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Finest Cashmere Socks..... 0 50
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The English Trading Co.

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FOR LADIES—
Heavy wool Underskirts..... 1 00
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Tam o'Shanters, 50c. and 75c.
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Vol. 1.—No. 46. REVELSTOKE, WEST KOOTENAY, B.C., FEBRUARY 23, 1895. $2.00 a Year.

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Goods bought right out; no commission charged.
Fair selection; immediate returns.
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Analytical Chemist and Assayer,
Accurate assays made of all kinds of minerals, water, milk, etc.

Kootenay Lodge No. 15 A.F. & A.M.
The regular meetings are held in the Masonic Temple, Bourne's Hall, on the third Monday in each month, at 8 p. m. Visiting brethren cordially welcomed.
W. F. CRAGE, Secretary.

REVELSTOKE LODGE, I. O. O. F.
Regular meetings are held in Oddfellows' Hall every Thursday night at eight o'clock. Visiting brothers cordially welcomed.
G. NEWMAN, N.G. A. STONE, Sec.

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MINING AND REAL ESTATE BROKER,
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*Will figure on all kinds of Buildings; all kinds of House, Store and Office Furniture repaired or made to order; all kinds of Shopwork in my line neatly and promptly executed by skilled and experienced hand.*

GO TO THE WOOD BUTCHER
FOR YOUR
Norwegian Snowshoes,
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Manufacturer of all kinds of Furniture.
FINE UPHOLSTERING WORK.
Old Furniture Renewed In First-class Style.
E. PICARD, Revelstoke, B.C.

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NEW STOCK OF
STATIONERY & FANCY GOODS.
The New TOILET SOAP,
SIX TABLETS FOR 25c.
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Wait for the notice regarding the new Circulating Library at
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BARBER SHOP AND BATH ROOM,
Front Street, Revelstoke.
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Haircut, 25c.; Bath, 50c.; Six Shaving Tickets for $1.00.

R. S. WILSON,
MERCHANT TAILOR,
Revelstoke Station.
First-class Material kept in stock and First-class Workmen employed.

HALCYON SPRINGS HOTEL,
ARROW LAKE,
Is now open at those celebrated hot springs, for the accommodation of guests. Rates $1.50 to $2.50 per day. Baths 25c. each, or five for $1. Special rates to families or by the month can be arranged.
DAWSON, CRADDOCK & CO.

All placer claims in this District legally held may be laid over from the 15th October, 1894, to the 1st June, 1895.
N. FITZSTUBBS,
*Gold Commissioner.*
Dated at Nelson, B.C., 4th October, 1894.

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ROYAL MAIL LINES.
CHEAPEST route to the OLD COUNTRY.
Proposed Sailings from Montreal.
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NUMIDIAN ..... Nov. 3
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Cabin $45, $50, $60, $70, $80 and upwards.
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## FIGHT FOR THE STANDARD.

### THE STRUGGLE FOR SILVER WAGED IN TWO HEMISPHERES.

A GREAT VICTORY IN GERMANY.

Count Von Mirbach, German Conservative, introduced a resolution in in the Berlin Reichstag last Friday instructing the Federal Government of Germany to issue invitations for an international monetary congress to take measures to bring about the rehabilitation of silver as a circulating medium.—Count Von Mirbach said the moment had arrived for Germany to take the initiative in settling this question, which is one of the greatest importance.—Chancellor Von Hohenlohe intimated that the Government would be willing to confer with the Federal Government upon the question of entering into negotiations with the powers re the advisability of reconsidering the monetary system.

The Reichstag on Saturday adopted by an overwhelming majority the resolution favoring an international monetary conference.

The victory of the silver men was no surprise. Count Mirbach, the agrarian and bi-metallist leader, had secured 210 signatures to his motion for an international money conference and the rehabilitation of silver. Therefore he opened the debate with the certainty of a large majority.

Among the signers was Prince Alexander of Hohenlohe, the Chancellor's son and the chief of his private bureau on the Chancellory.

The heavy speakers in the heated two days' debate were drawn from Conservative, National Liberal and Clerical ranks. They held the attention of the House from the beginning.

Count Mirbach opened the case for the silver men in imposing style. He is a good speaker and had his subject well in hand, as for four years he has thought and talked only bi-metallism and tariff. He quoted statistics without end to prove the fall of prices since Germany adopted the gold standard, argued at great length to show that under mono-metallism agriculture had gone from bad to worse in England and Germany and that English exports to silver-using countries has steadily declined. His plea for silver was a creditable effort, and it evoked frequent expressions of approval from the Right and Centre, but as usual it left the Radicals and Social Democrats on the other side quite unmoved and unconvinced.

Count Posadowski said that it could not be denied that the constant falling of silver was injurious to industry, to German mines, and prevented numbers of workers from getting a livelihood. Even the mono-metallists did not deny that the depreciation of silver was mischievous. M. Ribotha declared the necessity of France's reverting to the double standard and held Germany answerable, because the latter country had first adopted a gold standard. The rural populace, as well as many manufacturers, were convinced that the declining value of their products was ascribed to the fall in silver. It was, therefore, the duty of the Government to treat that question in a benevolent manner.

Herr Von Kardooff said that bi-metallism was the safeguard of the German peasantry and a sure bulwark against Socialism. This was received with cheers from the Right and derisive laughter by the Socialist members.

THE MOVEMENT IN FRANCE.

The Society of French Agriculturists has decided to support the National Bi-Metallic League in its appeal to the Government to negotiate with Great Britain, Germany, the United States, the Netherlands, and the Latin States for an international agreement to rehabilitate silver.

RAKING UP AN OLD SILVER LAW.

At Washington an old law has just been discovered upon the statute books by free silver men, which gives them ground to hope that they can bring about the coinage of silver in an indirect way through the use of Mexican dollars. The law was passed in 1857, and is section 3,567 of the revised statutes. It is as follows:

"The pieces commonly known as the quarter, eighth and sixteenth of the Spanish dollar and of the Mexican dollar shall be receivable at the treasury of the United States and its several offices and at its several post offices and land offices at the rates of valuation following: The fourth of a dollar, or piece of two reals, at 25 cents; one eighth of a dollar, or piece of one real, at 10 cents, and the sixteenth of a dollar, or half real, at 5 cents."

The section following provides that the coins shall not be re-issued from the treasury, but shall be recoined into United States coins. The law has never been repealed, and the silver men in Congress assert that it is possible to send the metal to Mexico for coinage, re-import it into the United States and present it at the treasury. They assert that the validity of the law is beyond question, and point to the statute resurrected by Secretary Carlisle, which practically compels the treasury to redeem national bank notes in gold, as evidence that there are more intricacies in the monetary system than have been realized.

MEMORIAL FOR A RATIO OF 16 TO 1.

Some members of the Washington State Legislature are doing their best to help the free coinage of silver, by memorial to the U. S. Congress and otherwise. State Senator Coon introduced a free silver memorial last week. Its preamble declared that the demonetization of silver by the repeal of the Sherman Act was responsible for the depreciation of the country's business, and asked Congress to enact a law for free and unlimited coinage of American silver, the product of mines of the United States, at the ratio of 16 to 1. A fight was made on the preamble, and after some discussion a motion to strike out was passed by a vote of 15 to 18. This was not approved by the free coinage men, and they refused to pass the memorial as denuded.

### A U.S. Senator on the Evils of a Gold Standard.

In a recent speech on the financial situation, Senator Teller, of Colorado, said that under existing circumstances the treasury was bound to be drained of gold for European bondholders. Continuing, he said: "We are bound to go either to a silver or a paper basis with paper only as our money, or else we shall have a gold basis with all the wrongs that a gold basis inflicts—low prices, limited opportunities, stagnation in business, paralysis of enterprise, with only silver buttoned on gold or paper buttoned on gold to do our business. If we could get to a silver basis, with the mints open for silver, we would be infinitely better off than we are on a gold basis with no gold. How are we going to keep the gold in the country? You may issue bonds to-day and to-morrow, you may issue $5,000,000,000 of bonds and put them into the treasury and pay out the gold, so long as we are debtors to Europe so long the gold will go out of the country."

### Wants a Hospital for Consumptives.

N. E. Davin M.P., is asking the Government for aid towards the proposed establishment of a hospital for consumptives at Regina, Moosejaw or Medicine Hat and asking Sir William Van Horne for free transportation for patients. Davin says he has had the air of the Territories analyzed by the most approved methods, and found it 10 per cent. richer in the new air element discovered by Lord Rayleighs than is the air of eastern Canada.

### Col. Baker's Cranbrook Estate.

In the famous Cranbrook estate prospectus, Government Agent Cummings was quoted as an authority on the value of land owned by Col. Baker in Kootenay. He gave $12 per acre as a fair average price. An examination of the assessment roll reveals the fact that most of the land which it was proposed to sell for $12 per acre is assessed at 75 cents per acre. The prospectus either lied or the minister's property is greatly undervalued by the Government assessor.—*Columbian.*

### Manitoba School Case.

Sir C. H. Tupper, Minister of Justice, has received the full text of the judgment of the Privy Council in the Manitoba school case. The first act of the Government will be to pass an order-in-council asking the Manitoba Government to give remedial legislation. The matter will be in that position when the elections are on.

### No "Divy" for G. T. R. Shareholders.

Grand Trunk Railway earnings for the half-year ended Dec. 31st show a deficit of £172,000 ($860,000). Consequently there is no dividend.

Awarded
Highest Honors—World's Fair
DR. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER
MOST PERFECT MADE.
A pure Grape Cream of Tartar Powder. Free from Ammonia, Alum or any other adulterant.
40 YEARS THE STANDARD.

### A GOLD VEIN IN ONTARIO.

Almost as Big as in West Kootenay.

