as Distress, Nausea, Drowsiness, Distress after eating, Pain in the Side, &c. While their most remarkable success has been shown in curing

SICK HEADACHE.

Headache, yet CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS are equally valuable in Constipation, curing and preventing this annoying complaint, while they also correct all disorders of the stomach, stimulate the liver and regulate the bowels. Even if they only cure!

ACHES.

is the basis of so many ills that here is where we make our great boast. Our pills cure it while others do not.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS are very small and very easy to take. One or two pills make a dose. They are strictly vegetable and do not grip or purge, but by their gentle action please all who use them. In vials at 25 cents five for \$1. Sold everywhere, or sent by mail.

ACHES.

Small Pills. Small Dose. Small Price.

dark chocolate shade. The tips of their bills, the ears and feet are also this color, which gives them a decidedly aristocratic appearance. Their eyes are in very striking contrast to those of our domesticated animal, being of a dark blue in color. The pupils are jet black, but susceptible to the most violent changes, according to the humor of the animal. Sometimes the pupils look like a smoky amber, and then again it takes the hue of a fiery carbuncle. They seem to be of a much more gentle and sociable disposition than is generally found among the cat tribe. They rarely ever use their teeth or claws against anybody unless greatly irritated or frightened. They are thorough aristocrats in the fullest sense of the word. No matter how much the Persian and other species of their kind endeavor to obtain social recognition from the royal Siamese, they always receive almost unmistakable snub instead. If a well-dressed visitor, be he gentleman or lady, comes up to their cage, they are always graciously received by these cat snobs; but should a person approach whose attire is not up to their standard, they make furious efforts to scratch such a presumptuous individual.

ISLANDER AFLOAT.

Towed off the Rocks at Portlock Point by the Steamer Princess Louise.

She Has a Gaping Hole in Her Hull—Other Shipping News of the Day.

From Tuesday's Daily. The steamer Islander is on her way home from Prevost Island. She was pulled off the rocks at Portlock Point at 10 o'clock this morning by the steamer Princess Louise, Capt. Jaegers. An ordinary line was run from the Islander to the Louise, and when the tide was at its highest, the Louise commenced to pull. The big vessel came off with very little difficulty, a cheer going up from the passengers and crew when she was seen to move. The Louise had left Portlock Point half an hour after her arrival there from New Westminster.

The Islander and Rainbow remained behind to pick up the anchorage, ropes, etc. They are proceeding to Victoria under slow steam, and will arrive early this evening. The Islander will be docked immediately. She has a thirty foot hole in her hull, extending from the seven foot mark on the stem to the collision bulkhead. The plates being injured about the bulkhead allowed the water to get into the forward hold. The hole was stopped up last night by a diver and Mr. Clarke, the company's carpenter, and the water had been pumped out of her hold before the attempt was made to move her. At the time of the accident Pilot Foster was in charge of the steamer, Capt. Ludin having gone below. Quartermaster Stoddart was at the wheel. The quartermaster lays the blame on the pilot, and the latter has not yet been heard, he having remained in charge of the wreck. Capt. Ludin took charge of the "Charm" this morning. The Islander was never under water, in fact the water never reached above the main deck.

Owing to the storm which raged yesterday the steamer Edith did not arrive till this morning. She left again at 9 o'clock for the Sound, with a number of passengers on board. The Edith has been placed on the Victoria-Puget Sound route by the P. S. & A. S. Co., in place of the Schome.

The City of Puebla arrived from San Francisco last evening, with a number of passengers and 61 tons of freight for Victoria merchants.

Captain Cutler, of the Agnes Maedonaid, has decided to engage a white crew, as the Fort Rupert Indians whom he visited on the last trip of the Boscowitz asked extravagant prices to engage in seal hunting.

To the aged, with their poor appetite, feeble circulation, and impoverished blood, Ayer's Sarsaparilla is a boon beyond price. Its effect is to check the ravages of time, by invigorating every organ, nerve, and tissue of the body. See Ayer's Almanac for the new year.

Boss Eckardt and H. G. Wilson have returned from a visit to the Sound.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

CURE.

Sick Headache and relieve all the troubles incident to a bilious state of the system, such as Distress, Nausea, Drowsiness, Distress after eating, Pain in the Side, &c. While their most remarkable success has been shown in curing

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Small Pills. Small Dose. Small Price.

Consumption.

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Men who Help

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KINGSTON CUTS RATE

Edith Has Been Withdrawn, but the Kingston Will Continue the Fight.

Islander Will Go into the Dry Dock as soon as the Quadra Comes Out.

From Thursday's Daily. Dublin, Dec. 2.—The second life boat which attempted to put off to the three masted vessel, flying signals of distress in Kingston bay, finding it impossible to board the ship, returned to the shore with the greatest difficulty, the bottom of the boat being stove in. The coxswain did not see any one on board the ship. Whether the capsizing is not too early for the capsizing is not known. The name of the vessel is also unknown. It is now known that nineteen of the Moresby's crew perished, including the captain, his wife and son, and all of the officers. The captain, with his son strapped to his back, made a gallant attempt to swim ashore while the mate swam with the captain's wife strapped to his back. A large steamer is ashore at Dundalk bay. A life boat has gone to her assistance.

The steamer Edith has been withdrawn from the Seattle route on account of necessary repairs, and no boat will replace her. The Edith had been laid up for a long while and should have been more thoroughly overhauled before being brought out. The charter for the Scheme has run out. But the company do not intend altogether to give up the fight against the Rosalie. They have lowered the rates on the Kingston, not quite as low as those on the Rosalie, but low enough, they think, considering the difference in the boats, to command a fair share of the trade. The rates on the Kingston will hereafter be 5 cents to Port Townsend, 25 to Seattle and \$1.75 to Tacoma.

