

THE BALLOT IS SECRET.

Some of those working for Col. Prior are striving to create the impression that the ballot system to be used next Monday is not absolutely secret. Of course the idea is to intimidate some of the voters who want to vote for Mr. Templeman but would be in danger of Tory vengeance if their votes became known.

A DEGRADED ORGAN.

The Colonist has no excuse or explanation to offer for its suppression of the names of Captain Irving and Mr. Paterson from the list on Mr. Templeman's nomination paper. It is willing, therefore, to have the public believe that the suppression was intentional, that it deliberately garbled an official document for partisan purposes.

IN THE FRYING PAN.

New Westminster Columbian: "Our more courageous than prudent friends, the Victoria Liberals, who, in the face of very great odds, have undertaken to contest Col. Prior's return as a minister, and have been valiantly bearing on to the fight since, have certainly reason to take renewed courage by the way things are going in the eastern bye-elections. It would not be at all surprising, the way things look now, if Victoria should join the procession, and tell Premier Bower that it does not appreciate his eleventh-hour bait of a quasi-minister, especially when he is hardly in a position to give an assurance that he will for long be a minister himself.

WHOLLY UNRELIABLE.

The Colonist in its desperation is prepared to adopt any device, however despicable, that seems to promise a little comfort. This morning, in what must have been one of its worst fits of ugliness, it omitted Capt. John Irving and T. W. Paterson from the list on Mr. Templeman's nomination paper. The editors should learn from this to take with suspicion every statement the Colonist makes with reference to the present campaign. A sheet that is impudent enough to falsify an official document for partisan purposes will stick at nothing. The prospect of certain defeat for its candidate has taken away from the government organ what little regard for truth it possessed. Its statements and reports are now wholly unreliable.

SMASHING UP.

A few weeks more will bring the break-up of the Bower government. No ministry in the history of Canada has ever suffered a series of reverses like that which the late bye-elections have brought to the men now in power. If any three constituencies in the whole Dominion could have been counted on with absolute confidence to sustain a Conservative government, Cardwell, Montreal Centre and Jacques Cartier were surely the three. The results in the latter two were especially significant, inasmuch as the government hoped their conservative policy would help them in Quebec and counteract the disgust with which their general policy and conduct have now come to be regarded there. Their calculations have been utterly upset, and their demoralization is complete. Montreal Centre, which elected a Conservative candidate in 1891 by a majority of over 1200, has now returned a Liberal by a majority of 370. Jacques Cartier, which elected Mr. Girouard by a majority of 275 in 1891, has now returned a Liberal candidate by 575. Both Montreal Centre and Jacques Cartier are manufacturing districts, with large industrial populations, who might have been expected to vote for the "national policy" almost unanimously. They are largely Catholic, therefore the government expected their support for the policy of coercion. What is to be said of the more sparsely inhabited districts of a country almost as large as Great Britain, and that the powers of the legislature, which on the face of the act appear so large, would be limited to the mere useful but humble office of making regulations for the sanitary condition of school houses, imposing rates for the support of denominational schools, enforcing the compulsory attendance of scholars, and matters of that sort."

arians are expected to bow down to and worship.

MORE LIGHT NEEDED.

The Colonist's Ottawa correspondent, speaking of the prospective remedial legislation, says: "This measure will, from all accounts, be of an exceedingly moderate nature. Indeed, the result of the recent bye-elections would seem to justify the government in proceeding cautiously. It is evident from these elections that the Roman Catholics are not greatly enamoured of separate schools, but as the minority in Manitoba have asked for them and are entitled to them under the constitution, the government has no recourse but to carry out the constitution." Which is to say that the government has got new light from the bye-elections, and is ready to abandon part of what it professed to believe was its duty. But it has not yet received enough new light to make it keep its hands off Manitoba as it should. Victoria will supply the deficiency on Monday next.

AN EXPRESSION OF DOUBT.

The Colonist ventures the assertion that no eastern paper has "any expression of doubt as to the genuineness and the constitutionality of Col. Prior's appointment to a seat in the cabinet." In a recent number of the Ottawa Free Press appears the following with reference to the controllers—"The spirit of the law is contrary to the presence of these subordinate ministers in the cabinet. It is also clear that if they were in the cabinet they would be helpless, and could exercise no freedom of action. They would be in the position of the retainers formerly taken into battle by the Lord or Knight, and they would sit in the cabinet merely as the "retainers" of the minister of trade and commerce. It is the function of a cabinet minister to advise as an executive councillor. But they could give no independent advice. They could initiate nothing, and in a division they could only vote as their statutory master instructed them. Their presence at the cabinet board would place them in a false and ridiculous position. The Act can be changed, it is true, but the only desirable change is to repeal it and abolish two costly offices which experience and practice has proved to be useless."

THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

The Colonist makes a strenuous attempt to controvert Mr. Bodwell's argument on the Manitoba school case, with the small success that might have been expected. Our neighbor might as well abandon the idea that it can be closed the issue by appealing to the second decision of the Privy Council, for that decision does not, and cannot be made to, conflict with the broad principle of provincial rights. The quotations from the judgment which the Colonist gives all go to show that the Privy Council did not order the Dominion government to follow the course it has taken, or any other particular course. The gist of the judgment is in the following passage:—"Their Lordships have decided that the Governor-General-in-Council has jurisdiction, and that the appeal is well founded, but the particular course to be pursued must be determined by the authorities to whom it has been committed by the statute. It is not for this tribunal to intimate the precise steps to be taken."

From this no other meeting can be taken than that the circumstances gave the minority the right to appeal to the Dominion government, and that the appeal must be heard. The government was to be guided thereafter by its own ideas of public policy. It is true the Privy Council did further on throw out this suggestion:—"It is certainly not essential that the statutes repealed by the act of 1890 should be re-enacted, or that the precise provisions of these statutes should be again made law. The system of education embodied in the acts of 1890 is doubtless commendable, and an adequate supply of the wants of the great majority of the inhabitants of the province. All legitimate grounds of complaint would be removed if that system were supplemented by provisions which would remove the grievance upon which the appeal is founded; and were modified so far as might be necessary to give effect to these provisions."

It is the height of absurdity to say that this conveys an order to the Dominion government. It is plainly intended to show the limit beyond which the provincial government need not go in the way of modifying its legislation of 1890. That limit is certainly not the one fixed for itself by the Bower government when it proposes to re-establish the separate school system as it was. It so happens that in the first judgment of the privy council, declaring the acts of 1890 constitutional, their Lordships went a little beyond the mere question of law and touched upon the question of the policy. The clause in the judgment reads as follows:—"With the policy of the act of 1890 their Lordships are not concerned. But they cannot help observing that if the views of the minority were to prevail, it would be extremely difficult for the provincial legislature, which has been entrusted with the exclusive power of making laws relating to education, to provide for the educational wants of the more sparsely inhabited districts of a country almost as large as Great Britain, and that the powers of the legislature, which on the face of the act appear so large, would be limited to the mere useful but humble office of making regulations for the sanitary condition of school houses, imposing rates for the support of denominational schools, enforcing the compulsory attendance of scholars, and matters of that sort."

Now, the precise purpose of the Dominion government is to pass such legis-

lation at Ottawa as to restrict the Manitoba legislature to "the useful but humble office of making regulations for the sanitary condition of school houses, imposing rates for the support of denominational schools, enforcing the compulsory attendance of scholars, and matters of that sort." Would it be right and just to tie the hands of the province in that way? Col. Prior says it would, in plain defiance of the Privy Council's opinion, and he expects the electors of Victoria to agree with him.

MANITOBA'S REPLY.

Victorians would do well to look carefully into the reply which the Manitoba government has returned to the Dominion authorities. It is couched in a firm and dignified tone, and places the case of the province in a clear light before the public. In the last clauses there is a sufficient answer given to those who talk about the rights of the minority being violated, and very good reasons are advanced why in the interest of the minority themselves the Dominion government should not interfere:

"The desire of the legislature and the government of the province throughout the whole course of the proceedings, beginning with the enactment of the statutes of 1890, has been to provide the best possible means of education for the children of our citizens. To that end every possible effort has been put forth, and every possible pecuniary sacrifice made, in order that there might be established a school system based upon sound principles and equipped and administered in accordance with approved modern educational methods. Though very much remains to be accomplished, it may be fairly asserted that a reasonable measure of success has attended the efforts which have thus been put forth."

"In amending the law from time to time, and in administering the system, it is the earnest desire to remedy every well founded grievance and to remove every appearance of inequality or in justice that may be brought to notice. With a view to so doing the government and the legislature will always be ready to consider any complaint that may be made in a spirit of fairness and conciliation."

"It seems, therefore, most reasonable to conclude that by leaving the question to be so dealt with the true interests of the minority will be better served than by an attempt to establish a system of separate schools by coercive legislation."

"Such a system, discredited as it is, will be from the outset crippled by reason of insufficient educational equipment, and will be an injury rather than a benefit to those whom it is intended to serve."

The reference to the request for a commission to investigate the matter is also worthy of notice. If the Manitobans desire that such an inquiry should be arbitrarily refused and the insulting answer returned that the Dominion government knows as much about the matter as it wants to know?"

NO COERCION.

Mr. Laurier is as much opposed to the coercion of Manitoba as the Manitobans themselves. He believes coercion would be bad for the whole country, and that it would not help the minority. In a speech made in Montreal Centre during the campaign there he said:—"If the government tried to coerce Manitoba the majority would believe they were oppressed and might trouble the minority more, and then there would be another wrong in addition to the present one. The question must be approached in a spirit of Christian conciliation. If he came into power at Ottawa he believed he could settle the question by investigation and conciliation. He knew that if the government went on with coercion the minority would be wronged. Shall we put the minority in difficulties or adopt a policy which shall keep harmony among us?"

