THE MINES OF EAST KOTENAY, ARE RICH IN GOLD, SILVER COPPER AND LEAD.

The Prospector.

THE PROSPECTOR HAS THE LARGEST CIRCULATION OF ANY NEWS PAPER IN EAST KOOTENAY

Vol. 2. FORT STEELE, B. C. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1897. No 31.

A chiel's amang you takin notes,
And faith he'l prent them.

LOCAL NEWS.

FORT STEELE WEATHER REPORT

TEMPERATURE.

JAN.	MAXIMUM	MINIMUM
28	10. 7	—14. 7
29	17. 4	2. 7
30	32. 0	— 5. 4
31	40. 4	4. 6
FEB. 1	39. 5	16. 5
2	31. 9	22. 3
3	37. 3	20. 9

Weather resumed its moderate character; rather unsettled. More snow on the ground.

Observer—Dr. Charles McLean.

Look out for the Minstrels.

Mr. Thomas McNaught of Thunder Hill is in town.

It may be a weekly mail next May.

The North Star drift is in 300 feet.

Demairs teams from the plains came in loaded with oats.

M. Phillipps S. M. is attending to official business here.

Good sleighing on the North Star road.

W. E. Johnson of the American Store Co. left last Friday for Kalispell.

Mr. Maclean has taken charge of the Dalgardno House dining room.

Mr. Neil Curran manager of the North Star mine was in town on Friday.

Messrs Klemsmith & Schagel of Kalispell, are looking up a site for a saw-mill.

Mr. Smith of the firm of Smith & Lindsay, Riverside, Montana is on a visit at Steele.

William Bosse and Joe Chenai came in from Kalispell on Monday.

Two teams came in from Kalispell loaded with merchandise for the American store.

Checkers, and checker boards, and checker players at the Drug Store.

What is the matter with the Gun Club, now is the time to get ready for the coming season.

We understand that steps will shortly be taken to organise a fire company for Fort Steele.

The Ice harvest has commenced Freeman & Geary is hauling for R.D. Mathers, and Percy Wilmot for D. McNeish.

The following teams came in from Tobacco plains loaded with freight. Messrs Bohart, Pelkie, Ewing, Demer's.

Mr. Simpson of Texas is so pleased with Fort Steele that he will return here with his family to reside early in June.

Three teams with a number of ladies and gentlemen, visited Wild Horse creek on Monday and took in the New Years festivities.

You know coffee is used fresh-roasted. Tea ought to be—for the same reason—the taste.

Ours are the only tea-firing works in the United States; *Schilling's Best* is always fresh-fired when it leaves our hands.

Schilling & Company
San Francisco 878

M. Phillipps S. M. after getting through his official duties left for Tobacco plains on Thursday.

Neil Curran and the genial Joe Laidlaw paid Fort Steele a visit on Monday. We learn that Mr. Curran goes to Kalispell next week on business.

A thorough search was made of the house lately occupied by Leitch and we hear some further evidence was found, what it was the authorities wisely kept it secret.

CHURCH NEWS.

Mr. Galbraith conducted the Episcopal service last Sunday afternoon reading a sermon upon the words of John the Baptist "Behold the Lambs of God which taketh away the sin of the world."

In the evening Mr. Patmore conducted the Presbyterian form of service, which was well attended, taking for his text the words of Queen Esther "I will go in unto the King, which is not according to the law, and if I perish, I perish," and preaching from them upon the subject of "Duty."

Services next Sabbath will be held as follows: In the afternoon Sabbath school at 2 o'clock; Presbyterian service at 3 o'clock and English church service in the evening at 7-30.

FOR SALE.

One Set light Bob Sleighs. Price $35,00.—Smith & Lindsey. Riverside, Montana.

SMALL DEBT'S COURT.

Before M. Phillipps S. M. Lamont v. Quinlivan, judgment for Lamont. Levett v. Olsen, settled out of court.

MINSTREL CLUB CONCERT.

The attention of the public is directed to the posters and programmes of the Minstrel Club Concert which is to come off in the Dalgardno House, on Saturday, Feb. 13, at 8 p.m. The Fort Steele Minstrel Club is composed entirely of local talent and should on that account, be well patronised. A number of laughable farces are in preparation and will be ready to be placed "on the boards" that evening. The Ministrel Club, consisting of ten male voices, will provide the musical as well as the dramatical part of the programme, and a first-class entertainment may be expected. As is the rule in Minstrel concerts, the first part of the programme will be devoted to "The jolly circle" and will be made up of choruses, vocal trios, and sayings "wise and otherwise" by the endmen. The second part of the programme will consist of farces, vocal trios and solos, buck dancing and the old plantation hoe-down. The Club's orchestra, consisting of violins, guitar and organ will furnish the instrumental music throughout the entire evening, playing during all the intermissions. All turn out and give the boys a hearing, as they are hard at work endeavoring to make it a success It is believed on reliable(?) authority that the C. P. R. will issue reduced-fare tickets for all points between Calgary and Kamloops for this great musical and dramatical event. Secretary.