A letter received by the Bureau of Mines, Toronto, states that the Bonanza Nickel Mining Company, operating in the Nipissing district, are working on a gold vein which has recently been discovered near Lake Wahnapitae, and which has a surface showing of 52 ft. wide and 16 ft. long. They are taking out a carload of ore for the purpose of having a mill test made at the Kingston School of Mining. The ore is said to assay as high as $100 a ton.

### Downfall of a Salmon Arm Pugilist.

SALMON ARM, Feb. 18th.

The local bruiser—or "John L. Sullivan," as he likes to be spoken of—met with a severe defeat and a deserved thrashing last week at the hands of a train hand whose run is between this place and Revelstoke. "J. L." has for a long time been in the habit of loafing around the settlement, doing a great deal of sponging and very little work, but managed somehow to consume a lot of bad whiskey. While under the influence he is a terror to the settlers—men, women and children—his language being mostly of a disgusting nature. For some time past he has been "playing a high hand," declaring that he could lick any breather breathing, that the man was not born who could whip him. Lately he had been talking very loudly as to what he would do to a certain young man whenever he happened to come across him, and amongst other indignities intimated that he would "chew him up." Last Wednesday night it so happened that both threatener and threatened met on the platform of the station.

"Hello, Bob! How are you, old boy?" exclaimed "J. L."

"None of your business," returned Bob. "I hear you've been looking for me."

"No," said "J. L." meekly, "I wasn't looking for you."

There was nothing more said, but Bob evidently thought it a good opportunity to teach the bruiser a lesson. So he took him by the collar and gave him a good shaking. "John L." struck out wildly, but he was not in it from the start, and when Bob proceeded to use him as a mop to wipe up the platform, he cried "enough." When the fun was over it was found that he had a fine pair of black eyes and a damaged proboscis, to say nothing of a cowed and broken spirit. So the proud cock-of-the-walk at Salmon Arm has been obliged to go into retirement to nurse his disfigurements and disappointment. This should end his career as a pugilistic bully, and it is hoped he will now turn over a new leaf.

### Praise for Trail Creek.

Capt. Troup, manager of the C. & K. Nav. Co., who has been visiting Seattle, had a good word to say of Trail Creek last week to a reporter there. "The Trail Creek district is," he says, "attracting a good deal of attention, and a lot of people are going in. The district lies about ten miles north of the boundary line and is five miles from the Columbia River. There is great excitement over the finds, there being copper and gold ore running in value to $50 a ton. The district is coming to the front rapidly, and the output is increasing all the time." Capt. Troup says that other mining camps in the vicinity are also developing, and the shipments are steady. His company will soon rebuild the steamer Columbia, burned last August.

### Victoria's Liberal Candidates.

The Liberals of Victoria have nominated Messrs. Wm. Templeman and Dr. Milne as candidates for parliamentary honors in the forthcoming Dominion election.

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that application will be made to the Parliament of Canada, at the next session thereof, for an Act to incorporate a Company for the purpose of constructing, equipping, maintaining and operating a line of railway to run from a point at or near the mines known as the "Trail Creek mines," in the District of Kootenay, in the Province of British Columbia, to some point as near as practicable to the junction of Trail Creek and the Columbia River, in the said District of Kootenay, with power to construct, equip, maintain and operate branch lines; and also to construct and operate telegraph and telephone lines in connection with the said railway, together with the usual powers to acquire lands, privileges, bonuses, or aids from the Dominion or Provincial Governments, and to make traffic and other arrangements with railway, steamboat and other companies, and for all other usual and necessary powers, rights and privileges.

Dated at Vancouver, this 11th day of January, A.D. 1895.

DAVIS, MARSHALL,
MACNEILL & ABBOTT.
*Solicitors for Applicants.*

HELP WANTED!
WANTED—ACTIVE, HONEST GENTLEMAN OR LADY, to travel, representing established, reliable house. Salary $75 monthly and traveling expenses, with increase if suited. Enclose reference and self-addressed stamped envelope.
THE DOMINION,
Sp8 317 Omaha Building, Chicago.

### THE FUR TRADE.

Jas. McMillan & Co., fur dealers, of Minneapolis, in their January circular, give the results of the recent London fur sale, which commenced January 22nd and closed January 25th. Most furs went at lower figures as compared with the prices obtained at the October sales. The circular compares the prices current at the great March sale last year and the October sale with those of last month, and in nearly every case there has been a reduction. The circular continues: "You will see that about the only articles that actually advanced are marten and mink, and we have raised our quotations on these two articles materially. We have also revised our prices of all other articles, although the result of the sale was pretty well anticipated in our last circular. We are privately advised that one article, viz., bear, which we report declined 10 per cent., actually declined more than this, and they caution us to be careful in buying it, because should it go out of fashion the decline would be heavy and amount to a great deal of money. Beaver is out of fashion, and consequently ruling at lower prices, with little demand, although we have not as yet reduced our prices. We have an established trade for Northern furs, both with American manufacturers and in Europe, which enables us to pay high prices and compete successfully with any other dealers in the United States. We wish to increase our collection of such articles as fisher, silver, cross and red fox, marten, mink, skunk and sea otter, but will allow our circular prices for all kinds of furs. Do not delay shipping, because after March 1st it will be too late to send shipping furs to the March London fur sale, and it is predicted that after that date all kinds of furs will go at lower prices.

"Deerskins.—The receipts are increasing. Prices remain substantially unchanged. Horse hides are being very largely used for imitation buckskin, and it is claimed they are equal to deerskins for this purpose; but whether this is so or not, it is certain that it is keeping the price of deerskin down."

### Around Trail Creek.

From the *Northport News:*

Capt. Gore left Friday for Portland, where he will visit his family until spring, when he will return and resume command of the Lytton.

Six of James A. Clark's teams brought in War Eagle ore yesterday. His outfit is camped near the line.

E. Hildebrand brought four loads of War Eagle ore into Northport Sunday. He has five splendid teams.

The Red Mountain stage line is being conducted in a very creditable manner. The News job department this week was kept busy printing stage tickets, manifests, etc., for it.

### Typhoid and Diphtheria.

The public school in Ridgeway, Ont., is closed because of the prevalance of a violent form of diphtheria. Miss Maggie Sager, one of the victims of the disease, died. Typhoid fever is also rampant and a number of residents are stricken down. Several deaths have occurred.

### To Bring Them Home.

Sir Mackenzie Bowell has been asked for assistance to enable 4,000 French Canadians now in Michigan to settle in northern Ontario.

### May Use Seines.

The Minister of Fisheries has decided to allow the Fraser River canners to use seines this year.

It is rumored that an electric line will be built between Tacoma and Seattle the coming summer, and that the wideawake real estate man is already looking up bargains along the line.

### A Cook Book Free.

"Table and Kitchen" is the title of a new cook book published by the Price Baking Powder Co., Chicago. Just at this time it will be sent free if you write a postal mentioning the KOOTENAY MAIL, Revelstoke, B.C. This book has been tried and found to be one of the very best of its kind, besides containing over 400 receipts for all kinds of pastry and home cookery, there are many hints for the table and kitchen, showing how to set a table, how to enter the dining room, etc.; a hundred and one hints in every branch of the culinary art. Cookery of the very finest and richest as well as of the most economical and home-like is provided for. Remember "Table and Kitchen" will be sent, postage prepaid, to any lady sending her address (name, town and state) plainly given. A copy in German or Scandinavian will be sent if desired. Postal card is as good as a letter. Address Price Baking Powder Co., Chicago, Ill.

## TOPICS OF INTEREST ABOUT TOWN.

[BY DIOGENES.]

A resident lawyer is badly needed in Revelstoke. It is expensive to bring a legal gentleman from Kamloops or Donald, as his railway fare and hotel expenses must be added to his regular fee. But this inconvenience has to be borne by Revelstoke people who need the services of a lawyer at either the Police or County Court. To a stranger the fact of our being able to exist and thrive without a legal luminary in our midst would be rather complimentary than otherwise, as it implies a state of arcadian peacefulness and contentment where factions and lawsuits are unknown—a sort of modern "City of Brotherly Love." But this is very far from the actual state of affairs. There is hardly a town more split up into cliques, rings and factions, and the irritation resulting therefrom, than Revelstoke is. But however favorably our town may seem to compare with others in the interior in the matter of legal strife, there is no doubt that a member of the profession could pick up a pretty fair living here. At almost every sitting of the County Court there are cases requiring the attendance of lawyers from outside places. In the sale and transfer of mining properties lawyers are necessary evils, and the legal gentleman employed in the sale of the Sol Holden mine the other day had a big fee for coming up from New Denver. Many recent cases at the police court would have been placed in the hands of a lawyer had there been one here.

* * *

Speaking of the police court, a case came up last Monday which had been adjourned from the previous Thursday in order to allow the complainant time to get her lawyer over from Kamloops. It was stated that the defendant also desired to obtain counsel, but in the light of subsequent events this was merely a fake pure and simple. The case was one of threatening to do bodily harm, being the outcome of an assault case between the same parties over a year ago, after which the assaulter left the town. Some months later he reappeared, and owing to a renewal of the threats he was summoned to attend before the magistrate "to show cause," etc. Complainant's lawyer arrived from Kamloops on the date fixed for hearing and, with the complainant, attended before the magistrate, but—

Defendant, where was he?
Ask of the ties which span the track
From Selkirks to the sea.

The man had left town. Of course complainant had to pay the lawyer's railway fare both ways ($13), as well as hotel expenses, say $3. Last week the defendant again showed up in town, thinking the affair had blown over by this time, but the warrant which had been "hanging up" ever since he skedaddled was taken down, dusted, and served upon the returned traveler. Thursday of last week the case came before the police court, and, as I have stated, was adjourned till Monday. Once more the lawyer came over from Kamloops; once more he attended to plead his client's case, and once more the bird had flown. The defendant had skipped out as soon as he saw the lawyer arrive! The railway fare and hotel expenses again came out of complainant's pocket.