The old barkentine Wrestler got in from Higo, Japan, yesterday after a very quick passage of 24 days. She brings a cargo of tea, which will get quick dispatch. She is consigned to Mohs & Katterbach. The Wrestler was well known in San Francisco several years ago. She was built by W. G. Hall sixteen years ago and was at first commanded by Captain Schnaur, late of the ship John Enn. Two years ago she went ashore on Vancouver Island and the wreck was sold for \$800. She was purchased by some British Columbia capitalists, repaired and placed under the Nicaraguan flag and is now one of the smartest looking barkentines afloat to-day.—S. F. Call.

Capt. Foster brought the steamer Islander into the inner harbor on Tuesday afternoon, where she will probably remain until the Quadra leaves the dry dock. She will be placed in the dock and an examination made to determine the extent of her damages. It is likely that she will be repaired for some time as the company has no immediate use for her. The pumps are still working, but by night temporary repairs will be completed so that it will be no longer necessary to use the pumps.

Yokohama, Dec. 26.—The cruiser Kwan Ping, one of the warships captured from China by the Japanese in the recent war, was wrecked on Pescadore Island Saturday last. Ninety of the deck officers and 60 men are missing.

Algiers, Dec. 26.—The British steamer Bellerophon has been in collision with and sunk the French steamer Emil Heloise at the entrance to the harbor. Thirty passengers on the Emil Heloise, including 25 natives, were drowned.

Steamer City of Kingston last evening took out about 70,000 pounds of halibut, which is to go east over the N. P. R.

The bark John C. Potter, Capt. Meyer, left Vancouver this morning, loaded with lumber from the Moodyville mills for Santa Rosalia.

GEORGE GARESCHE MARRIED.

He Wedded a San Francisco Girl Last Wednesday.

George H. Garesche well known in this city, which was formerly his home, was married at San Francisco on Wednesday last. The young lady is Miss Hannah Moore, of that city, and the marriage is said to have terminated an engagement which lasted for several months. The ceremony was performed at the Sacred Heart church, and Rev. Father Dillon was the officiating clergyman. Only a few friends were present to extend their congratulations. It is understood that Mr. and Mrs. Garesche will make their home in San Francisco. The first intimation of the wedding received here was a marriage notice published in the San Francisco papers. At first there was doubt about the identity of the groom, but when the news was confirmed the many friends of Mr. Garesche expressed their congratulations and good wishes among themselves. Few young men who ever resided here have more friends, and while the announcement of his wedding came as a surprise, they nevertheless wish him every good fortune.

CEDAR HILL MEETING.

A Specimen of the Dirty Work of which a Colonist Attache is Capable.

The tall, slender man at the front of the meeting is a portion of the plant taken over by the Colonist from the Daily News, deceased, late of Government street, Victoria, and apart from the "new" dress in which the Colonist now appears, is the only article of that plant which has been made of service. From a long apprenticeship on the Tory press at Ottawa, he has become an expert in dirty work for his party, as the effusion filling the place of a report of the Cedar Hill meeting shows, it being a complicated, twisted argument and misrepresented facts. His "pointer from history," in Wednesday's Colonist is a very small instance, the author of "Pointers" about bootlers to Col.

Prior (who was badly hit by it) coming from a good Grit elector and a resident of Cedar Hill. This elector badly badgered the Colonist throughout the meeting with some too pointed "pointers" to the effect that the Colonist, but his shots were judiciously suppressed, along with the account of the pitiable defense and capitulation of both the Colonist and his legal champion to the sharp shooting of Mr. Munn—as well as other matters which stuck in the crop of the Colonist's delectable emissary.

CIVIC CANDIDATES.

At Least Three Candidates for Mayor and Many for Aldermen.

Mayor Tongue, Hon. Robert Beaven and Ald. McLellan have announced themselves as candidates for mayor. Both Mayor Tongue and Mr. Beaven have served the city two terms, and Ald. McLellan has at different times been a member of the city council. Mr. R. T. Williams, who was spoken of as a candidate, is non-committal. He will not say that he will not run. He is just as indifferent as to his candidature for alderman in centre ward.

As usual there will be any number of candidates for aldermen. Ald. McMillan and Henry Gray will both be candidates in north ward, and Mr. William Marchant is also coming out. He at first intended to run in centre ward, but strong pressure was brought to bear upon him by his friends in north ward. Ald. McMillan and Henry Gray will both be candidates in north ward, and Mr. William Marchant is also coming out. He at first intended to run in centre ward, but strong pressure was brought to bear upon him by his friends in north ward.

MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE.

Mrs. Herbert, of Lampton Street, Has Been Missing Since Tuesday.

Mrs. Estelle Herbert, a widow, who has been a resident of Victoria for several months, is missing. She left the residence of Mr. Robert Fisher, at the corner of Craigflower road and Lampton street, on Tuesday afternoon, and said she was going to the residence of Mr. Ker, the assistant manager of the Bank of British Columbia, by whom she had been engaged as nurse for his family. She did not arrive at Mr. Ker's residence, which is half a mile from Mr. Fisher's, and this morning Mr. Ker called to make enquiries as to why she had not kept her engagement. It was then that her disappearance was discovered and a diligent search was instituted, the assistance of the provincial police and Mr. Swilson could not be seen. It is understood that he also is undecided.

—A meeting of the executive of the local Council of Women was held in the city hall yesterday afternoon, when a plan of campaign for the coming school trustee election was discussed. Mrs. Gordon Grant and Mrs. William Grant will be the lady candidates.

DISCOVERY IN ANAESTHETICS.

A New Method Lessens the Evil Effects of Chloroform.

