The Colonist.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 1891.

CANADA'S VISITORS.

The Dominion of Canada was last year visited by quite a number of intelligent men, those object was not to pry into the nakedness of the land, but to obtain information as to the resources and capabilities. The Earl of Aberdeen passed through the country on his way to and from the Northwest. He remained in the country for several months; he saw every part of it, he talked to men of all classes and conditions. He evidently had no prejudices to overcome and he certainly had no axe to grind. He was in an excellent position to see the country and to form an intelligent and an accurate opinion as to its suitableness as a field for emigration. Being a man of education and experience, and a statesman withal, he might be expected to take a wider view of the country than the ordinary traveller.

Then this country was favored with a visit from a number of Atlanta delegates, who came here to see what sort of it was fitted for the reception of the immigrant and who naturally looked at it from the farmer's point of view. They were no doubt selected both for their intelligence and their integrity. They were competent to judge the country fairly and to give those who sent them an honest report of what they saw.

We have before us the report of the observations of both Lord Aberdeen and the Farmers' delegates. Lord Aberdeen's takes the shape of a paper on Canada, read at a meeting of the Royal Colonial Institute, presided over by the Marquis of Dorne, and attended by a number of distinguished people, both Englishmen and colonists. Lord Lorne, in the chair, said that he saw a great change that has come over travelers from Great Britain of late years. Formerly eminent Englishmen who visited the continent did not think it worth while to cross the line which divides Canada from the United States. They had heard of the great deal of the great republic and little of Canada. They had been led to believe that Canada, when compared with the States, was so insignificant that it was not worth seeing and studying separately, and that as it was certain soon to be absorbed by the larger country it had very little interest for the British traveler. This is all changed now. Canada has grown in the estimation of the thinking men of Great Britain. They know its importance as part of the Empire, and they want to see what it is and the people who inhabit it are like, and what chance there is of their remaining true to their allegiance to the British Crown.

Lord Aberdeen was favorably impressed with Canada. He saw in this country a great deal of nature that was praise, and very little to find fault with. He attended the exhibitions at Toronto and elsewhere, and saw what the soil and climate of Canada can produce, and was able to observe for himself what had been made in manufactures. He had the opportunity of seeing at these exhibitions the people of Canada, "the bone and sinew" of the country. This evidently was to him not the least interesting part of the shows. We are apt to forget that the people of the country, as well as the products are on exhibition at the annual fairs. The intelligent stranger does not fail to take their measure. Lord Aberdeen was evidently pleased with the people as well as the products of their industry. Speaking of the fair at Toronto he says:

"This great fair which we had the advantage of attending, last September, continues for a week. A vast quantity of live stock and of Canadian natural products are exhibited, and the show is visited by an immense concourse of people. If many of these are attracted by the various sights and amusements which are displayed, as much as by agricultural and industrial exhibits, it is none the less creditable to all concerned that such complete order and quietness prevail. There may be some room for discussion as to how far this is secured and promoted by a regulation of the management committee which excludes the sale of intoxicants within the exhibition grounds, but, to my mind, the very existence of such a provision is a very significant indication of the quality of the public opinion which supports the executive of a great undertaking in the adoption of such a rule, which in some other countries, where it is probably much more needed, would, no doubt, be unfairly attacked as puritanical and oppressive."

Lord Aberdeen said he had attended all the exhibitions from Prince Edward Island to the Island of Vancouver, would have seen the same quietness and good behaviour. He would have seen or heard nothing unseemly in the conduct of the crowds of spectators, many of whom were enjoying their one holiday of the year. The propriety with which these large assemblages conduct themselves proves that Canadians are a self-respecting and law-abiding people.

His Lordship speaks of the McKinley tariff and of the courageous self-reliance of the Canadian people in setting to work at once to find new markets for the products of their industry. He does not sympathize with those who make light of the efforts of the men who are trying to make Great Britain a market for the eggs, the poultry, the barley and other products which have been, by prohibitive duties, excluded from the United States market. He seems to think that an opening will be found in the Old Country for many of the products of Canadian farms. All that is needed is to produce a good article, and a market can be found for it at "Home." As an encouragement to Canadian farmers, he instanced the growth of the butter trade between Denmark and Great Britain, which in the short period of ten years, has grown from almost nothing to $18,000,000 a year.