It is becoming plainer every day that coercion will do nobody good, while it is certain to do an immense amount of harm. It has no justification, either in fact or as a matter of policy. Premier Fielding, of Nova Scotia, at the same Montreal meeting where Mr. Laurier spoke, dealt with the question as follows:

"Regarding the Manitoba school question, he agreed with Sir William Hingston that it should never have been made a party issue; but who made it a party issue? The Conservatives themselves did so in Antigonish and Vercheres for the purpose of arousing religious passion. Mr. Laurier has labored to prevent it being made a party question. He protested against the action of the Conservatives in going about declaring that they were compelled to impose separate schools on Manitoba. Neither the constitution nor the privy council nor anything else compelled the imposition of separate schools on Manitoba. But the Conservatives go to the Roman Catholics and say, 'Vote for us because we are going to restore separate schools in Manitoba.' Then they go to Protestants and say, 'My dear fellow, we don't like separate schools, but we are bound by the constitution to impose them on Manitoba—stand by the constitution and vote for us.' He protested against such double dealing. No judicial committee can dictate to the parliament of Canada. The members of parliament have a right to exercise their judgment. This was the view taken by Dr. Weddon, a Conservative

member, in the house on July 7th last. Then before Mr. Wallace made his wild speech against coercion, and against remedial legislation in Ottawa, just July he showed his manuscript to Sir Mackenzie Bowell, and the premier said it was all right and kept him in the government. Still Sir Wm. Hingston praises Sir Mackenzie Bowell for promising remedial legislation. The Conservatives kept asking Mr. Laurier what his policy was. He thought that Mr. Laurier might have contented himself with remaining quiet, but Mr. Laurier replied that he favored an investigation into the facts because he wanted to be just to Manitoba. To pass remedial legislation as the government proposed was not only dangerous for the peace of the country but it was a bad thing for Roman Catholics. One point gained by negotiation is worth five points gained by coercion. What is the news we heard to-day? The Manitoba legislature has been dissolved, and Mr. Greenway has appealed to the people for concurrence. Mr. Fielding said he had no more information about the situation there than anyone else; he got his news from the papers, but he believed that the people of Manitoba will not submit to coercion. The Ottawa government may pass what laws they like, but cannot enforce them. There should, therefore, be the inquiry that Mr. Laurier is prepared to make. There was great danger in a conflict between Manitoba and the Dominion. The Northwest wanted people and development. Even passive resistance to a remedial order would paralyze the efforts of the government to assist that great country. But some hotheaded individuals might go further. If the news of rebellion was flashed across the Atlantic what would the value of C. P. R. stock be? For thirteen years he had administered school law in Nova Scotia in such a way that Roman Catholics were perfectly satisfied. The same policy of consideration and patriotism which had succeeded in Nova Scotia would succeed in Manitoba. The policy of coercion would not succeed."

There is not a man in Canada worthy of the name of statesman who will be found to say that it is wise for the Dominion government to persist in the course that it has mapped out for itself. The end will surely be disaster. It is Victoria's duty to condemn this course most emphatically.

VICTORY IS SURE.

There can be no doubt in the mind of any impartial observer that a victory is surely in prospect for the opposition candidate next Monday. Col. Prior's friends have now come down to the point of admitting that there will be a majority against them in the city, but they have some hope that a sufficient majority will be secured in the country districts to overcome this. The hope is vain; the country districts will not give Col. Prior any considerable majority. The sympathies of the country residents, like those of city residents, are against the proposal to coerce Manitoba, and the farmers are not to be led away by any fraudulent cries of "protection." Mr. Templeman's election is certain, if his supporters continue to work with the unanimity and enthusiasm they have hitherto displayed. The coercionists cannot dam the rising tide.

FORMALLY ANNOUNCED.

The Governor-General's speech formally announces to parliament the intention of the government to propose remedial legislation for Manitoba. It must be assumed that this proposed measure will follow the lines of the remedial order, as Sir Charles Tupper said at Lachine it would. Victorians have from now till Monday to consider whether it would be right for them to help fasten this coercive measure on the sister province.

NO REPEATING.

Some electors whose names appear on the Dominion voters' list for more than one sub-division appear to have the idea that they can vote in more than one place on Monday. This is an erroneous idea. Each voter can vote once only. Any person detected voting more than once will incur a heavy penalty. Let there be no mistake about the matter; "repeating" is a serious offence against the law.

SIGNS OF DESPAIR.

A large banner stretched across Fort Street in front of Philharmon hall bearing the words "Templeman's Ward Committee No. 6," was early this morning removed by some miscreant who is anxious that no obstacle should be placed in the way of coercing Manitoba. Electors, do you approve of such actions? We think not.

DESERTED BY HIS FRIENDS.