Dr. H. L. Northrop, of Philadelphia, has discovered a new method of administering chloroform, which, it is asserted, is less dangerous than the old method, and is not accompanied by the nausea and other evil effects that have made its administration unpleasant and often dangerous. Dr. John H. Schell, of the Homeopathic Hospital of Brooklyn, was sent to Philadelphia recently to study the method, and since his return it has been successfully tried in the hospital in several surgical operations. The chloroform is oxygenated. Dr. Ritch, of the hospital, explaining the method, said: "It is the vapor of oxygen passing over into a bottle of chloroform, and then conducted to the patient, who inhales the gas contaminated by the chloroform. It takes three and a half minutes to bring about complete unconsciousness. When two drams of chloroform are used a patient will remain unconscious long enough for the performance of a half hour operation. To resuscitate the patient pure oxygen is administered and consciousness is brought back in a minute with not a single evil effect. The patient has just as well as if no chloroform had been administered. When the chloroform is administered by this method the respiration is scarcely accelerated and the breathing is strengthened by the use of the oxygen. The pulse does not vary four beats from normal. Ordinarily it has been considered dangerous to administer chloroform to patients with a slight heart trouble. Administered in this new way it does not seem to affect them at all. Patients have submitted to an operation and left the hospital the same day when the chloroform was administered by this method. This was impossible before, for it took from one to three days to fully recover from the effects of the chloroform."

THE CUBAN INSURRECTION.

An Official Dispatch Tells of Another Spanish Victory.

Madrid, Dec. 23.—A dispatch received here from Colon, province of Matanzas, confirms the report that the Spanish troops routed four thousand insurgents on Calumera Cay. One hundred of the enemy were killed.

"It's strange," said the Matinee cat, "in this life nobody seems to get what he really needs without difficulty."

"I've heard that before, said the tortoise-shell cat.

"Yes; but I've had more cause than usual to notice it. If I wore shoes I would have anything like the collection of bottles and blacking brushes that come now without the asking."

Poetess—Have you read Shakespeare's Love's Labor Lost? "Yes, but I've taken a deal to the theatre, and had her talk to the man next to her all through the show."

LOCAL NEWS.

Gleanings of City and Provincial News in a Condensed Form.

From Tuesday's Daily.

—The case against the Esquimalt boatmen, for dragging a bucket from the Naval Yard was dismissed by the magistrate, E. Baynes Reed, yesterday.

—Mrs. Dewdney will give a farewell dance to the Admiral and officers of H. S. Royal Arthur at Government House on Monday evening next.

—Crockett, who shot George White at Seattle, was yesterday held for trial in the superior court to answer a charge of murder in the first degree and his bail was fixed at \$5000.

—Knox church, Spring Ridge, will hold its annual Christmas entertainment on Friday evening. An excellent programme and Christmas tree have been arranged for the occasion.

—The first west load of coal from Jordan's West Wellington mine arrived today in tow of the steamer Constance. This coal is said to be A1 in quality and that it will be sold at \$5 per ton.

—One of the farmers from Cedar Hill who was in town to-day, said he did not think he had ever seen more fun or a livelier meeting out there. He says the boys from town made the meeting interesting.

—Dr. A. B. Fraser was the only witness examined to-day in the case of Dr. J. K. Garrow and Henry Creech, charged with the murder of Mary Eileen James. His evidence was the same as that given at the inquest. The case will be continued on Thursday.

—A meeting of the executive of the local Council of Women was held in the city hall yesterday afternoon, when a plan of campaign for the coming school trustee election was discussed. Mrs. Gordon Grant and Mrs. William Grant will be the lady candidates.

—A late issue of the London Times mentions the arrival there in excellent condition of a large consignment of frozen salmon from British Columbia after a voyage of 22,000 miles, and says the wonderful possibilities of cold storage seem very forcibly demonstrated thereby.

—Messrs. Dunsmuir yesterday gave out that they would sell Wellington coal to any coal merchant. For some time past their sole agents in Victoria have been Messrs. Rattray & Hall, and other dealers had to buy from them. The change is not likely to make any difference in the price of coal.

—Officers for the ensuing term were elected by the Companions of the Forest as follows: W. C. C. Miss H. C. C. W. S. C. Miss W. S. C. Miss F. Sec. Mrs. E. Lang; W. R. Sec. Mrs. C. Halpeny; W. Treas. Mrs. A. Churton; W. R. G. Mrs. T. Smith; W. L. G. Mrs. J. Dudgeon; W. I. G. Mrs. Caldwell; W. O. G. P. J. Davis.

—The residence of Mr. Spice, 1062 Bay avenue, was last evening invaded by the members of the choir of the Centennial Methodist church and a number of friends, who presented the pastor, leader of the choir and his esteemed wife with a number of beautiful and appropriate gifts, the occasion being the anniversary of their wedding.

—Magistrate Macrae is holding a levee this afternoon, the minor cases having been left over from this morning on account of the Garrow case. The cases for this afternoon are H. Sach, painter, a revolver; J. P. A. Miv. Muford charged with aggravated assault.

—The Y. M. C. A. educational committee decided at last night's meeting to start classes in manual training. This sum will be necessary to furnish apparatus and everything necessary incidental to the organization of a manual training class. It is thought that the class once organized will be self-supporting.

—Arrangements have now been completed for the New Year ball by the Companions of the Forest at the A. O. U. E. W. hall in Fourteenth street. The plate have been chosen for the prizes, for the four most appropriate costumes, which are on view at Speed Bros. grocery, Fort street. The best floor managers have been chosen with the object of looking after strangers.