SUBSCRIBE FOR THE PROSPECTOR.

MINING NEWS.

There is a rumor around town that the North Star Co. have stocked their mine for $1,500,000.

The lower tunnel at the North Star is in 300 feet, and the company are now sinking their No. 4 shaft, to tap a large body of carbonates.

Assessment work has been performed on the following claims on Huckleberry Hill, Manerick, Good Luck, and Dorval.

H. L. Ammie and W. VanArsdalen will commence work on the Big Chief and Ureka mineral claims situated on the North Star Hill, there is a good showing of mineral on this property, on the Eureka there is a three foot lead of galena which has been traced for 700 feet.

There are four men working on the Dibble property.

The owners of the Estrella mineral claim have been working all winter, and have two tunnels in about 70 feet each, with a good showing of ore.

C. E. Venosta, of the firm of Venosta & Co. Mining Brokers is in England completing a deal on several mining claims in this vicinity.

Several claims on Perry creek are showing up fine bodies of ore. The Elwood property has a tunnel in some 80 feet, and the claims owned by the Walsh Bro's have a good showing of gold quartz.

Messr's Robinson & Tracy have a mineral claim situated about a mile west of Mark creek, which has a six foot lead, with a good showing of mineral, an incline tunnel is in 50 feet.

Mr. R. L. T. Galbraith received the following letter:

Kalispell, Jan. 14, 1897.

Dear Mr. Galbraith:—

Just a few lines to let you know a little news. I was in Spokane and returned here last night, will leave here for Manitoba tonight. I saw Smith and Clever, their deal went through all right. Clever has gone to the Old Country for a trip. The Midnight deal went through all right Hoggarth went East before I came down. Fort Steele is all the talk on the outside. There will be hundreds of people in next spring. Did not see anything of Sprague, I heard he had been in Spokane, I'm afraid his deal did not go through The team is starting in a few minutes so will have to conclude Will write you from Manitoba.

Yours sincerely.

GEN. WEYLER'S STATEMENT.

Gen. Weyler sent to the World on Monday, in response to its request, his explanation of the death of Maceo.

Gen. Weyler's denial that Maceo was invited to a conference is supported by reasoning that seems plausible. But this does not remove the suspicion of treachery of some sort. It does not answer the question. Why was Maceo so far from his troops and within the Spanish lines, where he and the dozen men he had with him could do no possible good? And it does not explain why the suspected doctor was the only man of his party left alive.

The full story of Maceo's taking off remains to be told.

CASH for FUR.

Shipments returned at our expense if prices are not satisfactory.

SMITH & LINDSEY,
Riverside, Mont.

THE CHINESE NEW YEAR.

The celestians' of Fort Steele, and Wild Horse creek, celebrated their New Year on Monday, Feb. 1st. A large number of the residents of Fort Steel visited China Town, "on Wild Horse creek" to see how John Chinaman celebrated their only holiday.

The evening, on which the new moon, "in February" appears, is New Year's Eve in China. It is the greatest holiday of the year, it is also the only Sunday in the entire Chinese year, and the people stop all work, put on their best clothes, "if they have any, new if possible; and rejoice and celebrate in their own peculiar way. Shoot Fire-works, fire crackers, Chinese bombs, in fact make all the noise possible, and drink Sam Suie, "Whiskey." Give presents wrapped in red paper, call on their friends, pay all their debts, take a bath, (the only one in the year) and enjoy themselves in the greatest possible degree. They are compelled to pay their debts on this day or go into bankruptcy it is a bad day for the debtor in China, for the creditor can enter the house and help himself to anything he wants. Red the most brilliant and gorgeous red possible is over everything, little signs, figures and symbals are on, and over their doors, red wrapping paper about their presents, even eggs are painted red, and offered to their Gods. At night the air is red with the fire from burning crackers, used to scare away the devils of misfortune, and bad luck for the coming year. They sit up all night, for there is a superstition, that the one who for ten successive years sees the sun rise on New Years morning, will have a long life. A peculiar New Years custom is the little children running through the streets, offering their small voices for sale, in order to start the year with a clear record; I want to sell my little lies, "they cry," I want to sell my stealing habits, who wants to buy my vanity, or my selfishness and my bad temper, if they find any purchasers, it is not recorded as they hold on to the stealing habits through life. The grand finale, is a tremendous, and sudden burst of fire-works, a large decoction of sam suie, and a prolonged sitting at Fan Tan, "gambling."

CHEAP PRODUCTION.

The Spanish mine in Nevada country, Cal., is believed to have broken all records in the matter cheap production, and recent statements concerning the cost of its operation have given rise to an interesting discussion. The ore carries but 75 to 80 cents per ton and the cost of mining and milling costs but 45 to 50 cents. This is accomplished by reason of the nature of the ore and favorable location of the outcrop. It is so soft that it can almost be dug out with the fingernails and it is taken from open cuts and run through Huntington mills quickly and cheaply.

N. A. WALLINGER C. F. VENOSTA E. A. ELTON

VENOSTA & CO

Mining Brokers, Commission and Real Estate Agents.

