The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

FORTY-SECOND YEAR. THE VICTORIA SEMI-WEEKLY COLONIST MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1899 VOLUME XLII—NO. 3

BULLER FAILS

Boers Caught His Artillery Supports at Close Range Killed Teams and Compelled Abandonment of Eleven Guns.

British Were Advancing in Force to Ford Tugela and Had Fair Prospect of Success When the Disaster Occurred.

Retreated in Good Order to Chieveley Camp—Heavy Casualties in One Division Who Found Their Task Impossible.

By Associated Press.

London, Dec. 16 (12:47 a.m.)—The war office has received a despatch announcing that Gen. Buller has met with a serious reverse, losing 11 guns in an unsuccessful attempt to cross the Tugela river.

The following is the text of Gen. Buller's despatch to Lord Lansdowne:

Chieveley Camp, Dec. 15 (6:20 p.m.)—I regret to report a serious reverse. I moved in full strength from our camp near Chieveley at 4 this morning. There are two fordable places in the Tugela river, and it was my intention to force a passage through one of them. They are about two miles apart. My intention was to force one or the other with one brigade, supported by a central brigade. Gen. Hart was to attack the left, Gen. Hildyard the right road and Gen. Lyttleton to attack the centre and to support either.

Early in the day I saw that Gen. Hart would not be able to force a passage, and I directed him to withdraw. He had, however, attacked with great gallantry, and his leading battalion, the Connaught Rangers, I fear suffered a great deal. Col. I. G. Brooke was seriously wounded.

I then ordered Gen. Hildyard to advance, which he did, and his leading right, the East Surrey, occupied Colenso station and the houses near the bridge.

At that moment I heard that the whole artillery I had set to support the attack, the 14th and 66th field batteries and six naval 12-pounders, quick-firers, under Col. Long, had advanced close to the river, in Long's desire to be within effective range. It proved to be full of the enemy, who suddenly opened a galling fire at close range, killing all their horses, and the gunners were compelled to stand to their guns. Some of the wagon teams got shelter for the troops in a donag, and desperate efforts were made to bring out the field guns. The fire, however, was too severe, and only two were saved by Capt. Schofield and some drivers, whose names I will furnish.

Another gallant attempt with three teams was made by an officer, whose name I will obtain. Of the 18 horses, 13 were killed, and as several drivers were wounded, I would not allow another attempt, as it seemed that they would be a shell mark. Not wishing to sacrifice life to a gallant attempt to force the passage unsupported by artillery, I directed the troops to withdraw, which they did in good order.

Throughout the day a considerable force of the enemy was pressing on my right flank, but was kept back by mounted men under Lord Dundonald and part of Gen. Barton's brigade. The day was immensely hot and trying to the troops, whose conduct was excellent.

We have abandoned 10 guns and lost by shell one.

The losses in Gen. Hart's brigade are, I fear, heavy, although the proportion of severely wounded is, I hope, not large. The 14th and 66th field batteries also suffered severe losses.

We have retired to our camp at Chieveley.

London, Dec. 16 (4:30 a.m.)—The news of Gen. Buller's reverse was received so late that morning newspapers' comments are confined to perfunctory expressions of extreme regret and disappointment, and of the necessity for calmness and redoubled efforts to retrieve the position.

The Standard says: "Gen. Buller's despatch is deplorable reading. It is the now familiar story of concealed Boers and of British troops marching up, blindly almost, to the very muzzles of the enemy's rifles. It cannot be doubted that the moral effect will be to aggravate our difficulties over the whole field of operations. The country has discovered with annoyance and surprise that subduing Boer farmers is about the hardest work we have entered upon since the Indian Mutiny. The commandants have shown themselves able to give our generals useful but expensive lessons in modern tactics."

The Times says: "Since the days of the Indian Mutiny the nation has not been confronted with so painful and anxious a situation. Plainly, Gen. Buller's advance is paralyzed for the moment as completely as Lord Methuen's and Gen. Gatacre's."

THEY BANKED ON BULLER.

The depression over the defeat of Great Britain's trusted and idolized commander is all the greater as during the last 48 hours there have been reports of the relief of Ladysmith. Yesterday the war office allowed it to be understood that the position of affairs in Natal was entirely satisfactory. The reaction is all the more pronounced on this account. The gloomy information came too late to reach the Service clubs, and only a few journalists and stragglers were waiting at the war office. It has hardly been realized until now, even after the experience of the week, that Gen. Buller could fail. Virtually nothing had been allowed to leak through regarding his preparations, but the public waited patiently in the confident belief that he was taking such time and precautions as would ensure success.

THE LIST.

London, Dec. 16.—The war office late to-night issued the following list of Gen. Buller's casualties:

Field Artillery—Capt. A. H. Goldie and Lieut. C. B. Scrieber.

Dublin Fusiliers—Capt. A. H. Bacon and Lieut. R. C. B. Henry.

Inniskillin Fusiliers—Major J. F. W. Charley and Capt. C. Foftus.

Medical Corps—Capt. M. L. Hughes.

Thorneycroft's Mounted Infantry—Lieut. C. H. Jenkins.

Officers wounded; Devonshire Regiment, five; Rifle Brigade (the Prince Consort's Own), one; Fifth brigade staff, one; Inniskillin Fusiliers, eight; Border regiment, three; Connaught Rangers, two; Dublin Fusiliers, three; Irish Fusiliers, one; Horse Artillery, one; Field Artillery, five; Medical Corps, one; Mounted Infantry, three; Natal Carbineers, two; South African Light Horse, two. The wounded include Captains J. J. Goodwin, J. F. Radcliffe, H. H. W. Vigors, Hon. St. Leger Jarvis, A. J. Hanker, W. F. Hersey, H. J. Buckley, J. E. B. Reed, F. S. Lewan, J. E. R. Brush, H. D. White Thomas, L. I. Reed, F. A. G. Elton and W. N. Congreve.

Majors—R. H. G. Heigate, A. W. Gordon and A. A. B. Racingtons.

Colonels—I. G. Brooke Lond, H. Hunt and Lieut. Ponsonby of Thorneycroft's Mounted Infantry.

Officers taken prisoners or missing—Field Artillery, five; Devonshires, three; Sussex, one; Royal Scots Fusiliers, six; Royal Artillery, three.

While Gen. Buller's reverse was an unexpected blow to the public, who had pinned its faith to him, it would appear that the original plan of the campaign, if adhered to, would have given better results, for the besieged towns have shown themselves quite capable of holding out. As it is now, the British forces are split, have been seriously repulsed, and are unable, at any rate for the present, to reach their objective. It was for this plan that the central advance was sacrificed. Even the relief of Ladysmith can scarcely alleviate the consequences to the campaign as a whole, unless its moral effect quiets the growing disaffection in Cape Colony and disheartens the Boers to a more serious extent than the other minor reverses have so far done, but, however looked at, the British position is most unenviable, and there is a great cry for more troops.

Lord Londonderry urges the war office to send out 100,000 more men, saying: "Conceive the effect on the Empire if Methuen is forced to surrender."

The St. James' Gazette intimates that the treasury is withholding the funds necessary to send out reinforcements, adding: "If this is so, even Lord Salisbury's reluctance to sacrifice a colleague will not serve to shield a minister who stands between England and the restoration of her damaged superiority in South Africa."

On the other hand, there are many magnificent examples, through public speeches and editorials, of the great common sense and backbone of the nation. There are people who implore England not to make fools of Englishmen, nor to imagine that a few reserves make it necessary to drain the country of every man able to carry arms. The volunteers are greatly worked up, and numbers of applications to serve in regiments from individuals have been received.

The Associated Press learns, however, that Lord Wolseley believes that though these men are excellent for volunteers, they lack the evenness in the ranks and among the officers which marks a line regiment. To mark his own words: "They are brilliant in spots and weak in others," and while he appreciates the offer he sees no way to accept them at present. The action of the National Liberty Federation this week in deciding to support a vigorous prosecution of the war, reserving the full right of criticism now and in the future, while stating that there is much to be deplored in the conduct of the negotiations preceding the hostilities, may be said to vary in the opinions of the bulk of the Liberal party.

BOER REPORT FROM MODDER.

Cronje Says the British Were in Overwhelming Force—Their Balloons Useful.

Pretoria, Dec. 12.—The following official announcement has been made:

"Gen. Cronje reports that yesterday there was desultory fighting till 6, when the heavy cannon fire was resumed.

"The Scandinavians stormed a difficult position, but it became untenable, and they suffered severely. I was unable to send help.

"The British were in overwhelming force, but must have had at least 2,000 men put out of action, either killed or wounded."

Another official report from Capt. Finnhart says: "There were no signs of surrender, the burghers fighting with conspicuous bravery and maintaining their positions under heavy British fire. Our cannon were of very little use. The British were greatly assisted by balloons.

"Twenty-four ambulances were working backward and forward between the fighting line and the enemy's camp. Our loss is not definitely known. I estimate it at 100 killed and wounded."

Pretoria, Dec. 12.—A telegraph operator at Modder River writes: "Gun and Maxim fire has been proceeding since 5:30 this morning." A special despatch later says the firing reported was a resumption of fighting between Gen. Methuen's forces and the Boers.

Acceptance of Colonial Troops.

A War Office announcement of yesterday says:

"The patriotic offers being received from the colonies will as far as possible be accepted, preference being given to offers of mounted contingents."

Roberts and Kitchener.

Heroes of Kandahar and Khartoum to Direct South African Campaign.

British Militia and Volunteer Battalions Now Taken for Service Abroad.

Colonial Offers Also Accepted With Preference for Mounted Contingents.

London, Dec. 17.—Baron Roberts of Kandahar and Waterford, commander of the forces in Ireland, has been appointed to the chief command in South Africa, with General Lord Kitchener of Khartoum as his chief of staff. Shortly before midnight the following notice was posted at the war office:

"As the campaign in Natal, in the opinion of Her Majesty's government, is likely to require the presence and undivided attention of General Sir Redvers Buller, it has been decided to send Baron Roberts of Kandahar and Waterford as commander-in-chief in South Africa, with Lord Kitchener as chief of staff, to proceed to South Africa without delay.

"The commander-in-chief in South Africa has been authorized to continue to raise at his discretion local troops, mounted."

The war office to-day issued the following announcement: "Acting upon the advice of the military authorities, Her Majesty's government has aproved the following measure: All the remaining portions of the army reserve, including section D, are called out. The seventh division, which is being mobilized, will proceed to South Africa without delay.

"Nine battalions of militia, in addition to the two battalions which have already volunteered for service at Malta and one for service in the Channel Islands, will be allowed to volunteer for service outside of the United Kingdom, and an equivalent number of militia battalions will be embodied for service at home.

"A strong force of volunteers selected from the Yeomanry will be formed for service in South Africa.

"Arrangements are being made and will shortly be announced for the employment in South Africa of a strong contingent of carefully selected Volunteers. The patriotic offers being received from the colonies, will as far as possible be accepted, preference being given to offers of mounted contingents."

MAFEKING EASIER.

London, Dec. 17—An undated despatch from Mafeking to the Pall Mall Gazette says:

"The siege will probably be raised in a few days, when the townspeople will tender their thanks to Col. Baden-Powell.

"The enemy's fire has slackened. Our casualties are confined to natives almost entirely. There are a few wounded in the hospital.

"There is much sickness in the women's laager, where the death rate is high, chiefly amongst the children."

Calcutta, Dec. 15.—The distress in the famine-stricken districts is becoming more acute. About 2,250,000 have applied for and received relief.

The Empire Menaced

London Times Declares the Issue Is British Position as Great Power.

Cape Dutch Generally Turbulent and Rebellion Spreading at the North.

Warning by Sir Wm. Butler Recalled—Conspicuous Gallantry of Troops.

London, Dec. 18—The Times commenting on the situation says: "Neither the Crimean war, nor the Indian mutiny gave rise to greater dangers to the Empire than that with which we are now menaced, nor at either of those critical periods was Great Britain so isolated politically or regarded with such dislike and suspicion as are now almost everywhere apparent.

"Unless the calmness which impresses the foreign observer proceeds only from apathy or a want of sufficient imagination to realize the imminent danger to the whole fabric of our Empire the great efforts now urgently required will surely be made before it is too late to retrieve the situation.

"We are fighting not merely for supremacy in South Africa, but for our position as a great power. We know we have miscalculated the strength of our foe and we are resolved to make that miscalculation good."

CAPE DUTCH TURBULENT.

Capetown, Thursday, Dec. 14.—Secret meetings of Boer sympathizers continue to be held in various parts of Cape Colony, and the attitude of the Dutch farmers is turbulent.

Sterkstroom, Cape Colony, Friday, Dec. 15.—As a result of the British reverses, the whole country to the northward is virtually in a state of rebellion. The natives there, as well as those in Basutoland, are said to be much disturbed, and to be losing heart regarding the strength of the British.

London, Dec. 18.—The war office has received the following despatch from General Forestier-Walker, at Capetown, dated December 17: "Methuen reports that Lieut. Chandos-Pole was taken prisoner last Thursday while going to meet a flag of truce. He was waving his handkerchief in response and was unarmed.

"Gatacre has removed his troops and stores to Sterkstroom from Putterskraal. French has established headquarters at Arundel.

"Vandermerwe, with a commando, is reported moving south from Jacobsdal."

COMMENT FROM LONDON.

London, Dec. 18.—"Black week" as last week is universally called now, has evidently aroused the government and the war office to a full sense of their responsibility and of the magnitude of the task before them, and the papers unanimously applaud this realization. Rumor says that the question of expense has really been at the bottom of the half-hearted measures hitherto adopted and it is not unlikely that Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, chancellor of the exchequer, and other members of the cabinet will resign.

The tragic circumstance of the appointment of Lord Roberts almost simultaneously with the announcement of the death of his promising son, excite the deepest public sympathy. Lieut. Roberts was an only son and had been his father's aide-de-camp since 1895. He served in Waziristan and in the Chitral and Nile expeditions. Such was his display of gallantry on Friday in an attempt to rescue the guns that he was recommended for the Victoria Cross.

The Liberal organs foreshadow a serious reckoning for the government when the time comes. The Daily Chronicle hints that General Sir Wm. Butler, who was recalled from the Cape command because of his Boer sympathies long ago advised the government that the prosecution of Mr. Chamberlain's policy would make heavy reinforcements for the Cape imperative.

The Daily News says: "The government's decision is either a counsel of panic or the confusion of utter miscalculation."

NEWS FROM THE FRONT.

Lieut.-Gen. Sir Charles Warren, commanding the fifth division of the first army corps, has arrived at Capetown. It is understood he will proceed to Port Elizabeth.

No further news hase been received regarding the battle at Tugela River. The latest facts regarding the battle at Magersfontein show that the retirement of the British troops was executed with the greatest coolness and order under a heavy Boer artillery fire.

Mafeking was safe on December 6 and Col. Baden-Powell, the British commander there, was still actively pushing out his defences. At that time the Boers had offered to exchange Lady Sarah Wilson, who was captured while acting as a correspondent for the Daily Mail for Gen. Ben. Viljoen, who was captured at Elandslaagte, but the offer was declined. The other beleaguered garrisons and positions are still holding out.

It is said that if the Victoria Cross were to be granted for every act of conspicuous gallantry on the part of British troops, it would be necessary to distribute the decoration by the hundreds.

GERMANY WOULD PROFIT.

London, Dec. 16.—The grave situation confronting Great Britain in South Africa almost obliterates the effect of the speech of the German minister of foreign affairs, Count Von Buelow, in the reichstag on Monday last, though scarcely any announcement in recent years has so much bearing on the future of Europe. In spite of the uninformed comment in some English quarters that Count Von Buelow spoke merely for political effect, in other words "jollied the reichstag by means of jingoistic sophistries for home consumption to pay for the new navy, in Vienna, which is in a closer touch with Berlin than any other capital, Count Von Buelow is interpreted as flinging down the gauntlet to Great Britain.

The Neue Freie Presse, which has personal connection with the foreign minister of Germany, declares Germany is determined to take the greatest possible advantage of the South African complications, and adds: "The cool mention of England dissipates all apprehensions induced by Emperor William's stay at Windsor, and it is not impossible that England's difficulty, in certain circumstances, may be Germany's opportunity."

The Vienna correspondent of the Standard, detailing much more similar comment, reiterates what has often been heard here, namely that Great Britain is more hated on the Continent on account of her interference on behalf of the United States when the latter was at war with Spain, than for any other cause. Why Count Von Buelow should have gone out of his way to indicate the impossibility of Great Britain's hostility, and belittle the friendship between her and Germany, is an enigma not yet understood by the authorities. The consensus of the best opinion leads to the belief that the German minister wishes to offset Mr. Joseph Chamberlain's speech at Leicester, yet this seems a small excuse for such language at this period, while the suggestion that Count Von Buelow spoke for purely political effect is dismissed as being entirely uncharacteristic of the man, who is rapidly achieving the reputation of being the first statesman in Europe.

METHUEN'S REAR GUARD.

Reconnoitering Party Have Sharp Engagement and Ten Casualties.

London, Dec. 15.—A war office despatch dated Orange River, Thursday, 14th, says:

"Yesterday part of the Mounted Infantry, with the Yorkshire and Lancashire guides, reconnoitered ten miles east of the Orange River, where a sharp engagement with the enemy ensued.

"Capt. Bradshaw and three men were killed, and Lieut. Gregson and seven men wounded. The enemy lost five killed and several wounded."

At Close Quarters.

Highlanders Clubbed the Foe In the Death Trap at Magersfontein.

Burial Party See Evidence of Exceptional Danger British Troops Faced.

Boers Concealing Extent of Casualties—Free Staters Leaving for Home.

Modder River, Dec. 15.—Mutual arrangements were made by the British and Boer commanders by which the British were to be buried on Wednesday and Thursday. The Boers stipulated, however, that only a clergyman of the Reformed Church should officiate and that the British should not come within 600 yards of their lines. Mr. Robertson, the Presbyterian chaplain of one of the Highland regiments, who had previously been of great help, was selected to conduct the burial of the slain at Magersfontein. The Engineers who acted as litter bearers were blindfolded when they reached the Boer outposts. Gen. Cronje, the Boer commandant, sent a message regretting that he could not come personally to receive the burial party. The Boer commander sent Commandant Vermasse, Intelligence Officer Draper and Field Cornet Willis to assist Mr. Robertson in locating the dead, and afterwards Colonial Doctor Grogan joined them, and found he knew many of the dead. A few of the Boers cast fanatic glares at the party, but the majority of them co-operated with the English in the kindliest manner. They said they would have given full details regarding the English dead, wounded and prisoners if the British would furnish them with similar information. The English officials had already prepared these details and had them ready.

Chaplain Robertson buried 32 on Wednesday and 70 on Thursday. The Boers declared that their casualties at Magersfontein were 262 and that they had only 63 killed. This must be a mistake, as the British buried 45 and during the first search of the British on Tuesday many Boer corpses were seen under the bushes. These had been removed on Thursday when the British burial party returned.

Several of the Boers had been killed with the butts of rifles. Some of the Highlanders got so close to the trenches that their kilts were torn off in the confusion.

The Boers say they would have enfiladed them but were afraid of killing their own men in the front trenches. The Boers have 62 British prisoners, of whom 45 are members of the Black Watch.

Chaplain Robertson says that what seemed like deserted kopjes and ridges swarmed with men as his party approached. Commandant Vermasse treated him in the kindest manner. He returned twice to see if he could be of any further assistance, and shook hands with Mr. Robertson on parting.

The Boer army is made up almost exclusively of Transvaal burghers. It is said that the Free Staters have already dispersed and gone home. Some of the western Transvaal burghers have gone to the Johannesburg district. Many of the Boers speak English.

The Boers say the lyddite shells were harmless when they fell on the earth but very destructive when they fell in stony places. Only one of four exploded. Boer prisoners boasted that they could have held Magersfontein for two weeks. They said that if the Highland brigade had massed and stormed the trenches after the first surprise, the British loss would have been heavier because the Boers from the kopjes on the side were ready to enfilade the trenches if they had been captured.

The Gordon Highlanders were held in reserve until 10 o'clock on Monday morning when they went forward in wide order toward the base of the east kopje. They got within 500 yards of this point without any casualties worth mentioning, when they suddenly encountered a strong cross fire. The Boers had allowed them to reach the point where they were concealed in the trenches, and then the burghers enfiladed the Highlanders. In the early party of the day the Highland brigade demolished the Scandinavian contingent, about 200. Some of these Scandinavians were taken prisoners. They look like tramps. It is stated that the Boer force numbered 16,000.

The Free State troops were at the base of the hill and the Transvaal troops along the right of the trench. The scene opposite the Transvaal troops in the direction of the hospital was pitiable. Many burghers could be seen helping wounded comrades into wagons and then driving off.

The Boers are almost invisible from Modder River. Occasionally they are noticed rounding the side of a kopje. A captive balloon behind the British lines was trained so as to give a view to the east and west and report the effect of the shell fire. It was too far distant from the enemy, however, to be of great service.

Parties who were out looking for the wounded on Tuesday morning saw the Boers burying their dead in a long trench around the base of the hill, where the first firing took place.

A Boer doctor accompanied the British ambulance corps among the wounded on the field this morning.

THE WAR FEVER.

Canadians Are Anxious to Send Another Contingent and Preparations Are Being Made.

Toronto, Dec. 16.—Military opinion in Toronto is at fever heat in regard to British reverses in South Africa. There is a general feeling in favor of sending more men, and as British forces are weakest in cavalry and artillery it is suggested a battery of artillery and a regiment of cavalry be recruited and sent from this province. It is understood that Col. Grasett, chief of police, who commanded the Grenadiers in the Northwest rebellion, has volunteered for active service.

Halifax, Dec. 16—Col. Collard says the Leicester Regiment may be ordered to the Cape as England wants every available man. In that event the militia will be wanted to do garrison duty here.

Quebec, Dec. 16.—Orders were received at the military stores department from Ottawa yesterday to prepare a thousand carbines, such as are served out to cavalry and artillery, and from information received from an official source the order has already been executed. It is understood that batteries A and B will make a part of the second Canadian contingent. Every soldier of the permanent force of artillery seems to be disposed to enlist and it is stated here by men supposed to know that the names of seventeen hundred men have already been sent to Ottawa for a second contingent.

WINSTON CHURCHILL'S ESCAPE.

Small Chance of His Crossing Transvaal Border, Though Making a Clever Start.

London, Dec. 16.—A special from Pretoria dated Wednesday, December 13, says: "Before the escape of Winston Churchill he wrote to the Transvaal war office, declaring that, as a correspondent, he considered his detention as a prisoner unjustifiable. He expressed in his letter the highest appreciation of his treatment. His escape was cleverly executed, but there is little chance of his being able to cross the border.

VICTIMS OF TUGELA.

Son of General Lord Roberts of Kandahar Added to British List.

London, Dec. 16.—In addition to the list already published, Ponsonby, of Thorneycroft's Mounted Infantry, and Lieut. the Hon. F. H. S. Roberts, son of Lord Roberts of Candahar and Waterford, were among the officers wounded at Tugela. Roberts has died of his wounds.

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Imitation baking powders are mostly made from alum. They may cost less per pound, but their use is at the cost of health.

Canada Will Help.

From All Parts of the Dominion Offers Are Being Made.

The Feeling General That A Second Contingent Will Be Accepted.

Preparations Going Ahead So That No Time Will Be Lost.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Dec. 16.—From all parts of the Dominion offers of service to the Mother Country in her hour of need are reaching the department of militia. Some weeks ago the Ottawa Field Battery which has an efficiency record, volunteered for duty in South Africa and to-day the offer was renewed. Will the government offer a second contingent? is the question which has been on everybody's lips to-day. It was known early in the morning that a meeting of the cabinet was called for this afternoon and it was generally surmised that this all important question would be discussed by the ministers. Public conjecture in this respect was well founded. The ministers present were: Laurier, Scott, Blair, Fielding, Sutherland, Borden, Paterson and Joly. Communications which passed between the two governments early in November including the reply of the home government through Mr. Chamberlain, dated November 7, were carefully considered. The reply reads as follows:

"Your minister's generous offer to send without delay a second contingent for service in South Africa has received the attentive consideration of the secretary for war and military advisers, but they regret that under existing circumstances they are unable to accept it. The offer will, however, certainly be borne in mind and Her Majesty's government will have no hesitation in availing themselves of it should future events make it desirable to do so. Her Majesty's government attach great importance to this fresh proof of Canadian sympathy and good will and desire to express their grateful appreciation of it."

The ministers hold that the offer of a second contingent is sufficiently explicit and that the home authorities know full well where Canada stands in this matter. It was therefore decided under the circumstances that a renewal of the offer was not necessary.

If the report of acceptance by the home government of a second contingent from New South Wales be true then it is reasonably certain Canada will again be called upon.

FRENCH AND GATACRE.

Capetown, Dec. 13.—Gen. French is gradually advancing toward Colesberg.

A party of Carbineers visited the house of a Dutch farmer and were assured that there was no enemy in the neighborhood. When they were leaving they were fired on from the house. The Horse Artillery shelled the house, killing several of the enemy.

It is stated that Gatacre has fallen back to his original position. It is the general opinion here that he should occupy Cypher Gat, where there is a very strong position called Bushman's Kraal.

There are reports of uneasiness in Basutoland. The natives are restless on account of Gen. Gatacre's repulse and are clamoring for arms. It is believed, however, that Sir Godfrey Langdon, the British resident commissioner, has the Basutos well in hand. Mr. Seymour, advising engineer to the Elksteins, has offered to raise a volunteer engineer force of 2,000 to assist the regulars, and the offer has been accepted.

(From Friday's Daily Edition.)

Ferry By-law Is Abandoned.

The Angeles Connection Project Dead so far as the Present Council is Concerned.

Conference With the Promoters Fails to Provide a Solution of the Deadlock.

The "friendly conference" between the members of the aldermanic board of this city and the promoters of what is known as the Port Angeles ferry scheme, arranged for last evening, and which it was hoped would result in such mutual concessions as would result in a reconsideration of the long-delayed bylaw and its submission to the people, has been held—and has failed in the accomplishment of the purpose aimed at. There seemed no possibility of reconciling antagonistic interests, and when President Cushing and Attorney Trumbull of the Port Angeles-Eastern road, withdrew, it was with a general understanding that the long discussed bylaw, so far as the present council is concerned, is dead beyond all hope. The representatives of tht project declared that they would not accept anything less than substantially the original bylaw, and would not look at it with the subsidy anywhere in the neighborhood of $5,750 per annum. On the other hand, an approximated majority of the board were firm in a decision not to consent to the original bylaw, even at so substantial a reduction as would be made if the first-named amount were cut in two. This was the deadlock that proved fatal to the bylaw.

In opening the meeting Mayor Redfern explained that, in accordance with a promise given some time ago, the council had allowed the matters at issue to remain in abeyance until the promoter of the ferry had consulted with their Eastern directors. It was now for the friends of the scheme to say what they wished done.

Mr. Cushing agreed with his worship in his definition of the situation, and took occasion to again emphasize that the financing of the road was accomplished, and the undertaking, so far as the railway was concerned, assured. With regard to the ferry proposals, he did not see that he could say more than he already had. As the bylaw had to be amended, it was valueless so far as his company was concerned. The company would accept nothing less than the original bylaw; and while he could not go so far as to say that a reduction of subsidy might not be considered, he would say plainly that double the original amount could not be considered with some of the conditions the council had introduced.

In response to a request from the mayor that the objectionable conditions be defined, Mr. Cushing named them as the requirement that the boats should be built, registered and provisioned in Victoria; that they should make two trips daily; that they should be in control of a directorate limited to seven, three of whom should be named by the Council of Victoria, and one of whom should be the mayor ex officio; and that wharfage dues should be waived in the event of the passenger steamer docking and landing miscellaneous consignments of broken packages at any of the private wharves of the inner harbor.

Each of these conditions was then, at Mr. Cushing's suggestion, thoroughly discussed. The railway and ferry promotres took the ground that the Victoria interests were effectually safeguarded in the by-law itself, inasmuch as all advantages to the company are made conditional upon the accomplished provisions of the service defined and a number of the aldermen, notably Ald. Beckwith, Cameron, and Stewart, insisting that they would not approve any by-law without some at least of the amended conditions.

Then consideration of details and conditions was for a time abandoned, and the main question of the subsidy again approached.

Ald. Kinsman, to bring matters to a direct issue asked:

"If you had these objectionable clauses as you call them, struck out, would you take the by-law at any less subsidy than $17,500 per annum for twenty years?"

President Cushing's reply was that the original by-law would not be considered at $8,750, although the company might take the original by-law at something less than $17,500.

Then the meeting again took up details, the limitation of the directorate to seven, three to be named by the council being insisted on by Ald. Beckwith. Ultimately Mr. Cushing observed that this might be so amended as to meet this might be so amended so as to meet the views of both parties. He would waive active opposition to this.

As a compensating consideration, the council intimated that an 18-mile steamer would be acceptable instead of an 18-knot vessel.

With reference to wharfage charges, it was explained that these would only apply to broken packages carried by the fast steamer and landed elsewhere than at the company's slip.

This text was exhausted, and once more the question of subsidy was approached. The debate had proceeded for some time when Ald. Hayward observed:

"If there is no disposition on the part of the council to go back to the original by-law, and the company say they will accept nothing else, an effectual deadlock appears to have been reached. If we could make the by-law acceptable to the promoters of the scheme, we might then submit it to the great body of the ratepayers."

The suggestion did not bear fruit.

Taking up the question of expenditure devolving upon the company, Mr. Cushing emphatically denied that the service contemplated could be carried out for less than $500,000 at least, despite the estimates Ald. Beckwith had secured. Only a steel boat could be so engined as to maintain the speed, and the company were not contemplating giving Victoria anything inferior in the way of a steamer.

Mayor Redfern, at this juncture, suggested that it would be perhaps better for the promoters of the ferry to approach the citizens of Victoria after the railway had been completed to Angeles, and the transcontinental connection secured.

Mr. Cushing did not recognize the force of the suggestion, and

Ald. Williams regarded delay in such a matter as likely to be fatal to Victoria's chances. He, too, wanted the know, from President Cushing, in the event of the original by-law being practically restored, what amount of subsidy would be accepted.

Ald. Hayward did not think this a fair question, in view of the present position of affairs in the council.

"Perhaps we had better take up the question at our next council meeting," observed the Mayor. "We might reconsider the objectionable clauses and if we did so change them as to meet your views"—this to Mr. Cushing—"might we again approach you and ask what reduction of subsidy you would accept?"

Ald. Stewart put it more directly. He would ask again, he said: "If we knock out these clauses you've taken exception to, will you take less than $17,500 per year for twenty years?"

Mr. Trumbull fenced the question by saying that it did not seen proper to ask the company to bid for privileges the council had shown no disposition to grant.

Then Ald. Stewart sought to ascertain on what authority Ald. Hayward had said to the council that he was informed a reduction of subsidy would be accepted.

"To put that to a practical test," said Ald. Hayward, "why not let the council restore the by-law to its original form and then approach the company. It's scarcely fair to present a suppositious case, and ask for a definite answer."

"If the company would say they would take less, for the original by-law, it might possibly change the position of some of the opposing aldermen," observed Ald. Kinsman.

"If the council should consent to eliminate the clauses that have been objected to," said the Mayor, "and restore the original by-law to all intents and purposes, would you entertain a proposition relative to the amount of subsidy? Because if you wouldn't, it seems hardly of any use to go any further."

Mr. Cushing was not prepared to give a definite answer.

Ald. Beckwith expressed himself as unalterably opposed to the restoration of the original by-law, which he held to insufficiently protect Victoria's interests; and it was announced without contradiction that he was not alone in the council in holding this view.

"If we were to go back to the original by-law," said Mr. Cushing, "and it were offered us with the subsidy placed at $8,750 annually for twenty years, we wouldn't take it—nor for anything near $8,750. I wouldn't say we would not take a cent less than $17,500. I will say that we will not consider anything less than the conditions of the original by-law. The Mayor has said he would not vote for a cent more subsidy than $8,750; Ald. Beckwith, Stewart, Cameron and Brydon have raised other objections. It seems to me therefore that there is nothing for us to do but thank you and go home."

There was some further debate, but it did not advance a solution of the difficulties or end the deadlock, Messrs. Cushing and Trumbull finally withdrawing to catch their waiting steamer, after a general handshaking and advance exchange of Chirstmas and New Year good wishes.

