

POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT

Mulock Reduces the Deficit by \$627,000 and Improves the Service.

Postoffice Is Now Practically Self-Supporting—Interesting Figures From the Record.

Tawa, Aug. 8.—One of the things Postmaster-General Mulock set out to do assuming office in 1896 was to reduce the deficit, which year by year had been growing larger, and finally to bring to a state of equilibrium between the revenue and expenditure of his department. It was scarcely reasonable then to suppose that this herculean task could be accomplished in two years, but the accounts of the department of 1897 show that the deficit has not only been entirely wiped out, it has been reduced to such insignificant proportions compared with its original magnitude that it has practically ceased to exist. When Mr. Mulock took charge of the department there was a deficit of \$9,997, that was reduced during the year 1897 to \$74,043, which is a remarkably good showing in view of the fact that many of the reforms introduced by the new departmental head had not had sufficient time to take effect. The actual deficit for 1897-8 cannot yet be stated, but a careful and conservative estimate puts it at \$74,043. The accounts are available for all parts of the year excepting the last quarter, so that the estimate is fairly accurate. The reduction of the deficit by \$2,000,000 in an even time with the postmaster-general has reason to be satisfied, and it is a credit to his public capacity as an administrator. Revenue and Expenditure Accounts.

Table showing revenue and expenditure accounts for 1896-97 and 1897-98.

The following statement will show in detail the condition of the revenue and expenditure accounts during the last fiscal year.

Table showing revenue and expenditure accounts for 1897-98.

The Service Improved. It might have been possible to present a more favorable financial showing by starting the service for the sake of cutting expenses, but a policy of the very opposite to this has been pursued. The reductions of the service have been extended to the most important departments, and more frequent service has been given, and a reorganization of the railway mail service has been effected under the direction of the controller-in-chief, an improvement of the advantages of which is admitted by all who have any knowledge of postal matters. The service has been saved, and the service improved by the abolition of many needless inspectors, by the decentralization of the work, and by the reduction of the staff.

"I at once made an appointment to meet His Honor," continued Mr. Beaven, "and did so. You will observe that His Honor states that he had relieved Mr. Turner from his functions. This was the absolute condition of affairs then. At first I took the view that while it appeared as a result of the general election that Hon. Mr. Turner could only hope for the support of a minority in the assembly and that Mr. Semlin and Hon. Mr. Martin were practically in the same position, I was without a constituency or following in the assembly, I considered the best way to have determined the point beyond dispute as to who possessed the confidence of the country was to convene the legislature as soon as the writ from Cassiar was returned.

"I understood that the action which resulted in the dismissal of the Turner government was of a cumulative character and that other circumstances than those referred to in His Honor's letter, more immediately connected with ministerial advice and conduct, brought about a different condition of affairs, and that the delay which must have occurred from calling a session might result in great injury. This feature of the case is one upon which the press and general public are entirely in the dark.

"I understand it is considered contrary to official etiquette to make known the full details at the present time. I can say this much, that in one instance alone, had the Lieutenant-Governor accepted Mr. Attorney-General Eberts' advice, and his construction of the Revenue Act, as explained to me by His Honor, an important check which the Constitution Act places on the payment of money out of the treasury would be a dead letter, and the power of the members of the government of the day would be practically unlimited. This is a power which the best of governments, to my mind, should not possess, and which the Constitution Act expressly prohibits.

"It was very evident that the relations between the Lieutenant-Governor and the Turner administration were of a character that could not have continued. The circumstances connected with the ministerial action and advice as disclosed by the correspondence, and as related by His Honor to me, brought me to consider that prompt action was essential and that it became a duty to endeavor if possible to assist in averting a crisis in provincial affairs. You know the result. I could have formed an administration which, I believe, would have ex-

HON. MR. BEAVEN EXPLAINS

Throws Some Light on the Dismissal of the Late Administration.

WHY MR. TURNER HAD TO GO

The Interesting Letter Sent by the Lieut.-Governor to Hon. Mr. Beaven.

