—THE—

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Port Moody Gazette.

VOL. 1. PORT MOODY, B. C., JANUARY 26, 1884. NO. 7.

The Wondrous Caves of Luray.

For nearly three score and ten years Luray was one of the most obscure towns in Virginia. Situated in the midst of the magnificent Shenandoah Valley, its inhabitants, a simple and industrious people, knew little or nothing of the great world beyond the lofty mountains which surrounded their homes. The discovery of the Caves five years ago in the vicinity of the town has made Luray one of the most famous places on the American continent, ranking with Niagara Falls, Watkins Glen, the Natural Bridge, and other great natural curiosities which abound in the United States. There is a local tradition that many years ago Peter Ruffiner, a descendant of one of the early settlers of the Shenandoah Valley, while hunting wild game disappeared, and was not seen for two or three days, when the finding of his gun at the mouth of the cave led to his discovery. He was alive, but half-dead with hunger and fright. It was not, however, until August 13, 1878, that what are now known as the Luray Caverns were discovered and partially explored by Mr. Andrew J. Campbell. The mouth of these caverns is about three hundred and twenty paces northeast of the cave which was accidentally discovered by Mr. Ruffiner. As soon as the discovery was made public, artists and newspaper correspondents visited the place, and the wonders of the Luray Caves were spread far and wide. The arrangements for seeing the Caves are now very complete. In September 1881 they were lighted by electricity, which enables the visitor to examine the marvellous beauties which are spread out before him with perfect ease. Descending a stairway of solid masonry 60 feet, the visitor finds himself in a lofty arched room, forming the ante-chamber to the Caves. He is at once astonished by the bewildering array of formations that surrounds him in every direction. On the right is the original opening through which the first discoverers entered. It is now closed from without. "Specimen Avenue" extends 100 feet to the left—so called because visitors were formerly allowed to carry off specimens of the formations, a practice which is now prohibited. A natural "Blacksmith Shop," composed of two anvils and a heap of cinders, next attracts attention. Proceeding a few paces further, the "Washington Pillar" is seen, a magnificent stalagmite of white carbonite of lime, rising from floor and ceiling. A basin formed by dropping water lies at the foot of the pillar, gigantic monsters stand out of the surrounding walls, while huge brown buffaloes depend from the ceiling. Descending 18 feet between a petrified cascade and a fossil flower-garden, a lower floor is reached. From thence the bewildered visitor wanders into vaulted chambers and lanfrinths, each possessing a separate beauty of its own. At every step a rare and novel scene delights the eye. Stalactites hang from the lofty roof in bewildering variety and enchanting loveliness, while from the floor a forest of stalagmites rises in myriads of formations. Drop by drop during unnumbered centuries this crystalline substance has been falling, assuming fantastic, grand, and beautiful shapes, such as gnomes, statues, fluted columns, bridal veils, bowers, angels' wings, urns, &c. One of the wildest and most striking features of the Caverns is "Pluto's Chasm," an awful gulf, 140 feet deep, and nearly 500 feet long. On the bank of the chasm stands "Proserpine's Pillar," a brown and white column, while half-way down the gorge appears another column, resembling a spectre waving its arms. One of the most remarkable formations is the "Fish Market," displaying rows of stalactites closely resembling catfish and black bass, which are wet and shiny, and seem to offer a tempting dish for an epicure. Passing on through the Caverns, a magnificent hall is entered, of oval shape surpassing everything made by human hands. Its lofty roof is fretted by countless designs in delicate frost-work. In the centre of the spacious apartment a large pillar or white rock of great beauty arises, while in every direction strange and ghostly forms of purest white gleam in the light like so many half-finished statues in any artist's studio. Still advancing, the visitor sees limpid streams, diminutive lake, snowy cascades, and crystal springs and pools.

In the "Naiad's Bath" a double column stands, one half of which is a stalactite reaching from the ceiling to the floor, and is 50 feet; and the other portion of the column is a stalagmite which rises from the floor to a distance of 30 feet; it is formed of successive stories, rising one above the other and subdivided into diminutive columns. A little further on the attention is attracted by a loftly pillar called the "Empress's Column." It is 30 feet high, and composed of beautiful flutings and carvings; it is dark at the bottom but becomes white near the centre, and terminates in a delicate pink tint. Other pillars in this immediate vicinity support a turban-crowned sultana and Indian squaw. The "Comet Column" and the "Hollow Column" also deserve mention. More conspicuous than any of these is an exact representation of the dome of the Capitol at Washington, erected on a mass of fallen stalactites. In the "Round Room" stands a symmetrical column, 70 feet in height and of various colours. Leaving this portion of the Caverns, the "Ball Room" is entered, a spacious apartment 100 feet long. Here the young people of Luray occasionally meet "to chase the glowing hours with flying feet." In passing around the "Ball Room" various glittering figures are seen. Among these the most striking is "Cinderella leaving the Ball," her flowing garments and fragile figure attracting great admiration. It would be impossible within the limits of a brief article to get more than a passing glimpse of the thousand strange and brilliant formations that fill the visitor with amazement and delight. We can only name the "Tower of Babel," "Mohammed's Coffin," the "Cathedral," "Oberon's Grotto," the "Bridal Chamber," the "Frozen Fountain," "Titan's Swords," &c. Since the opening of the Luray Inn and the introduction of electric lights, the caves have been visited by tourists from all parts of the world. It is estimated that at least one hundred thousand persons have been there during the five years the Caves of Luray have been open to the public. Travellers who have seen all the famous caves of this country and of Europe, have declared that in the beauty and variety of its formations Luray surpasses the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky and the far-famed grotto of Adelsberg.

AN UNTAMED COWBOY ORDERS RATTLESNAKES ON TOAST, AND IS SERVED.

A typical cowboy, fresh from his herd went in Elitch's chop house last night. The tables were all filled with the exception of one, at which the terror of the plains seated himself. As he pulled off his hat and untied the red bandanna handkerchief from around his throat he looked disdainfully around.

The nimble waiter brushed an imaginary bread crumb from the cloth, whisked a bill from the caster, and placed it before the festive and untamed youth.

"Take it away," he snarled. "I can't eat that. I want rattlesnake on toast!"

"Rattlesnake on toast!" yelled the waiter.

"Rattlesnake on toast!" responded the cook.

There was a slight flutter among the guests at this strange orders, and the cowboy was scanned by many curious eyes.

He looked a little disconcerted at having his order so promptly taken, and glanced furtively toward the front of the house. He saw the cooks and waiters engaged in filling order, and looking as solemn as graveyards after midnight.

He assumed a nonchalant air and picked his teeth with his fork.

A cook deftly removed the skin from a pickerel, and cutting a strip the proper shape, placed it in a spider.

The waiter who had taken the order came tripping back to the bold buccaneer of the pampas.

"Will you have you snake well done or rare?"

"Rare, with oodles and milk gravy on it."

"Gimme that snake rare — milk gravy on the side," was hallood to the cook.

"Snake rare; milk gravy—side," cook shouted back.

"Say!" said the bovine steerer, as the waiter passed him. "I'll take it well done."

"Make it well done."

"Make it well done," was answered back.

The lariat wrestler began to grow nervous. The devil-may-care expression had left his eyes, and a soft, subdued, melancholy shade had taken its place. He fidgeted in his chair, and seemed to be nerving himself for an ordeal.

"Here you are, sir," said the culinary Ganymede, placing a dish in which was something nicely coiled, which looked like a fried specimen of the genus crotalus. "Have a little Worcester sauce? Gives a very fine flavor. Some folks like mushrooms with their snakes, others prefer Chili colorow. A little salad dressing don't go bad. There's vinegar and olive oil in the caster. Will you have tea or coffee? Very fine snake; caught yesterday. Fat and tender."

When the waiter was delivering himself of this eulogy on the meal, the steer puncher shoved his chair back. His eyes bulged out, and he became pale around the gills.

"I don't think I'll eat anything. I ain't hungry," he said, as he rose to his feet and reached for his hat.

"Maybe you'd prefer br'iled moccasin" insinuatingly suggested the waiter.

"No," he replied, as the ashen pallor deepened on his face. "I ain't a bit hungry." He cast another glance at the dish he had ordered, and made a break for the door. He forgot to pay at the counter.—*Cheyenne Sun.*

The experimental trials with the new British rifle have been brought to a conclusion. The practices up to 2.000 yards have been very satisfactory. The new rifle is a splendid weapon for prize shooting and holiday work; but it is a very delicate piece of mechanism, and all too complicated for the rough and tumble of active service.

A few months ago Prince Bismarck received an anonymous present of a large and magnificent piece of tapestry, on which is represented the scene of the Emperor Henry IV. doing penance at Canossa. It is hung at Friedrichsruhe, in the corridor leading from the Prince's study to his drawing room.

PASSAGES FROM

The Dairy of a Late Physician.

BY SAMUEL WARREN, D. C. L., F. R. S.

GRAVE DOINGS.

My gentle reader—start not at learning that I have been, in my time, a RESURRECTIONIST! Let not this appalling word, this humilating confession, conjure up in your fancy a throng of vampire-like images and associations or earn your "Physician's" dismissal from your hearts and hearths. It is your own groundless fears, my fair trembler!—your own superstitious prejudices—that have driven me, and will drive many others of my brethern, to such dreadful doings as those hereafter detailed. Come, come—let us have one word of reason between us on the abstract question—and then for my tale. You expect us to cure you of disease, and yet deny us the only means of learning *how!* You would have us bring you the ore of skill and experience, yet forbid us to break the soil, or sink a shaft! Is this fair, *fair reader?* Is this reasonable?