* * *

Now what kind of justice can this be called? Knowing what kind of a man the defendant was, and knowing that he had done precisely the same sort of thing before, why on earth did not the magistrate order him to find sureties for his appearance when the case was adjourned? It has been suggested that the defendant would have been unable to find bail, and that to have locked him up would have been of no use, as the jail is not in a fit condition to retain a prisoner. This may be true enough, but for all that I contend that any unbiassed person, knowing nothing of either complainant or defendant—and Justice is supposed to be blindfolded and absolutely impartial—will come to the conclusion that it was a travesty—or a mistake.

* * *

One dollar and a half a day! That is the amount Mr. Gamble deems sufficient to pay the workmen on the river bank protection job. He has a first-class excuse for this big cut, and that is, that it is desirable to make the money ($10,000) go as far as possible. This is very laudable on his part, but Mr. Gamble, like other economical financiers, begins at the wrong end. It is always the working man who suffers when there is any economy to be effected. I don't think Mr. Gamble's salary will suffer any reduction in order to "make the money last out." There is more likelihood that it will be increased by "extras" which sundry visits to the work will permit. It is not greatly to the credit of the Premier, either, that he sent such an unsympathetic telegram as appeared in last week's MAIL, but then we all know that circumstances alter cases, and the case at present differs from that of last July. That the $1.50 a day innovation is a great success I am pointed to the fact that all the men required can be obtained. Yes; if the wages offered were $1 a day the necessities of some of those men would compel them to work at that rate. But it is none the less a burning shame that the Government, through Mr. Gamble, having these men on the hip, should so trade on their necessities. Hitherto Government work has been paid for at the rate of $2.50 and $3 a day, and down at Robson men are now doing Government work on the river at the higher figure. Why was Revelstoke selected as the place to inaugurate this cut of 50 per cent.?

* * *

I am told that the idea is to get a lot of men to work at $1.50 a day; then to weed out the poor workmen, keeping on the best men and paying them $1.75 to $2.50. If this is true I must credit Mr. Gamble with a great deal of astuteness. Only a Solon would have thought of such a scheme. I have nothing to say against it. Only the poor wretches who are "weeded out" will be entitled to squeal. I am waiting to see if Mr. Mara has any influence with the Government, or rather with Mr. Gamble, in this matter. I know for certain that our member is making a big effort to get the wages raised. So there is some hope yet, as the Dominion elections are not far off, and the Government will lose a lot of votes if they persist in allowing Mr. Gamble to carry on his grand scheme of paying Chinese wages to "make the money last out."

* * *

I am surprised to see the nonchalant manner in which most of our business men look on the matter. There are only two that I know of who have raised the least objection to Mr. Gamble's "cut," and those two attended the meeting of unemployed workmen last week. One of these gentlemen made a proposition to several other tradesmen of the lower town to call on Mr. Gamble and have a talk with him on the matter; but they threw cold water on the proposal, and nothing was done. It looks to me as if "the leading men" of the town were in full accord with the low wages; in fact, one or two have stated that they have worked for $1.50 a day in times past, and did not see any hardship in men working at that rate now. Great Jehosophat! and this with the prices of the necessaries which prevail here! Now I would like to ask these tradesmen if they would be content with $1.50 a day as profits from their business? Are they willing to meet this reduction of wages by cutting their prices in two? I think not. When the pinch touched them they would squirm. They should remember that the town is kept in existence by the earnings of working men, and that the business men will suffer equally with the workman; that the days of big profits are gone for ever when low wages become general. This is the thin end of the wedge, and should be resisted to the utmost, for once let the rate of wages sink to that level and it will never rise again, but gradually drop lower and lower till a dollar a day is considered good wages, as in Ontario—and prices will go too. But the fear that the money will not last out seems to have blinded some people as to the baneful effects this reduction will have on the rest of the district, as it will not be politic for the Government to pay one rate in Revelstoke and another in Nelson or New Denver. And I say, better let the bank slide into the river, than allow Revelstoke to become a reproach and a byeword among the towns of West Kootenay as the birthplace of a starvelihood rate of wages which afterwards became general over the whole district—and all because the "leading men" of that unfortunate hamlet had not backbone enough to kick at the proper moment.

## FINISHED THEIR LABORS.

The business of the Provincial Legislature came to a close on Thursday, when Lieut.-Governor Dewdney prorogued the Assembly after having been in session for fifty-eight days. To give an account of the bills brought in would require an amount of space that no newspaper could spare. To mention the bills passed would take more space than we can spare. The mining laws have received their usual tinkering, and have been left in a more chaotic condition than they were before. Mr. Kellie made praiseworthy efforts to knock out some obnoxious clauses, but his attempts were defeated, and Col. Baker is to be congratulated on loading a few more burdens on the miner's shoulders. Mr. Kellie's Tramway Bill was passed, but its action is to be confined to the mining districts of Kootenay, Cariboo and Yale. The British Pacific Railway matter was brought up by the Premier at the eleventh hour, but there were enough members present to prevent the credit of the province being used to guarantee the bonds of this road. An extension of time, however, was granted. Want of space forbids our giving this matter the attention it deserves.

## A Delightful Entertainment.

C. A. Carson's stereopticon show of World's Fair and Midway Plaisance views delighted the audience in the Presbyterian church last night, and will be again on exhibition to-night, in the same building, commencing at 8 o'clock. Besides illustrations of the World's Fair, there are splendid views of Yellowstone Park, Alberta, Alaska, British Columbia and other picturesque scenery, as well as statuary and comic illustrations. The whole entertainment is full of interest from beginning to end, the views are large, clear and some of them are beautifully colored.

## PROFITS OF THE BROKEN HILL SILVER MINE.

With Ore Carrying only 20 oz. per Ton.

The following letter from Mr. J. Durie, C.E., which appears in Wednesday's *Colonist*, is of such importance in showing the vast superiority of our silver ore over that of the Australian mine that we present it to our readers almost in full. It would be well if we could bring such facts as are herein contained to the direct notice of British capitalists, who seem to be totally ignorant of the fact that the ore bodies in this district are of phenomenal size and richness, but who go on year after year investing their money in low-grade properties in various parts of the world, when they might obtain twenty times the amount of profit by the same outlay in West Kootenay mines. It is a long letter, but it places our silver mines in such favorable comparison with the hitherto great mines of the world that we offer no excuse for re-publishing it:

"A copy of the *Daily Scotsman* of January 19th has just come to hand in which there appears the half-yearly report, ending 30th November last, of the Broken Hill silver mine in Australia. This report shows a profit for the half year of $1,353,720, and a dividend paid of $1,393,920. The value of the ore extracted was $15.65 per ton, and the cost of production was $10.55 per ton. The price obtained for lead was $45.46 per ton, and for silver 61 cents per oz. The production for the week ending 24th ult. was 9,189 tons, yielding 765 tons of lead, containing 208,839 ozs. of silver. There were also treated by the amalgamating and leeching plants 1,154 tons of ore yielding 15,910 ozs. silver. Broken Hill ore contains 20.40 ozs. of silver per ton.

"If the same amount of capital had been expended in mining in the Kootenay district, I have no doubt the ore could have been produced and treated at the same cost as it was at the Broken Hill mine. My impression is that it could have been produced more cheapiy as the Broken Hill is a heavily timbered mine, and if I remember rightly the timber has to be imported at considerable cost, whereas timber is plentiful and cheap in Kootenay. The ore of many of the Kootenay mines is much richer than those of this Australian group, and I make the following comparison between the two:

"In the report of Mr. G. M. Dawson for the year 1889 he gives 352 ozs. of silver per ton of ore from the Silver King mines as the average result of three assays. The Toronto *Globe* of August 19th, 1893, gives the result of a shipment of about 100 tons of ore from these mines, which contained 20 per cent. of copper and a value of $300 per ton of silver and about $4 per ton in gold. Assuming the copper to be worth $1 per unit (a low value) we have a total value of $524 per ton for the Silver King ores, whereas the Broken Hill ore shows for one weeks working only $13.05 in silver and $3.15 in lead, giving a total value of $16.20 per ton, which is rather higher than the half-yearly average.

"We may therefore safely assume that the Silver King ore is worth 20 times that of the Broken Hill ore, and if the shareholders of the latter had conducted their operations in British Columbia instead of in Australia, they would have had 20 times the profit, for $37,074,400 for the half year, or $74,148,800 for the whole year. This seems rather a startling result to arrive at; we can hardly expect that if even the Silver King comes to be worked on a large scale the ore will continue of the same richness as the samples treated, as they were very probably picked ore. However there is plenty of margin left. The Broken Hill mines are probably the largest silver producing mines at the present, and in their working we see the good results obtained by working a low grade ore on a large scale.

"Before leaving the subject of silver mines I would like to mention another parcel of 20 tons of British Columbia ore, sent to the Omaha smelter, which returned in silver $2,045.46 and in lead $882.60. This is equal to $190.40 per ton of ore, which is over twelve times richer than the Broken Hill ore. I may here mention I have no interest in any of the mines referred to.

"From information supplied to me by a friend of mine on whom I can rely the value of ores in silver in other parts of the world is as follows, in ounces per ton: In the group of mines at San Juan, Argentine Republic, 83 oz. (average of 39 samples). In Chili, the Carmen Works, Copiapo, in 1888, 28 to 30 oz.; Piquios Works, near Copiapo, 18 to 22 oz. In U.S., Leadville, 1889, 16 oz.; Homestake, 1889, 13·40 oz.; Nevada Consolidated, Virginia, 1890, 20·10 oz.; Nevada, Crown Point, 1890, 15·40 oz.; Nevada, Yellow Jacket, 21·8 oz. From these figures it appears that the Broken Hill is about the average of the world's silver ores, and that British Columbia's ores are very much above that average.