That the willingness of Col. Prior to aid the Bower government in their attempt to force an obnoxious law upon the people of Manitoba is disapproved of by many Conservatives is made clear by an incident which occurred yesterday. A well known resident of Victoria who has been a staunch and active supporter of the Conservative party for many years, who was a member of the Conservative association, and we believe, a member of one of the ward committees, yesterday formally tendered his resignation, stating as a reason for this step that he could not conscientiously support Col. Prior in view of the fact that that gentleman is in accord with the policy

of the Bower government as regards the Manitoba school question. The gentleman referred to called at the Times office yesterday and expressed his desire to have the incident noted."

Residents in Victoria district are complaining that since the bye-election contest started the roads have been entirely neglected by the gentleman who occupies the important office of provincial road superintendent. It can hardly be expected that the roads will receive much attention from that official until after January 9th, as it is well known that he is devoting his entire time to a canvass in the interests of Col. Prior.

A CONSERVATIVE OPINION.

Mr. R. D. McGibbon, Q. C., a Protestant Conservative of Montreal, is not at all shy in expressing his opinion of the government at Ottawa. He spoke at a meeting in Lachine the other night in the following style: "It is only natural that after a party has been in power for as long as the Conservatives have that they, the appointed trustees and agents of the people, should have come to believe that they own the country, and that the electors were only serfs to be dictated to. The little trumpery deities sitting around the red chamber at Ottawa, strutting about in clothes that are a great deal too big for them, give decrees like the Czar of Russia. I have been a good party man and am now, but I do not propose to allow Sir Mackenzie Bowell to deprive me of my principles and rights. It is a government composed largely of charlatans and humbugs. There were perhaps men who could lead the party, but the present premier could not. There is absolutely no cohesion amongst them, and the result of what they have succeeded in accomplishing is shown by the fact of Angers resigning at one end and Clark-Wallace at the other. I am a Conservative and I don't propose to be read out of the party by Sir Mackenzie Bowell, Mr. O'Rourke or any other of the incompetents." The electors of Montreal Centre taught these "charlatans and humbugs" a lesson—Vancouver World.

It is childish to talk about the advisability of establishing a precedent for representation in the government. The Liberals will very shortly be in power, and they have acknowledged the justice of British Columbia's claim to cabinet representation. And when they speak of a cabinet representative, they mean the head of a department, a bona fide minister, not a contractor."

Hon. Mr. Prior needs to apologise for the absence of Hon. Dr. Helmenken from his meeting last night. Where would the party be without the venerable gentleman to support them?

The cabinet minister "fake" should now be dropped; the Bower government itself is on the verge of disappearance.

MATTERS IN COWICHAN.

To the Editor: In your issue of the 21st of December I observe an unusually long notice about this place and hope your correspondent will continue such liberal notices about this important agricultural centre, and the headquarters in British Columbia for those classes of aristocracy (minus the title) and in many cases termed dudes. It is said the name may be changed to Dudgeville eventually. It is certain that Mr. Hut-owd his seat to the fact that the other candidate was dubbed a dude for saying the "better class" would support him, also the railway magnates who are unpopular. Unfortunately, the majority here are not what one of your Judges would term "well-born." Of course we do not require to be properly born in order to rear and fatten pigs, and it is mournful to see so many "well-born" exquisites descend to such a low platform. They do not belong to the common kind of cattle and would rather claim to be lineal descendants of Borneo apes or the great Java gorillas than the spawn of such persons as the gardener Adams and his wife. Such ideas are enough to make Angels weep and Pharosium memes smile. Some say their anxiety is apparent when they see "the highland cattle or gamekeeper so persistently coming to the station in sweaters July with their round bodies wrapped in blanket-looking fabrics, plaited even, and their necks protruding "clad" in thick gaiters or spats, making resemblance to elephants' hoofs. This latter being almost spotlessly clean shows it is for ornament, not utility. Last winter I was found fault with for going about my ranch with such over my boots."

That Tired Feeling Means danger. It is a serious condition and will lead to disastrous results if it is not overcome at once. It is a sure sign that the blood is impoverished and impure. The best remedy is

HOOD'S Sarsaparilla

Which makes rich, red blood, and thus gives strength and elasticity to the muscles, vigor to the brain and health and vitality to every part of the body. Hood's Sarsaparilla positively

Makes the Weak Strong

"I have used six bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla as a general tonic and have enjoyed the best of health. Although I had a strain of work I have had no sick spells for many months and no lost time, so I am doubly repaid." THOMAS HILL, 221 Drusus St., St. John, New Brunswick. Hood's Sarsaparilla Is the Only True Blood Purifier. Prominently in the public eye. Hood's Pills cost habitual constipation. Price 25c per box.

and trousers tucked under to prevent the snow getting in under my boots. When I joking apart, I think many people are too severe on these bespattered and blighted gentlemen who wear this in the way intended to be a free country and all may dress as they please, provided they do dress, and if all these dudes, also all the gaiter-wearing farmers were eliminated from our ranks we would make a rather poor showing. It may not be so much the style of dress as the undeniable fact that many of these well-to-do fellows scheme around and by sinister influence get all the soft snaps and easy fat billets. No sort of position can be got in government employ save by "backing." It is that and not the qualifications that are looked to, hence the people are disgusted and give their vote to a stranger (whose interests are not in this district) merely because he is evidently not "well-born." However, if he tries his level best to bring about the reforms our correspondent speaks he may, I think, depend on keeping his seat for a long time.