Lord Aberdeen saw that the people who are wanted in Canada are men and women who can work, and are willing to work. Canada has such "splendid facilities for education" that it can supply itself with professional men and clerks and have a good many to spare. It does not want men who can only do work that has to be paid for upon remittances from home to keep the pot boiling.

His Lordship believes that Canada has a destiny separate from that of the United States.

"Just as Canada has, I believe, a destiny of her own, so has she also a destiny of her own. And, surely, no reproach in a high degree could be more inopportune than that which would divert her from the working out of her own career and the consummation of her own destiny."

The Tenant-Farmer delegates, naturally and properly, gave the greatest part of their attention to the agricultural districts of the country and those capable of becoming agricultural. The immense wheat-producing plains of the Northwest had the greatest attractions for them. They visited the older provinces and observed how the farmers in them do their work and what they raise. These reports will do a very great deal towards altering the impression that Canada is a country buried in snow, and so cold that its inhabitants must be wrapped in furs for a great part of the year. They saw at the exhibitions cereals of all kinds, as fine as any raised in any part of the world, many of the most delicious varieties of fruits, such as are grown only in the most genial climates, peaches, grapes, apricots, as well as apples and plums, and stock which could be raised in perfection only under the most favorable conditions. The delegates do Canada full justice in these respects. They tell the people of Great Britain about the Canadian climate as well as the Canadian soil. They devote very little of their space to British Columbia. Their visit here was a hurried one, and they had not time to see much or to make many enquiries. But they do not seriously misrepresent the province, although the most sanguine must, in our opinion, give to its agricultural capabilities a severe justice. British Columbians must, in this matter, speak for themselves. They stand or fall by their own merits. The advantages which this country holds out to the immigrant made known in Great Britain. Something has been done in this direction already, but not enough.

MOB LAW CONDEMNED.

It is encouraging to see that there are newspapers in Canada and the United States which do not believe in the supremacy and infallibility of the mob. These newspapers do not see that murder, when it is committed by ten thousand excited men, crying for vengeance, is less murder than when it is committed by a single miscreant. The Manitoba Free Press, commenting on the New Orleans lynching, says:

"In the New Orleans affair United States civilization has suffered another stain which all the waters of the oceans will not wipe out. The most friendly interpretation that the jury were bribed to acquit, is that the courts failed to mete out justice to men whom they pronounced guilty even before they were tried there was nothing for the mob but to take the law. This was an excellent reason why there should have been a popular demand for a reform of the courts; and if the charge of bribery could be brought home to the jury there was pressing and immediate necessity to punish them to the extreme penalty of the law. But in any civilized country it cannot be held as a justification for the murder of prisoners, whether known to be guilty or not. Two wrongs can never make a right. Neither the corruption or inefficiency of the courts is in simply an aggravation of the horrible crime committed in the name of justice."

This is what the Minneapolis Tribune thinks of mob law.

"While a resort to mob law is always deplorable and never justifiable, it is almost always inevitable even in the most highly civilized communities when a large body of people feel the conclusion that the machinery of justice, established and maintained at the public cost, regardless of expense, has become so distorted and debased that it affords protection instead of punishment for capital offenders."

The Helena Journal, which might be supposed to look upon the ways of the Wild West with indulgence, is very far from doing so. The New Orleans business, it says, will do more than any other thing to make many enemies. But they do not seriously misrepresent the province, although the most sanguine must, in our opinion, give to its agricultural capabilities a severe justice. British Columbians must, in this matter, speak for themselves. They stand or fall by their own merits. The advantages which this country holds out to the immigrant made known in Great Britain. Something has been done in this direction already, but not enough.

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A STUPID BLUNDER.