—Mr. Arthur Lee, of Lee & Fraser, and Miss Susie Marion, daughter of Capt. J. W. Butler, were married at their future home, 31 Rae street, by Rev. Solomon Cleaver, J. P. A. Miv. Muford acted as bridesmaid while Mr. C. H. Boves supported the groom. The ceremony was witnessed by a number of friends of both parties, who are well and favorably known in the city.

—Application has been made by Robt. Dudgeon, proprietor of the Cliff House, Clover Point, to the marine department for a rocket relief apparatus, which he offers to take in charge and use when occasion demands free of charge, for a period of five years. Mr. Dudgeon thoroughly understands the handling of shore rockets, and he believes they would be the means of saving lives in the future.

—George Cole, a Methosia pioneer, died yesterday at St. Joseph's hospital. Mr. Cole was unfortunate enough to break his leg a short time ago, and being an aged man, he was unable to survive the shock. The deceased was 72 years of age, a native of Essex, England, and lived for 35 years in Methosia. The funeral will take place from the hospital on Friday at 9:30 and half an hour later from the Roman Catholic cathedral.

—F. J. Tiesse, a bridge carpenter, shot his wife twice Sunday morning in Seattle, and then shot himself in the head but his aim was so poor and his revolver so small that both are still alive, although it is feared the woman is fatally wounded. Jealousy was the cause of the tragedy. The couple were married twenty-seven years ago and have nine children. Of late years the couple have not lived very much together and for weeks past not even in the same house. The would-be murderer and su-

icide is at Providence hospital nursing a sore head and his wife is at the humble home, Twelfth and Charles streets, with two bullet holes in her body.

—The constitution and by-laws of the Victoria Municipal Reform Association were adopted at a meeting held yesterday afternoon, at which Mr. D. R. Harris presided. The object of the association is "to promote generally the good government of the city and the welfare and prosperity of the citizens thereof." The entrance fee has been placed at \$5 and the annual subscription at \$4. There are already 50 members of the association and a committee consisting of Messrs. B. W. Pearce, Charles Hayward, D. R. Harris and F. Elworthy have been appointed to receive applications for membership. A meeting will be held on Monday next for the election of officers.

—Two passengers, who came over from the Sound by the steamer Edith this morning, called at the Times office to complain of the treatment they had received. The steamer left Seattle on Sunday night, but on account of the rough weather did not cross the gulf yesterday. The passengers who were booked for Victoria had to remain on the boat and were charged 50 cents a meal. Some of them were not blessed with too much money and consequently had to go hungry. The men who called at the office said the boat could have come over at 3 o'clock yesterday, but the captain refused to leave shelter.

—An adjourned meeting of the Presbytery of Victoria was held yesterday in St. Andrew's church, Nanaimo. At the urgent request of the congregation the resignation of Rev. D. A. McRae of his charge of St. Andrew's church, Nanaimo, was allowed to lie on the table. Mr. McRae being granted leave of absence for six months, with the hope that the state of his family's health may be such then as to enable him to return and resume his work. The arrangements for the supply of the pulpit in the meantime were left in the hands of the session. Rev. W. L. Clay was appointed convener of the home augmentation committee, and Mr. McRae was appointed during Mr. McRae's absence, and Rev. Alex. Young, treasurer of the presbytery and convener of the committee on church life and work. The presbytery adjourned to meet in First Presbyterian church here on the first Tuesday in March.

—The children of the P. Home will have their Christmas entertainment on Friday.

—Short Douglas, the woman who was shot by young Farrell, is improving under the careful treatment she is receiving at the Jubilee Hospital.

—West Wellington coal is now on the market. A yard has been opened at Rock Bay, near the end of Rock Bay bridge, where orders may be sent, or to the central office, Mann, Holland & Co.

—As a rule the police are rather lenient at this time of the year, but yesterday they had reluctantly to arrest a drunk, who was causing a disturbance. This morning the culprit was fined \$5.

—On Monday evening the members of the St. Andrew's and Calcedonia societies held their monthly meeting. A good concert programme has been prepared. It will be followed by a dance.

—A meeting of the Victoria District Dairying Association will be held in the school house, Royal Oak on Saturday, December 28th, commencing at 1 o'clock p.m. All those interested in the creamery project are invited to attend.

—Dr. R. L. Fraser completed his evidence to-day at the preliminary hearing of Dr. J. K. Garrow and Henry Creech. C. E. Jones, who acted as prosecutor, and Detective Perdue followed. He is still on the stand.

—Mr. Thomas Reece and Miss G. A. Carter were quietly married on Wednesday evening by the Rev. P. H. McEwen. Miss Williams attended the bride and the groom was supported by Mr. John Stewart.

—Forged bills of lading with the name of H. R. Sanderson, Great Northern agent at Burlington, on the Coast line, have been set afloat in Seattle and business men have been warned against negotiating them, and are advised to stop payment on any checks already issued on that account.

—On Friday evening next, William Templeman, the opposition candidate, will address the electors on the issues of the present campaign at Johns Bros. hall, corner of King's road and Douglas street. Hon. A. N. Richards will occupy the chair and Col. Prior is invited to be present.

—The pupils of Cedar Hill school, of which Mr. Cogswell is teacher, held their annual Christmas festival on Tuesday evening. This is the 25th time the pupils of this school have joined together in celebrating Christmas eve. A number of the leading business firms of the city contributed articles for the Christmas tree, which was crowded with presents for the children. All had a fine time.

—St. Paul's Presbyterian church Sunday school will hold its annual Christmas tree entertainment in Semple's hall, Victoria West, this evening. An excellent programme has been prepared by the Sunday school children and others. To-morrow evening the Victoria West Methodist Sunday school will hold their entertainment in the same hall.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U.S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder ABSOLUTELY PURE

eighteenth couple married from the Home, all of whom are comfortably settled in the enjoyment of the blessings of Christian citizenship. This speaks well for the work of the Home and affords a strong claim for the continued support and sympathy on the part of the Christian people of this city and province at large. Every one of the 18 women thus settled in peaceful and reputable homes of their own, have been won from a state of slavery to which death itself would have been infinitely preferable.—Com.