AN ACTION THREATENED.

Mr. F. W. Buleu's Attempt to Sileu e criticism.

Mr. Templeman, the opposition candidate, to-day received the following letter:

Dear Sir,—We have been instructed by Mr. W. F. Buleu to request a retraction of the statement reported in the Times of January 1st, 1896, as having been made by you from a public platform at Victoria West, on the evening of December 31st, 1895, to the effect that "He (Mr. Buleu) has his way of getting his 'rake off' from the workmen's wages. He is trying to cinch the workmen by making them pay him 50c a day out of their wages before they can go to work on a vessel that is on his ways," and an apology for same. Kindly give this matter your immediate attention as our instructions are to institute proceedings civilly for damages in the event of retractions and apology not being published over your signature in the next issue of the Times. We need hardly mention that the statement is wholly untrue in fact. Yours very truly, EBERTS & TAYLOR.

INSANE CRY OF FIRE

In an Over-Crowded Theatre in Boston Has Terrible Consequences —A Stampede.

About Thirty Persons Killed and Many Desperately Hurt—People Were Crazy.

Baltimore, Dec. 28.—Twenty-one persons were killed and twice as many more injured last night during a panic at the old Front street theatre in this city. Most of the victims are of the Polish nationality and Hebrew extraction. Many of them were taken down by friends rushing in to help them out, but the number of those who fell was so large that it was almost impossible to get a complete list at the time. The theatre, which is probably the oldest in the city, was filled from pit to dome with people assembled to listen to a Hebrew opera, which has been given twice a week for the past month. The ticket office receipts show that over 4000 tickets had been sold, when at 8 o'clock a sale of seats was stopped because there were no more left. General admission tickets were sold until 9 o'clock, when it was supposed that at least 3000 people were within when the curtain went up on the first act. As the capacity of the house is less than 2000, the fact that the crowd had multiplied tenfold is clear. As the curtains were closed, a panic broke out. The audience was stampeded and many were injured. Some were killed. The fire was not extinguished until about midnight. The cause of the panic is not known. It is supposed that at least 3000 people were within when the curtain went up on the first act. As the capacity of the house is less than 2000, the fact that the crowd had multiplied tenfold is clear. As the curtains were closed, a panic broke out. The audience was stampeded and many were injured. Some were killed. The fire was not extinguished until about midnight. The cause of the panic is not known.

French papers announce the offer for sale of the library of Renan. The library is divided into two parts, the first including the Oriental library, to whose collections the French government had paid great attention, and containing books on the general philology and history of the Orient languages. The second part contains books on general philology, classical studies, the middle ages, etc. Renan himself expressed the desire that the library, in case it should be sold, should be disposed of in a block, or at least that the books in the Oriental part be kept together; but unless an offer is received by January 1st 1896, the books will be sold separately.

A dispatch from Boston states that a Japanese merchant from that city, who had just summer in Japan, says his countrymen make a bicycle that can be sold for \$12, but it is not to be compared with the wheels of American manufacture. It is heavy and crude and the finish is poor.

ROYAL Baking Powder has been awarded highest honors at every world's fair where exhibited.

RESIGNATION IS RU

Mr Mackenzie Bower's Resignation

Even the Phlegmatic Gazette is Also Dangerous

The Duty of the Tories on Monday

Ottawa, Dec. 31.—To-day is that Sir Mr. Resiga, as the result in Jacques Cartier nearly one thousand in that county before the fact for were added by the latter Grouard next time list and a majority turned into a minority and Quebec's joy remembrance day and the people here begin to know what British Columbia. Lifting spectacle to once stab another's vanity and destroy its autonomy. Tupper says the D will make all the Col. Prior approves. To-day the Mont reference to the J tion: "The government along in a state of emergency for the last three the reverse it is the effect of waking which the country. There is to be a here soon, and Pr asked to resign. T bers of the ministr Prior would have British Columbia itself by sending a wa. Let it follow be and Ontario bribes as if they ministers, officials have given up all power, even for the a panic here. No one hears school question. The constitutionality of having their own government, Dominion government matter of good legislation would be recalled to government. The constitutionality of having their own government, Dominion government matter of good legislation would be recalled to government. The constitutionality of having their own government, Dominion government matter of good legislation would be recalled to government."

BRITISH

From our port Hammond last meeting of Lodge, U. O. O. F. in the C. O. O. F. on Saturday Dec night for the election was an unusual brethren present, newness had been of officers was followed by: V. G. E. L. Lezouby, treasurer, A. Pa Davemont, P. N. P. G., W. G. Ne E. S. N. G., F. A. P. McTavish, B. L. S. Y. G. A. D. N. McTavish being present on occasion to install respective officers, depend under the

RESIGNATION IS RUMORED

Sir Mackenzie Bowell, May Walk Out After the Jacques Cartier Result.