Mr. W. [illegible] has written a letter to the Montreal Daily Witness of the [illegible] for January 1890 [illegible] thing [illegible] Victoria [illegible] would not have made such an egregious blunder as this. He would have known that the climate [illegible] Victoria has [illegible] snow [illegible] degree [illegible] 9.40 highest [illegible] 6.14 [illegible] 9.40 highest [illegible] temperature [illegible] and the lowest 30.5 [illegible] 12th, giving a monthly range of 23.87. The warmest day was the 9th, when the temperature 49.4, and the coldest the 12th, when the temperature 25.5. It is seldom that there is a hard frost in Victoria. It is seldom that there is a month in the year in which there is not some days in which the temperature is above freezing point. So much for the second [illegible] this is not consistent with so low a [illegible] temperature as 25.5 on the 12th. Mr. Smith [illegible] are quite sure that they never saw English [illegible] not, during the months of January and February, show more than twelve degrees of [illegible] zero. This [illegible] Mr. Smith only [illegible] years [illegible] according to Mr. [illegible] Victoria and the places mentioned in Victoria is far colder than any place in the Dominion of Canada mentioned in the winter in Victoria does not appear to the natives of Eastern Canada as [illegible] winter. There is very little [illegible] snow, indeed, and what falls seldom remains on the ground more than a few days two; the grass is green all through the winter and the frost is seldom severe enough to bind the ground so firmly as to make more hard work for the men on the streets for a few days than a corresponding distance in the country.

Mr. Smith's figures, as far as British Columbia is concerned, are not to be depended upon. We defy [illegible] to obtain accurate information as to the meteorology of British Columbia for a year or two back.

A MILLIONAIRE'S DEFENCE.

Mr. Carnegie, in his very interesting article in the Nineteenth Century, defends the existence of the extremely wealthy. He says George, that in this city the rich are growing richer and the poor poorer. He proceeds to show that the exact opposite of this is true, and asserts that in no former age did the laborer get so much for his labor as the capitalist so little for his money. He says in these days of excitement and exaggeration let it always be borne in mind that at no period in the history of the English speaking race [illegible] has it been so easy as it is today, for the industrious man not only a comfortable living, but to save and have money in the bank for a rainy day. Mr. Carnegie also takes the position that the more millionaires there are in the country the better for all the working classes. He undertakes to prove this and his reasoning is very ingenious. In trying to disprove a statement made by the Rev. Hugh Price Hughes, some time since in the Nineteenth Century, he says:

"So far from being a fact, it is the reverse is absolutely true. In the country where the millionaires exist, there is little excuse for pauperism. The condition of the masses is satisfactory just in proportion as a country is blessed with millionaires. There is not one millionaire among the whole four hundred millions of China, none in Japan, nor in India, one or two perhaps in the whole of Russia, there are few or none in Germany and not more than four or five in the whole of France, monarchs and hereditary nobles excepted. There are more millionaires than the fathers of the idea of Britain than in the whole of Europe, and in the United States still more of them than in Britain, and the revenues of the masses are just in proportion to the ease with which millionaires grow. The British laborer receives more for one day's handiwork than the shoemaker, the blacksmith, or carpenter of China, India, Russia or even Japan receives for a week's work, and no doubt that of his Continental fellow workmen. The skilled artisan of America receives more than double the wages of Britain. Millionaires can only grow amidst general prosperity and this very prosperity is largely promoted by their existence. Their wealth is not made as Mr. Hughes implies, at the expense of their fellow countrymen. Millionaires make no money which compelled to pay low wages. Their profits are made in periods when wages are high and the higher the wages that have to be paid to the higher the revenues of the employer. It is true, and no doubt these discourse, capital and labor are allies and not antagonistic forces, and that one cannot prosper without the other does not [illegible]

This is what the millionaire has to say for himself, and it must be admitted that he says it well and vigorously. It may not be possible to settle an abstruse problem in political economy, but Mr. Carnegie's reasoning is plausible, and his conclusions will find favor with many who are not disposed to accept his facts or his reasoning.

Shelter From the Storm.

During Saturday's heavy gale, a small sailing vessel, and another and three ocean steamers, seven ships, were crowding into Victoria harbor. Large schooners put into Port Angeles harbor, Dyes Cove, for shelter from the storm. Outside the strike out the words down to and including natural breakwater the sea was heard into Port Angeles harbor. But in the cove it was as quiet and secure as if a calm had prevailed for weeks. The water was smooth as glass, and the only motion was that of the vessels as they rocked on the long swell. The Port Angeles harbor is a very good one, and it is a great pity that it is not better known. It is a safe place for vessels to run into when they are caught in a gale of wind, and it is a very convenient place for a vessel to wait for a tow to Victoria or Puget Sound. The harbor is easily accessible, and there is plenty of room for a large fleet of vessels to anchor in safety. The harbor is well worth a visit from those who have business at Port Angeles.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

First Session of the Sixth Parliament.

FORTY-SECOND DAY.

MONDAY, March 23.