What I am now going to describe was my first and last exploit in the way of body-stealing. It was a grotesque if not a ludicrous scene, and occurred during the period of my "walking the hospitals," as it is called, which occupied the two seasons immediately after my leaving Cambridge. A young, and rather interesting female was admitted a patient at the hospital I attended; her case baffled all our skill and her symptoms even defied diagnosis. *Now*, it seemed an enlargement of the heart—now, an ossification—then this, that, and the other; and, at last, it was plain we knew nothing at all about the matter—no, not even whether her disorder was organic or functional, primary or symptomatic—or whether it *was* really the heart that was at fault. She received no benefit at all under the fluctuating schemes of treatment we pursued, and, at length, fell into dying circumstances. As soon as her friends were apprised of her situation, and had an inkling of our intention to open the body, they insisted on removing her immediately from the hospital, that she might "die at home." In vain did Sir—and his dressers expostulate vehemently with them, and represent, in exaggerated terms, the imminent peril attending such a step. Her two brothers avowed their apprehension of our designs, and were inflexible in exercising their right of removing their sister. I used all my rhetoric on the occasion, but in vain; and, at last, said to the young men. "Well, if you are afraid only of our *dissecting* her, we can get hold of her, if we are so disposed, as easily if she die with you as with us."

"Well—we'll *try* that, master," replied the elder, while his Herculean fist oscillated somewhat significantly before my eyes. The poor girl was removed accordingly to her father's house which was at a certain village, about five miles from London, and survived her arrival scarcely ten minutes! We soon contrived to receive intelligence of the event; and as I and Sir——'s two dressers had taken great interets in the case througnout, and felt intense curiosity about the real nature of the disease, we met together and entered into a solemn compact, that, come what might, we would have her body out of the ground. A trusty spy informed us of the time and exact place of the girl's burial; and on expressing to Sir—— our determination about the matter, he patted me on the back, saying. "Ah, my fine fellow.—IF you have SPIRIT enough—dangerous," &c,, &c., Was it not skilfully said. The baronet further told us, he felt himself so curious about the matter that if fifty pounds would be of use to us in furthering our purpose, they were at our service. It needed not this, nor a glance at the *eclat* with which the successful issue of the affair would be attended among our fellow-students, to spur our resolves.

The notable scheme was finally adjusted at my rooms in the Borough. M——and E——, Sir——'s dressers, and myself, with an experienced "*grab*"—that is to say, a *professional* resurrectionist—were to set off from the Borough about nine o'clock the next evening—which would be the third day after the burial—in a glass coach provided with all "appliances and means to boot." During the day, however, our friend, the grab, suffered so severely from an overnight's excess as to dissappoint us of his invaluable assistance. This unexpected *contretemps* nearly put an end to our project; for the few other grabs we knew, were absent on *professional tours!* Luckily, however, I bethought me of a poor Irish porter—a sort of "ne'er-do-weel" hanger-on at the hospital—whom I had several times hired to go on errands. This man I sent for to my rooms, and, in the presence of my two coadjutors, persuaded, threatened, and bothered, into acquiescence, promising him half-a-guinea, for his evening's work—and as much whisky as he could drink prudently. As Mr. Tip—that was the name he went by—had some personal acquaintance with the sick grab, he succeeded in borrowing his chief tools; with which, in a sack large enough to contain our expected prize, he repaired to my rooms about nine o'clock, while the coach was standing at the door. Our Jehu had received a quiet douceur in addition to the hire of himself and coach. As soon as we had exhibited sundry doses of Irish cordial to our friend Tip—under the effects of which he became quite "bouncible," and *ranted* about the feat he was to take a prominent part in—and equipped ourselves in our worst clothes, and white top-coats, we entered the vehicle—four in number—and drove off. The weather had been exceedingly capricious all the evening—moonlignt, rain, thunder, and lightning, fitfully alternating. The only thing we were anxious about was the darkness, to shield us from all possible observation. I must own, that, in analyzing the feelings that prompted me to undertake and go through with this affair, the mere love of adventure operated quite as powerfully as the wish to benefit the cause of anatomical science. A midnight expedition to the tombs! It took our fancy amazingly; and then —Sir——'s cunning hint about the "danger"—and our "spirit!"

The garulous Tip supplied us with amusement all the way down—rattle, rattle, rattle, incessantly; but as soon as we had arrived at that part of the road where we were to stop, and caught sight of——church, with its hoary steeple—glistening in the fading moonlight, as though it were standing sentinel over the graves around it, one of which we were going so rudely to violate—Tip's spirit began to alter a little. He said little—and that at intervals. To be very candid with the reader *none* of us felt over much at our ease. Our expedition began to wear a somewhat harebrained aspect, and to be environed with formidable contingencies which we had not taken sufficiently into our calculations. What, for instance, if the two stout fellows, the brothers, should be out watching their sister's grave? They were not likely to stand on much ceremony with us. And then the manual difficulties! E—— was the only one of us that had ever assisted at the exhumation of a body—and the rest of us were likely to prove but bungling workmen. However, we had gone too far to think of retreating. We none of us *spoke* our suspicious, but the silence that reigned within the coach was tolerably significant. In contemplation, however, of some such contingency, we had put a bottle of brandy in the coach pocket; and before we drew up, had all four of us drunk pretty deeply of it. At length, the coach turned down a by-lane to the left which led directly to the churchyard wall; and after moving a few steps down it, in order to shelter our vehicle from the observation of highway passengers, the coach stopped, and the driver opened the door!

"Come Tip," said I, "out with you."

"Get out, did you say sir? To be sure I will—Och! to be sure I will."

But there was small show of alacrity in his movements as he descended the steps; for, while I was speaking, I was interrupted by the solemn clangor of the church clock announcing the hour of midnight. The sounds seemed to *warn* us against what we were going to do.

"Tis a cowld night, yer honors," said Tip, in an under tone, as we successively alighted, and stood together, looking up and down the dark lane to see if anything was stirring but ourselves. "'Tis a cowld night—and—and—and"—he stammered.

"Why, you cowardly old scoundrel," grumbled M—— "are you frightened already? What's the matter, eh? Hoist up the bag on your shoulders directly and lead the way down in the lane."

"Och, but yer honors—och! by the mother that bore me, but 'tis a mutherous cruel thing, I'm thinking, to wake the poor cratur from her last sleep." He said this so querulously, that I began to entertain serious apprehensions, after all, of his defection; so I insisted on his taking a little more brandy, by way of bringing him up to par. It was of no use, however. His reluctance increased every moment—and it even disprited *us*. I verily believe the turning of a straw would have decided us all on jumping in the coach again, and returning home without accomplishing our errand. Too many of the students however, were apprised of our expedition for us to think of terminating it so ridiculously. As it were by mutual consent, we stood and paused a few moments about half-way down the lane. M—— whistled with infinite spirit and distinctness; E—— remarked to me that he "always thought a churchyard at midnight was the gloomiest object imaginable;" and I talked about *business*—"soon be over"—"shallow grave," &c., &c.

"Confound it—what if those two brothers of hers SHOULD be there?" said M—— abruptly, making a dead stop, and folding his arms on his breast.

"Powerful fellows, both of them!" muttered E——. We resumed our march—when Tip, our advanced guard—a title he earned by anticipating our steps about three inches—suddenly stood still, let down the bag from his shoulders, elevated both hands in a listening attitude, and exclaimed, "Whist!—whist!—By my soul, *what* was that?" We all paused in silence, looking palely at one another—but could hear nothing but the drowsy flutter of a bat wheeling away from us a little overhead.

"Faith—an' wasn't it somebody *spakin'* on the far side o' the hedge, I heard?" whispered Tip.

(To be Continued.)

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The Port Moody Gazette.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1884.

A SCURVY PROJECT.

A grievance-monger, either as a public journal, or a private man, is no pleasant associate with whom to be obliged to forgather; neither is a professed martyr, whether real or imaginary. We have no intention, or desire, to fill either of these positions. But we must say, as a journal published in, and specially representing the interests and—we trust—the feelings of Port Moody, we have only too many grievances forced upon our recognition, without having to search for them. It would really seem as if there was a conspiracy in existence to repress the growth and progress of this young, but rapidly rising town, and to damage it and its residents in every meanly possible way. The conspirators, too, are so circumstanced that, if they had common sense enough to comprehend what was to their own true interests, if they had any manliness and sense of justice, to say nothing of generosity, they would heartily endeavor to promote the welfare of the place, instead of retarding it. Port Moody has been grossly maligned to the ears of strangers and its interests shamefully neglected, or openly opposed, by that curious little organization known as the Government of British Columbia, by the people of Victoria, those of New Westminster, and indeed on almost every hand, so far as our nearer neighbors are to be considered. It is a paltry and contemptible spirit of jealousy which causes this procedure. The latest of these nasty little attempts may be stated thus: There is a certain Navigation Company, having its principal being in the village of Victoria, and which is popularly known as the "Forty Thieves." This association of large minded business men have managed to secure an almost absolute monopoly of the steamer traffic of this province; and almighty airs they have been putting on since they secured it! Such a "riding of the high horse," such an imposition of extortionate charges, such a domineering over customers, have seldom been witnessed; and there are few places in the world where they would be tolerated. The members of this company probably appreciated the fact that their time was short, and that they must make the most of it; but they have accepted the fact with a very bad grace. Of late, they have practically all but closed the navigation of the Fraser between New Westminster and Yale. But there was the railroad between Port Moody and Yale gradually approaching completion, so as to be soon practicable for purposes of traffic. So, now the report is that an attempted negotiation has been, or is being, made between them and Mr. Onderdonk, by which the latter is only to allow his trains to run from Yale and the Fraser crossing above it, down to a spot on the Fraser *called* Port Hammond—because, we suppose, there is no port there. There the company's steamers are to be expected to connect with the trains. If this little arrangement could be achieved, it would lead to two results, both of them very desirable according to the wishes of its projectors. This place called Port Hammond, in which a number of them are largely interested, would derive very great benefit. On the other hand, Port Moody, which they would utterly destroy if they could, would be proportionately injured. This cunning little scheme, however, has not yet been projected; and it is never likely so to be. It would be an outrage upon honesty and decency—a shameless violation of every principle of right. Doubtless the many enemies of Port Moody would exult immensely over their little triumph; although at best it could be but a brief and temporary one. But this is a case in which the schemers have literally counted without their host. It is a wholly incredible thing—too much for anybody to believe—that the Canadian Government would permit the carrying out of this project for the damaging of the very place they have themselves selected, and are resolved to retain, as the *terminus* of the Canadian Pacific railway. And let it not be supposed for a moment, that they have not the power, as well as the will, to prevent it, or to put an immediate stopper upon any attempt to effect such a nefarious little job. There is no difficulty about that. By one of the terms of the contract with Mr. Onderdonk—a condition not perhaps generally known—the Government have retained the power of taking out of the contractor's hands, any section, or portion of the railway, at any time when it is in a condition to be practically operated, in order, of course, to throw it open for traffic. Such is the condition of that portion of the railroad from the wharf, at Port Moody, to Port Hammond. Trains have been running over it for months past—and heavily freighted trains, too. The Government have but to give Mr, Onderdonk a hint that he is not to take part in any such "dodge" as that above described. He will find it immensely to his advantage to accept the hint promptly; otherwise he will find himself under the necessity to accept another condition of affairs not at all to his advantage.