—The usual Christmas dinner was given to all the patients who were able to partake of it at the Jubilee Hospital yesterday. Directors Davies and Williams were present and spoke words of encouragement to the officers and staff for their good work during the year. They also congratulated the patients for being able to partake of the good cheer. The Arion club, under Conductor W. Greig, gave a concert in the surgical ward. All the patients that could be moved were brought in to listen to the delightful music. Many of the friends of the patients and others were present. A vote of thanks to the Arion club was proposed by Mr. Justice Crease and carried unanimously. Mr. Wollaston responded on behalf of the club.

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CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES.

Midnight Mass at St. Andrew's—Services in the Other Churches.

Always an event of the greatest importance to those of the Roman Catholic faith, and a feature of much interest to a great portion of the other citizens of Victoria, the usual Christmas eve midnight mass this year attracted increased interest. This is the third time the service has been held in the new church. The splendid edifice was taxed to its capacity to accommodate the immense congregation. The service was as announced in Tuesday's paper, with the exception that the musical portion exceeded in excellence all expectations. Miss McNeil sang the opening solo in Adagio, supported by a quartet composed of Misses Sehl and Stewart and Messrs. Shedden and Sehl. Mozart's Twelfth Mass was rendered by the full choir in a manner that reflected credit upon the choir. The service was under the principal voices were Mrs. Geiger, Mr. Shedden, Mrs. Wilkes, Mr. F. Sehl, Mr. Olivier and Mr. Bullen. In the Credo, Miss Stewart, Mr. Keith and Mr. Sehl, and in the Benedictus, Miss Barnes, Mrs. Wilkes and Messrs. Keith and Sehl, while Miss Stewart gave a solo in the Agnus Dei. Madam Laird and Mr. Grizzelle, with full choir accompaniment, sang a grand Ave Maria for the offertory, which was greatly appreciated. Mr. C. A. Lombard, the conductor, deserves much credit, with the entire choir for the success which attended the production. He worked indefatigably to ensure that success, and he was ably supported by all. Madam Laird's singing came in for generally favorable comment. The service was a greater success, everything going along with perfect smoothness.

At the various city churches there were the usual services yesterday morning. Good congregations being the general feature at each place of worship. Appropriate sermons were preached.

In a medical report written by the head of a child's hospital, it is declared "that all healthy children should cry three or four times a day at least, at an average from ten to fifteen minutes each time."

To an Arizona man who was booming territory's climate as a claim stonchod, Speaker Reed said:—"Tut, tut, I have been to Fort Yuma and I know your climate. When a bad man dies, there he does not notice the transition."

There is a story of the late Professor Blake standing in front of the statue of Balliol and shouting—"I should like to know what you Oxford fellows say of me behind my back!" After a moment's pause, Jowett replied, mildly:—"We don't mention you at all!"

Experts report that it is impossible to send a telegraphic dispatch through the Boreas tunnel, four and one-half miles from Adams, Mass. It has been tried with all kinds of wire, and with a cable such as is used under the ocean, but in vain. Telegraph wires in consequence of the curious condition, have been carried over the surrounding mountains. A careful exploration of the tunnel has been made, but no magnetic or other ore has been found to interfere with the transmission of a message.

Yeast—Why is it that Young Styles calls his apartments "Queen's"? He stands and utters in London. The men, I suppose stand uncovered in the presence of royalty. Yes, but not to the same extent as the women.

The French artificial pearl is produced by boring a hole in the shell of the oyster and introducing a small bit of glass, which the animal covers with "nacre" or mother of pearl, to stop the irritant. Such pearls are flat on one side and of less value than those produced naturally.

Beneath the stars they watched alone, Returning from an evening ramble: "Now Jack," she said, in sweetest tone, "Please tell me do you ever gamble?" "Dearest, I don't," was his reply. "His face glowed with rapacious greed." "But who would say I should not try? Could I always hold a hand like this?"

He wrote a burning leader On the issues of the day; And this is what the Linotypes Next morning made him say: xxx flm 177 rot-ro33" . . . *1:09&—M bosh, 888458" . . . \$.

Biobbs—How does Wigwag's wife keep him so well under control? "Slobbe" by threatening to publish the poems he wrote her before they were married.

BRIT

NORFOLK (From North Sea) annual Vesuvius 1 week, satisfactory selves well which they ing. They enrolled at once is very present at and Mrs. son, Mrs. Whims, Mr. Friday the tree was h the sight which were a happy sn the little of very prett and with a which were place proha The Rev. and after address to of songs, recommended address to and acquit creditable consisted of Mary E. R Rule; sons: McCadden; the Whinn recitation, James Rie Sampson at Richards; song, "Goo Mr. Irwin song, Mr. a Cotford; Mrs. M. S. Scene in a Miss Furn ock; song; tion. Mr. ness; recita "The Gridd After the Christmas Claus then presented a presents for the The tenor w desk. Re from the ladies, a moved and kept up un ing morning

HELD UP THE CAR

Four Masked Men Rob a Trolley Car in San Francisco Suburbs.

Got Three Thousand Dollars for a Christmas Box, but Had to Fight for It.

San Francisco, Dec. 26.—Four masked men, armed with rifles, held up the Mission street trolley car from Ingleside, at 8 o'clock last night and robbed the employees of the Pacific Coast Jockey club of \$3,000.