JUDGMENT GIVEN.

A Side Issue in the Action Respecting Coal Under Nanaimo Harbor.

Mr. Justice Drake yesterday gave judgment on the application of the defendants in the Attorney-General et al v. the E. & N. Railway Company, for discovery of certain documents in connection with the action respecting the right to mine for coal under Nanaimo harbor. The judgment follows:

"This is an application for discovery against the Attorney-General as well as against the New Vancouver Coal Company. As regards the Attorney-General the application must be dismissed with costs, on the ground that parties are not entitled to obtain discovery against the crown. Attorney-General v. Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 2 D.B., 384. With regard to the other parties the defence has been filed and the general rule is that no order will be made until it appears in the pleadings what the issues are here the defendants have filed a counter-claim, which has been struck out by order, and against which an appeal is pending, until that is disposed of, the issues are not settled, and this application had bettter stand over.

"I may draw attention to the Rule 270 and 271: "In every case there should be a general summons for directions and in case any application which could have been brought under Rule 270 is brought otherwise the party making the application will pay the costs, and as this is one of such a character, the defendants will have to pay the costs."

Mr. Luxton for the summons; Mr. MacLean, D.A.G., contra.

OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION.

Appointments to the Provincial Civil Service—Companies Incorporated and Registered.

Yesterday's provincial Gazette contained notices of the following appointments:

John E. Hooson, of Rossland, to be acting registrar of the county court of Kootenay, holden at Rossland during the absence of A. R. Townsend, registrar.

Alf. de Rupe Taylor of Ladner to be a deputy, within the municipality of Delta, of the district registrar of births, marriages and deaths.

Hugh B. Cameron, Grand Forks, to be a member of the board of licensing commissioners, vice Jeff Davis.

Robert T. Graham, of Lillooet, commissioner of East Lillooet license district, vice W. Livingstone.

Fred Billings, of Vernon, to be a member of the board of licensing commissioners and commissioners of police for said city.

John R. Ferguson, Midway; Jas. K. Strachan, Nelson; Lading Wurzbody, Vancouver, to be justices of the peace for the province.

The jurisdiction of A. M. Jarvis, inspector N.W.M.P., Dalton Trail, as stipendiary magistrate, has been transferred from Nanaimo to Vancouver district.

United Service Masonic Association, Esquimalt, and the Anglican Synod of New Westminster, apply for incorporation.

The corporation of Grand Forks will apply at the next session of the legislature for permission to deposit sewerage into the main Kettle river and the north fork of the same river.

The American Corporation of Rossland, capital, $200,000; Revelstoke Rink Company, of Revelstoke, capital $10,000; Pactolus Gold Mines, of Nelson, capital, $1,500,000, have been incorporated. The Bangwaketsi Concession Company, of London, Eng., capital £4,000, local office, Vancouver, W. J. Bowser, and J. J. Godfrey, attorneys; and The No. 7 Milling Company, of New York, capital $1,000,000, local office, Anaconda, and Fred Keffer, attorney, have been registered as extra-provincial companies.

Court of revision will be held at New Westminster city on January 12.

Chas. and Frederick Thulin, loggers, of Vancouver, have assigned. The creditors meet at Vancouver, December 26.

Beeton & Ovington, brokers, of Rossland, have dissolved partnership.

The Coming Mining Camp.

Mount Sicker Shipments Compare Favorably With the Rossland List.

Tramway Construction Advancing--Lenora Output Passes the Iron Mask.

Every day that passes seems to bring Victoria nearer to her future position as a second Spokane on the Coast—the centre of a mining district infinitely greater and richer than the famous Rossland camp.

Victorians have apparently not yet awakened to full realization of the situation and of the advantages now at their hand—yet the facts are beginning to speak for themselves, and so plainly that they cannot much longer be treated with indifference.

Taking the Mount Sicker camp for an illustration, it being the camp in which development has most advanced; and using the Lenora mine in particular as the example—it is safe to say that no other mine in the province makes so great a showing for the time and money spent upon it.

And it is only one of the shipping mines of this particular camp, a camp that has long since passed the experimental stage.

As an incontrovertible fact, the Lenora stands in the position of being today a heavier continuous shipper than any of the Rossland district mines, with the exception of four, and running this fourth very close indeed. At the same time it must not be forgotten in the calculation that the Rossland ore is worth only about $12.50 per ton, while the Lenora output would be cheap at $25.

The four big mines of the Rossland camp, the leaders having had millions upon millions spent in their development, made shipments last week as follows:

	tons
Le Roi	2,560
War Eagle	1,920
Centre Star	1,110
Iron Mask	150

The Lenora mine at Mount Sicker has been shipping from 120 to 150 tons per week for months past; and the management announce that so soon as the new tramway is completed, additional men will be put on, and ore shipments be increased to from 50 to 100 tons per diem. Three hundred and seventy tons in one shipment was forwarded to the Van Anda smelter last Sunday, while about 4,000 tons will be shipped during the next four months.

Men are now being employed at the mine in development work and in taking out such of the ore as is thus made available—18 tons a day or thereabouts. About 500 tons of first-class ore is now on hand at the mine, ready for shipment as soon as the tramway to the railway line is completed, which will be in a month or six weeks.

Contractor John Haggarty now has construction work well under way, and the work is being pushed with all consistent rapidity. An ore body 22 feet in width has been struck in the No. 1 upraise crosscut, 11 feet of ore.

The mine company having been requested to put town lots on the market, have surveyed about 70 well situated lots, and are disposing of them at a decidedly low figure.

DIED IN GAOL.

Man Suspected of the Bings Murder Passed Away Yesterday Afternoon.

Daniel McDonald Gordon, known as Sergt. Gordon through his claim that he had been a non-commissioned officer in the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders, died at the provincial gaol yesterday afternoon, as the result of a severe hemorrhage. As soon as it was learned that Gordon was dying Supt. Hussey rushed to the gaol in the hope that the dying man would clear up the mystery surrounding the murder of Mrs. Bings on the Indian reserve, for the police suspected that Gordon knew more about the murder than anyone else. However, he was too far gone when the Superintendent arrived to make a statement.

Suspicion first attached to Gordon a few days after the murder when he offered his services as a private detective to the police. He haunted the headquarters and finally led the police to the spot where the skirt belonging to the dead woman was found, although the police had previously made a diligent search for it without success. This seemed so suspicious that the police made a search of Gordon's cabin and in a tub of water found a lot of clothes, which, however, were so filthy and had been in the water for so long that nothing could be made of them.

There was another circumstance that made the police suspect Gordon. On the night of the murder a man answering Gordon's description was seen by Mrs. Bales of Victoria West as she left the railway bridge to proceed home through the Indian reserve. The man peered into her face, followed her a short distance and then returned towards the bridge. A woman supposed to be Mrs. Bings crossed the bridge at the same time as Mrs. Bales, but instead of proceeding along the sidewalk went along the railway track. When half way through the reserve Mrs. Bales heard a scream and stopped, but the wind being high she could not hear anything more. She believes now that it was Mrs. Bings' dying cry that she heard.

Statements attributed to Gordon show that he was a mental pervert on the subject of women.

The deceased was a man of about 62 years of age, standing over six feet and built like a giant. He was a member of the provincial police force for a short time and took a hand at prospecting but latterly lived by doing odd jobs. He gave so many accounts of his life before coming here, that it is impossible to say what his occupation was. Both his ears were cut off, he said in battle but others said as punishment for some crime.

Gordon was in gaol for stealing a pipe, having served about two weeks of the two months for which he was sentenced.

TORONTO MAYORALTY.

Toronto, Dec. 14.—There promises to be a keen contest for the mayoralty. There are four candidates in the field, Clarke, Hallam, Shaw and the irrepressible E. A. McDonald.

ELEVATOR BURNED.

Winnipeg, Dec. 14.—Campbell's grain elevator at Glenboro was burned to the ground last evening with about 15,000 bushels of wheat. The building was insured for about $5,000; total loss $17,000.

CARPETS, RUGS, ART SQUARES

We show 10 patterns to any other stores one.

Axminsters, Wiltons, Brussels, Riche Velvets Tapestry, 370 pieces Carpets, 324 Rugs, 214 Art Squares

UP-TO-DATE GOODS IN EVERY LINE.

Above goods were just received by us in one shipment from the manufacturer.

WEILER BROS, . Victoria, B. C.

LOCAL NEWS.

For Pioneer Corps.—Private Smethurst of A company, Canadian contingent, has been selected for a position on the pioneer corps, now at the scene of hostilities in South Africa.

Sons of England Officers.—In publishing the list of officers of the local lodge, Sons of England, omission was made of the names of A. Thomas, past president, Alexandra lodge, and S. Brakes, past president Pride of the Island lodge.

The Mantle of White.—Snow on the Sooke hills and snow at Alberni indicates that somewhere at least on the Island there is to be a taste of winter. Several inches of chilly whiteness have fallen thus far at the West Coast town, although not enough as yet to make good sleighing.

No Match.—On account of the death of W. H. Lobb, the secretary of the Victoria Rugby Club telegraphed Vancouver asking that Saturday's match be postponed. It is taken for granted that the request will be granted, so instead of the match there will be a general practice on Saturday.

Prize Drills.—Ald. Hayward has offered a handsome British flag as a trophy to be competed for by the pupils of the public schools, the prize to be won by the two classes, boys and girls, most successful in military drill. The first competition for Ald. Hayward's timely and patriotic gift will be held during next week.

A Correction.—In the account of the business men's excursion to the Boundary country the Arrow lakes were referred to as the headwaters of the Columbia river. This is not correct, the lakes being part but not the headwaters of the Columbia. Further reference to the trip, dealing principally with Rossland and Nelson, will be made.

Greeting from Dawson.—The local representative of the Associated Press has received from Dawson, the following message: "The St. Andrew's and Caledonian Society of Dawson sends greetings to their brethren of the outside world. Alfred Thompson, secretary." The belated message came by wire to Skagway and was brought down on the last trip from the North of the steamer City of Seattle.

Craigflower Road.—A large deputation of Victoria West citizens yesterday interviewed Attorney-General Henderson, of the Provincial government, in connection with the now celebrated Craigflower road dispute. The case was gone into at length, and the attorney-general requested to gazette a notice declaring the Craigflower road to be a public highway. Attorney-General Henderson promised to give the matter early attention.

Lively Session Anticipated. — Aside from the political surprises naticipated at the approaching session of the legislature, the meeting promises to be an unusually busy one, a great number of private bills requiring attention, owing to the marvellously rapid development of northern British Columbia. Schemes looking to the opening up of the province on a comprehensive scale will also require to be considered; and altogether the session commencing January 5 is expected to prove a very lively and important one.

A Wandering Boy. — Mayor Redfern yesterday received a very pathetic letter from Lewis J. Lewis, of Ewardsdale, Lazenne county, Pennsylvania. The writer asks for information of the whereabouts of his son, Thomas Lewis, whom he describes as a young man, 5 feet 8 inches in height, dark complexion, by occupation a miner, who left his home in Edwardsdale six years ago. Nothing has been heard of the missing man for over a year, his letters to his parents, which had been regularly received, having suddenly ceased. In the letter begging some information of his missing son, Mr. Lewis pathetically writes: "It would help his aged parents and solace their declining years, as they are positively heart-broken."

Virtually Abandoned.—Those who had hoped to see the Lillooet seat vacant during the approaching legislative session, Mr. Prentice either being unseated or declining the risk of possible penalties, are fated to disappointment. When the celebrated petition of appeal against Mr. Prentice's occupancy of the seat was called before Mr. Justice Drake in the Supreme court yesterday, Mr. H. E. Robertson for the petitioners applied for an adjournment until the 17th day after the close of the session, it being impossible under the existing law to hear such matters within fifteen days after a session. There was of course no objection by Mr. E. V. Bodwell, Q.C., representing the respondent; and an enlargement by consent was accordingly entered. This is interpreted as a virtual abandonment of the proceedings. It is highly improbable now that the matter will ever be gone on with.

AN ARTIST'S DEATH.

Toronto, Dec. 13.—L. O'Brien the well known Canadian artist, died to-night after a prolonged illness. He was one of the best known artists in Canada and was a brother of Henry O'Brien, lawyer, and Wm. O'Brien, ex-M.P. for Manitoba.

Pain from indigestion, dyspepsia and too hearty eating, is relelved at once by taking one of Carter's Little Liver Pills immediately after dinner. Don't forget this.

Directors of Jubilee Hospital.

Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board Held Last Evening.

Reports Presented of Various Matters in Connection With the Institution.

A well attended meeting of the board of directors of the Jubilee hospital was held last evening, President Helmcken occupying the chair, and 13 of the 15 members being present.

The following communication was received from Dr. Nash on behalf of the dentists of the city:

Dec. 4, 1899.

To the President and Directors Provincial Royal Jubilee Hospital, Victoria, B.C.:

Gentlemen: At a meeting of the dentists of Victoria, convened for the purpose of considering your communication regarding their proposed attendance at the hospital, it was decided by those present that such services as are necessary shall be given by them in accordance with your wishes. The meeting also desired to suggest that a list be opened at the hospital for the signatures of dentists desiring to be placed on the visiting staff and that the names be taken in the order of their position on the list as the requirements of the hospital demand.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD NASH,
Sec.

The letter was read and the dentists thanked.

Mrs. Hasell, treasurer of the Woman's Auxiliary, reported that the auxiliary had deposited $1,825 for the fund for the children's ward and that they had $25 more on hand. They had also deposited $500 towards the fund for the doctor's residence. The whole amount was raised by the children's carnival and charity ball.

The report was received and the ladies thanked.

The resident medical officer reported as follows:

To the President and Members of the Board of Directors:

Gentlemen: I have the honor to report that during the month of November, 1899: The total number of patients treated was 113; the total days' stay was 1,423; the daily average number of patients was 44.1; the daily average cost was $1.40.

I have every reason to hope that the members of the Arion Club propose to give their annual concert to the patients, subject to the sanction of the board, on the afternoon of Christmas day. The Woman's Auxiliary also propose to give a Christmas tree to the patients and staff on the Saturday evening preceding Christmas, subject to the approval of the board.

The invalid chair donated by Mrs. Digby Barker has arrived from the East, and will prove a great source of comfort to the patients.

I have to report the great need there is of two air or water beds for the use of helpless patients, and also of a portable bath on wheels for the treatment of typhoid fever cases. I would also ask that in the lavatory attached to the female ward a metal porcelain-lined basin, similar to that in the small operating room, be substituted for the china basins, which are constantly being broken; and also a small porcelain-lined metal sink for the purpose of washing vessels be fitted in the same lavatory. I inclose tables of statistics for the month, and also the accounts for the month to be passed for payment.

I have the honor to remain your obedient servant,

EDWARD HASELL, M.R.C.P. & S.,
Res. Med. Officer.

The offer of the Arion club was accepted with thanks; the proposal of the Women's Auxiliary was approved; Mrs. Digby Barker was thanked for her donation, and the rest of the report was referred to the house committee.

Miss J. M. Grady, the matron, reported as follows, the report being adopted:

14th Dec. 1899.

To the Board of Directors, Royal Jubilee Hospital:

Gentlemen: For this month I beg leave to report that owing to illness one of our nurses has been obliged to rest and Miss Heaney has been taken as probationer in her place. Miss Lund has also been taken as probationer in place of Mrs. Swainson, who graduated on December 1.

We have to thank the Women's Auxiliary for 6 table covers, 1 wrapper, 33 sheets, 1 night shirt, 2 tray cloths; also Mrs. Potts for old cotton, and Mrs. H. D. Helmcken for magazines.

I am, gentlemen, respectfully yours,
J. M. GRADY,
Matron.

P. B. J. Hospital, December 14, 1899.

The steward's monthly report, which followed, was received and the donors thanked:

To the Board of Directors of the Provincial Royal Jubilee Hospital:

Gentlemen: I beg leave to report: I am not quite satisfied with the quality of the bread being supplied, although, perhaps, it is as good as can be obtained at the contract price, viz., 2½ cents per pound. On one occasion a batch of sour bread was delivered, but upon my notifying the contractor it was immediately exchanged. I have heard no complaints about the bread from any of the patients.

The groceries are satisfactory, with the exception of the fresh creamery, which not been up to the mark lately. I spoke to the contractor, who seems willing to have it adjusted.

The meat, fish, vegetables are being delivered in good order and giving satisfaction.

The following donations were received: Mrs. Pemberton, 335 pounds pears; Admiral Beaumont, illustrated papers; Mr. Cowley, plants and shrubs; Mr. Flumerfelt, 1 dozen felt slippers for wards.

Yours respectfully,
ROBT. JENKINSON,
Steward.

The following report of the house committee was read and the action confirmed:

December, 5, 1899.

President and Directors Provincial Royal Jubilee Hospital, Victoria:

Gentlemen: The house committee beg to report as follows:

X-Rays.—We have requested the doctor to furnish a statement showing the cost of operating and fees received for use of x-ray apparatus, and herewith present his report for your information.

Dogs.—We have had a notice put up to the effect that no dogs be allowed within the hospital buildings, and have requested the doctor to take the necessary steps for the enforcement thereof.

Crockery.—We received a suggestion that by indenting for crockery we could obtain our requirements from the Old Country at much less cost than has heretofore been paid. We have taken this matter under consideration and find that the Women's Auxiliary are now supplying all the crockery needed, and the suggestion has not been acted upon.

House Furnishings.—We authorized the matron to purchase a new carpet for the nurses' dining room, the old one being unfit to put down again. A requisition was also made for muslin for window curtains, which we have authorized the matron to purchase.

All of which is respectfully submitted for the committee.

ALEX. WILSON,
Chairman.

J. T. CRIMP.
I. BRAVERMAN.
E. A. LEWIS.
H. M. GRAHAME.
ROBERT S. DAY.

December 12, 1899.

To the Chairman of the House Committee:

Sir: I have the honor to report, re x-rays:

That the apparatus was installed on the 13th of July, 1899. That the cost of working the apparatus, regarding only the cost of the electric light used, is one cent per hour; that the average duration of use by any one patient is under one hour. The cost of plates developing the same and making prints has been $30.80. Three new Crook tubes have been purchased with the sanction of the board of directors at a cost of $30. The hospital has received in fees from those patients who have been able to pay for the use of the x-rays, $25. Thirteen patients have been subjected to the x-rays, eight of whom have been in a position to pay.

The majority of patients who seek the aid of the x-rays are seriously injured from old, neglected injuries which entirely prevent them from earning a living. Many of these have been operated on successfully, thanks to the new light thrown on their injuries, and are no longer a burden on the community.

I have the honor to remain your obedient servant,

EDWARD HASELL, M.R.C.P. & S.,
Res. Med. Officer.

The finance committee reported as follows:

December, 11th, 1899.

To the President and Directors of the Provincial Royal Jubilee Hospital, Victoria, B.C.:

Gentlemen: Your finance committee met at the hospital to-day, and beg to report as follows:

Your committee examined the monthly bills presented to them, and all bills bearing the signature of our chairman have been passed for payment.

Your committee call attention to the fact that car fares have for some time been charged to the hospital by several of the employees. This matter is brought to your notice for your direction.

Special Nursing.—Our nursing staff is inadequate for special cases requiring continued nursing, so that our medical officer must often employ certificated nurses practicing in Victoria, the regular fee being $15 per week and board. The charge made by our institution for such service is $2 per day, so that the loss amounts to $1 per week and $1 per day, the average per diem cost for each patient in the hospital.

Your committee desire that every account shall be authorized by the house committee and bear the usual signature of the officer in whose department the article is for. Vouchers in all cases should be attached to invoices, and where requisitions are issued such requisitions must be returned attached to invoice, and all accounts should be rendered on or before the 5th of each month to secure payment on or about the 10th of each month.

It is submitted as customary, when not by contract, that cash discounts averaging from 5 to 10 per cent. shall be allowed the hospital when retail prices are charged.

All of which is respectfully sumbitted.

JOSHUA DAVIES.
C. A. HOLLAND.
A. C. FLUMERFELT.
JAS. FORMAN.
R. L. DRURY.

That section referring to special nursing was referred back to the committee and the rest of the report was adopted.

Mr. Joshua Davies, of the finance committee, reported that since May the book debts had increased by $1,330.85, much of which would have to be written off.

The visiting committee for November reported that they had found the premises clean and in good order. They had heard no complaints. They also reported having carried out some small improvements.

Treasurer Shotbolt reported having received $41 for the hospital from Mr. Justice Drake, and he himself had presented the hospital with a pharmacopoeia. Both were thanked for their donations.

Accounts for the month amounting to $1,007 were passed.

At the suggestion of Mr. Wilson a motion was passed to the effect that clothing belonging to deceased patients should be examined and retained for a month or until claimed by friends or relatives.

The lighting committee reported having looked into the question of cheaper lights and would report in extenso when their investigations were concluded.

Mr. Lewis said the building was not kept warm enough, in reply to which Dr. Hasell said they could keep the warmth up to 60 with the present plant, which was hardly warm enough.

Mr. Drewry moved that the board meet once a month and at the hospital. After some discussion, the motion was defeated.

A few other minor matters having been dealt with, the board adjourned.

BABIES TORTURED

By flaming, itching eczema, find comfort and permanent cure in Dr. Chase's Ointment, a preparation which has a record of cures unparalleled in the history of medicine. Eczema, salt rheum, tetter, scald head, old people's rash, and all itching skin diseases, are absolutely cured by Dr. Chase's Ointment.

"May Queen" A Success.

Sterndale Bennett's Pastoral at Institute Hall By the Philharmonic Society.

A Notable Musical Production Attended by a Large and Fashionable Audience.

Before a fashionable audience in Institute hall last evening, Sir William Sterndale Bennett's beautiful pastoral "The May Queen" was rendered very successfully by the Victoria Philharmonic Society in aid of the B. C. Protestant Orphan's Home, under the direction of F. Victor Austin, with full chorus and orchestra of 75. It is not too much to say that previous successful efforts by one of Victoria's most excellent musical organizations was eclipsed last evening. The soloists were in good voice and sang their parts well; the choral numbers were up to anticipations and the orchestral contributions to the musical feast were particularly pleasing.

The gem of the evening—an evening replete with musical excellencies—was undoubtedly the solos taken by Mr. A. T. Goward. Mr. Goward's rendition of the opening recitative, "Why Must I Linger Here Alone?" was an achievement of which many of the world-famous tenors would not be ashamed; and his other efforts during the rendition of the beautiful composition were likewise praiseworthy.

Mr. Herbert Kent was called upon quite unexpectedly, owing to Mr. Moxon's illness, to sing the parts assigned to "Robin Hood," and he acquitted himself in a most commendable manner.

Miss Sophie McNiffe, who essayed the part of the "May Queen," was in excellent voice, and, though evidently suffering from nervousness to a slight degree, sang with delightful charm and sweetness.

Mrs. Janion, the "Queen," was perhaps never heard to better advantage, her rich contralto voice filling the hall with a purity and melody quite surprising, though Mrs. Janion's vocal accomplishments have on numerous occasions delighted Victorians.

A notable and special feature of the production was the violin solo, "In Memoriam," by Mr. F. Victor Austin, who composed and played the same in memory of the late William Greig, founder of the Arion club.

The "May Queen" is understood by local musicians to be one of those compositions which, though essentially dramatic in theme, does not demand action in interpretation; but it seems difficult to believe that it was the author's intent that such passages as

"What means the angry sounds we heard?
These faces all by passion stirred?
Are brawlers here?

should be rendered with composure.

One of the best portions of the rather pretentious effort of last evening was the spirited rendition of the National Anthem in opening, with Miss McNiffe and Mrs. Janion as soloists. Taken altogether, Mr. F. Victor Austin has reason to feel well pleased with the success of last evening's concert, one result of which will be a good contribution in aid of the Protestant Orphan's Home.

The chorus and orchestra were made up as follows:

Sopranos — Mesdames Mess, Sloan, Cusack, Welsh, Williams, Misses Hayward, Kettle, Kettle, McMicking, Jamieson, E. Sehl, Ellis, Hitt, Haughton. Haughton, L. Davey, Saunders, Kerr.

Contraltos—Mrs. Spicer, Mrs. Yates, Misses Austin, D. Sehl, Miller, Baker, Colquhoun, Colquhoun, Stewart, M. Gowan, Worlock.

Tenors—Messrs. Earsman, N. York, J. P. Hibben, R. M. Worlock, Wilders, C. Berkley.

Basses—Rev. Mr. Bourne, Messrs. B. C. Mess, Wiffen, Oliver, F. Sehl, Henwood, A. Gore, Ash, Welch, J. Janion, C. Janion, O'Brien.

ORCHESTRA.

First Violins—Mr. Thos. R. Smith, Mr. Ernest A. Powell, Mr. B. Bantley, Misses A. Brown, E. Cartmel, Smith.

Sevond Violins—Messrs. R. B. Powell, Calvert, Misses V. Heisterman, Elinor Dunsmuir, L. Lugrin, J. McKilligan.

Violas—Mrs. Foot. Mr. Jesse Longfield.

Violincellos—Mr. A. Longfield, Master H. Foot.

Contra. Bassi—Messrs. Hitt and W. Handley.

Cornets—Mr. W. Duck, Master Rausch.

Flute—Mr. F. Morse.

Horn—Mr. McGregor.

Oboe—Mr. Carroll.

Tympani—Mr. C. A. Lombard.

Clarionet—Mr. E. Muriset.

Accompanists — Mrs. Walsh-Windle, Misses E. Wilson and R. McTavish.

WILL NOT DISBAND.

Mansion House Fund Committee to Continue Its Organization.

At a meeting of the local Mansion House fund committee held yesterday afternoon it was decided to at once send forward a draft for £130 to the Lord Mayor's fund, retaining only a sufficient balance to make the necessary changes to the doors of the Drill hall should the militia department insist on the work being done by them.

The following resolution was also passed: "That though the primary object of this committee has been accomplished, namely, the raising of a subscription to the Mansion House war fund, by popular patriotic entertainments; yet having in view the probability of the necessity arising for other movements of a patriotic nature before the conclusion of the war in the Transvaal, it is resolved that this committee do not disband but that the meeting do now adjourn subject to the call of the chair."

The names of the members of the committee as at present constituted are: Senator Templeman, Col. Gregory, Messrs. Redfern, T. R. Smith, T. E. Pooley, E. Jamieson, H. Kent, C. H. Lugrin, W. Ridgway Wilson (chairman), Chas. Hayward (secretary).

Providing for a Pioneer.—His Worship the Mayor has formally evidenced his intention of taking action to provide for Mr. H. W. Sheppard on his retirement from the position of chief of police, in recognition of his long and efficient service to the city. Notice has been bulletined of a resolution which will be recommended to the council on Monday night, to the effect that Mr. Sheppard be appointed Chinook interpreter and to assist in police court prosecutions, at an annual salary of $600.

(From Saturday's Daily Edition.)

The Evidence At Variance.

Clergymen of New Whatcom Take Different Views of Mr. Naylor's Conduct.

Endorsed By Rev. Mr. Rogers and Strongly Condemned By Rev. Mr. Sulliger.

Rev. Isaac Naylor, the revivalist from London, whose special evangelistic services here were abruptly terminated on his character as a preacher being impugned, has not yet carred out his decleared intention of returning to Seattle to give battle to his accusers. He had stated that he would go over by the Utopia on Thursday morning, yet he was still here yesterday, and when he left his last boarding place, the International hotel, last evening, said that he intended taking the Charmer for Vancouver.

When asked for an explanation of his career and his alleged improper domestic relations at the time his Victoria meetings were brought to an end so suddenly, Mr. Naylor referred all inquiries to Rev. Mr. Rogers, of the Congregational church at New Whatcom, and declared that it was in that city his character had first been attacked, and that his vindication had been so complete and satisfactory as to become the sensation of the city.

Rev. Mr. Rogers was wired to by the staff captain of the Salvation Army, and replied: "Naylor all right. Will write."

The promised letter came to hand yesterday, and reads as follows:

Dear Brother: The Rev. Isaac Naylor was with us in two meetings, and we have reason to be thankful for the work he did here. He is a sound preacher, and speaks the truth in love. His good wife is a lover of the Saviour and a faithful co-worker with her husband. Both come from fine families and have long done faithful evangelistic service. I consider them both very trustworthy.

Brother Naylor has been divorced from a former wife, but on scriptural grounds. I have seen all the papers. He is entitled to the sympathy of his brethren, for he has suffered much. Since he left here the papers have done him and the cause much harm. The strange part of it is he has been persecuted by those who ought to have prayed for him.

The parents of Sister Naylor, who knew the whole history of the case, signed the marriage certificate and confided their daughter to the care of our brother. I trust they have grace enough to "endure hardness as good soldiers of Jesus Christ."

We pray for them every day. Yours in Jesus Christ.

(Sd.) ALONZO ROGERS.

The general verdict of New Whatcom does not appear, however, to be so unanimously in his favor as the Rev. Mr. Naylor has indicated, for Chief of Police A. J. Ladd, of that city, has furnished the Colonist with a certified copy of the finding of Rev. Sprucer S. Sulliger, to whom (not Rev. Mr. Rogers) the investigation of the original charges were delegated. The basis of the investigation was the following:

"Jesse Bowman Young, editor of the Central Christian Advocate, in a note dated October 25, 1899, says that Rev. Charles Garnet, a Congregational pastor in London, has written Dr. Buckley 'Isaas Naylor is travelling about and living with a Miss Houser * * * whom he introduces as his wife. His lawful wife is living in England and has five children to support. * * * * He is unworthy the confidence and recognition of Christian men, and these facts can be fully verified.' "

In his finding, Rev. Mr. Sulliger says: "Parsonage, First Methodist Church,

"New Whatcom, Nov. 24, 1899.

"The above came to me for investigation, Mr. Naylor being at that time engaged in union revival services in this city. I sent for him to meet me at the parsonage. He failed to come. I then met him at the preacher's meeting, and in the presence of the Rev. Oscar A. Smith, pastor of Trinity Methodist Episcopal church, this city, informed him of the complaints. He declined to answer until the names of those making the accusations were given, indicating his intention of commencing legal proceedings against them.

"Pressing of the matter brought from him an admission that he had been divorced from his wife in England and married to the lady he was now travelling with. He promised to meet me at the parsonage and give documentary evidence to prove the statement. This he did.

"I find he was divorced from his wife in England by decree of court at Wahpeton, North Dakota, not for scriptural reasons, but for refusal to live with him, etc. The decree of divorce was granted on December 5, 1898, and signed by W. O. Lander, judge, and C. A. McKean, clerk; and in 10 days after the divorce was granted, being on December, 15, 1898, Mr. Naylor was married to Miss Tillie C. Houser, at 1323 Court street, Los Angeles, Cal., by Rev. F. O. Nelson, pastor Swedish Baptist church; J. M. and Angelica Houser, parents of the bride, were the witnesses.

"Mr. Naylor strongly affirmed that he had been divorced for 'scriptural reasons,' and defined that term as being adultery. He requested me not to read the complaint in the decree of divorcement, because it contained some very indecent language. I insisted on going through the whole document, even if it be unpleasant reading. He then seemed to just call to memory that the divorce had been granted on other grounds than that of adultery, but claimed that cause (adultery) was in the original complaint, on file or record in the Dakota court, and that the courts of Great Britain had certified that fact to the Dakota court. He further claimed that his present wife and her parents and relatives had and have full information concerning his divorcement; and that prominent brethern in the ministry in the East had advised him to get the divorce. Their names he refused to give me. Mr. Naylor is at present conducting meetings at Astoria, Oregon.

"Whatever use, public or private, for the protection of the church, it is necessary to make of these facts, and my relation to the same, may be made. Copies of this letter go to James M. Buckley, D. D., Jesse Bowman Young, D. D., Albert N. Fisher, D. D., and A. S. Grege, Seattle, correspondent for our Eastern church papers. Sincerely yours.

(Sd.) SPRUCER S. SULLIGER.

If you are tired taking the large old-fashioned, griping pills, try Carter's Little Liver Pills and take some comfort. A man can't stand everything. One pill a dose. Try them.

LOCAL NEWS.

Death's Hand.—Mrs. David Breckenridge, 21 years of age, a native of Nebraska, died yesterday after a brief illness at the home of her father, James Barker, Strawberry Vale. Due notice of funeral will be given.

Wounded; Not Killed.—Flag-Capt. Prothero, of the British cruiser Doris, was not killed, as had been stated in press despatches, but escaped with a bullet wound in the shoulder. This information was received yesterday by his brother, Mr. Ernest Prothero, who is located in Victoria.