THE LAND GRABBING.

[From the Mainland Guardian.]

What are the people of this province doing towards staying the progress of the land-grabbing fever? We are not aware of any effort being made to prevent every eligible acre in the country being grabbed by adventurers or those who desire to make corners in agricultural land, timber or minerals. The remarkable part of the matter is, that the malady should have broken out under the present local administration, and that the land-grabbers are principally composed of the honest John party or his friends. It may be a coincidence or it may be from knowledge which enables many of the land seekers to ask and be certain of a favorable reply. However it may be, the fact remains that the people's lands are being given away, literally for nothing, because, except for actual settlers, who confer a certain advantge on the commonwealth by their industry, one dollar per acre for agricultural, mineral and timber lands, is a mere bagatelle. There is no argument in the world can palliate the conferring of lands on speculators at a dollar per acre, and the delivery of the fee simple at such a price is the purest public robbery. All the members in the House are perfectly aware of the shameful transactions, yet not one has ventured to remonstrate—a peculiar circumstance taken in connection with the fact that applications for land have never reached anything near the present extent under any previous Government. If there was any excuse for giving the land to foreign speculators, there might be some extenuation. If, for instance, they opened the land on favorable terms to settlers; if they erected saw-mills and gave our mechanics employment; if they opened and worked the mines, confining their business in connection with the mines to this province, there might be some faint shadow of a reason for excluding our own people from the profits resulting. But when we know that these foreigners secure the land to hold for high prices, the timber to sell to our saw mills at a greatly enhanced value on previous rates, because they will only sell when the profits are large. In relation to the mines, it is well known that all the supplies, tools and labor will be obtained ultimately from the United States, although to keep up appearances for a time, something will be done with our traders and artizans It is equally well known that the intention is to smuggle the the metal taken out, into the United States, as it could not be made to pay if brought through this country. The saving in carriage, duty, etc., will enable them to bribe heavily, so that a few of our people will get rich on corruption while the rest are being robbed and impoverished. The fell example has had its due effect on some of our own people, who are endeavoring to feather their nests during the present happy juncture, by means of monopolies, and much scheming is going forward, some of them evidently having the inside track. Monopolies, no matter by whom achieved, are like certain parasitical plants that destroy the vegetation on the trees to which they cling. They are like leeches on the human frame, sucking the life-blood wherever they fasten. They are always a misfortune, and should be destroyed whenever they are detected.

A SHAMEFUL OUTRAGE.

[From the Mainland Guardian.]

We learn from honest John's paper, and, of course, from the very best source, that the contract for the construction of the False Creek road has been awarded to Messrs. McDougall brothers, and that the work will be commenced without delay: the contract price is upwards of twelve thousand dollars. Our readers are aware that the road will be of no earthly advantage to this city; that the road really required is the road to Port Moody, which would be an immediate benefit to us. They know that the local Government has imposed enormous taxes on Port Moody under false pretences, and that, consequently, the Government is treating this city and vicinity with marked injustice and oppression. That a great effort has been made to utilize a portion of New Westminster and Port Moody proposed railway to make a line to Coal harbor, by a ring well known in this city, in order to divert the traffic from us. The object is unquestionable; they are endeavoring to kill this city, and honest John is doubtlessly at the head of it. Who is this man, who dares to trample on the rights of our citizens? He may have a fiendish delight in revenging himself for the adverse opinion of himself entertained in this city, but it seems rather impudent to attempt to rob us of our property and continue to publish his paper here at our expense. Our citizens should remember the fact that his paper is now remarkable for its bitterness in referring to anything or anyone connected with the city; that it advocates everything that is opposed to our interests, and that the longer we support and harbor an enemy in our midst, the longer its injurious influence will tell against ourselves.

BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION.

[From the Mainland Guardian.]

There is probably no more contemptible being in existence than the man who cheats a constituency into electing him and sells himself to the highest bidder. There are, of course, men so constituted as to believe they are doing a smart thing in making money after this dirty fashion. They have no sense of honor, decency or fair play; they would rob a child of its bread and butter, and laugh at its tears. They are the stepping stones to monopolies: they enable land-grabbers to secure the public property. If these miserable wretches pretending to represent honest men, were annihilated, we should have honest legislation; but, like disgusting parasites as they are, they not only rob their fellow mortals, but are the cause of more vice than any other class. It is by means of such tools that Vanderbilts, Goulds and Huntingtons, make their millions; they lie down that these greedy railway men may walk over them to rob the public. The revelations afforded by the publication of Huntington's letters shows clearly that the United States is completely in their grasp. The people may declaim and threaten revolution, but they are bound as firmly in the grasp of Huntington and his colleagues as if they were in fetters. He can buy Congressmen, Senators, newspapers, telegraphs, and even public opinion. What can the people do against this? They are supposed to have a government which is supposed to be guided by the representatives elected and sent to the legislature by the people. And so it is, but it is guided entirely in the interest of the railway magnates. Men who don't know what they are talking about, denounce Kings, Kaisers and aristocracy; if they could be all be levelled down to-day, to morrow the people would all be in the hands of railway men. Just let us glance at the manner in which these vampires suck the very heart's blood from the people. A dozen of them get together and pool their funds. They then project a railway and hire the press to crack it up and show its absolute necessity for the section of country through which it runs; then they buy up the Congressmen and Senators, by whom a bill is passed, conferring millions upon millions of acres of the people's lands upon these adventurers. The railway is built, and rises like a great snake to devour the people whose lands have nourished it into life. Settlers buy the lands on the margin of the railway, and from that moment become the bondsmen of the company. These monopolists take care to control the traffic in suchwise, that if they see their serfs making too much money, they immediately impose an additional rate for the carriage of farm produce. If an opposition line is constructed, it is only to be run by a second set of thieves, who, if they are too strong to be run off by the first company, are allowed to come in and share the plunder: the bondage of the people is only made more irksome by the intrusion of those who pretended to serve them. We, poor innocent souls in British Columbia, believed we were in a kind of paradise, in which nothing of a disreputable character could be perpetrated. We used to hold up the people of the United States to ridicule, as people who believed they were free, but were only deceiving themselves, and boasting of our own freedom from corruption. That was before we elected honest John. Since that time we have passed the Kootenay bill for account of Americans: and the touters of the bill were allowed to walk about the floor of the House and hold whispered communication with the members! Since then we have passed the Settlement bill, by which we make over the whole island, to whom? to Crocker, Stanford and Huntington, who are exposed in these letters recently published, for the grossest and most bare-faced corruption. It is a strange coincidence that no sooner was honest John made a member of the Government, than these American corruptionists flocked to this province by the dozen, and have succeeded wonderfully well. They were very liberal, and the members, or a good many of them, look upon them as fine fellows. It is a very sad period in the history of this province, and will always be remembered by honest men, with shame.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE Stumpage Act, to be introduced by Mr. Smithe, requires all persons desirous of cutting timber from public lands, to take out a license; the rate per acre, or per tree, is not yet fixed. The applicant must stake off and describe his claim, and then advertise it. Fines for non-compliance, fire to five hundred dollars. A return of the number of trees cut must be sent in every three months. The Crown officers may seize and sell any timber cut unlawfully. This is not the first attempt to make the saw-mills pay for the timber they stole from the people, but hitherto without success. The bill will no doubt be rendered of little or no use for the purpose desired, but if the bill is passed at all, it will be the thin end of the wedge introduced.

ANOTHER attempt at legislating about land has been made by the honest John Government, in which there are two privileges asked from the people: first, the power to sell up to 640 acres, to speculators, and to make that palatable, two dollars and a half per acre is to be charged. We need not point out, that, under these provisions, a speculator may easily acquire twenty thousand acres, and the best timber or mineral lands in the province. Very little expense will inform the desiring purchaser of what he is getting in the lands asked for, and no power rests with Government to control him after he has secured the fee simple; this he does as soon as the survey is completed, which will afford all the facility he could desire. The people should refuse to place in the hands of Government power to sell more than 160 acres to any one person, and at not less than five dollars per acre. Of course a great many quarter sections may be secured by the same man, as they can be purchased in different names, and subsequently transferred, but it will impede land-grabbing, and the Government and the temporary agents will get something out of the monopolist.

OUR local cotem., in his last issue, states that he does not represent New Westminster, but the entire Province. It would be well for our citizens who have a real interest in the Royal City, to give him the advantage of being supported by his extensively scattered readers, and bestow the little support they have hitherto accorded him, on the GUARDIAN, the only New Westminster paper. We know that honest John would like to see this city and Port Moody sunk beneath the flowing tide for twenty-four hours. He has a deep and abiding hatred for New Westminster, and will throw every impediment in the way of its progress that he possibly can.