Even the Phlegmatic Montreal Gazette is Alarmed at the Dangerous Situation.

The Duty of the Electors in Victoria on Monday is Quite Plain.

Ottawa, Dec. 31.—The whole talk here to-day is that Sir Mackenzie Bowell will resign as the result of yesterday's election in Jacques Cartier.

On Friday, December 20th, a very pleasant entertainment was held at the school house at Nanosee.

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HOW TO VOTE.

The Electors Will Use the New Ballot on Monday Next.

Electors will do well to bear in mind that in the election on Monday next the new form of ballot will be used.



ELWOOD WRECKED.

Seattle Schooner Dashed to Pieces on the Rocks in Chatham Straits.

Crew Spend an Awful Night on the Wrecked Schooner—One Drowned.

The schooner Elwood, of Seattle, was totally wrecked in the vicinity of Gardner's Point, Chatham Straits, on Dec. 11th.

The Elwood at once started to drift and black rocks and raging surf were directly in her path.

The vessel had so far gone to pieces by this time that the mainmast and foremast both tumbled over the side.

At daylight Captain Wyman and the crew hunted a big piece of mainmast and paddled it to some rocks.

ROYAL Baking Powder has been awarded highest honors at every world's fair where exhibited.

DOMINION PARLIAMENT

Speech of Lord Aberdeen on the Opening of the House This Afternoon.

Legislation Promised in General Terms, on the Manitoba School Question.

Increased Representation Promised for the Northwest Territories.

Proposed Trade in Agricultural Products With England and Other Countries.

Ottawa, Jan. 2.—The House opened to-day with only a small attendance of members.

The following is the speech from the throne:—

Hon. gentlemen of the senate, Gentlemen of the House of Commons.—In accordance with the announcement made during the last session of parliament has been summoned somewhat in advance of the usual period.

The bountiful harvest with which Canada has been blessed is a cause for the keenest thankfulness to the Giver of all good.

Immediately after the prorogation of parliament my government communicated through the Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba with the government of that province.

The day following the wreck Gastrom's body was washed up and left by the tide on the beach.

HOW MUCH SUNSHINE? Davidson Bros. Interesting Contest Decided To-day.

Mr. Luxton is Offered a Corresponding Privilege by the Liberals.

consistent with the requirements of the public service. You will be pleased to learn that the revenues of the country show a gradual and continued increase.

THE BYE-ELECTION.

The Polls Will Be Open from Nine O'Clock Till Five O'Clock.

Electors should bear in mind in connection with the bye-election that polling booths in the different sub-divisions in the district will be open only from nine o'clock in the forenoon till five o'clock in the afternoon.

Any information regarding the election of the voters' lists will be cheerfully furnished by the central committee room, 42 Broad street.

The polling booths will be located as follows: No. 1.—Corner of Douglas street and King's road.

SIR H. P. P. CREASE.

Bestowal of Knighthood Upon British Columbia's Senior Judge.

News Conveyed in a Dispatch Received From Lord Aberdeen This Morning.

Her Majesty Queen Victoria has been pleased to approve of the bestowal of knighthood upon the Honorable Henry Fering Prew Crease, judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia.

This means another change in the personnel of the Supreme Court bench of British Columbia. It is impossible to say who Sir H. P. P. Crease's successor will be, but in the usual course of events the position will be offered to Hon. D. M. Eberts, attorney-general.

NOT ACCEPTED.

A Proposal to Have Hon. Joseph Martin Speak at the Prior Meeting.

Mr. Luxton is Offered a Corresponding Privilege by the Liberals.

The following letter was sent to Col. Prior by the chairman of Mr. Templeman's general committee:

Dear Sir:—It is desired that I should communicate with you for the purpose of suggesting an arrangement in reference to public meetings, which I think will commend itself to you as reasonable and fair.

I have the honor to be, yours truly, H. A. M'NAY, Chairman of Committee.

To Hon. E. G. Prior. A similar letter was sent by Mr. Bethune, secretary of the Liberal association, and a reply was received from the executive committee of the Conservative association.

er to prevent the... any people are too... and belabored... is, or was in... they do... also all... were eliminated... make a rather... be so much... deniable fact... work and scheme... influence... fat billets... not in government... that and... are looked to... suggested and give... whose interests are... because he is... However, in... about the re... species he may... his best for... only advise Mr. H... alone, because... in the district... matters as well... can your corres... practical man" and... As regards the... training and has... in the position... not wear gaiters... oiliness and ar... the slightest... A govern... to be removed... M. P., espe... long service... and abilities... and time will... to effect... Glasgow... a ghost scare... will see... J. JENKINS.

