

Victoria Daily Times.

VOL. 30.

VICTORIA, B.C., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1900.

NO. 99.

TIME

mean within 5 minutes but 5 seconds. Such watches are to be had. We have them, and they are not expensive either. Every business and professional man should have one.

CASES
JEWELERS.

As for the cases, you can have your choice of gold, gold filled, silver and gun metal. It will do no harm to look over our stock and see the MODERN WATCH. It is a beauty.

Challoner & Mitchell,

JEWELERS.

LADIES

Newest Ideas in Seasonable FOOTWEAR

In Boys' and Girls' School Boots we are offering some splendid values.
SPECIAL—Boys' Boston Thigh Gum Boots, \$3.00 per pair.
Men's Hip Gum Boots, \$4.00 up.

THE PATERSON SHOE CO., LTD.

SHOE EMPORIUM Cor. Government and Johnson Sts.

It's a Pleasure...



Dixi H. Ross & Co.

Starting Anew



OPENING NEW BOOKS
1900
FINE WALL PAPER
AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES.

J. W. MELLOR,
76-78 FORT STREET

Golf Goods
and Footballs
A Large Assorted Stock at
John Barnsley & Co.,
115 Government St.

Whole Wheat Flour

We have the genuine article and a fine
lot of Peanuts and other Pantry
articles.

HARTMANN & CO.,
53 BROAD STREET,
AUCTION SALE
THE CITY AUCTION MART
73 AND 73½ YATES STREET.

Mr. JONES, Auctioneer, is instructed by
Mr. Mason to sell by public auction at the
above mart on

To-Morrow, January 4th, 1900
AT 2 P.M. SHARP.

5 Angora and Other Goats
(2 in full milk).

No Reserve.
The above offers a first-class opportunity
to parties going up to Cape
Name, etc.

W. JONES,
THE CITY AUCTIONEER.
Established 1885.

A HOME

CAN BE PURCHASED WITH \$50
CASH AND 100 MONTHLY INSTALMENTS OF
\$12.50 EACH, WITHOUT INTEREST. FIVE-
ROOM COTTAGE; DOUBLE FRONT LOT, ON
CAR LINE; FIFTEEN MINUTES' WALK FROM POSTOFFICE.

Apply
40 GOVERNMENT ST. B.C. LAND & INVESTMENT AGENCEY

For Sale, Cheap

MARTIN'S MEETING.

He Will Try to Defeat the Semlin
Government.

(Special to the Times)

Vancouver, Jan. 3.—Joseph Martin,
M.P.P., addressed his political supporters
last night. He said he would go to
Victoria with the express intention of
accomplishing the defeat of the Semlin
government, and charged that the pre-
mier had secured his position dishonestly.
He stated that the famous telegram
sent by Finance Minister Cotton to
Major Gordon on the Deadman's Island
question was a lie. He still charged
that there had been falsification of
the records, and mentioned legal action
and penitentiary in the discussion of the
question. Mr. Martin said he would re-
sign if his course was not satisfactory.
A resolution endorsing his stand
was passed. He said he thought Mr.
Macpherson would stand with him, but
that Mr. Tisell would side with Mr.
Cotton.

Gen. French Holding His Position—Advance to Ladysmith
Will Not Be Delayed Long—Boer Commander Dead
—British Casualties at Colesburg.

THE SITUATION IN CAPE COLONY

Unstinted Praise Bestowed on Canadians and
Australians for Their Splendid
Services.

COLONIALS AROUSE
ENTHUSIASM

Transport with fresh battalions and
batteries have arrived at Durban and
within 24 hours Sir Redvers Buller
will not allow many days to pass without
striking a blow.

It is evident the garrison cannot hold
out long and that Sir Redvers Buller
will not allow many days to pass without
striking a blow.

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THE CANADIANS

Mr. Chamberlain's Congratulations—Members
of Second Contingent Leave for
Headquarters.

(Associated Press.)

London, Jan. 3.—Lacking news from
the British camps in South Africa the
British public is making the most of
Col. Pitcher's miniature battle.

Unbound tribute is paid to the
prowess of the Canadians and Australians
and graphic accounts are published
of the enthusiasm in Douglas as the
victorious troops entered that place.

Rebels Dispersed.

The representative of the Associated
Press with the flying column says:

"The immediate result of Col. Pitcher's
success is the entire dispersal of the
rebels who have been governing the
country for the past six weeks. After Sun-
nyside was captured the Toronto occupied
the larger for the night, joining the
main body the following morning, bring-
ing the whole of the Boers' tents, wag-
ons and loot, and leaving the Cornwallis
garrisoned at Sunnyside.

CASUALTIES AT COLESBURG.

The total British casualties about
Colesburg in two days were six men
killed and 20 wounded.

CAPE COLONY.

Fighting Around Colesburg—Boers Driven
From Their Positions—Action in
Progress at Molteno.

Nieuwpoort, Cape Colony, Jan. 2.—
There was brisk fighting to-day in the
hills around Colesburg.

The Boers stubbornly resisted the
British at every point, but gradually
retreated.

The British held the extreme position
to the south and east overlooking the
town.

The hills around Colesburg are numer-
ous, not in ranges but in groups, mak-
ing it very difficult to hunt the Boers
out.

Sixteen wounded have arrived at
Arundel.

PIG DEVELOPMENTS EXPECTED.

London, Jan. 3.—A special dispatch
from Naauwpoort, dated Tuesday, Jan.
2nd, says the British command Norval's
Point bridge with two guns, and also
command the Colesburg bridge, and
that the Boers have no way to retreat
except by way of Normberg.

The dispatch adds that big develop-
ments are expected to-morrow.

ANOTHER REPORT.

New York, Jan. 3.—The Tribune says:

"News reached London after midnight
that the Boers refused with reinforce-
ments during the night and occupied the
position from which they were driven
by General French on Monday."

ENGAGEMENT AT MOLTENO.

Starkstrom, Cape Colony, Jan. 3.—
(Morning).—The Boers attacked Molteno
this morning. A brisk action is now in
progress.

TRAIN DESTROYED.

RELIEF PARTY FORCED TO RETIRE—SEVERAL
NATIVES KILLED.

London, Jan. 3.—A special dis-
patch from Durban, dated today
January 2nd, says a supply
train, without a locomotive, was set in
motion within the British lines near
Colesburg and proceeded so near the
Boer position that it was impossible to
recover it, and the British gun, there-
fore, destroyed the trucks.

IT IS SUSPECTED THAT THIS WAS THE ACT
OF A TRAITOR.

BOMBARDING THE BOERS.

Gen. Buller continues his night bom-
bardments and patrol surprises.

AS THE TUGela RIVER IS AGAIN FORDABLE
AND THE STRETCHER BEARS HAD AGAIN
BEEN REQUOTED AT DURBAN AND
PIETERMARITZBURG, THERE IS A DISPOSITION
TO BELIEVE THAT THE BRITISH ADVANCE WILL
NOT BE LONG DELAYED.

GUNS AND MEN ON THE BOMBERATH.

It is reported at Durban that the cap-

tives had been killed.

GERMANY HAS NOT PROTESTED.

Berlin, January 3.—It is semi-officially
announced that Germany has not pro-
tested against the seizure of the Bon-
derath, but has merely requested that
the matter be investigated and settled
as speedily as possible.

THE SEIZURE OF FLICHE.

London, Jan. 3.—The United States
ambassador visited the British Premier
at the foreign office, this evening and
made the first official representations on
the subject of the Delagoa Bay affair.

The Premier informed him
that the British government had not yet
arrived at any decision as whether or
not food stuffs were to be sent to the
capitulation as soon as possible.

CAVALRY EQUIPMENT.

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 3.—The Globe-De-
mocrat says:

"E. F. Hutchins, president of the Great
Western Saddlery Co., Ltd., of Winnipeg,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8.

We are Prompt, We are Careful and We are Always at Our Post.

Campbell's Prescription Store

CORNER OF FORT AND DOUGLAS STREETS
VICTORIA, B.C.
For Pure Drugs and Chemicals.

Two Hundred Thousand Men

Will Be Under the Command of Lord Roberts in South Africa.

London Papers Praise the Conduct of Colonial Troops—British Occupy Dordrecht

London, Jan. 3.—The gallantry of Colonial troops engaged in South Africa is lauded by the morning papers.

The Times says: "The Mother Country will share with the Canadians and Australians in the pride and gratification they must feel of the fine qualities displayed by their troops in this morning's little engagement."

The Standard says: "The Canadians and Australians had been spelling for a fight. Now they have had their opportunity, and they have greatly distinguished themselves by their coolness and discipline. From the view point of Imperial unity, the little fight may fairly be described as one of the most gratifying events recorded in the history of the British race."

Robert's Army.

The admiralty has engaged eight more large transports. When all the troops destined for South Africa join those already there, Lord Roberts will be in command of about 200,000 men. Thirty thousand are now albat or ready to embark. Military observers, in view of what figures mean, can see how the British can fall to rush the Boers by mere force of numbers.

Militia For Abroad.

The Queen has accepted the services of twelve battalions of militia for foreign stations. Seven of these are assigned to South Africa.

Increasing the Artillery.

"We understand," says the Daily Mail, "that the defence committee of the cabinet after careful consideration of the question of the defence of the Empire, particularly with regard to artillery, will shortly call for the expenditure of £5,000,000, to make good deficiencies and to place the nation on a par with other great powers."

Medical Corps Safe.

The Times publishes the following, dated January 2nd, from Lorenzo Macquez: "It is asserted that Major Dr. and forty men of the British medical corps who were left at Dundee when the town was evacuated are now on the way from Pretoria to Delagoa Bay."