AGENTS IN

London, New York, Chicago, St Paul, Montreal and Toronto,

Options Carried and Mining Deals Consumated.

CARLIN & DURICK.

FORT STEELE, B.C.

Just Received
Fresh Eggs
Finland Haddies
Labrador Herring
Salmon Bellies
Oolachans

REDUCED PRICES ON ALL KINDS OF DRY GOODS, BEFORE STOCK TAKING.

AMERICAN STORE.

GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Giant Powder, Mining Supplies & Hardware,

Groceries & Provisions

Supplies For Miners & Prospectors,

W. E. JOHNSON And COMPANY,

FORT STEELE B. C.

THE

QUEEN'S HOTEL.

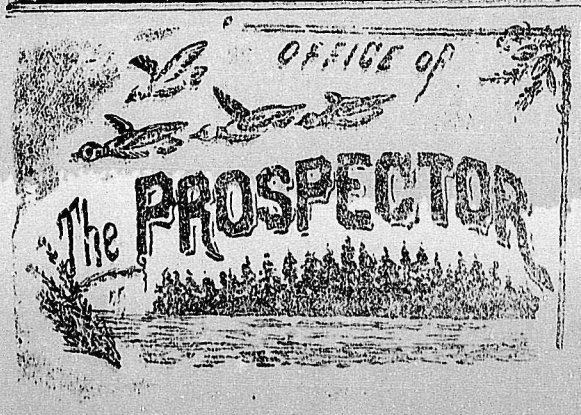
Two Commodious Sample Rooms for Commercial Men

BAGGAGE TRANSFERRED FREE

HOT & COLD BATHS RATES $2 PER DAY.

J. G. Greene, Proprietor.

GOLDEN, B. C.



THE PROSPECTOR,

—o—

IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE PROSPECTOR COMPANY.

A. B. GRACE, MANAGER.

Devoted to the upbuilding of Fort Steele, the development of the vast mineral resources of the East Kootenay mining district.

Subscriptions, ...$1.50 per year.

Advertising rates made known on application.

Contributions are solicited from all parts of the district, but all matter intended for publication must have the writers signature.

FORT STEELE MINING ASSOCIATION.

Thomas McVittie,		President.
O. S. Frizzell.	Vice	" "
N. A. Wallinger,	"	" "
E. C. Smith.	"	" "
C. F. Venosta,		Secretary.

The regular meetings of the association will be held on the 1st and 3rd Saturday in every month.

All possible information will be furnished by the Association, upon application to

C. F. Venosta, Sec., Fort Steele B.C.

Professional.

CHARLES MACLEAN,

Physician & Surgeon.

FORT STEELE, B. C.

THOMAS McVITTIE.

P.L.S. & C.E.

Fort Steele B.C.

H. L. CUMMINS.

P. L. S. & C. E.

Fort Steele B.C.

J. J. LAMONT

Contractor and Builder

Fort Steele, B. C.

☞ Mrs. E. J. HIGHWARDEN.

Fashionable Dressmaker.

Next Door to Barber Shop.

NOTICE.

I hereby give notice, that sixty days after date, I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands & Works, for permission to purchase that fraction of land lying north of lot 51 group 1, west of lot 55 group 1, and between said lots and the Kootenay River, near Fort Steele in East Kootenay District B. C. Containing in all about [20.0] twenty acres more or less.

James C. Durick.

Dated this 20th day of Dec, 1896.

.....THE.....

CASSELL GOLD EXTRACTING COMPANY, "Ltd." OF GLASGOW

THE MacARTHUR-FORREST (CYNIDE PROCESS.)

Miners and others wanting ore treated by the Cynide Process should send samples to the Canadian representative,

W. PELLEW HARVEY, F.C.S.

Assay Office & Metallurgical Works.

VANCOUVER B.C.

W. Pellew. Harvey. F. C. S.

[Mem. Fed. Inst. M & M E.]

Assay Office & Metallurgical Works

Vancouver B. C.

Mill tests made on parcels of ore up to 1.000. Lbs in weight.

Prompt returns, and accuracy guaranteed.

FORT STEELE,

ASSAY OFFICE.

Fort Steele B.C.

.....

Gold, Silver, Copper, Lead, Etc, at prices to suit the times.

A trial respectfully solicited.

All work will receive prompt attention.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the partnership between Eneos H. Small and David Larmour, is dissolved. David Larmour retiring. The business will be carried on by Eneos H. Small who will pay all debts, and collect accounts due the firm.

The dissolution dates from November 20th, 1896.

Eneos H. Small,
David Larmour.

Witness, Alf. Garret.

NOTICE.

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that sixty days after date we intend to apply to the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase 160 acres of land situated on Perry creek East Kootenay, 20 chains south and 20 chains west of the south west corner post of Weller & Doyle's application for purchase, the same being unreserved and unoccupied Crown lands, commencing at the North East corner post running 40 chains south thence 40 chains east thence 40 chains north thence 40 chains to the place of commencement.

Dated December 19th 1896,

J. C. DURICK.

NOTICE.

