The Colonist.

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 1893.

"BRITISH COLUMBIA."

There has been published by direction of the Provincial Government, a handsome pamphlet of one hundred and ten pages, in which is given a full and fair description of the present resources and future possibilities of British Columbia. The description is carefully and conscientiously written. The writer is evidently determined to keep within the truth. He shows no disposition to entice immigrants by a glowing account of the fertility of the soil or the richness of the resources of the province; but on the contrary, if he errs at all, it is in the direction of under-statement.

In the introduction he very properly warns the intending immigrant against expecting too much. "Let no one therefore," he says, "who may read the following pages imagine that because British Columbia is represented in what the writer believes to be its true light, as a place of rapidly rising importance he is therefore certain to find ample scope for his own abilities. He must rather consider what sacrifices he is prepared to make for the privilege of introducing himself and his family into a country so favorably circumstanced. He must deliberate whether the prospect of future success is worth the hazard of his present condition of life, whatever that may be; and, should he finally determine upon a step which may prove to him irrevocable, let him blame no one but himself if the struggle turn out a hard one and the good times which he anticipated be long in coming."

It would be well if all books setting forth the advantages of new countries were written in this honest spirit. There would then be fewer soured and disappointed settlers, and the countries would have a higher character as fields of immigration. Exaggeration and deception are sure, in the end, to tell against the country which is overpraised.

The description of the Province is full, nothing appears to have been slurred over or neglected. The careful reader of this pamphlet will know more about British Columbia and its resources than many who have lived in it a score of years. He will also gather from it a true estimate of the Province as a place of settlement and as a field for the investment of money. He may depend upon every statement of fact it contains as being as near the truth as the present development of the Province will permit. Our own opinion, as we have already hinted, is that if the reader of the book comes to British Columbia to seek his fortune, he will, after he is here a while, be ready to declare that it did not tell him half the truth with respect to the extent and variety of the resources of the Province.

We cannot close our notice of this little work without expressing our admiration of its excellence, both of typography and illustration. It is beautifully printed, and its illustrations would do credit to the best establishment in the Dominion. The work, in fact, is of itself a capital advertisement of British Columbia. The intelligent observer will immediately conclude that a Province which can turn out a book so artistically and mechanically perfect must have advanced far and rapidly in the march of progress. "British Columbia" is intended for distribution at the World's Fair.

MR. RAINSFORD'S REFORM.

The Rev. Mr. Rainsford's plan for bringing about a reform in the liquor traffic, and for promoting temperance by improving the places in which liquor is sold, meets with no favor from the professional advocates of temperance. In their opinion, he would, by making drinking resorts more attractive, aggravate and increase the evil he proposes to diminish. He has been attacked by enthusiastic and earnest temperance men, as an enemy to their cause. They seem to think that his high character and his good intentions make him more dangerous than the great majority of the supporters and defenders of the liquor traffic.

Mr. Rainsford is not daunted by these attacks. He makes allowances for the sincerity of his assailants, but he mildly and firmly maintains the stand he has taken. As many of our readers would, no doubt, like to hear what he has to say for himself, we will reproduce two or three extracts from his article on "Reform of the Drink Traffic" in the June number of the North American Review.

Dr. Rainsford says: "The fundamental mistake of nearly all Reformers seems to me an unwise haste. Quick methods are apt to be superficial; they may cut off the nettle at the head, while they leave the root still vigorous and untouched."

He would proceed more slowly. He would cultivate in the drinker, who *will* get what he craves for, a love of decency, and would place him under better influences than those to which he is now exposed. It may be said here that Dr. Rainsford's scheme is intended for the poorer classes in large cities. He says:

It seems to a multitude of good people who judge hastily that nothing but harm can come of any movement or teaching which appears to make light of the awful blight of drunkenness. I must at present, I fear, rest under the censure of such. But what I plead for is a more radical dealing with the evil. As long as conditions of life provoke to drink, men will destroy themselves by drinking. As long as they breathe foul air at night, in sleeping quarters all too narrow, they will wake up in the morning with a craving for liquor. As long as they are denied all rational amusement, they will go in for "soak" and "debauch." You cannot better the condition of those who are being ruined by the present retail liquor business by attacking only that business which seems to be the immediate cause of their ruin. We must do more than this. We must, if we love our fellow men, go down to the root of the matter and seek to alter that.