BULLER'S TROOPS CONFIDENT.

Tugela River Is Now Forable—The Boers Quay.

Ferre Campo, Jan. 1.—The Boers invaded by heliograph to-day, "Why is Robert's coming?" What has Buller done?

The British replied: "How did you like our idyll in the battle?"

London, Jan. 3.—The Daily Telegraph has received the following, dated January 2nd, from Ferre Campo: "The weather is fine. The Tugela river is now forable. Gen. Buller's army is in fine form, ready and confident for the work before it."

Gen. White reports under date of December 31st that the number of cases of dysentery and fever is increasing.

IN CAPE COLONY.

Dordrecht and Douglass Occupied by the British.

London, Jan. 3.—A Cape town dispatch reports that the rebels in the British district are demoralized by the British occupation of Dordrecht.

Should it turn out that the Dutch rebellion is thus being diminished, it will be a matter of great relief for the British campaign.

The Standard, however, remarks: "Until the Tugela has been crossed and Ladysmith relieved it would be idle to deny that the political position in Cape Colony is one of very great danger."

Douglas, Cape Colony, Jan. 2.—Col. Pitkeathly has occupied Douglass without opposition, and has been received with enthusiasm by the loyalists.

Brief Account.

Pretoria, Jan. 1.—Last night (Sunday) the British in great force attacked Commandant Schowman's commando in the Gochasche district and tried to storm the position. They repeated the attack this morning, but were forced to retreat, the Boers holding the position.

The loss of the British is not known, but it is reported to have been heavy.

The Boers consider it a great compliment to the Transvaal that Lord Roberts should have been selected for the supreme command of the British forces.

Six Officers Reported Wounded.

Pretoria, Jan. 2.—Three British prisoners who were taken at Malagro say that Capt. Gordon Cheesey Wilson, husband of Lady Sarah Wilson, with five other officers, whose names they refuse to give, were wounded in a recent sortie from Mafeking.

SECOND CONTINGENT.

Commissioner Herchmer in Command—Inspector Baker Adjutant.

Ottawa, Jan. 2.—Commissioner Herch-

Col. G. T. E. Downman (since dead), Capt. and Adjutant W. E. Gordon (dangerously), Capt. G. R. Macab (seriously), 2nd Lieut. J. R. McO. Campbell (since dead).

1st Batt. Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders—Capt. A. J. Campbell (slightly), Lieut. R. B. Graham, 2nd Lieut. J. C. Scott (seriously).

The total casualties amongst the non-commissioned officers and men of the Highland Brigade number about 650.

1st Batt. Kork and Lancaster Regiment—Lieut. P. E. Vaughan (slightly), non-commissioned officers and men, eight.

Royal Army Medical Corps—Lieut. H. M. Douglas.

MISSING.

Guards' Brigade.

Non-commissioned officers and men, one.

HIGHLAND BRIGADE.

Capt. the Hon. J. F. T. Cumming-Bruce, pax, (reported killed); Capt. and Adjutant W. MacEachan (reported killed); Lieut. N. N. Ramsay (reported killed).

2nd Batt. Seaforth Highlanders—Major and second in command K. R. Mackenzie; Capt. and Adjutant A. W. B. Brodie (reported killed).

1st Batt. Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders—2nd Lieut. W. B. King.

PRISONER.

Major C. H. Birrell, Royal Army Medical Corps.

CASUALTIES AT LADYSMITH.

The following were the casualties in the sortie from Ladysmith on December 10th:

KILLED.

2nd Batt. Rifle Brigade.

Lient. Gilbert Charles Dagmar Fer-gesson; rank and file, ten.

WOUNDED.

2nd Batt. Rifle Brigade.

Capt. G. Paley, 2nd Lieut. S. Davison, 2nd Lieut. A. A. G. Bond; rank and file, forty-six men, who remained behind in charge of wounded, were taken prisoners.

ROYAL ENGINEERS.

Rank and file, killed one, wounded one.

In the sortie on December 8th the following were the casualties:

18th HUSSARS.

Lient. C. J. Thackwell, slightly wounded; rank and file, two, slightly wounded.

5TH LANCERS.

Lient. W. T. Wilcox, slightly wounded; rank and file, two, slightly wounded.

MOUNTED TROOPS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The Broad Arrow in an editorial says: "It is to be regretted that the home authorities did not raise at least ten thousand mounted troops in South Africa some weeks ago. These would have been invaluable to Sir William Gatacre, who would have advanced long ago only for his weakness in cavalry and artillery. Already one in five of the male population of Natal is in the field, but that many more would willingly go to the front is clear from the fact that 2,000 ambulance bearers were raised in Durban and Mafeking in a few days.

In the old colony, besides the Cape Mounted Rifles which for some unexplained reason are not allowed to take part in the war, the South African Light Horse, and the Volunteer corps, called out by Sir Alfred Milner, there are thousands of men who could be organized into a most effective force at the present juncture. It is idle to talk of the army divisions now on the way to the Cape. These will not be landed for some time, whereas several corps of colonial mounted infantry could be raised in a few days. Neither does it show a proper appreciation of the situation in South Africa to argue as though only regular troops should be employed to face the enemy in the field. The Boer is not a regular soldier. He is formidable on account of his extraordinary mobility, his knowledge of the country, and the admirable way in which his tactics are adapted to the nature of the terrain. Hence, until the army corps was ready to advance on the plains of the Free State, a large body of colonial troops might have been employed on the Orange river with great effect. The brilliant night attack on Gun Hill by the Imperial Light Horse and Natal Volunteers, and the defense of Mafeking, prove what splendid fighting material they are. A Queensland officer was one of the twenty who attempted to cross the Modder river under a heavy fire. The New Zealanders and New South Wales Lancers are doing such excellent scouting that the Boers have mistaken them for some of their own men, and the other day they brought into camp a mob of horses, which must have strayed from the enemy's ranks. The truth is the colonial has all the good qualities of the Boer as a soldier, but he is more enterprising and energetic, and can turn his hand to anything, and can therefore meet the Boer on equal terms. Such men can be had for asking; yet our generals are hampered for want of them, with consequent reverses and loss of life. Who is responsible?"

WOUNDED.

Cavalry Brigade.

Staff-Capt. C. J. Briggs, 1st Dragoon Guards—rank and file, nine.

12th Lancers—Non-commissioned officers and men, eighteen.

Royal Horse Artillery—Major C. E. Macleroy, with Cavalry Division; Lieut. H. H. Tudor, G. Battery; non-commissioned officers and men, three.

Field Artillery—Non-commissioned officers and men, five.

Mounted Infantry—Lieut. Col. Biggorn, Australian Artillery (attached); Lieut. Cowie, Beaufortland Police.

Guards' Brigade.

1st Batt. Coldstream Guards—Lieut.-Col. A. E. Codrington, Major the Hon. W. Lambton, Capt. J. Sterling, 2nd Lieut. W. M. Beckwith, 2nd Lieut. G. B. S. Follett; non-commissioned officers and men, twenty-five.

2nd Batt. Coldstream Guards—Non-commissioned officers and men, twenty-one.

HIGHLAND BRIGADE.

Staff-Lieut. K. A. Macleod, West Riding Regiment (ex-mus); Lieut. A. G. Wauchope, 2nd Batt. Royal Highlanders.

2nd Batt. Royal Highlanders (Black Watch)—Major T. M. M. Berwick, Major N. W. Cuthbertson, Lieut. Capt. A. R. Cameron, Lieut. S. J. Harvey, Lieut. H. C. W. Berthon, Lieut. F. G. Tait, Lieut. J. Harvey (slightly), 2nd Lieut. R. A. Badcock, 2nd Lieut. the Hon. M. C. A. Drummond, 2nd Lieut. S. A. Innes.

1st Batt. Highland Light Infantry—Lieut.-Col. H. R. Kelham (slightly), Capt. J. Richardson, 2nd Lieut. A. J. Masten, 2nd Lieut. G. M. Knight, 2nd Lieut. W. N. Fraser.

2nd Batt. Scotch Guards—Capt. T. Featherstonehaugh, Lieut. C. B. Chisholm, 2nd Lieut. C. F. Waterhouse (dangerously), 2nd Lieut. H. J. Hall, 2nd Lieut. E. A. B. Olive, 2nd Lieut. E. Baillie.

1st Batt. Gordon Highlanders—Lieut.

Surgeon-Maj. Maxwell, of Guildford, has six sons in the service, two being with the Imperial Light Horse in Natal, and Maj. Gen. Close, R.A., has a like number of sons in the army. Five gained cadetships in the Royal Engineers, and the sixth in the Royal Artillery. In the case of the late Maj. Gen. H. T. Maworth, R.A., seven sons have passed into various branches of Her Majesty's service, and an eighth is on the high road to following his brothers' good example.

Admiral Peachell has had the misfortune to lose his two eldest sons in the war. Both were captains in the 1st

Royal Naval Rifles, and were killed in action within a week or so of one another. Like his eldest brother, Capt. Mark H. Kerr Peacock, who fell at Dundee, Capt. Charles Augustus Kerr Peacock, who was killed last week, had seen good deal of active service, having served with his regiment in the Hazara expedition in 1891, the Miranzai expedition in the same year, and with the British expedition in the following year. In 1896 he served with the Chitral Relief Force under Sir Robert Low, and was awarded the medal and clasp. In August, last year, he was appointed to the Beaufortland Police.