Application has been made for the transfer of the Liscense of the Dalgardno Hotel, now standing in the name of A. Morin, to R. D. Mather the present proprietor.

R.D.Mather.

Dated this 21st day of Nov, 1896.

NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that the British Columbia Southern Railway Company will apply to the Parliament of Canada, at its next session, for an Act to declare the said British Columbia Southern Railway Company to be a body corporate and politic within the jurisdiction of the Parliament of Canada, and the Company's railway to be a work for the general advantage of Canada, also to authorize the extension of the line of the said railway from its eastern terminus in the Crow's Nest Pass, across and over the eastern boundary of British Columbia, into the Province of Alberta, thence in an easterly direction to Macleod, or to a point on the Calgary and Macleod Railway, and there to connect with the same, and thence easterly to Lethbridge.

GEMMILL & MAY,
Solicitors for applicants.

Ottawa 18th September 1896.

NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that application will be made to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, at its next session, for an Act incorporating the Kootenay Power and Light Company, Limited for the purpose of supplying power, light and heat by compressed air and electricity to the inhabitants, cities, towns, mines, smelters and tramways in the East and West Divisions of Kootenay District, also to construct, maintain and operate tramway and telephone systems in the said East and West Divisions of Kootenay District and to extend the said systems to other districts contigeous thereto, and to erect and maintain all necessary works, buildings, flumes, dams, raceways, poles, lay pipes and stretch wires for the conveyance and supply of compressed air and electricity as aforesaid and with power to expropriate lands for the purposes of the said Company and also for the purpose of generating power, light and heat as aforesaid to appropriate and use so much water from Kootenay river and its tributaries and the Columbia and its tributaries as the Company may see fit and to do all such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or of any of them.

Dated at the City of Victoria, this 24th day of November, A.D. 1896.

FRANK HIGGINS,
Solicitor for Applicants.

NOTICE.

Notice of Application for Certificate of Improvements.

The Dean Mineral Claim, situate in the Fort Steele Mining Division of East Kootenay District. Located on Huckleberry hill, north of the North Star mine,

TAKE NOTICE that R.O.Jennings F. M. C. No 47998 intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a certificate of improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such certificate of improvements.

per R.O.Jennings.

Dated this 14th day of November, 1896.

NOTICE.

Notice of Application for Certificate of Improvements.

All-over Mineral Claim situate in the Fort Steele Mining Division of East Kootenay District. Located on Huckleberry hill, north of the North Star mine.

TAKE NOTICE that R. O. Jennings F. M. C. No. 47998, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a certificate of improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issurance of such certificate of improvements.

per R. O. Jennings,

Dated this 14th day of November, 1896.

NOTICE.

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that sixty days after date we intend to apply to the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase one hundred and sixty acres of unoccupied Crown lands situated on Perry creek East Kootenay, about 9 miles above the old town, commencing at the west corner post running 40 chains east thence 40 chains north, thence 40 chains west thence 40 chains south to the place of commencement.

Dated December 19th, 1896.

W. J. WELLER.
A. DOYLE.

NOTICE.

I hereby give notice, that 30 days after date, I intend to apply to the Gold Commissioner for a liscence to sell liquor by retail, on the premises known as the Grand Central Hotel.

A. M. Leitch.

Dated this 18th day of Nov, 1896.

READ THE PROSPECTOR.

[L.S.] E. DEWDNEY,
CANADA.
PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

VICTORIA, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, &c, &c, &c.

To Our faithful the Members elected to serve in the Legislative Assembly of Our Province of British Columbia at Our City of Victoria—Greeting.

A PROCLAMATION.

D. M. EBERTS, Attorney-General. } WHEREAS We are desirous and resolved, as soon as may be, to meet Our people of Our Province of British Columbia, and to have their advice in Our Legislature:

NOW KNOW YE, that for divers causes and considerations, and taking into consideration the ease and convenience of Our loving subjects, We have thought fit, by and with the advice of Our Executive Council of the Province of British Columbia, to hereby convoke, and by these presents enjoin you, and each of you that on Monday, the Eighth day of the month of February, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven, you meet Us in our said Legislature or Parliament of Our said Province, at Our City of Victoria, FOR THE DISPATCH OF BUSINESS, to treat, do, act, and conclude upon those things which in Our Legislature of the Province of British Columbia, by the Common Council of Our said Province may, by the favour of God, be ordained.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent, and the Great Seal of the said Province to be hereunto affixed: WITNESS, the Honourable EDGAR DEWDNEY, Lieutenant Governor of Our said Province of British Columbia, in Our City of Victoria, in Our said Province, this twenty ninth day of December, in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-six, and in the sixtieth year of Our Reign.

By Command.

JAMES BAKER,
de 31 Provincial Secretary.

NOTICE.

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 to construct and operate a railway from a point at or near the Town of Lethbridge, in Alberta, in the North West Territories of Canada: thence extending westerly through Crow's Nest Pass to the Columbia river in the Province of British Columbia: thence westerly to a point in said Province on or near the Fraser River or the Straits of Georgia, or any arm or inlet of the same at tide-water or seaboard with power to build, acquire, maintain and operate steam and other vessels to be used in connection with the said railway, also to purchase and use water to generate electrical power and to sell and lease such power.