Mr. Rainsford proposed not to shut up all drinking places but to establish better saloons under better regulations in which those who frequent them will be comfortable and will be able to spend their time less harmfully than by filling themselves with beer and whiskey. He considers that the establishment of a better class of saloons will advance the cause of temperance. This is what he says:

The one necessary thing to our city workingman is a place where he can spend his afternoon and evening. He has no home, only part of a room at best; perhaps a bed to himself and this is doubtful. The place where he sleeps is cold in winter evenings and intolerably hot in summer. He is actually driven to the saloon; there is no other place for him. To expect him to sit in his single room and look at its bare walls is ridiculous. He might as well be in Sing Sing. Nor will your average workingman wish to take advantage of your reading room, coffee-house, etc., as soon as you throw open its doors to him. He has prejudices. He is afraid of being assailed by those who look down on him, or with whose opinions he does not agree, and he has a righteous objection to being patronized. This is exactly the condition of scores of thousands of unmarried men (I have not time at present to deal with the question as it applies to the married man, whose case is scarcely better) in our large cities, and these are they who are the main support of the present saloon. In the saloon he meets his friends and spends most of his leisure time. With the saloon-keeper he is on friendly terms. Improve his place of resort and you do much to improve him. It is improving. The reforms most needed are those that hasten its improvement.

Here we have the stand taken by the Rev. Mr. Rainsford very clearly stated. There is nothing to be said against the man. He is a good man, whose earnest desire is to improve the condition, materially and morally, of the people among whom he labors. Are the means he is taking calculated to accomplish that end in any degree? There are many who declare in most emphatic terms and very decided tones, they are not. They believe that his scheme of reform is not reform at all, but the reverse. There are others who listen to what he says patiently and attentively, and who say, "Give him fair play; let his scheme have a trial and judge it by its results." It is said that a system resembling that advocated by Mr. Rainsford has been in operation in Norway and has produced results that are very encouraging.

THE CROP.

The crop prospect is brightening almost everywhere. The cold spring on this side of the Atlantic and the drought on the other were most unfavorable to the growing crops of all kinds. Since then the weather has become warmer in America and there have been refreshing showers in Great Britain, which have stimulated vegetation and very greatly improved the outlook for the farmer. Still it is not expected that the harvest of 1893, in either Europe or America, will be anything like as abundant as that of last year. It is calculated that this year's wheat crop in the United States will fall far short of what it was last year. The shortage in ten States, that yielded at least 250,000,000 of winter wheat last year, is estimated at from 75,000,000 to 100,000,000 bushels. In England it is believed that the yield of wheat will be 5,000,000 bushels below what it was last year. Of course a good deal still depends upon the weather. If the weather for the next two months is favorable, the returns will be much better than is now anticipated.

It must be remembered that there is a great deal of last year's crop still unconsumed, and there will be enough left in August to make up to a very great extent for this year's deficiency. It was calculated that there was still remaining of last year's crop of Canada and the United States, on the 1st of June, 182,372,785 bushels. This, according to Bradstreet's of the 10th inst., was apportioned as follows: East of the Rockies, 86,031,000; Pacific Coast, 3,019,000; Europe and afloat, 78,088,000 bushels. The probability is, therefore, that, although next year will not be one of extreme abundance, there will be no scarcity of the necessaries of life in the civilized world.

OFFICIAL NEGLECT.