OUR READERS may remember that after the celebrated dinner at which Mr. Smithe distinguished himself, the Chicago *Tribune* stated, without hesitation, that several names were attached to the document asking the United States to annex us, and amongst that number was the name of Mr. Robson. Now, Mr. Robson made no remarks that could be offensive to our American visitors, so that they had no reason to single out Mr. Robson rather than Mr. Smithe, who had offended them. We may be quite sure that a respectable journal, holding the position of the Chicago *Tribune*, would not make such a statement without the most undoubted proof. It may be remembered that when this paper expressed its determination to publish the list of would-be annexationists, that the *Colonist* appealed to us in a deprecatory tone expressing itself sure that we would *not* publish the list; that after a period it expressed itself delighted that we had decided to publish the list, and hoped we would get it soon. Our readers can perfectly comprehend the serious position in which it would have placed the persons who signed the precious document, and the natural desire to escape from such a serious charge. They can also comprehend that a desire from this government would prevent the document being exhibited, and so allow them to boast that they never signed the paper. We have no objection to the device—it is only natural they should adopt it—but if they think they can convince the public by mere assertion, they are grievously mistaken. The stigma will remain and often be referred to when the names of the persons signing the annexationist document are referred to.

PROBABLY the best criterion by which to judge the prosperity and progress of a district, is the amount deposited in the Savings Bank. The deposits in this form are greater at Victoria than in this city, but if we analyze the deposits, we shall find that in Victoria, capitalists are glad to make four per cent. on as much of their capital as the Dominion Government will permit them to hold at call, whereas in this city the deposits are for the most part by settlers and farmers.

Deposited in our bank, from July 1st, 1883, to 31st Dec, 1883.	$154,294.00
Withdrawn during same period,	108,115.79
Due depositors, Dec. 31st, 1883,	344,447.00

We defy any savings bank in the Dominion to show such a return with a like population. The causes are well known; the soil is most productive, the climate is mild and healthy, the people are frugal and don't bother themselves much with politics. The prices paid for agricultural products are such as to leave a very large profit, and the competition is nothing at all, owing to the small amount of immigration. Of course, as rapidly as we get new settlers, so will a certain percentage of the profits decline; but the fact is that we want more help to induce our farmers to cultivate more land, and so shut out more foreign produce.

CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION IN FRANCE.

THE first important political news that the new year brings from Europe relates to the FERRY scheme for the revision of the French Constitution. According to a telegram from Paris the principal changes proposed by the present Ministry will be the substitution of the *scrutin de liste* for the *scrutin d'arrondissement*, and the abolition of the office of Life Senator. It is said that the Right, reversing the course which it pursued on a previous occasion, will support the former proposition, while the sacrifice of the Life Senators is manifestly intended to conciliate the advanced Radicals. Nevertheless, the FERRY Cabinet will be singularly fortunate if it survives the crisis which the discussion of these and associated questions is certain to provoke.

It is now nearly two years since the so-called Grand Ministry of GAMBETTA was overthrown at the outset of a career from which much had been expected, because it insisted on the very change in the method of electing the Chamber of Deputies which M. JULES FERRY, it is said, feels himself strong enough to carry out. The argument for the contemplated electoral reform are no stronger now than they were then, and it is the same Chamber of Deputies whose members will be once more called upon to strip thdmselves of the locrl influence which the present system of voting has given them. It was just as true in 1882 as it is now that under the existing law, which allows each arrondissement to send a representative to the popular branch of the Legislature, the construction of a stable majority professing definite political principles is extremely difficult in France.

No difficulty of the sort is experienced in the United States or in the United Kingdom, although the method of choosing the members of our House of Representatives is identical with the *scrutin d'arrondissement*, while the mode of electing the House of Commons does not differ from it materially. We can see, however, that if the Congressmen allotted to a given State were nominated at a State Convention and voted for on a State ticket, like the Presidential electors, it would be much easier for the party leaders to designate and control them. Such a system would be perfectly legitimate in this country, not being prohibited by the Federal Constitution, but it would not be sanctioned by the people because for many years party organization has been firm enough without it. Indeed, we have sometimes suffered from an excess of coherence and a too rigorous effacement of individual independence.

In France, on the other hand, notwithstanding the fitful experiments of the last ninety-five years, representative institutions are by no means deeply rooted, and the efficient working of them by party machinery has yet to be attained. What has trammelled and at more than one juncture paralysed the legislative fuctions of the Chamber of Deputies under the present regime, has been the absence of that spirit of toleration and compromise and that habit of cooperation which are indispensable to the efficiency and even to the existence of parties. The tendency to disintegration, the propensity evinced by each Deputy to subordinate the gravest national concerns to the petty interests of his own constituency, reached its acme in the summer of 1882, when the Chamber flung away the influence which France had assiduously built up in Egypt, and overthrew M. DE FREYCINET ostensibly because he asked for a money grant, insignificant beside the sums which has since been lavished upon Tonquin, but really because he failed to satisfy the demands for patronage with which he was besieged by pretended patriots.

It was the ruin of French prestige in Egypt and the Levant which opened the eyes of the French people to the difficulty of governing with a Ministry representing the fluctuating majority of a body composed as is the present Chamber of Deputies. Republican opinion has accordingly undergone a marked transformation with reference to the method of electing Deputies. Nor is there any reason to suppose that the reactionists opposed the *scrutin de liste* two years ago from any vehement objection to the system itself. So long as the change was advocated by GAMBETTA, it was their cue to resist it in the hope of breaking down the man whom they regarded as the mainstay of the republic. The strength of the reactionists is concentrated in particular departments, and they are not unlikely to gain more than they will lose by a provision that all the Deputies for a given department shall be voted for on one ticket. There is nothing improbable, therefore, in the report that the Right will concur with the Ministerialists in demanding the *scrutin de liste*. M. JULES FERRY is not so great a man that the enemies of the republic should think it needful to ruin him at any cost. On the contrary, he is much less objectionable to them than many of the other Republican leaders, and his aversion to taking harsh measures against the dynastic families has even caused him to be charged with secretly furthering the interest of the Comte DE PARIS.

But while the present Gambettist Cabinet has a better chance than GAMBETTA himself had of obtaining the *scrutin the liste*, there are other questions connected with the project of constitutional revision that may give them much trouble. Few Republicans, indeed, are likely to defend the office of Life Senator, for which they are indebted to the reactionary element of the Versailles Assembly. But will M. FERRY undertake to define and limit beforehand the subjects to be discussed in the Constitutional Convention? It is very doubtful whether such restrictions would be binding on the joint convention of the two Houses, and the attempt to impose them was the pretext, although not the real cause of GAMBETTA'S downfall. If on the other hand, the advenced Radicals are to be at liberty to advocate the most sweeping reforms of the Constitution, a long and excited session of the Convention may be looked for, in the course of which some unforeseen proposal or some unexpected combination of factions may overthrow the Ministry.—*New York Sun.*

The German Minister of Public Instruction intends to add to the Berlin University a dental institute, the plans of which have been submitted to the medical faculty.

France gives her Ambassadors thrice as much as she gives her Cabinet Ministers, and Germany does likewise. England also pays her Ambassadors considerably more than any member of the Cabinet.

At Rolendreck on the Rhine, a guest cut down and saved a waiter who had just hanged himself. The waiter has sued his savior for undue interference and the value of the rope. The suit has not been decided.

Hops, when introduced in England from the Netherlands in 1524, were regarded only as a means of "spoyling good beer," and in 1528 the city of London petitioned against coal from Newcastle on account of the stench, and against hops, "because they did spoil the national drink." It was not until 1711 that they became subject to duty. To-day, the British anti-Beer Adulteration Society seems to desire the passage of a law that beer should be flavored with nothing else.

When some years ago it was proposed to abolish the House of Lords as a Court of final appeal the Tories raised a terrible howl, and the notion was abandoned. More is now likely to be heard about this, as the fact has lately been brought before the public that, notwithstanding the creation of two Lords Justices of Appeal, with $30,000 a year each, to assist the judicial members of the House—all of whom receive large salaries or large pensions, and of whom three make a quorum—the vacation of the court took very nearly seven months out of twelve, to the prejudice of suitors.

The game of baccarat, which has suddenly become popular in the United States, is said by an expert to make swindling by the bankers perfectly simple and easy. A dealer at unfair faro must be an adept in the handling of cards or use fraudulent apparatus. It is not so with baccarat. The dealer takes two cards and gives two to each player. One card apiece may afterward be drawn. Then the holder of a card nearest to a certain value wins. The ostensible advantage to the bank is about five per cent, but there is no necessity of letting the dupes off at that slow rate of loss. The players sit round a table, and at their backs stand spectators among whom may be placed pals of the dealers, who by private signals inform him of the value of their hands.

M. Yvon Villarceau, a distinguished member of the Academy of Sciences, has just died in Paris, where he was well known as a civil engineer. An amusing anecdote is told of him in connection with Felecien David. He had joined the Saint Simoniens, and after that society was dissolved he went to the East in company with the eminent composer, who took his piano with him. While staying at Smyrna the tourist's money ran short. What to do was the question. A brilliant idea struck Felicien David. He placed his instrument on a truck, and Villarceau draw it about the streets. The musician played the piano, and a perfect harvest of paras was everywhere reaped. "We were not in the least ashamed," Villarceau used to say, "for was not Smyrna the land of Homer, where the divine blind bard begged before our time with his lyre in his hand?"

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT the partnership heretofore subsisting between us, the undersigned, as hotel keepers in the town of Port Moody, B. C., has been this day dissolved by mutual consent,

All debts owing to the said partnership are to be paid to W. Sincerbeau, at Port Moody, B. C., aforesaid, and the claims against the said partnership are to be presented to the said W. Sincerbeau, by whom the same will be settled.