Dated at Victoria, British Columbia, 17th December, 1896.

ARCHER MARTIN,
Solicitor for Applicants.

NOTICE.

Take Notice, Sixty days after date, I intend to apply to the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works, for permission to purchase a certain parcel of surveyed land known as Lot 43 in group 1, and situated on Findlay Creek about 8 miles from its mouth.

F.H.BACON.

Dated, Golden, B.C. 9th, day January, 1897.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Kaslo—The Union Club has been organized here with a membership of 91. The chief officers are: President, Mayor R.F.Green: vice president, W.Allison: secretary treasurer, C.Trumbull.

Victoria—Henry Lawson, one of the pioneer journalists of Canada, who for the past eight years has been editor-in-chief of the Victoria Colonist, is dead, at the age of 67 years. For over 40 years Henry Lawson has been actively engaged in newpaper work.

Vancouver—Tobacconists in this city are agitating for the imposition of an annual license of $100 or $200, which they claim would exclude them from the present competition with groceries and fruit and drug stores, most of which sell tobacco and cigars.

Vernon—Cigars which are said to be of excellent quality have been manufactured from tobacco grown on Messrs, Collins & Holmans' ranch at Kelowna. This firm had an unusually good crop last year, and all has been carefully cured. It is believed that tobacco raising will prove an important industry in the valley in the near future.

VICTORY FOR GOMEZ.

Stormed and Captured the City of Santa Clara.

The Spanish Are Said to Have Lost 900 Killed and Wounded and 700 Prisoners.

New York—The Press this morning claims to have received news through private channels that General Maximo Gomez stormed and captured the important city of Santa Clara and is now moving on Havana, with 18,000 men.

The famous cavalry leader, Quinten Bandera, was mortally wounded, the Press says, and General Luque, commanding the Spanish, was also wounded.

The news received last night said the losses were: Spanish, estimated killed and wounded, 900; prisoners, 700; cannon captured, 18; battle standards, four; rifles in the Spanish arsenal, 5000, with plenty of ammunition. Cubans killed and wounded, 1500, which is 600 more than the Spanish loss.

The Press quotes Carlos Roloff as saying the report is credible. The junta has no news.

According to the Press advices, the garrison of Santa Clara had been reduced to 2000 men, while Gomez had 8000 men, 6000 being armed. On January 5th he invested the city, which was well fortified. Gomez sent the infantry under General Rabi to the west of the city. The cavalry, 400 strong under Bandera, was placed on the other three sides, its main strength being on the west. On the 6th 7th and 8th there were skirmishes, General Luque, commander of the garrison, being wounded on the latter day. On the 9th, at daybreak, the Cubans closed in on the town the cavalry charging in over the Spanish earthworks and putting the enemy to flight.

Bandero fell while leading his men and died soon after.

Gomez gave his men only a night's rest. Then, leaving a garrison of 1500 men, he pushed on to the west. Those of his men who had no weapons were armed from the Spanish arsenal, so that in fighting men he was nearly as strong as before the battle.

No sooner had the news of the fall of Santa Clara reached the planters around about than they began to flock to Gomez's standard. Every mile he went he got new recruits. The news received last night said he has an army of 18,000 well equipped men.

GUNBOAT WRECKED.

Disasterous Ending of a Spanish Expedition Up the Cauto.

MANY KILLED AND WOUNDED.

Influences Working to Bring About the Recall of Captain General Weyler.

INSURGENTS ALSO DISCOURAGED

Havana—The gunboats Continela and Relampago left Manzanillo with the object of going up the river Cauto to Fort Guamo in compliance with the orders of General Bosch.

Both gunboats were near Mango landing, when an explosion of a torpedo, which had been placed in the river, sunk the Relampago. Those of her crew who survived swam towards the shore, but were fired upon from the banks. At this critical moment a boat was launched from the Centinela which rescued the men in the water. In view of instructions and the fact that the commander of the Centinela and nearly all of the crew of both boats had been seriously wounded, the expedition had to return to Manzanillo.

Senor Martinez of the Relampago was seriously wounded in the explosion, as well as Assistant Engineer Jacobi Dunham, Gunner Francisco Martinez and three seamen, while Paymaster Antero, Chief Officer Masquero, Engineer Pasedela and so the pilot and four others were slightly wounded. Six of the officers and crew were killed outright and all of the rest received wounds of more or less severity.

On the gunboat Centinela the commander, Senor Puerta, was seriously wounded, while one of the crew was killed, and Corporal Manuel Cubanas, Pilot Duran, Engineer Martinez and six of the crew were wounded.

Can't Last Much Longer.

Havana, (via Key West, Fla.)—There is considerable complaint here among newspaper correspondents and others in regard to the alleged tampering with matter on the part of the Spanish authorities here, and it is believed that the attention of the United States authorities will be called to the matter.