Lieut. Robert Walter Maxwell Brine, Northumberland Fusiliers, son of Col. Brine Brine, Royal Engineers, who was killed in action at Belmont, came of a stock of soldiers and sailors. His great grandfather, James Brine, was an admiral of the White. His three great uncles served in the navy, two of them attaining the rank of admiral. His grandfather received the Peninsular medal, with four clasps, and was awarded a pension for services rendered in Abyssinia. Three of his late uncles served in the army. One of them attained the rank of major-general, and two served in the navy. One of them, Adm. Lindsey Brine, is living.

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B. WILLIAMS & CO.

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TRADE MARK



MEN'S HATS

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RIGBY WATERPROOFS

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\$3.90 \$5.50 \$6.70 \$7.80

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4.90 5.50 6.75 8.50

9.00 10.80 12.60

3.25 5.00 6.75 8.00

50 75 1.00 1.25 1.50

1.00 1.25 1.50 2.00

1.00 1.25 1.50 1.90



B. WILLIAMS & CO., 97 JOHNSON STREET.

A Short Session

Limited Programme of Business Before the Council Last Evening.

Meeting To-Night to Consider the Victoria-Sidney Extension By-Law.

The regular weekly session of the City Council last evening was of short duration, the usual deliberations regarding communications, the receipt of reports and the discussion arising therefrom being consummated with a dispatch and precision that was admirable in consideration of the fact that the meeting was held on the day following New Year's day.

After the usual preliminaries a communication was read from John G. McGee, clerk of the privy council, acknowledging a communication and resolution received from the council, asking that a portion of the Songhees reserve be set aside for park purposes.

Marked Superintendent E. C. Johnston reported his monthly collections to have amounted to \$121. Received and filed.

W. T. Smith wrote asking that a light be placed at the corner of Montreal and James street. The writer pointed out the danger of allowing the vicinity to remain in utter darkness as the bad condition of the roads made it possible for some person to sustain a serious injury. Referred to electric light committee.

John O'Connor wrote claiming damages amounting to \$150 sustained on his property on Coburg and Niagara streets. Owing to defective drainage the cellar beneath his house was almost submerged with water. Other property suffering in like manner, hence the claim for damages.

This communication was finally referred to the city solicitor and city engineer. Ald. Humphrey expressing his inability to understand how the communication could constitute a claim for damages as it stood.

William Emery and others wrote calling attention to the defective drain on Shakespeare street. Referred to the city engineer.

The finance committee wrote recommending that the offer of Miss A. Thomas, of England, to come to this city and deliver a series of lectures on nursing be accepted and that the council chamber be placed at her disposal for the purpose.

The mayor was of the opinion that although there was no objection to such lectures being given, when people toured the country giving lectures they should do so at their own expense.

Ald. Beckwith pointed out the benefits that might be derived from such a course of lectures being delivered in this

city, and finally, after some further discussion, the report was adopted.

The same committee recommended the payment of accounts amounting to \$270.61, also the payment of accounts amounting to \$1,050. Received, adopted and authorized to be paid.

The city engineer reported regarding the proposed repairs to Rock Bay bridge and estimated the cost, from present plans and specifications at \$1,645, not including a new floor which was, however, immediately required.

Appended to this report was one from the special committee on Rock Bay bridge, recommending that the engineer's report be adopted, and that the improvements consonant with the plans and specifications be carried out, with the exception of bends and spars at the old swing.

In referring to this matter the mayor said that he had just forwarded a communication to Mr. Ray, stating the work to be done on the bridge, and asking him to urge the matter on the government.

In reply to a question Ald. Cameron was informed that the tramway company would contribute \$700 toward the expenses incurred in the undertaking.

The mayor, continuing, said that there would be no "filling in" at present. If the council was willing he would authorize the immediate commencement of the work, and a requisition could then be made to the next session of the council.

The reports were finally received and adopted, the work to be commenced immediately.

The annual reports then came up for consideration. Ald. Stewart moving that a special committee be appointed to arrange for publication.

Ald. Humphrey was of the opinion that a considerable portion of some of the reports could be eliminated from publication, while Ald. Brydon speaking specifically of the fire report said there was absolutely no necessity to "make a spread" over that portion dealing with false alarms.

Lost flesh lately?
Does your brain tire?
Losing control over your nerves?

Are your muscles becoming exhausted?

You certainly know the remedy. It is nothing new; just the same remedy that has been curing these cases of thinness and paleness for twenty-five years. Scott's Emulsion. The cod-liver oil in it is the food that makes the flesh, and the hypophosphites give tone to the nerves.

SCOTT & BOWNS, all druggists.
SCOTT & BOWNS, Chemists Toronto.

Ald. Stewart's resolution was finally passed, the special committee, consisting of Ald. Stewart, Kinsman and Humphrey.

The legislative committee then reported as follows:

Gentlemen.—Your legislative committee having considered the undermentioned subject beg to report and recommend as follows:

Municipal Act.

Be it enacted by the Municipal Classes Act and amending acts: That the provincial government be requested to cause the "Municipal Classes Act" to be amended as follows:

Vacant Lots.

Sec. 50, subsec. 115. **Vacant Lots.** Amend subsection 115 of section 50 of the "Municipal Classes Act" by making every sale of real property including the costs of obtaining the judge's order confirming the sale, in addition to the "costs of the proceedings of the court," an inquiry causing much impairment among the ratepayers.

Fees.

Sec. 50, subsec. 170.—Add a new subsection to be numbered 170 to section 50 of the "Municipal Classes Act" giving municipal powers to make by-laws;

For imposing a special rate not exceeding three cents per foot frontage per month upon the occupiers of all stores and premises of every kind fronting upon any street within the municipality for the purpose of defraining the cost of watering such streets. But no such rate shall be imposed upon any street or portion of street unless a petition signed by a majority in number of the occupiers of the said stores and premises shall have been presented to the council, and no such rate shall be levied for watering any such street or portion of street except on the days mentioned nor oftener on any one day than shall be specified in such petition.

The council to be at liberty to make any such rate payable by monthly or weekly payments or installments, and payable whether or not any such premises shall, in the opinion of the council, be rendered unnecessary by wet weather, and the council shall be at liberty to add any amount to the said cost of such watering not exceeding ten per cent. of such cost, and to allow or deduct such added amount from all payments that shall be made to the city treasurer or collector or other person to be named in such by-law within seven days of the day when such payments respectively shall have become payable.

Wholesale Licences.

Sec. 171.—Strike out subsection 10 of section 111 of the "Municipal Classes Act," which gives power to collect from every person carrying on the business of a wholesale or a wholesale and retail merchant or trades a sum not exceeding \$50 for every six months, and substitute a license fee upon every such business based upon the rental paid for the premises occupied or in the case of premises occupied by the owner, upon a rental estimated by the assessors in accordance with the rentals of neighboring premises. No such license fee to exceed \$50 for every six months.

Local Improvements.

Sec. 245.—Amend subsection 17 of section 254 of the "Municipal Classes Act" by giving power to the council to raise the city's share of any improvement together with the balance of the cost of such improvement upon debentures to be secured by special rates upon the property benefited by such work. The by-law for such purpose not to require the assent of the ratepayers.

Voting On By-Laws.

Sec. 253.—Amend section 79 of the "Municipal Classes Act" by striking out the word "majority" in the last line thereof.

Municipal Act.

The "Municipal Classes Amendment Act, 1898," Amend section 79 to 14 by making every sale of real property including the costs of obtaining the judge's order confirming the sale, in addition to the "costs of the proceedings of the court," an inquiry causing much impairment among the ratepayers.

In regard to this report Ald. Cameron said that it should be laid on the table in order that a fuller consideration could be made. He was not at all prepared to vote for it in its present state.

Major. Redfern rejoined Ald. Cam-

eron that it was decidedly necessary for the committee to be reconstituted.

Street Sprinkling.

Sec. 50, subsec. 170.—Add a new subsection to be numbered 170 to section 50 of the "Municipal Classes Act" giving municipal powers to make by-laws;

For imposing a special rate not exceeding

three cents per foot frontage per month upon the occupiers of all stores and premises of every kind fronting upon any street within the municipality for the purpose of defraining the cost of watering such streets. But no such rate shall be levied for watering any such street or portion of street except on the days mentioned nor oftener on any one day than shall be specified in such petition.

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General Libermann of the French Army.

General Libermann.



JANUARY 1900						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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28	29	30	31			

stated in yesterday's dispatches he was sure the later reports would show, and they have done so. The facts are apparently that General French attacked the Boers in their strong position in the hills around Colesburg, and with so much vigor and persistency as to compel them to yield ground and seek a position farther out of range of the excellently-served British field artillery. The Boers appear, from the latest dispatches, to have retired in good order, and picked up their fresh lines with deliberation. Night's ended the fighting, and so far as can yet be gathered the two armies sat down opposite each other to wait for day-light. During the night the Boers were strongly reinforced and returned to their original position of the previous morning, prepared to resume the battle where it had opened.

The silencing of the Boer artillery is little to go upon. The Boer gunners know when the British fire is becoming dangerous, and as guns are precious articles to the republics, seeing there are no more to replace them when destroyed, they are carefully withdrawn in ample time from a menacing fire and placed in positions of greater security. The guns alleged to have been silenced yesterday are reported to be making plenty of noise to-day. Another thing, General French himself reports to-day that he is in the same spot upon which he began operations against the enemy two days ago.

What is the lesson from all this? Simply what has been said by the best judges of the matter—that the road to Bloemfontein will have to be won by hard fighting from an enemy who will stubbornly dispute every foot of the way; and that our brave army's progress must necessarily be slow until the reinforcements now on the way reach those generals who are now on the southern border of the Orange Free State. General French asks for reinforcements, and it will be a very unfortunate thing if he does not get them at once so as to enable him to dislodge the Boers from Colesburg, as he mentions in his message to the war office.