Dated at Port Moody, B. C., this fourteenth day of January, A. D. 1884.

Witness: T. S. McGILLIVRAY. } W. SINCERBEAU, HENRY LEMONT.

Arlington House

(Better known as "Campbell's," and everybody in the Province knows Campbell,)

New Westminster, - B. C.

The First Hotel in New Westminster,

On the Highway from Port Moody,

And the last—and best—available for the returning passenger to that place, or to all the country up the Fraser.

ROBERT CAMPBELL,
Jan. 8, 1883. Sole Proprietor.

William Sincerbeau,

PUBLIC WORK CONTRACTOR

IS PREPARED TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS for Clearing Land, Opening up Town Streets, or more extended Rural Highways, Constructing Wharves, Erection of Buildings, or for any class of work connected with the construction of Railways.

☞ Every Reasonable Satisfaction assured to those with whom he contracts.

Address:—"Rocky Point Hotel," Port Moody, B. C.

BARRY & BOWLIN,

BARBER SHOP.

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TAILORING AND GENERAL CLOTHES REPAIRING DONE.

MURRAY STREET, - - CORNER OF QUEEN, PORT MOODY

NEW FALL GOODS!

New Fall Goods!!

WM. ELSON,

The Cash Tailor!

LYTTON SQUARE, NEW WESTMINSTER,

Has opened out his FALL STOCK, and is now prepared to execute orders.

☞ SATISFACTION GUARANTEED. e5

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☞ Particular Attention given to the transaction of Real Estate Business, in New Westminster City and District, and the Town of Port Moody.

MONEY TO LOAN

On Good Security.

Notice.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT application will be made at the present Session of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, for an Act giving the applicants the privilge of taking water from the Coquitlam river, situate in New Westminster District, and for leave to supply water for domestic and other purposes to the town of Port Moody, and all other towns, districts, and villages between the said town of Port Moody and English Bay, as shall or may be situate within one mile of the water frontage of Port Moody, Burrard Inlet and English Bay; and for the right (in order to enable them to carry out the same) to build such flumes and acqueducts, to acquire such lands and lay all pipes, and do all other acts and things as may be necessary for the purpose of the above.

Dated 7th. January 1884.

J. P. WALLS.
Solicitor and Agent for the applicants.
Langley Street, Victoria.

The Port Moody Gazette.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1884.

HOME LOCALS.

We see that Mr. Kelly is having the telephone led to the "Caledonia Hotel." The posts for that branch are all up and the wire being strung.

What little skim of ice there was in the harbor is rapidly moving off. It was never anything to prevent the Siwashes working their canoes through it by simply using one paddle at the bow.

We have some beautifully fine weather since our last issue, although exceptionally cold for this place. One result has been that rapid progress has been made in the buildings referred to in that and previous issues, as also in clearing up streets and town lots, and in other out-door work.

It seems that, at the meeting of the clans, or gangs, of track-layers, up the railway line, at high noon, on Tuesday last, there was quite a jovial time. Ample refreshments were provided and—the cork-screws had not been forgotten. So, the up and down gangs greeted each other heartily, and had rather what is called a "good time" of it.

Since the departure of the "Stormy Petrel," the last of the steel-rail fleet, things look somewhat lonely about the railway wharf. However, the opening of the telegraph office there, has given an additional attraction to the spot. Further, it will not be long now until we may look out for the earliest of the spring fleet.

A goodly party of our fellow townsmen availed themselves of the opportunity of taking passage by the first *through train*. Although we have said elsewhere, it started on Tuesday night, it was really Wednesday morning before the train got off. As ten iron laden cars such as these were, make a somewhat heavy train, the locomotive took half of them at a time, from the wharf to the head of the grade above this town. Then the whole were coupled together and went on as one.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—On the evening of Saturday last, about 11 o'clock, whilst a train was delivering rails, up at the front of the works, near the Mission, there was a run off the track, by which conductor Dickie was seriously injured. In the following (Sunday) morning, a locomotive ran down to Port Moody, through which means a telegraph message was sent to Dr. Trew, at New Westminster, calling on him to attend to the case. The doctor promptly repaired to the scene of the disaster, via Port Moody and the railway, and did what was necessary under the circumstances.

It is outrageous how the people of this town are being used about the opening of that new Clarke road. For some time past, we have been virtually cut off from the outside world. It is true that the stage coaches may, and we believe do, still run to the end of the North road; but there is now no ferry boat running from that point up to the town proper. It is known that there are packages and parcels of goods, at the end of the road, for people here in town; but they might just as well be at New Westminster. They can only be conveyed from the North road by *packing*; and that, in many instances is quite impracticable.

Equally shameful is the mode in which we continue to be disserved as to postal matters. There seems to be no nearer prospect of our being provided with a postoffice now than there was six months ago. The usual mode of doing things is, that our letters and papers are, down at Watkis's, tied up in a bundle—we are not allowed a P. O. bag—this bundle is entrusted to any chance pedestrian who may be coming up town. Its contents are often profusely, but of course unintentionally, strewn along the way. The residue is dropped into Grant's shop, or the Caledonia hotel, where a general scramble ensues over "the mail." No wonder people often find their letters and papers missing. Nobody is reponsible for anything. How long is this to be endured?

THE harbor has, especially in its shallower parts, been slightly skimmed with ice, a fact which will be a great source of comfort to some people who are ever on the outlook for something which may redound to the discredit of Port Moody. Whilst readily admitting this fact, as a fact, we must remark that this slight scum of ice—the congealing of the great quantity of fresh water which floats on the tidal brine—in no way detracts from the value of the harbor, even as a winter port. This thin scum of ice is insufficient to prevent the progress of any vessel larger than a canoe, or the smallest class of row-boats. Moreover, it need not be allowed to form at all. The plying about of a small tug boat—or even the smallest of the Fraser river steamers—during the few cold nights that we have during only *some* of our winters, would quite prevent this at worst but trivial difficulty.

So, we have got back to the old and expeditious way of having criminal justice administered, so far as the people of this town are concerned. For instance, on Thursday of last week, a poor wretch of a Chinaman was arrested, at New Westminster, on a charge of larceny supposed to have been committed at Port Moody, and on a warrant issued at Port Moody. He was kept in Westminster jail some twenty-four hours. On Friday, a police constable from Port Moody—we suppose on being telegraphed for—went over to Westminster and brought poor John back to Port Moody. He was kept in jail here until Saturday evening, there being no J. P. present before whom he could be examined. He was, that evening, brought up before Mr. McGillivray. The prisoner preferred being tried summarily. That requires two J. P.'s, and there was only one on hand. So the unfortunate Chinaman was remanded; and, on Monday, constable Sharpe had to escort him back to Westminster. It is supposed that these operations cost nothing? and that a Chinaman has no rights.

MYSTERIOUS DEATH.—A young man named Alfred Clayton died about eleven o'clock on Saturday forenoon, at a house in the swamp where he had been living with one or two room mates, for some weeks past. Deceased was a slimly built young man, about 25 years old, and of sandy complexion. He worked for Mr. Sexsmith, of the North Arm, last summer, and was afterwards employed for a spell on the railroad. For a few days previous to his death, Clayton was not in good health, complained of sleeplessness, and said he would take some laudanum. One of his room mates, becoming alarmed as to his condition, called in Dr. McLeod, who prescribed for him and expected him to recover; but, as already stated, he died on Saturday last—most likely from an overdose of laudanum, to which he had resorted with a view to obtain rest. Deceased is reported to be a native of California, and has a mother living in San Rafael. It is also said that he went to school in Mexico and spoke good Spanish, which may account for the circumstance that he was said by some to be a Spaniard. He was buried on Sunday.—*Guardian.*

THE PORT MOODY ROAD.

On Monday evening last a meeting took place in New Westminster, respecting an application to the local Government for aid to construct a passable road between this city and New Westminster. After the resolution, which we give below, was passed, a delegation composed of his worship Mayor Dickinson, Councillors Johnston and Cunningham, were appointed to interview the Government on the subject. The deputation went down to Victoria last Wednesday.

RESOLUTION.

WHEREAS. the future prosperity of New Westminster city and district depends largely upon the former being the distributing point for the mainland of British Columbia, and its being such can only be secured and maintained by possessing the most direct and rapid means of communication with the surrounding country; and, whereas, the money expended on improvements at Port Moody last year amounted to $100,000, and which will undoubtedly be increased by half a million this year, indicates that a large traffic will exist between the two towns, if there are suitable means of transportation; and, whereas, the steam ferry lately established by the present Government, the city of New Westminster and adjacent municipalities, (the Government subscribing $1,000, and the municipalities nearly $2.000), if connected with a good road at this city, would afford the easiest means of reaching Port Moody, and would be a great benefit, not only to the two towns, but also the whole district; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that a delegation be sent to our local Government, requesting the appropriation of a sufficient sum to build a good road on the shortest and best possible route between the two places.

ESSENCE OF PARLIAMENT.

[From the Mainland Guardian.]

TUESDAY, Jan. 14.