District Licensing Board.—At the meeting of the licensing board of South Victoria district held yesterday afternoon at the provincial police office two renewals were granted, one to Joseph Rowland, of Burnside road, and one to Louis Duval, of Royal Oak. W. H. Muller, of the Victoria Gardens, was granted a new license.

Laid at Rest.—The funeral of the late Mrs. Mary Grace Barwis took place yesterday from her daughter's residence, Alpha street, Burnside road. The Rev. W. H. Barraclough officiated there and at Ross Bay cemetery, where the remains were laid to rest. Messrs. R. Kayton, W. Mercer, J. Foster and R. J. W. Atwood were the pall-bearers.

Trades Council.—At a special meeting of the Victoria Trades and Labor Council last evening, Messrs. Ed. Harrup and T. H. Twigg were appointed to represent the council at Vancouver at a convention to be held on Wednesday, the 20th. The object of the convention is to discuss a proposal to request the provincial government to amend the British Columbia Conciliation and Arbitration act, to make it more workable, and also to discuss other labor questions. At the meeting Mr. Charles A. A. Derry, organizer of the Fifteenth district of the International Typographical Union, and a representative of the Central Labor Union of Seattle, addressed the council.

A British Columbia Editor.—Arrangements have lately been completed by the Educational Journal of Western Canada, by which Miss Agnes Deans Cameron, principal of the South Park school in this city, will act as associate editor of that publication for British Columbia. She will have the active assistance of the leading members of the teaching profession in British Columbia, and the cordial good wishes and support of Superintendent Robinson. In the current issue of the Journal Miss Cameron has a very readable and practical paper on the study of history, the other contributors of the month including J. W. Bengough, L. H. J. Minchin, M. McLachlan, Augustus H. Ball and H. S. MacLean.

Christmas Cheer.—Owing to the unexpected action of the school board in not allowing the school children to contribute the usual Christmas gifts, the Friendly Help Association is left without any special gifts for those who are needy and looking forward to them, these gifts being in many instances the only Christmas some people have, and there will be many sad little hearts left to deplore the action above mentioned. But this need not prevent the children from carrying out their very laudable and charitable intentions, for if they still wish to contribute, the members will be in attendance at the Friendly Help room, No. 40 market hall, on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, December 18, 19 and 20, from 11 a. m. to 4:30 p. m., to receive any donations that kind little friends may feel disposed to bring. Gifts from any other friends, as well as from the children, will be most thankfully received.

E. J. GRAY KILLED.

Prominent Victorian Victim of Fatal Accident at Cariboo Crossing.

Victorians were shocked yesterday to learn of the tragic death of a well-known citizen at Cariboo Crossing on November 29. The news telling of the fatal accident which cut off E. J. Gray, who went north to superintend work for the Bennett Lake & Klondike Company, was brought down by passengers by the last steamer to arrive at the Sound from the North. The unfortunate man, who leaves a wife and a family of five in this city, was employed at the time of the accident in sawing lumber at Otto Partridge's mill at Cariboo Crossing, a rough board flying backward and striking him in the temple, killing him instantly.

Particulars of the sad affair were received by Postmaster Shakespeare, a friend of the deceased, from Mr. Partridge in a letter dated November 30. The writer says:

"Mr. E. J. Gray, who has been in charge of my mill in this neighborhood since he left the service of the Bennett Lake & Klondike Navigation Company last month, has frequently mentioned your name as one to whom he was indebted for many kindnesses and as knowing himself and family well. This must be my excuse for asking you to undertake a very painful task. It is with the deepest regret that I have to communicate to his friends the sad news of poor Gray's instantaneous death from an accident in the mill yesterday morning (November 29). A rough board was caught by the saw and whirled backward with terrific force, striking Mr. Gray, who was sawing, full on the temple, and killing him instantly. There was absolutely no hope of life, and though everything that could possibly be done was attempted, it was soon seen to be in vain. I came down here by small boat last night to summon the coroner from Tagish police post and as soon as the inquest is concluded will take his body to Skagway, from where—if no contrary instructions should come from Victoria—I will forward it to Victoria. I can only add that he commanded the liking and respect of everyone here, and sorrow at his death it universal."

Deceased was a prominent member of the Centennial Methodist church, being for a number of years superintendent of the Sunday school; and his untimely end will be mourned by hundreds of warm friends in Victoria.

The late E. J. Gray was born in London, Eng., 45 years ago. Coming with his father, the late Samuel Gray, to America at an early age, he lived with the family for some years in Chicago and California. For the past 15 years he had been engaged in mill work in Victoria, conducting, with his father, the well-known Gray mills on the corner of Government and Chatham streets.

A particularly painful feature of the affair is the fact that Mrs. Gray had been expecting the deceased home from the North by every steamer, and she is in consequence heartbroken at the awful tidings conveyed to her yesterday morning by friends, who sympathize with herself and family most keen in the great trouble which has overtaken them.

The body will arrive on Tuesday next, and the funeral will be held probably on Wednesday, with special services at the Centennial Methodist church, Gorge road.

Business Centre Of Kootenay.

Impressions Gained of the City of Nelson During a Hurried Visit.

Handsome Business Blocks and Pretty Residences in all Directions.

A visitor to the larger cities of West Kootenay—Nelson and Rossland—cannot help but note the different ambitions of the people of the two places. The Rosslander talks almost exclusively of mines and mining, while the Nelsonite points out how his city is to become the commercial centre of the Interior. With both one must agree. Rossland certainly has the mines, and it Nelson has not a big trade, why then her merchants have their stores greatly over-stocked.

Dealing first with Nelson, one is attracted by and surprised at the business blocks—those already erected and those which are nearing completion. Of the buildings recently completed and under construction may be mentioned the Bank of Montreal; the B. C. Goldfields; Hudson's Bay Co.; Madden's; Ward & Baker; P. Burns & Co.; John Houston; and Maloney & Trigillius, any one of which would do credit to a Coast city. These buildings and the many smaller ones are monuments to the patriotism of the people of Nelson, the material used in their construction being, as far as possible, the product of Kootenay. The stone requires special mention, being a marble which takes a polish equal to the best. It is quarried between Nelson and Kaslo. Some of these buildings are already occupied and the others will be occupied by the New Year.

Like the business blocks, the residences are of a substantial and attractive character. They are built in terraces on the side of the mountain overlooking the city and the beautiful Kootenay river, which at this point widens out to the dimensions of a lake, with a grand mountain as a background. No prettier scene could be imagined than that gained from the front window of one of Nelson's residences. There can be no obstruction to the view, each row of houses being built on a terrace of its own. The uninitiated of course object to the long climb, but it is only what the pioneers of San Francisco, Tacoma, Portland and Seattle had to put up with when those cities were in their infancy, only in the case of Nelson the inconvenience will not last so long. By this time street cars are whizzing through the proud little city of the interior. It was the intention to have them running last Sunday for the edification of the visitors from the Coast cities, but the opening had to be postponed a few days. The cars run from the terminus of the Nelson & Fort Sheppard railway, at the northern end of the city, through the main street and up the hill, terrace after terrace, so that accommodation is afforded to all. The system was installed by a British company, who control 42 systems in the United Kingdom. It was hardly necessary to tell this, as the substantial manner in which the work was done and style of cars show that the company was one that did not allow expense to stand in the way of giving a thoroughly first-class service over the four miles of road.

Almost every religious denomination is represented in Nelson, and they have handsome homes, the Episcopal and Roman Catholic churches being particularly large and substantial, the former being built of stone.

That the commercial advantages of Nelson are recognized by the people of larger cities is shown by the large number of Victoria, Vancouver and Winnipeg business houses which have warehouses along the lake shore. These warehouses were erected under an arrangement with the C. P. R., whereby the merchants have a year-to-year lease, which can only be voided through the buildings being used for other than commercial purposes. In this way the company, who own all the water front, are assisting Nelson to become a commercial centre, and at the same time making it easier for the business men on the outside to cover all parts of Kootenay.

The thorough patriotism of the people has been before spoken of, but in nothing is it more striking than in the patronage given to the two daily papers issued there. There are few cities of 7,000 people which can support two daily papers and do it so well as Nelson. Both the Tribune and Miner are newsy sheets, and their advertising columns show that the merchants know how they can best help their city, and of course in doing so help themselves.

The one drawback to Nelson is the lack of school accommodation. The population has grown faster than was anticipated, and in consequence the accommodation is greatly inadequate. This will have to be attended to at once, but the people will not be satisfied with more graded schools—they also intend to agitate for a high school, and from a casual glance one would say that the request should be granted. In all of Kootenay there is at present no high school, and with cities and towns springing up in all directions there certainly should be one, for it must be remembered that these interior towns are no longer peopled only by men, but that men having established themselves took in their families, and now—in the larger cities at least—social conditions are exactly similar to those on the Coast.

Nelson has a comfortable opera house, erected at a cost of $16,000, with a large stage and every convenience for the actors and audiences. At present the city is not included in any regular circuit, but negotiations are proceeding to include the Kootenay towns in some circuit. In the meantime the people have to be satisfied with occasional visits from companies, some of which find it profitable to play a full week.

No city could be better provided with transportation facilities, the waterways on which the C. P. R. run first-class freight and passenger steamers, giving the merchants the entry into all the mining camps in the vicinity. The steamers run from the head of Kootenay lake, touching at all points en route, including Kaslo, the lake terminus of the Kaslo & Slocan railway, which taps the Slocan country, while a railway ferry brings the cars from Kootenay Landing, the temporary terminus of the Crow's Nest Pass road, which in time will run into Nelson. Then the C. P. R. runs a line down the Kootenay river, branches of which run up the Slocan as far as Rosebery to connect with the Slocan lake steamers, and to Robson, where one branch continues to Rossland and the other through the Boundary Creek country, this latter being the Columbia & Western, before described. Besides these Canadian lines, the Nelson & Fort Sheppard railway runs to Spokane, but cannot secure a right-of-way into the city. It was to accommodate this company that the street railway company laid regulation railway rails, it being anticipated that the railway company will run their cars over the street railway company's tracks.

In speaking of Kootenay and the cities of Kootenay, the C. P. R. cannot be left out. It is this great company that is opening up and developing the country, and in all ways helping the people. For example, the residents of Nelson found that their recreation grounds were not large enough. Application was made to the C. P. R., and immediately 40 acres of land to the north of the city were given to the people for park purposes. The ground is well situated and will make a grand natural park. That Nelsonites will make good use of the gift there is no doubt.

In most of the towns visited by the business men's excursion, one good hotel was considered ample. But not so at Nelson. Here there are two first-class hotels—the Phair and the Hume—each of which is well furnished and well managed, and they are usually taxed to their utmost.

The Hall Mines smelter is practically within the town, but considerably above it, which may account for the fact that vegetation is not affected by the fumes, as in the vicinity of other smelters. The ore is brought from the mines some ten miles up the mountain by an aerial tramway. This is the only developed mine in the vicinity of Nelson, but prospectors say there are ledges on the surrounding mountains which will yet make a great mining camp.

There is one thing that Nelson might do, and that is clean her streets and establish proper grades. When this is mentioned, however, the patriotic citizen invites you to return next summer, and promises that then the main street will be permanently paved and the others put in proper order. The trouble now is that so many buildings are going up that it is impossible to keep the streets in order.

The reception given to the excursionists is the best evidence of the genuine hospitality of Nelsonites.

SOLDIERS ENTERTAIN.

Third Annual Ball of the Fifth Regiment Held in the Drill Hall Last Evening.

The annual ball inaugurated three years ago by the non-commissioned officers and men of the Fifth Regiment is increasing in popularity. The third one held last evening at the Drill hall eclipsed in point of attendance and, in fact, in all ways the previous ones. There must have been 1,500, if not more, present last evening, and of these the large majority participated in the dances. Even at this the floor was not overcrowded, and with the splendid music provided by the Fifth Regiment orchestra and the attention bestowed on the guests by the members of the committee, all were made to enjoy themselves.

The hall was very prettily decorated for the occasion with flags, bunting, evergreens and stands of arms. Hanging from the ceiling were stringers of varied colored flags, and at either end of the hall the flags of Great Britain and the United States were gracefully draped. The dining room was similarly decorated. Several hundred electric lights, including a number of small colored ones, helped to brighten the appearance of the ballroom, which, with the bright dresses of the ladies and the uniforms of officers and men of the Navy, Royal Artillery and Militia, made a very pretty scene.

The list of guests included the Lieut.-Governor, Mayor Redfern, U. S. Consul Smith and many others, all of whom took a hand in the general good time.

The ball was opened with a grand march, followed by a programme of dances which kept all merry until an early hour this morning.

Corp. J. A. McTavish was chiefly responsible for the decorations, which reflected much credit on himself and his energetic committee; Sergt.-Major Mulcahey was master of ceremonies; Gunner Williams, chairman, and Sergt. C. Hollyer, secretary of the general committee, while Gunner Stevenson had charge of the supper room and performed his duties well.

The members of the committee and the non-commissioned officers and men are to be congratulated on this, their third, annual ball, and all that the guests at future events of the kind can ask is that they will be equal to last evening's. There was no improvement that could be suggested. The large crowd was well handled, the supper was all that could be desired, Bandmaster Finn and his men provided good music, the floor was equal to the best and the committee was as jolly a one as could be got together.

ANOTHER FOR HUGH JOHN.

One of the Reserved Elections Appears to Have Pronounced in His Favor.

Winnipeg, Dec. 15.—(Special)—The Dauphin election was held to-day. Despatches up to 10 p. m. give Burrows, Liberal, about 400 majority over Hunt, Conservative, with several polls to hear from.

Returns from Gimli election, held yesterday, are coming in slowly. Baldwinson, Conservative, has 46 majority, with six polls to hear from, which will probably increase his total.

The result leaves the parties in the legislature, Conservatives 21, Liberals 17, Independent 1. A recount of ballots for Rosenfeldt held to-day increased the majority of Hespeler, Independent, to 17.

A Returned Passenger. — Among the Warimoo's passengers for Australia on the present trip is an unhappy old woman, Bridget Brennan by name, whose brief experience of America has been decidedly unpalatable. She arrived here from Sydney when the Warimoo came in so ill that she had to go to St. Joseph's hospital for several days. Her destination was San Francisco, and when the Umatilla last went down to California she was a passenger. At San Francisco the government officials refused her admission on the ground of insanity, although from her manner and conversation one would not judge her insane, but rather a feeble-minded, troubled old woman, capable of harming neither herself nor anyone else. When the Umatilla returned here Thursday night she was landed at the outer wharf, and seeming not to know where to go, was taken charge of by the police for safe-keeping. Yesterday Dr. Fraser pronounced her mental health not what it should be, and a consultation of officials resulted in the decision that it was best she should return to Sydney, where her friends and relatives reside. Miss Brennan had no especial plans in coming to America that she discloses in conversation. She had been in poor health for some time, she said, and thought the California climate might suit her. She was far from being a charge upon anyone, for although she had but 40 cents in money in her pocketbook, and wore poor clothes of faded black, she carried a draft in her favor for $638.40, made by the Bank of New South Wales upon the London and San Francisco bank. This draft returns to Australia with her.

Creek Mining In Klondike.

Progress of Winter Work on Main Streams as Reported up to November 15

Machinery is to be Used in Conducting Operations by Many Claim Owners.

The Klondike Nugget of November 15, a copy of which was kindly handed the Colonist by Mr. A. H. McNeil, who has just returned from Dawson, contains a very interesting resume of the work done so far this season on some of the principal creeks in the far northern district.

Winter work on the creeks is progressing actively. The trails are in good condition, and no trouble is being encountered in transporting machinery from Dawson. The principal claims have employed their forces of men this season. Unquestionably, larger dumps will be taken out this winter than ther have been during any of the past years. This will be due to the improved methods of mining, which will prevail this season on all of the rich properties. It is also true that many claims, which could not be worked profitably in the past will be operated to advantage this winter with steam thawers. Many expect that the introduction of machinery will increase materially the value of all ground which contains any prospects at all.

There has been much doubt respecting the richness of Monte Cristo hill. Undoubtedly there have been some very rich pans of dirt washed; but in many instances the rich pay is spotted, and is found in small pockets. No uniform nor regular paystreak of great value has been uncovered. The most damaging fact against this locality is that nearly every claim has changed hands during the past year. However, there are many properties of great value.

Mr. William Barr and others recently purchased the Baldwin claim. One shaft has been sunk to bedrock, and the results have been most gratifying to owners. They claim three feet of pay dirt, part of which will run $2 to the pan.

The claim owned by George Manson & Co., is considered to be one of the richest in this vicinity. Before the freeze-up last fall the owners are said to have rocked $120 per day to the rocker out of three feet and a half of gravel.

Those who own the claim are conducting operations on a portion of it; they are engaged now in sinking one hole, which has attained a depth of 50 feet, and they expect to reach bedrock at 75 feet. A number of lays have been let on the claim. Messrs. Hester, Harwick and Capt. Waud, of the steamer Ora, have one of the lays. They will operate with machinery, and are very confident of success. Mr. Hilcher, the merchant of Dawson, also has a lay on a piece of the property. He has moved his machinery to the claim, and will commence working in a very short time. Another lay has been let to Messrs. McDonald and Dunham, who have almost completed preparations for winter's work.

The Flanigan property, the north side of which adjoins the Manson claim, is being worked by Anderson & Co., the owners. They have rich prospects, and plenty of gravel. Extensive operations are being conducted on the McLeachen claim, which lies east of the Manson property.

Keen & Co. are working a large force of men on what is known as the Frenchman's claim. Good pay has been struck on this particular property.

Bloomfield & Co. are operating with machinery, and are taking out rich pay. Their claim is immediately west of the Manson property.

The Haigh claim, which produced so well last winter, is now owned by Ed. McConnell. He is preparing to work it this season.

Many properties on Hester creek, which empties into Hunker at No. 60 below, will be worked during the present winter. There are about 20 claims on Hester. Those from No. 1 to No. 10 will be thoroughly prospected.

Some pieces of ground in this locality have proven valuable. The hillside, off of No. 10, owned by Mr. Lind, is considered rich. Recently he acquired creek claim No. 8, and he expects to work it successfully this season. Creek claim No. 7 is one of the best properties in this vicinity. The dirt has panned 75 cents. A number of lay-men are operating on Hester, but as a general rule, the ground is being developed by owners.

Recent report from Gold Run affirm that practically every claim from No. 11 to No. 50 will be worked this winter. Even many claims above No. 50 will be developed, the operations extending as far as No. 75. Some fine prospects have been taken from the pup at No. 58. This is also true of Whitman gulch, which enters at No. 28 on the left limit. The hillsides on the left limit are being prospected diligently. Many claims will be worked with machinery.

WONDERFUL GOAT'S LYMPH.

Chicago Doctors Use It to Cure a Case of Insanity.

Medical circles in Chicago have been exercised over the extraordinary recovery of a patient named Irvin Feller Bush from an attack of insantiy which was regarded as incurable. The newspapers of that city have devoted columns to the matter.

The cure was affected by the use of goat's lymph, a remedy said to have been first suggested by Dr. B. F. Roberts, of Green City, Mo., who recently sailed for Europe to instruct a number of physicians in his method of operation.

The lymph was administered to Bush under the direction of Dr. Joseph R. Hawley, formerly professor of physical diagnosis in the Chicago Clinical School, and Dr. A. A. Lowenthal, former superintendent of the Kankakee asylum.

Ivin Fuller Bush's family is one of the best known in Joliet, Ill. Mr. Bush himself is prominent in business and social life and until two years ago was in the possession of perfect health.

Five years ago he married Miss Eva Smalley, of Joliet, and they have two bright children. Two years ago he became subject to peculiar attacks which produced what he described as "a something sensation," but he managed his diverse business interests with skill and effectiveness until December 15 last, when one of his customary attacks was followed by a convulsive choking, which completely prostrated him.

This was repeated several times and his doctor feared that he would die. After a time he recovered temporarily, but soon developed signs of incipient insanity.

Ten days later he experienced another seizure and from then onward his mental malady made rapid strides. The doctors diagnosed the case as one of paranoia. He became morose and at times violent, and at last was regarded as so dangerous that the court ordered his incarceration in Kankakee asylum.

There he grew still worse. At times his mind seemed absolutely dead. If an attendant placed him in any position, say with arms upraised and hands extended—he would remain in that exact attitude until the attendant moved him to another. At times, however, he became violent and attacked keepers and other inmates. He was registered on the asylum books as a paranoiac and incurable. A number of doctors who visited him coincided in this view.

Drs. Hawley and Lowenthal, however, resolved to attempt a cure with Dr. Robert's lymph, and after obtaining Mrs. Bush's consent they secured the court's order for his release.

The lymph was injected hypodermically into his hips and arms four times a day, and when an improvement was at last noticed, the treatment was diminished by degrees to one injection a day.

Mr. Bush was sent home completely cured on Thursday, September 16, and is now attending to his business in Joliet as if nothing had ever interfered with his affairs. The treatment lasted for ninety days.

DUNCANS IN LINE.

Nearly Four Hundred Dollars Realized at the Mansion House Fund Concert.

Duncans, Dec. 14.—The grand patriotic concert for the benefit of the Mansion House fund was a wonderful success, the Agricultural hall being filled until not standing room was left. Mr. Robinson, M.P.P., presided and the following programme was well rendered:

Chairman's Address.....
Mr. Robertson, Esq., M.P.P.
Pianoforte Solo.....
Mrs. Halhed.
Song—"The Old Brigade".....
Harry Holmes.
Reading—"The Absent-Minded Beggar"
Mr. Hands.
Song—"The Brave Sentinel".....
J. Maitland-Dougall.
Song—"Private Tommy Atkins".....
Mrs. Mellin.
Song—"The Englishman".....
Sidney Roberts.
Duet—"After the Fray".....
Miss and Mr. Norcross.
Song—"Death of Nelson".....
Rev. Mr. Osborne.
Song.....
Mrs. R. Bazett.
Pianoforte Solo.....
Miss Robertson.

Farce—"Douchess of Bayswater & Co."
Sir Jeremy Jules.....E. C. Musgrave
(Valetudinarian.)
Duke of Bayswater .....S. A. Roberts
Caryl Stubbs .....Mr. Knox
(Millionaire.)
Jenkyns .....L. Foote
Duchess of Bayswater .....A. Hadwen
Kathleen .....L. Jaynes
(Sir Jeremy's Daughter.)

Pianoforte Solo.....
Mrs. G. and Master Kier.
Song—"Her Majesty".....
Dr. Lucas.
Song—"The Carnival".....
Mr. Maitland-Dougall.
Song—"The Boer Fifth".....
H. Williams.
Song.....
Miss Lloyd.
Song—"The Soldiers of the Queen"....
Mr. Pooley.
Song—"The Empress of the Sea".....
R. Allen.
Song—"The Girl I Left Behind Me"..
G. Mellin.
Song.....
A. G. Dunne.
Song—"Marching".....
H. Greaves.
Chorus—"Rule Britannia".....
Glee Club.
"God Save the Queen"...

Several of the participants were recalled and patriotism and enthusiasm ran high. Every one seemed eager to assist and the good round sum netted to the cause shows that the people of Cowichan are not behind in their patriotism. The amount realized was nearly $400.

DUTCH GUIANA OFFENSIVE.

Movement to Annoy Resident British and Help the Cause of the Transvaal.

Kingston, Jamaica, Dec. 15.—Mail advices from Surinam, Dutch Guiana, report a widely organized movement for the purpose of aiding the South African Dutch and annoying the resident British subjects, in which high officials and consular representatives are implicated. The British consular officers are vigorously opposing this as being a breach of neutrality, and diplomatic representations on the subject have gone forward.

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

SICK 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 cured

HEAD Ache they would be almost priceless to those who suffer from this distressing complaint; but fortunately their goodness does not end here, and those who once try them will find these little pills valuable in so many ways that they will not be willing to do without them. But after all sick head

ACHE Is the bane of so many lives 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 gripe or purge, but by their gentle action please all who use them. In vials at 25 cents; five for $1. Sold by druggists everywhere, or sent by mail.

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DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE.

Vice Chancellor Sir W. Page Wood stated publicly in court that Dr. J. Collis Browne was undoubtedly the inventor of Chlorodyne, that the whole story of the defendant Freeman was literally untrue, and he regretted to say that it had been sworn to.—Times, July 13, 1864.

Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne is the best and most certain remedy in Cougha, Colds, Asthma, Consumption, Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Etc.

Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne is prescribed by scores of Orthodox practitioners. Of course it would not be thus singularly popular did it not "supply a want and fill a place."—Medical Times, January 12, 1885.

Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne is a certain cure for Cholera, Dysentery, Diarrhoea, Colics, Etc.

Caution—None genuine without the words "Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne" on the stamp. Overwhelming medical testimony accompanies each bottle. Sole manufacturer, J. T. DAVENPORT, 33 Great Russell Street, London. Sold at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s.

LAND REGISTRY ACT.

IN THE MATTER of the "Land Registry Act," and in the matter of the application of Marion Henrietta Baker, of the City of Victoria, Province of British Columbia, for a Certificate of Indefeasible Title to all that piece or parcel of land situate in the City of Victoria, and being Lot Sixty-five (65) and part of Lot Sixty-six (66), Yates Estate, forming part of Section Ten (10) Victoria District, and containing twelve acres (12) more or less.

NOTICE is hereby given that it is my intention to issue a Certificate of Indefeasible Title to the above lands to Marion Henrietta Baker on the 27th day of January, 1900, unless in the meantime a valid objection thereto be made to me in writing by some person having an estate or interest therein, or in some part thereof.

S. Y. WOOTTON.
Registrar General.

Land Registry Office, Victoria, B. C., 25th October, 1899.

B. C. STEAM DYE WORKS.

141 Yates St., Victoria.

Ladies' and Gents' garments and household furnishings cleaned, dyed or pressed equal to new.

The Colonist.

MONDAY, DECEMBER, 25, 1899.

THE WAR.

At this stage it may be well to review the story of the war up to the present time, and then we shall be better able to form a proper estimate of what has been accomplished and the significance to be attached to the checks which our columns have met.

Briefly, then, the war opened with the invasion of Natal, Bechuanaland and, later, of Cape Colony. Many people wondered why the Boers adopted this course, but the wisdom of it has been fully demonstrated. South Africa is a country of magnificent distances and the Boer republics can be best reached from British territory by four lines of railway. One of these is from Capetown and extends up the western border of the republics, two others enter the Free State from the south starting from the coast at Port Elizabeth and New London respectively; the fourth is from Durban and has two branches, one extending into the Free State and the other into the Transvaal. The object of the Boers was to secure control of these railways. Hence they seized the crossing of the Modder River, thereby taking possession of the line from Capetown, of Colesburg, which dominates the line from Port Elizabeth, and of Stormberg, and block the road from East London. They also moved down and occupied the north branch of the Tugela river thereby commanding the road from Durban. These are the strategical results of the Boer movements during the two months which elapsed between the breaking out of hostilities and the arrival of our forces at the front. Intimately associated with them was the investment of Mafeking, Kimberley and Ladysmith, and especially of the last two points, for this had a potent influence in determining the line of action followed by our forces. If there had not appeared to be need of relieving Kimberley, Gen. Methuen would not have thought it worth while to attempt to force the Boer position at Modder River, and if Ladysmith had not been threatened Gen. Buller might have taken a different course. The movements of the Boers in the first two months of the campaign gave them a great strategic advantage by enabling them to compel our forces to attack them in their chosen position. This attack has been begun and while that of Gen. Methuen was at the first attended with brilliant success, the others met failure at the outset and he also found himself compelled to halt in his advance.

The situation at present may be summed up by saying that our first attempt to force the carefully prepared positions of the enemy in three places has proved unsuccessful, and the want of success in each case seems to have been due to surprise. Gen. Gatacre marched his men into what he termed "an impossible position." Gen. Methuen was astonished to find the enemy in force in a place where he did not expect them; and Gen. Buller discovered that he, too, had failed to discover accurately the whereabouts of his opponents. Here the matter stands at present.

What this demonstrates is, not that we are not going to conquer in South Africa, but that an enemy, with two months to get ready in and an abundance of modern war material, can so post his forces as to make it impossible for attacking columns to carry his positions by a frontal attack at the first attempt. It is not a pleasant lesson and it has been a costly one.

But this is not the only lesson of the war. One thing it has demonstrated is the superiority of our troops over the enemy as fighters. So far we have set the pace in every encounter, and where we have had half a chance have won. Another thing is that the quality of our troops has not deteriorated and that the regimental officers are worthy of the best traditions of the British army. Another thing is that the arrangements for the transport of soldiers and supplies to the front are all that can be desired. There is a disposition to criticize the generals for being taken by surprise. We have not received Methuen's explanation, but we have those of Gatacre and Buller. Gatacre's misfortune was due to the mistake of a guide, and Buller lost his cannon because of the impetuosity of Col. Long. These things are inseparable from the fortunes of war, and we must put up with them with as good a grace as possible. The situation would present no just cause for anxiety if it were not for the delay in relieving the invested towns, but happily there is as yet no sign that they are in immediate danger.

The important announcement is made that Lord Roberts of Kandahar has been appointed commander-in-chief of the forces in South Africa, with Lord Kitchener of Khartoum chief of staff. This cannot be said to be in consequence of Gen. Buller's reverse at Tugela, for we were told some days previously that Lord Roberts had been summoned from Ireland and it was thought this appointment was intended. Further reinforcements are to be sent. As nearly as we can estimate, we think they will number about 25,000.

Satisfactory news comes from Mafeking, which though undated shows that the condition of the beleaguered garrison was in no sense precarious.

The Modder River despatch contains the surprising statement that the Free Staters have dispersed and gone home, and that some of the Transvaalers have withdrawn. It is of course intelligible that after their experience at Belmont and Graspan they regard prolonged resistance to our arms as hopeless and consider Methuen's check at Magersfontein as only temporary.

Gen. French is pushing forward with caution, which is wise, for Gen. Gatacre has exemplified the truth of the maxim, "the more haste the less speed." We believe he will drive the enemy out of Colesberg. Gatacre's force is resting, and if it is to remain inactive we would suppose that a portion of it might be sent to French's assistance. To do so it would be necessary to return to the coast at East London and then proceed down to Port Elizabeth and take the rail there.

A LESSON IN TRADE

The exports of cheese and butter from Canada this year will amount in value to about $20,000,000, an increase of $4,500,000 over last year. The increase is principally on butter. Our cheese trade has been larger for some years. In 1894 it had reached 1,712,715 boxes. In 1897 the number of boxes was 2,102,985. There was a falling off in 1898, but in 1899 an increase is to be noted over the previous year, the export of 1899 being 1,896,496 boxes. The export of butter has shown a remarkable growth. In 1895 the number of packages exported was only 69,654. In the following year it was 157,321; it was 225,268 in 1897, 278,922 in 1898, and 471,950 in 1899. This is a gratifying and very instructive showing. It is not due to any tariff changes or preferential scheme or anything else except the application of ordinary sound business sense to the dairy business. In Prof. Robertson the department of agriculture has an official who has known how to push the dairying interest to the front. He has been in this country long enough to understand his business thoroughly, and the dairymen are every year enjoying more and more of the benefits of his accumulated experience. Mr. Robertson has studied the British market and has shown our dairymen how to meet its requirements, and the results are seen in the fact that our dairy products are rapidly advancing towards the first place in our exports.

The lesson of this is that a good trade can be developed in a line of products only by studying the market, and also that it is idle to say that there is no market for any commodity until the attempt to meet the demands of possible customers has been made in an intelligent and business-like way. We only mention the matter and draw attention to the fact that the Orient offers a field for Canadian products that may prove just as valuable as the British market has for cheese and butter. Those who remember when the effort was first made to reach the latter many wise people prophesied disastrous failure.

WHEN THE HOUSE MEETS.

What will happen when the house meets is beginning to possess a lively interest to the public generally. Members of the government say that they will be sustained by a very small majority. On the other hand, some well-informed members of the opposition say that the majority against the ministry will be seven. Others who are inclined to be more conservative in their claims say that Mr. Semlin will be defeated by three. We have not formed any definite conclusion between the conflicting opinions, but believe that on the first party vote the government will be in such a minority that its inability to carry on business will be demonstrated. When once this has been shown, the government following will rapidly go to pieces, so that the Lieutenant-Governor will have no difficulty in finding some one who can form a strong ministry out of the present house, which after an adjournment long enough to enable the by-elections to be held can resume business and carry on during the next three years.