Reuben M. Clark, who carried the pouch, was shot in the leg. John Brenner, an employe of the jockey club and Policeman John Joseph received bullet wounds, neither of which is serious. Clark will lose his leg if not his life.

The robbery occurred in a lonely place eight miles from the city. The English side track is situated in an isolated place on Ocean beach and afforded an excellent opportunity for the crime. The car had just started when the four men, heavily masked, each armed with a Winchester, jumped on the rear platform. Clark, who had the pouch containing the money on his lap, was at once approached by the tallest of the robbers, who with an oath, demanded the money. A shot was fired at the same time to stop the car. Clark arose from his seat, but before he could advance a step, he was shot in the leg.

Brenner grabbed the pouch and ran from the car closely followed by the robbers. Once outside, he was about to throw the pouch under the car when a Winchester was thrust in his face and one of the robbers called on him to drop back. Brenner declared that one of the other robbers shot him in the arm that held the pouch. At the same time one of the robbers struck him with the butt of a revolver. As the bullet crashed through Brenner's arm, he dropped, and the robber who first approached Clark picked up the pouch and started to run. Two shots were immediately fired by Clark and Brenner, neither of which took effect.

To protect themselves the robbers grabbed a woman named Mrs. Peck, and holding her as a shield, retreated in the darkness. As the men disappeared, Clark and Brenner fired again and a dozen shots were returned by the robbers. Policeman Joseph, who through Brenner's arm, approached and the robber who first approached Clark picked up the pouch and started to run. Two shots were immediately fired by Clark and Brenner, neither of which took effect.

The incident track was opened Thanksgiving day. The robbers had good sources of information; they not only ascertained the route by which Clark and Brenner were to travel, but selected the time. The Pacific Coast Jockey club, it is said, will offer a reward for the capture of the robbers. As the men were heavily masked, the police have no clue.

"I Took One Half Bottle of South American Eucalypti Cure and Oh! Alped" "I took one half bottle of South American Eucalypti Cure and Oh! Alped" "I took one half bottle of South American Eucalypti Cure and Oh! Alped" "I took one half bottle of South American Eucalypti Cure and Oh! Alped"

J. H. Garrett, a prominent politician of Liverpool, N.S., makes, for the benefit of the public, the following statement: "I was greatly troubled with rheumatic pains for a number of years. On several occasions I could not walk, nor even put my feet to the floor. I tried everything and all the local physicians but my sufferings continued. At last I was prevailed upon to try South American Rheumatic Cure. I obtained perfect relief before I had taken half a bottle of the remedy, and to-day regard it the only radical cure for rheumatism." Sold by Dean & Hiseocks and Hall & Co.

She—And you really attended the Queen's reception in London. The men, I suppose stand uncovered in the presence of royalty. Yes, but not to the same extent as the women.

The French artificial pearl is produced by boring a hole in the shell of the oyster and introducing a small bit of glass, which the animal covers with "nacre" or mother of pearl, to stop the irritant. Such pearls are flat on one side and of less value than those produced naturally.

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Chase & Sanborn's Seal Brand Coffee. Universally accepted as the Leading Fine Coffee of the World. The only Coffee served at the WORLD'S FAIR. CHASE & SANBORN, BOSTON, MONTREAL, CHICAGO.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

NORTH SAULT SPRING ISLAND

North Sault Spring, Dec. 23.—The semi-annual examination of the North Sault Spring public school was held last week, the results attained being very satisfactory, and all expressing themselves well pleased with the progress which the children are evidently making. There are at present 25 children enrolled at this school, and the attendance is very good, the average for December being 22.26. Among those present at the examination were Mrs. Booth, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Whims, Mrs. Sampson, Mrs. McFadden and Mr. E. Lakin. On the evening of Friday the 20th instant a Christmas tree was held in the school house, and the night of the 21st presents were hung thereon caused many a happy smile to pass over the faces of the little ones. The school house was very prettily decorated during the day, and with a number of Chinese lanterns which were lighted and hung about the room. The Rev. Mr. Wilson took the chair, and after delivering a very interesting address to those present, the programme of songs, recitations, dialogues, etc., was commenced. A large number of the children took part in the programme, and acquitted themselves in a very creditable manner. The programme consisted of the following: Recitation, Mary E. Rule; recitation, Martha C. Rule; song, six girls of the school; recitation, George Booth; recitation, Mrs. McFadden; song, Rose, Bertha and Martha Whims; recitation, Lily Sampson; recitation, Charles Luckey; recitation, James Richards; song, Lily and Mary Sampson and Mary McFadden; recitation, Bertha Whims; recitation, Wilkie Richards; recitation, May Richards; song, "Good Night," by the school; song, Mr. Irwin; reading, Mr. Robertson; song, Mr. and Mrs. McFadden and Mrs. Cotford; reading, Mr. Booth; song, Mrs. McFadden; Mrs. Cotford; reading, Mrs. Mahaffey; dialogue, "A Scene in a Railway Station," reading, Miss Furness; recitation, Mr. Wharmock; song, Mr. G. Bittancock; recitation, Mr. E. Rosman; song, Mr. Furness; recitation, Mr. J. Shaw; dialogue, "The Bridgman."

After the programme was ended, the Christmas tree was lighted, and Santa Claus then made his appearance, and presented the children with the pretty presents which had been hung on the tree for them. The teacher, Miss Furness, was presented with a very handsome writing desk. Refreshments were then served from the well-filled baskets supplied by the ladies, after which the seats were moved and dancing commenced, being kept up until about 6 o'clock the following morning.

ALPHA.

MAYNE ISLAND.