Mr. Beaven rose to deprecate the use of unparliamentary language, and particularly personal allusions, during the debates. He referred to improper language used by the Provincial Secretary at a recent debate on the Coal Mines Act. Mr. Smithe came to the rescue of his colleague, and attempted to throw all the blame on Mr. Beaven. Mr. Robson said he regretted the circumstances, but conceived he was quite justified in using the words he had expressed at the time. The speaker said the words were taken down by the clerk, and that relieved him from all responsibility. Mr. Galbraith said Mr Beaven never used personalities. Mr Duck thought Mr. Robson was rightly served for making personal allusions, and as Mr. Beaven made no attack, that there was no ground for the strong expression used by the Provincial Secretary. Mr. Beaven said he did not think he had anything to apologise for, or he would do so at once. Mr. Robson, knowing that Mr. Beaven dare not make any personal allusion or charge against him (Mr. R.) availed himself of the opportunity to badger his opponent. Mr. Pooley tried to screen the Provincial Secretary with very imprudent remarks. The subject then dropped, but the unpleasant impression created by the Provincial Secretary's coarse language, remains indelibly fixed. A debate on a $10 fee to be squeezed out of Notaries Public, ended in exempting Notaries in rural districts. The attempt to give J. P.'s the power to abjudicate on small debts was lost. After some unimportant business, the House adjourned till Wednesday.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 16.

Mr. Orr moved the re-enactment of the two bills for railways to the boundary line from this city. The speaker ruled the motion out of order. Mr. Robson brought in his abortion of a bill on public schools, which gave rise to a long debate, particularly in relation to the clauses giving women the power to vote. After a number of clauses had been passed, the committee rose and reported progress. The bill, from beginning to end, is a hodge-podge of absurdities, intended as a bid for popularity. It is evidently the production of a shallow mind, and will in a great measure, if passed, be inoperative. It is very sad to see the time of the House wasted in any such frivolous manner, and shows the horrible nature of the incubus called a Government, under which we are now suffering. The House adjourned till Thursday.

THURSDAY, Jan. 17.

Mr. Grant moved for an address to the Lieut.-Governor to urge upon the Dominion Government the necessity for more lights on the coast, between the island and the mainland. The motion was a good one, and was carried. A long and wearisome debate arose upon the School Bill, which was greatly mutilated; in fact, if the introducer of the bill had not been honest John, it would have been withdrawn. As it is, it will be unworkable, and any attempt to bring it into force would do incalculable injury to the whole system of education, which is not very popular, and might raise a great deal of opposition which is now dormant. The mutilation of the bill was going on at such a rate that honest John was fain to ask the committee to rise and ask leave to sit again, which it did. The House then adjourned till Friday.

FRIDAY, January 18th.

The Attorney-General introduced the Minerals bill for second reading. To the present bill had been added a number of clauses, by which terms and conditions were clearly defined. Mr. Orr made a number of objections to the provisions of the new bill; in particular he objected to the necessity of the whole of the claim owners being unanimous in deciding as to the working of a claim. In this view he was opposed by members interested in mining, and the clause passed as read. The committee then rose and reported progress. This Mineral bill business is the stock jobbery of every Parliament in this province, and, like the land laws, will be legislated upon to the great confusion and annoyance of those concerned. There being nothing particular to do, Mr. Smithe, ably seconded by Mr. E. Allen, slugged the late Government to their heart's content. The House then adjourned till Monday.

MONDAY, Jany. 21st.

The House went into committee to consider report of the select committee on the Chinese question. Mr. Dunsmuir distinguished himself by telling the truth, and as that is almost a breach of privilege, he was set upon by most of the other members. The report of the select committee was adopted unanimously. Mr. T. Davie introduced an Act to regulate the Chinese population. As this was a good peg upon which to hang a great deal of wah-wah, it was seized upon accordingly, and much time was got rid of. Mr. T. Davie, moved a resolution for an address to the Lieut.-Governor, asking that the new liquor law be suspended, in this Province, and stating the determination of the House to insist upon its right to legislate upon the license question as it thinks fit. Objections were raised to this form of procedure. Honest John could not let such an opportunity slip for making a point with the Blue Ribbonites, and delivered a clap-trap lecture on temperance *a la* Col. Hawkins. Mr. Wilson suggested that if the matter was to be viewed from a temperance standpoint, it would be well for hon. members to go into a state of probation; but as this was probably a "goak," nobody said anything. The debate was adjourned. Mr. Smithe said a bill was in preparation to regulate the cutting of timber on public lands. The Minerals bill, in committee, was moved a stage. Mr. Allen said strangers were allowed to seduce hon. members to neglect their duty by buzzing in the lobby; this should be stopped. The House than adjourned till Tuesday.

SAD ACCIDENT.

[From the Mainland Guardian.]

Mr. Wm. Innes, of Langley, arrived in town on Sunday last, with the news that Alexander Murray and Lawrence Allard were drowned on Saturday evening. It appears that D. Cromarty, of Langley, died on Saturday, and Alex. Murray, Lawrence Allard, Joseph Morrison and Samuel Walker took a canoe and started to visit the family of the deceased. When a short distance above Langley, the canoe struck a piece of floating ice and was split, all the party being thereby sent into the stream. Murray and Allard were drowned, but Morrison and Walker succeeded in swimming ashore safely, though they were reported to be in a bad condition. Lawrence Allard was about 20 years of age, and was a son of the late Ovid Allard, Esq., well known to all the old settlers of British Columbia. Alex. Murray was 24 years of age, and has resided in Langley during the past 8 years, where he was engaged farming. He was a fine athletic young man, and was noted for his remarkable jumping, running, &c. His parents reside at Langley, and have heart-felt sympathy of the whole community.

SURREY COUNCIL.

Council met on 22nd inst. All members present.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

A communication from Chilliwhack was read and ordered filed.

Coun. McDougall gave notice that he would, at next meeting, introduce a By-law to amend the Rules of Order.

A delegation of the settlers on Kensington Prairie waited on the Council and requested that the $150 appropriated toward opening a road South of the Nicomekle river on Coast Meridian, be applied in clearing timber at river and brushing road across the prairie, so that said settlers can get to town, &c. After discussing the matter, the Council agreed to expend the money on brushing and clearing, on condition the said settlers would clear the line 30 feet wide (10 feet on centre to be cut close to ground or grubbed) from Nicomekle river to N. W. corner of Section 19, Township 7.

The delegation thanked the Council and withdrew.

On motion, it was decided that applications would be received for the position of Clerk, Assessor and Collector for the current year, the remuneration to be $175. That there be $50 appropriated for necessary repairs to bridge on Brown's road, to be paid when money is collected. That the Clerk be paid balance of salary for 1883.

Council adjourned until 2nd February.

[From the Mainland Guardian.]

THE NEWS.—A sensational item appears in the telegraphic items, to the effect than an attempt was made near the Euston Square Station to blow up the Prince of Wales with dynamite. If this really was the case, the attempt was a miserable failure and has evoked no public attention. ....The items about Egypt and China appear to be of operators' manufacture—they mean nothing....The other news (?) items are of little importance, if true.

[From the Mainland Guardian.]

A NATIVE DISPATCH BOAT.—A large canoe paddled by nineteen sturdy Indians, came swiftly up the river, on Wednesday last, reminding lookers-on of the olden times. On enquiry, we were informed by Father Chirouse that its occupants belonged to the Klyamens and Klause, two tribes from Bute Inlet, both speaking the same language and descended, apparently, from the same family. Notwithstanding the war-like appearance of their canoe, they appear to be a very industrious and peaceable race, and have come to town to make purchases and take Father Chirouse back with them on a visit. May they get all they can buy, and a trifle into the bargain, provided they keep clear of the whisky.

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS.

William Black, the novellist, is dangerously ill.

Mr. Millais is to paint a picture of Mr. Gladstone for his old college at Oxford.

Queen Victoria won all the champion honors for cattle at Smithfield, London, this year.

The quantity of ice shipped from Norwegian ports in 1882 was 227,000 tons, the largest known.

The report that the police have arrested Jablonsky, one of the murderers of Lieu-Col. Sudelkin, is contradicted.

The export of diamonds from the Cape between Aug. 1 and Nov. 30, inclusive, amounted in value less than $5,000.

A Japanese student has been selected for the important position of assistant to the Professor of Anatomy at Berlin University.

Thieves took the safe from the Roman Catholic church at Weston Super Mare, England, lately, and broke it open by throwing it over rocks.

An action is proceeding in Dublin against Oscar Wilde for a sum due for the unaesthetic commodity of manure for his farm in Caug, county Galway.

A giantess named Ann Dunn died in London a few days ago, aged 39. She weighed nearly 500 pounds, was nearly 9 feet high, and measured round the shoulders over 3 feet.

Sir Arthur Sullivan exhausted his energies in furnishing the music for the "Princess Ida," which he had guaranteed to complete in time for production on New Year's Day. He is prostrated with acute neuralgia.

The police in London made raids the other night on two famous baccarat clubs, one in Regent street and the other, known as Jinks's, in London and arrested a number of Government clerks and foreign attaches, who were heavily fined.

A company of twelve Viennese swords women, who are said to be as remarkable for their beauty as their skill, will shortly arrive in Paris to give a series of entertainments and try their strength with some of the leading French amateurs.

The British *Medical Journal* advises that all books used by patients suffering from infectious or contagious diseases should be burned after convalescence, and that the second-hand book shops and circulating libraries be occasionally subjected to disinfection.

The French Ambassador at Berlin lately paid Prince Bismarck a visit at his country seat and returned professing to be perfectly satisfied as to the relations between France and Germany. The visit was aptly timed to occur while the Prince Imperial of Germany was junketing in Spain.

The production of the coal mines of Nova Scotia during the nine months ending with September last amounted to 1,078,996 tons, an increase over the same period of the preceding year of 97,463 tons. The sales during the same period aggregated 966,060 tons, an increase of 93,137 tons.

The regret is great in England that Mr. Goschen's defective eyesight prevents his being a candidate for Speaker of the House of Commons. No other candidate so unexceptionable can be found. A man rarely misses so much both for himself and his family through merely defective vision.

A patent granted this year to Grunzweig and Hartman, in Ludwigshafen on the Rhine, covers a process of making artificial cork by thoroughly incorporating 63 parts of ground or powdered cork chips with 180 parts of boiling starch paste. The resulting plastic mass is pressed into forms and then dried in hot rooms.