"In the newspaper above referred to appears a prospectus for a gold mining property situated in the Murchison district of Western Australia, wherein it is stated that "taking the yield of stone at 2 oz. to the ton with a 20-stamp battery at work, the net profit (after deducting London management expenses) should exceed $212,000 per annum—being equal to, say, 32 per cent. on capital." From what I have heard of the gold bearing quartz veins of British Columbia, 2 oz. per ton would be a low estimate of their value. Mr. Dawson, in the report above referred to, also points out that in various parts of the world large profits have been made in quartz crushing where the gold was under half an ounce to the ton. It would therefore appear that there is also a good prospect for investment of capital in gold mines in this province."

## The Bishopric of New Westminster.

At the synod held in New Westminster on Thursday for the purpose of electing a bishop to succeed the late Bishop Sillitoe, the choice lay between Rev. Dr. Stone, of Oxford, England, and Rev. Canon Thornloe, of Sherbrooke, Quebec. The selection was finally left in the hands of Bishops Perrin and Ridley, who, with three other bishops to be chosen by them, will make the choice.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

[ADDRESSED TO THE EDITOR.]

The Editor cannot be responsible for the opinions expressed by correspondents.

### The Wages Question.

DEAR SIR,—In accordance with the resolution passed at the public meeting held last Friday, I sent copies of report of the proceedings to Mr. Mara, M.P., to Premier Davie and to Mr. Semlin, leader of the Opposition, communicating with the latter gentlemen also by telegraph. I have received replies from all these gentlemen, and as the matter is of interest to everybody in the district I send copies of them to you for publication. The telegraphic reply from the Premier has already been published, but as many may not have seen it, I annex it as well as the others.—Yours truly,

W. G. PAXTON,
Revelstoke, Feb. 21. *Sec'y to Meeting.*

Telegram from Premier Davie, Feb. 16:

Nothing can possibly change rate of wages. Appropriation is small and work has to be done within limits of same. 'Tis a question either of getting protection work done cheaply or not at all. Times are hard and everything has to come down proportionately.

Letter from Mr. Semlin, M.P.P., Feb. 19:

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram and letter in reference to the wages paid on the works on the Columbia River at Revelstoke. I have interviewed the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works and also the leader of the Government in reference to the wages question. Neither admitted that wages had been reduced generally, but both intimated that a general reduction was probable.

Letter from Mr. Mara, M.P., Feb. 19:

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 15th enclosing copy of proceedings of the workingmen's meeting held Peterson's Hall on that day. I may state that when I heard of the difficulty about the rate of wages on the Government work, I arranged to meet Mr. Gamble at Donald, and at our interview he informed me that the rate will be from $1.75 to $2.50 per day, according to a man's worth and the class of work he is employed upon. Neither the Premier of the Province nor I have anything to do with fixing the rate of wages to be paid. The matter is solely in Mr. Gamble's hands, but if the difficulty cannot be satisfactorily arranged, and I can be of any assistance, I will go to Revelstoke as soon as Mr. Gamble returns from Fort Steele.

### The Burning Question.

SIR,—A meeting of the Revelstoke street lighting committee, of which nearly all the business men of the town are members, was held last Thursday, and at the close of it, I suggested that those present should form themselves into a delegation to interview Mr. Gamble and see if something could not be done in the way of arranging a more satisfactory rate of wages than that offered for the work on the river bank, as I consider it a crying shame that this town should be selected by the Government as a target for cutting wages. The wages paid to the men employed on Government work down the river are $3 per day, while $1.50 is all that is offered here. None of those present acquiesced in my suggestion.

Later that day I was consulted by several of those interested as to what means should be taken to try and get the standard rate of wages, and I suggested that the best way would be to call a public meeting to have the question thoroughly ventilated. This was done, and the meeting was held in Peterson's Hall the following morning. Not a business man of the town showed up except Mr. Bourne and myself. The meeting was called hurriedly that the proceedings might be communicated to Mr. Gamble, but unfortunately that gentleman had gone east the same morning, and nothing could be done except interview Mr. Smith, the foreman of the work; hence the resolutions passed and sent to the Premier and the Opposition leader at Victoria, and Mr. Mara, the Dominion member. I have it on good authority that the reason given by Mr. Gamble for fixing the rate of wages at first at $1.50 was to weed out the poor men and keep only the good men in order to get full value for the money spent.

Now, Mr. Editor, can you cite me one single instance of such a method as this being adopted for the purpose of weeding out poor men? Mr. Davie stated in his telegram, which you published last week, that the work must be done cheaply or not at all; but had the proper time been selected for commencing the work which is at present being done, it would not have cost one-fourth of what it is costing to-day. I have lived here a number of years and have had practical experience of this very work and know there is ample time to do the work after the snow leaves the ground and before the rise of the water. Had the proper time been chosen for doing the work, much more could have been accomplished for the sum appropriated, even if the men had been paid $5 a day.—Yours truly,

W. M. BROWN.
Revelstoke, Feb. 20th, 1895.

SIR,—Is it true that the wages on the river bank work are going to be raised? I heard tell that Mr. Mara said they would. There are lots of men in town who have been waiting a good while to get work on this job, and so make a little stake to go prospecting with. Now they are offered little better than the Chinaman gets. It looks like as though it was done to boycott the old hands who have worked at Government work for years. Most of the men working are strangers, who have not the same interests here as the older hands, most of whom have prospects in the district for which they have worked hard.

Mr. Brown, of the Columbia, was the only one at the meeting to speak up for the working men's interest—perhaps that is why his team has not been hired, while the other hotelkeepers have been given a job at hauling.—Yours truly,

OLD TIMER.
Revelstoke, Feb. 21, 1895.


SPECIAL REDUCTION
FOR ONE MONTH
TO MAKE ROOM FOR SPRING STOCK.

WE ARE OFFERING A
Discount of 15 per cent.
ON THE FOLLOWING LINES:—

Dress Goods — Flannels
Prints — Cretonnes
Ladies' Hosiery — Gents' Hosiery

THIS DISCOUNT FOR CASH ONLY.

C. B. HUME & Co.
REVELSTOKE STATION.

T. L. HAIG,
NOTARY PUBLIC - REVELSTOKE, B.C.
Mining and Real Estate Broker and General Commission Agent.
FIRE, LIFE AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE.
Representative of the Kootenay Smelting & Trading Syndicate.
AGENT FOR TROUT LAKE CITY, EVANSPORT, KASLO & NAKUSP

W. COWAN,
WHOLESALE DEALER IN
WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS.
REVELSTOKE, B.C.

THE CENTRAL HOTEL
ABRAHAMSON BROS., PROPRIETORS.
First-class Table. Good Beds.
Telephone.
BUS MEETS ALL TRAINS AND STEAMBOATS.
FIRE-PROOF SAFE.

CASH Rules the World!
To contribute your mite in ruling it
BUY FOR CASH.
Save 5 per cent. on your Flour and Feed.
" 10 " " General Groceries.
" 15 " " Clothing.
" 25 " " Tinware.
On all purchases over ONE DOLLAR.
GO TO
John D. Sibbald's
AND DO THIS.

Stockholm House.
JOHN STONE, PROPRIETOR.
The Dining Room is furnished with the best the Market affords.
THE BAR IS SUPPLIED WITH THE CHOICEST
WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS.

## LOCAL ITEMS.

Bar silver 69c. an ounce.

Mr. F. C. Gamble arrived from Fort Steele on No. 1 this evening.

There was an increase to the family of Mr. Hopgood last week. It is a boy.

The C.P.R. traffic for the week ending February 11th amounted to $221,000. For the same week last year it was $236,000.

McCarty's icehouse and the verandah of the Union Hotel were demolished by snow this week—the former by an avalanche.

The Y.P.S.C.E. will hold the monthly consecration meeting on Monday evening next, when the presence of every member is requested.

Tom Horne is building a big boat for freighting supplies to Big Bend. She is to be 43 feet in length with a 9 foot beam.

Mr. D. Todd Lees, the Vancouver representative of the Western Publishing Co., was in town to-day, being on a business trip through the Kootenay country.

Last Saturday night Yardmaster Jeffreys got caught between two cars while coupling and was squeezed pretty badly. He is progressing very satisfactorily towards recovery.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—All letters intended for publication must be received at this office on or before Thursday night. Delivered after that they will be held over till the following week.

Mr. W. Curtis Sampson, secretary of the Inland Development & Construction Co., was in town this week. He says the company is all right and will pay everybody in full—only give them time enough.

Snowslides both east and west have delayed trains on the main line for two days this week, and a slide on the R. & A. L. branch delayed a train at the Green Slide for about an hour last evening.

We beg to draw the attention of our readers to the article on our first page, which will show them how to get a nice cook book—"Table and Kitchen." Don't forget to mention the KOOTENAY MAIL.

Capt. Edwards has some very fine white radishes under the snow in his garden. A sample left at this office to-day measures 17 inches in length and nine inches in circumference. The flavor is equal to anything ever grown.

There was a dance in Bourne's Hall last night, but owing to one thing and another—the scarcity of ladies mostly—the whole party adjourned to the Presbyterian church, where Carson's Stereopticon Show of World's Fair Views was being exhibited.

Mr. Jos. Dunn paid a flying visit to the Wigwam on Monday, and says things are lively down there. Mr. Jos. Walker has obtained a liquor license for his hotel, the Wigwam House, and has a well-fitted bar, which appeared to be well patronised.

Two old-time rivals met in Bourne's store this morning, and after the usual passage-at-arms there was a bout which would have done credit to the arena of a prize ring. The combatants were very unevenly matched, but the little man knocked out his big opponent in one round of about two minutes.

Mr. H. McCutcheon, of Kamloops, Opposition candidate for North Yale in the late Provincial election, went to Victoria last Friday on business in connection with choosing a candidate for the Dominion election. It is rumored that Mac will oppose Mr. Mara. A stronger rumor, however, is to the effect that Mr. Mara's opponent will be Mr. Martin, mayor of Vernon.

Two carloads of horses (28 head) were brought up from the Wigwam on Monday, there being too many teams for the ore being hauled over the sleigh road from Bannock Point. The horses are owned by various farmers further west, and have been forwarded to their destination. This will make it better for the teamsters remaining on the road, by reducing competition.