Mr. Semlin Succeeds at the Work of Cabinet Making.

Messrs. Semlin, Martin and Cotton Sworn in This Afternoon as Members of the Executive.

Asked this morning if he could tell the public the circumstances leading up to his undertaking the task of forming an administration, the Hon. Robert Beaven replied as follows:

"Yes, I can. A week ago I received the following letter from His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor:

The Government of the Province of British Columbia, At Government House, Victoria, B.C., To the Hon. Robert Beaven, Victoria, B.C.

Sir—I have the honor to inform you by this letter of even date herewith, I have relieved the Hon. J. H. Turner and his colleagues from their functions as my advisers, and members of my executive council. This action I have taken in view of the result of the general elections held on the 9th of last month. This is probably the most important period yet known in the development of the resources of the province, and during the month that has elapsed since the said general elections I have deeply felt the need of advisers in whom I could place full confidence, and whose recommendations I could unhesitatingly approve. And knowing your thorough knowledge of the special needs and requirements of the province, and having in view your long and honorable experience throughout a quarter of a century in the administration of its affairs, and regarding you, moreover, as peculiarly fitted to reconcile its contending political factions, I hereby call upon you to assume the task of forming a ministry, and to once more act as chief adviser to the representative of the crown.

(Signed) THOS. R. McINNIS, Lieutenant-Governor.

"I at once made an appointment to meet His Honor," continued Mr. Beaven, "and did so. You will observe that His Honor states that he had relieved Mr. Turner from his functions. This was the absolute condition of affairs then. At first I took the view that while it appeared as a result of the general election that Hon. Mr. Turner could only hope for the support of a minority in the assembly and that Mr. Semlin and Hon. Mr. Martin were practically in the same position, I was without a constituency or following in the assembly, I considered the best way to have determined the point beyond dispute as to who possessed the confidence of the country was to convene the legislature as soon as the writ from Cassiar was returned.

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isted for years, but in view of the opposition I encountered it would have brought on political unrest at present and for some time to come. I deemed it best, therefore, not to submit the names of the gentlemen available.

"I am convinced that I took the proper course and feel that I have done my duty. I wish I could say that I believe the crisis has been averted by the formation of a cabinet by Mr. Semlin and that the affairs of the province will now proceed peacefully towards progress under the management of a firmly established administration."

MR. MARTIN'S STATEMENT.

Although Mr. Semlin has not yet completed the work of constructing his cabinet, sufficient progress has been made in that direction to warrant the statement that it is now only a question of hours before the personnel on the new ministry will be made known. Hon. Joseph Martin will be a member of the new administration, notwithstanding reports to the contrary. Mr. Martin came over from Vancouver last evening, and the announcement was made this morning that Mr. Martin had consented to take the attorney-generalship, the portfolio tendered him by Mr. Semlin when he first commenced the work of cabinet making.

To a representative of the Times Mr. Martin this morning said:

"After I had refused Mr. Semlin's offer of the attorney-generalship I was written on by a number of opposition members of the house at Vancouver, and they urged me to find some way if possible to meet Mr. Semlin's views, so that the opportunity of the hour might not be lost. On arriving here I found the situation very critical and while you can quite understand that it is impossible for me to lay down my position as I understand it, I came to the conclusion that the only course I could pursue was to accept Mr. Semlin's offer. In doing this I have the entire approval of Messrs. Forster, Deane and Ralph Smith, opposition members-elect, at present in the city, and I am assured by them that the position I have taken will be approved by the other members of the opposition."

CABINET FORMED.

Later—Shortly before three o'clock this afternoon the announcement was made that Messrs. Semlin, Martin and Cotton would be sworn in at four o'clock as members of the executive council, with the following portfolios:

MR. SEMLIN, Premier and Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

HON. JOSEPH MARTIN, Attorney-General.

MR. COTTON, Finance Minister.