REATHENED.

s Attempt to... ticism.

opposition can... the following

Eq., Victoria

been instructed... to request a re... reported in the... 1896, as having... on a public plat... on the evening... to the effect... has his way of... from the work... to pinch the... them pay him... wages before... a vessel, that... is apology for same... er your immediate... ctions are to in... vily for damages... ction and apology... er your signature... the Times. Men... tion that the... true in fact.

S & TAYLOR.

OF FIRE

Theatre in Bos... consequences

pede.

ous Killed and... y Hurt—Pec... Crazy.

Twenty-one persons... as many more in... a panic at the old... this city. The... Polish nationality... Many of them... by the fire... to get a complete... theatre, which is... the city, was killed... people assembled to... which has been... the most month... bow that over 2,000... at 8 o'clock the... because there were... al admission ticket... this, and it is... 3,000 people were... in went up on the... house is less than... crowd may be in... the curtain and... went up to the see... which appeared... shed, as he feared... the match, a light... men that there was... The jet was well... on the left side of... of the greater... as the glare from... the fall, some one in... in... ind scramble for the... the whole audience took... of the terror-stricken... entrance of front... in howling wail... takes to tell if the... twenty or thirty deep... crowd behind them... to reach the street... and dragged... Ambulance called... and the wounded... here practicable... more slightly injured... When the mass... away, the fright... quieted sufficiently... to clear the theatre... would have been... a soul would have... audience remained... were taken to the... to the hospital... rarely hurt.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

PORT HAMMOND.

From our own correspondent.

Port Hammond, Dec. 31.—The regular meeting of Loyal Fraser Valley Lodge, C. O. O. F., No. 491, was held in the C. O. O. F. hall, Port Hammond, on Saturday Dec. 21st.

The mass meeting of miners called for Saturday is for the purpose of deciding whether or not the work shall be divided up as at present, or whether the number of hands will be diminished.

From our own correspondent. Nanaimo, Dec. 31.—At the council meeting last evening three by-laws were affirmed, viz: the election by-law, fire limit amendment by-law and Sunday observance by-law.

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COLOQUITZ ELECTORS

pledge themselves voluntarily to vote against Prior and Coercion.

Opposition Speakers Tended a Most Hearty Welcome to the District.

Enthusiastic Listeners and Entertainers of a Hospitable Order.

The commodious and comfortable hall at Colquitz was filled last evening with a large number of electors...

Mr. Grant was well received. He was pleased to see so many ladies present. Although they had not the privilege of voting at the Dominion elections...

Mr. Wm. Marchant was greeted with applause. He delivered an eloquent and convincing address on the national policy as it affected the farmers...

At his meeting at Esquimaux on Saturday, 28th inst., Col. Prior was asked the following questions on the Manitoba school question...

Dr. Milne was the next speaker and was greeted with applause. He took up the trade question from a farmer's point of view...

Mr. Templeman, who entered the hall while the doctor was speaking, was greeted with round after round of applause...

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due to influence the electors at the poll. They might differ with him on the exact question, they might disagree with him on other points but these matters could be discussed at the general election.

Another candidate for the Mayor's chair, ex-Ald. John Robertson, issued his card yesterday. This makes the fourth candidate in the field...

Mr. Templeman believed in the policy of Mr. Laurier. It was a policy that agreed with the wishes of the people of Manitoba. It had for its object the appointment of a commission to investigate the grievances of the minority...

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LOCALS

Arrivals of City and Provincial News in a Condensed Form.

From Tuesday's Daily.

Charles Purdy, a Tacoma store-keeper, was taken to the lockup last evening for safe keeping...

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Methodist church were also well attended.

Among the probable candidates for aldermanic honors are ex-Ald. W. J. Dwyer for the north ward and William Dalby for the center ward.

A letter has been forwarded to Chief Sheppard containing some documents relative to E. J. Kelly, who the writer says came from Trail creek to Victoria on some mining case.

Charles L. Cullin, of the Rovince Printing and Publishing Company and Mrs. Nesbit, formerly of Toronto, were married at the Metropolitan church last evening by Rev. Solomon Cleaver, B.A. Miss Hughes acted as bridesmaid...

Mr. C. H. Merkle, the well known contractor, was married at the Saanich church yesterday afternoon to Miss Emma Turgoose, second daughter of the late Wm. Turgoose, of Saanich. Rev. Mr. Christmas officiated, and the bride was given away by Mr. Saddler. She was attended by her sisters, the Misses Fennie, Annie, Carrie, Lottie and Minnie Turgoose.

After a stormy voyage the steamer Mande, Capt. Roberts, returned from the West Coast last night. Her cabin passengers were: Miss Munsie, Capt. McDougall, Capt. Schou, J. Marhar, S. Weaving, Miss Lapsley, E. Crompton, G. Crompton, G. Emery, J. S. Emery, T. Furnival, D. Morris, P. Cridde, H. Walker, C. P. Blake and J. Durrant.