Tom Reid, of Hall's Landing, who is running a refreshment house on the sleigh road between Bannock Point and Wigwam, came up on a business trip yesterday. He reports quite a lively time on the sleigh, although 14 teams have been withdrawn. He has several skins, one a very large coon, which he says is the only one ever seen in the neighborhood. He had seen the old fellow's tracks all over the settlement for a long time past, and after his capture the tracks were seen no more. Mr. Reid was accompanied by J. Keery, Dan Savoy's partner.

### BIRTH.

PERRIN.—Feb. 19th, at Revelstoke, the wife of Jules Perrin, of a daughter.

### Badge Social.

A very enjoyable social was given on Monday evening in the Presbyterian church in connection with the Y. P. S. C. E. At the close of the usual meeting, which was conducted by Mr. F. W. Laing, a few minutes were spent in social intercourse; after which Mr. Edwin Smith took the chair and opened the literary part of the programme by a few appropriate remarks. Then followed readings and recitations by Misses Lily and Ruth Valentine, Grace and Essie Hamilton, and Mary Edwards. After an interval for refreshments, Herbert Lewis gave a guitar solo, which was encored. The chairman then called on Mr. Wm. Mackie for a few remarks. Mr. Mackie expressed himself as highly pleased at having this opportunity of addressing so many of the young people and giving them some statements regarding his life. He was born in 1820 and reared in this "Great Dominion." The greater portion of his life was spent in the bush of Upper and Lower Canada. This portion of his autobiography was intensly interesting. He then gave some practical advice on the subject of "chums," strongly urging all present not to make too free with "strange chums," and closing his interesting narrative by wishing all present "good health until they died." The meeting adjourned after singing "God save the Queen." The social was a decided success.

## ORE SHIPMENTS VIA REVELSTOKE.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Feb. 18.—Ieco | 2 cars | 60,000 | pounds. |
| " 18.—Slocan Star | 2 " | 74,000 | " |
| " 18.—Noble Five | 1 " | 30,000 | " |
| " 22.—Ieco | 1 " | 30,000 | " |
| " 22.—Slocan Star | 3 " | 100,000 | " |

The whole of the above was shipped to Omaha, Nebraska.

The small shipments this week are due to the presence of considerable floating ice in the lake, making navigation very difficult. The ice, however, is now breaking up, and it is expected that a large tonnage will be moved next week.

### How Much an Ounce?

DEAR SIR,—Can you tell me what price is obtainable for gold at present? The store here allows us only $15.50 an ounce in trade for gold. I understand that about $17 or $18 can be got for same in Revelstoke.—Yours truly,

*Trout Lake, Feb. 15th.* MINER.

[We understand that Lardeau (Trout Lake) gold is somewhat less valuable than Big Bend gold, the latter realizing $18.50 at the San Francisco mint and $18 in Revelstoke. Carnes Creek gold is worth $17.50. Trout Lake gold sells at $16.50 here, although one merchant had been allowing the same price (in trade) as for Big Bend gold—$18. He only obtained $16.50 at the mint, however, which price he is now allowing if goods be taken in exchange.—ED.]

### Formation of an Orange Lodge.

J. C. McLaren, Prov. D.G.M. of B.C., arrived here from Kamloops on Saturday armed with a warrant issued by the Grand Orange Lodge of British America, authorizing him to organize a lodge to be known as "Revelstoke L. O. L. No. 1658," naming Edward Adair as W.M. Mr. McLaren was accompanied by Messrs. Brownlee and Frisken of "Kamloops L.O.L. No. 1570." Old certificates were handed in by the following, who are the charter members of the new lodge: Ed. Adair, Norland, Vict., Ont.; A. David, Rainy River, Ont.; Jas. McMahon, Selkirk, Man.; Geo. McKay, Gibraltar, Spain; D. Little, Ireland; Thos. Steed, Nottawasaga, N. Simcoe, Ont.; D. Alton, London, Ont.; W. R. Reid and Wm. Mackie, Ont. The following were then appointed and installed as officers for the ensuing year: Bros. Ed. Adair, W.M.; A. David, D.M.; Jas. McMahon, Chap.; Geo. McKay, R.S.; D. Little, F.S.; Thos. Steed, Treas.; D. Alton, D. of C. and Lecturer; W. R. Reid, S. C. Man. The brethren then sat down to a substantial repast supplied by Lewis Bros., after which Bro. McLaren gave an instructive and appropriate address, which was responded to by Bros. Adair, Alton and others, and Bro. Mackie sang a good old Orange song which was well received. The R.A.P. mark degree was conferred on Bro. Mackie, who said it had been his cherished wish to obtain this sublime degree in his old age. A vote of thanks was tendered Bro. McLaren, and the brethren from Kamloops for their assistance in organizing the new lodge.

On Monday night—which is to be the regular weekly meeting night—Bros. S. E. Elliott, S. Sweeney, J. Power, J. Douglas, J. McAleese and W. Sweeney, all of Kamloops L.O.L., attended, and were accorded a hearty reception. They expressed their regret at not being able to attend the inauguration ceremony on Saturday night, and gave some acceptable instructions in the working of the Order.

No. 141.

### Certificate of the Registration of a Foreign Company.

"COMPANIES' ACT," PART IV.

Bellingham Bay Hydraulic Mining Co. (Foreign).

Registered the 11th day of January, 1895.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have this day registered the BELLINGHAM BAY HYDRAULIC MINING COMPANY (FOREIGN), under the "Companies Act, Part IV., Registration of Foreign Companies," and the "Companies' Act Amendment Act, 1889."

The Head Office of the said Company is situated at the City of Fairhaven, Whatcom County, Washington, U.S.A.

The objects for which the said Company is established are: To conduct a general mining business in the State of Washington and in the Province of British Columbia; to buy, sell, lease and own mining claims and mines in the State of Washington and in the Province of British Columbia; to buy, sell, lease and own all machinery necessary and proper for operating and working said mining property; to buy, sell and own all necessary supplies and equipment necessary and proper to conduct a general mining business; to buy, sell, own and operate waggons, teams and all necessary means for transporting its supplies and equipment to and from said mining property wherever the same may be situate; to buy, sell, own and operate an electric plant for the purpose of lighting or operating the machinery of said mines; to erect buildings, and to carry on a general merchandising business in connection with said mines; to own and conduct a boarding-house in connection with the said mines; to mortgage its property and raise money thereon for the purposes of facilitating the operation of said property; to borrow money for the same purpose and to do any and all things requisite, necessary and proper for conducting a general mining business, and to facilitate the general objects and purposes of said Company.

The Capital Stock of the said Company is thirty thousand dollars, divided into six hundred shares of fifty dollars each.

Given under my hand and seal of office, at Victoria, Province of British Columbia, this eleventh day of January, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-five.

[L.S.] S. Y. WOOTON,
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

## THE NEW CHIEF JUSTICE.

Hon. Theo. Davie Quits Political Life.

At a meeting of the cabinet at Ottawa on Thursday an Order-in-Council was passed making Premier Davie Chief Justice of the Province of British Columbia.

It is rumored in Victoria that the Hon. J. H. Turner will be the new Premier.

### Not Acquainted with the Facts.

Mr. John Irving, of Victoria, a shareholder in the Inland Development and Construction Co., is indignant at the aspersions cast upon that company by a portion of the interior press, and writes the Victoria *Times* complaining that it has reproduced some of these "slanderous and libellous articles without taking the trouble to ascertain the facts." Mr. Irving says there was no foundation for the malicious attacks made on the company, that all the employees have been paid in full, and that the company is free from debt. The following paragraphs are a portion of Mr. Irving's letter:

"The Inland Development & Construction Co. have issued no spurious checks, or any checks which remain unpaid unless not presented at the bank of British Columbia.

"The C.P.R. Co. did not refuse to take the road over until the pay rolls of the company had been receipted.

"The company is not swamped with its indebtedness.

"With the exception of a few accounts which require adjustment and the engineer's certificate, the company owe nothing. Every laborer and employee has been paid in full although the road has only been finished six weeks.

"I observe that the *Province* also has been endeavoring to make political capital by giving credence to these slanders and published an article based thereon. If the proprietor of that journal, when he tires of being led by the "Leg-Pulling Society" and finds it advisable to wind-up and liquidate his obligations, does so as honorably as the Inland Development & Construction Co., after a heavy loss, are doing theirs, he will deserve credit; hence I would advise him to warn the chief "Leg-Puller" to refrain from adversely commenting on other people's affairs, without first ascertaining the truth of such libels as he may read in other publications."

Now, while Mr. Irving may be speaking according to his knowledge, it is well-known that Genelle & Co. are bringing an action against the company for nearly $10,000 for lumber supplied. At the time the articles complained of were written the company was head over ears in debt and the contents of its store at Three Forks had just been sold to satisfy a judgment, while scores of its employees were living on the charity of hotel-keepers or dragging along somehow in hovels and shacks until the I. D. & C. paid up their wages so long due. Mr. Irving may have known nothing of all this, but it was pretty well known in this district.

### Latest Big Bend News.

E. L. Kinman, who accompanied Johnny Neilson on his last round trip with the Big Bend mail, and who returned the end of last week, reports that they had a very enjoyable trip. The dogs behaved admirably and the snow was in capital trim for travelling. The furthest point reached was French Creek, where the Consolation is paying well in two drives. It has the best fixed-up and the most smoothly working outfit in the Bend. On Gold Stream Sol. Holden & Co. have a wing-dam ready to sluice as soon as the weather is suitable. The flume there has made a good showing. "Parks' army" are in good spirits, and have their large cabin almost completed. The McCulloch Creek Tunnel Co. are in about 200 ft., and are ready to sink a winze for bed-rock. The Downie Creek contingent, which includes the only ladies in the Bend, are in good health and well contented with their location. On his trip, Kinman obtained fully 100 marten skins, most of them of good quality and in fine condition.