The other cabinet positions are being filled and the personnel of the new administration will be known within a few hours.

NEWS OF VANCOUVER.

Vancouver, Aug. 15.—(Special).—A naval brigadier is to be formed here. Admiral Palliser is now here in connection with the matter.

Mrs. Clement, a new arrival from Winnipeg, was found in the Vermillion block. There are rumors of suspicious circumstances attending the matter. Her husband is here.

A curious house breaking case was reported last night. An unknown man went right through a big house on Melville street, the fashionable quarter, and things topsy-turvy, yet took nothing.

GREASY NOSES AND LIVERS. "A greasy nose is a sure sign of a disordered liver," explained a physician to a reporter, "as anything that I know outside of real sickness, and by studying this as a barometer much trouble is averted. In these days when a fall outfit of medical grates for liver troubles can be secured at any drug store for 10 cents, there is but little excuse for it, except those rare cases, when 10 cents' worth of medicine won't do the work, and here a physician is necessary. I was much amused at reading in a New York paper recently an article written by one of those modern beauties of a preparation that was said to be a sure remedy for a greasy nose. If you want to tell how much rose leaves and half a dozen other things should be used in a preparation to wash the nose, and after telling all these it wound up with advising that some liver medicine should be used in connection therewith. Now, I can assure that the liver medicine would effect the cure without the rose leaves and the other stuff, and, indeed, in spite of it. I don't mean to say that that medicine does anything but times enlarged and fiery red proboscis can be reduced with a little liver medicine, but what is known as greasy nose will be removed by it."—Washington Star.

BORROWED FROM CYCLING.

The practice of cycling is picking many new phrases into this portmanteau language of ours. A man who boasts is now said to "ride with a very high gear." One who is unduly bright "has sand in his bearings." But the newest is the description of a slow and dull person as a "regulator"—after an imaginary class of cycle so called as being so slow that all other machines "go by it." And it is not polite for one cyclist to call another a liar. It is he calls him a "cyclometer" the same and is more elegantly achieved.—The Globe.

CLAUS CHEATS

The Stikine Murderer Dies From Effects of a Dose of Strychnine.

Had a Horror of Hanging and Boasted He Would Not Ascend Scaffold.

Nanaimo, Aug. 15.—(Special).—Claus, the condemned murderer who was to have been hanged on Wednesday next, died from the effects of the poison which he had taken the day previously, despite the heroic endeavors of a number of physicians to save the doomed man's life. It is not known how Claus obtained possession of the deadly drug—strychnine—but it is suspected that certain friends of the murderer who have been in the habit of visiting him, passing a quantity of the poison to him while on a visit.

The dead murderer had an intense horror of hanging and repeatedly asserted that he would never ascend the scaffold. When informed on Friday that there was no hope of saving his life he is reported to have said: "I'll die on Saturday morning early."

An inquest is being held this afternoon.

The crime for which Claus was sentenced to death was the murder of Burns and his wife, two Okanogan men, with whom he was journeying into the Klondike gold fields by way of the Stikine river early this spring. Claus crept out of his tent one night as the two were encamped on the Stikine, then coated with ice, and taking an axe hacked at the heads of the two unfortunate mindlessly killing them. He then dragged the two bodies to a crevasse in the ice and hid them. He then became terrified, and leaving the bodies and the axe, fled to the north. He was captured at Glenora by the Northwest Mounted Police and afterwards brought to Victoria. A search was made and the bodies of the victims and the weapon were found frozen in the crevasse. Then the pursuit of the flying murderer began, and he was soon overhauled. He was captured at Glenora by the Northwest Mounted Police and afterwards brought to Victoria. 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SUED FOR \$780,000

Le Roi Minority vs. the Majority and the B. A. C.—Injunction Also Secured.

Severe Accusations of Conspiracy, Fraud, Bribery and Other Offences.

Colonel W. W. D. Turner and Senator George Turner have sued the leaders of the Le Roi Mining and Smelting Company...