After prayers by Rev. Mr. White, [illegible]

THE TEST OATH.

Dr. Milne moved that in respect to the address presented to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor requesting immediate consideration be given to the correspondence respecting the opening of a wagon road from the boundary line of Alaska, at a point north of Lynn Canal, known as the Chilkat Pass, to Pelly Lake, lying at the head waters of the Yukon River, in British Columbia." He said he hoped the answer from the Government would be that they were taking steps to open up the great Yukon country to the north of us. Although in the southern part of British Columbia there were large tracts of agricultural land, in the Northern part, at least, north of Chilcotin, it was a country in which the inhabitants and traders depended on furs and gold mining for their livelihood. The Yukon district, in this province, was rich in gold, but its development had been retarded on account of the difficulty in getting in. It, together with the adjacent country, was not only a rich fur bearing country, but gold had been found there in large quantities on the various tributaries of the upper Yukon. From the information at his command it was impossible to come to any other conclusion than that a large and valuable mining region existed, and in the future a large mining population would be attracted thereto. Getting into this district was at present attended with a great amount of expense and hardship. In the past the miners were prohibited to a certain extent from going into that part of the province. If one looked at the map it would be found that the distance from the head of Lynn Canal (in Alaskan territory, but which was accessible to large sea-going vessels) to the boundary line was about 17 miles, and the distance from that point to Pelly Lake about 35 miles. The Yukon River, he understood to be navigable at this point, and the 35 miles in our own territory he wished to bring before the attention of the Government, and to learn whether there had any correspondence with reference to the construction of a trail. Were the trail built on the same principle as the Cariboo trail was built in 1872, it would not need the Government a cent. In fact the Cariboo trail had proved to be such a success that the Government had bought out the contractors, in a very short time. At present it was, as he had said, a great drawback to the miners and traders of that country to be unable to get their goods into the country at reasonable transportation rates. Besides, it was a great loss to the merchants of the province, from the fact that the region was at present supplied with goods from San Francisco and other American ports. If we had a trail it would certainly be the means of opening a trade, which our merchants at present did not supply. This was not a new question. The Board of Trade of Victoria, three years ago, had taken steps to look into the matter, and had come to the conclusion that it was highly in the interest of the province that more easy access should be made to the Yukon country.

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Smith introduced a bill to amend the Game Protection Amendment Act.

Mr. Keith introduced a bill relating to Industrial and Provident societies.

THE BALLOT PAPER ACCOUNT.

Hon. Mr. Beaver moved: "That a respectful address be presented to His Honor the Lieut.-Governor, requesting him to cause to be sent down to this House a copy of the report or ballot paper account made by each Provincial Returning Officer in the year 1890 to the Registrar of the Supreme Court, under Section 125 of the Election Regulation Act, and amendment." This return, he urged, was necessary to enable members to understand the operation of the law, in view of the legislation which must take place before the next general elections.

The motion was, after some discussion adopted.

GOVERNMENT MEASURES.

Hon. Mr. Davie introduced a bill to confirm the sale of the site of the Royal Hospital with the buildings thereon.

Hon. Mr. Davie moved the second reading of the Jurors' Bill. He proposed to increase the pay of jurors and make certain changes in the law relating to the summoning of jurors. (An outline of the bill has already been published). Mr. Davie in explained that he proposed in committee to introduce an amendment. The motion was adopted.

The School Bill was on motion of Hon. Mr. Robson read a third time, and passed without division.

THE MINERAL BILL.

The House again went into committee on the Mineral Bill, Mr. Forster in the chair.

Mr. Kellie moved to strike out all of section 3 after the word "costs," in 7th line, and insert the following: "Provided, always that a failure to take out a free miner's certificate shall not subject to the penalty any person who is working for wages upon any mining property, and who holds no interest, in such mining property; and provided, also, that such failure to take a free miner's certificate shall not prejudice his right to collect wages or payment for work done."

The contention was that the Bill would bear unfairly upon men who worked in Cariboo not as free miners, but who had only their labor to sell.

After some discussion Mr. Kellie's amendment was lost.

The Committee sat for the greater part of the afternoon, and having reported, the House rose.

EVENING SESSION.

The House resumed business at 7.45.

IN COMMITTEE.

The House went into committee on the Placer Mines Bill, Mr. Cotton in the chair, and rose and reported the Bill complete with amendments.