Outside assistance is what the insurgents stand badly in need of at present. Everything depends upon the friends of the insurgents in the United States. If they do not exert themselves promptly and effectively in the very near future, the dream of independance for Cuba may pass away for the present. The turning point of the insurrection, it is believed here, has been reached.

FIRING A CANON UNDER WATER.

A curious experiment was recently made with a piece of ordinance at Portsmouth, England. A stage was erected in the harbor within the tide mark; on this an Armstrong gun of the 110-pound pattern was mounted. The gun was then loaded and carefully aimed at a target—all this, of course, during the time of low tide. A few hours later when the gun and the target were both covered with water to a depth of six feet, the gun was fired by means of electricity. We said "aimed at a target," but the facts are that there were two targets, but only one was erected for this special experiment, the other being the hull of an old vessel, the Griper, which lay directly behind the target and in range of the ball. The target itself was only 25 feet from the muzzle of the gun. It was composed of oak beams and planks, and was 21 inches thick.

In order to make the old Griper invulnerable, a sheet of boiler plates 3 inches thick was riveted to the waterlogged hull, in direct range with the course the ball was expected to take if not deflected by the water. On all off these—the oaken target, the boiler plates and the old vessel hull—the effect of the shot was really startling. The wooden target was pierced through and through, the boiler iron target was broken into pieces and driven into its "backing," the ball passing right on through both sides of the vessel, making a huge hole, through which the water poured in torrents, The experiment, apparently, demonstrated the feasibility of placing submerged guns in harbors in time of war.

Slocan—There are 15 mines in the Slocan country which it is estimated aggregate shipments of 4000 tons of ore a month will be shipped this year. Much of this ore is high grade and from the mines alluded to the value can be safely be put at $150 a ton.

Victoria—The Clover Point range has long been considered dangerous owing to its paralleling a much traveled highway, but Mr. Bitancourt and his son have found it equally dangerous when travelling by water. On Wednesday whilst sailing in their sloop to this city from Salt Spring island, they were surprised by a bullet striking the water a few feet off, followed by a second which struck the cabin Fortunately, they were soon out of range, but Mr. Bitancourt, Jr. had a very narrow escape.

THE C. P. R. IN THE SADDLE

Our special telegram from Nelson contains two very important pieces of news. One is that the construction of a railway by the Canadian Pacific company is to be begun at once from the foot of Slocan lake down the Slocan river to the Slocan crossing on the Columbia & Kootenay railroad extending from Nelson to Robson.

The other is that a party of Canadian Pacific surveyors, under Engineer Perry, has gone to opposite Balfour on Kootenay lake to begin the preliminary survey for a railroad around the head of Kootenay lake which it is declared is to be a portion of the great Crow's Nest Pass line.

All this looks very much like the C. P. R. had determined upon an agressive policy so far as the Kootenays are concerned. The line from the south end of Slocan lake is of great importance in the establishment of a chain of quick communication between Rossland and the new mining camps that are started up all along the east side of the lake. Connection will no doubt be made at Robson with the road now being built from Trail up to that point by F. Aug. Heinze, so that within a few months passengers can leave Rossland early in the morning and be at New Denver and other Slocan Lake points by noon.

But of course the great object of this line will be to facilitate the shipment of ore from the Slocan lake mines. Many of these mines are now becoming notable producers of very rich ore. With the better shipping facilities which seem now about to be afforded the output of the mines will be greatly increased.

The inauguration of the survey for the Crow's Nest Pass road round the south end of Kootenay lake is of even greater significance. It means that the C. P. R. is determined to build and operate the Crow's Nest line. It is now in the field armed and equipped for the great undertaking. On what conditions it will be permitted to do it, if allowed to do it at all, depends on the Dominion government. The issue is now about to be made and we expect to see some very interesting developments in this direction within the next three or four months.—Exchange.

WITH THE INSURGENTS.

Observations of the World Correspondent in Cuba.

New York—The World's special correspondent in the field near Arroia, Arena. Province of Havana, Cuba, says: "I have been fortunate enough to get into Havana and get out again, and to find the insurgent forces, all in 12 hours. This place is six miles from San Pedro where Maceo is reported to have been killed. It is not true that either Pinar del Roi or Havana provinces have been pacified. The insurgents are not thinking of making peace. They are more active and hopeful than ever. The observations of the World correspondent, who accompanied the Spanish troops with the pass granted by General Weyler, misstated the true situation in this respect. Only portions of the province have been deserted by the insurgents, chiefly for lack of food. There never were but 6000 rebels in Pinar del Rio province. They are still there. General Weyler at the head of thirty thousand Spanish troops, did not conquer them. Maceo never fought in heavy columns. His bands were always scattered and he never had more than 200 men with him. His plan was to harass tease and tire out the enemy. I find the situation here looks better for the insurgents to-day than when I left Pinar del Rio last August. Even the Spaniards admit that none of the insurgents have surrendered.

B. C. SOUTHERN CHARTER.

Toronto Syndicate Headed by Cox and Jaffray Controls it.