WAR SCARE'S LESSON

U. S. Government and Legislators Brought to Appreciate Country's Defencelessness.

Venezuelan Question Being Discussed - The New Tariff Bill Passes the House.

New York, Dec. 27.—A Washington, D. C. special to a local paper says: Officials of the war and navy departments concede that the events of the past week have done more towards impressing upon congress and the country the evil results of a big game policy toward defense on shore and at sea...

Owing to the gale which raged this morning, a number of outgoing steamers were late in leaving. The Jona got away about 11:30 and the Kingston at 1:30 this afternoon. The Kingston is now advertised to leave Victoria for the Sound at 8:30 a.m. instead of in the evening, as formerly.

There is more convincing evidence than ever that the steamship Miowera of the Canadian Pacific Australia line was not lost while towing the Strathnevis into port. Captain Pillsbury, of the steamship Mincola, the last steamer to take the Strathnevis in tow, has secured from the captain of the schooner Watson data bearing on the Miowera which leaves no doubt of the Miowera's safety.

Midnight services were held in a number of the churches last night. The children's entertainment was held in the Metropolitan Methodist church in the early part of the evening. Supper was given the little ones at six o'clock. A concert followed at seven o'clock and continued until the bells rang out the old year and rang in the new. A musical service, "The Child Jesus," was given at the Victoria West Methodist church. Services were also held at the Centennial, St. Saviour's, Calvary and Emmanuel churches and at the Salvation Army barracks. New Year services were conducted in most of the city churches to-day.

A Chicago dispatch says: "The death of Mr. Minnie Hasbrooks, whose burial took place at Oakwood on Sunday, recalls the romantic story of the Mandeville sisters, popular actresses before the war, and a remarkable claim by one of them, which is probated to set it off."

Among Secretary Olney's callers to-day was Sir Julian Pauncefote, British ambassador, accompanied by Mr. Sanderson, British consul general in New York, a brother to Sir Th. Sanderson, who drew the "Sanderson line" in the British Guiana boundary dispute and addressed the two notes of Dr. Fuldo and Dr. Urbanian of Venezuela, which are claimed by the Venezuelans to have emanated from Lord Salisbury. It is stated officially the call yet come before the cabinet, but important business is transacted on diplomatic reception day. A strong impression prevailed as a result of the visit to-day, Secretary Olney has officially notified the British representative of the enactment of the law for the creation of the Venezuelan boundary commission.

The facts regard to Russia's offer in 1883 to supply the government with gold with which to meet the emergency existing at the time are usually coming to light. It can now be stated on unquestionable authority that during the panic of three years ago, the Russian government offered to loan of gold for export, the czar of Russia, through his minister, Prince Genczewski, formally tendered to this government a loan of \$50,000,000 for the term of three years.

A large number attended last night's concert in the Y. M. C. A. hall. The programme as already published was carried out. The entertainment in the temperance hall and the Metropolitan

ROYAL SCALP FOOD. Price \$1.00. 6 Bottles \$5.00 Exp. Pat. ONE HONEST MAN AND BUT ONE RELIABLE HAIR FOOD. NO DYE. We feed the Hair that which it lacks and nature restores the color. THEORY. ROYAL SCALP FOOD destroys the diseased germ of the scalp and a healthy action is set up. It contains the principal properties of the hair that are necessary to its life without which it will not grow. It restores the scalp the same as you do a field of corn and growth is certain. It invigorates the sluggish scalp, cleanses it and thoroughly eradicates all dandruff, which is the forerunner of baldness. It is the ONLY remedy ever discovered that will restore the hair to its natural color to the hair without harm. MAIL ORDERS PROMPTLY FILLED. SEND FOR FREE PAMPHLET. SEALS AND LOCAL AGENTS WANTED.

LENZ & LEISER, IMPORTERS OF Foreign and Domestic Dry Goods, GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS, ETC. Nos. 9 and 11 Yates Street, VICTORIA, B. C.

THE OCCIDENTAL HOTEL, COR. HARB AND JOHNSON STS., VICTORIA, B. C.

This popular and well known Hotel will re-open about November 15th under the management of W. JENSEN, its founder, with everything new and bright. It will be conducted as in former years, aiming to make it homelike for its guests.

RICH IN THE LIFE PRINCIPLE OF PRIME BEEF. This is the distinguishing trait of Johnston's Fluid Beef. All seeking to secure the benefits that the essential qualities of Prime Beef can in art should make sure they use a preparation that contains these qualities. JOHNSTON'S FLUID BEEF DOES.

Did You Ever See a Cow that gave Buttermilk? What could you expect but her milk? We have a line of CALIFORNIA ROLL BUTTER AT 40c. Nice and sweet, flavored with Buttercups and Daisies. ONTARIO CREAMERY AT 30c. DIXIE H. ROSS & CO.

Revolution in Chewing Tobacco, Tuckett's T & B Mahogany. Manufactured by The Gen. E. Tuckett & Son Co., Ltd., Hamilton, Ont.