It must be remembered that General Buller is absorbing practically all the troops going to the Cape in order to enable him to make a supreme effort for the relief of Ladysmith, but we have the assurance from military men that great good could be accomplished by sending from Port Elizabeth, East London and Cape Town's "seamless" reinforcements to the generals along the Orange River.

With a few thousand more in these commanders could take strong action, whereas now, with their small forces they must be exceedingly cautious and effect restrain from the offensive.

Upon General Buller, who is expected to strike with all his force at any hour, hangs the decision whether there is to be a quick finish to this war or a long, wearisome, bloody struggle. If he fails again it will assuredly be the latter. If, however, the main Boer army—the republican resistance—will soon collapse, the weakness of the Colonist's contention this morning is patent to the most careless reader; it is the brief of the counsel who in his mind believes his client guilty. A year ago it had the honesty to say as much of one of them—David MacEwan Elberts, ex-attorney-general—and it has said nothing on the subject since to advise the public that it has changed its opinion about the man who tried to club the representative of Her Majesty into submission to his will and into doing a thing which would have been a crime.

The more severely the Colonist and the other apologists of Turner let this subject alone the stronger will grow their reputation for common sense.

General Gajac's hitherto unexplained advance upon Storberg is now cleared up. A London paper says: "He was expected to do something as Lord Methuen's advance depended upon a similar movement by Gen. Gajac. This information was conveyed to that general with the result that he attempted the impossible. The country about Lady Smith is bad enough, but that around Storberg is worse, a nest of mountains and dark ravines. Had the Boers risked much they would have captured every man of Gajac's force."

CONSTITUTIONAL PRACTICE.
One thing our morning contemporary evidently forgot in its attempt to-day to answer our question as to why the Lieutenant-Governor should decline to grant to the Premier an appeal to the people, in the event of that course being deemed expedient by Mr. Semlin and his colleagues. The precedents cited by the Colonist have no bearing at all upon this case, because the case of this province at the present time is without a precedent.

No government ever deserved of office upon charges so utterly disgraceful as those upon which Lieut.-Governor McInnes felt it his bounden duty, in the interests of honest government, to expel the Turner administration from power in the autumn of 1898. Not one of those charges has been disproved; they stand to-day as black and as heavy as they were on the day upon which they were made known to the astonished and indignant public. The members of that disgraced ministry occupy seats on the opposition side of the legislative assembly to-day, and it is this anti-public clique the Colonist desires to see occupying the treasury benches. If this be the Colonist's conception of public morality we cannot compliment that journal.

In the event of the Premier requesting His Honor to grant him an appeal to the people and His Honor declining to accede to that request, upon whom would His Honor's choice fall as the leader of the new government? Could he as a conscientious man call upon any member of the Turner ministry, whom he himself dismissed from office little more than a year ago, to take the leadership? No man who knows Lieut.-Governor McInnes would for a moment believe that he would take any such action. To do so would run out to something like six or seven times the Boer army's total force to cover a front of sixteen miles. Therefore the difficulty of any but a very strong force turning the Boer banks at Colesburg can be seen. The detached squadrons would be taking enormous risks in such a country, and with the disastrous examples of the other commanders in thinning out their line to a dangerous tentativeness, and committing the fatal error of splitting up their main body into weak detachments. French, in the opinion of the military man referred to, would hardly attempt any complicated movement of that kind.

That General French's movement had somewhat different results from those

Deaville, Sons & Co.

GROCERS AND PROVISION MERCHANTS.

Now arrivals of CHRISTMAS GOODS.
All kinds of Fruits, Nuts and Confectionery.

Christmas Presents.

Silver Plated Trays, Brass Fenders, Fire Screens, Carpet Swings, etc., etc.

THE SUPPLY STORE.

HILLSDIDE AVENUE, VICTORIA.

Trading Stamp and Bonus Checks.

be trusted with the guidance of the public in this province as the ringleaders of the spoliators band.

This is the thing the Colonist forgot in his dissertation on the constitution this morning. The position is a most curious one, and the way out is past the Colonist's guessing fancy. Shall we turn on a little illumination for the benefit of our beloved friend over the way? The Colonist is expecting a government defeat in the house, but there is no indication that the government will be defeated; we believe the government of Mr. Semlin will carry on the business of the province until the limit of its prescribed term. The critics of that government have signally failed to prove their noisy charges against it quite as signally as they have failed to remove one jot or tittle of the disgrace which rests upon the immediate predecessors of that government. None has failed more egregiously than the Colonist to prove its allegations against the government or to make the public believe its specious personalism against the several members of the government.

In the house and out of the house the Turner faction, for so many years the secret foes of this province, are absolutely nonplussed by the calm, steady refusal of the people of British Columbia to follow their lead or pay any heed to their malicious slanders. The weakness of the Colonist's contention this morning is patent to the most careless reader; it is the brief of the counsel who in his mind

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That General French's movement had somewhat different results from those

that he had been mistaken in his charges against those unfaithful stewards, and to withdraw the just and well-earned charges against them. Either that or it would be compounding with them in their dishonesty and ministerial malpractice. Both views are equally absurd. The members of the late ministry are therefore impossible as candidates for government in this province. Who then is there in that house, on the opposition side, upon whom His Honor could call to form a new ministry? All that side of the house supported the Turner ministry, and are therefore as ineligible to

The Hutcheson Co., Ltd.

VICTORIA'S POPULAR STORE, 3RD JANUARY, 1900.

January Clearing Sale

Sale Starts at 9 o'clock To-morrow Morning.

Wonderful Bargain Offers in Every Department

Never before has Victoria known such a money-saving sale. Thousands of careful housekeepers will benefit by it. Price reductions have been made on a scale never before attempted.

Read This List of Special Bargains for To-morrow:

Come in the forenoon for them; you will avoid the afternoon rush and have ample time to get first choice.

Jackets and Caps	Glencoe Sutlings	Bed Comforters	Gray Blankets
Every Jacket and Cap reduced in price from 25 to 50 per cent. off Prices from \$2.00	1,500 yards of Glencoe Sutlings, 10 cent. each Sale price..... 35¢	175 Satin covered reversible double bed comforters, size, usual value \$2.50. Price \$1.25	251 pairs Gray Blankets, heavy, usual price \$1.50. Kind. Sale price \$1.25

Elder Down Bed Comforters, \$7.00 Kind, Sale Price, \$3.90.

Lace Curtains	Sofa Cushions	Art Cretonnes	1,500 Towels
Big reductions made in prices from 25 to 50 cent. kind \$1.00 kind \$3.00 kind	250 Satin Covered Sofa cushions, with wide frill, newest designs regular 75 cent. goods Sale price..... 40¢	Hundreds of yards of pretty art cretonnes, usual 125 cent. for 75 cent. Splendid quality, usually 250 cent. kind. Sale price..... 15¢	1,500 good serviceable honeycomb Towels, large size, 44x20 inches, usual 10 cent. kind. Sale price..... 5¢ 25

Every Article Reduced in Price at the Westside's January Cheap Sale.

SPENCER'S Special Sale

OF

Men's Wool Underwear

Now On.

LADIES' TAILORING DEPARTMENT.

New Spring Samples Shown in Cloak Department, Broad Street.

Tumors

A REMARKABLE CURE

No Knife, No Plaster, Etc.

STOTT & JURY,
BOWMANVILLE, ONT.

Telephone 212.

Telex 120.

Telex 121.

Telex 122.

Telex 123.

Telex 124.

Telex 125.

Telex 126.

Telex 127.

Telex 128.

Telex 129.

Telex 130.

Telex 131.

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Telex 150.

Telex 151.

Telex 152.

Telex 153.

Telex 154.

Telex 155.

Telex 156.

Telex 157.

Our Seldlitz Powders
ARE FRESHLY PREPARED.
TRY THEM. They will do you good.
CYRUS H. BOWES,
CHEMIST.
100 Government Street Near Yates Street.
Telephone 425.
EVERYTHING IN DRUGS.

WEATHER BULLETIN.

Daily Report Furnished by the Victoria Meteorological Department.

Victoria, Jan. 3.—5 a.m.—Since yesterday, two ocean long, barometric areas have moved inland, one is centered in Cariboo, where it is sending snow, the other is crossing California, accompanied by heavy rains. Snow is falling in Alberta, and the temperature is rising above zero east of this in advance of the Cariboo "low." Rain and sleet fell last night over Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland. Forecast.

For 36 hours ending 5 p.m. Thursday, Victoria and Vicinity—Moderate to fresh winds, partly fair, with showers, cloudy at night.

Lower Mainland—Winds mostly easterly unsettled, with occasional rains.

Report.

Victoria—Barometer, 29.79; temperature, 49; minimum, 38; wind, 3 miles N. rain, 18; weather, cloudy.

New Westminster—Barometer, 29.80; temperature, 49; minimum, 38; wind, 3 miles E.; rain, 25; weather, rain.

Nanaimo—Wind, S. W.; weather, cloudy.

Victoria—Barometer, 29.82; temperature, 49; minimum, 38; wind, calm; weather, clear.

Barberville—Barometer, 29.68; temperature, 49; minimum, 22; wind, calm; weather, 44; weather, snow.

Nash, Wash.—Barometer, 29.78; temperature, 49; minimum, 38; wind, calm; weather, cloudy.

Tadoussac—Barometer, 29.90; temperature, 49; minimum, 38; wind, 8 miles S. W.; rain, 52; weather, clear.

San Francisco—Barometer, 29.76; temperature, 54; minimum, 52; wind, 10 miles N.; rain, 1.99; weather, rain.