The trouble started yesterday with the issuing of another injunction. Injunctions have been issued against the Le Roi Mining and Smelting Company...

The suit filed last night for \$780,000 damages alleges conspiracy on the part of defendants I. N. Peyton, D. W. H. Hentley, W. J. C. Wakefield, C. H. Mackintosh, Edwin Durant, Whitaker Wright and the British American Corporation...

The complaint recites again that old story of the formation of the Le Roi Mining and Smelting Company...

The complaint then asserts that on February 1, 1898, the defendants, with others, entered into a correspondence and negotiation...

Then the defendants are accused of so conducting and administering the affairs of the company and of spreading such false and injurious reports about the property...

It is next alleged that "I. N. Peyton thereafter entered into a correspondence and negotiation with the defendants..."

The attempt to mislead intending Yukoners into believing that owing to customs regulations at the American gateway it is cheaper to buy goods in United States territory is still continued.

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THE FIRST FIGHTING

An English Correspondent's Graphic Pen Picture of the U. S. Troops' First Fight.

The Landing and the Encounter With the Spanish in the Vicinity of Santiago.

Charles E. Hands, the special correspondent of the London Daily Mail, in his letters to his paper, has the following in reference to the first fighting in the vicinity of Santiago:

He stood up, nearly six feet high, thin, with a hawk-like face, and a pair of eyes that seemed to stare at you from under a pair of bushy eyebrows.

It was just midday, and the tropical sun was down on the bay, and the sea was a shimmering blue.

There was no baggage wagon, no pack mules, no anything except men, and the men were all on foot.

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THE SHANGHAI RIOTS

An Eye-Witness Tells of the Disturbances on the French Concession—Many Killed.

The Riots Occurred Over the Removal of the Ning-po Joss House and Cemetery.

Among the passengers on the steamer Victoria, which arrived last evening, was A. H. Stewart, of Shanghai.

The French consul-general at that time, however, was not a man of great energy, for when the Ning-po riots occurred he hid himself under his bed and sent word to his men to desert in their work of demolishing the temple.

The prohibitionists had a large gathering in the Homer street Methodist church last evening, says the Vancouver World.

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A MENACE TO ENGLAND

Spaniards Fortifying in the Neighborhood of Gibraltar.

New York, Aug. 11.—A dispatch to the Tribune from Gibraltar says:

The armament of these batteries, recently completed at Punta Carbonero, on San Garcia tower and on the Isle of Verde consist for each battery of four quick-fire Ordonez guns of 15 centimetre calibre and two 24-centimetre calibre deuce guns and 20 or 30 guns of smaller calibre of the Ordonez pattern are in batteries near the water batteries, apparently waiting to be placed in position.

The Spanish government is thus not only taking serious precautions against the possibility of an Anglo-American combination near Gibraltar, but is preparing for the last days of the American war to fish the formidable line of works connecting the Gibraltar peninsula with the mainland.

Where Specialists Failed Dr. Chase Cured Catarrh.

James Spence, Clachan, Ont., writes: "I had been a sufferer from catarrh of the bladder for fifteen years. It became chronic, and I had given up hopes of ever being cured when advised by a friend to try Dr. Chase's catarrh cure."

Where Specialists Failed Dr. Chase Cured Catarrh.

RUSSIA HAS HER OWN WAY

Succeeds in Securing Everything She Wants From Unfortunate China.

Intense Indignation Throughout Britain at Lord Salisbury's Failure.

London, Aug. 13.—The morning papers express the growing indignation of the country at the position of affairs in China. The Daily Graphic says: "It is this state of things continues the guns will go off themselves."

The Shanghai correspondent of the Daily Mail, who proposes to divulge the terms of the long existing secret treaty between China and Russia, says: "It is nothing less than an offensive alliance. Russia undertakes to regard all international questions of commercial and international politics, while Russia will support China against all 'open door' demands."

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HAWAII

The Japanese Embellish the Way to the Islands.