Plans have been prepared for the construction of a large hall, to be called the Salle du Travail, in Paris, close to the Hotel de Ville, where men can meet employers and arrange their terms. There will be, besides the central hall, 80 rooms for the syndicates of different trades. The cost of construction is borne by the city.

After the battle of Kashgate, Soudan, the heads of the staff officers were shown to the prisoners, and then fixed over the gate of El Obeid. The Arabs resolved to build a tomb over Hicks Pasha in recognition of his splendid courage. He was the last of the staff, which all fell in one group, to die. The Mahdi ordered that no wounded men should be injured.

A French meteorologist has, in the exposed court of his house, two bars of iron planted in the earth, to each of which is fixed a conductor of coated wire, terminating in a telephonic receiver. His practice is to consult the apparatus twice or thrice every day, and it never fails, through its indications of earth currents, to give notice of the approach of a storm twelve to fifteen hours ahead.

New South Wales has issued a new loan for £3.000,000 at 4 per cent. There have been three loans in all. The first was for £8,028.000 at 5 per cent; the second for £1,000,000, also at 5 per cent; the third for £9,201,000 at 4 per cent. Therefore, with the new loan, the colony will have borrowed £21,239,000. The credit of New South Wales stands high, but she seems inclined to begin a foreign policy, and that always means expenditure and debt.

M. Axel Lamm of Stockholm has sent to the Academy of Sciences a note relating to copper and cholera, in which he says that in 1853 small disks of copper were worn over the pit of the stomach, but with doubtful advantage. Cholera has raged several times at Stockholm, but has never traveled so far as Falun, where the copper ores are smelted. He, however, evidently thinks that it is the sulphurous vapors, which sometimes are discharged in intolerable quantities, that give to Falun its immunity from cholera.

During the late excavation undertaken in the Roman Forum, there has been found a pot containing 800 old Anglo Saxon coins of the time of Pope Marinus II. (882-884). They are of English coinage and rare value, most of them showing heads of the English Kings of the period, and one having the head of an Archbishop of Canterbury. The probabilities are that the money belonged to the Saxon school then in Rome, the existence of which renders it probable that there were many Englishmen in Rome in those days.

In a letter to the London journals, Lord Waveney bears strong tribute to the beauty and suitability of Irish poplin for wall decoration, for which it is now being used by the Queen and in the best English houses. He also proves that it is economical, which is the most important item in the question. In 1844 he had the drawing room of his London house hung with Irish tabaret, yellow, with white stripes. The colors and brilliancy, "he says," remain undiminished in intensity after nearly forty years wear in London. A ruby tabaret has lasted equally well.

The enormous annual loss of life in India by snake bites, amounting to nearly 20,000 persons, continues in spite of the wholesale destruction of these venomous creatures. The rewards paid by the Government to snake destroyers show that there were killed during last year throughout India 322,421, of which 262,384 were found in the Bombay Presidency alone. Local authorities are warned to remove from town or village sites or their vicinity aloe, cactus, or thorn hedges, ruined houses and walls and the like, which harbor and afford cover to these reptiles.

Even imprisonment by brigands may have its compensations. The Italian Duke whose family have just ransomed him for $30,000, after five weeks' captivity in a dark cell, suffered great hardships, yet is said to have been cured of a nervous disease by being troubled with something really worth worring about, while his obesity was also subjected to a prolonged bread-and-water diet. Brigands thus have done for him what doctors could not; still, the fees for this school of practitioners are probably rather too high and the treatment too heroic to attract other patients among nervous fat men.

They are exhibiting now in London a Neapolitan lady of 25, Signora Vanateili, as near a parody of the living skeleton as is possible to look at. She is about middle height, with a hatchet-edged face, ridged with a nose large enough for Goliah. This is her great feature, and suggests that she has run into proboscis as the Taibet sheep run into tail. She might be packed in a section of water pipe. She is shaped from shoulder to toe like a four-square timber joist. The exhibitors say it is necessary to stuff her ankle boots with cotton wool to keep the bones from slipping or grating at the joints.

"A somewhat strange argument in favor of hanging comes to us," says the *Pall Mall Gazette*, "from a correspondent. The gentleman in question has been seeking to discover what mode of violent death is most popular with the British public, and with that object has adopted the very reasonable means of examining the methods chiefly in favor with persons committing suicide. The result is apparently very favorable to hanging, as in one year, 1881, out of 1,476 people who committed suicide, no fewer than 511, or upward of one-third, hanged or strangled themselves, as against 278 who cut their throats, and 271 who drowned themselves."

The electric light seems to be settling down to steady business. Milan is lighting its tramcars with it, and there is talk of its employment on some of the tramway lines in London. Nearly all the great English railways are going to use it in their carriages. M. Alfred de Rothschild lights his brougham with it. Mr. Swan of Swan & Edgar, uses it all over his residence at Bromley, and several private residence in the West End are illuminated from cellar to garret by movable lamps, which are placed amid flowers, in epergnes, on the table, and even attached to the heads of some of the beds for those who desire to burn the midnight carbon.

M. du Sommerard, the founder of the Cluny Museum in Paris, was one day in a common public house in St. Denis, where, on the wall, he noticed a brass frying pan of a somewhat uncommon shape. He took it down to examine it more particularly, and discovered some engraved letters under a thick crust of coal and soot. Without saying anything about his discovery, he bought the pan from the astonished owner, and, after a process of cleaning, it appeared that it was the plate from the coffin of Louis XIV. The three legs were taken out and the original shape restored, but the holes into which the legs had been fastened remain until this day. It is now in the Cluny Museum.

Dr. James Fraser, in the *Edinburgh Chirurgical and Pathological Journal*, gives the results of a series of experiments to determine the effects of the ordinary infused beverages, tea, coffee, and cocoa, on the digestion of albumen. He finds that all retard digestion, except in four instances, namely, ham and white of egg with coffee, and fish with cocoatina and with cocoa. Salt meats are less retarded in digestion than fresh. The retardation is greatest with cocoa, less so with tea, and least with coffee. Tea causes flatulence. Cream and sugar reduce the retarding effect of tea, but increase that of cocoa. He recommends as a practical conclusion that albaminoids, especially fresh meat, should not be taken with infused beverages, and therefore condemns meat teas.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla, being highly concentrated, requires a smaller dose, and is more effective, dose for dose, because the best. Quality and not quantity should be considered.

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LOBSTERS, OYSTERS, SARDINES, MACKEREL, SALMON, CODFISH, CORNED BEEF, BRAWN, LUNCH TONGUE, DEVILLED MEATS, BAKED BEANS, PIGS' FEET, PORK & BEANS,

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FLOUR, FEED, OAT-MEAL, CORN MEAL, BUCKWHEAT FLOUR, CRACK'D WHEAT, GRAHAM FLOUR, PEARL BARLEY, SPLIT PEAS, MACARONI, VERMICELLI, TAPIOCA SAGO, RICE (No. 1 & 2,) HAM, BACON, LARD, CHEESE, BUTTER, SALMON BELLIES, MACKEREL, SALT HERRING IN HALF BARRELS AND KITS, SMOKED HERRING IN BOXES, POTATOES AND ONIONS, ETC., ETC,, ETC.

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THE SCOTCH BAR IN FAVOR OF CLEAN SHIRTS.

Recently the Faculty of Advocates met at Edinburgh to consider whether bands should be recognized as a part of the proper court dress of the Scotch bar. The result of the division was adverse to the bands. The argument of the more conservative party, as expressed by Mr. Sheriff Thoms, was that the introduction of bands would be destructive of cleanliness, "There was danger of being kept too long from the washerwoman, and still more of their being used, as he believed they were in England, to conceal from public criticism the defective state of the shirt front, He would retain the existing security a clean shirt." As the meeting adopted Sheriff Thoms's views, it would appear in the opinion of their Scotch brethren English barristers wear bands to conceal their aversion to clean linen—a view which has, at all events, the merit of novelty.—*London Truth.*

THE WICKED KING OF BURMAH REFORMS.

According to news published in the Rangoon papers, King Thebaw has become a "reformed character." Till lately this potentate had been regarded as a weak young man, given up to indolence self-indulgence, and cruelty; it is reported that since the death of "the monster," Yanoung Prince, a marked change has taken place which has done much to restore King Thebaw's power and influence. With the reestablishment of his ascendency the moderate and enlightened men who have always been attached to his party, and who, though not actually banished from court, have, we learn, lately had little or no say in the conduct of affairs, are now taking their proper position in the councils of the nation.

The King himself has awakened from his lethargy. and has begun to assert himself as sovereign and ruler, while in a corresponding degree the interference and influence of the Queen have decreased. He now, according to the same source of information, regularly attends and presides at the meetings of the Hlootdaw, and appears to have suddenly developed a surprising amount of intelligence and energy. The latest news from Thebaw,s court is that the King, being determined to make an effort to subdue the rebellious Shan chiefs, has despatched 5,000 troops to the Shan States, under four Generals, accompanied by several Italians in the King's service.—*London Daily News.*

By many individuals in many countries an oath is regarded very lightly. To them it is just as easy to swear as to sneeze, and in many instances easier. In the Eastern nations, among the Mohammedans, an extraordinary sanctity is attached to a solemn asseveration, and the belief in punishment hereafter to a perjurer is carried to a degree of fanaticism. When a Hindoo or a Burmese swears, he implicates not himself alone, but all his kindred to the seventh degree, all his personal acquaintances, and all his posterity. When he, through lapse of memory, perjures himself, all these are condemned to "ten kinds of punishment and five attacks of enemies." Should the perjury be of a more serious form, the "earth will open and swallow them all up." Should he knowingly make a false oath, all his friends and acquaintances will be precipitated into eighty great hells and one hundred and twenty small ones.

