

The Colonist.

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back up with her ships, her guns and the bodies of her citizens, this squalid greaser country in its boundary disputes. Venezuela handsomely accepts the offer to protect her from European aggression, and then proceeds to buy her war material, not from us, but from Europe.

OUR CANNING INDUSTRY.

In a late number of the British Trade Journal there is a very interesting and well written article on Salmon Canning in British Columbia, by Clive Phillips-Wolley. The paper contains a good deal of valuable information on this British Columbia industry.

IMPOTENT MALIGNITY.

The Grits show their fear of Sir Charles Tupper by the violence of their abuse and the malignity of their detraction. Every slander, no matter how old it is and how often it has been exposed, is repeated with additions and exaggerations.

OUTSPOKEN REPUDIATION.

Col. O'Brien, M.P., is not a very able man or a very eloquent man, but though often a mistaken he is always an honest and an outspoken man. When in the House of Commons he spoke, the other day, about the Manitoba school question, what he said was neither logical nor constitutional, but he no doubt blurted out what many able and more politic opponents of the Government thought, but kept to themselves.

This was cutting the gordian knot with a vengeance. The constitution does not stand in Col. O'Brien's way nor in the way of very many others who have made up their minds to set at naught its provisions which secure to denominational minorities their rights and privileges with respect to education.

PROVINCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

TO THE EDITOR:—I am not, as you know, in the secrets of the government, and have no object in writing to you except to promote the general interests of the province.

CANADIAN FAILURES.

In an article on the The Failures of 1895, the Canadian Trade Review, shows that the percentages of assets to liabilities in the several provinces of the Dominion were: Ontario, 73.10; Quebec, 71.50; Nova Scotia, 48.50; New Brunswick, 61.80; British Columbia, 99.00; Manitoba, 93.60; Prince Edward Island, 53.50.

The Trade Review then proceeds to say: These percentages represent the amounts available for paying the creditors. At the head of the list stands British Columbia, whose insolvent liabilities are equal to the payment of 99 cents on the dollar, which suggests many things.

TOO TRUE.

There are a good many persons in Western countries who, when they read the details of the horrible outrages committed by the Turks on the Armenians, smile incredulously and say that the Armenians are boundless liars who invent horrible stories for the purpose of exciting the sympathies of the Christians of other countries.

People at first had some excuse for taking this view of the alleged Armenian outrages and for talking in this way, but the evidence of the cruelties practised on the Armenians by the Turks and Kurds, and the fearful oppression that these unfortunate people are compelled to endure is too strong and comes from sources that are too many and too reliable to admit of a doubt being reasonably entertained on the subject any longer.

It is increasingly evident that the telegraphed statements are far within the truth; that in reality to exaggerate the situation or even to state it as it would be, is to do it justice to the utmost. It seems impossible that, in this nineteenth century, under the very eyes of Europe, such things can be done as are occurring every day in Eastern Turkey, and perhaps that very fact makes some doubt. Yet there is the best of proof that every statement, and more, is true.

But it is not only the Armenians that are suffering. As noble a band of men and women as ever honored the bitterest crisis in American history are standing in the breach in the various cities of Asia Minor. They know the truth, and for fear lest they shall tell the truth and expose the evil that they see all about them the Turkish government is doing its best to get rid of them.

Toronto, Jan. 29.—Pary de Bouillon, a French artist, charged with feloniously wounding Miss Eleanor McGill on December 30, he having knocked her senseless with an axe handle, has been found guilty and sentenced to five months imprisonment. Jealousy was the cause of the act.

The U. S. Gov't Reports show Royal Baking Powder superior to all others.

PROVINCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

Moreover nothing like the full development of the mineral resources of British Columbia is possible without a great extension of our railway system. The best authorities think that British Columbia has as much gold wealth awaiting exploitation as South Africa or West Australia. No one can pretend to place any limit upon the richness of the vast auriferous area lying between the great mountain ranges.

In view of the several considerations touched on above, it seems to me that the government of the province has a singularly attractive opportunity presented to it. This is a British province. No questions of race, or of administration, affect it. It is, unlike Western Australia, a land of fertile soil and sweet and abundant water.

To set the province on its onward march requires an effort. It involves some little risk, for there is always a chance that results may not be reached as quickly as they are expected; but I am convinced of nothing that, humanly speaking, is more certain than that a bold, aggressive policy of provincial development begun now will bring forth such fruits that when the next oceanic census is taken we will amaze the world with the exhibition of our progress and prove the wisdom of any reasonable policy that may now be adopted.

GAME LAW AMENDMENTS.

TO THE EDITOR:—Thanking you for your past kindness, I again request that you will allot me a small space in your valuable paper to answer the letter over the signature "Farmer." I do not mean to be sarcastic, but I have written in the Times recently, whose words are in exact keeping with his name, and whose letter expresses the sentiments of 95 per cent of the farmers of the islands, but that the farmer whose letter appeared in the Colonist of the 21st inst. I think that this individual should have chosen any name rather than "Farmer," for his words are assuredly not those of a man who had witnessed the destruction of his crops by the deer and pheasants.

In assuming the office of "Interpreter" for the V.I.F.G.P.A. this gentleman is performing a much-needed duty, for if the words of the men that compose this association have a meaning so different from what they seem to imply, it must be that they speak in riddles that it is impossible for ordinary mortals to understand; for instance, the association recommended that the police be appointed in every district, and that they be vested with authority to search persons suspected of illegally killing game, whether they be on private or public property.

Now, everyone knows that no search warrant is needed to search a person thus suspected on public property. So when it is recommended that search can be made on private property as well as public, I contend that the meaning is that a search warrant will not be needed on private any more than on public property.

"A Farmer" says that in former years much hunting was done on his property, and that a constable had put a stop to it. I wish to know what the use of the trespass law if a constable is to be paid a large salary to prevent trespassing.

The "Interpreter" says that the association in advising a gun license fee desired especially to put a stop to boys handling guns and to prevent roughs and hoodlums swarming on private property. The absurdity of this is quite apparent. There is a law existing to prevent boys handling guns, and if there was no law this would be a most childish way to go about stopping it, for the boy that could afford a gun could afford the fee.

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