We repeat that there is no good reason why the house should be dissolved in the event of Mr. Semlin's defeat. Frequent appeals to the people are undesirable, and if a new government can be formed which will command the confidence of a majority of the members of the legislature as now constituted, we believe the Lieutenant-Governor will favor such a coarse. He has plenty of precedents for so doing.

That the province is heartily sick of the present combination is plain to the most casual observer. What the great majority of the people want is a government that will exhibit more business traits and less of the trick of the demagogue.

THE EIGHT-HOUR LAW.

It is the intention of the B.A.C. Corporation to take steps at once to test the constitutionality of the eight-hour law. The company says that the Le Roi cannot be profitably mined by men working for the short day, and it proposes to try conclusions with the government. As a matter of fact this company has been persistently violating the law, but the government has paid no attention to it. Now it has resolved to take such steps as well compel the government to take it into court. A report from Rossland says that when this is done a general strike of miners may be looked for. The Mine Owners' Association is determined to fight and if the Miners' Union is equally firm, a long and expensive conflict is at hand, and one which will do the mining interests of the province a great deal of injury while it lasts.

Mr. Clute, who was sent out by the Dominion government at the request of the Miners' Union to investigate alleged violations of the law prohibiting the importation of alien labor, has found very little to do. The petition forwarded to the government spoke of thousands of British subjects who were being driven out of work, by which they supported families, and were being replaced by imported aliens. The first day's investigation showed Mr. Clute that he had been brought out under false pretenses. Instead of thousands of miners out of employment he found something like five hundred; of these only a portion, probably not more than half, were British subjects, and the number that were supporting wives and families was even less. The importation of aliens proved to be a myth. Some two or three only had been brought into the country. Mr. Clute had also to point out to the Miners' Union that there is no law to prevent aliens from being imported into Canada from any country in the world except the United States, for the act only applies to countries which have legislated against the importation of labor from Canada. Mr. Clute is, however, looking into the whole labor question; but we are not sure what use the Dominion government can make of any report he may hand in.

There is not the least doubt that the passage of the eight-hour law has kept a large amount of capital out of British Columbia during the present year. Evidence to this effect multiplies from month to month. If the government had sought out a means of doing a permanent harm to the province they could not have selected anything better calculated for that purpose.

RAIL TO THE NORTH.

Reports received during the year fully support the claim recently made in United States papers that the whole of Southeastern Alaska is likely to be the scene of mining operations. That extensive deposits of low-grade ore are available at various points is beyond any doubt, and that low-grade ore is highly profitable, if it is found in sufficient quantity, has been demonstrated by the great success of the Treadwell mine. Speaking in a general way, a gold-bearing stratum may be said to occur all along the line of the mountain elevations on the islands and mainland of Southeastern Alaska. Nearly three years ago the Colonist drew attention to this, venturing the prediction that the same condition would be found to exist on the eastern side of the mountain chain, and the discoveries in Atlin have since confirmed this theory. We believe that, just as exploration is disclosing that the gold-bearing rocks are found all the way along the coast from Lynn Canal to Prince of Wales Island, and westward in the archipelago as far as Baranoff Island, so it will be found before long that the formation which carries gold in Atlin extends southeastward on the east side of the Coast Range, possibly all the way to the Fraser. However this may be, there is abundant evidence that the gold mining industry of the Northwest Coast is only in its infancy. It is likely to increase very rapidly during the next few years.

We have already shown by statistics, the correctness of which cannot be called in question, that Victoria has the lion's share of the trade of the northern Canadian gold fields. We cannot expect to secure very much of the business that will be developed in the territory of the United States, but we may look forward to some of the advantages flowing from it. Hitherto Seattle has handled the greater part of the north-bound business to Alaskan points, and this has been due to that city's position as the terminal of all, or nearly all, lines of communication from across the line. The probability now is that another line of communication, much quicker than that by way of Seattle, will be established, and it will be utilized by Portland, San Francisco and other points in the United States. The Southern Pacific will seek its share of this northern business, and the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, which is now reaching out for western business, will see in it a profitable field. The route to which we refer is that which will be established by the construction of the Port Angeles Eastern railway, the extension of the E. & N. railway to the north end of the Island, and the establishment of ferry connection between thest two railways. When this route has been established, there will be a fleet of steamers plying from the north end of the Island to points in Alaska as well as to points on our own Mainland. President Shaughnessy, of the C. P. R., recognizes the importance of the railway to the north of the Island, and when in Victoria a short time ago expressed his belief that the people of this city ought to make a determined effort to secure its construction. Other well-known authorities in transportation matters entertain the same view. We are strongly of the opinion that a railway to the north end of the Island, with branches to points on the West Coast and ferry connection with the Port Angeles Eastern, is the most important project that can be suggested in the interests of Victoria, except a new transcontinental line following the proposed route of the British Pacific.

To secure the early construction of such a line should be the end and aim of every resident of the city of Victoria. As a purely local road a line to the north of the Island would in time prove a good piece of property, but unless it is very heavily subsidized no capitalists are likely to take the project up for some time to come. The men who are expected to invest their money in such a road must be shown that there is a prospect of getting some return from it without waiting for the development of the country through which the line runs. This can be shown when a southern connection is secured. Suppose the promoters of such a railway were in a position to go into the money market and point out that an unbroken line of rail, for the ferry across the Strait would not be a break in it, had been secured from a point on a transcontinental railway in the United States to a point on this Island only 171 miles from its northern extremity and within a short run by steamer of Alaska, and that a trade to the amount of tens of thousands of tons was already being carried to the North, and a great host of passengers are moving both ways all the time, with a certainty of a rapid and enormous increase in both lines of traffic, is it not highly probable that the requisite capital could be easily obtained, especially as there is every reason to believe that a fair subsidy can be obtained from the federal parliament for such a line? We think that an affirmative answer will be given to this question.

Under these circumstances the people of Victoria seem to have resting upon them a two-fold duty. It is to do what can be reasonably asked of them towards securing the necessary ferry connection, and to use their influence towards procuring the granting of a subsidy from parliament at its next session.

If this is done, the construction of a railway to the north end of the Island will be begun in the very near future, and this of itself will be a great thing for this city merely because of the local business which will be developed thereby. Such a line would do more than anything else that can be suggested to secure the supremacy of our city in the commerce of our own northern gold fields. It would make Victoria the headquarters of that trade. We know that some people are unable to see that it will be of any advantage to the city to have the trade between the United States and Alaska pass this way, but such persons take a very circumscribed view of the case. The same people never look any further away than Seattle when they think of the United States. They forget that Seattle is not a place where traffic originates, but is only a way station where goods are transferred from the rail to steamers, through the medium of wholesalers. It will not be long before Alaska will have its own wholesale houses, which will buy their goods direct from manufacturers, and they will transport them by the quickest and cheapest routes. We do not claim that the Vancouver Island route is likely to be any cheaper for freight than any other, because these things always adjust themselves to an equality; but it will be by all odds the quickest route, and can in this respect never have any competitor. For passenger, express and mail carriage, no other route can hope to rival it. It is hardly worth while to address any argument to those who think that it would be of no advantage to this city to have all the tide of travel to and from the North, except such as goes via the Canadian Pacific, and even much of that, pass this way. We are sure of this, that if the people of Victoria hold such a view they are the only people on the Pacific Coast who would not feel the benefit to be such that a great effort ought to be made to secure it. This is the chief question now before the people of this city. In 1900 it will be decided one way or the other.

THE COMING SESSION.

The Columbian is the only paper supporting the local government that ventures to make any suggestion as to the policy likely to be followed when the legislature meets. Our contemporary has very great doubt, apparently, as to the chances of the present ministry's ability to control the house, but thinks if it is not defeated on a vote of want of confidence early in the session, it will introduce as its first measure a redistribution bill. Such a measure will, it thinks, command a larger vote than any which can be introduced. Redistribution is a hobby with the Columbian, but if there is any indication elsewhere in British Columbia that this ought to be the paramount question of the hour, the newspapers of the province do not disclose it. In fact, except the New Westminster paper the only advocates of any change in this regard are to be found in the press of the Boundary district, and these think that portion of the province entitled to a new member, a claim that perhaps no one will dispute. When the Columbian talks about redistribution the chief idea in its mind is the reduction of the representation of the Island, so that the control of the province may be centred in Vancouver and vicinity. The present government party when in opposition opposed the increase in the representation of Cariboo and Cassiar, as well as advocating the reduction of the Island representation by taking one member away from Esquimalt. No doubt a plan to take one member away from Esquimalt, Cassiar and Cariboo and distribute them where they would do the most good would quite meet the views of the Columbian.

We take issue with our contemporary as to the importance of redistribution. It is not a pressing question. There are others far more urgent. From time to time alterations in the boundaries and numerical representation of constituencies will be made, but temporary inequalities are inevitable in a growing community. Indeed there is no community in the world where they have been avoided. The coming session may easily be devoted to more vital questions. The whole industrial position of the province calls for consideration at the hands of the house. What we hope to see is the present one-man government forced to resign, a new ministry formed, and an adjournment taken for say thirty days, to give the new ministers time to appeal to their constituents and to prepare their measures.

The Columbian expects the government to have a majority of one on a straight vote of want of confidence. This is the utmost it can hope for, but we feel satisfied that it will not be realized. The most active politicians on the opposition side of the house are sanguine of a government defeat by from three to seven votes.

The Revelstoke Mail says the Colonist is the only Conservative paper in British Columbia that favors federal lines in local politics. We beg to remind the Mail that the Colonist's editorials are printed on page 4 of each issue.

SIR CHARLES TUPPER.

The verdict of everyone after hearing Sir Charles Tupper last night was that he is a remarkable man. It is hard to realize that the fresh and vigorous looking gentleman who held the interest and aroused the enthusiasm of the large audience for so long a time last night, is approaching his seventy-ninth year. He has the energy of a man twenty years younger, a memory that is simply marvellous, and a manner of expressing himself that is politic though forceful. His hold upon the confidence of his party and the country grows stronger every day.

In his speech last night Sir Charles presented clearly and powerfully the views on the issues of the day in the federal arena, which are accepted by the party led by him. It is not necessary to present a resume of them here, for they are fully set out in our report of the meeting. They are not only the views of a party, but of a statesman, who was one of the chief artificers of this Dominion, and who of all men now living in Canada has done most to make our country what it is. As such they would be entitled to and would receive the greatest consideration, apart from the fact that they represent the principles and policy which the people will ratify when next they are appealed to.

The visit of the veteran leader to the province and this city will have an excellent effect. He comes at a particularly favorable time in one respect, because he finds the Liberals a badly divided party, and many of them are ready to transfer their allegiance to the men who stand in our politics for the policy of progress and good government. He will leave the Conservative party here stronger than he found it, and it was already strong enough to carry the province.

We wish Sir Charles a safe and pleasant journey back to Ottawa, and can assure him that he leaves in British Columbia a united and growing party that only awaits the opportunity to retrieve the result of 1896.

THE PORT ANGELES EASTERN.

We learn that the Port Angeles-Eastern Railway Company have their affairs in such a shape that the construction of the line next season is now beyond all doubt. In other words, the little city across the Strait will by this time next year be in the enjoyment of transcontinental railway connection. This news is of very great interest to the people of Victoria, for it means that, if wise counsels prevail, we will be able before Christmas, 1900, to embark on a railway ferry here for any point in the United States or Canada, and will have only a short hour's run across the water to reach a Pullman car. We believe that the people of this city will do what is necessary to secure such a connection.

The Port Angeles railway will undoubtedly be an excellent piece of road. The country that it will open up is one of the richest in the world as far as timber resources go, and as we showed in an article in these columns a day or two ago, lumber is rapidly becoming king in the United States. The quantity of growing timber of the finest quantity that will be made available to eastern markets by this railway is almose beyond calculation. The other resources of the Olympic peninsula are known to be great. We look for an era of progress across the Strait such as has been enjoyed in different periods by other localities after the inaguration of railway communication.

We are also very confident that, when this line has been constructed, the importance of Port Angeles as a shipping point will be enormously increased. It has the finest harbor on the Pacific Coast of the United States, and its proximity to the ocean makes it one of the cheapest. We look to this railway as likely to furnish Portland, San Francisco and other points not on Puget Sound an avenue by which they will reach out for the great trade to be developed in Alaska. If the matter is wisely handled this trade will find its way through the whole length of Vancouver Island, and Victoria will reap great benefit therefrom.

VICTORIA AND SOUTH AFRICA.

A paragraph in yesterday's Colonist mentioned that Flag-Captain Prothero, of the cruiser Doris, had been wounded in South Africa, and that Capt. Prothero is a brother of Mr. Ernest Prothero, of this city. This suggests the fact that many Victorians have a personal interest in what is transpiring in South Africa, quite apart from the fact that our contingent of 26 men are serving with the Canadian Regiment under Methuen. Mr. G. A. Kirk, of Turner, Beeton & Co., has two brothers there, one of them being with Methuen. A Victorian, whose name we do not now recall, has a brother who was among the prisoners taken by the Boers after the stampede of the mules. Capt. R. S. Chaplin, of the 10th Hussars, also serving in South Africa, is not a Victorian, but as he was recently married to Miss Maud Dunsmuir, his presence at the front is a matter of interest to a large circle here. Doubtless there are many other Victorians who have relatives at the seat of war, and we are sure it would be of very much interest to the public generally to know their names, and to what command they are attached. It does not matter in what capacity they are serving, so that they are "soldiers of the Queen." The Colonist will be very much pleased to publish the names of any such, with such particulars as their friends care to have made public. Such things as this show how closely the Empire is welded together.

An Interior paper refers to Premier Semlin as "Charley." It is not a very important matter, perhaps, but we think the newspapers of British Columbia should refrain from the habit of speaking of public men by familiar nicknames.

So it appears that the original Wilson plan was to keep that gentleman's nomination secret. That also was the plan proposed at New Westminster in regard to the platform. It was to be a veiled platform, but some newspaper fellow gave the thing away. The idea seemed to be that so marvellous a document ought not to be given to the world all at once. A secret leader and a secret platform would have been a delicious combination.

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We have the very finest, all cleaned and made ready for use.
MINCEMEAT all ready for the pie, and PLUM PUDDING all ready for the table.

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Navigation in B. C. Waters.

Notices To Shipping Men Issued by the Marine and Fisheries Department.

Queen City From West Coast—Anticipated Rush to Nome—Quadra in Port.

The department of marine and fisheries under date of November 28 has issued a circular notice to mariners regarding navigation in British Columbia waters. The two new lighthouses—on Point Island and on Dryad Point, Campbell Island, respectively—are described, together with hydrographic notes affecting the same. Notice is given of an uncharted rock in Methiacatlah bay and also of the removal and change in color of the Hodgson Reefs' buoy.

A lighthouse erected by the government on Pointed island, Fitzhugh sound, east entrance to Lama passage, was put in operation on the 5th instant, latitude north 52 degrees 3 minutes 48 seconds, longitude west 128 degrees 58 minutes and 40 seconds. The light is a fixed white light, elevated 42 feet above high water, and should be visible 12 miles over an arc 214 degrees between the bearings of S. 56 degrees E. (S. 31 degrees E. true) through south and west to N. 22 degrees W. (N. 3 degrees E. true). The illuminating apparatus is dioptric of the seventh order.

A lighthouse, erected by the government on the extremity of Dryad point, (Turn point) Campbell island, northern entrance of Main passage, Seaforth channel, was put in operation on the 7th instant latitude north 52 degrees 11 minutes 14 seconds, longitude west 128 degrees 8 minutes and 24 seconds. The light is a fixed white light, elevated 36 feet above high water mark, and should be visible eleven miles over an arc 257 degrees, between the bearings E. 63 degrees E. (S. 37 degrees E. true) through south, west and north to N. 14 degrees E. (N. 40 degrees E. true). The illuminating apparatus is dioptric of the seventh order. The lighthouse is on the point named on the admiralty charts Turn point. In order to distinguish it from Turn point, Stuart island, on which a lighthouse is already maintained, the geographic board will change its name to Dryad point, commemorating the name of a brig belonging to the Hudson's Bay Co., which was engaged in company with the brig "Lama," in 1833, in carrying materials, etc., for the construction of Fort McLaughlin, near the site of the nearby existing village of Bella Bella.

The captain of the D. G. S. Quadra reports, in connection with the establishment of the above lighthouse, that Dryad points extends nearly 300 feet east of the shore line shown on admiralty chart No. 2,449; that the islet shown east of the point is not visible in coming from the westward until the extremity of the point bears southward of S. by E. ½ E. There is a small rock, awash at extreme low water, 135 feet S. E. by S. from the islet, and another rock, which shows four feet at high water, 200 feet N. N. W. from the lighthouse. The two-fathom patch, shown on the chart N. E. of Song island, does not exist.

A rock, not marked by kelp, with 1½ fathoms water on it, which will be named Clutch rock, has been located by Capt. Walbran, of the D. G. S. Quadra, in Metlahcatlah bay, between Alford reefs and Knight island, latitude north 54 degrees 18 minutes 30 seconds, longitude west 130 29 minutes and 15 seconds. Mariners are advised to enter Metlahcatlah bay by the passage west of Alford reefs and Devastation island, which is well buoyed, in preference to using the eastern channel. Vessels entering, after passing Devastation island, should bring the middle of the three singular trees (with all lower branches cut away) on Shrub islet to bear N. E. by E., and keep that course until they bring Straith point in one with the middle of the largest Cridge island, bearing S. S. E. They should then alter their course for the fairway between the beacon north of Shrub island and the buoy on Kelp rock.

The buoy maintained on Hodgson reefs, Chatham sound, having broken adrift, has been replaced by a new buoy, which has been moored in 9½ fathoms, northward and westward of the old position of the buoy, kelp having been seen outside the old location, latitude north 54 degrees 22 minutes 20 seconds, longitude west 130 degrees 32 minutes and 10 secouds. The extreme westerly edge of Hodgson reefs is 3½ cables eastward of the buoy, and between the buoy and the reefs is a narrow ledge with 5½ fathoms. Outside the buoy the water deepens rapidly to 20 fathoms. From the buoy in its new position the south tangent of Ryan point bears due east (S. 63 degrees E. true), distant 2 miles 1¾ cables, and Dawes point, Tugwell island, bears S. 41½ degrees east (S. 14½ E. true). As the flood tide sets into Chatham sound from the northward through Dixon entrance, Hodgson reefs buoy has been changed in color from red to black, as it is on the port hand going with the main stream of flood.

All bearings, unless otherwise noted, are magnetic and are given from seaward, miles are nautical miles, heights are above high water, and all depths are at mean low water. Pilots, masters, or others interested are earnestly requested to send information of dangers, changes in aids to navigation, notice of new shoals or channels, errors in publications, or any other facts affecting the navigation of Canadian waters to the chief engineer, department of marine and fisheries, Ottawa, Canada.

THE CAPE NOME EXCITEMENT.

Venturesome Argonauts Already Leaving For the New Northern Gold Fields.

The stampede to the placer diggings at Cape Nome promises to eclipse the famous rush to the Klondike of a few years ago, and already many venturesome spirits are leaving for the great new Northland in the hope of being able to reach the mines at an earlier date than would be the case were they to wait until Nome can be reached by steamship direct by the opening of navigation at the 1st of June. As indicative of the immensity of the rush north to the new Eldorado next spring, it may be mentioned that the Sound papers contain pages of advertisements of transportation facilities to the Nome gold fields. While the big rush will of course take place during April, May and June, there will be quite an exodus northwards from the Coast all winter. Seattle reports upwards of a thousand gold-seekers already assembled in that city. The Post-Intelligencer is responsible for the statement that a considerable number are already leaving for the North. The winter route by which these venturesome "early birds" will travel is by steamer from Coast cities to Skagway, where the White Pass & Yukon road furnishes transportation to Bennett. The journey from Bennett to Dawson is made over the government mail trail along the Yukon, which will be kept open all winter. A majority of those going at this early season intend wintering in the Klondike capital, where reports say there is a scarcity of labor on account of the exodus to Nome. They intend to work for wages there until the latter part of April and then go down the Yukon to Nulato. The boats are expected to arrive at this place not later than May 10. From Nulato it will be necessary to make an overland journey in a northwesterly direction to salt water, a distance of about 100 miles, then follow an ice and land route a further distance of 125 miles to Nome. The Canadian Development Company announce the completion of their line of road-houses from Lake Bennett to Nome City and together with the White Pass & Yukon road are industriously circulating printed matter descriptive of the route.

QUEEN CITY IN.

After a Pleasant and Successful Voyage To West Coast Ports.

The steamer Queen City arrived from West Coast ports early yesterday afternoon with a good passenger list and lightly laden with freight. The Queen City had a splendid trip, good weather being experienced both going and coming. The weather on the coast was beginning to assume a decidedly wintry appearance, Alberni being under a mantle of white. The schooner Vera was spoken going into Clayoquot. The following passengers came down by the Queen City: C. Frank, H. Burnett, A. Engvick, O. C. Matherson, J. J. McKay, C. A. Karman, Geo. Brown, T. Stackholm, Capt. McKiel, G. A. Huff, F. T. Child, J. Baird, F. Murton, A. Vandon and A. E. Bby. The Queen City will sail again on the 20th inst.

THE UQADRA IN PORT.

Back from a Cruise to West Coast Lighthouses.

Dominion government steamer Quadra is back from a cruise to West Coast lighthouses, after a very stormy trip. The Quadra reports that Thomas Daykin, keeper of the Carminah Point lighthouse had a narrow escape from drowning while attempting to remove a quantity of goods from the wrecked barkentine Uncle John. Mr. Daykin's small boat was swamped by the wreckers and he was thrown into the sea, but he managed to get ashore safely. The Uncle John is still visible to passing vessels, but her hull has broken in two.

COOS BAY BLOCKED.

Harbor Entrance Barricaded by a Bar in Consequence of Recent Storms.

Local shipping men will be interested in learning that Coos Bay harbor, Or., is blockaded by a new bar, formed as a result of the big southeaster which prevailed during the month of November. The bar has shoaled so that a number of steamers and ships there cannot get out. Recent reports say there are two new channels through the bar, but neither of them is deep enough to carry the coastwise craft now in the harbor.

SEALERS DEPART.

A Number of the Local Fleet Have Sailed for Southern Waters.

It is expected that the increased prices received for skins at the December sales held in London on Friday last, and noted in the Colonist yesterday, will have a stimulating effect on the sealing industry. Four more of the local fleet sailed yesterday on the cruise to southern waters, the Vera, Carlotta G. Cox, Umbrina and Ocean Belle. The Teresa, Capt. Myers, and the Sadie Turpel, Capt. McDougall, will sail early in the week.

Broken Pled

Sir Charles Tupper Prior Tell of Pron of Liberals.

Difficulty of Getting Go to Send Continge South Africa.

Tarte Trying to Stir u Discord in the Pro of Quebec.

Sir Charles Tupper, the ve of the Conservative party, the latest field of battle, whe ed in the overthrow of the government, spent yesterday of Victoria friends, and in addressed a large meeting toria theatre. Although th campaign was one of the h has been fought in Canada fo Charles comes out of it looki as ever for another campaign about all yesterday mornin friends, and in the afternoo guest of Col. Prior and Mr. Victoria representatives in th Commons, at luncheon at Club. Mr. Earle was unfort sent through illness. B Charles Tupper there were p mier Semlin, Sir Hibbert T Premier Turner, Hon. E. D D. Helmcken, M. P. P., Pooley, M. P. P., A. E. Mc P. P., G. H. Burns, W. H. Wolley, W. McDowall, W. C Hanington, G. A. Keefer, A. J. C. Galletly, J Taylor, nard, F. G. Vernon, T. B. H sidy and F. C. Gamble.

Long before the hour fix opening of the evening theatre was comfortably fill chestra entertaining the ea until the rise of the curtain. Helmcken, Q. C., M. P. P., the Victoria Liberal-Conserv ciation, occupied the chair, those on the platform besides Tupper were Sir Hibbert Tup Col. Prior, M. P., Senator A. E. McPhillips, M. P. P., Dewdney, Henry Croft, F. S Hon. C. E. Pooley, Hon. J. L. G. McQuade, Hon. F. Capt. Clive Phillipps-Wolley, C. H. Lugrin, J. B. McKilli Robertson and James Harve Mr. H. D. Helmcken, in meeting, referred to the fact years ago he had had the p introducing Sir Charles Tupp toria audience. On that occ was a representative audien was pleased to see another la ing present to welcome the G chieftain. It was due to S who had been doing yeoman fruits of which were shown i toba elections. At the time of confederation were being British Columbia had no t than Sir Charles, then Dr. T although upwards of 78 ye was still working hard for later years with the aid of h Hibbert Tupper. The chairm to the war in South Africa, an ing of a Canadian contingent mitted to the audience the follo lution, moved by Mr. W. A. and seconded by Mr. George "Resolved that this re meeting of Victoria citizens place on record a renewed ex their confidence in the justi cause for which our soldiers fighting in South Africa, and loyalty to their Queen and co we hereby pledge our supp Crown in any way that may b to secure the triumph of B and the maintenance of free equal rights in all portions o pire."

The resolution was carried and the audience, rising, Save the Queen."

Mr. Helmcken announced Thomas Earle, M. P., was u present on account of illness Col. Prior, M. P., although from a severe cold, would ad audience.

Col. Prior, after the appl which he was received had said that, although sufferin severe cold, he could not allow tunity like the present to pa taking some part. He realize people had not come to hear representative, but to hear th statesman in Canada. There might be more silve orators, but none who had for Canada. However, his his past life spoke for the Co leader. With the exception dinner speeches, it had been a since he had the pleasure of s his constituents, and, as was banquets he sat side by side enemy, and was expected to d with them. On the public platf ever, one could speak his mind three and a half years since servative party had been relega cold shades of opposition, ha put there by the machine m the Liberals. The people had to reflect on the change, and tended to show that the vas were in favor of seeing the Co back in power.

The longer the Liberals wer the more did the desire for back to the old party become ed. The Liberals had made m ises, hardly one of which the ried out. When they got i there were to be no more everybody was to be happy. Laurier had promised one th part of Canada and directly t at the other end of the Domin said that once they were in would expose scandalous op the Conservative party. The tives had awaited with confi promised exposures and their had not been misplaced, for th ed to show a single thing th for the good of the country. Liberals had assumed the rei the taxation had increased by lion dollars or $1.27 per hea penditure, which Sir Richard and others when in oppositi charged to be outrageous, ha creased by eight million dolla and the debt which was t ed out when they got into offi increased by six millions. blue books showed all this, so

Broken Pledges.

Sir Charles Tupper and Col. Prior Tell of Promises of Liberals.

Difficulty of Getting Government to Send Contingent to South Africa.

Tarte Trying to Stir up Racial Discord in the Province of Quebec.

Sir Charles Tupper, the veteran leader of the Conservative party, fresh from the latest field of battle, where he assisted in the overthrow of the Greenway government, spent yesterday as the guest of Victoria friends, and in the evening addressed a large meeting in the Victoria theatre. Although the Manitoba campaign was one of the hardest that has been fought in Canada for years, Sir Charles comes out of it looking as ready as ever for another campaign. He was about all yesterday morning, meeting friends, and in the afternoon was the guest of Col. Prior and Mr. Earle, the Victoria representatives in the House of Commons, at luncheon at the Union Club. Mr. Earle was unfortunately absent through illness. Besides Sir Charles Tupper there were present Premier Semlin, Sir Hibbert Tupper, ex-Premier Turner, Hon. E. Dewdney, H. D. Helmcken, M. P. P., Hon. C. E. Pooley, M. P. P., A. E. McPhillips, M. P. P., G. H. Burns, W. H. Ellis, Capt. Wolley, W. McDowall, W. C. Ward, Dr. Hanington, G. A. Keefer, B. Gordon, A. J. C. Galletly, J. Taylor, F. S. Barnard, F. G. Vernon, T. B. Hall, R. Cassidy and F. C. Gamble.

Long before the hour fixed for the opening of the evening meeting the theatre was comfortably filled, the orchestra entertaining the early arrivals until the rise of the curtain. Mr. H. D. Helmcken, Q. C., M. P. P., president of the Victoria Liberal-Conservative Association, occupied the chair, and among those on the platform besides Sir Charles Tupper were Sir Hibbert Tupper, Lieut.-Col. Prior, Hon. M. P. Senator Macdonald, A. E. McPhillips, M. P. P., Hon. Edgar Dewdney, Henry Croft, F. S. Barnard, Hon. C. E. Pooley, Hon. J. H. Turner, L. G. McQuade, Hon. F. G. Vernon, Capt. Clive Phillipps-Wolley, R. Cassidy, C. H. Lugrin, J. B. McKilligan, H. E. Robertson and James Harvey.

Mr. H. D. Helmcken, in opening the meeting, referred to the fact that two years ago he had had the pleasure of introducing Sir Charles Tupper to a Victoria audience. On that occasion there was a representative audience, and he was pleased to see another large gathering present to welcome the Conservative chieftain. It was due to Sir Charles, who had been doing yeoman work, the fruits of which were shown in the Manitoba elections. At the time the terms of confederation were being arranged, British Columbia had no truer friend than Sir Charles, then Dr. Tupper, who although upwards of 78 years of age, was still working hard for Canada, in later years with the aid of his son, Sir Hibbert Tupper. The chairman referred to the war in South Africa, and the sending of a Canadian contingent, and submitted to the audience the following resolution, moved by Mr. W. A. Robertson and seconded by Mr. George Jeeves:

"Resolved that this representative meeting of Victoria citizens desires to place on record a renewed expression of their confidence in the justice of the cause for which our soldiers are now fighting in South Africa, and of their loyalty to their Queen and country; and we hereby pledge our support to the Crown in any way that may be necessary to secure the triumph of British arms and the maintenance of freedom and equal rights in all portions of the Empire."

The resolution was carried with cheers and the audience, rising, sang "God Save the Queen."

Mr. Helmcken announced that Mr. Thomas Earle, M. P., was unable to be present on account of illness, and that Col. Prior, M. P., although suffering from a severe cold, would address the audience.

Col. Prior, after the applause with which he was received had subsided, said that, although suffering from a severe cold, he could not allow an opportunity like the present to pass without taking some part. He realized that the people had not come to hear the local representative, but to hear the greatest statesman in Canada. (Applause). There might be more silvery-tongued orators, but none who had done more for Canada. However, his works and his past life spoke for the Conservative leader. With the exception of after-dinner speeches, it had been a long while since he had the pleasure of speaking to his constituents, and, as was known, at banquets he sat side by side with the enemy, and was expected to deal kindly with them. On the public platform, however, one could speak his mind. It was three and a half years since the Conservative party had been relegated to the cold shades of opposition, having been put there by the machine methods of the Liberals. The people had had time to reflect on the change, and everything tended to show that the vast majority were in favor of seeing the Conservatives back in power.

The longer the Liberals were in power the more did the desire for a change back to the old party become emphasized. The Liberals had made many promises, hardly one of which they had carried out. When they got into power there were to be no more taxes and everybody was to be happy. Sir Wilfrid Laurier had promised one thing in one part of Canada and directly the opposite at the other end of the Dominion. They said that once they were in power they would expose scandalous operations of the Conservative party. The Conservatives had awaited with confidence these promised exposures and their confidence had not been misplaced, for they had failed to show a single thing that was not for the good of the country. Since the Liberals had assumed the reins of office the taxation had increased by eight million dollars or $1.27 per head; the expenditure, which Sir Richard Cartwright and others when in opposition had declared to be outrageous, had been increased by eight million dollars in 1899 and the debt which was to be wiped out when they got into office had been increased by six millions. Their own blue books showed all this, so it could not be disputed. Another promise of the Liberals was that the country was to have free trade or as near free trade as possible; protection was to be wiped out. If they went on at the rate they have been going they would fulfil their free trade promise about 200 years hence. They had certainly made a reduction in the tariff, all Conservatives would admit that. Yes, there had been a reduction of just seven one-hundredths of one per cent.