### Trout Lake Items.

John Brown came up from Trout Lake last Saturday. He reports considerable activity there; fully 30 men are working on the creek, and making about $2 per day. They will start sluicing as soon as the soft weather sets in. J. Knowles has taken out about $600 this winter. On the Breckenridge claim about 500 ft. has been wing-dammed; working in the river bed, an average of $2.50 a day was obtained on this claim. A good deal of "dead" work has been done this winter in the way of putting in flumes for washing. The winter has been pretty cold and during the hard frost, when it was impossible to work on the creek the men went out trapping, obtaining in most cases enough to clear expenses, quite a lot of marten being secured. One day Louis Mershaw, a half-breed, shot seven caribou, which provided fresh meat for the camp for a considerable time and which was greatly appreciated. Most of the men are sanguine that the coming summer will be a good one in the Trout Lake district.

RUPTURE

More CURES have been effected by my Trusses, with perfect ease to wearer, than by all other devices combined. They obtain largest Rupture under severest strain. A system of fitting has been perfected the last 25 years, fully equal to personal examination by mail. 27 patents to overcome DEFORMITY. Ill. book free.

CHARLES CLUTHE,
181 King St. W., Toronto.

THE PLACE TO BUY

Miners' Supplies,
Groceries,
Provisions,
HARDWARE, STOVES
AND
GENERAL MERCHANDISE
IS AT
H. N. COURSIER'S.

Bourne Bros.,
DEALERS IN GENERAL MERCHANDISE.

ONE CARLOAD COAL OIL
EOCENE IN BARRELS AND CASES.
PRATT'S ASTRAL OIL IN CASES.

Revelstoke,
New Denver
and Nakusp.

GILKER & WELLS,
POST-OFFICE STORE.

Gents' Furnishings,
Stationery,
Patent Medicines
And TOILET ARTICLES of every description.
FURS BOUGHT & SOLD.
Specialty : : SHIRTS and SHOES.

If you want to reach the People in the North Riding of West Kootenay
YOU SHOULD
Advertise in "The Kootenay Mail."

IF YOU WANT
Job Printing
You can get it done at the "Mail" Office
EQUAL IN STYLE AND AS LOW IN PRICE AS IN ANY OFFICE IN THE PROVINCE.

REVELSTOKE, WEST KOOTENAY, B.C.

# SPREEWALD MAIDENS.

## STILL RETAIN MEDIAEVAL DRESS AND BRIDAL COSTUMES.

**Some of the Quaint Things to Be Seen Only a Few Miles From Germany's Capital—The Island of the Amager and Its Old-Fashioned Inhabitants.**

There is a little island lying in the sound a few miles from Copenhagen, the highly cultured capital of Denmark. It is called Amager, or Amak. Its quaint community, numbering 10,000 inhabitants, descends from a colony of Hollanders, who were induced by King Christian II., in 1516, to come and cultivate its fertile soil. The fame of the Dutch for growing fine flowers, especially tulips, luscious fruits, and vegetables had spread far and wide, and the Copenhagen market at that time was sorely in need of these staples. The Amagers have occupied their little isle for nearly four centuries. Their Dutch boats have plied to and fro, between Copenhagen and the insular towns, their mills have served the aristocracy of the Scandinavian metropolis, and all have lived in constant intercourse with the most refined and cultivated of Danish society, but all this has not been able to overthrow their national individuality. Their patois still savors of the idiomatic Dutch and provincial gutturals, the same strange costumes are worn by men, women, and children which Jan Steen and Van Dyke have perpetuated on canvas, and their manner of marriage and living and baptismal customs are precisely what they were 200 years ago. Matrimonial alliances outside of their own environment are scarce. Here, however, their remains little of the superstitions. A holy reverence for evangelical faith and life makes jails and poorhouses superfluous, and their scruples against intermarriage do not cause either mental or physical deterioration. The conscientious cleanliness, proverbial of all Hollanders, has also been transplanted and maintained on Danish soil.

In the Bresse and Vendee provinces, not far from fashionable Paris, men and women still cling to the grotesque headgear of the knightly period. Corsets are ridiculed, and the independent bourgeoisie of the Atlantic provinces snap their fingers at all newfangled caprices of fickle society.

The same strict adherence to traditional life, costumes, and jargon characterizes the peasants and fishermen of Friesland and Heligoland, across the Zuider Zee from historic Amsterdam, though not extravagantly pervaded by religious eccentricities. The Dutch chocolate companies who exhibited at the World's Fair arrayed the girl waiters in the peculiar dress and gold and silver caps which the Frisian women wear to the present day.

That in the heart of Prussia, a few miles from Berlin, the quaint Spreewalders have been able to uphold their Wendish individuality, is remarkable. The graphic sketches which Artist Westphalen, of Moderne Kunst, has gathered on the banks of the Spree show that they have not yet been influenced by the modern progress with which the great Prussian capital has always been identified.

Much that is new and much that is peculiar is encountered in the Spreewald. Both nature and people differ from the rest of Germany. For centuries this has been a most picturesque region, separated from the historic highways of the North. Many usages and customs have outlived all innovations of modern times from the early Wendish period. The saga spring is still kept running, the forest and meadows are still peopled with all sorts of ghostly gnomes and uncanny water folk.

One thing must not be expected on a tour through the Spreewald—luxurious hotel accommodations. Sumptuously equipped buffets, with haughty-mien'd Kellners, have not yet deprived these parts of their simple rusticity. There are nevertheless a few unassuming gasthoefe (roadside inns), with amiable hosts who provide plain palatable food and wolesome beverages.

Malcontent epicures had better steer clear of the Spreewald, but let all who yearn for air and sunshine, for sweet seclusion for soul and body, come to these shaded woodpaths and brook watered meadows, where overfilled highways are unknown, where, instead of the everlasting wagon rattle and horse tret, resound the songs of the lark, the call of the cuckoo, and the beat of the blackbird.

What a charming variation of park and rural landscapes and prettily bridged riverscenes! Here and there an old-fashioned cottage, an old fashioned farmyard, and occasionally a hoary church, that seems to have withstood the storms and ravages of ages. And such attractive little gardens around the houses, such a tasteful arrangement of fruit trees and flower beds!

Baptisms, weddings, and funerals remain in every detail just what they were when Christianity first weaned the Wends away from pagan practices. As well do away with the sacraments altogether as to seek to alter the least in the ceremonies and usages here connected with them.

The women go to the Lord's supper in funeral attire—an all black dress with white neckwear and white bonnet. The bride also appears in white on the wedding day. It differs from the funeral and sacrament in that for the marriage ceremony a plain black skirt and bodice is surmounted by a broad round white ruffled collar, such as Norwegian and Danish pastors wear over their ministerial gowns while officiating. The collar almost conflicts with the large myrtle crown so that the rosy face can barely peep from between the tulip-shaped ornaments. The metropolitan who witnesses the ceremony wonders how the bridegroom will be able to impart the traditional wedding kiss without serious damage to the starched environment.

### Macadamizing Through a Swamp.

A Telford road recently built in Medford, Mass., by John P. Pritchard, was constructed through low wet land, which had to be drained by a trench 4 feet deep, in which was a 6-inch pipe with open joints. The trench was then filled with stone up to the subgrade of the avenue, which was well wet and rolled. On this was the Telford foundation, 9 inches deep at the centre and gradually decreasing in thickness to 5 inches at the curb line. The foundation was wedged and knapped, and then covered with four inches of 2½-inch stone unrolled, which was covered in turn by 3 inches of 2-inch stone, spread with a shovel from a cart, wet and rolled. The surface was next filled with enough half-inch stone to fill out all the inequalities, more sprinkling was done and the surface again rolled to form a firm bed or a 2-inch course of 1-inch stone, well wet and rolled. This street, the Engineering News says, costs about $3 a linear foot, including the expense of grading, trenching, pipe laying, catch-basins, and other incidentials.

### An Intelligent Animal.

"What is the matter with that mule!" asked a man who was standing on the bank of the canal. "He doesn't seem to be of any account whatever."

"He's all right," replied the boatman. "The fault's with me. Ye see, mister, he understands every word ye say to him."

"He doesn't pay much attention to what you say."

"That's what shows his intelligence. I've jist jined church, an' he thinks I'm a stranger."—Life.

### The Result of Care.

A good poultryman never needs any medicine for his poultry. He knows that prevention is better than cure, because a sick fowl is very troublesome. He keeps disease from his chickens by feeding sound, wholesome food. Keeping the pens and roosts clean and free from vermin, giving the chicks sunlight and plenty of fresh air.

### A Finished Courtier.

"What makes you think Jack Youngley is going to propose to you?" "Why, we were dancing the other night and I complimented him upon the easy way in which he held me. 'Oh, yes,' he said; 'it's always easy for me to hold my own.'"—Brooklyn Life.

### Worth Accepting, Anyway.

Mrs. Potts—Rev. Dr. Thirdly has just had a call at $300 a year more salary.

Jack Potts—I should think that was more like a "raise."

### What Sala Has Seen.

It is something to be able to tell the present generation, says Sala in the London Telegraph, that I have seen Louis Philippe while he was still king of the French; that I have seen Soult, Thiers, Guizot and Lamartine; that I have witnessed three revolutions in the French capital; that I followed Garibaldi in his campaign in the Tyrol; that I have heard Daniel O'Connell deliver a speech at the London Tavern; that I knew Lord Palmerston; that I knew the first Lord Brougham; that I was in the Franco-Mexican war and at the storming of Puebla; that I spent thirteen months in America when she was in the midst of war; that I was personally acquainted with Abraham Lincoln, with Seward, with Stanton, with Charles Sumner, with George Bancroft, with Longfellow and with Bayard Taylor, with Grant and with McClellan, with Horace Greeley, Raphael Semmes and Jefferson Davis. I have conversed at Algiers with the Emperor Napoleon III.; I have been patted on the head by the great Duke of Wellington; I lived in Cuba when there were negro slaves there and in Russia when there were millions of white serfs in the the dominions of the Czar; I can remember to have seen the Czar Nicholas himself at Ascot races; I attended the funeral of the assassinated Alexander II. and the coronation of Alexander III.; I was in Constantinople when the first Turkish constitution was proclaimed from the steps of the old seraglio, and I can hear now the shouts of "Amin" from the Moslem troops present.