CITY NEWS IN BRIEF.

—The Blue Ribbon Flavoring Extracts.

—You boil potatoes but you brew tea. To do so properly consult the directions on the packets of "HONDL."

—Dandruff, falling hair and baldness cured. Dr. White's Hair Restorer used. Electric Parlor, 11½ Yates street?

—Have you seen the \$1 per dozen Printed Cups and Saucers at R. A. Brown & Co.'s, 80 Douglas street?

—Lord Mayor's Pudding Bowls, Pudding Moulds, Pudding Bowls and Jelly Moulds, all sizes, at R. A. Brown & Co.'s, 80 Douglas street.

—An "at home" in aid of the Metropolitan-twentieth century fund will be held this evening at the residence of Mrs. John Teague, Fernwood road.

—All those wishing to take part in the first orchestral rehearsal of "The Messiah" in the council chamber this evening are requested to be on hand with their scores at 8 o'clock sharp.

—The quarterly general meeting of the British Columbia Club of Trade will be held on Friday, January 12. Members having any business to bring forward should communicate with the secretary immediately.

—The J.B.A.A. has contributed the sum of \$10.70 toward the Mansion House fund, being the amount collected at the J.B.A.A. during the singing of the "Absent Minded Beggar" by Mr. H. Kent at the club's New Year gathering.

—Ladies interested in procuring double and treble trading stamps should read Geo. R. Jackson's ad. on this page today. Geo. R. Jackson, 57 Government street.

—The musical world will be pleased to learn that Little Paloma Schramm, the child pianist, who was suffering from nervous collapse, has been completely restored to health, and has returned to her home in Los Angeles. Both she and her sister will soon make their reappearance in musical circles.

—In the police court this morning the charge against the Japanese, Ispow, of malicious damage to property, was withdrawn. George Thompson was fined \$5 or ten days' imprisonment for drunkenness. Isaac Roberts for some of fence was fined \$15 or one month's imprisonment with hard labor, a fortnight being allowed him in which to pay the fine.

—John Muirhead, well-known in this city through his participation in aquatic circles, died on Sunday evening in San Francisco. Muirhead was formerly hacker of the California oarsman Peterson, accompanying him to Victoria on the occasion of the race between the Californian and McLean. Mr. Muirhead leaves a widow, formerly Miss Beauchamp, of this city.

—Double Trading Stamps for every dollar's purchase on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday at The Sterling, 88 Yates street.

—Court Circular, Vol. I, O. F., yesterday evening on the occasion of their installation of officers for ensuing year held an open meeting, when a large number of Foresters and friends were present. After the installation of officers by Bro. M. J. Crohan, of Vancouver, a very enjoyable evening, was spent. Bro. R. B. King, acting as chairman, carried out a very pleasant programme, the committee in charge not forgetting to provide refreshments as a fitting close to an evening's entertainment.

—Weiler Bros. wish their patrons and friends a happy New Year.

—PENNAN HADDIES at Jameson's, 33 Fort street.

—Columbia Lodge, I.O.O.F., installs officers at its regular meeting to-night.

—Four samples of 1890 Crawford Bicycles can be seen at Onions & Plimley's, Broad street, and they are beauties.

—Messrs. Onions & Plimley have opened a branch establishment of General Hardware and Cooking utensils next door to their Bicycle store on Broad street, and are selling at the lowest cash prices. Give us a trial.

—We are giving 20 and 30 trading stamps on each dollar's purchase in flannel shirts, winter underwear, umbrellas and waterproofs, and a large discount as well. Read our ad. on this page. Geo. R. Jackson, 57 Government street.

—Postmaster Noah Shakespeare has received the postmaster-general of the United Kingdom and also from the postmaster of the New York post office handsome souvenir cards conveying their New Year's greetings to himself and staff.

—Two more candidates for aldermanic honors have entered the field, Mr. Richard Drake, the plasterer, having announced himself as candidate in South Ward, while Mr. R. D. Finisland has expressed his intention of running in North Ward.

—Double Trading Stamps for balance of this week. See our windows for bargains. The Sterling, 88 Yates street.

—Mr. Harry Harris, formerly proprietor of the Colonial Hotel, Beacon Hill, has assumed charge of the Clarence Hotel on the corner of Yates and Douglas streets and will hold his initial opening this evening. The Clarence has been thoroughly renovated and will have 60 large rooms.

—The funeral of the late Mrs. Cox took place this afternoon from Hamlin's undertaking rooms, the services being conducted by Rev. P. Jenkins. A large number were in attendance, the Daughters of St. George, of which Mrs. Cox was a member, being present on the occasion. The pallbearers were Messrs. S. Greenhalgh, Henry Rivers, W. Greasley, Geo. Peuketh, George Furnell and W. Lang.

—Mr. C. Atkinson has just brought out an improved frame and cover attachment for a tray, the object of which is to make it possible for dishes to be carried in the open air or elsewhere without any dust, rain, or other deleterious substances falling on the food. The invention is one of those which has simplicity and effectiveness as its principal recommendations, and will be appreciated by hotel and restaurant keepers.

—Mrs. J. H. McPherson, of Topley, always who has been for many years one of the most active members of the Colfax Rebekah Lodge, was pleasantly surprised last night by the members of that organization. The members of about forty invaded her home without any warning, and presented her with a handsome heavy set as a memento of her connection with the lodge. The remainder of the evening was pleasantly spent in music and dancing, the gathering not breaking up until an early hour this morning.

—At the regular annual meeting of the Ministerial Association yesterday afternoon the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Rev. G. Hastings; secretary-treasurer, Rev. J. P. D. Knox. Arrangements were made for a series of meetings to be held during the week of prayer, January 7 to 14, to take place as follows: Monday evening—Centennial Methodist church; Tuesday evening, Calvary Baptist church; Wednesday evening, First Presbyterian; Thursday, Victoria West Congregational and St. Columba; Friday, St. Andrew's Presbyterian. Services will also be held on Sunday afternoons at the hospital.

—Steamer Danube will sail for the outer wharf last night and began discharging her general cargo of about a thousand tons of merchandise for Victoria houses from London and Liverpool, at noon to-day. She is being discharged by Alex. McDermott.

—Steamer Birkenstock which arrived at the Sound on Monday after a long trip, will leave again for the Islands in a few days with a full cargo of oats, sugar, machinery and general merchandise.

—D.G.S. Quadra is now out of commission and her crew have all been paid off and discharged. The steamer will be overhauled while lying idle.

—A petition is being circulated for signature among the residents of Cowichan, Malahat, Shawnigan and Victoria, for presentation to the honorable commissioners of lands and works, asking that a more direct wagon road be built between Cowichan and adjoining districts and Victoria. The petition sets forth that the present road is almost useless on account of its long and steep grades and excessive length, being between forty and fifty miles. The petitioners suggest a shorter and better route from Goldstream to Shawnigan. This road would commence near the Goldstream hotel, and proceed thence down the east side of Goldstream to the south end of Saanich Inlet, then crossing the mouth of Goldstream and following the west side of Saanich Inlet until connection is made with the road in Shawnigan district. The length of the new road would be about fourteen miles, and the total distance between Cowichan and Victoria, 24 miles, as compared with 40 or 50 as at present.

—Ever since the attempt was made to wreck the Chinese mission church, some of the Chinese residents have been busy contriving explanations of the occurrence. Shortly after the affair one of their number advanced to a Time man the theory that the daughter of the Chinese mission had induced a number of the young Chinamen to attend the services under promise of marriage, and that finding she was deceiving them they took this opportunity of wiping out their grudge against her. This was promptly denied by the parties most interested and the Chinese themselves, who stated that the principals altered, and the yarn otherwise revamped but still recognizable as the same old reliable fiction. In fact the rehabilitation of the romance is strikingly similar to the way in which the canard regarding an attempt to blow up H.M.S. Crescent at Halifax a few months ago was locally adapted to the case of the Leander. The girl who was so prodigal in her promises of matrimony is now said to have been an inmate of the Rescue Home, but the details of the matrimony will compel the apologists for the dynamiters to concede another explanation not so easily discarded.

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CHEMIST.

100 Government Street Near Yates Street.

Telephone 425.

EVERYTHING IN DRUGS.

WEATHER BULLETIN.

Daily Report Furnished by the Victoria Meteorological Department.

SHIPPING NEWS
HAPPENINGS OF A DAY ALONG THE WATERFRONT.

After one of the fastest trips that has been made from the Golden Gate to this port—450 miles in 40 hours—the steamer Queen, Capt. Jepson arrived at the outer wharf at 12:30 p.m. She had a light complement of passengers. There were 48 in all on board, steerage, 12, second class, half in each. The ship debarked here numbered 28. About forty tons of general freight, fruit and a varied assortment of miscellaneous goods was landed here. The trip was a pleasant one, the weather being experienced after entering the straits, when the weather became dirty. Several windjambers were seen on the Vancouver Island shore bound in; a barkentine, seemingly a lumber vessel, was being picked up by a tug and a three-masted schooner and a four-masted schooner were seen sailing in.

For some time past the United States government has been confronted with the problem of what was to be done with the steamers they bought for transport service, now that many of them are no longer needed. As a solution of the problem Secretary Root has directed the establishment of a government line of mail steamers running from San Francisco to Manila via Honolulu, similar to that running from New York to Cuba and Porto Rico. This line, while doing business as the other lines, will carry what supplies and passengers the United States sends to or from the far east.

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—Double Trading Stamps for balance of this week. See our windows for bargains. The Sterling, 88 Yates street.