The Liberals had also been very energetic in saying that money had been thrown away by the Conservatives on railway subsidies, which they termed bribery and corruption. The railway subsidies voted by the Liberals amounted to ten millions of dollars, twice the sum that had been voted by the Conservatives. Take the Crow's Nest Pass Railway for example. The late government had made an arrangement whereby the company was to receive a million and a half, while the present government stepped in and gave them over three and a half millions. He would not refer to the Drummond County railway deal and the amount that had been given the Grand Trunk, but would pass on to what the Liberals had, or rather had not done for Victoria. They had done nothing for the city unless it was to finish something started by the Conservatives. Not a cent had been spent on the harbor, there was still no light on Brotchie ledge and many other needs had been ignored. One of the things done by the Conservatives on the other hand was to give Victoria a post office better than any other city her size in the Dominion had. The proof of the pudding was in the eating and even the supporters of the Liberal government were ashamed of them and were deserting by the hundred. (Applause.)

Col. Prior having taken his seat the chairman introduced Sir Charles Tupper, who was received with cheers. Canada's veteran statesman appeared not a year older than when he last visited Victoria although he has since been through several hard fought battles, and his voice still clear could be heard in every part of the theatre. He opened with a compliment to the ladies, who filled the boxes on either side of the stage and in passing remarked that such eminent men as Lord Silisbury and the late Sir John Macdonald were in favor of extending the suffrage to women. He did not intend to go into that question but might remark that the only misgiving that he had was that it would give the ladies an undue advantage as they already controlled many votes. He recited a couple of incidents in his political history where this had proved true and which had convinced him that no party could hope to achieve success without the support of the ladies.

Before going into politics he wished to touch on a question which he hoped would never become a political question. He referred to the sending of a Canadian contingent to South Africa, which he pointed out had only been done after continual urging. The importance of sending that contingent could not be over estimated. It showed to the world that a country opposing Great Britain had not only the British Isles but Canada, Australia and in fact all of Britain's colonies to deal with, for these colonies would go to the aid of the Mother Country wherever and whenever required. (Applause.) When war seemed imminent he had expressed the opinion on the floor of the house that Canada should offer assistance and Col. Hughes, who sat on the opposite side brought to the attention of the government that Queensland had offered to send a contingent. The premier replied by expressing the hope that there would be no war. He (Sir Charles) joined in the hope that war would not be necessary but pointed out that if it was prevented it would be through the combination of the two parties in Great Britain and the offers of the colonies to assist the Mother Country. A gentleman from South Africa expressed pleasure at the tenor of these remarks and asked Sir Charles to again bring the question up in the house. He replied that what was wanted was not the action of one party but the action of the whole house. He continued to press on Sir Wilfrid the necessity of taking action promising him the support of the Conservative party. Finally the Premier did introduce a resolution endorsing the stand taken by the Imperial government and it was seconded by Hon. Mr. Foster, Sir Charles being absent from the house on that day. However, he wrote a letter approving of the resolution and a few days later in addressing an audience of 4,000 people expressed the opinion that the passage of the resolution warranted the government in sending volunteers to South Africa to support British arms. He made this statement to show the government that they could depend on the suport of the Conservative party and thus strengthen their hands.

Continuing, Sir Charles said from Ontario he went to Nova Scotia, and in the latter province heard that Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in an interview with a Toronto Globe representative, had said that he would do nothing because he could do nothing under the law and the constitution; that the government could not incur the expense of sending a Canadian contingent without first securing the consent of parliament. That, of course, was then out of the question, as parliament had adjourned. He read the interview with regret and considering the question far above party, he wrote a telegram to the Premier, expressing the hope that the government would promptly send volunteers to South Africa, and as the greatest expense would be to care for those who would suffer through the death or wounding of men, offered on behalf of a friend to insure the volunteers, life and limb, to the extent of $1,000,000, or $1,000 for each man. This greatly reduced the responsibility of the government, but it did not have the desired effect, the government not taking action until they saw that the country demanded it. Then Premier Laurier decided to do what he had said he could not and would not do. Even then he only decided to send units which were to be drafted into the Imperial army. This was a great mistake. He felt that this wealthy and prosperous Dominion should be in the front, that Canada should lead and not follow, but he would rather that they should follow in preference to taking no action at all. He wrote to Premier Laurier suggesting that the volunteers should be sent as a Canadian contingent. To this he received a reply in which was the question "Do you want me to be more loyal than the Queen, or wiser than the secretary of state?" However, the Premier again changed his mind and the volunteers went to South Africa as a Canadian contingent under a Canadian officer. When the men were ready to sail Sir Wilfrid Laurier went to Quebec and made a speech which was everything that could be desired, but at the same time Mr. Tarte, the Premier's right-hand man, was holding forth in the province of Quebec, excusing the government for taking action, and holding up the order-in-council, said he had not allowed it to pass until a clause had been inserted stating that the sending of a contingent should not be taken as a precedent. Mr. Bourassa resigned his seat in parliament because he said the government had violated the constitution, and La Patrie, the French-Canadian organ of the government, took the same stand. Premier Laurier had placed himself in a peculiar position, first stating that the money could not be taken without a vote of parliament, and then had taken it. Sir Wilfrid's law was all wrong, the constitution providing that money could be used for an unforeseen emergency, but not for anything that could be foreseen. An attempt had been made by Mr. Tarte and others to stir up a racial feeling for their own advancement, among a people who were thoroughly loyal.

While upon Mr. Tarte's remarkable declaration against taxation without representation, on the occasion of the despatch of the Canadian troops for South Africa Sir Charles maintained that Sir Wilfrid Laurier had never made a greater mistake than when he advocated, during a visit to England colonial representation in the Imperial parliament. The judgment of the ripest statesmen and students of Britain, and the judgment of the Imperial Federation League was distinctly against the course suggested by Sir Wilfrid—parliamentary representation as proposed had by these high authorities been declared impracticable, if not impossible; and on one could be found who had gone thoroughly into the question who would be prepared to endorse it as practicable. In the first place it would take a hundred years to get England to look with favor upon the inauguration of such a policy as would enable the outlying portions of the Empire to be represented in her parliament; the difficulties of securing equal representation on the basis of population constituted another formidable obstacle; while it was very evident that the day was not far distance when the application of the proposed principle would mean that the colonies—Canada, Australasia, South Africa, etc.—outnumbering in population the population of the British Isles, would legislate for the Motherland. But to assume that colonial parliamentary representation would be granted—where was there a man in Canada that would consent to have a system of government adopted by which the powers now exercised by the representatives of the Canadian people at Ottawa, the collection of Canadian duties, the management of post offices, etc., everything in connection with the machinery of Canadian public business, would be discharged, not at Ottawa, but in Canada, but at St. Stephen's, three thousand miles away. At the same time under such a system, the people of Canada would be in precisely the same position as those of England with regard to what are now Imperial charges, to which the colonies are not required to contribute—the maintenance of the army and the navy, etc. The proposals for colonial parliamentary representation were, however, so vague and irrational that the speaker declared the youngest person present would not live to see that system seriously proposed or taken into consideration by the people of the Empire.

Mr. Tarte had opposed the presentation for the defence of the Empire, of Canadian volunteers, and had opposed the assumption of the cost of the Canadian regiment, with the declaration of "no taxation without representation." Of course everyone knew that taxation without representation was against the law and genius of British government. The declaration was, however, altogether inapplicable when Mr. Tarte had made it. Surely no Canadian minister would wish to wait for evidence of Canadian love and loyalty to the throne and flag until so visionary a thing as colonial representation in the Imperial parliament was brought about. Canada's position was simply this. There were no people in the world more free than hers, with absolute and complete self-government willingly conceded by Great Britain; there was nothing that touched the interests of the people of Canada that was not authoritatively dealt with by the representatives of the people of Canada in their own parliament; Canadians had half a continent, rather the better half, as their home; they had a country of enormous resources and boundless natural wealth; they had a country that was going ahead by leaps and bounds, a country whose future greatness is positively assured; they had absolute and somplete self-government, and perfect security and protection of life, property and liberties; they had the satisfaction of knowing, too, that no foreign foe could put foot on Canadian soil, to molest their enjoyment of these great privileges and advantages—because Canada and Canadians were abundantly and ever protected by the flag that for a thousand years had braved the battle and the breeze. (Applause.) They had behind them for the maintenance of their security the mighty armies of Britain, and her navy outnumbering the combined fleets of any other two nations of the world—ready to spring upon any foreign foe that might presume to place foot on Canadian soil. (Renewed applause.) Britain did not ask a dollar from Canada for the maintenance of her protecting. It was therefore useless and an insult to talk of taxation without representation because the government, representing the people of Canada, voluntarily decided in the time of Britain's trial, to take of their own motion for the equipment and despatch of the brave Canadian volunteers who were now so valiantly and ably upholding the honor of Canada and the Empire on the South African battlefields. This was but fitting recognition of loyalty and of the wise and beneficient policy pursued by the Empire to the colony. To introduce a cry of taxation without representation in such a case was worse than ridiculous. He did not for a moment believe that Mr. Tarte or his paper, La Patrie, spoke as the representatives of French-Canadian feeling, for the French-Canadian Roman Catholics were just as loyal as the people of the other and more Protestant sections of Canada. The position of Mr. Tarte and La Patrie was not only not the position of the French-Canadians, for whom La Patrie pretended to speak, but a deliberate insult to them and to their honor. Mr. Tarte asked the people of Canada if they were willing to see their sons torn from their sides to fight in all the wars that Britain might choose to engage in? He (Sir Charles) would answer yes. (Applause.) England of all nations of the earth was the slowest to make war; the nation that would hesitate longest before declaring for the test of arms; it was the chief characteristic and the genius of British statesmanship to maintain peace; and knowing this, Canadians well knew that whenever Great Britain did feel it her duty to engage in war, that must be a worthy war, a war adopted as a last resort for the protection of right and justice to British subjects. (Applause.) He thought that Canada should offer her second contingent now; and that Canada should recognize and be recognized as at all times ready to take her share of the responsibility of maintaining the liberties and honor of the flag. (Applause.)

At the very time when Sir Wilfrid Laurier was bidding adieu to the departing soldiers of Canada, as they were about to sail for South Africa, it was to be noted that at another city of the Dominion, Mr. Tarte, one of the members of his cabinet, was excusing the action of Canada in sending her sons to the front, and taking honor to himself for having placed in the order-in-council sanctioning the equipment of the contingent, a condition providing that it should not be taken as a precedent. Despite this condition he (Sir Charles) held that it would be taken by the people of Canada as a precedent—and a glorious one. He did not for a moment believe that the day would ever come when Britain would engage in a war of right and justice, or for the preservation of British liberty, and not find thousands of the sons of Canada ready to step into the fighting line, and maintain with all the courage and prowess of their brothers and others to stir up a racial feeling for from other parts of the vast Empire the honor of British arms. In taking this position he did not rely for support and endorsation upon the Liberal-Conservatives of Canada alone; he felt that the patriotic Liberals of the Dominion would be found equally ready to rally about and sustain the flag of Britain. In the present crisis the one thing that Canada had to regret was that she had not been the first to proffer her aid to the Empire, instead of being dragged in after the other colonies had shown the way. The message of the Governor of New South Wales to Her Majesty on the occasion of the despatch of the first contingent from that colony to the front, stood out in marked contrast with the utterances of Mr. Tarte. The governor of the southern sea colony, after expressing the loyalty and patriotic love of his people for the throne and flag, added that the people of his colony would be found ready always to share in the duties and responsibilities of maintaining British supremacy. (Applause). New South Wales did not wish her contribution of troops to be regarded as "not a precedent"—quite the contrary. He could not but regard Mr. Tarte's action in this regard as disgracing the government and Canada; nor could he see any other course for Sir Wilfrid Laurier under the circumstances than to insist on his retirement from the cabinet. Not only had Mr. Tarte disgraced the Dominion and the government by his boasting that the offer of Canadian troops should not be taken as a precedent, and by his cry of no taxation without representation—standing out in sharp contrast with the glowing patriotism evidenced by the people of New South Wales, through their governor—but the people of Canada to-day were, as Dr. Bergeron, an eloquent and loyal French-Canadian, expressed it, "ashamed to see that the government of Canada had sent the Canadian contingent to South Africa marked C. O. D." In this connection he hoped and believed that when parliament assembled Premier Laurier would make it his first duty to put in the mouth of the Governor-General an intimation that parliament would be asked to do as the other colonies had done, and provide all the costs of the Canadian contingent. (Applause).

After paying a graceful and eloquent compliment to the activity, ability and fidelity of Victoria's representatives in the Commons, Hon. Mr. Prior and Mr. Earle, for whose aid the Liberal-Conservatives of Canada thanked Victorians, Sir Charles passed to a consideration of the indictment against the party at present in power. Hon. Mr. Prior, he observed, had touched concisely upon the vital question of the day in Canadian politics, when he referred to the broken pledges of the present government and its supporters. The Liberal-Conservatives now had the advantage, previously possessed almost exclusively by their opponents, of dealing with the Liberals upon their deeds. It had been so long since the Liberals had been entrusted with the affairs of government that their sins were beginning to be forgotten by the people. In 1874 the electorate had entrusted the government to Hon. Alexander Mackenzie and his colleagues, of whom Sir Wilfrid Laurier was one. They failed so signally in the execution of their promises that the people at the very first opportunity turned down the Mackenzie government by one of the greatest majorities ever recorded in Canada—they had received office with a majority of 84, and were rejected just four years later by a majority of 86. The expression of opinion was as significant as that given in Manitoba only a day or so ago. (Applause). The Liberal-Conservatives, by the circumstance that placed their opponents in office in 1896, were now given the advantage of contrasting their acts and their fulfilment of promises with the record of the Liberal-Conservatives when in power. For eighteen long years the remembrance of the incapacity and unreliability of the Liberal government under Hon. Alexander Mackenzie by the people of Canada was so distinct that they could not secure a manifestation of confidence. Then at last in 1896, through the dissatisfaction of a portion of the Liberal-Conservative party with certain phases of their policy, as well as by themselves having a Janus-like policy of one thing for Roman Catholic Quebec and another for the Protestant communities elsewhere, the Liberals again got into power. As a result it was possible now to review their acts and see wherein they had redeemed the promises given when they appealed to the country for office—and no test so accurate, complete and irrefutable as to the fitness of a party for government could be found than to ask how they had redeemed their pro-election promises. If they had been unfaithful in this, the country would undoubtedly come to the conclusion that the sooner they were turned out of office the better. He had challenged Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues, and he did so again, to name one promise that had been kept—to point to one principle of policy that had been redeemed. No such promise or principle could be named, and closest investigation only disclosed that the party and government of to-day had been proven utterly unworthy of the charge of affairs.

A general election had been contemplated some time in January—although it would no doubt be postponed for a time now, in view of the war in the Transvaal and with the lesson of Manitoba before the eyes of the government—and Sir Wilfrid Laurier in virtually opening the campaign had declared that the Liberal-Conservatives had said that if the Liberals got into office it would mean ruin for the country. The Liberals had got in—and the country was not ruined! It was quite true the Liberal-Conservatives had predicted the ruin of the country if the Liberals got in—but it was a prediction based upon the assumption that the Liberals were deserving of credit, that they would adhere to their declarations and policy outlined before the elections. Nor were the Liberal-Conservatives alone in this interpretation, for no less able a Liberal than Hon. Edward Blake had, over his own signature in the London Times, announced his withdrawal from his party in 1891, and pustified his action by expressing his confident belief that the adoption of the policy of unrestricted reciprocity with the United States then advocated by the Liberals would mean ruin for Canada. This surely was to be regarded as tolerably fair evidence that the Liberal-Conservatives were not far astray in their prediction in 1891. But, said Sir Wilfrid, you Liberal-Conservatives said the same in 1896—and the country is not ruined. True it was not—he was glad to say the country had prospered. But this did not contradict the Liberal-Conservatives' prophecy. The Liberal-Conservatives had only made the mistake of giving their opponents credit for honesty. They had believed what the Liberals had said during their campaign, and had based their prophecy upon the belief that they really intended to carry out the policy upon which they asked the votes of the people—that they would destroy every vestige of protection and the National Policy, and go in for free trade, the great principle upon which they stood against the Liberal-Conservatives.

But what happened after the election? Either the Liberals discovered that they had made a gigantic blunder; that they had been blundering during all the long years in which they had been condemning and denouncing protection; and that it really was the true policy for Canada—or else they had purposely deluded the electorate in the most important particular, and as soon as election was secured, deliberately trampled upon their own declarations during eighteen years and their policy of free trade.

But, said the Liberals, you yourself (Sir Charles) denounced the tariff which we have given Canada, and said that it would mean ruin. They did not say that it was the tariff of 1897 that he had opposed; nor that this was not the same tariff by any means as the tariff now in force. The tariff of 1897 did not provide a twenty-five per cent preference for Britain, but, gave equal advantages to all countries making similar concessions to Canada. Then the change was made, and a preferential tariff as applies to the Motherland was introduced. When Sir Wilfrid Laurier had been challenged to show, when dilating upon the country's present prosperity, wherein he or his government had contributed one jot or tittle to the welcome prosperity, one act of legislation or one step of progress, except in the taking up of the policy that he had persistently denounced for eighteen years as a policy or robbery and jobbery, a policy which as soon as he achieved power he had swallowed and then presented as his own—when challenged to show one thing that he or his government had done to advance Canada apart from what had been advocated by the Liberal-Conservatives, what had the Premier to say: that the government had reduced the duty upon imports from England by twenty-five per cent. thereby stimulating reciprocal trade for the advantage of Canada. The fact was that the tariff in this respect had been juggled—it had first been put up, and then brought down again.

In order to pin the Liberals down to their own declared policy, Sir Charles took the decision of the Liberal convention held at Ottawa in 1893 for the express purpose of formulating the party's policy. Immediately after this convention, Sir Louis H. Davies, the leader of the Liberals in the Maritime Provinces, had said, with reference to the party's trade policy, that the Liberals were committed distinctly and positively to free trade as against the protection policy of the Liberal-Conservatives—that the Liberals aimed at the elimination from the tariff of every particle of protection. He said further that a 17 or 20 per cent. tariff was sufficient protection for any manufacturer; and that if not, the manufacturer should go down. Not only Sir Louis Davies had so expressed himself—Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the other leaders of the party had gone through Canada, heaping execrations upon the cotton lords, etc. Sir Wilfrid at Winnipeg had declared that taxes should only be taken sufficient to defray the costs of government—a tariff for revenue only was his cry—and that a government that would provide duties such as the country then had, was as bad as the highwayman who placed a pistol at your head and demanded your money or your life. He referred to cotton more particularly, and told how when holding up the Liberal Conservative government to execration for the "enormous duty" on cotton, Sir Wilfrid had stated the case as being that whenever the workingman went into a store to buy enough cotton for a shirt, the government robbed him of half a yard. Could anyone in those days of denunciation, have believed for a moment that in so short space of time as has elapsed Sir Wilfrid Laurier himself would be found, pistol in hand, assuming the role of the highwayman he had himself described, or taking a full yard off the cotton for the workingman's shirt?

Even while he was waxing so eloquent in his denunciation of the cotton lords, his colleague Mr. Tarte was quietly informing the cotton manufacturers in his own particular territory not to be at all alarmed—to lend him their influence and the votes that they might influence—that the Liberals did not intend to do away with the cotton duties by any means—quite the contrary. And when the Liberals did get in, was not one of their very first acts the addition of 5 per cent. to the duty on certain classes of cotton?

Sir Wilfrid Laurier had taken great credit to himself and his government for contributing to Canada's present prosperity by reducing the duties on imports from Great Britain—although he said very little about these duties having been first put up in order that they might for effect be reduced. He emphasized, however, that England was so delighted at the expansion of her Canadian trade that she was buying more from Canada than ever before, in reciprocal recognition of the advantage extended to her. There was considerable fallacy in this. Taking the article of cheese, Canada in 1878 sent to Great Britain some $3,801,643 worth of cheese, the United States up to that period practically enjoying a monopoly of the market. In 1887 the exports of cheese from Canada to Great Britain represented a value of $7,000,000 and more, nearly the amount that the United States had previously been sending to Great Britain, which was represented by $7,600,000; while in 1896, when the Liberal-Conservative government retired from power, Canada's exports of cheese to Great Britain had gone up to nearly $14,000,000; and the United States' exportation had fallen from $7,600,000 to $2,401,000.

Supposing such a remarkable thing to have occurred since the Liberals came into power, Sir Wilfrid Laurier would have immediately pointed to it as entirely due to the action of his government in reducing the tariff on British imports. This would serve to illustrate the fallacy. As a matter of fact the reason for the great advance for Canadian cheese and bacon, as well as the reason for the demand of these articles at a higher price than the competing American goods, was found in their infinitely superior quality.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier had said that the increased prosperity of the Dominion resulted largely through the growth of the British trade through his preferential tariff adjustment. The records failed, however, to justify this statement or conclusion. During the three years of the Liberal-Conservative administration of affairs, the average yearly imports from Great Britain amounted in value to $34,276,249; while during the three years since the present government assumed power, the average had been $32,991,076—a decrease instead of an increase despite the pretended reduction of duty, of nearly four per cent. In reality, instead of making a British tariff, the government of the day had made an American tariff, a very silly thing indeed to do.

Before the mischance that placed them in power the Liberals had been constantly saying to the people of Canada, that all they had to do in order to secure a splendid reciprocity treaty with the United States was to elect a Liberal government—they were the close friends of the United States and could secure almost any concessions. They were given office, and Premier Laurier and his associates had spent six months in endeavoring to arrange a reciprocity treaty among other matters of international concern. They had gone to Washington, and all that they had accomplished was very neatly summed up by the late Lord Hirschell in a remark to his private secretary.

"Isn't it a sad thing," he observed, "for us to have spent six months here, and got nothing but a broken leg?"

When Sir Wilfrid Laurier had gone to Washington and made his request for a reciprocity treaty he had been promptly reminded of his declaration for unrestricted reciprocity only a few years before. We are ready for it now, said the representatives of the United States. Oh but, said Sir Wilfrid, that was a long time ago—a good many things have happened since them. The truth was that Sir Wilfrid had found unrestricted reciprocity altogether distasteful to the people of Canada, and had promptly abandoned it. Wild horses could scarcely draw from him now an acknowledgment that he had ever heard of it being propose. We was very like the American politician who after stating his platform, observed: "There are the principles of a lifetime—but of course if you don't like them I can change them." To illustrate the conspicuous absence of business ability on the part of the present government party, when their representatives were preparing to go to Washington to bargain with the acute Americans for reciprocal trade advantages, they had made corn free, this being a valuable concession to the Americans, and then started out on their mission to the United States capital. Making known their wants, they had been promptly met with the inquiry, what will you give in return? Oh well, they said, we've nothing to give—you see we've voluntarily taken off the duties that most concern you already. Naturally they could not make the Americans understand how or why they should have done such a thing except for their own advantage—and it was natural also that nothing should be accomplished by the mission. At the present time a 40 per cent. increase was shown in Canadian imports from the United States as against a decrease of 3.94 per cent. in imports from Britain under what Sir Wilfrid Laurier so fondly declared to be a tariff for the making of Canada through the development of British trade.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier well knew that the property of Canada was in large proportion due to the improved conditions the world over, not to any virtue in his government. Times were never better in England, nor in the United States, and it was natural that Canada should feel the stimulus of the generally improved conditions. The test of good government came to the country during the Liberal-Conservative administration a short time before—when in Europe, Australia and the United States financial houses were tumbling everywhere, factories were idle, distress reigned everywhere. Over in Canada there was no panic, no distress; no wrecking of banks (although a few have gone since the Liberals came into power). The skilful piloting of the nation through the dark days prepared it for the full enjoyment of the brighter times coming after—while the general prosperity of to-day was largely to be attributed to the remarkable growth of the gold production throughout the world—if Sir Wilfrid Laurier would make a study of this question he would see that it was not the government of Sir Wilfrid Laurier alone that had made Canada a prosperous nation. Sir Wilfrid had been pleased to say recently that in three years he had made a nation of Canada. He was more modest in this statement than he had been once before—then he declared that his nation-making had been the work of a night. He had gone to sleep with Canada only a tiny little blotch on the map, and had awakened to find it a nation, he having secured the denunciation of the Belgian treaty. If Sir Wilfrid will look at the London Economist, that authoritative journal will show him that the increase in the gold production of the world had been something in the neighborhood of twenty million pounds sterling in two years—from £40,000,000 in 1896 to £60,000,000 in 1898. The London Commercial Journal, speaking of this question of the increase in the gold product declared that it had been provocative of a great revival of activity in which the great Anglo-Saxon nations on both sides of the Atlantic were participating to a marked extent. And yet Sir Wilfrid Laurier took credit to himself for it all; he did so, with his 25 per cent. alleged reduction of duty on British imports—which in reality produced a decrease of almost 4 per cent.

Another pledge that Sir Wilfrid and his party had failed utterly to carry out was that with respect to intercolonial and imperial reciprocal trade. Some time ago the United Empire Trade League has been formed by the ablest men of both parties in England, at London, to devise the best means of uniting and consolidating the various elementary portions making up the Empire. They reported that if means were found to draw the trade of the Empire and the various colonies into close, enduring and profitable combination, a practical as well as a sentimental advantage would be created, nd the accomplishment of Imperial federation be materially advanced. It was proposed that Great Britain should treat her colonies as the other countries do theirs—Germany for example—giving advantages to the colonies over other countries. The chief difficulty standing in the way appeared to be in the form of the Belgian and German treaties, which would have to be abrogated in order that a bargain might be made between the colonies and Britain—this policy of enabling the products of Canada to go into the markets of Britain at an advantage would naturally give an immense stimulus to trade of all kinds throughout the Dominion, and as a result capital would flow in, and Canada expand and prosper as it could not under any other policy. This policy was heartily endorced by Lord Salisbury, who promised to do his utmost toward its accomplishment when the nation was ready for it; and also by Mr. Chamberlain, in endorsing a resolution of the Toronto board of trade, indicating how the plan might be carried out. Being in London at the time, he (Sir Charles) had given the project his heartiest support, and when he returned to Canada in 1896 was committed to it. It was then that Sir Wilfrid Laurier, finding that the policy was extremely popular throughout Ontario, declared that he was as heartily in favor as Sir Charles could be, and gave the promise that the first thing a Liberal government would do if entrusted with the direction of Canadian affairs would be to send representatives to England to endeavor to carry out intercolonial and Imperial trade union. The power was given to Sir Wilfrid, and he went to England at the time of the Diamond Jubilee, when the heart of the British people was warm, and the opportunity ripe for the promulgation of the idea. The premiers were met by the Duke of Devonshire, who clearly indicated an intention on the part of the home government to go in for the principle, and the other premiers at once indicated their desire to see it carried into effect. What was Premier Laurier's redemption of his promises, however? He said in effect to Britain, "We've given you a preference in our markets, and we don't want anything from you. You can't give us anything without involving the principle of protection, and we've found that a bad policy." He practically cursed where he had promised to bless—threw back the very thing he had been pledged to advocate. Under such conditions, what good could the abrogation of the German treaty be to Canada; what effect would it have except to keep Canada out of the markets of Germany? Premier Laurier had been committed to a great policy of national upbuilding, and at the first opportunity had trampled that policy under foot. Nor had he ever explained or endeavored to explain his action. The policy, fortunately, had not been killed, but merely thrown back and delayed for years; and the speaker hoped that while he could not look for a very long life, he would yet live to see carried out this magnificent policy that would do so much for Canada. To summarize the position of the Liberal party—all that they had accomplished in the way of tariff reduction amounted in realty to 70-100ths of 1 per cent. The present position of affairs was aptly illustrated in a story of the race between Sir Wilfrid and Sir Charles himself. On the eve of the race it seemed that he found his own reliable steed missing from the stall, and in the possession of his rival, the latter having abandoned the decrepid, spavined nag of Free Trade. Taxed with being in possession of his opponent's horse, Sir Wilfrid would promptly make denial. It looked very much the same—its head, body, chest, legs, etc., etc., were the same; indeed it appeared the same all over, but if he would get the tape line and measure from tip of nose to end of tail, he would find that the new Laurier horse was 70-100ths of an inch shorter.

As for the important question of expenditure, the Liberal party which had sought election on economic grounds, had manifested no intention of carrying out this any more than other promises. In 1896 the total expenditure was 42 millions; in 1899 six millions had been added; while the estimates for 1900 showed $60,000,000 to have been voted, as against $42,000,000 in 1896—an absolute increase of $14,000,000 over the total expenditure under the Liberal-Conservative government in 1896. Had Hon. David Mills, the minister of justice, anything to say during his visit to Victora in justification of his promise to reduce the expenditure by four millons annually? Had he reconciled this promise with the fact to-day—of an increase of $14,000,000? Railway and bridge subsidies had been pronounced by the Liberals, prior to their acquisition of power, a means of peculation, jobbery and corruption; yet the railway and bridge subsidies this year totalled $6,500,000. In closing, Sir Charles referred to the evidences throughout Canada from ocean to ocean, of the overwhelming revulsion of feeling, a natural revulsion when the repudiation of promises and policy was found to be the only characteristic of the present ministry. Everywhere that he had been, addressing some thirty large meetings, he had noted the determination of the people upon a change of government; and with the Liberal-Conservative party now solidly united from sea to sea, in which condition they had never met defeat; and reinforced by those intelligent Liberals who said that if Canada was to have the National Policy it would be better to have it administered by the men who made it than those who had denounced it as a curse, Conservative success was assured. After the election in Manitoba, the gentlemen at Ottawa might very likely be expected to conclude that the bird in the hand is worth two in the bush—and those two very skittish—and postpone the general elections. But come when they might, the Liberal-Conservative party was destined to be reinstated at the first opportunity, and placed in the position in which it might n the future accomplish still more for the progress and prosperity of our common country. (Applause.)

Hon. Edgar Dewdney proposed a vote of thanks to the veteran leader, with a graceful recognition of the excellence of his address, and an expression of hope that he might long enjoy his present good health, and long continue the leader of the Liberal-Conservative party in Canada. The vote of thanks of course carried with unanimous enthusiasm, and cheering for Sir Charles, the Queen and the chairman brought the meeting to an end.

LOCAL NEWS.

Cowichan's Loyalty.—The following gentlemen of South Cowichan have subscribed and sent the sum of $60 to the Mansion House relief fund, as an earnest of their loyalty and patriotism: Messrs. A. Dove, William Forrest, P. Frumento, C. T. Gibbons, William Hawthornthwaite, H. W. Mayo, D. McPherson, J. McPherson, Nory, Parry, A. Reid, W. Robertson, M. P. P., Stewart and St. George.

Gordon's Funeral.—The funeral of the late Donald McDonald Gordon took place yesterday from Hanna's undertaking parlors, Rev. W. Leslie Clay officiating. The provincial police have taken charge of the effects of the deceased, and will communicate with Gordon's relatives in Scotland. Papers found show that the deceased was over 71 years of age, and the scars on his body show that he had seen active service, as he claimed.

Court Northern Light, A. O. F.—At the last regular meeting of this society five applications were received for membership, and fourteen new members initiated. The court has opened a subscription list for the purpose of aiding the erection of a colonial ward in connection with the Yorkshire Foresters' Orphanage. A large amount has already been subscribed, and will be largely augmented at the next meeting, when the list will be closed. The annual ball, which takes place on Tuesday, promises to be one of the best given by the order and an assured success.

Horse Train to Dawson.—A letter received yesterday from Lake Bennett says: "Heney, of the White Pass road, has 300 horses idle, and he has announced that he will run a horse train through to Dawson early in January. This will be good news to outsiders coming in and to some who are going to Nome and Dawson. The weather along the line to Dawson is above zero. There is no show for a freeze. The Canadian Development Company have decided to put horses on the route from here to Fort Selkirk. They have made a trail from White Horse to Selkirk, with roadhouses, which shortens the distance."

Association Football.—There is great preparation in Association football circles for the opening games for the senior and intermediate cups, to be played at the Caledonian grounds—the senior game on Saturday, December 30, between Victoria and the Garrison, and the intermediate game between the Columbias and Victoria on New Year's Day. The Garrison have a very strong team and have gone into the league with the intention of winning the cup, which is now held by Wellington. Vancouver and Wellington are also to play off home and home games before January 20, the winners to play the winners of Victoria vs. Garrison home and home games for the cup. There will be an important meeting of the Victoria Junior League tomorrow evening at 8 sharp, to consider the protest of the South Park club against the South Park vs. Maple Leaf game, which was won by the Maple Leaves on the 9th instant. Each club in the league should send two delegates to the meeting.

Cape Dutch Doubtful.

Reverses by Methuen and Gatacre Are Turning Them Towards the Boers.