Montreal, Que.—It is learned to-day that the charter of the British Columbia Southern railway, which controls several million acres of land, including the coal deposits in the Crow's Nest Pass, had passed into the hands of an eastern syndicate, at the head of which are the Hon. Geo. A. Cox and Robert Jeffray of Toronto. They are now in negotiation with the government and Montreal capitalists.

BRITISH COLUMBIA'S PROSPERITY.

Both Mr. Hewitt Bostock, M. P., and Mr. Mara, whom he defeated at the late election, who have just returned from England unite in predicting that within two years British Columbia will be the banner province of the Dominion and the greatest mineral producing territory on earth This is the tenor of a dispatch from Toronto which is at present being insited by the gentlemen named. We think it perfectly safe to materially discount this statement, but even than we shall have a certainty of which every British Columbian and every Canadian may feel proud. We have seen nothing to justify anything but the most sanguine expectations as to the future. Exaggerations accomplish no purpose except to disappoint the over-sanguine. What there actually is and what there is every reasonable cause to expect should be sufficient to satisfy every one without calling in the assistance of Munchawsemsin.

No one can read official statements and duly accredited reports which have come from the mines, the well corroborated declarations of mining engineers and capitalists, United States, British and Canadian, not to mention what foreign experts have said—without being proud of the prospect, though, for my part, we are inclined to think that it will take more than two years for British Columbia to realize all that is predicted. Surely the facts alone, without any speculations should be ample. Meanwhile we should labor and learn to wait, remembering that though "Brag is a good dog, Holdfast is better."

B. C. Commercial Journal.

Application will be made to the Legislative Assembly at the coming session for an act to incorporate a company for the purpose of constructing and operating a railway from a point at or near Fort Steele to a point at or near Golden, and also to construct, maintain and operate telegraph and telephone lines and all necessary works in connection with the said railway.—Golden Era.

ASSAULTED A CONSUL.

Bangkok, Siam—Americans and Europeans here are indignant over the assault by Siamese soldiers upon the American vice-consul, General V. Kellett. Affidavits by European witnesses show that the assault was brutal and without excuse. Siam virtually ignores the protest of the United States minister resident and Consul-General Barret. No American gunboat has been here for five years. American prestige in the Orient demands prompt attention.

Forming Our Habitation.

The astronomers say that the earth is a ring of matter which was "shot off" by the sun 66,000,000 years ago, and which gradually worked itself into a ball or globe.—Boston Herald.

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EXTRACTS FROM QUEEN'S SPEECH.

Ottoman Empire, Egypt, the Famine, Plague, Arbitration Treaty and Venezuela Treaty.

DILLON THE IRISH LEADER.

London, Jan. 19.—The third session of the 14th parliament was formerly opened by the royal commission at 2 o'clock this afternoon. Early this morning a strong detachment of police moved down Whitehall and stationed themselves at the various entrances to the house of parliament. A large crowd soon gathered. Shortly after 9 today the yeomen of the guard arrived at the door of the house. They were accompanied by a police inspector and went through the formality observed since 1605 of searching for a gunpowder mine in the vaults of the house. Between 11 and 12 o'clock the house itself and lobbies and corridors were filled with a group of members and constituents. Most of the Irish members took places on the cross benches. Shortly before 2 o'clock the speaker came in and was cordially greeted by many friends. Prayers were read. Mr. Cully took the chair, and many members filed past to shake hands with him.

QUEEN'S SPEECH.

The queen's speech, which was then read, was in sustance as follows:

"My Lords and Gentlemen: My relations with all other powers continue to be of a friendly character. Appalling massacres which have taken place in Constantinople and other parts of the Ottoman dominions have called for special attention of the powers signatory of the treaty of Paris. Papers will be laid before you showing the considerations which induced the powers to make the present condition of the Ottoman empire the subject of special consultation with representatives at Constantinople. The conference which six ambassadors have been instructed to hold are still proceeding.

"The action undertaken by his highness the khedive of Egypt against the khalifa, with my approval and assistance, has so far been entirely successful. His forces, supported by my officers and troops, have rewon the province of Dongola to civilization by operations conducted with remarkable skill, and the way has been open for further advance whenever such a step is considered desirable.

"My government has discussed with the United States, acting as the friend of Venezuela, terms whereunder pending questions of the disputed frontier between that republic and our colony of Guiana, have been submitted to arbitration, and the arrangement to be arrived at with the government, which I trust will effect an adjustment of the controversy without exposing to risks the interests of any colonists whose established rights are in the disputed territory.

"It is with much gratification that I conclude the treaty for general arbitration with the president of the United States whereby I trust all differences which may arise between us will be peacefully adjusted. I hope this arrangement may have further value in commending to other powers consideration of the principle whereby the danger of war may be notably abated."

The queen's speech refers to the suppression of the rebellion in South Africa and the appointment of a commission to inquire into the sugar industry of the West Indies, and continues:

"It is with much regret and feelings of the deepest sympathy I have heard that owing to failures of autumn crops and scarcity of food a famine effects a large portion of my dominions in India."