—Mr. Harry Harris, formerly proprietor of the Colonial Hotel, Beacon Hill, has assumed charge of the Clarence Hotel on the corner of Yates and Douglas streets and will hold his initial opening this evening. The Clarence has been thoroughly renovated and will have 60 large rooms.

—The funeral of the late Mrs. Cox was held yesterday afternoon from Hamlin's undertakers, rooms, the services being conducted by Rev. P. Jenkins. A large number were in attendance, the Daughters of St. George, of which Mrs. Cox was a member, being present on the occasion. The pallbearers were Messrs. S. Greenhalgh, Henry Rivers, W. Greasley, Geo. Peuketh, George Furnell and W. Lang.

—Mr. C. Atkinson has just brought out an improved frame and cover attachment for a tray, the object of which is to make it possible for dishes to be carried in the open air or elsewhere without any dust, rain, or other deleterious substances falling on the food. The invention is one of those which has simplicity and effectiveness as its principal recommendations, and will be appreciated by hotel and restaurant keepers.

—Mrs. J. H. McPherson, of Topley, always who has been for many years one of the most active members of the Colfax Rebekah Lodge, was pleasantly surprised last night by the members of that organization. The members of about forty invaded her home without any warning, and presented her with a handsome heavy set as a memento of her connection with the lodge.

—The passengers carried to the far east by the steamer Idemani Maru which sailed yesterday afternoon were Judge Thomas Carty of Minnesota, bound to Hongkong, Dr. Roger Fomelius of San Francisco bound to Manchuria, and Mrs. Edna Livingston and daughter of San Francisco bound to Manila.

—Hitherto the city electrician has labored under the serious disadvantage of extremely limited accommodation. The dynamos were on a plank floor and suffered from the consequent vibration. They will now be transferred to a cement floor, laid on solid rock, so that all cause for complaint in this respect will be obviated. The belts have for some time been running on the reverse side in consequence of defective accommodation. The proper adjustment of these and the fine foundation for the dynamos is expected to result in an improved service.

—In the floor provision has been made for possible changes in the future without disturbing the cement, by laying four parallel sills forming two ducts for waste oil and fluid from the dynamos. Under the cement floors too, minute cylinders have been laid for connecting the wires with the dynamos without disturbing the floor bed. Above, massive beams 10x12 will allow the superintendent to elevate his machines without bracing the cross timbers.

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—The steamship Birkenstock which arrived at the Sound on Monday after a long trip, will leave again for the Islands in a few days with a full cargo of oats, sugar, machinery and general merchandise.

—A petition is being circulated for signature among the residents of Cowichan, Malahat, Shawnigan and Victoria, for presentation to the honorable commissioners of lands and works, asking that a more direct wagon road be built between Cowichan and adjoining districts and Victoria. The petition sets forth that the present road is almost useless on account of its long and steep grades and excessive length, being between forty and fifty miles. The petitioners suggest a shorter and better route from Goldstream to Shawnigan. This road would commence near the Goldstream hotel, and proceed thence down the east side of Goldstream to the south end of Saanich Inlet, then crossing the mouth of Goldstream and following the west side of Saanich Inlet until connection is made with the road in Shawnigan district. The length of the new road would be about fourteen miles, and the total distance between Cowichan and Victoria, 24 miles, as compared with 40 or 50 as at present.

—D.G.S. Quadra is now out of commission and her crew have all been paid off and discharged. The steamer will be overhauled while lying idle.

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*Thousands are drinking
Blue Ribbon Ceylon Tea
now, everyone will drink
it after a while.*

The Correspondence of Roy Le Warne.

Hyde Park Corner, Dec. 14.

Dick: When this reaches you the old year will be nearly gone, and we shall be upon the frontier of a new lease of time, which I regret to say will be ushered in by the 'lethal souls' of Bloody war, accompanied by the spirit of the international suspicion and rancor.

I think you may take it for granted that several parcels of history will be made in the next twelve months. To do this the empire must use that most costly material—and use it unsparingly—the blood of her sons. It is for mothers, wives and children to weep; it is for strong men to die; it is for many to grope their way to the grave with a broken heart, and then out of the dark eclipse it is, for the morning to rise, a deliverance from oppression which alone can redeem the friends of the Anglo-Saxons.

When we bow our head in the quiet church, where twisted greenery and beetled wreaths beset the pacific season

—Carlyle's "I am bound to the sweet songs of peace and good will to men, the remembrance that far away in the low latitudes of the southern cross, the hot carpet of the stretching field is stained with blood, we shall be inclined to think that there is something wrong with "men and things."

But what will our grandchildren think of that great and rich land, when railroads wear their steel threads from shore to shore, and tribal wars and other remnants of barbarism have yielded to the beneficent hand of the "hard Norseman"; when commerce and civilization walk the yet untrodden ways, jungle and forest giving place to the industry of the British settler?

Dick, it is strange but true, that in most things, all real gain is through loss, all triumph through sufferings. Thus we shall see a few more with the Maltese cross, and more than a few walking round the well kept flower beds of our army hospitals, until they are mercifully released from their silent sentry duty of suffering.

It would have been more fitting had it been possible to have given that beloved woman at Windsor a more peaceful sunbeam, but it was not to be. Think of it, eighty years old! Sixty spent in the most exalted position that a human being can occupy. Marie Antoinette got her chance at fourteen, and died on the scaffold before she was forty. Not one in a thousand would have done differently; monarchy at least shows off what tremendous development human nature is capable.

Yes, the horizon is cloudy; a few months ago I was hoping that we should finish the century in comparative peace, but notes must be compared with Russia, and probably an explanation from Cousin William, now resident in Germany. It is also within the range of possibility that our next little friends in Japan will try to borrow a hammer and nail. The Tsar and Mr. Stead are both disappointed men. In spite of all arms the world still turns towards the light, and progress marches on in spite of pessimism.

It is long before the young Londoner will stretch unto God, and after his second return to Trafalgar-wan, or his first singe to Lake Baikal, will he say, en route, From Calais to Pekin by rail is well in sight; and before I die, I dare to think that I may get into his train at Charing Cross and get out at Colombo.

The clubs are talking about Mr. Winston Churchill, whom I doubt not is as happy dodging the Boers as when hunting for a seat at Oldham. He has much of his wonderful father in him, and shoud do well for his country. Being a descendant of the great Duke of Marlborough and a cavalry lieutenant to boot, it is not surprising that when he got a chance to do a little skirmishing he embraced the opportunity.

London woke up with a frown the other day, finding the ground covered with snow, and also that a serious rebellion had baffled our arms in South Africa. At the lunch tables one could hear, "where were the scouts?" Another cry was raised against the war office; the man who could have done the whole thing was of course in evidence; but as his son got gold he might easily decide to leave the matter with Butler.

The African prices are weak and nervous, a strong suspension exists and finds many supporters that the Cape Dutch will rise; if they do, money will change hands smartly for a while. I expect we shall have the biggest army we have ever sent out in Africa, in a few weeks time. Contrary to the general rule every reverse makes us stronger.

The Liberal party will have much to say about the war when parliament meets. The Irish gentlemen having intimated their intentions to "play the game" a lively time is in store.

French is prospering over the exposition, and has no time for revolutions at present. Austria is waging hell, and fears the inevitable. Italy says the new century begins at the end of next year. Russia won't talk about anything but railways. China submits to being ruled like a Christmas turkey. Japan grinds the axe with sturdy determination. The Stars and Stripes push their way across the islands of the north Pacific, while John Bull hangs a sign over South Africa. "Mangling done here."

This is about how the world wags just now. We shall no doubt see what our granddaddies would like to have seen if fortune kindly allows us to eat our porridge a little longer.

Wishing you a new year, "registered at Lloyds, A1 copper bottom," yours as ever,

ROY LE WARNE.
BUTLY ACKNOWLEDGED.

for deaf and dumb pupils, I thank most heartily all who have so kindly contributed to the success of the past year's work. The newly acquired property includes a clock, a seventy-five candle power lamp, a compound microscope of five hundredfold magnifying power, a valuable single lens, a fine large magnet, a supply of cast iron oil and oil stove, and too many other things even to enumerate.

A sufficient number of kitchen utensils were received to permit instruction in domestic work, to be made part of the curriculum this month.

The school is to be open for inspection of its methods and results from Jan. 2nd, each school day from one to four p.m., until further notice. The public is earnestly invited to examine the work of an institution of nineteen weeks' growth.

It is made by the same process.

It is made with the same care, and costs no more than similar goods.

Insist on getting "Crescent"

brand, then you get the best.

MADE BY

The Thos. Dawson Mfg Co.

MONTREAL.

FOR DEAF AND DUMB PUPILS.

THE CENTRAL HOTEL

(Former Brunswick Hotel)

For Congress and
Yates car, Victoria.

JOHN MICHAEL, Prop.

LIGHTED BY ELECTRICITY.

European and

American plan.

CARS PASS THE DOOR TO ALL

PARIS OF THE CITY.

NEWLY FURNISHED AND

REFITTED THROUGHOUT.

FIVE BUTTER

RESTAURANTS, 10 ROOMS,

COMPLETE WITH EVERY COMFORT AND ALL MODERN CONVENiences.

BOARD, \$4 PER WEEK,

ROOMS, \$1 PER WEEK AND UPWARDS.

NEW WESTMINSTER ROUTE.

VICTORIA TO VICTORIA — DAILY, EXCEPT

MONDAY AT 1 O'CLOCK P.M., SUNDAY, 11 O'CLOCK.

SUNDAY'S STEAMER TO NEW WESTMINSTER CONNECTS WITH O. P. H. TRAIN NO. 2 GOING DAY AND FRIDAY AT 7 O'CLOCK FOR PORTED AND MORESBY ISLANDS.