Disturbing Reports of Secret Meetings in Eastern Part of Colony.

Loyalists Becoming Uneasy --Imperial Authorities Arming Loyal Farmers.

By Associated Press.

London, Dec. 15.—"Lord Methuen's check, following Gen. Gatacre's repulse," says the Capetown correspondent of the Daily News, has had a most depressing effect upon the Loyalists, who are by no means a growing body. They are filled with dark forebodings.

"Dutch disaffection is rapidly growing A large section is restless and would need but little persuasion to join the Boers.

"There are disturbing reports from the eastern districts of Cape Colony where many secret meetings have been held.

"The Imperial authorities are arming the loyal farmers in the Stutterheim and Bedford districts."

TREACHERY OR BLUNDER.

Had Highlanders Any Hint of Danger They Might Have Rushed Boer Trenches.

London, Dec. 15.—The correspondent of the Standard at Modder River, describing the fight at Magersfontein, says:

"Six miles had to be covered before the Highland brigade could reach the Boers' stronghold. It is not yet clear through what mischance the force, which was led by guides, came upon the Boer trenches unexpectedly and so suddenly. Beyond question, the Boers were aware of the approach of the British and had prepared to receive them.

"According to one version two Highlanders through nervousness discharged their rifles prematurely but it is equally positive that the advance Boer scouts conveyed the intelligence.

"Our men were totally unprepared. They had not even fixed bayonets. The disaster was all the more exasperating because of the consciousness that had the brigades been extended and with bayonets fixed the trenches might have been successfully rushed with far less loss of life.

REBUKED BY THE GOVERNOR.

For Needlessly Alarming Friends of Canadian Contingent—Tonsilitis Claims New Brunswick Volunteer.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ottawa, Dec. 14.—The Governor-General, through his secretary, sharply calls down the local papers for their yellow journalism.

His Excellency wishes to take this opportunity of expressing his sincere regret that regroundless rumors which must cause most painful and unnecessary anxiety to the relatives of those referred to should have been so thoroughly made public.

A cablegram was recived from the war office to-day granting permission to Major Rutherford of the garrison division Royal Canadian Artillery, now in England, to join the Canadian contingent as a special service officer. Major Rutherford has been in England for a year past undergoing a course of instruction in garrison artillery work. It was his intention to return to Canada next month.

At the militia department the day passed without any word from Col. Otter. Neither was information received here in reference to the death of Private Chappell except what appears in press despatches. M. C. Chappell was a volunteer in the 74th Batt., with headquarters at Sussex, N.B. Hhe resided at Bake Verte, Northumberland Straits, was a single man and a member of the Methodist church.

London, Dec. 14.—Private Chappell, of the Royal Canadians, died of tonsilitis at Belmont, Cape Colony, on December 12.

THE FIELD OF GLENCOE.

Refugee Gives Distressing Word Picture of Horrors Following Symons' Victory.

Durban, Oct. 24.—Uitlander refugees arriving here bring news of the battlefield of Glencoe and of the situation in Johannesburg, Pretoria and the Transvaal generally. Heinrich Auer, a German, who had been forced to leave Johannesburg because, as husband of an English woman, he was suspected of British sympathies, says:

"I judge there were about a thousand dead and wounded on the battlefield of Glencoe when we passed it on October 21, in the afternoon. I shall never forget the sight, and I haven't slept a second since them. Picture to yourself heaps of bodies, some stretched out beyond their own length, it seemed, as if they had grown longer with the infinity of torture. Others curled up as if, in dying, they had been searching for a friendly hand and in their anxiety had, perhaps, caught hold of their own limbs.

"There were rows of Boers who died kneeling in the trenches in a natural position. Several bodies I found standing boldly upright, leaning against trees or other impediments that had prevented them from falling. They were all shot in the head and their faces were black from powder dust or the beginning of putrifaction.

"Many of the horse carcasses were already shapeless masses, gases having swelled them. And all over this living grave rose the gurgling wailing of wounded and expiring men, who groaned and sighed for help, or for death to come while the real saliva ran down the mouth and while their hands and nails clutched at the earth and grass.

"Ah, that one might be a ministering angel and despatch some of these unhappy ones by a beneficial dose of poison! I caught myself running away howling and blubbering from the side of a Boer, who was vainly trying to stuff back his protruding entrails. There a brave rifleman had bitten off his tongue while siezed by spasms. I saw three or four men die within arm's length of me. One suddenly rose, jumped high in the air and fell back dead.

"Outside of the hospital tents I found Boers lying on cots fidgeting around their arms and murmuring: 'What's the use, let's retreat and back at them.'

"Here was a whole row of dead sharp shooters, disposed in excellent order, with their officer in the centre, evidently struck by a volley as they themselves were obeying a command to shoot. An overturned battery there, the pieces of ordnance buried in the sand, parts of human and horses' bodies in a pool of blood. Many of the dead had their faces turned in the direction of the sinking sun. Their spirits were sinking at the same time, I reckon."

THE REPORT CORRECTED.

Montreal Bank Manager Has Received a Contradiction From His Correspondent.

Ottawa, Dec. 14.—The report sent all over the country that the war office had notified Lord Minto that the seige of Ladysmith had been raised is unfortunately not true. The Governor has received no information on the subject.

A despatch from Montreal reported that the Bank of Montreal had received a cable from London that Ladysmith had been relieved. To-night, however, Mr. Clouston, general manager, telegraphed His Excellency as follows: "Could not get you on telephone. Correspondent wires mistake made in saying war office confirmed report of Ladysmith relieved. Buller only in touch. Still think something in rumor of relief."

Up to midnight to-night Gen. Hutton had not received any communication from Col. Otter.

WHITE SCORES AGAIN.

Ladysmith Garrison Makes Sortie and Destroys Modder-Spruit Bridge.

London, Dec. 14.—A special despatch received here from Weenan, Natal, dated Monday, December 11, says that the Ladysmith garrison has made a sortie and destroyed the Modder-Spruit bridge.

FIGHTING AT COLENSO.

Artillery Preliminaries Commenced and a General Engagement Seems Imminent.

Frere Camp, Wednesday, Dec. 13—Firing can be heard this morning in the direction of Colenso, and an artillery duel is expected to-day.

London, Dec. 15 (4:45 a. m.)—The war office is still without news from Ladysmith other than that already published. The general belief is that the larger forces Lord Methuen encountered at Magersfontein were partly drawn from Natal and that Gen. Buller will strike a blow before these have time to return.

The newspapers are calling upon the government to employ the Cunarders as well as the White Star steamers as transports, seeing the urgent necessity for getting more men to the Cape as speedily as possible. Forty thousand men could still be sent from England without calling upon the militia for foreign service. The militia effective is 100,000 men and from this body 20,000 carefully selected men could be spared easily for South Africa. Moreover, the colonies are again proffering assistance. The greatest need, therefore, is speedy transports.

Orders have been issued at Woolwich to prepare a siege train to go out with the seventh division.

FRENCH HAS A SKIRMISH.

Inflicts Serious Loss on Boer Body Met in Northern Cape Colony.

London, Dec. 15.—The war office has received the following despatch from Gen. Forestier-Walker at Capetown:

"Gen. French wires under date of December 13 reporting a skirmish at four o'clock in the morning with 1,800 Boers, who were advancing southward toward Naauwpoort. The skirmish continued all morning, the Boers fighting on a front of eighteen miles.

"The enemy retired with loss of forty killed and wounded. Our casualties were one killed and seven wounded including one officer and two missing."

BOYCOTTING A NEWSPAPER.

Trouble in New York Sun Office Taken Up by Federation of Labor.

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 14.—The American Federation of Labor convention to-day adopted a resolution declaring an endorsement of the Sun, New York, boycott of the federation, approving the "magnificent defence of the rights of labor" made by the printers and stereotypers in the matter, and calling upon "all organized workingmen, all lovers of justice, all friends of humanity, to require of the Sun corporation that it right the wrong it has done to its old employees by returning to the condition that preceded the strike or lock-out of last August."

In the event of refusal the resolution "calls upon all members of affiliated unions, and all who sympathize therewith, to refrain from purchasing the Sun and Evening Sun, and to discontinue dealing with any person, firm or corporation that advertises in those papers.

CHINESE CUSTOMS.

London, Dec. 13.—The Daily Mail publishes the following despatch from Shanghai: "It is reported here that the British and other ministers at Pekin have agreed to a revision of the Chinese customs tariff on condition that a joint foreign and Chinese board shall be applied to control the expenditure and the extra revenue."

CLOSE CALL AT MADRID.

Madrid, Dec. 13.—The chamber of deputies to-day by a vote of 101 against 100 rejected a motion demanding the abolition of the under secretary of the navy and other posts at the ministry of marine. From the closeness of the vote a ministerial crisis is believed to be imminent.

Will positively cure sick headache and prevent its return. Carter's Little Liver Pills. This is not talk, but truth. One pill a dose. See advertisement. Small pill. Small dose. Small price.

Boers Paid Awful Price.

Wounded in British Lines Tell of Terrible Losses at Magersfontein.

Whole Scandinavian Contingent Victims of the British Artillery.

Seven Hundred the Estimate of Total Losses—Retreat at Nightfall.

By Associated Press.

Modder River, Dec. 13.—Ambulances started early yesterday morning under a flag of truce to collect the wounded and bury the dead who fell at Magersfontein.

Brigadier-Gen. Wauchope, who led the Highland brigade, was found dead near the trench and shot in the chest and thigh. A few wounded were found near the trenches. Several wounded Boers were taken to the British hospital. The side of the hill and the immediate neighborhood of the Boer trenches showed dead bodies all about.

One wounded Boer informed a correspondent of the Associated Press that their loss was terrible. The whole Scandinavian contingent was destroyed. Judging from information gleaned from the Boer wounded and prisoners taken in different parts of the field, the Boer loss must have exceeded 700. The destruction wrought by the naval guns was enormous. Word was passed along the Boer lines to prepare to retreat at nightfall. All confess that it was their greatest loss during the war.

The British troops returned to Modder River, owing to lack of water near the position held yesterday.

Sir Charles Warren, who arrived at Capetown yesterday, will probably join Lord Methuen and take command of the combined forces.

The Daily Chronicle's Modder River despatch, which is at variance with all other reports, represents Lord Methuen's forces as retiring Tuesday on the camp at Modder River, as the result of renewed artillery fire that day. The correspondent says: "Tuesday forenoon the Boers brought heavy guns into action. Lord Methuen thereupon withdrew his forces out of range and concentrated at Modder River.

PROGRESS IN PHILIPPINES.

Another Province Reported Free of Insurgents—The Spanish Prisoners.

Manila, Dec. 14.—Gen. Lawton reports Bulacan province freed of insurgents yesterday. His troops captured the strong mountain position of Biacnabato with food supplies, clothing, cartridge factory and barracks.

Eighteen hundred Spanish prisoners have arrived in Manila and over 2,000 are en route; 1,300 have been shipped already to Spain. These prisoners are in much better physical condition than the Spanish troops who surrendered when Manila capitulated.

Washington, Dec. 14.—The senate today by a decisive vote, and practically without discussing, laid on the table the Pettigrew resolution of inquiry as to whether or not United States forces had recognized the Filipino insurgents' flag and had turned over Spanish soldiers to the insurgents.

P. E. ISLAND POLITICS.

Defeat of Attorney-General Leaves Liberal Government Without a Majority.

Charlottetown, Dec. 14.—The bye-elections for the provincial house held yesterday resulted in the election of A. A. McLean, Q.C., in Queens by 58 majority, and of C. A. Prowse, son of Senator Prowse, in Kings, the latter defeating Attorney-General McKinnon by 35 majority. The result leaves the house about a tie. It is probable the government will appeal to the country. Fred Peters, one of its supporters, is in British Columbia. At the last provincial general election the Liberal government then led by Fred Peters, won 17 out of the 30 seats, while the Conservative opposition took 13.

BRAZIL MAKES A CLAIM.

Rio De Janiero, Dec. 13.—The government of Brazil will officially protest against the award of the arbitration tribunal of Paris on the frontier between the Contingo and Takutu rivers, which it is said belongs to Brazil and was not included in the protocols establishing the tribunal which arbitrated the British-Venezuelan questions.

A POLITICAL ARREST.

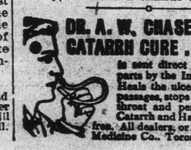
Winnipeg, Dec. 13.—F. H. Turnock and James Hooper of the Telegram were arrested to-night charged with conspiracy in connection with the Garnot election case.

LIFE PRISONER AT FOURTEEN.

Saratoga, N.Y., Dec. 13.—Irving Shaw 14 years of age, of Providence, Saratoga county, was to-day convicted of murdering his playmate, Jesse Blanche, at Providence last October. Justice Stover sentenced him to life imprisonment. He is believed to be the youngest life prisoner in the state.

THE MAKESHIFT BOUNDARY.

Washington, Dec. 13.—The government of Great Britain has designated F. King the government astronomer at Ottawa, as its representative in the delimitation in the provisional boundary line between Alaska and Canada about the head of the Lynn Canal under terms of the modus vivendi of October 20. The government of the United States has designated O. H. Titman, assistant superintendant of the coast and geodetite survey, to act in a similar capacity.



More Men For Africa.

British Press and Public Men Alike Urge This on the Government.

Should Take Whole White Star Fleet and Rush Another Army Corps.

Fixed Determination That Colonies Shall Never Have Similar Experience.

By Associated Press.

London, Dec. 14.—The Duke of Devonshire, lord president of the council of ministers, speaking in the city this evening congratulated the country upon the calm it was displaying during a serious crisis and upon the fact that despite the diversity of political opinion there was only one voice regarding the duty of the government to prosecute the war.

"The longer and more arduous the struggle becomes," said his Grace, "the more fixed should be our determination never again to let our African colonies bear the suffering and loss which they are now experiencing."

THE PRESS A UNIT.

The Globe says: "The country is prepared for any sacrifice. In the famous words of Gen. Sheridan, 'All must now go in.'"

The St. James's Gazette says: "When we have retrieved our defeats and have restored the supremacy of our flag we can criticize and investigate. To-day we must act." Continuing it urges the government to take the White Star steamers, from the Oceanic down, and send another army corps to South Africa.

The Westminster Gazette (Liberal), which has actively opposed the war, says: "We are bound to carry the campaign to a successful issue," and adds: "The reckoning with the government will come later."

MORE MEN, SAYS BERESFORD.

Speaking at a unionist meeting in Hackney, London, this evening Rear Admiral Lord Chas. Beresford said that he long ago told the secretary of state for war, Lord Lansdowne, that the government was not sending enough troops to the Transvaal.

"I must say I have never thought that we were sending out enough men. When once it was known that he had to send an army corps I told Lord Lansdowne, as far back as November 2, that he would not be sending enough. In the fire department it is a wise plan to send enght engines although four may cope with the fire. This war is one of the biggest on which we ever embarked owing to the surrounding political circumstances, and if necessary every mother's son must go to the front. British pluck and money will win, and then with equal rights for all the British flag will fly over the whole of South Africa."

BOER PICKET DESTROYED

Discovery by the British Guards Ends Disastrously for an Observation Party.

By Associated Press.

Modder River, Dec. 12.—Tuesday.—While the Guards were advancing on the plain which the Boers were shelling from an adjoining ridge, they encountered and cut up a strong Boer picket posted on a hill for purposes of observation. All the members of the picket were either killed, wounded or taken prisoners.

THE MAGERSFONTEIN ORDEAL.

Upwards of Eight Hundred the Total of Methuen's Casualties—Boers Also Suffered Terribly.

London, Dec. 14.—An official report gives the total number of killed, wounded and missing of all arms in the engagement on Sunday and Monday, north of Modder River, at 832.

Of the officers 15 were killed and 47 wounded, while five are said to be missing and one is known to have been captured.

There were 650 casualties among the non-commissioned officers and men of the Highland brigade, who lost 10 officers killed, 38 wounded and 4 missing.

The following list of officers killed or wounded at Magersfontein has been received:

Highland Brigade.—Killed: Gen. Wauchope, Lieut.-Col. J. H. C. Code, Col. J. H. C. Goode, Capt. Elton, Lieut. Edmonds, Capt. J. R. Clark, Lieut. Cox, Capt. Cowan, Capt. Lamberton, Lieut.-Col. Goff, Major Robinson. Capt. Wingate and Lieut. Cowie. Wonded: Col-Kelham, Major Berkeley, Major Duff, Capt. Featherstonehaugh, Capt. Noyes, Lieut. Wolfe-Murray, Capt. Richardson, Capt. Campbell, Capt. Gordon, Capt. McNab. Lieut. the Hon. W. C. Baillie, Lieut. Scott and Lieut. Waterhouse. Many of the above mentioned officers were dangerously wounded.

Second Royal Highlanders—Wounded: Lieut. Wauchope, Major Cuthbertson, Capt. Cameron, Lieut. St. J. Harvey, Lieut. Berthrony, Lieut. Tait, formerly amateur golf champion. Missing: Capt. the Hon. Cumming Bruce, Capt. Macfarlane, Lieut. Ramsay.

The Marquis of Winchester, of the Coldstreams, was killed.

Capt. J. Sterling, Lieut.-Col. Codrington and Major the Hon. W. Lambton, of the same brigade, were wounded.

Of the rank and file, six were killed and 46 wounded.

Modder River, Dec. 12.—Details gathered from the wounded show that the British artillery divided the honors with the Scotsmen. The batteries worked unflinchingly under a galling fire.

A Seaforth Highlander says while lying wounded on the field he saw a Boer, of typical German appearance, faultlessly dressed, walking along the ant hills picking off the British. He was quite alone and used field glasses.

According to a Boer account a single British she'l killed and wounded over 70 Boers. Two other shells that burst over two bodies of Boers ensconced beyond the range did fearful damage.

GATACRE'S CASUALTIES.

London, Dec. 14.—The war office has received from Gen. Gatacre the following list of casualties furnished by a correspondent, who was permitted to visit the Boer camp with the chaplains, and is believed to be reliable:

Second Royal Irish—10 killed, 32 wounded.

Second Northumberlands—12 killed, 27 wounded.

All the above wounded men are prisoners.

AMERICAN NAVAL PROGRESS.

Recent Advancements Giving the United States New Rank Among the Powers.

From the Marine Review.

The greatest hero in the naval history of America returns from the victory that won his fame to find the navy of his country at the end of the first epoch of a development which for rapidity and scope is without a parallel among the nations of the earth. In the comparatively brief space of time since Admiral Dewey departed from this country for the Orient the tangible effective naval strength of the United States has increased almose one-third. Much of the increase, it is true, was necessitated by the exigencies of a suddenly precipitated war. The conflict, short in duration, would have been of inestimable benefit had the result been nothing more than the arousal of general public interest in the growth and welfare of the navy so strikingly portrayed by the addition since made to our fighting strength upon the water.

To all intents and purposes the United States is now the third naval power of the world. Germany is a vigilant, active, agressive rival, whose energy in this direction, constantly fostered by a ruling power, may be expected to increase rather than diminish. Japan, the coming commercial power of the other hemisphere, is annihilating with giant strides the modicum of our supremacy. But for all that the United States will continue, for some time at least, to be excelled as a naval power only by Great Britain and France.

The full strength of the navy of the United States now amounts to 312 vessels of all kinds, built and building. Of this number 189 are in the regular navy and 123 constitute the auxiliary force, for the accumulation of which we are largely indebted to the necessities of the Spanish-American war. Something of the pace at which we are moving forward may be imagined when it is stated that roughly estimated the existing naval fleet represents an expenditure of about $125,000,000, and yet there are now under construction or awaiting formal acceptance by the government more than half a hundred war vessels, the contract price for which, inclusive of armor and armament, is in the neighborhood of $40,000,000.

The war almost doubled the aggregate of men on our war vessels. At its outset the complement was 12,500 men, but in the summer of 1898 it reached the maximum figure of 24,123 men. Since that time it has, of course, decreased considerably, but the incoming congress is expected to authorize a permanent naval strength of upward of 20,000 men. Nor, in passing, should mention be omitted of the success which has attended the amalgamation of the line and staff. An experiment, watched by students of naval administration everywhere, its beneficial effects have been discernible instantaneously.

For the future bright hopes may be based upon the most favorable of indications. Congressmen have been spending the summer of 1899 in the study of naval science abroad. Places on the naval committee have been eagerly sought. Already a new atmosphere of liberality and intelligence characterizes the consideration of naval problems and affords ground for hope that it never again will the march of progress be retarded by such a lack of knowledge as made possible the late fiasco relative to the limitation of armor prices.

New battleships, armored and protected cruisers are to be constructed. Each class is quite certain to mark a step forward in the science of building vessels of war. Rear-Admiral George W. Melville declares to the Review that the new battleships should be of 20 knots speed; that they should carry large batteries of rapid-fire guns; have ample coal bunker capacity and be fitted with triple screws—radical revolutionary measures, all, but vital in influence if successful.

Already the eyes of every naval officer across the Atlantic are upon us. Within the past month two of our new battleships have exceeded contract speed. The practicability of that most novel of ideas the superinduced turrets of the Kearsarge—will soon be put to the test. We are preparing to outdo the British in the line of thoroughness of our experiments with liquid fuel and wireless telegraphy. Finally, we are investigating the possibilities of the submarine boat and our conclusions will have enhanced value, because they will be characterized by neither the enthusiastic optimism of the French or the synicism of the conservative Britons.

For well-rounded neval development every essential must be adequate. Thus there is no greater cause for congratulation than over the manner in which the shipyards in America have met the requirements imposed by new conditions. The past few years have seen no less than half a dozen firms actively engaged upon naval contracts, although their previous experience has been entirely confined to mercantile craft. Several of them, at the initial attempt, constructed vessels which exceeded contract speed.

Heretofore the powers have charged us with being deficient in the matter of diversity of strength in our naval fleet. This is true no longer, for with the completion of the vessels now on the stocks we will have more than half a hundred torpedo boats and destroyers. Here, too, American builders have been daring, for who will contend that it is not venturesome to guarantee a speed in excess of 30 knots on a smaller displacement than has ever before been attempted by any shipbuilder the world over—and that, too, when the contract is the first of the torpedo-boat kind for the firm undertaking it?

Even down to the details the United States navy will be unique. No other nation has found so appropriate a form of designation for its fighting craft. Our states have given us names for two dozen, two score of our cities have namesakes in the navy, and, finally, no less than 30 of our naval heroes have had their names commemorated by war vessels. It is a novel navy and a magnificent one, and with its strength considered, it is the most interesting on the waters of the earth.

THE ILLS OF WOMEN

Are usually the result of an exhausted nervous system which can be fully restored by the use of Dr. A. W. Chase's Nerve Food. Women made nervous and irritable by the wasting diseases which drain their systems find new life, new vigor, new energy, in Dr. A. W. Chase's Nerve Food the world's greatest blood and nerve builder.

Balm for the Postal Clerks.

Wise Man From Headquarters Ferrets Out Cause of Their Perennial Hard-ups.

Landlords and Grocery Men to Blame and Not Thrifty Government.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, Dec. 14.—The trades and labor council recently asked the Dominion government to investigate the complaint made to them that many of the post office employees of Vancouver were overworked and underpaid. The council added words to the effect that should the federal government not comply with their request they might be heard from again more emphatically—on the occasion of the forthcoming elections.

Post Office Inspector Bennett is in Vancouver and has been here for two or three weeks inspecting the Vancouver post office. It having been said that his visit is in connection with the communication sent to the department by the trades and labor council, the Colonist correspondent called on Mr. Bennett yesterday to find out.

Mr. Bennett said that the department of course always attended to any representation made by a community or body of men of recognized standing, and his visit was partly due to the communication received by the department from the Knights of Labor at Vancouver. He was looking very thoroughly into the matter, and would make an exhaustive report. He had not yet finished his labors, and could not express an opinion, as to the reasonableness, or otherwise, of the complaints made. His recommendations might not be acted upon by the department, and should they be known beforehand by the public, it would place all parties concerned in a rather awkward position. In the course of conversation Mr. Bennett declared that with the cost of living the same or about the same Vancouver post office officials were paid much better than Winnipeg clerks.

In Winnipeg low salaried clerks from $800 down received 10 per cent of their salary only as a supplementary amount for increased cost of living as compared with the East, while in Vancouver clerks received $10 a month additional.

Again the number of clerks in the Vancouver office according to population was about the same as in Winnipeg. If anything Vancouver had the advantage. He thought perhaps that the high cost of living should be taken up by the trades and labor council in another direction. Rents for houses were exorbitantly high in Vancouver. It would, he thought, be more to the point for the trades and labor union to unite their forces in obliging the landlords to bring down these rents, and the same might apply in some degree at least to high priced provision stores. Provisions, however, were getting cheaper every year in British Columbia, and there was not now any very marked difference in the price of staples here than in the East. The great evil was the ridiculously high rents in Vancouver. The poor had a harder time of it in Winnipeg, however, with provisions a trifle cheaper, fuel is far dearer in Manitoba, and the houses of the poor require more fuel than the houses of the rich and they have to pay $9 for every ton of coal they burn. Rents also are very high there.

Mr. Bennett said that his inspection here would necessitate his going thoroughly into the working of the Manitoba offices on his way back as a conclusion must be arrived at through making comparisons as well as by other means. Mr. Bennett added that he had been thirty years in the service and the department were constantly choosing him for cases like the present, as he could be depended upon to make a most thorough investigation. Mr. Bennett reiterates that he could not on any account express any opinion, and did not desire to be quoted as indirectly or directly doing so.

Astonishing deductions could be made from Mr. Bennett's remarks. It has been always taken for granted in Vancouver that the post office officials have were shamefully overworked and were paid salaries that were very inadequate and out of proportion to the cost of living in Vancouver.

According to the reasoning of a post office inspector tried, true, and long fn the service, this is all incorrect, unless all post office clerks are an under paid overworked class. At least Vancouver clerks, according to Mr. Bennett, are not suffering more and perhaps not as much in this respect as those in other sections of Canada. Therefore the complaint of the clerks must fall to the ground, and the communication of the trades and labor council to the Dominion government must be without avail, and if Inspector Bennett's final official opinion be along the same lines as his opinions dropped in the course of his conversation with the Colonist correspondent, the alleged grievances of the post office officials of Vancouver brought to the notice of the government by the trades and labor council will never be remedied by the present government.

THE MANITOBA HARVEST.

Wheat Five Million Bushels Short of Estimate—Weather Conditions Best in Years.

Winnipeg, Dec. 13.—The final Manitoba government crop bulletin issued by the agricultural department reduces the August estimate of the wheat crop from 33,000,000 bushels to about 28,000,000. The principal causes of shrinkage were a period of draught in August when the wheat was filling and the ravages of the Hessian fly.

Harvest time was favorable, although a heavy snow storm, early in October, delayed stacking and threshing for a week or ten days. But this snow all disappeared, and since that date up to the first of December the weather has been without exception the finest experienced in Manitoba for over 20 years; plowing was continued in all parts of the province to the end of November.

THE JUDGE'S BLUNDER.

Montreal, Dec. 13.—In the O'Neill fraud case to-day Judge Choquette discovered a flaw in the evidence taken by Judge Sicotte in Chicago, Lansing, Mich., and Pontiac, Mich. It appears that according to Canadian law the stenographer who took the evidence should have been sworn that his notes were correct, which was not done. In consequence a new commission may be necessary. Decision on the matter was reserved.

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GRATEFUL COMFORTING
Distinguished everywhere for Delicacy of Flavour Superior Quality, and Highly Nutritive Properties. Specially grateful and comforting to the nervous and dyspeptic. Sold only in ½-lb. tins, labelled JAMES EPPS & CO., Ltd. Homœopathic Chemists, London, England.
BREAKFAST SUPPER
EPPS'S COCOA

APIOL & STEEL PILLS for Ladies.
A REMEDY FOR IRREGULARITIES
Superseding Bitter Apple, Pil Cochia Pennyroyal, &c.
Order of all Chemists, or post free for $1.50 from EVANS & SONS, LTD., Victoria, B. C.
Martin, Pharmaceutical Chemist, Southampton.

NO DENTIFRICE EQUALS
CALVERT'S
Carbolic Tooth Powder,
6d, 1s, 1s. 6d., and 1 lb. 5s. tins, or
Carbolic Tooth Paste
6d., 1s., and 1s. 6d Pots,
For preserving the teeth and strengthening the gums.
Each is prepared with Calvert's purest Carbolic—the best dental preservative. They sweeten the breath and prevent infection by inhalation.
Avoid imitations which are numerous and unreliable.
From Newton Crane, Esq. late United States Consul, Manchester: "Your Carbolic Tooth Powder is the best I ever used. In my opinion I am joined by all the members of my family."
The largest sales of any Dentrifrices.
F. C. CALVERT & CO., MANCHESTER.
Awarded 85 Gold and Silver Medals, &c.
AGENTS:
HENDERSON BROS., DRUGGISTS, VICTORIA.

NOTICE.

Thirty days after date we intend to apply to the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to lease the following described tract of land on Norcher Island, Coast district, for 21 years for cannery purposes:

Commencing at a post marked D.S.M. opposite Grace Island, thence west 20 chains, thence south 40 chains, thence east 20 chains, thence north following shore line to point of commencement, containing 80 acres more or less.

D. S. MORRISON,
SAMUEL JACKSON,
A. G. HARRIS.

Victoria, B.C., December 5th, 1899.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that application will be made to the legislative assembly of the province of British Columbia at its next session for a private bill to incorporate a company to build, equip, maintain and operate a line or lines of railway of standard gauge from a point at or near the head of Kitimat Arm, thence, via the mouth of Copper river, Kitsalas canyon and the Skeena river, to Hazelton, thence by Babine river and Manson creek to Pine River Pass, or from the said Kitsalas canyon by convenient route to Buckley valley, thence to Hazelton aforesaid, and also for a line from nearest point on the above proposed railway, via Stewart lakes or other convenient route, to Quesnelle, and from the said Stewart lakes to the Yellow Head Pass, with power to extend the said railway from Kitimat Arm southwesterly and on the north side of Douglas channel to a point at or near Hartley bay, and also with power to equip, construct and maintain branch lines and all necessary bridges, roads, ways and ferries, and to build, own and maintain wharves and docks in connection therewith, and to build, own, equip and maintain steam and other vessels and boats and operate the same on any navigable waters within the province, and to build, equip, operate and maintain telegraph and telephone lines in connection with the said railway and branches and to generate electricity for the supply of light, heat and power; and to acquire lands, houses, privileges or other aids from any government, municipal corporations or other persons or bodies, and to levy and collect tolls from all parties using telegraph or telephone lines, and on all freight passing over any of such roads, railways, tramways, ferries, wharves and vessels built by the company; and with power to make traffic or other arrangements with railway, steamboat or other companies, and for all other necessary or incidental rights, powers and privileges in that behalf.

Dated at Vancouver the 27th day of November, 1899.

WILSON & SENKLER,
Solicitors for Applicants.

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 with the following powers:

To carry on every description of commercial and financial business; to organize and promote joint stock companies and to take shares or other interest in such companies; to direct and manage the business and undertakings of such companies, and to make and carry into effect arrangements for the amalgamation of any company or individual carrying on similar undertakings; to borrow money for the purposes of the company, and to pledge or mortgage any of the company's assets for that purpose; to purchase and acquire all kinds of personal effects, and to act generally as bailees of all kinds of securities and personal property; to receive money upon deposit; to act as trustees for individuals, estates, companies, corporations and governments; to acquire privileges, franchises and concessions by grant, purchase or otherwise from any corporations or government; to guarantee by bond or otherwise, any securities or debentures of any corporation or government, to lend money upon the security of and to purchase and sell real estate; to lend and invest money upon security; to negotiate loans for individuals, corporations and governments; to deal in moneys and securities; to act as agents for individuals, companies, corporations and governments, and to acquire powers necessary, conducive or incidental to carry out any of the above objects.

Dated at Victoria, the 30th day of November, 1899.

BODWELL & DUFF,
Solicitors for the Applicants.

DEAF MUTES IN PERIL.

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 14.—The state institution for the deaf and dumb was completely destroyed by fire this evening. The pupils were panic-stricken but the teachers quickly secured control of them and it is believed all were saved. The value of the destroyed property is very large. The origin of the fire is a mystery.

HELPING OUT A BANK.

Boston, Dec. 14.—At a meeting of the Boston clearing house association representing the national banks of this city it was voted to issue $3,500,000 in special clearing house certificates to enable the Globe National Bank to tide over the difficulties in its finance which have existed for some time.