From our correspondent. On Friday, December 20th, Mr. Jas. W. Sinclair, teacher of Mayne Island school, held his annual entertainment in the school house. The hall had been very prettily decorated for the occasion, and no trouble was spared to give all visitors a gracious and hearty welcome. The programme prepared by Mr. Sinclair was well rendered throughout, and the teacher is deserving of the highest praise for the manner in which the children moved and danced, commenced, being kept up until about 6 o'clock the following morning.

AINSWORTH.

The last contract of 200 feet on the Highland is now completed, and the tunnel is close upon 600 feet in length. The last 50 feet has been run through a fine chute of galena ore, quite solid in places. From Nov. 11th to Dec. 10th, one month a profit of about \$100 to the mine was made on the No. 1. Fifty-six tons were sent to the smelter and 150 tons of concentrating ore extracted. The Mile Point leases have begun shipping to the Pilot Bay smelter. Their fine chute of ore still holds its own and it is the general belief they will have a bonanza. All the machinery, comprising Pelton wheel, compressor, and power drills, for the Canadian Pacific company at Woodbury creek, has arrived.

The last snow covers the ground clear down to the lake shore, so that laden sleds can go all the way without transferring. The output of the Skyline will probably be increased materially from now on.

J. E. Boss and Jack Robertson sampled several miles of the camp during their recent visit, and have gone to Spokane, expecting to return after the holidays. It is said Mr. Boss and associates propose to build a smelter next year which will treat and save the contents of all kinds of ores.

For a couple of years rock has been found in this camp which assayed more or less in gold. Some samples go over \$22 per ton. A quantity sent east for analysis was pronounced sulphide of said to be some large veins of it hereabouts, or manganese. There are said to be some large veins of it here that have been passed over and considered worthless. As manganese is as valuable for fluxing purposes in a

smelting furnace as iron, should this material prove to be manganese and carry a percentage of the noble metals, it would be quite a feature for the camp.

The three-inch pipe siphon which Clark and Van Hook rigged up to drain Loon Lake last year has been working continuously since the 10th of January last, and in that time has lowered the lake about 20 feet. This body of water is about half a mile in length by 3000 feet in width. There is but a few feet of water remaining in the lake and by spring it should be practically dry. The boys are now sinking on the vein nearest the lake and are down over 20 feet without the water being troubled. Some three leads run through the Lady of the Lake ground, each one showing up well on the surface. One shipment netted \$76.50 per ton.

ROSSLAND.

The following notice is of great significance: "Notice is hereby given that application will be made to the Legislative Assembly of the province of British Columbia at its next session for an act to incorporate a company for the purpose of operating a railroad from a point at or near the mouth of Trail creek, on the Columbia river, extending through or near the towns of Rossland and Midway, to a point on the Okanagan lake at or near the town of Penticton, in the districts of West Kootenay and Osoyoos, British Columbia, with power to construct, equip, maintain and operate branch lines therefrom to all mines lying in the vicinity thereof, and also to construct, equip, maintain and operate telegraph and telephone lines; and to build wharves and docks in connection therewith; together with the powers of acquiring lands, privileges, bonuses or other aids from any government, municipal corporation or other persons or bodies, and to make traffic or other arrangements with railway, steamboat or other companies; and for all other usual, necessary or incidental rights, powers and privileges in that behalf." Mr. Ward is proposing to make application for this charter represents Mr. Heinze, who is building the smelter at Trail. This charter is to include the one for the tramway or narrow gauge railroad from the mines about Rossland to the Trail smelter works, or rather it is to take its place. The details of Mr. Heinze's enterprise have not been perfected further than as they apply to the territory between Rossland and Trail. The line through this territory is already under construction and will probably be completed within sixty days. It is hardly probable that anything will be done towards the proposed extension through the Boundary creek country before spring. It is certain that Mr. Heinze's ultimate purpose is to place himself in a position to secure some of the Boundary creek ores for his Trail smelter. How he expects to reach Okanagan lake, which is about 150 miles west of Rossland, is not yet quite clear.

The new compressor of the Centre Star was put in motion this week and is now in perfect running order, supplying power to three Ingersoll-Sargeant drills with reserve for four more. The greatest strength of the Centre Star consists in the extent of its ore bodies. The 500 feet of tunnel already run extends almost continuously through ore. This ore is from 15 to 20 feet wide and is in chutes of varying extent and thickness. One chute is 147 feet long—one of the greatest ore bodies yet found in this wonderful camp. The grade of the Centre Star ore runs all the way from \$12 to \$35 in gold per ton. It will probably average \$20.

GALIANO ISLAND.

From our own correspondent. On Thursday, Dec. 23—On Thursday, 19th inst, the Galiano school examinations were held in the school house, by the teacher, Miss E. Crockford, in the presence of a large number of parents and friends. The children acquitted themselves most creditably and thereby showed the remarkable progress they have made under their present teacher. No pains had been spared decorating the school house to make it look as attractive as possible, hot-house plants having been procured in Victoria and placed about the room at different intervals among the evergreens. After tea had been served, a programme was well rendered by the scholars. In a song by three little girls little Miss Whinstanley is deserving of comment on the fearless way she sang and for the expression she put in the music. Programme—Song of Welcome, school children; recitation, "The Figures," nine little girls; song, "Up, Up in the Sky," three little girls; song, "The Light at Home," school children; recitation, "Trades," six boys; recitation, "Twins," G. Rudd, chorus, "Sunbeams," school; recitation, "The Snack in School," Bee. Little girls; chorus, "The Soldier's Song," school children; dialogue, three boys and five girls; chorus, "Gather Around the Christmas Tree," school children.