LEAVE NEW WESTMINSTER FOR VICTORIA — SUNDAY AT 7 O'CLOCK FOR PORTED AND MORESBY ISLANDS.

THURSDAY AND SATURDAY AT 7 O'CLOCK FOR PORTED AND MORESBY ISLANDS.

NOVEMBER ROUTE.

LEAVE VICTORIA FOR NEW WESTMINSTER,

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Provincial News.

NELSON.

It is safe to state that the building operations in Nelson during 1899 aggregated not less than \$300,000, an amount which does the first city of the Kootenay great credit.—*Tribune*.

The returns of the port of Nelson for the past six months show an increase in the trade of Nelson, as compared with the corresponding period of the previous year. For the last half of the year 1899 the collections averaged \$17,540 per month; a sum several thousand dollars in excess of the heaviest month in the last half of 1898, while the aggregate increase of the last half of 1899 is something over 55 per cent.

A C.P.R. surveyor is expected to arrive in the city shortly to finally locate the line from Nelson to Balfour. Although the winter is advancing it still looks as if the construction of this part of the Crow's Nest extension will commence with little more delay.

ALBERNI.

Alberni, Jan. 1.—Mr. Edward Watson, eldest son of Dr. Watson, of Alberni, died of diabetes on Friday at St. John's, N.B. He was well-known and liked in Alberni. Much sympathy is felt for the bereaved parents and family.

Rev. Mr. Jukes of Wellington, took the English church service on Sunday. The man struck with the church and Alberni generally. He returns today to Wellington. A new minister will be in probably before the end of the month.

McConnell's claim at Hell's Gate has passed into new hands, an American company having bought it outright. The price paid is said to be \$60,000, the biggest price ever paid along the West Coast. The claim was originally staked and worked by H. Hansen; then Hayes bought it, and eventually McConnell. If a copper ore proportion and assays high.

C. McLeamy, from the States, is here and is taking over the 3 W's, having bought out Messrs. Wilson, White and Wilson's interests.

Mr. Neil and Mrs. Neil have been walking anxiously for the Queen City to take them to Victoria. She came in last night, several days overdue.

A pigeon shot is to come off at the new Alberni hotel to-morrow. Several well known local sports have entered their names. We are about to lose one of the crack shots of the district—Jack Redford—who is going to Victoria to try and join the Canadian contingent. Mr. Redford has over a dozen panthers to his credit, besides other game.

VANCOUVER.

A complaint has been made to the police by a young man who resides near English Bay in a small cabin, who found that five rifle shots had been fired through his front door, smashing the lock to pieces. Had any one been sitting in the cabin at the time, he would undoubtedly have been injured. The police are looking up the matter.

The Rev. A. E. Green, of the Mount Pleasant Methodist church, is somewhat seriously indisposed. He was obliged to give up both church services on Sunday.

There were 11.45 inches of rain during December, with 21 rainy days and 10 fine days.

There was a large congregation at the Knox (Independent) Presbyterian church on Sunday morning to take part in the opening services. The Rev. Dr. Reid was in charge of the devotional portions of the service, whilst the pastor, Rev. J. Reid, Jr., conducted the consecration and preached the sermon.

Timber Inspector Skinner states that the department of lands and works has shown an increase in receipts for the past twelve months over \$200.

During 1899 the Vancouver fire department had 123 calls, and the total loss for the year was \$1,800.

A spark from a grate set fire to the carpets and curtains in City Solicitor Hamersley's house yesterday morning. The loss was \$250.

The vital statistics for the year 1899 recorded at the government registry office are as follows: Births, 473; deaths, 533; marriages, 222.

The master bakers of the city announced a slight increase in prices of bread. The rise is caused by the fact that the master bakers with one exception have signed the wage bill of the new journeymen bakers' union, which makes a very material increase in the payroll of each shop.

SOUTH SAANICH.

The annual entertainment and Christmas tree of the South Saanich school was held at the Agricultural hall, December 22 at 8 p.m., several hundred patrons and friends being in attendance.

The programme, as given below, was well rendered. Among those that were especially good were a song by little six-year-old Jessie McKenzie and the enthusiastic drill by the school. The latter showed that the teacher, Mr. Shelton, is a very efficient drill-master, as well as instructor.

Programme.—Song, "Happy Greeting," School; recitation, "The Opening," Address; Mr. Fowke; recitation, "A Boy Who Is Game," Willie Simpson; song, "On the Square," Mr. George Harrison; recitation, "He Ran the Night Express," Elizabeth Roy; song, "Come, Come, Come," School; recitation, My Little Lydia Rate; recitation, "The Last Doll," Margaret Sangster; recitation, "The Custard," Richard John; song, "Children Go to Junior Class"; recitation, "Hark! Pray, John"; recitation, "Little Miss Marjorie," Margaret Shelton; instrumental solo, Miss Smith; McNeale; recitation, "A Boy's Opinion," Margaret Richardson; recitation, "That Coat," Maud Harrison; violin solo, Mr. Brooks; recitation, "The Ship," Harold Bate; recitation, Our 23rd, Miss Minnie Tyronse; song, "Some Folks," Junior Girls; recitation, Jack Frost; Millie Shelton; recitation, Death Doomed, Margaret McKenzie; instrumental solo, Miss Mary Martindale; recitation, Little by Little, Ida Bally; song, Snow, Miss Mabel Thompson; recitation, The

schoolmarm.

song, "The Maple Leaf Forever," Schools; recitation, "My Duty," Violet Simpson; recitation, "Be Brave," Fred Bate; song, "There's No One to Welcome Me Home," Miss Ada Martindale; recitation, "The Bite," Helen Harrison; recitation, Mr. Nobdy, James Simpson; song, "Break the News to Mother," Jessie McKenzie; recitation, "The Boys' Complaint," Charles Richardson; song, King Alfred; Senior Girls; recitation, Lazy Days, Jessie McKenzie; recitation, "Kitty and I," Edith Smith; recitation, "The Girl by School"; song, "Candy," Miss Come With Me; school; recitation, "Santa Claus Land," Mildred McKenzie; recitation, Santa Claus in Funny Land, Milton Shelton; recitation, "My Own Canadian Home," Second Glass; song, "Deck the Hall With Boughs of Holly," School; recitation, "Twinkly's Christmas Wish," Maud Harrison; recitation, "Christmas Eve Adventure," Gertrude Bate; instrumental duet, "The Coming of Santa Claus," Miss Harrison and Miss Camp.

At the close of the entertainment, two young women came down the chimney to the delight of the little folks. After the distribution of the presents all retired to the dining room, where a sumptuous supper was served. The hall was then cleared and many tripped the light fantastic till nearly morning.

Mining News

Fort Steele District.

In attempting to review the progress made in the development of the country tributary to Fort Steele, one must go back twelve months to show the state of the mines one year ago and their present condition. Twelve months ago, so far as can be learned, there were no mines in the vicinity of Fort Steele upon which more than a few hundred dollars had been spent. There was, however, an amount planned for the year now past, and the amount of intelligent development accomplished has far exceeded the estimates. This is a state of affairs most gratifying and has done more to call attention to our wonderful mineral resources than anything which could have been done. There is no surer indication of prosperity than when the people themselves, tired of waiting for outside help, get in and determine to show the world that the statements which they have freely circulated can be borne out by facts. Up to the present there was no incentive to go on with development, the district was far remote from transportation facilities, and it was a difficult matter to induce capital to seek a field for investment where it would take not less than five days to reach the mining section. This condition of affairs had happily been changed. A railroad traverses the district east and west, and promises to give just another railway will connect the mining region north and south. When this is accomplished the district will be better equipped with transportation facilities than any other section in the province.

As before stated many of the properties in this district had advanced much beyond the prospect stage one year ago, but since then wonders have been accomplished, prospects have been developed into mines, and several prospects which were not known at that time are approaching a state of development where they can confidently be hoped to become shipping units.

Of course those whose names are mentioned in connection with the meetings do not include all of the Swedish, Norse and Belgian residents of the city, for a large proportion, it may be even said a majority, of these are as loyal as those born under the British flag.

What adds to the notoriety of the banner is the statement made that one of those who attended the meeting derives a considerable revenue from officers of the regular force stationed at Work Point Barracks.

The rumor which lacks confirmation, but which is related with a great deal of circumstantiality, is to the effect that some of the Scandinavian settlers in Victoria held a meeting in Victoria West about two days ago, the avowed object of which was to raise funds to forward via Holland to Pretoria. It is said that at this meeting a prominent shipping man presided and that a considerable sum was raised for the purpose mentioned.

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According to telegraphic advices from San Diego when the sloop yacht Xora of this city reached the Californian port early on the morning of New Year's day her ship's company were almost without food, and, as one of their party put it, the party was as glad to get within the landlocked bay as any that had ever run away from fear of starvation on the broad ocean. The crew at present is composed of Capt. Percy McCor, Capt. John Hane and Henry Voss of Victoria, B. C., and Capt. Samuel Meyers, of Callao, Peru.

"The first three named," continues the dispatch from the San Diego correspondent, "with J. C. Voss, a hotel-keeper of British Columbia, left Victoria on the 6th of last July in the Xora, which is a 6-ton vessel, sloop-rigged. The three were joint owners of the craft, and Henry Voss, a 14-year-old boy, the son of one of the men. They had conceived a plan of sailing around Cape Horn to France and spending the summer at the Paris exposition before continuing on their trip. The sloop had provisions to last eight months, and the crew, which was made up entirely of captains and no sailors, expected to have a nose-experience and a pleasure trip combined."