The Exodus Of Uitlanders.

Joe Blumenthal Writes Entertainingly of the Desertion of Johannesburg.

A Prisoner at Pretoria Says Things About the Britsh Officers.

In a letter which Mr. Reginald Hayward has just received from his old friend, Joseph Blumenthal, now in Capetown, S. A., the latter gentleman gives some very interesting details of his trip thither from Johannesburg—his departure having been told of in a letter to his sister, Mrs. H. L. Salmon, which the Colonist was permitted to make extracts from several weeks ago. In his later letter, Mr. Blumenthal says:

"I was unable to obtain a permit from the Transvaal government allowing me to stop, and had to cheer with the rest of the Britishers who remained in the country. I left on Monday, October 16, two days before the limit allowed to all Britishers who were without permits to remain in the country, expired. On the previous day the N. Z. A. S. M. (Netherlands South African Railway Company) received orders to issue free tickets to all Britishers remaining in the country, so I obtained one and started on my "pleasure trip" to the coast. Immediately before starting we informed that as the Cape government were leaving the station at the Free State border, and would not provide trains to receive the refugees, we would be sent to Delagoa Bay. After travelling about fifty miles on the way to Delagoa Bay another telegram was received saying that the Free State had prevailed on the Cape government railway to provide a train for this, the last lot going through to the Cape, so we turned back and went to the Free State on our way to the Cape Colony.

"Upon arriving at the South African Republic border we all had to turn out and be searched for arms and bar gold. From there we went to the border station in the Free State and all had to turn out for the purpose of changing "carriages." These carriages consisted of coal trucks with half an inch of coal dust on the floor, no seats of any kind whatsoever, and a plank about two feet high to save us from falling out of the truck on to the ground. The surroundings were on a par with the truck, if not worse. I was situated at the side of a truck sitting on top of my box. Next to me, on my left, were about three or four families of Kaffirs, each one possessing the full flavor and perfume of the unwashed black. At my back was a company of Malays, jabbering in their lingo and making a most infernal row the whole day long, and they had with them a very large quantity of baggage, which made it impossible to move in any direction, or even to stand up comfortably. On the other side of me were a lot of those beings known in this country as "Peruvians," more recognizable to you as Russian Jews, people who would "skin a flea for its hide and tallow," and as for ever making the acquaintance of soap and water, it has not happened to any of them since, well, the flood. So you can imagine the sort of time I was having in this mixed crowd. The truck was about 20x6 feet, and in this small space there were stowed close on 75 people, of whom about ten were white men.

"But to continue with the story of the journey: When we had to change at the Orange Free State border we had to wait about an hour for the trucks that were to take us through the Free State, to arrive, and then we were discovered to have accommodation for about three-quarters of the passengers. This entailed another wait for more trucks (all coal), and we finally got away about 2 a.m., after a wait of six hours. We arrived at the Colony border without any excitement beyond a free fight between blacks and whites, in which a black had his head broken by a bottle, the fellow who did it being fined 40s ($9.70) for 'depositing debris on the railway lands.'

"We arrived at the border at 12 o'clock at night, and were informed that we would have to walk a distance of about two and a half miles if we wanted to get to the Cape side of the Orange river; so we took all our goods and chattels on our backs and tramped through one of the worst roads in the world (there must have been six inches of dust on it), and finally after a trot of an hour and a half crossed the bridge and found outselves in British territory, and a British train waiting to take us to Capetown, or at least to the next station. From the Orange River station (Norvals Pont) we went on to Naaupoort Junction, where we had to change; thence to De Aar Junction, where we had to change again. From there to another station, where we changed for the fifth time, but this time we managed to get into what the Cape government railway called "carriages," that Lord knows what they really were; and so we got to Capetown without further change of trucks or 'carriages.'

"The whole trip lasted four days, where as the usual time for the journey is 52 hours. During this time we were exposed to the scorching rays of a South African sun; and in the night we froze—for the African karroo (prairie) is bitterly cold at night, no matter how hot it may have been in the daytime. And to make matters worse for myself, I had no blanket. If I had had a blanket it would have been lost: my box occupied all my attention to prevent it being lost every time we changed (it weighed about 70 pounds). I am now in Capetown as a refugee, 'living on my income.' When that is gone I suppose I shall have to apply to the Rand relief committee for a job on the breakwater or some thing of that sort. But before that time comes I hope to get a billet in my own line, viz., shorthand writer, so I do not trouble much on that score.

"Capetown is at the present time full of refugees from the Rand, and the streets, ordinarily quiet at any time of the day, are now thronged at all hours of the day and night; at times it is difficult to make one's way through the main streets, so crowded are they.

"And then there are the Kaffirs and Malays. The license which is allowed to these worthies is something awful. They fill up all the tramcars and pavements, and are as cheeky as a kind and benign government can possibly allow them to be. In Johannesburg if a Kaffir is cheeky he gets a thrashing; but here if he is touched he will retaliate with the help of two or three comrades (they are gregarious), and then has the privilege of running you in, and what's more, he will get you convicted. Nice place this—for the Kaffirs—but not for the white man. I will not make any remarks about the war; we get so much of it that I am sick of reading the papers and listening to the rot that people talk, especially the Dutch portion of the population."

Several other interesting letters have also come to hand during the past few days from Canadians now resident in troubled South Africa. One of these had been smuggled out of Pretoria, the Transvaal capital, and ultimately found its way via the Portuguese possessions to George Gardiner, a waiter employed at the Union Badminton club in this city. It was from Mr. Gardiner's brother, who was made a prisoner while serving in Gen. White's army in one of the earliest engagements of the campaign. Unfortunately for the public, who would undoubtedly be glad to have the news it gives, Mr. Gardiner is deaf to all applications for permission to publish. The fact that the letter denounces one or two of the British officers for cowardice, one young lieutenant in particular being said to have attempted to display a flag of truce which three times was knocked from his hand, may have something to do with the decisive refusal.

Letters have also been coming in freely of late from the members of the Canadian contingent, their mail posted at Cape Verde, and containing the news of their sea voyage, having arrived Tuesday evening. In one of these letters Private Cornwall refers briefly to the discomforts of overcrowding on the voyage, and also speaks of the general health and good spirits of the Canadians, although a show of insubordination among the Quebec volunteers at one stage of the voyage called for sharp and effective disciplining.

Private Whitely evidently enjoyed the voyage, for he writes that the trip was a good one, with plenty to eat and smoke, and lots of time for sleeping. He adds that the British Columbia boys are "sticking together like brothers and ready to fight the devil if necessary."

Which would indicate that Private Whitely may also be retained as special correspondent of the War Cry on the field.

LIBEL ON IRISH TROOPS.

Dublin Journal's Scandalous Story That They Had Proved False to Their Oath.

Waterford, Ireland, Dec. 15.—The story printed in the Freeman's Journal to the effect that the reserves of the Royal Irish Regiment, while embarking on their way to South Africa at this port on Wednesday sang "God Save Ireland," cheered the Boers and President Kruger, and threw their rifles into the river, is absolutely unfounded. Nothing whatever occurred among the men beyond the pathetic leave-takings which have been witnessed at all similar embarkations.

THE OLD LAND AND THE YOUNG LAND.

The Young Land said, "I have borne it long,
But can suffer it now no more;
I must end this endless inhuman wrong
Within hail of my own free shore.
So fling out the War-flag's folds and let the righteous Cannons roar."

II.

'Twas a quick, rash word, for the Young Land,
Is a Land whose ways are peace;
It weareth no mail, and its keels are manned
With cotton, and corn, and fleece.
While lands there are that live cased in steel, and whose war-hammers never cease.

III.

And these, when they saw the Young Land gird
Its loins to redress the wrong,
Whispered one to the other, "Its heart is stirred,
But its hosts are an undrilled throng
And its bolts yet to forge, so quick let us strike before that it grows too strong."

IV.

And they said to the Old Land, "Surely you
Will you help us to foil its claim?
It waxeth in strength, as saplings do,
And it girds at its parent's name.
Take heed lest its overweening growth overshadow your fading fame."

V.

Then the Old Land said, "Youth is strong and quick,
And Wisdom is strong but mild;
And blood than water is yet more thick,
And this Young Land is my child,
I am proud, no jealous, to watch it grow."
Thus the Old Land spake, and smiled.

VI.

"And look you," it said, "at the strong Young Land
Strike for Freedom and Freedom's growth;
Which makes 'twix us twain, though unsigned by hand,
A bond strong as lovers' troth.
So'ware what you do, for, if you strike, you will strike not one, but both."

VII.

Then they fretted and chafed; for, though shod in steel,
Their war tread stops at the shore,
While the Old Land's breath is the breath of the gale,
And its music the wave-wind's roar.
Then they hated the Young Land's youth and strength, but they hated the Old Land more.

VIII.

Now the Old Land, in turn, for Freedom's cause
Speeds her sons to the Southern zone,
They smarl, but us clip the Lion's claws,
The Lion that stands alone;
And harry her lair, and spear her cubs, and sit on the Lion's throne."

IX.

And the Young Land laughs: "With her foam-steeds fleet,
I guess she's a match for you all:
She hath saddled the sea, and more firm her seat
Than yours, that would ride for a fall,
If you put all your fighting force afield and charged at her watery wall!

X.

"But if ever, hemmed in by a world of foes,
Her sinews were sorely tried,
By the self-same blood in our veins that flows,
You would find me at her side.
So long as she strikes for the Cause for which her sons and my sons have died."

XI.

And thus let it be until wrong shall end,
This bond strong as lovers' troth,
'Twixt Old Land and Young Land, to defend
Man's freedom, and freedom's growth,
So if any should band against either now, they must meet not one, but both!

—Alfred Austin in the London Times.

NEWSPAPER CHANGE.

Toronto, Dec. 14.—J. L. Atkinson, managing editor of the Montreal Herald, has resigned his position to edit the Toronto Star, which it is reported, has been purchased by Postmaster-General Mulock.

FAINT HEARTED PATRIOT.

New York, Dec. 14.—Because of the reverses which have befallen British arms in South Africa, and thoroughly convinced that England will be beaten in the Transvaal, Daniel A. Webber, an Englishman, jumped out of his window from the fourth story last night and was instantly killed. He was 57 years of age.

Oriental Crisis Near at Hand.

Russian Aggression in Korea Tests the Limit of Japanese Patience.

Even to Report of Actual Diplomatic Rupture—Wrecked Sealers' Troubles.

The Asiatic problem with the troubled little kingdom of Korea as the bone of contention, if not the theatre of action, seems to be shaping itself daily into a most serious one, which threatens to draw the great powers of Europe into its dangerous complications. Russian aggression upon what Japan regards as her established rights appears to be bringing a crisis nearer, and the press of the island empire is taking a firm stand for the maintenance of the dignity of Japan and her national rights.

A recent minor incident, according to advices by the just-arrived Empress, has caused the smouldering fire of anger to blaze in Japan, and if international complications do not eventuate during the next few weeks it will be indeed surprising.

The incident in question arose through the wreck of a Japanese sealing schooner, the Hinode Maru, off the Copper island hunting grounds, all save one boat's crew of four being lost. This quartette of survivors succeeded in reaching the coast, but instead of being treated with the humane consideration due to shipwrecked men, were rudely seized by the Russian soldiery and imprisoned—not yet having been released, according to latest advices.

The Hinode-maru left Hakodate in June last, and is understood to have had 400 odd skins on board when she foundered and went down during the mid-October gales while on her way to try for otter on the Kurile island line. The schooner was in charge of Capt. W. J. Wilson, and included a number of American hunters in the crew.

Another incident which may precipitate a crisis is reported from Matsuye (Izumo) under date of the 16th November, a messenger having arrived there from Ulneung island with the news that on the 3rd of the month a Russian warship arrived there and landed 30 men, who took down the Japanese flag, which the Japanese residents had hoisted in honor of the emperor's birthday, and declared the island was in the occupation of Russia. A series of photographs was then taken, and the warship sailed away, leaving 15 bluejackets on the island.

The Hochi Shimbun, discussing the relations between Japan and Russia, says that when the London Times speaks of the patience of the Japanese people as nearly exhausted, it describes the situation accurately, and adds that if the Japanese do not make their voices heard loudly it is because in matters of foreign policy they are muzzled by officialdom.

Loe Jimmin also writes in a highly sensational strain. It takes comfort, however, in the reflection that the effort and expenditure England will have to make in connection with the Transvaal are no more to her than the proverbial "one hair of nine oxen," and that no opportunity has really been created for foreign aggression in the Far East. At the same time it gives currency to an extraordinary report that a high official has been despatched by the government to Tochigi to obtain the emperor's signature to a document supposed to have reference to military matters in Korea.

Under the heading of "Reported Rupture of Relations Between Russia and Japan," the North China Daily News of the 13th ultimo has this paragraph: "It is stated that the local mandarins received the following official telegram from the north yesterday: 'Owing to the Russians being determined to acquire the port of Masanpo, Korea, against the strenuous opposition of Japan, diplomatic relations between the two countries have been broken off.'"

THE WAR EAGLE SUES.

Would Recover Three Hundred Thousand Paid for Electric Machinery Installed.

Rossland, Dec. 14.—The War Eagle Consolidated Gold Mining Company, through their attorney here, A. C. Galt, to-day issued a writ against the Canadian General Electric Co., for $119,501, the James Cooper Mfg. Co. for $116,198, and the West Kootenay Power and Light Co. for $75,000, making the total claimed $310,899, to which must be added interest and costs.

Speaking generally the claims are for a return of money paid on account of the big electric hoist and compressor plant erected for the War Eagle company about a year ago and for damages incurred for breach of contract. The company claim to have suffered greatly on account of the machinery not working satisfactorily.

It was thought that an arrangement would be reached without a lawsuit. As it is, the whole question will now be fought in the British Columbia courts. The War Eagle company has put in additional machinery for temporary use and it is not thought that the lawsuit will interfere with the mine shipments of either the War Eagle or Centre Star.

Droppings in the Throat

A Symptom of Catarrh Permanently Cured by Dr. Chase's Catarrh Cure

The hawking and spitting which the catarrh sufferer goes through in the morning to clear the throat of the droppings is a marked symptom of this distressing disease. In the early stages the discharge may be slight, but it becomes so thick and tough that considerable effort is required to expel it from the throat.

It is encouraging for the catarrh victim to know that he can be relieved of this distress and permantly cured of catarrh by using Dr. Chase's Catarrh Cure. Bloth acute and chronic catarrh are eradicated from the system by Dr. Chase's Catarrh Cure. It clears the choked up air passages, heals the ulcers, and quickly conquers disease.

M. Thomas Sqirrell, 214 Bay Street, Ottawa, Ont., sates: "I was afflicted with a very severe form of catarrh for nine years, and was so bad that the doctors gave me up to die of consumption. A careful, systematic use of Dr. Chase's Catarrh Cure brought about a complete change. I no longer have any hawking and spitting, and am perfectly cured. The doctors burnt out my throat three times for this disease."

Dr. Chase's Catarrh Cure, 25 cents a box, blower free, at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

Ups and Downs of A Miner.

Robert Stevenson Gives Some History of Himself and "Cariboo" Cameron.

Will Remove the Remains of His Old Partner to Eastern Canada.

Grand Forks, Dec. 13.—"As soon as the time permits I intend to disinter the remains of 'Cariboo' Cameron from their resting place on a hillside in Cariboo, and reinter them alongside the grave of his wife in the Scottish cemetery at Summerstown, Glengarry county, when I shall have paid the last tribute of respect to my deceased partner and friend, and erect a monument commemorating his memory and romantic exploits. Then, and not till then, shall I feel happy."

The speaker was Robert Stevenson, a miner, who after forty years intermittent search with varying success for the precious metal, has retired to spend the remainder of his days in tranquility upon a ranch in the picturesque Similkameen valley.

The name of Cameron is a household word in Eastern Canada. He made a vast fortune in placer mining in Cariboo in the sixtees, a devoted wife shared all the privations of life in that Northern wilderness, and when she died, Cameron nearly lost his reason. In company with Stevenson he started east with the body, travelling via Victoria, San Francisco, Panama and New York, to Glengarry. Several years later, after increasing his fortune, he left Cariboo as he thought forever. On his native heath Cameron was regarded as a public benefactor. He entertained day and night, lending large sums to old friends without exacting security. The pace had lasted more than twelve years, when Cameron found himself a poor man again. Champagne breakfasts, barbecues, attended by the entire countryside, and tally-ho coaching parties, were some of the diversions he provided for favored guests. Nothing daunted, he determined to make a second clean-up, and started for the scene of his early triumphs. Conditions during a lengthy absence had changed. Without friends, the former King of Cariboo, then well advanced in years, resolutely started to work on a new claim, from which he expected great results. Fate, however, decreed otherwise. He fell ill, and died among strangers. He is buried on a bluff abreast the golden gulch which enriched him in the early sixties.

One can readily understand the generous motive that prompts Stevenson to perform the prospective act of kindness. He realizes that if his dead partner could express a wish, it would be to be laid to rest in the kirk yard overlooking the St. Lawrence.

The career of Mr. Stevenson has likewise been crowded with perilous adventures and romantic experiences, since he left home, near Vanleek Hill, Ont., late in the fifties. The scene embraced Central America, California, Washington, and British Columbia. Long before the advent of the railway, he had sailed on the interior waterways, penetrated the fertile and silent valleys, and had traversed its almost inaccessible mountain ranges. He was a member of one of those numerous groups of argonauts who joined half a dozen stampedes to various placer diggings. Younger men to-day are on the same quest in Alaska or the Klondike. Thus history repeats itself.

Mr. Stevenson has suffered no ill effects from the hardships he encountered. Although nearing his sixtieth year he is remarkably well preserved, a condition due no doubt to an active life mostly spent out of doors. Nothing gives him greater pleasure than to recall the stirring events of those pioneer days. The region now known as the Boundary country was over-run by gold-seekers. Rock and Boundary creeks gave up enormous treasure. The grass grown trenches and decayed sluice boxes along their banks to-day bear testimony to the former activity that prevailed. Mr. Stevenson participated in all this excitement. He has in his possession a beautiful medal on which is inscribed his name, and these words: "Pioneer of B.C., May, 1859. B. C. Pioneer Society."

"In the spring of 1860 I joined the Colvills expedition at Walla Walla, bound for the gold diggings, whence news of the strike had been brought out in the winter, on Ross creek," observed Mr. Stevenson, who was in a reminiscent mood. "There were 200 men in the outfit, and two months were occupied in crossing the mountains from the coast, through an almost unknown region. We experienced many hardships and privations, and besides had a number of brushes with the redskins, in the territory now known as the Colville Reservation. The Indians were entrenched on bluffs commanding a canyon we had to traverse. They disputed our progress, and we had to fight our way through, losing half a dozen men, but inflicting more severe punishment in return. We reached the mouth of Rock creek, a little north of the present international boundary, on June 22, 1860, to find that about forty miners from the Similkameen had preceded us. The placers were very rich, the average per man being $30 a day. All summer newcomers poured in, and in September there was a stampede fifteen miles east to Boundary creek, where $50 a day per man was easily realized. In the summer of the following year the mining population along both streams, which then began to give out, exceeded eight thousand. Two thousand pack animals were employed in hauling in supplies from the coast. Living of course was very expensive. A good-sized city, now in ruins, sprang up at the mouth of Rock creek, near the site of Midway. There were saloons, gambling dens, and dance houses. Two enterprising whiskey sellers surpassed their rivals by packing in a billiard table from Walla Walla. Night was turned into day, and it was a continuous case of "Hot time in old town!" When the placers gave signs of giving out, news came of rich strikes in the Nez Perce, county of Idaho. At once a stampede followed. The miners worked on the cooperative plan. Those who survived cleaned up about $30,000 apiece. Others like myself, attracted by the news from Cariboo, started for that district in the summer of 1861. We followed the main waterways after reaching Penticton, and covered the distance in less than two months. In this remote region I was destined to spend twelve winters and sixteen summers. Soon after my arrival I formed the acquaintance of Cameron, and secured a seventh interest in his claim.

"Cameron's wife died October 23, 1862, an event that almost prostrated him. It was not till December 22, or two months later, that he made the big strike at a depth of 240 feet. Early in '63 I accompanied my partner with the body of his wife to Eastern Canada. We travelled via Victoria, San Francisco, the Isthmus of Panama and New York. Our claim paid handsomely. The gold taken out inside of three years exceeded one million dollars."

Many versions of the mine of fabulous value discovered by Mr. Stevenson, and whose location was for years lost, have been published. The correct one, as given your correspondent by Mr. Stevenson, is as follows:

"In the fall of '61 McLean, a Hudson's Bay factor, overtook Cameron and me at Bonaparte river, and showed us a piece of quartz encrusted with free gold. The specimen was the richest I ever saw. My partner and I offered the officer $10,000 if he would conduct us to the locality whence it came. McLean, who was killed in the Chilcoten Indian war in the following year, declined our offer, contenting himself with giving us general directions. For one reason or another I postponed the search for the El Dorado until fourteen years had elapsed. I then started out with two Indians, and after a few weeks of continuous searching discovered what from McLean's description was the mother lode. The find consisted of a six-foot free milling quartz ledge. The mineral could be traced over a high mountain peak for nearly 600 feet. I staked the claim and recorded it. The locality, roughly speaking, is about 50 to 55 miles east of the coast, and about 40 miles north of the boundary, in the heart of the Hope mountains. I brought out samples of the rock, and seven assays gave values ranging from $19,697 to $3,250 in gold per ton. These assays can be verified at the government assay offices in Victoria. I revisited the locality, but was unable to find my claim, despite a most diligent search. Great was my disappointment, but I resolved on a second search the following year with the same success. This may seem strange, but it must be recollected that the district is covered with dense timber and there is great uniformity about the mountains. This fall I made a third hunt for the claim, and after a month of ceaseless tramping over the summits rediscovered the ledge. I intend to work the property in the spring. There is no doubt about its richness, and I feel that I have another fortune within my grasp."

Mr. Stevenson exhibited some quartz that was literally bespattered with gold.

Mr. WILSON'S EXALTATION

Was Made by Private Decree at Vancouver and Kept Dark for Several Weeks.

Vancouver, Dec. 14.—The committee chosen by the Conservative convention to select a party leader, it appears, met in the first week in November at Vancouver and decided upon Mr. Charles Wilson, Q. C., president of the Conservative Association of Vancouver, as the standard-bearer. Those present pledged themselves to support Mr. Wilson. It was decided to say nothing of their decision until a more seasonable time.

Subsequently circulars were sent to the different Conservative associations throughout the province, with a copy of the Conservative platform, requesting that Mr. Wilson be endorsed as leader. Numerous up-country associations have already replied favorably.

All the committee named were not present at the meeting, but each constituency was represented. The full committe, as appointed, consisted of W. J. Bowser, chairman; Geo. Cowan, Vancouver; A. E. McPhillips, Hon. E. G. Prior, Victoria; A. McGregor and A. R. Johnston, Nanaimo; R. L. Reid, Westminster; W. H. Ladner, Ladners Landing; D. McGillivray, Sumas; J. T. Robinson, Kamloops; J. A. McKelvie, Vernon; J. D. Sebbald, Revelstoke; R. F. Green, Kaslo; Hon. T. Mayne Daly, Rossland; R. E. Gosnell, Greenwood.

FREAKS OF OCEAN'S MIGHT.

Tidal Bore of Moncton and Other Phenomena of the Bay of Fundy.

The "bore" at Moncton, N. B., about 130 miles from the mouth of the Bay of Fundy, is a tidal wave which, in the twinkling of an eye, converts a rent of mud-lin the landscape into a broad, navigable river. This happens each flood tide. With the ebb the 12 miles of river over which the "bore" sweeps, again becomes a reach of mud and slime.

The "bore" is the final and climacteric act in each flood tide in the Bay of Fundy. There is one phenomenon more picturesque, the reversible tidal falls at St. John, N. B., but none so dramatic or more in keeping with what the climax of a great tidal rise should be. In height, velocity and roar the "bore" fulfills all these conditions.

The Bay of Fundy is, roughly speaking, 170 miles long and from 30 to 50 wide. It lies like a narrowing trough between Maine and the provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. The heaping up of waters in this natural trough is believed to account for the extraordinary tidal phenomena. The various headwaters of the bay are themselves Bays of Fundy in miniature, with the result that, as we proceeded up the bay, the tidal phenomena repeat themselves on a steadily enlarging scale. Thus, the nearer we draw to the headwaters of the greater the rise of tide; until the climax is reached at Moncton with a "bore" and a tidal rise and fall of 70 feet.

The explanation of the extraordinary tides of the Bay of Fundy, attributing them to the troughlike shape of the bay, is, I believe, widely accepted. There seems none other feasible. The bay itself lies at the head of a series of great bights in the Atlantic coast, so that, when the tide reaches its mouth, there has already been a great upheaping of waters upon which the troughlike shape of Fundy has a cumulative effect as the tide streams up the bay.

It is interesting to follow the tide from its beginning to its climax at Moncton. It affects not only the landscape of the bay, but also the industries which are followed there. For instance, dry docks hardly are needed in the Bay of Fundy. If a vessel is anchored in deep water at flood tide, she will probably be high and dry before half the ebb, and there will be time to scrape and clean her and to make other repairs before the flood tide lifts her again.

Near the mouth of the bay and athwart it, like a huge bolt of rock, lies the beetling island of Grand Manan. Here the rise and fall of the tide is about 15 feet. At low tide there are numerous rocky islets, which are swallowed up by the flood. Seaward are echelons of rocky ledges, and the effect of these on the tide is to increase its velocity so that not unfrequently ships are unable to stem it and are obliged to beat about the mouth of the bay for hours, even when the wind is fair. There are many days of thick fog in the Bay of Fundy, and often I have stood on the high cliffs of Grand Manan watching the topsails of ships above the mist. The effect was ghostly and weird. It seemed as if a phantom fleet was cruising below.

On one occasion I went out fishing in a rowboat. A few rods from shore we scraped bottom on a rock. Some hours later as we were returning the boatman pointed to a high rock, at least 20 feet out of water. "That is the rock we touched," he said. The scene was completely transformed. Small craft, the anchors of which had apparently been thrown out on shore; were dangling by their cables from rocky eminences. The wharf where the little steamer had landed me stood, slime-stained, amid a lot of seaweed covered stones. The steamer was anchored well out in the bay.

The strength of the tidal wave adds to the force of the waves and on some of the headlands strange shapes have been carved from the rocks by the water. At the very end of a picturesque ledge, jutting from the cliffs at the southern end of Grand Manan, is the perfect figure of a cross worn from the solid rock and standing erect on the ledge as if it had been built there. I once saw a white seagull hover over and perch upon this cross. The day was tranquil, the waves sunlit and murmuring faintly against the base of the cliff; and the southern cross with the white gull perched upon it gave a wonderful sense of peace to the scene.

Curiously enough, at the other extremity of the island, the waves have carved another symbol of religion—the rock there resembling so closely a bishop's mitre that it is called the bishop.

But the greatest effect of combined wave and tide action is what is known as the seven days' work on the west shore of Grand Manan. This is a seawall several miles in length and composed of huge boulders. It is a giant's causeway built by the tides of the Bay of Fundy, and forming an entirely artificial shore line, with here and there a little pond where the waters of the bay have percolated or where a brook comes down the slope of the island and spreads out behind the seawall.

There are fish weirs at Grand Manan, but in no such number as further up the bay around Lubec, Eastport and Campobello, where the rise and fall of the tide is about 25 feet. The fish swim into these weirs at high water, and, being unable to find the way out, because once in the weir they swim in a circle, and thus miss the narrow entrance, the fishermen have only to enter the weir at low tide and scoop up the catch. The tide is thus made tributary to an important industry. Most of the fish caught in these waters are herring, which are put up as sardines at the many factories near Eastport. About a million a year are canned, and the industry affords occupation to many besides the fishermen.

It is considered great sport to launch boats and small vessels on the wake of the bore, be carried swiftly up stream, with no exertion beyond steering, and come down on the ebb. A schooner, the stern of which protuded from one of the wharves, was torn from her moorings by the bore, had her masts snapped by a huge bridge under which she was carried and her bow smashed. Altogether, the bore belies its name; for it makes things rather lively for the otherwise slow town of Moncton.

VANCOUVER NEWS NOTES.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Vancouver, Dec. 14.—The Ludgate faction have organized and are choosing aldermen for each ward in the city.

The grand reception being prepared by the Conservatives for Sir Charles Tupper, timed for to-morrow, has been cancelled on account of the unexpected arrival of the venerable chieftain a day ahead of the time announced. He came on to-day's express, unknown even to his son, Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper, to whose house he proceeded directly from the station. Sir Charles will address a meeting in Victoria on Saturday.

Mr. Joseph Martin is to hold a mass meeting during Christmas week for the purpose of giving an account of his stewardship as a member of the legislature. On being asked to express himself on the late Manitoba and coming provincial elections, Mr. Martin said that everyone knew exactly where he stood, and he did not care to say anything.

Vancouver, Dec. 15.—D. C. Harrison, secretary of the Trades and Labor Council, has been arrested for non-support of his four children, cruelty, etc.

Der Sing blew out the gas in a Chinese boarding house Wednesday night and was asphyxiated.

The sudden withdrawal of the request of the Pacific Coast Lumber Company for foreshore rights at Coal Harbor is said to be due to the owners of property adjoining the mill site putting up the price of their lots to a prohibitive figure.

A convention has been called of trades and labor councils, to take place in Vancouver on December 21, to consider the best means to adopt to prevent the provincial sources of wealth being operated by underpaid and overworked labor.

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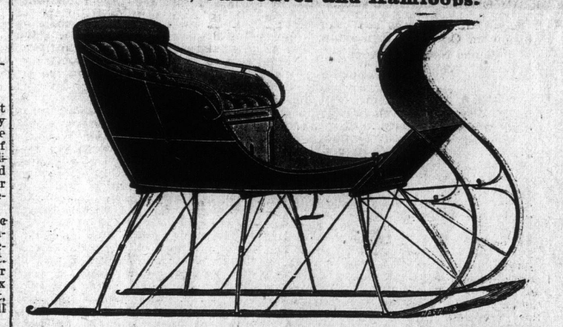

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(From Monday's Extra Edition.)

Canadians on Shipboard.

Westminster Jam Figures In Experiences on the Way to Cape Verde.

British Columbia Company In Concert—Features of Daily Routine.

The Montreal Herald's correspondent with the Canadian contingent forwarded from Cape Verde a series of letters written on shipboard, from which the following is taken:

On board transport Sardinian, October 7, 1899.—More than a week has elapsed since the people of Canada have shown their loyalty toward the Mother Country by raising a thousand bayonets and sending them forth to the distant seat of war, from the old city of Quebec.

Initial steps in any direction are seldom such that they cannot be improved upon. This is the first time the government of Canada has raised a regiment to protect British interests in a foreign land, and the natural consequence is that everything is not as absolutely complete in the arrangements for the comfort of the men as frequent similar occurrences would warrant.

It must not be forgotten that ours is not an ordinary regiment. The majority of the men are well educated, and many are recruited from among Canada's best families. Not a company but what can boast of its B. A.'s, its law and medical students and graduates, of men whose fathers are colonels in the militia of Canada, ministers, professors and prominent lawyers and statesmen. The natural conclusion is that they will be better drilled and disciplined in a shorter period of time, and will do their duty more intelligently and thoroughly than the ordinary regiment of the line. That they, as a regiment, can be compared with some of the crack fighting regiments, tried and trusted for many years, is not to be thought of, but, man for man, there never has been a regiment containing so many men of culture and ability as there are in the 2nd Battalion Royal Canadian Regiment of Infantry.

When the men of this regiment volunteered they did not know who would be their captains, did not know who would officer or lead them. They were not even aware that they would go as a regiment, but as separate and distinct units, which would lose their identity by being drafted into the Imperial regiments already in Africa. It was sufficient to know that the Mother Country sought help from her colonies, that she had so tenderly nursed until able to help themselves, and right nobly have they responded.

Never, perhaps, have officers and men agreed so well. Considering the number of officers there are in the ranks as privates, the cheerful, soldier-like spirit, the willingness of the men to do all and everything they possibly can to please their officers, is little short of marvellous. The liveliest interest is evinced by the men for everything on board pertaining to military life. And no less interested in the welfare of the men and concerned for their comfort are the officers. A finer lot of men on the whole could hardly have been given commissions in the regiment. From the youngest subaltern to the colonel, all have shown the deep interest they feel for the safety, health and comfort of the men in their charge.