Queen Liliuokalani Returns—Ports—A Proclamation—Estate—Fla.

Honolulu, H. I., Aug. 11.—The U.S.S. Albatross, which arrived yesterday 6 o'clock from San Francisco, brought Admiral Miller and a crew of 100 men, and the Hawaiian flag over the mainmast.

The Japanese embellish the way to the islands. The Hawaiian flag over the mainmast. The Japanese embellish the way to the islands.

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CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS

CURE SICK HEAD

Backache, yst Carter's Little Liver Pills at equally valuable in Constipation, curing and preventing this annoying complaint while they regulate the bowels, even if they are constipated.

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A NEW RICH FELD OF GOLD

Within Our Own Province the Wonders of the Klondike Are Repeated.

The Discoverer of Pine Creek Diggings Causes a Stampede From the Coast.

The Lucky Finder Gave Up the New El Dorado and Went on to the Dawson Camp.

Seven Hundred Dollars a Day Taken Out and a New City Springs Up in a Night.

Another rich mining district said to be equally as rich as the far-famed Klondike has been discovered, this time within the borders of British Columbia. The new discovery is but only a few miles from Skagway, and about the same distance below Tagish lake. The discoverer of the new mining ground was, it is said, a butcher named Murphy, who left Tacoma to take a flock of sheep to Dawson. The sheep, in their wanderings, kicked up a nugget, Murphy found it and began a systematic search for gold. He soon found enough to show him that he had fallen heir to a second Klondike and he said nothing but sawed wood. He told no one of his find and worked hard and continuously until his supplies ran short. Then, with a bag of gold dust he went to Skagway to buy provisions. After time his wife obtained supplies was repeated and the cupidity of Skagway was aroused. They wanted to know what claim this Caesar digged that he had grown so rich.

When Murphy returned to his claim he was followed by four Juneau prospectors. They settled down to work, and being unselfish, notified eight of their friends. These friends talked, and soon the secret was out. Then came the stampede. Dren, Skagway, Bennett and other Alaska miners are rushing to answer the call. The trail is black with others, for on the news being proclaimed hundreds join the stampede daily.

The gold bearing stream is christened the Pine. It runs into Atlin lake and is some distance below Tagish, and produces from 60 cents to \$6 to the pan. On several of the claims the bedrock has been reached at a distance of about five feet. The gold taken out is said to be of good color, valued at from \$18 to \$20 an ounce.

T. E. Feere, a White Pass packer, was back at Skagway from the new district when the Cottage City was there. He went in by the Atlino river, and headed Lake Tagish. From there it is 65 miles to Taku arm and the mouth of the Atlin river, seven miles up the river to Atlin. The distance is not so far as they can towards the new district. The fare is \$20 each way. Atlin is a section of modern buildings has been begun, and the company promoter is at work. Arrangements are being made for the building of a tramway along the Atlin river from Taku arm.

A friend of one of the Cottage City's officers reached Skagway before that vessel sailed, and provisions were paid for with \$700 in gold, taken out by him in two days. Another man is said to have taken out \$1,000 in two days after reaching bedrock, and many others it is said, made equally rich finds. Among the Victorians who are "getting in on the ground floor" are Barney Gray, H. Dalby, W. D. Aden, H. Cole, "Bud" Lenhardt and Oscar Schupe. Major Steele, who was on his way to Dawson, and Major Strickland, have also gone.

Mr. Oliver, of the Klondike M. T. & T. Co., went up on the Nora with two men. They went up the river with small boats which the two men towed from the shore. Mr. Oliver remained in the boat. The boat was capsized and Mr. Oliver obliged to swim. He lost his outfit, a gold watch and some of his clothes, but still he rushed on without hat or coat to the recorder's office and filed a claim. Rumors of these new finds were published in these columns some days ago but the particulars received there were more meagre, and gave the location of the finds as being on Tagish lake.