The House went into committee on the Provincial Revenue Tax Bill, Mr. McKenzie in the chair. The committee reported the bill complete without amendment.

In committee on the Supreme Court Bill, Mr. Stock called attention to the fact that the Board of Trade and City Councils of Westminster had protested against the Act. He therefore moved in amendment, that the Act should not apply to that district. The amendment was lost.

The committee rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again.

The House adjourned at 11.40 p.m.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

Mr. Baker—In Mineral Bill to strike out the words down to and including line 9, and insert, "A mineral claim shall be marked by three legal posts placed as near as possible, at equal distances from each other along the center line of the claim—

The posts shall be numbered 1, 2 and 3, the center post being number 2. In marking the claim posts 1 and 3 shall govern the center line, and the distance in a straight line between posts 1 and 3 shall govern the length of the claim, which shall not exceed 1,500 feet, and it shall be laid down on a straight line drawn through 2, to the required distance, which shall mark the final position of post 3."

Col. Baker—To strike out section 7 of the Mineral act, and substitute the following: "Any free miner holding a location mineral claim shall, subject to the provisions of this act, with respect to land which may be used for mining, enter upon and locate a plot of ground not exceeding 1,500 feet in length by 600 feet in width, measured from the centre of one end line to the centre of the other end line for the length, and 300 feet on each side of the centre of the end lines for the width: Provided, however, that the end lines of every mineral claim shall be straight and parallel, and shall be run, survey either due north or due south or due east and west, and the side lines shall be straight and parallel; but not necessarily meridional. In defining the size of a mineral claim, it shall be measured horizontally, irrespective of inequalities on the surface of the ground.

Mr. Cotton on consideration of the report on Act to amend the Vancouver Water Works Act, 1886, to amend section 13 by striking out the word "that" in the fourth line and inserting "if in the opinion of the said corporation."

Dr. Milne on Thursday to ask the Provincial Secretary "Is it the duty of the Provincial Government or of the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway company to define the boundary line between the land granted to the company on Vancouver Island and the settlement of Alberni."

FORTY-THIRD DAY.

TUESDAY, March 24.

The Speaker took the chair at 2 o'clock.

The committee on Private Bills and Standing Orders reported the B. C. Dyking Company's bill.

The report was adopted.

THE LAND BILL.

The House again went into committee of the Land Bill, Mr. Kitchen in the chair.

On a proposal by Hon. Mr. Davie to authorize the Government to make grants of land for purposes of public advantage.

Hon. Mr. Beaven contended that the House alone should have power to make such grants.

Hon. Mr. Robson contended that the power should be granted to enable the Government to act during recess, should the necessity arise, instead of the enterprise having to submit to a protracted and disastrous delay.

Mr. Brown thought the case might be met by allowing the Government limited powers to make such grant.

Hon. Mr. Beaven held that the proposal of the Attorney-General was introducing a principle altogether different to those that were covered by the bill when it was read a second time.

After discussion

Mr. Speaker ruled the amendment out of order.

Mr. Cotton moved in amendment to the Attorney-General's amendment, that such grants should not exceed ten acres, or have a value of more than $2,000, and if not used for the purpose contemplated the grant should revert to the Crown.

Mr. Cotton's amendment was lost and that of Hon. Mr. Davie adopted.

The other sections of the bill as originally presented having been passed with certain amendments.

Hon. Mr. Vernon remarked that there had been almost more speculation in the shape of presumptions than in any other way. This it was desired to put an end to. He therefore moved an additional clause that no crown land grant shall be issued until the preemptor or his family shall have occupied the ground for at least two years."

The clause was adopted.

Hon. Mr. Vernon also proposed a clause to permit the Lt.-Governor to make leases with tanners for a term not exceeding thirty years, for the purpose of stripping hemlock trees of bark.

Mr. Grant protested against this summary distribution of hemlock, which was one of our most valuable woods.

The clause was adopted.

A provision was made to allow of prospecting for coal on Government lands, by licence.

The committee rose and reported the bill complete with amendments.

The House rose.

EVENING SESSION.

The House resumed at 7.45 o'clock.

Adjourned Consolidated Assessment Act.

Mr. Martin in the chair. Amendments by Mr. Sword to the effect that certain exemptions to railways should be made only in the event of their paying dividends, or stock killed by them was lost. An amendment by the same gentleman to strike out clause 3 imposing a tax on mortgages was also lost.