"Soon after they left Victoria they were scurvy before a gale for five days. On the way south they stopped at San Blas and at Coquas Island, off the coast of Costa Rica, where they found the veteran treasure hunter, Captain Gessler, still following the chimera of the pot of pirate's gold. The Xora found rough weather for a ten-ton craft, and was repeatedly filled with water, so that the stores in her hold were spoiled.

"When they reached Callao they were pretty well disconsolate and were willing to be convinced that they could not make the rest of the trip without great risk. Further, they were told that an international war had all but broken out, and they came to the conclusion that there would be no exposition to attend, and started back.

"The trip north was commenced on October 6th. This time they made a poor calculation and did not put stores enough aboard. They expected to make Victoria in about forty days, which would have been a quick trip for a ship. They met bad weather, and then ran into 'Paddy's Hurricane,' and drifted about for sixteen days. To make matters worse, something went wrong with their chronometer, and they could not tell exactly where they were. It was not long before provisions commenced to run short and they went on short rations.

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"For three days they limited themselves to a biscuit a day and a glass of water. Even with that short ration they were down to sixteen biscuits and about sixteen glasses of muddy drink. They flew signals of distress, but were passed by two sailing vessels. The third, an English bark, had to give them relief, besides telling them where they were. Their location was 240 miles west of Guadalupe Island and, following the direction given they reached here after a ten-day run.

"Capt. McCor, who is a newspaper man, has a world of experience to relate, and some of them are exceedingly interesting. He made a company about him many times on the water front to-day, exchanging stories. He declares that if he goes to the Paris exposition he will go on an Atlantic liner, and will pick the biggest of the bunch."

The above dispatch gives no information as to what became of the same chickened the sloop was to take to Paris, or as to the future doings of the expedition. Other advices though are to the effect that they are en route here. Capt. Haan intends on his arrival to go sealing.

It will pull you together in a surprisingly short time and brace you up for business.

Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills are 50c. a box, or 3 boxes for \$1.25, at all druggists or by mail. T. Milburn & Co., Toronto, Ont.

A God speaks softly in our breast; softly yet distinctly, shows us what to hold by and what to shun—Gotha.

Father Medicine Co., New York, Small Pill, Small Box, Small Price.

(Colonials arouse enthusiasm)

(Continued from page 1.)

Mitchells, who secured a contract with the British government to furnish the equipment for a portion of the 10,000 new cavalry troops called out after Gen. Buller's reverse at the Tugela river, has submitted his resignation to the United States.

SPECIAL SERVICE SQUADRON

Will sail from Gibraltar to South Africa.

London, Jan. 3.—It is reported that the particular service squadron now at Gibraltar will be ordered to South Africa as soon as the Chained Squadron returns to Gibraltar.

It is added that this is a squadron of cruisers just suited to watch Delegations Bay.

BUBONIC PLAGUE.

(Associated Press.)

Chicago, Jan. 3.—A special to the Chronicle from Honolulu, December 26th, via San Francisco, January 3rd, says: After an interval of thirteen days, in which no cases were discovered, bubonic plague has broken out again.

Precautions in the Philippines.

Washington, Jan. 3.—The war department is taking steps to prevent the introduction of the plague in the Philippines, and Secretary Root this morning consulted Surgeon Wyman, of the marine hospital service, regarding the establishment of a quarantine system for the islands.

Rio Janeiro, Jan. 3.—The bubonic plague has broken out in the city and in the neighborhood of San Pablo.

ACCIDENT TO ROYAL YACHT.

(Associated Press.)

London, Jan. 3.—An attempt made to dock the new Royal yacht at Penzance this morning proved disastrous. Immediately after she floated the gun listed thirty degrees to port, and her starboard bilge keel became jammed.

The strake was so great that shores sixteen inches square, used in an attempt to prop her, were doubled up and snapped like matchwood. The position of the yacht as this dispatch is sent is critical.

KILLED AT GREENWOOD.

(Associated Press.)

Greenwood, Jan. 2.—On Monday evening an Italian was killed on the C. P. R. track by a car being backed down to the "B." Three Italians were standing on the track talking excitedly and disregarded the warning until the car was on them. Two managed to escape, but the middle man was struck in the back and run over. His back was broken and he was otherwise badly injured. He had two hundred and fifty dollars in his pocket.

INSANE SOLDIERS.

(Associated Press.)

San Francisco, Jan. 3.—Fourteen soldiers, declared to be insane, were to-day sent to Washington from the Presidio military reservation. Nearly all of these men lost their minds as the result of campaigning in the Philippines.

MONTREAL MINING MARKET.

(Associated Press.)

Montreal, Jan. 3.—Stock exchange, morning board: War Eagle, 252; 250; Payne, 102; Montreal and London, 13; 34; Republic, 110, 106; Sales: Payne, 125; 2,500 at 105, 1,000 at 104; Montreal and London, 3,500 at 35.

DATE OF BY-ELECTIONS.

(Special to the Times.)

Ottawa, Jan. 3.—By-elections take place on Jan. 29th in the several constituencies now vacant for the Dominion House.

NEWFOUNDLAND SHORE QUESTION.

(Associated Press.)

Paris, Jan. 3.—The opinion has been expressed in official circles that the modus vivendi between Great Britain and France regarding Newfoundland will be extended for another year.

THE MONEY IS OVERDUE.

(Associated Press.)

Santo Domingo, Jan. 3.—The French come here to collect the Bahamian-Caribbean claim of 250,000 francs payment of which is overdue. He threatens to cut off the government revenues.

INVESTIGATION ORDERED.

(Special to the Times.)

Vancouver, Jan. 3.—A police investigation has been ordered in connection with the prosecution of D. C. Harrison, president of the Trades and Labor Council.

SELF-PRESERVATION.

Is the first law of Nature? For this reason everyone who is ill desires to be come well. Those who have impure or diseased blood should drink beer, port wine, because they know it will wash and purify their blood and give them good health. To take this medicine on the first appearance of illness is an important step toward self-preservation.

HOOD'S PILLS cure sick headache, indigestion.

VIALE MARIE BANK CASE.

Montreal, Jan. 3.—James Baxter, a well known banker, whose arrest was effected yesterday afternoon on a charge of having aided Herbert, teller of the Ville Marie Bank, to escape from justice, was before police magistrate Choquette this morning. He pleaded not guilty, and the trial was fixed for to-morrow.

Finally into the case of Lepleux, cashier of the same bank, who has already been sentenced to three years imprisonment for having given a false statement to the government, on a charge of stealing \$15,000, commenced this morning.

Everybody is talking flannel shirts, but our prices and treble trading stamps are selling them. Geo. R. Jackson, 57 Government street.

The entire Hebrew Bible was printed in 1488.

The Siege of Ladysmith

Position of the Boer Guns—The Persistence of Long Tom.

London Leader Correspondent Tells of Events During the First Week.

Ladysmith, Nov. 7, 1899.—We have stood our first week of siege and bombardment admirably, for there has now been a week of it, although the official date of the investment may be put on a few days to make it coincide with the day when rail and telegraphic communication was interrupted.

When our troops retired upon the town after that unsuccessful engagement of October 30th I felt that nothing short of an absolutely impossible withdrawal could spare us the humiliation of a siege. The enemy held a commanding position from which we had failed to oust him, on a hill to the eastward, known as Reservoir or Pepperhill's Hill, where he fixed up his "Long Tom" of imperishable memory—for those of us who listened to the screeching shells and have been witnesses of the futile efforts made by our naval guns to silence its demoralizing fire.

I believe a 100 note is still awaiting the gunner who aims the shot which pits the thing definitely out of action. The powerful crew have more than once quitted it temporarily; but just when we are in our quarters ready to sit down to a comfortable meal the big Boer gun playfully sends another shell-shaking over the town to show that he intends to come up smiling next round.

Uses of the White Flag.

Once "Long Tom" hoisted the white flag—and all thought we had him at last. Capt. Lambton immediately claimed the gun, but that reply came that it was only momentarily disabled and that time only was required for repairs.

Our fellows complain bitterly at their having hoisted it several times when in difficulties, and responded fire as soon as they got themselves straight again.

Ladysmith is awkwardly situated to withstand a siege. It is built in the hollow of a rugged hill which runs in a series of ridges parallel with the principal street at a distance of about 200 yards on its northern side. A stony hill branches out at a right angle and encloses the town. The eastward.

A wide plain, four miles at least in extent, stretches away to the north in front of the town, and from it the further side rises the gigantic Bulwana Hill—a wooded table mountain which, after we had taken the trouble of fortifying it, was allowed to pass into Boer hands without a fight. Surely one military chief could not have believed it beyond range of the town. The atmosphere is terribly deceptive; but such a garrison's miscalculation of distance cannot possibly have been made.

Another range of hills lies to the westward, and runs directly parallel with those on the east. Both these lines are in our possession; but the enemy's guns on the Bulwana sweep the slopes of both.

Position of the Naval Guns.

Our naval guns are mounted on the ridge to the north of Ladysmith; unfortunately the position of our battery of 12-pounders, in relation to "Long Tom," dominating the great hill away to the northeast, is such that a shell missing the gun very frequently strikes the ridge and throws splinters into the town—if, indeed, it doesn't miss the ridge altogether and fall close to the main street. When I visited the Boer lines on Tuesday last our foes expressed their annoyance that the Naval Battery should have been mounted at a spot which virtually drew "Long Tom's" fire upon the town. There was a tinge of bad faith about this, as, during the six hours' fighting on October 30th, which preceded the arrival of the bluejackets, the enemy's big gun dropped shots deliberately into the streets and gardens with clockwork regularity.

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