The Cottage City, which arrived in port on Saturday evening with the news of the new finds, had a large number of miners and excursionists on board. She had fifteen from Dawson, but they did not bring out much treasure. Among the passengers from the interior was Mr. McGregor, of the Dominion government staff there.

A dispatch from Juneau says the news caused a great stampede from Juneau and other southeastern Alaskan points, and it is estimated that at least one thousand prospectors started for the locality. As reported here, the find was made two years ago by Fritz Miller, of this city, about the time Klondike was made known. Miller allowed the discovery to remain dormant, and went to the Klondike. Last June he returned, and, taking the time to take his confidence, he revisited the "place and staked off claims.

Walker Carter, who just returned to Juneau from the diggings, says that four men shovel in 26 ounces in two days; one pan from bedrock containing four dollars. This was the discovery claim. Pine Creek is about fifteen miles long and averages 75 feet in width. The current is very rapid. The diggings are what are known as "placer" diggings, and the discovery claim is about eight miles from the mouth of the creek. Bedrock is only five feet from the surface, and the creek is so shallow that five men at work shovelling into sluice boxes, and he pays them \$12 a day each, settling every night with dust taken from the boxes, and are taking out \$60 a day to the man. Captain Strickland, of the Canadian Mounted Police and several other men already on the ground have staked claims for themselves and reserved government claims. When I left 35 claims had been located and the back of the creek reserved for the Canadian government. When I was coming to Juneau I met a large number of prospectors going into every

bay along Tagish lake to find the spot which they had heard of, but whose location they did not know. Fritz Miller, who, as stated above, was the original discoverer of the new mining ground, returned in company with Nelson Rasmussen, C. L. Stone, G. C. Johnston and several other miners by the steamer Danube last summer, coming from Circle City, where they had spent the season mining on the creek in that vicinity. During his stay in this city Miller informed a Times reporter of his aforesaid discovery; on Atlin lake, he said, going back to Juneau to see his brother and his people, and then in company with Rasmussen and the others they would go back to the original finds, which, he said, were equally as rich as those of the interior. A Victoria newspaperman was asked by Miller to join the party, but he did not take the ride at the time, and consequently he is not numbered among the fortunates. Miller during his stay in Victoria told glowing stories about the large number of people who had then gone credence to them. He has since, it seems, proven that they were true statements, worthy of all acceptance.

A party of prospectors from the White river district arrived in Juneau last week. They were accompanied by some very encouraging prospects both in placer and quartz. The Standard Oil Company have forty men prospecting in that large number of people who had then gone credence to them. He has since, it seems, proven that they were true statements, worthy of all acceptance.

The new meteorological station will not be ready for work for a month yet. The plant is being installed, and in the near future will be in operation. It is being directed by Mr. E. Baynes Reed, at his own residence. Mr. Dennison, Toronto, who has had an exceptionally good time there in his business for himself in the same line.

The Bulgarian gypsies and their bears returned to the city during the early part of the week, but had not been in the corporation long before R. Chipchase, the sanitary officer, got his eagle's crest on the 10th of the week. He crossed over to New Westminster.

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LOCAL NEWS.

Gleanings of City and Provincial News in a Condensed Form.

(From Friday's Daily.)

James Norris had his arm broken from falling off a sick of coal at Valdez last night, and was brought to the city on a special train and the fractured limb set by Dr. Ernest Hall.

The current issue of the Gazette announces the reincorporation and registration of the "Montreal Syndicate, Limited." The registered office of the company is at Roseland, and the capital stock of \$150,000 is divided into thirty thousand \$5 shares.

A herd of cows, about ten or twelve in number, broke into the grounds of Joseph Wachter's little boy, aged four years, last night and caused a great deal of damage by breaking shrubs, flowers, etc. The owner will be called upon to pay for the damage done.

Mr. McMillan and Son, of the firm of Minneapolis, are withdrawing from business and the local branch has been closed for some weeks. A. Brown, local manager, leaves tomorrow for Spokane where he intends to continue in business for himself in the same line.

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