The Committee rose and reported the Bill complete with amendments.

The House rose at 10.30 p.m.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

By Mr. Sword—In Nicola, Kamloops and Similkameen Railway bill, to strike out clause 30 and insert therefor—The said railway shall be commenced within 18 months from the passage of this act, and shall be completed to Nicola Lake within three years from the passage of act, and after the said three years shall build each year 30 miles of railway, otherwise the powers granted shall be null and void as to so much of the railway as then remains uncompleted.

Col. Baker—To amend section 3 of subsection 1, of the Game Act, of 1888, by striking out "first day of September" and inserting "15th day of August."

Hon. Mr. Davie—An Act for the Protection of Cattle.

Mr. Kitchen, on the consideration of the Land Bill—Section 2 of the Land Act Amendment Act, 1890 is hereby repealed, and the following section substituted: "Any person who is entitled to pre-empt land under the provisions of the Land Act shall be entitled to pre-empt land suitable for agricultural purposes and not containing more than 2,000 feet milling timber per acre on such land, when there is an area of not less than 40 acres of such land in one block, in any timber lease, and shall be entitled to cut and take for his own use, but not for sale or barter, such such timber for posts, rails and fire wood, as he shall actually require for use on the land so recorded or pre-empted; and shall be entitled to cut, for the purpose of clearing said land, any timber that is not valuable for milling purposes, and shall have the right of passing and repassing over the lands in such timber lease, provided he shall not commit wilful waste or damage, in passing over such lands, or in cutting such wood.

Hon. Mr. Davie—To introduce an act to amend the B. C. Railway Act.

Hon. Mr. Beaven—that the Lt.-Governor be requested to cause to be sent down to the House copies of all orders in council and correspondence between the Dominion and Provincial Governments with reference to the disallowance, or otherwise, of the statutes of 1890.

SUPREME COURT ACT.

To the Editor:—I notice in your issue of the 14th instant, from the report of the debate in the House on the proposed amendment to the Supreme Court Act, that Mr. Brown is reported to have said, with regard to giving jurisdiction in Chambers to the County Court Judges, that "to would be practically making their Supreme Court Judges, and that the similar provision in the Ontario Act is daily giving more and more dissatisfaction in that province." Mr. Brown is in my opinion decidedly wide of the mark in both of these statements. In the first place to give the County Court Judges jurisdiction in Chambers is only equivalent to giving them the powers of Masters in Chambers, officials who, both in England and Ontario, exercise a limited jurisdiction in Chambers. I may point out also that already the County Court Judges in this province have power to grant injunctions and writs of capias in Supreme Court actions, which are among the highest powers exercisable by a supreme Court judges in civil cases, and, in view of this, to civil at trying their jurisdiction in minor matters seems absurd. As for the statement that the jurisdiction of County Court judges in Chambers in Ontario giving dissatisfaction, there is that is very contrary to my experience. I practised in Ontario for nearly two years, and the practice seemed to me to give general satisfaction (except, perhaps, that Toronto practitioners may be dissatisfied with it, as for the same reason, Victoria and New Westminster men may object to it here). The practice and procedure in Ontario, including the assimilation of County Court procedure to that of the Supreme Court, struck me on the whole as working admirably, and being an English solicitor I was certainly not prejudiced in favor of Ontario practice. To the residents of the Interior, where there is not as yet sufficient work to justify a supreme court judge being continually resident, and where we have a county court judge perfectly capable of exercising similar powers (somewhat more than those granted to the county court judges in Ontario), the proposed amendment would be a great boon, and a saving of time, trouble and expense in all cases where interlocutory proceedings are necessary. At present, almost all summonses and other interlocutory proceedings have to be sent down below to be heard, causing thereby a delay of several days at least, while it is often very difficult to instruct counsel fully and properly by letter. Thus there is great delay caused in preparing an action for trial, and further there is the risk of counsel below not fully understanding the matter. If the interests of the residents of the Interior are entitled to any consideration, the proposed amendment ought to be passed, as it would greatly benefit them and would not injure any one else.

Yours, etc.,

Frederick Fulton,

Solicitor, Kamloops, B. C.

March 20, 1891.

AFTERNOON BIBLE READINGS.