The ship, from hold to bridge, from prow to stern, is as clean and healthy as was ever a British man-of-war, in spite of the crowded state of the men's sleeping quarters. The huge steel steam fans are continuously forcing pure, fresh air into every corner of the ship. The bunks of the men are neat and clean. The passage-ways between them would please the most exacting housewife. The tables in the mess-rooms are as clean as constant scrubbing can make them. This obedience to the orders of the officers on the part of the orderlies is responsible for the cleanliness and order, ensures the health and comfort of the men. And this is only natural when we consider the composition of the rank and file.

Regarding space in the state-rooms and cabins, the officers are no better off than the men, for in quite a few of them only one man at a time can dress, and a second table has to be laid one hour after the first to accommodate those unable to find room at the first table. The subalterns and the four war correspondents with the contingents that have seatings at the second table, make a disciplinary rush for the saloon companion-way immediately the second bell rings, summoning them to dine. No second warning is necessary for them!

The nurses are now wearing their "khaki" uniforms with the red cross upon the arm, and they are enjoying the voyage exceedingly, and no wonder, for the officers, almost without exception, and one of the clergymen as well, vie with each other in the endeavor to monopolize their attention. It is to be hoped that they will be able to remain with the regiment in case we see active service, for they would rather nurse their Canadian boys back to health than others, you may be sure.

The first two days passed, giving promise of rougher weather on the morrow, and the promise was fulfilled, for on Wednesday the sea became very rough beneath a grey, leaden sky, with falling rain. Officers and men soon began to feel the effects of the heavy, rolling sea, which tossed the troopship about like a chip. Thursday broke dull and drear, bringing with it all the agony of sea-sickness. Very few of those in the cabin escaped the dreadful mal-de-mer, while the men forward fared little better.

Soon after leaving Father Point, off Metis, the steamship ran in toward land. Through the glasses could be seen a signal flag flying from a flagstaff. Could it be possible we were signalled to stop? Was the war over? Were we to return? Had Oom Paul surrendered, and was all the fun over before we could even get to the front? Officers and men looked at one another in surprise. Whatever could it mean? Finally the engines stopped. But they were soon relieved. It seems some of the men had piled their haversacks in such a manner that they interfered with the steering gear, thus causing the ship to run in towards shore. The obstruction being removed, the engines started again, and once more we were on our way.

One man that left the port of Quebec will never return. On Wednesday, November 1, Surgeon-Major Wilson was called to attend Edward Deslauriers, of D Company, who was feeling very ill. Examination showed that poor Deslauriers was not suffering from seasickness, but heart disease, and Dr. Wilson immediately ordered him to the hospital, where he was attended by Doctors Eiset and Osborne. Thursday saw the patient much worse, and at 6 o'clock on Friday morning Edward Deslauriers breathed his last, dying from heart failure. At 4 o'clock on Friday afternoon D Company assembled to do the last homage to the dead, to see the body of their comrade for the last time. Over the rail was placed a grating. Borne by pitying hands, the body wrapped in a weighted hammock and covered by the flag he had so bravely volunteered to defend, was carried from the hospital to the grating. The engines slowed down. Brightly in the sun gleamed the red, white and blue of the Union Jack covering the body. At the head of the grating stood Father O'Leary, grey-headed, solemn, sad at heart. On each side, supporting the body, stood four of the dead soldier's Roman Catholic comrades. There was a deep silence, broken only by the rushing of the waves, soon to close over the body. Making the sign o the Cross and commending the departed spirit to the Creator, the reverend Father commended the body to the deep. The grating was tilted, there was a splash and all was over. Down in the engine room the bells clanged, the engines quickened, and once more we were on our long voyage.

Saturday broke beautiful and clear, although the sea was rising very high. In fact at times the waves seemed fairly to engulf the ship. Great combers broke over the stern. The cameras among the officers, and they are there galore, were busy making snap shots at the waves as they came towering over the rail. Something like order having now been firmly established, the whole regiment paraded to-day in sections. Col. Otter, accompanied by his staff, inspected the troops, many of whom were showing the effects of the previous day's rough weather.

In order to give the officers the benefit of the experience of the older men holding commissions, Col. Otter has determined upon a series of lectures, to take place each day in the saloon. Major Drummond was first on the list, and delivered a lecture on "Duties on Board a Transport."

Sunday was a beautiful day, though very windy. The services were all well attended, the men joining heartily in the hymns.

The first three companies, immediately after reveille (6 a. m.) assembled on the troop-deck for a run and bath. Armed with a ship's hose, a sergeant stands on the windlass or a winch. After a five minutes' run, or calisthenic exercise, the men strip in squads of five or six, and the hose is turned on them. This is very refreshing and the men enjoy it exceedingly. In fact some of them will not go away from the water until ordered away by the officer on watch.

In the evening the men of Company A were introduced by the color-sergeant. "The men from the wild and woolly West" gave a concert for the officers on the troop-deck aft. Some of these men, the most mature of all the companies on board, have splendid voices, and took up popular choruses right merrily. There were solos on violin, bagpipes, flute and mouth-organ. It is the purpose to give a concert each evening by a different company, which will help greatly to break the monotony of the long voyage.

The first parade with arms was on Tuesday, the 7th. Quite a number of the men had never before handled the new rifle, and were quite clumsy in the exercises, but now (this is Saturday, November 11), constant drilling has rendered them more proficient in the drill. It is simply wonderful to note the great progress that has been made in the drill. Men that came on board knowing practically nothing about a rifle or the drill, are now going through the evolutions with a vim and snap that quite equals that of many an old soldier. And of these latter there are many in the ranks, wearing two or more ribbons, showing that they are not novices in the arts of war, having received their baptism of fire.

Everybody attached to the regiment has been vaccinated. Down in the hospital were Surgeon-Major Wilson, Surgeons Eiset and Osborne. A hospital orderly stood near by with a basin of alcohol and a wad of cotton. The first man in A Company steps into the washroom, rolls up his sleeve to the shoulder and washes the arm. Stepping up to the orderly, the spot to be operated upon is carefully washed with alcohol. Dr. Osborne, armed with a little six-pronged shining piece of steel, makes three quick, short scratches on the bare arm near the shoulder, the man steps aside to Surgeon Eiset, who applies the vaccine as it is prepared by Surgeon-Major Wilson, and is quickly followed by another. In exactly one hour one hundred and ten men were vaccinated. It was curious to note the different expressions on the faces of the men as they entered the room. Some treated the whole thing as a huge joke, others you would think were, from the look in the eyes, stepping to certain death.

In the orderly room on Wednesday Col. Otter tried the steward in charge of the canteen for selling stores belonging to the regiment, or to the different companies. The suspicions of the men were first aroused by the sale of cigarettes which did not bear the government stamp, just such cigarettes as had been given to the men in Montreal.

Then some of the Western men bought jam put up in New Westminster. How the Allan people ever came to buy jam in British Columbia was more than the Westerners could understand. Complaint was made and the offending steward arrested. He was found guilty, and after handing over his ill-gotten gairs, was handed over to the captain of the ship for punishment. He was "logged" £2 and degraded to the position of stoker.

The horses are now being exercised each day the weather will permit, the forward ends of the stables being removed to permit the exit of the animals. The space for exercising is very confinin, nevertheless the horses are already showing signs of improvement.

Under the supervision of Capt. Bell, the Morris tube shooting commenced on Thursday, 8th.

Sunday, Nov. 12, 1899.—Dawn this morning found us running between San Antonio and St. Vincent off the Cape Verde group of islands. San Antonio is an immense rock shooting clear up from the ocean, its highest point reaching the altitude of 7,400 feet. At the foot of the island the waves could be seen dashing themselves into spray upon the rock-bound coast. Perched away up on the crag is a lighthouse resembling in the distance a mere toy. Far over to the north we could see a few houses. The view was grand yet dreary. As we approached we could see the rock, fantastic in shape, as though thrown up by some mighty upheaval beneath the waters. Here a sharp point jagged and rugged, there a gentle sage green slope. The northern end is rugged and forbidding, while the southeastern point is softer in outline.

Soon on the port bow was seen the famous Verde rock surmounted by tall lighthouses. Half way up the rock which stands like a great sentinel over the harbor of St. Vincent, is the signal station and store house. A zigzag path leading up from the water on the south side marks the line of ascent to the lighthouse. In the rock-bound harbor, so famous in days of old, when Portugal was the great country of intrepid explorers, lay two British transports, a large cargo boat and a British man-of-war. The transports distinguishable by painted numbers were, as far as we could make out Cunarders, one of them being the Servia. The man-of-war was one of the new four-funnelled first class cruisers of the Juno and Diana type, acting as escort for the transports. Through the blue mist could be made out other shipping in the harbor, behind which lay the town.

The horses are beginning to show the effects of the voyage, having been closely confined during the first week, the weather being too rough to allow any exercising on deck. As usual, in the shipment of horses, the stall allotted to each charger is not spacious enough to allow the horse to lie down. To counteract this, Capt. Forrester, R.C.D., has had them slung in hammocks just high enough to allow the horses to touch the deck, and now that the weather has become fine, the horses are exercised each afternoon on the forward deck for an hour or more, and thoroughly groomed.

The animals are all good specimens of horse flesh, rather short in the body and limb, compact, chunky. This is the style of animal that gives most satisfaction in the field, where a charger gets a great deal of rough handling. The thorough-bred racer is all very well as a charger on show occasions, but for actual work in the field, the compact horse has proven more serviceable.

Capt. Forrester, R.C.D., speaking of the proper care, the horses, being colonial bred and hardy, will not be seriously affected. It seems that some of the grasses of the veldt have a bad effect on "unsalted" horses, but this is overcome by keeping the nose bag on the animals when picketed, until they become accustomed to the climate.

Major Cartwright will purchase both his horses at the Cape.

And, by the way, speaking of the horses, we have with us three of the best steeplechasers in Canada, in Capt. Forrester R.C.D., and Privates Hendrie, of Hamilton, and Holland, of Toronto.

War Supplies From America.

Five Million Cartridges Shipped the Other Day and Other Orders Noted.

Boer Agents Making Protests Though Their Government Rebuffs the States.

New York, Dec 17.—When the Union Metallic Cartridge Co., of Bridgeport, Conn., shipped from this port 5,000,000 rounds of ammunition to England on Tuesday last, Dr. Hendrick Miller, envoy extraordinary of the Orange Free State, filed, through Consul-General Charles D. Pierce, a protest with Secretary of State Hay. Other orders of the British for ammunition are being filled by the Bridgeport company, and Dr. Miller made the protest with the hope of preventing the shipment of these.

Consul-General Pierce received a reply from Secretary Hay yesterday. He refuses to interfere, stating that in the case of war belligerents have the right to purchase any kind of goods in neutral countries, subject to confiscation after shipment. As the Boers have no seaport, the advantage lies entirely with England. When Mr. Pierce was seen at the consulate, he said that no comment could be made to Secretary Hay's letter, as it answered all protests completely.

Major J. Fowler, of the 21st Royal Lancers, arrived on the steamship Etruria to-day, en route to New Orleans to purchase 900 mules to be shipped to the British army in South Africa.

Sir Percy Sanderson, the British consul-general at New York, stated yesterday that hundreds of loyal Britons had called at the consulate on State street to offer their services to the British army in fighting the Boers. Many of them were veterans of other wars, while a great many were striplings. "The consul-general has no authority to enlist their services," said Sir Percy, "and there are no moneys with which to transport them to the seat of war. The British consulate is not a recruiting station."

The Washington correspondence of the Sun says: "The act of the Boer authorities in granting only part of the concessions requested by this government in behalf of the British prisoners at Pretoria, has apparently intensified instead of abated the feeling in official circles here growing out of the manner in which the Boers have treated the humanitarian overtures of the United States. The attitude of the Boers is regarded here as not only contrary to the usages of civilized warfare, but extremely discourteous to the United States, a neutral nation, which is actuated merely by humanitarian motives in endeavoring to care for the British prisoners. So far as the officials here are able to discover, there is nothing that this government may do with propriety to bring about a change in the attitude of the Boers, other than to continue to press for more favorable treatment for the captured soldiers of the British army."

COLORS OF THE BUFFS.

Deposited in Cathedral Sanctuary on Departure of Famous Regiment for Africa.

London, Dec. 17—A striking ceremony, like those of the days of the Crusaders, was witnessed at Canterbury on Saturday afternoon, when a large company of the East Kent Regiment, known as the "Buffs," marched to the cathedral, escorting the regimental colors, which were placed in the sanctuary. The Farrer accepted the safekeeping of the colors in an impressive ceremony, and addressed words of sympathy and encouragement to the soldiers, who sail for Africa in a few days.

British regiments no longer carry the precious colors in foreign wars, but deposit them in their home churches.

Seems as if all the things we like disagree with us, and all the things we don't like, agree with us. Dyspepsia lurks in most of the good things we eat, and indigestion follows the gratification of appetite. Of course, it isn't Nature's fault. Nature does the best she can, and if a man will only help her a little bit at the right time, he may eat what he likes and as much as he likes. Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets are for people who are troubled with indigestion. Particularly for those in whom it manifests itself in the form of constipation. The "Pellets" are quick and easy in their action. They are in perfect harmony with Nature. They effect a permanent cure. You need take them regularly only a little while. After that, use them occasionally when you need them—when you have eaten anything that disagrees with you. They may be taken just as freely as you would take water or any other necessity of life. Once used they are always in favor.

The Queen's Christmas

Her Majesty to Remain at Windsor Because of the African Situation.

Not for Years Has the Festival Day Been Spent Away from Osborne.

Americans Appreciative of Gift to the Maine--Productive Farewell Banquet.

London, Dec. 18.—The Court News makes the following announcement:

"The arrangements made for the Queen's departure from Windsor have been postponed until after Christmas, as owing to the present state of affairs in South Africa the Queen is unwilling to be a great distance from London."

Not for years before has the Queen decided to spend Christmas away from Osborne. Her decision to remain at Windsor in touch with the cabinet is a measure of the gravity of the crisis and of the anxiety Her Majesty feels for the welfare of the country. She is, nevertheless, in fair health.

The Queen's graceful act in presenting a flag to the American hospital ship Maine is highly appreciated by her own people as well as the Americans in London, and the morning papers express the hope that the incident means something more than a pretty ceremony.

The farewell banquet at Carlton hotel last evening in aid of the fund for the American hospital ship Maine realized £2,000. Among those present were the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, the Marquis of Lorne, United States Ambassador Choate and Mrs. Choate, Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, Lady Randolph Churchill, Mrs. Arthur Paget and Baron de Staal, the Russian ambassador.

New York, Dec. 17.—At the services in the Anglo-American Free Church of St. George the Martyr of this city to-day, special prayers for deliverance from war were read. This was at the request of Queen Victoria, who recently asked that in all the English churches prayers be offered for the welfare of the English army in South Africa.

ILL-WILL OF PARIS.

Accidents to British Arms in Africa Paraded as Proof of Military Weakness of the Empire.

Paris, Dec. 16.—The violently Anglophobe press, such as La Libre Parole and La Patrie, treat the British disasters as joyful tidings, but the other respectable journals discuss the news moderately.

Le Journal des Debats expresses admiration at the wonderful calmness and sang froid with which the British nation has met blow after blow. The paper concludes with the remark that it would be a heavy blow to the social organization of Great Britain if Mr. Chamberlain's venture brings her to conscription.

Le Temps also comments upon the weakness of Great Britain's army to cope with the present emergency, and says: "Mr. Chamberlain did not suspect that in letting loose war he was going to reveal the insufficiency of the military forces of the British Colossus."

La Patrie, which tells its readers that Mr. Chamberlain is seeking to bring about a war with France in order to restore in the eyes of Europe Great Britain's prestige, so shaken by defeats of her army by the Boers, says that a few more disasters like that of Magersfontein and Tugela River will mean a British war with France in the coming spring, and declares that the concentration of the French northern fleet at Brest and the recall of the Mediterranean squadron to Toulon are the first precautionary measures taken by the French authorities. "The British army," La Patrie adds, "has lived a century upon the reputation of the Duke of Wellington, and perhaps the navy also lives solely on the reputation of Nelson. The war in Africa has demonstrated the weakness of the British army, the weakness of the British Empire, the incapacity of its chiefs, and the strength of its troops who only had to fight savages."

THE BOERS AND SPIES.

Brutality of Their Conduct Provokes No Retaliation on Disaffected Colonists.

We live in the midst of foes, writes a correspondent in South Africa. One-fourth the population are Dutch, and their sympathies are with the enemy. We have, therefore, several thousand possible spies, who live and move among us with perfect freedom. But the Dutch in Natal have no grievance save that of race, and the great bulk of them are loyal. Doubtless a few are actively aiding the invader; a few have gone over to the commandos, and many more are sending information. Hence, an outcry that these traitors should have meted out to them "republican justice," after the manner supposed spies and traitors were dealt with by the pious Boers in 1881. The demand of Reitz for the release of Marks is rich in view of the way alleged British spies were treated in effect of the climatic change on the horses, said he did not doubt that, with 1881. The case of the three men arrested at Potchefstroom affords a fine insight into Boer ethics and practice. These individuals preferred British rule to the government of the Boer triumvirate. It is contended by men whom I know, and who were living at that time in the Transvaal, and familiar with the circumstances, that the three so-called spies had done nothing that any person at that stage of the rebellion was not free to do. But guilt or innocence is a small matter; what I wish to bring out is the summary and pious way in which they were treated. The Boer leaders, two of whom reckon with the worst offenders in office within the republic, condemned them to death. Short was their shrift; swift the execution. They were drawn up in line. A firing party had been detailed to take their lives, and was out of sight. I am told the victims were marched to the spot to the cheering notes of the "Dead March in Saul." Nearing the place, the godly commandant gave out the hymn "Jesu Neem de Zondaars Aan," which, translated, literally and metrically one may render "Jesus Take the Sinners to Thee." Then at the word "sinners" the hidden firing party aimed, and the so-called spies were no more. It is demanded that we shall perpetrate this sort of justice. Heaven forbid! If we did, there would be a long, blood-red line upon our frontiers.

MILITIA AND VOLUNTEERS.

May Be Called Upon for African Service—Will Be No Lack of Them.

London, Dec. 16.—Right Hon. Walter Long, president of the board of agriculture, speaking at the shipbrokers' dinner in Liverpool last evening, intimated that the cabinet committee on national defence had considered the advisability of utilizing the militia and volunteers for service abroad. He emphatically asserted that the government in no way attempted to interfere with the generals in their military operations. Some think that another 100,000 men are wanted, and though for his own part he failed to see that the necessity had arisen, if it does arise the 100,000 will be forthcoming and they will be sent.

High Treason In Dublin.

Transvaal Committee Make Demonstration on Occasion of Chamberlain's Visit.

Members of Parliament Call on Powers to Assist Queen's Enemies.

Dublin, Dec. 17.—The announcement that a pro-Boer meeting would be convened to-day as a protest against the proposal of Trinity College to confer a degree upon Mr. Joseph Chamberlain led to exciting scenes. A large force of police was called out and the troops were held in readiness.

Maud Gonne, the so-called "Irish Joan of Arc," and Mr. James Connelly, the Irish republican, drove in a wagonette to the place appointed for the meeting, which was attended by a large crowd. Mr. Connelly tried to speak but was prevented by the police. The wagonette then made a tour of the streets, the crowd rapidly increasing, cheering for the Boers and singing "God Save Ireland," and "We'll hang Joe Chamberlain on a sour apple tree," and using disgusting expressions against the Queen, the Empire and the army.

While passing Dublin Castle, the occupants of the wagonette waved the Transvaal flag defiantly, whereupon the police stopped the vehicle and seized the flag. The wagonette, attended by a large body of police, who often cleared the street, then drove to the room of the Irish Transvaal committee, where Michael Davitt, Wm. Redmond and J. O'Brien were waiting. A meeting of about sixty persons was held, Messrs. Davitt, Redmond and O'Brien speaking in violent condemnation of the war and of Chamberlain, and declaring that the latter's visit to Ireland at such a moment was proof of his callous nature. The speakers urged that should an opportunity occur, Dublinites ought to show their detestation of the colonial secretary in unmistakeable fashion.

Mr. Davitt said: "All Irishmen rejoice in the triumphs of the Boers. No power in Europe would now fear Great Britain except perhaps the Prince of Monaco."

Mr. Redmond said: "Mr. Chamberlain deserves not a doctor's but an executioner's degree."

Ultimately a resolution proposed by Mr. Davitt was passed denouncing the war and calling upon the powers, particularly the United States, to take steps to ensure the independence of the Boer Republic. The meeting closed between tremendous cheers evoked by a rumor that Ladysmith had fallen. Maud Gonne and Mr. Connelly drove off with the intention of holding an open-air meeting but the police arrested Connelly.

RANTERS IN CONGRESS.

Wax Eloquent on Iniquity of British in Defending Themselves Against Boer Raiders.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Representative Sulzer, of New York, has introduced in the house a joint resolution declaring a state of war exists in South Africa and according belligerent rights to the Transvaal government.

Mr. Sulzer said of the resolution: "My sympathy is with the brave Boers. They are making a brave fight against great odds for their homes, and their liberty. We should not secretly or openly help Great Britain to their disadvantage. We should accord the Boers all the rights of belligerents. I want and hope to see the Boers win. I am opposed to the pig-sticking mode of warfare Britain is carrying on. If what I read in the papers is true, this inhumanity puts England beyond the pale of civilization. I shall do all in my power to pass this resolution. It will come up in the house and I want to go on record in favor of the Boers and the republic against England or any Anglo-Saxon alliance expressed or implied."

Congressman Lents of Ohio (Democrat), speaking on the financial bill now before the house said: "We are in favor of re-nominating William Jennings Bryant, and we will put in a plank against trusts. We will put in a plank against imperialism. We will put in a plank against the British alliance, an alliance that is now open and apparent. They are shooting down liberty in South Africa while you are shooting it down in the Philippines. If things are not inside out, how can the Republican party stand impotent and silent while England is shooting to death a republic in South Africa, and while, under the military and imperialistic powers that patronage has delivered to the President, the crime of crimes is being committed under the Stars and Stripes. The President has said 'One faction of one small tribe resists our rule in the Orient.' Aye, my friends, with an army there and on the way, of 75,000 men to subdue one small faction of a small tribe—an army larger than Sheridan needed to march to the sea. An army larger than Grant needed to take Vicksburg—is now called into requisition and kept there for nearly a year—to subdue one small faction of one small tribe. Is that the source of your prosperity? Is it your beef trust that murdered 4,800, while the Spanish only killed 350? Is that the source of your prosperity? You will live to be ashamed of your record."

May Have Been The Colusa.

Bark Reported as on Bonilla Answers Description of Missing Craft.

Possibility That She Escaped the Rocks Only to Founder With All Hands.

There are a considerable number of water front frequenters who are inclined to the belief that the bark reported ashore on Point Bonilla on the 18th of November, and described by Lightkeeper Daykin in a letter to the Colonist yesterday morning, was no other than the long overdue Colusa—the inference being that after releasing herself from the death-guarded rocks of Bonilla, the unlucky craft has either carried with wind and currents to the north end of the Island, unable to save herself, or gone down in deep water, with all on board.

The fact that Mr. Daykin's description of the distressed bark on Bonilla tallies closely with that of the Colusa—together with the fact that no arriving vessels have filled that description or have reported misadventure at Bonilla, and the tugs Holyoke, Sea Lion and Lorne could find nothing of any vessel in the near-by waters when they made search on the strength of the report of shipwreck—lends color to the presumption.

Mr. Daykin describes the vessel which was on Bonilla, and released herself with the favorable turn of the wind, as a medium-sized bark, painted black, rather smart looking, with double topgallant yards, and a skysail. This is the Colusa to a T; and it is possible also that it applies to the craft that the Dodge's Cove Indians reported to have foundered somewhere off Long Beach only a few days later than Mr. Daykin's report—November 18.

Until the light-keeper's report set shipping men to thinking, it had been promptly accepted as conclusive that it was the Libertad to which the Indians had referred, although there seems to be no legitimate reason for believing that it was not some other hapless craft—or that this craft was not the missing Colusa.

The only contradictory element contained in the evidence at present available is that Mr. Daykin's sons described the prisoner on Bonilla Point as apparently laden, whereas the Colusa was coming from Honolulu in ballast to make good the damages she had sustained in the Hawaiian Islands, on the Esquimalt marine slip. The light-keeper's sons unfortunately could not speak with certainty on this point.

MANITOBA'S NEW CABINET.

Forecasts of the Members Who Will Be Chosen to Form It.

Winnipeg, Dec. 16.—Latest returns from Dauphin give Burrows, Liberal, about 450 majority. Gimli is much closer. Baldwinson, Conservative, leads by 13 with two polls to hear from. In Conservative circles it is said that Hon. Hugh John Macdonald as attorney-general, with Messrs. R. P. Roblin and J. A. Davidson will form the new Manitoba cabinet. It is also said that the two ministers without portfolios will not seek re-election.

THE YUKON GARRISON.

Alleged That Government Have Imperilled Their Health to Save in Fresh Meat Bill.

From the Canadian Military Gazette.

The ways of the militia department are often more peculiar than those of the proverbial Mongolian. The latest is the treatment of the members of the permanent force in the Yukon.

Ordinarily, men detailed for duty in the extreme North get extra fresh meat rations. This is found absolutely necessary for the maintenance of perfect health. The militia department have reversed this order, and have again cut down the allowance, and the feeling is running very high among the men. Until recently, they had fresh beef on alternate days. Now they get it only once a week. There is no possible excuse for this niggardliness on the part of the department. The Mounted Police, who occupy the same barracks, get three rations of 2¼ pounds each per week, with double rations for the officers. The soldier's ration for all ranks is only 1½ pounds a week. On special occasions the officer commanding is authorized to increase the soldier's ration to two issues per week. In other words, the soldiers get 1½ pounds per week on ordinary occasioins and 3 pounds at very special times, while the Mounted Police get 6¾ pounds a week always.

Excepting the fresh beef, the rations are spoken of as very liberal; but fresh beef is everything in the Yukon. If the men could only buy a meal outside, things would not be so bad; but their pay is only 80 cents per day, while an ordinary meal costs $2.50. To make matters worse, typhoid fever is raging in the barracks, and there have been several deaths. By the latest mail word comes that no less than six of the militia and twelve of the police are down.

A PROFIT IN SEALSKINS.

December Sales in London Decidedly Encouraging to Those in the Industry.

The sealers who are now leaving for the Coast and Southern hunting grounds will start upon their hazardous labors with lighter hearts by reason of the good news cabled from London yesterday as the result of the December sales.

The offerings included some 30,000 skins, and these realized on an average about 66 shillings, or in the neighborhood of $16—40 per cent. higher than the return for the Northwest coast catch of December last—and, indeed, the highest prices for years. Sixty-six shillings in London should mean a value of about $14.50 for the Victorians engaged in the industry, which is certainly encouraging.

The high price may naturally be ascribed to the limited catch of last season, as well as to the recent restoration of sealskin garments to their former place of honor by the edict of the makers of fashion.

B. C. Year Book
1897
By R. E. GOSNELL

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This book contains very complete historical, political, statistical, agricultural, mining and general information of British Columbia. Profusely illustrated.

THE COLONIST P. & P. CO., LTD
CTORIA, B.C

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that The Canadian Bankers' Association will apply to the Parliament of Canada at its next session for an Act incorporating the said Association, with the objects of promoting generally the interests and efficiency of banks and bank officers and the education and training of those contemplating employment in banks, and for such purposes, among other means, to arrange for lectures, discussions, competitive papers and examinations in commercial law and banking, and to acquire, publish and carry on the Journal of The Canadian Bankers' Association, and to facilitate, by establishing clearing houses or otherwise, the adjustment and settlement of bank balances.

Z. A. LASH,
Counsel for said Association.
Dated November 14, 1899.

News From Modder River.

General Methuen Is Making Another Move Against the Boers.

A Reconnaissance Without Loss Unmasks the Enemy's Position.

London, Dec. 17.—Beyond a partial list and a summary of the totals of the casualties in the Tugela River engagement posted at about midnight, the war office professes not to have any news from the seat of war while the censorship evidently blocks other channels of information.

It is estimated that Gen. Buller had under his command nearly 40,000 men, of which cavalry and mounted infantry numbered 7,500 and regular infantry 28,900. The Boers, under Joubert strongly entrenched and commanding both fording places of the river are believed to have numbered at least 15,000 with plenty of artillery well served. The list of killed and wounded telegraphed to the war office so far contains the names of many prominent officers.

Modder River, Dec. 15.—The Ninth Brigade under Col. Pole Carew of the Grenadier Guards and a squadron of the 12th made a reconnaissance this morning, supported by the 75th battery howitzers in the centre and right with four naval guns on the left. A 4.7 naval gun on the right opened fire at 5:30 while the brigade deployed across the plain and the howitzers shelled the Boer trenches and searched the ridges, the naval guns doing the same. The Boers unmasked two guns, one of which was dismanted by the naval gun and the second of which it was impossible to touch. No one was killed although a shell fell in the middle of four of the Northumberland Regiment, causing all to fall. But when the smoke cleared it was seen that the men were marching as though nothing had happened. All the troops returned to camp. There were no casualties. Gen. Methuen directed the operations from horseback. His wound is almost well. He intends to conduct operations from here to the northward. The camp is fortified and forms an excellent base.

Sydney, N.S.W., Dec. 16.—The Imperial authorities have telegraphed the governor of New South Wales accepting the offer of a further contingent for South Africa, and suggesting that the men should be mounted and good shots.

F. F. RAITT DEAD.

Well Known Victorian Dies Very Suddenly on Chatham Street Last Evening.

F. F. Raitt, a resident of British Columbia for sixteen years, latterly conducting a grocery store at 80 North Park street, dropped dead at 6 o'clock last evening while proceeding with a friend up Chatham street in the direction of his home.

Deceased, who was a man of powerful physique, was apparently in the best of health. He had been transacting some business in the city during the afternoon and was returning to his home at 30 Frederick street in company with Mr. P. McTeigh when the dread summons came. As the two walked along Mr. Raitt complained to Mr. McTeigh of feeling unwell and before the latter could summon assistance, Mr. Raitt put his hands to his chest and dropped to the sidewalk, dying almost instantly.

Dr. Ernest Hall was hastily sent for, but on arriving found medical aid to be of no avail. The body was removed to the morgue, where a post-mortem examination will be held, and an inquest tomorrow.

Deceased was a native of Bathurst, New Brunswick, about 49 years of age. He for a time engaged in ranching on the Fraser river, but lived in Victoria latterly and always took a keen interest in civic matters. He leaves a wife but no children to mourn his sudden cutting off.

The late Mr. Raitt had just completed a new residence, and only yesterday expressed a determination to offer himself for alderman at the forthcoming municipal elections.

WILL VISIT TRANSVAAL.

London, Dec. 17.—Webster Davis, assistant secretary of the department of the interior at Washington, sails for Capetown to-morrow. He expects to visit the Transvaal.

FORTY-SECO

Imperial Yeo

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London, Dec. 20.—(4
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The Lord Mayor of L
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ment ample material.

GENERAL LAWTO

The Lately Missing A
mander Shot by the
San Mateo.

Manila, Dec. 19—Major-
Lawton has been shot and
Mateo.

Washington, Dec. 19.—
this afternoon the war
ceived no word of Gen.
except that conveyed in
Press despatches.
received the news with
profound sorrow and re
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The war department on
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MEMORIAL SER

London, Dec. 19.—A m
service was held in St. P
to-day in memoriam of th
ed in South Africa. The
Mr. A. J. Newton, and th
attended in their robes
cathedral was thronged, th
cluding the Duke of Cam
Marquis of Lansdowne
state for war.

LONDON VOLUNTEE

London, Dec. 19.—Ninet
the members of the Hono
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PARISIAN AS A TRA

Montreal, Dec. 19.—The
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CEMENT MINE C

Kingston, N. Y., Dec.
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York and Rosedale cem
Rosedale this morning.
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THE HAGUE PRO

Washington, Dec. 20.—
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last July for the pacific
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secretary of state urging
tion of the senate.

The Hague, Dec. 20.—
minister on behalf of the
signed all the conventions
tional peace conference.
voy from St. Petersburg
sign certain declarations fo
government, excluding the