### Jove and a Hornet Strike Together.

There was an unusually sharp flash of lightning, a stunning peal of thunder and a sharp, sudden pain, and a West Goldsboro young lady gave a shriek and jumped into the middle of the floor. Her friends thought she had been struck and some thought she had been killed, but when the excitement had calmed down enough for an investigation everybody was relieved, for then it was found that the shock had been inflicted not by the lightning, but by a hornet, which had chosen that inauspicious time for action.—Lewiston Journal.

### Improve the Poor Spots.

If there are poor spots on the farm improve them. Do not let them lie idle. Sow to grass and plow under. The farm on which we were born had ten acres of poor soil. Nothing was done with it until a few years since, when it was improved by sowing orchard grass and turning it under. It was then sown to wheat and another crop of orchard grass turned under. In this way and by a free application of barnyard manure it was made a good field. The soil was sandy.—Farmer's Voice.

### Letter Receiver.

Cut the handle from a Japanese fan. Gather an oblong piece of silk, satin, velvet, or brocade goods at both sides. Sew the same to the fan, keeping it near to the edge. This will make a convenient receiver for letters or envelopes.

### Strictly Accurate.

Tommy—Paw, what makes them have the weather office away up on the top of a high building? Mr. Figg—That is so that it won't be too much exertion for a fellow to climb the stairs and kill the weather man.—Indianapolis Journal.

# LONG ENGAGEMENTS.

## IS IT FAIR FOR JOHN TO KEEP MARY WAITING INDEFINITELY?

**One Woman Inclines to an Adverse Opinion—Marr L. Bisland Discusses an Interesting Topic—An Eloquent Champion of Feminine Rights.**

Is it honorable for a man to bind a woman under a matrimonial engagement which implies indefinite waiting for its fulfillment?

Mr. Walter Besant made reference to something of the sort the other day, and during the present prolonged financial stringency many a lovesick bachelor is asking himself this very question.

John adores Mary and has cogent reasons for believing that his passion is reciprocated. Immediate marriage is quite impossible. Shall he tell his love or allow concealment like a worm to play havoc with his heart? His silence leaves her at liberty to accept other proposals if they present themselves. While, on the other hand, plighting her troth to him may mean the unavailing sacrifice of youth, home and husband to his selfish affection.

John is pretty well satisfied that Mary cares for him sufficiently to accept the waiting risks. But that very fact makes him ponder all the more seriously upon his duty to her. He appreciates that every woman whose nature is wholesome and sweet is keenly ambitious for the love, the dignity and multiplied interests that married life alone can give. In the early tenderness of her attachment Mary is apt to minimize all of this, but as the time passes and her girlish bloom fades may she not regret this pledge of her fidelity? After playing the part of bridesmaid half a dozen times she may long to be a bride herself.

As the years drag on every new house erected in the neighborhood, every christening party at church, every smooth checked matron he meets, will be a direct reproach to him. Mary, too, might be discussing housekeeping cares at the sewing society and presiding at mother's meetings if he had not selfishly bound her by a promise. Her sympathy in his misfortunes will be just as generous as of old, but he will wonder now and then if her feelings have not undergone a change, and the sentiment is not that of a sister rather than a sweetheart. It is sure they will miss something the future can never give and if the blessed day of union actually comes they must be content to take restfulness for ecstasy.

Which reasoning is all very fine, Mr. John, but as you thought it out in a moment of idealistic altruism, it is not in practice worth a snap of my finger.

It is but right that a man should hesitate to ask a woman to assume the obligations of matrimony without any of its joys and privileges. To an honorable woman an engagement means the assumption of many duties and anxieties, and if prolonged beyond a certain period is apt to become slightly ludicrous to the outside world. Romance hovers only about new marriages and betrothals, and old lovers are hopelessly commonplace. But the very fact of your asking Mary to be your wife assumes that she is a person of understanding sufficient to know her own mind. Your proposal was not made under any false pretenses. She accepted the situation with her eyes wide open, and it is but fair to let her exercise some discretion in a matter so nearly concerning her happiness.

If John only knew it, the one unpardonable crime a man can commit in the eyes of the woman who loves him is not to confess his passion for her. Silence she finds it impossible to forgive. Aside from the grief she suffers, his reticence has her at such a cruel disadvantage. Unless he speaks the magic words, she is powerless to tell him how patiently she will await the turn of his fortunes or the removal of whatever obstacles separate them. Waiting is one of the things women possess a positive genius for, and uncertainty a trial they are helpless to combat. As all the world agrees, men and women hold diametrically opposite views as to what is honorable. John feels he has no right to speak, while Mary is yearning to prove her sublime indifference to the very stumbling block in their way. Then, too, Mary is justified in believing that John's mountain, sensibly approached, will prove to be the merest molehill. Of course, his sentiment about his old mother is very admirable, but is it just or right? Because she is an elderly, bedridden much indulged old lady, is no reason why he should remain single. Then, she depends upon him or has a very natural maternal jealousy touching her son, but it seems a little unfair to sacrifice a young woman's love to an old woman's whim.

As a rule, the embarrassment that delays a long engagement is financial; but whatever it may be the man should, if he believes Mary loves him, [illegible] from the woman a complete confession of his feelings. Not only is it treating her with the proper respect and consideration, but he owes it to himself.

Mischief has been wrought by just such false conception of honor as the one Walter Besant suggests. And, though elective affinities and broken hearts are unknown outside of the sentimental world, warm, human, loving [illegible] by the world to-day. It is an [illegible] thought of [illegible] and talked of by women [illegible] and [illegible] words, [illegible] every one all the while is making an [illegible] struggle to win or to hold it. What a pity then, with so many real difficulties in the way, that fictitious barriers, which are purely imaginary, should be allowed to obstruct the course. If John loves Mary, tell her so. Tell her at all hazards. Let him entreat her to be his, and if they are obliged to wait half a lifetime for the [illegible] it will be none the less a [illegible] fate [illegible] and out of [illegible]—Marr L. Bisland, in Detroit Free Press.

# SQUADRONS OF HORSE FLIES.

**A Frenchman's Scheme for Carrying Disease Into the Camp of the Enemy.**

Some amusing particulars of the inventions that have been offered to the French war office since 1871 have recently been published in a French newspaper, the majority of which, according to the London Court Journal, are about equal to the Laputan scheme for plowing fields, namely, by sowing acorns in rows and then turning in pigs to root them up. One genius sought a patent for the training of squadrons of horse flies. These auxiliaries were to be fed exclusively on blood served up beneath the delicate epidermis of mechanical figures clothed in the uniforms of members of the triple alliance, so that when political relations in Europe were strained the flies might be given daily a little of the juice of certain poisonous plants and on actual declaration of war be turned out in the path of the enemy. Another ingenious person proposed a scheme for educating war dogs. In times of peace he would train French dogs to bite lay figures wearing Prussian helmets, in order that on the outbreak of war the kennels of the whole country might be mobilized, and let loose on the enemy. Then there are numerous proposals for bridging rivers by means of ropes attached to cannon balls, and a photographer suggests a novel kind of captive shell, which, breaking over the fortified position of an enemy, would disclose a small camera, attached to a parachute. The enemy's fortifications would be instantaneously photographed and the apparatus hauled back by the string and the negatives developed at leisure. Two ideas are very inhuman. One is a scheme for sending large quantities of poisoned needles, as if in charity, to the enemy's generals, who would, of course, distribute them to their forces, and so poison the unfortunate users; and the other to charge explosive bullets with pepper. Two objects are pursued by the inventor of the pepper—its discharge would blind the enemy and the great demand for the condiment in time of war would stimulate the trade of the French colonies and increase the revenue of the country. There are also many other equally absurd proposals, such as suggestions for making soup by machinery, growing potatoes on barrack roofs in December, and killing whole army corps of Prussians by post—but they are too numerous to be mentioned.

### How Slate Pencils Are Made.

In making slate pencils broken slate is put into a mortar run by steam and pounded into small particles. Then it goes into a mill and runs into the "bolting" machine, such as is used in flouring mills, where it is bolted, the fine, almost impalpable flour that results being taken to a mixing tub, where a small quantity of steatite (soapstone) flour, similarly manufactured, is added, together with other materials, the whole making a stiff dough. This dough is kneaded thoroughly by passing it several times between iron rollers. Thence it is conveyed to a table, where it is made into "charges," or short cylinders, four or five inches thick, and containing eight to twelve pounds each. Four of these are placed in a strong iron chamber, or "retort," with a changeable nozzle so as to regulate the size of the pencil, and subjected to tremendous hydraulic pressure, under which the composition is pushed through the nozzle in the shape of a long cord, and passed over a sloping table slit at right angles with the cords to give passage to a knife which cuts them into lengths.

They are then laid on boards to dry, and, after a few hours are removed to sheets of corrugated zinc, the corrugating serving to prevent the pencils from warping during the process of baking to which they are next subjected in a kiln into which superheated steam is introduced in pipes, the temperature being regulated according to the requirements of the article exposed to its influence. From the kiln the articles go to the finishing and packing room, where the ends are thrust for a second under rapidly revolving emery wheels and withdrawn neatly and smoothly polished. They are then packed in pasteboard boxes, each containing 100 pencils, and these boxes are in turn packed for shipment in wooden boxes containing 100 each, or 10,000 pencils in a shipping box. Nearly all the work is done by boys, and the cost, therefore, is light.—Exchange.