To the Editor:—Will you kindly give me space for a few words in reference to the afternoon Bible readings given by Mrs. Cairns, the evangelist, who is now in the city. I have been rather surprised at the small attendance of Christian people, when these really delightful and profitable meetings are being held. Many day, for myself, I will have been amply interested in the exposition of God's truth, by this devoted servant of the Master.

It is true that some may find it difficult to attend as much as they would like, but it is equally certain that many more might do so by making a little effort, and thus show some encouragement to this species of work amongst us. Every Christian will readily admit that such exercises are most beneficial to the study of God's word, and one hour could not be more profitably spent than in listening to the pointed illustrations and clear, truthful comments made by Mrs. Cairns on the portion of scriptures selected for the afternoon's lesson.

M. M.

Victoria, March 19.

THAT CHINESE CASE.

Counsel for the Defence Present a Strong Case Upon Affidavits.

On the list of summonses to be disposed of in Chambers yesterday morning was one in connection with the alleged abduction of the daughter of a Chinaman named Chin Wing Chue, by the directors of the Refuge Home. The application was for a writ of habeas corpus to compel Mrs. Leek, the matron of the Home, to show cause why she should not return the Chinese girl in dispute to the care and custody of her father. The applicant was represented by Mr. C. E. Pooley. On Saturday after reading the affidavits put in by the counsel for the defence, Mr. Thornton Fell, asked for a week's remand, in which to reply. The affidavits referred to, in substance, state that the mother, Chung Fah, and five daughters, are now inmates of the Refuge Home. That Chin Wing Chue was never married to Chung Fah, and therefore had no right to claim her children. That she had for years supported him and their family. Some of the girls had reached the age when, by Chinese custom, they might be sold, and the father wanted to realize on them to prevent him from doing this, the mother took her five daughters to the home, and herself became an inmate. Two of the girls went out to service in the homes of married Chinamen. The father went to one of these two and told her that he had got a husband for her—a Chinaman who already had two wives. The girl objected to the arrangement and her father struck her. Still she refused, and the other Chinaman drew a pistol and threatened to shoot her unless she came along. The wife also been employed, interfered, and her husband struck her for so doing. By this time others had gathered and a police officer appeared on the scene. Leek, with whom the girl returned to the home. Her affidavit is to the effect, on the hands, in which she states that she became an inmate of the home by her own free will.

The Beaconsfield Club.

With merry music, much mirth and first class fare the first grand ball and supper given under the auspices of the Beaconsfield social and literary club was a most delightful affair. The attendance was large and the harmonic hall, last evening, proved a thorough success—and more. Between 75 and 100 couples assembled, just enough to comfortably fill the hall, which this season is the favorite resort of those who love the merry dance. Bantley's orchestra furnished the music, and the supper was well looked after by the ladies of the society. Twenty-four dances were on the card, including all the favorites, and the programme kept the floor in use until early morning, when the company broke up in high good humor. Mrs. Heskin, D. Phillips and Miss K. Davie formed the committee of management, and Phillips and E. Bellocchi were floor managers, and M. Hinkin, F. Davies and B. Phillips composed the floor committee.

PROFIT FROM PATENTS.

Rich Returns Received by Ingenious Inventors.

Articles of Usefulness and Convenience Which Have Made Large Fortunes for the Men Who Thought Them Out

"There is," says an eminent authority, "scarcely an article of human convenience or necessity in the market to-day that has not been the subject of a patent in whole or in part. The sale of every such article yields its inventor a profit. If we purchase a box of paper collars a portion of the price goes to the inventor. If we buy a sewing machine the probability is that we pay a royalty to as many as a dozen or fifteen inventors at once." Lord Brougham, it is said, that he would gladly have exchanged his honors and emoluments for the profession and renown of the inventor of the perambulator or sewing machine. We are not wishful, says the Chicago Herald, to lead our readers to covet what are termed "large fortunes," as readily conducive to happiness or useful ness; "fortune" is itself a relative word, and not a Christian word. But "invention" is another thing, and the remunerative results are a fitting element to take into consideration in these days. How the original idea of the sewing machine, for which Howe received $100,000 a year for many years, and from which the Singer sewing machine netted its owner nearly $3,000,000, came into his possession is a matter of history. The idea of the sewing machine and the patents regarding many improvements in simple devices, issues of patents regarding many improvements in simple devices, issues of patents regarding many improvements in simple devices, issues of