At the close of the programme Mr. J. W. Rudd, the chairman, congratulated Miss Crockford upon the way the children had acquitted themselves that evening. Trustees, Whinstanley and Wright having been called on to speak the former in the course of his speech stated that the school never had an attendance of twenty-three children, with an average daily attendance of twenty-two and he believed that thirty would be enrolled on the school register next term. Mr. James W. Sinclair, teacher of Mayne Island school, addressed the children with a few encouraging remarks, pointing out the absolute necessity for law and order, especially in a school. A Christmas tree had been provided with both useful and pretty presents for the children, and the proceedings closed with three hearty cheers for the teacher.

KASLO.

The mineral claims Lardo and Duncan, on the headwaters of Hall Creek, a tributary of Duncan river, are said to have been bonded to Spokane parties for a good round sum by J. C. Wagner, J. A. Kennedy, and John McCartney. A cash payment bond the bargain.

At a mortgage sale of city realty on Tuesday last, the lot formerly occupied by the Dardanelles hotel, on the north side of Front street, in the burnt district, brought \$400, and the two lots on the south side of the same street, with the building, brought \$1000. O. T. Stone was the purchaser.

The owners of the Recco and Goodenough mines have amicably settled their differences in a manner which seems to be satisfactory to both parties. The boundary lines will be adjusted so as to conform to the more recent and corrected surveys.

The snow plows and flangers placed on the locomotives of the Kaslo & Bloo can railway have been doing effective work during the week and trains have been running on time, notwithstanding the frequent snow storms in the hills. A new snow plow is daily expected from St. Paul.

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another issue of gold bonds, because they felt the issue was necessary to meet the present exigencies. But it was considered this ought to be the final issue of bonds, as higher import duties would provide the government with sufficient funds in the future, and the gold reserve would remain intact. Secretary Cleveland's statement that the present tariff is sufficient to support the government is disputed by one on the ground that the administration is compelled to keep the gold reserve intact by issue after issue of bonds. Everywhere it is recognized that more revenue is a general advance in taxes on imports, but would rather have the duties limited to tea, coffee, sugar, imported cigars and other luxuries. Only a few Democrats hold that free trade is best for the country. S. P. McConnell, president of the Liverpool club, though he considers a high tariff to be a victory, holds that Mr. Cleveland's policy of gold monometalism will compel the government to increase the duties on imports in order to pay the debts of the nation. While another issue of gold bonds is advocated by the Democrats, the bankers generally are anxiously awaiting the signal to arise. A meeting of the members of both the Cuban and Porto Rican juntas will be held at the Cuban headquarters, when a plan of campaign suitable to the Porto Ricans will be decided upon. The Cuban junta recognizes that it has secured powerful allies in the war with Spain. With the development of an insurrection in Porto Rico the efforts of the Spanish to put down the insurrection in Cuba will necessarily be weakened, and troops will be sent from the island of Cuba to Porto Rico. For months past the revolutionary Porto Ricans in this city have been corresponding with the revolutionary junta in Porto Rico, and it is said that day after day thirty towns had been heard from, whose inhabitants are all ready to revolt when the proper time comes. He said: "We addressed communications also to our general delegate, Dr. Ramon Betances, who is also agent for the Cubans in Paris, and to other prominent Porto Ricans and Cubans abroad. From them we received great encouragement and proffer of assistance. They felt that the necessary documents of indentments. "I realize that a few men have no right to force a revolution, even in the cause of liberty, but our people are waiting only for leaders, and revolution is what the people want. Our plans are maturing. Cuba's success means Porto Rica's triumph. We will aid Cuba and she will aid us. When we are prepared for battle our people will arise, armed with the necessary documents sent from this and other countries."

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 26.—President Cleveland is just now devoting a large share of his time to the consideration of the personnel of the Venezuelan boundary commission to the exclusion of practically all other public matters, including the proposed bond issue, which latter he regards as, temporarily at least, in the hands of congress.

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It is thought that the President is especially anxious that Chief Justice Fuller, of the United States supreme court, should head the commission, but there are said to be reasons why it should not be expedient for the chief justice to relinquish, even for a short time, his place as presiding officer of the court. It is believed, however, that he will be definitely settled and Mr. Fuller may yet be called upon to form one of the commission. Ex-Minister E. J. Phelps is believed, has already been offered a place on the commission, and if he has not accepted, it is thought he hardly will do so. The name of ex-Secretary Robert Lincoln is suggested, and it is believed the president now has it under consideration. The fact that Mr. Lincoln is a resident of the United States supreme court, served on the Behring Sea commission, has naturally brought forward his name in connection with the Venezuelan commission, but there are good reasons to believe his name has been passed over. The name of ex-Senator George F. Edmunds, of Vermont, has been considered by the President, but whether he would accept it is by no means certain, nor can it be stated positively that the President is fully satisfied as to the expediency of his appointment. Many other names have been suggested and are now under consideration.

Later—New York, Dec. 26.—A World special dispatch from Washington this morning says: President Cleveland has tendered places on the Venezuelan boundary commission to Edward J. Phelps, of Vermont, ex-minister to England, and Robert Lincoln, of Illinois, ex-minister to England. Their acceptances have not been received. The third place will not be filled until Mr. Phelps or Mr. Lincoln accept.

Chicago Business Men Also Favor a Gold Bond Issue.

Chicago, Dec. 26.—The Times-Herald this morning says: Chicago business men are almost unanimously of the opinion that the only way to pay the debts of the nation is to increase the duties on imports. They were pleased at the prompt action of congress in responding to the appeal of the President to relieve the treasury by

the point on another rock came off on her hand. Then John, Jr., pulled the string. He had been instructed to start the flow gently. He made it a real deluge. He just pulled for all he was worth and down came a shower of cold water all over the figures. The auburn girl howled "Ouch!" and landed on the stage. A little blonde on the left jumped up and wrapped a green skirt on