On the strength of the success of last January's ice carnival at Montreal there is to be another. Some Canadians suggest that such an exhibition, after all, brings the coldness of the country into undue prominence, to the terror of European emigrants. That however, is a narrow and superficial view of the matter. These sports, on the contrary, impress the stranger with the fact that midwinter itself, presumbly the most inclement and dreaded season in Canada, is the time of the greatest gayety and enjoyment. To have shown what pleasure can be had in that latitude during the heats of July would have been small encouragement for immigration; but the scenes of a January carnival, with it prodigious ice palace glittering under electric lights, its tobogganning on the hills its curling bonspiel at the rink, its snowshoe steeple chases by day and torchlight processions by night, its skating matches, racing in sleighs, games of hookey and quadrilles on the frozen river, not to speak of its regular railroad trains running across the St. Lawrence upon ice ten feet thick—such spectacles as these present a Canadian winter in anything but a forbidding light.—*Ex.*

The late peculiar appearance of the sky after sunset has attracted much attention in the Antipodes. The *Melbourne Argus* mentions a peculiarly rich glow which has appeared in the western sky for a considerable time after sunset, and has been popularly ascribed to the *aurora australis*. The Government Astronomer, Mr. Ellery, however, attributes the phenomenon to a different cause. The spectrum, he points out, exibits great breadth in the telluric of atmospheric lines, and especially of those shown by M. Jaussen to be due to aqueous vapors in certain conditions in the higher strata of atmosphere. He is satisfied that the cause of the gorgeous sunsets is simply a peculiar hygrometric condition of those regions. He predicted wet and broken weather; and as a matter of fact the peculiar sunsets have been followed by copious rains all over the Australian continent. The season, in fact, in the colony, has been almost as remarkable as the sunsets, nothing like it having being experienced for many years. Another and more uncomfortable solution of the great "sunset mystery" is given by a Persian astrologer, who predicts that the blood red appearence of the sky is a forewarning of a war such as the world has never yet beheld. There is to be bloodshed on an unexampled scale in all the quarters of the globe.

The French Chamber of Deputies has rejected the Government demand of three millions and a half of francs for the Senegal Railway. This may perhaps be regarded as indicativo of a reaction against the colonial craze which had latterly taken such a strong hold on the French imagination. Something like a million sterling has already been spent on this undertaking, the protection of which necessitates daily a heavy outlay in addition to that required for its construction. Natives cannot be got to work on the line, and the rate of wages demanded by the Chinese, the Morocco Africans, and the Europeans employed is ruinously high. The tornadoes, so frequent in that part of Africa, often undo in one night the work of weeks, and the white worms honeycomb the sleepers almost as soon as they are laid down. As for traffic there is nothing of the sort in the region through which the line passes. A few soldiers now and then occupy a carriage or two; but there is no transport of merchandise, and even the ubiquitous globe trotter himself shows little desire to penetrate these regions. Of the hundred miles contemplated in M. Freycinet's scheme, only fifteen or sixteen have been completed; and as the Chamber has decided not to throw good money after bad, the Senegal Railway will probably take a permanent place in the category of magnificent but abortive conceptions of which French genuis has lately been so prolific.

French doctors almost invariably prescribe red wine rather than white, and Liebig bears them out, as the following passage, found among his writings, proves: "The white wines are hurtful to the nervous system, causing trembling, confusion of language, and convulsions. The stronger wines, such as champagne, rise quickly to the head but their effects are only of short duration. Sherry and strong cider are more quickly intoxicating than the generality of wines, and they have a peculiar influence on the gastric juices of the stomach. The intoxication of beer is heavy and dull, but its use does not hinder the drinker from gaining flesh. The drinkers of whiskey and brandy are going to certain death. Red wine is the least hurtful, and in some cases, really beneficial."

WHAT ENGLHND WILL DO FOR EGYPT.

The pressure of events and a decided change of tone in the organs of advanced Liberal opinion have at last constrained the Gladstone Cabinet to adopt a definite and vigorous policy with regard to Egypt. The intention of withdrawing the British troops from the Nile country has been abandonned, and, far from striving any longer to belittle the importance of the religious upheaval in the Soudan, the Ministers acknowledge that the Khedive's dominions are in imminent need of defence against El Mahdi, and they agree that under certain restrictions the United Kingdom shall furnish the necessary protection. These restrictions may yet cause a good deal of trouble, but even the present circumscribed programme is a long step toward the incorporation of Egypt among the British possessions.

Looking first at the positive side of the new policy, we see that the English Government guarantees the security of Egyptian territory north of the first or second cataract. It is probable that, for strategic reasons the last-named limit will be fixed upon. Nothing is said about Suakim and Massowah, but, although these seaports lie south of the boundary designated, they will undoubtedly be included in the protected district, since in the hands of El Mahdi they would become the centres of a revived slave trade, and might seriously interfere with the safe transit of British merchant vessels through the Red sea. But to garrison those ports and to maintain a line of defence at the second cataract, detachments from the native troops belonging to the British Indian army will be requisite, since at any of the points mentioned the climate would prove fatal to European soldiers. Owing moreover, to the insubordination and religious excitement of the people, the British force now stationed in the Delta is to be considerably strengthened. The whole number of troops, therefore, which Great Britain will have to keep permanently employed for the defence of Egypt—including those needed to preserve order in the country and guard the ports of the Red Sea as well as those massed on the southern frontier to resist an attack from the Soudan—is not likely to fall short of 30,000 men. That is to say, the change in the Egyptian situation, and the method of dealing with it adopted by the Gladstone Cabinet, will involve the permanent retention in the Nile land of as large a force as was temporarily intrusted to Lord Wolseley for the purpose of suppressing Arabi Pasha.

Now, who is to defray the cost of supporing a standing army of 25,000 men in Egypt? The British taxpayers will not do it, and the *fellahin* cannot do it, unless they are relieved from the burden laid upon them by the Khedive's civil list and the intolerable extertions practised by the native Ministers. If the family of Mehemet Ali were ejected from a land which they have done their best to ruin; if Egypt, like Cyprus, were occupied by Great Britain under a stipulation to pay a fixed tribute to the Porte, it would be easy to provide for the military defence of the country from its existing revenues. Indeed, under the systematic and honest administration that might be looked for at the hands of British officials, so great a stimulus would be given to agriculture and trade that the public revenues would be materially augmented, while at the same time the condition of the hard-working native population would be sensibly improved. Such a transformation in the internal government of Egypt will be the logical result of the weighty responsibilities which are now formally accepted by Great Britain. The first move in this direction has, it seems, been already taken by Earl Granville in notifying the British agent at Cairo, Sir Eveline Baring, that certain reforms in the internal management of Egypt will be at once begun under his supervision.

The determination reached by the Gladstone Ministry makes it tolerably certain that, whatever may be the triumphs of the False Prophet on the upper Nile, his northward advance against Egypt proper will be successfully withstood. Nevertheless, a good many diplomatic protests and recriminations are likely to be provoked in England's refusal to make any attempt to recover Kordofan or even to save Sennaar and eastern Soudan. Not only will the British Government do nothing of itself to avert the complete conquest by El Mahdi of the Khedive's possessions south of the second cataract, but it will not permit Prince Tewfik to squander the resources of Egypt in a fruitless effort at resistance. In the form of advice, which is, of course, equivalent to a command, Earl Granville has signified his wish that the Egyptian garrisons at Khartoum and Berber, and the expeditionary force under Baker Pasha, should be withdrawn behind the line of defence decided on at London. He has also declined to sanction the cooperation with Abyssinian troops which had been proposed by Baker Pasha, foreseeing, no doubt, that Massowah would be the price demanded for Abyssinia's assistance. As to the offer of Turkey to reconquer the Soudan, Lord Granville has no objection to such a demonstration, provided it is made at the Sultan's cost; but England will not suffer Egpyt to spend any money for that purpose. It remains to be seen whether Turkey or France—deeply interested as both powers are in arresting the progress of El Mahdi—will undertake at their own expense an expedition to the Soudan. Even in the improbable event that either of those powers, or both jointly, should assume the task, the possession of Suakim or Massowah would be indispensable. But it might happen that at the last moment Great Britain would refuse to let either of those important harbors, which at present are virtually hers, pass into foreign hands—*New York Sun.*

The house of Miss Graydon in Toronto was entered by burglars on Sunday night. She awoke and gave the alarm, when she was struck a violent blow on the head with a hatchet. She now lies in a critical condition. A negro named Cumming has been arrested on suspicion.

In a recent debate in the Hungarian Diet on legalizing marriages between Christians and Jews Caron Rosner, lay professor of the canonical law, showed that marriages between Christians and Jews were not contrary to the tenets of the Church or the traditions of Hungary, for in the thirteenth century unions between Christians and Ishmaelites and between Christians and Jews were valid in Hungary. The speaker pointed out that in the early centuries the Church had no aversion to marriages with non-christians, and that the greatest Christian saints had pagan husbands, and that their children were afterward saints in their turn. Archbishop Samessa of Erlau thundered against the intended secularization of marriage. Civil marriage," he exclaimed, "comes from the socialists (none remarked the obvious anachronism) who want to destroy the family—the basis of society." The question was not decided.

A Russian magazine called the *Historical Messenger* (*Istoritsche,ki Vesnik*) has just published a plan for the invasion of India, found among the papers of the late Gen. Skobeleff. It consists first in opening relations with the Afgans. an initiatory step really taken by the Russians in 1878; and next in sending Russian troops to Cabul in order to support an Afghan invasion of India. Before invading India dissaffection is to be stirred up, or, rather, to be organized and brought to a head, among the various populations of Indostan; and the vanguard of the invasion is to be formed by masses of Asiatic cavalry, such as are now being formed by subjecting the Turkoman tribes to rough forms of European drill. With this irregular cavalry, with the Afghans, and with regular Russian troops, Gen. Skobeleff was convinced that an impression could be made on India with important military, if not decisive political results.

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