After referring to measures taken to mitigate the suffering from famine and making reference to the bubonic plague in Bombay, the speech says: "I have directed my government to take most stringent measures to eradicate it."

DILLON THE IRISH LEADER.

The Irish parliamentary party to-day re-elected John Dillon chairman. Timothy M. Healy insisted that a detailed vote be taken. This was done and the result was the defeat of the Healyites. The Healyites have prepared an amendment to the queen's address which brings up the subject of financial relations between Ireland and England.

DEWITT TALMAGE ON ARBITRATION.

"There Shall Be No More Murder Among Nations."

Washington, Jan. 17.—Dr. T. Dewitt Talmage, in his sermon this morning, referred to the arbitration treaty in the following language:

"The mightiest, grandest movement for driving brutal war out of the earth dates from January 11, 1897. The men who, on each side of the sea, decided to effect that plan of arbitration made themselves immortal. The evening of the present administration of the United States has been honored with the gladdest event of 18 centuries. All civilized nations will copy the sublime example.

I implore the illustrious senate of the United States to allow nothing to interfere with a vote of ratification; that the bell of all Christendom may ring out 'Peace on earth, good-will to men.' Senators—many of you my personal friends—let me say that this is the opportunity of your lives. By an emphatic and enthusiastic vote rise to the splendor of the occasion and win the favor of all the good of earth and all the mighty of heaven. Let the Aye, aye, of our American senate resound through all the capitals of Europe and make all the arsenals and armories of the world hear that there shall be no more murder among nations.

"The worst thing you can do for a man is to kill him. The best thing you can do for him is to save him."

CROW'S NEST RAILWAY.

The early construction of a railway through the Crow's Nest Pass in East Kootenay, B. C., to connect Nelson with the Eastern Railway systems at Lethbridge, N. W. T., is exciting widespread interest, and with the Resolutions urging its construction from so many Boards of Trade and other bodies interested in the development of trade in that part of Canada, it is difficult to see how Parliament can refuse to make provision for its being built at its next session. The Minister of Railways has just been through the Mining District of West Kootenay, and its marvellous mineral richness will no doubt convince him that irrespective of Eastern trade connections, increased railway communication is a crying necessity.

A strong feeling exists in the West that the construction of the road should be undertaken as a Government work, and the line leased to the Canadian Pacific Company or some other corporation, but we believe it would be folly for the Government to build such a line without being in possession of one or other of the terminals.

Topographical reasons have been urged for construction by the Government, but our information derived from reliable sources, is that if any other railway company desires to build through the Pass there is ample room for the road-bed of two railways.

We believe the line should be built and operated by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, and further if Parliament grants that company financial assistance for the purpose, provision should be made for equitable adjustment periodically of freight rates by a commission composed of business men who should be absolutely free from any partial entanglements which might call for the support and influence of the Canadian Pacific.

There are immense coal fields on the western slope of the Rockies, which will be pierced by the proposed railroad. The coal has been pronounced by competent experts as of the best quality for coking purposes, and we understand that a company which owns a part of these lands is preparing to open mines and construct coking ovens, so that with the advent of the railway the smelters in Southern British Columbia may at once be supplied with fuel at less than half of what is now paid for it. The transport and fuel questions disposed of, the Kootenays should become the most active mining and smelting districts in the civilized world.—Canadian Mining Review.

BALLOON RAILWAY.

A baloon is to be the propelling power used in carrying passengers to and from the top of the Hochstauffen mountain, at Bad Reichenhall in the Austrian Alps. This aerostatic railway is the invention of Engineer Volderauer. A local body of engineering xperts has said that the scheme proposed is feasible and safe. On this recommendation the local authorities have sanctioned the road's construction to the mountain. The power by which passengers are to climb this mountain is furnished by a captive balloon. This runs along a track built at the side of the roadbed. A trailer, furnished with many wheels, clasps this wooden rail, and to this trailer the passenger car is fastened. The operator has a seat in the car, and a cord swings between his place and the balloon, by which the gas supply is regulated. He has also several brakes and safety devices at hand in case of accident. At the foot of this unique railroad is a gas tank and generator. Gas is made here to illuminate the town, and also for the purpose of filling the balloon. A charge sufficient to carry the car to the top of the mountain is given it at the start, and when the grade has been mounted, and all is ready for the return down the mountain, a small quantity of gas is released, and the car starts down, its rapid descent being checked by the gas that has been allowed to remain in the balloon. Permission to construct the aerostatic railroad was granted only after the most searching investigation had been made of the plans. There are many novel safety devices to prevent any serious accidents.

CABLE FLASHES.

London—The board of trade returns show that the total imports for 1896 have increased £25,117,677 over 1895. The exports have increased £14,032,193 over those of 1895.

Capetown — Digger's News learns that the indemnity bill to be presented by the Transvaal government for the Jameson raid has been completed, and that it will be under £2,000,000.

London—The British steamship Algea, from Liverpool has been towed to St. Michael, Azores, with her shaft broken, by the Dutch tank steamship A. C. O.

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