### A Gambler's Superstition.

They were playing a quiet rubber of whist and had called for a new deck of cards. One of the players was an old timer, a card player of years of experience, and he took up the old wornout pack and put them on the window sill.

"Throw them in the fire," said the young man who was his partner.

"What!" said the elder, "throw a pack of cards in the fire? Young man, you don't know what you are talking about. I wouldn't do it for $1,000."

"Why not?" "Superstition," was the answer. "Burn a pack of cards, and they'll never give you another hand and will mock you to the last. They're bad enough at best, but you never saw a gambler curse the cards or abuse them. [illegible] I knew a [illegible] card player who did it. He was [illegible] then. In a year he was a beggar, and he never won a game worth mentioning forever after. It's a whim, but the gentlemen of the cloth of green respect it. They won't burn a pack of cards."

### A Firm Believer.

"The Bible, if I remember right," said Mr. Hungry Higgins, "says that six days a man shalt labor and do all his work."

"Guess you are right," assented Mr. Weary Watkins, wondering what was coming next.

"Well, I allow that I have done as much as six days' work in my life, and if I don't read the text wrong, that is all the work a man is permitted to do. It says 'do all thy work,' don't it?"—Detroit News.

# ALLIGATORS AT HOME.

## THE ANCIENT SAURIAN IN HIS NATIVE HAUNTS.

**How They Live and How They Fight—An Encounter With One of Them—Some of Their Peculiarities—An Ugly, Vicious Brute.**

A great deal that has been written for the press the past four years about alligators appears to have come from the pen of winter tourists who spend a brief season in Florida when alligators are enjoying their long nap at the bottom of the lakes or covered with mud in the swamps.

It is safe to say that they have never met the ancient saurian in his native haunts.

If an alligator meets you on land he is at your mercy. If you meet him on the water the conditions are reversed. On land he is an awkward fellow. His flippers are not made for walking, and he gets along through perseverance and endurance. In moving on land he lifts his body up, but drags his tail on the ground, making a trail as though with a stick.

In April and May the males make a great noise, bellowing like a bull. In the latter part of May they make their nest, selecting a quiet place on the banks of a lake or river. It will be two or three feet long, built of sticks, grass and sand. The female lays from twenty-six to thirty-two eggs. They are as big around as a hen's egg and nearly twice as long. Boys hunt the eggs and sell them to the curio stores, where they are either hatched or blown out.

The negroes have an idea that an alligator prefers a black man to a white one, and they say that a 'gator will swim all around white men if there is a negro in the crowd. The negroes look upon the 'gator as a natural enemy.

Two years ago, during orange packing, not wishing to spare one of the men from work to go to town every day for the mail, I made a small cypress boat not more than ten feet long. It was so light and easy going that I could cover the distance of one mile in nine minutes. After I had the boat finished, I painted it red. "A strong, bright red," as the Dutchman said.

Just as I was starting to town one day, Dr. Whitfield, of Grand Rapids, S.D., who was seeking health by hunting 'gators, told me that a whopping big alligator had recently made a bed in the weeds on Shaw's grove near an old wharf. "He's a whopper," said the doctor, "and you watch out and report."

When I approached the place, I went about forty feet from the shore. I soon saw the monster, an ugly looking fellow. He was about four feet above the water, partly hidden in the weeds. I noticed a slight motion as I passed, so I concluded to return, in hopes of seeing him slide into the water, as they usually do, and thus secure his dimensions. But I was greatly surprised to see the monster rise and plunge into the water like a man taking a header. It was an unusual performance. I had heard of such a things but in my ten years' residence on the lake, this was the first plunge I ever really saw. This, together with his immense size, warned me that I had encountered a dangerous enemy.

He struck the water about twenty-five feet from the boat and as he passed under it, I felt and heard his rough scale-like hide rub on the keel of the boat. Instantly I thought that my time had come, all the blood in my body rushed to my heart and it beat against my ribs as though it would come out. If he had capsized the boat I would have never lived to write this episode. He came up about twenty-five feet on the other side, and turned toward the boat. He churned the water with his tail until the lake looked like Buttermilk Falls. I knew he was mad and that he was determined to get at me. He came toward the boat with his jaws open at such speed that if he had struck it it would have gone to pieces. Death, a horrible death, was staring me in the face and no help at hand. There were some people on the opposite shore watching the battle, but they had no boat, and if they had, could not reach me in time to be of any service.

I realized that I must keep cool if I would win the fight. I suddenly became as strong as a lion, my jaws set and my teeth ground on each other. As he came near the boat, I pulled on my off oar with all my might. This swung the boat around so we passed each other side by side. He was going at such speed that he went fifteen or twenty feet before he turned and then he had to make a large circle, lashing the water into a foam. I tried to get away from him but he was between the boat and the shore and it would be folly to push toward the middle of the lake. He was disappointed, mad, furious, and came for the canoe with renewed vigor.

I must either kill or be killed.

I again pulled on my off oar and what made the situation more desperate, the other oar slipped from its lock and slid into the lake. There was no time to be lost in trying to recover it, for in another instant the battle would be lost or won, man or 'gator. Quick as lightning I raised the remaining oar and brought it down with all my power, aiming for his eyes. I fell short of the mark, but struck him on the end of the nose. He spurted blood and hesitated. That was fatal to him, for the next instant, I struck him across the eyes. He stopped and commenced sinking and another blow sent him out of sight.

The spot was watched for some days and at last he was found sunning himself in his old bed, where he was shot. He measured fourteen feet and was thought to be 80 years old. The old alligator hunters said he attacked the boat because it was red, so for future safety I painted "Red Rover" white.

# AN AGED LOCOMOTIVE.

## HERO OF ALEXANDRIA WAS THE INVENTOR OF IT.

**And It is Two Thousand Years Old—The Shrine of Bacchus Also Described—Moved Automatically in Various Directions.**

A writer in a scientific journal says:

The Scientific American contains an account by R. W. Durfee of a locomotive that was invented and used 2,000 years ago.

There is a general belief among mechanicians that vehicles containing within themselves the means of their own population are of comparatively recent origin; and the fact of the adhesion of the rims of their wheels to the earth or a supporting rail being sufficient to enable adequate power applied to the wheels to move the vehicle was a discovery of not earlier than the middle of the last century. But in this instance the writers on locomotive machines have not dived deep enough or stayed down long enough among the records of antiquity to discover the bottom facts in the history of such mechanisms.

The first locomotive, or self-moving vehicle, of which we have any account was the invention of Hero of Alexandria, who lived about 5,000 years ago. In his work descriptive of automatic or self-moving machines, there is illustrated a shrine of Bacchus mounted upon three wheels concealed within its base.

The shrine was crowned with a canopy, about which figures of dancers were made to move by hidden mechanism. Within the base of the shrine were three supporting wheels. Of these two were fixed to an axle, on which was a drum. Around this drum was wound a rope which passed upward on one side of the shrine and over two pulleys. It was then attached to a heavy leaden weight. The gradual escape of sand through a hole in a compartment beneath the weight caused it to descend. The weight thus pulled on the cord and revolved the drum and wheels, causing the shrine to move forward in a straight line.

Hero also describes how to arrange the wheels in order to make the shrine move in a circular path and to make it move in straight lines at right angles.

By turning the figure of Victory two fountains beneath the canopy could be made to discharge wine or milk at pleasure. This apparatus is an adaptation of the two-way cock, familiar to modern mechanical engineering.

The mechanism of the shrine of Bacchus proves that 2,000 years ago the fact that wheeled vehicles could be propelled by power applied to the axles on which the driving wheels were fastened was well known, and that the mechanical principles involved in the application of the power were well understood. Furthermore, the shrine afforded evidence of a high degree of refinement in mechanical manipulation in the cylindrical plug two-way cock, as well as in the general arrangement of the details of apparatus for performing the seeming miracle of changing wine into milk or milk into wine.

It is confidently believed that this is the first time this self-moving vehicle (which the shrine certainly was) of Hero has been described or even referred to by any writer in the English language. This is not strange, for the work of Hero descriptive of automata is very scarce, and the translations of Commandine into Latin and of Baldi into Italian are also rare.

It is universally admitted by writers on mechanics that Hero is the author of the first description of a machine actuated by steam; but hitherto no one has claimed for him the honor—to which the evidence above submitted clearly entitles him—of having invented the first self-moving carriage or locomotive.

### A Camera for Naturalists.

At a recent meeting of the Royal Photographic Society, T. R. Dallmeyer described a new modification of his telephotic lens, by which it is made suitable for long or short extensions of the camera within certain limits, so as to give the power of obtaining at will a large or small amplification of distant objects. He said that the main point with lenses of this class is the question of rapidity; it is easier to make a telephotographic lens at the sacrifice to some extent of the luminosity of the image upon the sensitive plate. He also exhibited his new naturalist's camera, a long, narrow instrument of light weight, made chiefly for photographing wild animals from a distance, when the camera is held in the hand, or when it can be partially rested against a tree or other fixed object, or when lying on the stomach on the ground.

It is a long camera of light weight, preferably fitted with a telephotographic lens, acting upon a sensitive plate of somewhat small size. It has a lengthy eye-piece, mounted upon its upper surface, and when this is adjusted to suit the eyesight of the user, it need never be shifted from that adjustment for the particular user; the image on the plate being at the same time in focus, it is never necessary afterwards to alter the adjustment of the eye-piece for all the objects he sees in sharp focus through it will also be in sharp focus upon the plate. To minimize vibration a particularly light spring had been made for the instantaneous shutter.

### Miss Arabella Jones-Smyth.

She isn't very pretty,
She isn't very witty,
Her conversation sometimes is quite plain;
But the "swells" all flock around
With reverence profound—
For she proudly sports a hyphen in her name.

She dances like a camel,
Her complexion is enamel;
Her figure would a hat-rack put to shame;
But the "swells" bow down before her,
And for "just one waltz" implore her,
Fascinated by that hyphen in her name.

—Truth.