The collapse of Ford's theatre in Washington, which had been converted into a departmental building, has caused much excitement and a great deal of comment in the East. There were at the time of the disaster more than five hundred persons, clerks and others, in the building. Of these twenty-five were killed outright and over fifty more or less seriously injured. The building—the one in which President Lincoln was assassinated—was never a very substantial one. The alterations which it underwent to transform its interior into a number of offices did not tend to make it any stronger. It was still further weakened by an excavation which was made under it for the purpose of making room for an electric plant. There appears to have been a suspicion among its inmates for some time that the building was not in a safe condition. But, as the authorities allowed it to be occupied while the undermining was going on, the clerks and other work people naturally concluded that there was no immediate danger. It is now said that it had been long known that the building was unsuitable, and even dangerous, for the purposes for which it was occupied, and that the authorities are responsible for the dreadful catastrophe in which so many lives were lost and such a number of persons maimed. The indignation against Col. Ainsworth, who is at the head of the force of clerks that occupied the building, was intense. It is said that he was so strict that the men who believed that the building was in a very dangerous condition were afraid to make any representation to him. The feeling against him was so strong during part of the enquiry into the cause of the accident, that it was feared that he would be made the victim of personal violence. The fear that saying what they believed to be the truth was so general among the clerks that the Head of the Department thought proper to make the announcement that no person in the public employment examined at the inquest need fear dismissal for anything he might say while giving his testimony at the inquest. It is evident that there has been great carelessness, or great neglect, or such an accident could not have happened. If the examination of the public buildings had been what it ought to have been, Ford's theatre would have been condemned long ago, and would have been either demolished or made perfectly safe. It is astonishing how lightly some men, on the proper performance of whose duties the lives of many of their fellow-creatures depend, wear their responsibilities. It is likely that the man who is really responsible for this appalling disaster will never be called to account for the way in which he neglected his work.

THE BRITISH PACIFIC.

Among the passengers to San Francisco by the direct steamer to-day will be Mr. Frank Emory Bakeman, who is on his way to London, going by way of San Francisco and Chicago. Mr. Bakeman told the COLONIST that he had pressing personal business in Chicago that made it absolutely necessary for him to return at once to his home. He will also remain in New York for some days before sailing for England. He said:—

"The capital of the construction company, which you know is five million dollars, has been secured, and I will stop in New York only long enough to transact what business is necessary with the subscribers, before I sail. It will, I suppose, be August before I can get my private affairs and those of the construction company arranged. I will then go to London and make the final arrangements between the construction company and the financial company, or the British Columbia Railway and Finance Corporation, as the latter is called. It think I have already told the COLONIST that the latter is a corporation with a capital of a million pounds, and is to finance the whole railway project for us."

"Has the capital of this company been secured?" was asked.

"It has, of course conditionally. In fact, I may say that we have a thorough understanding with the parties who are to furnish the money for every purpose connected with the railway and the other enterprises necessary for the development of its traffic."

"When will the work be begun?"

"We will resume the survey and location shortly, probably next month, and will complete that portion of the work from Victoria to Campbell's river, at least, during the present season.

"In this connection it is not immature to announce a policy which has already been settled, and that is this: We shall, in organizing our forces, recruit as far as possible from the residents of the Province. On my return I will be able to answer all questions of this kind more definitely. I expect, however, that work will go on continuously until the road is completed."

"When will you return?"

"In October I expect to be back in Victoria with my family, and to take up my residence here permanently."

"Who will remain in charge here?"

"Mr. M. Keith Jones, who is general manager of the construction company; Mr. C. W. Higgins, who is auditor; Col. Kane, the secretary, and Mr. F. P. Blackman, who has been with us during all the preliminary work and who is our associate counsel, will also remain. These gentlemen will have charge of whatever business the company may have in hand. The corporate matters of the company will be looked after by Mr. Rithet, who is the company's treasurer, and Col. Prior, its vice-president, which you will readily concede is placing such matters in very strong hands.

"I would like to add that I feel that we have surmounted all the difficulties which confront every enterprise of such magnitude as the British Pacific railway. I do not know that the work has been especially difficult—that is, no more so than any other project involving twenty-five millions of dollars would be—but I am sure of one thing and that is, that we would never have succeeded if it had not been for the great resources of British Columbia and its splendid possibilities. *Au revoir.*"

THE ROYAL WEDDING.

LONDON, June 17. — The interest of court circles is completely absorbed at present with the misunderstanding reported to exist between the Queen and the Princess of Wales over the marriage of the Duke of York. When the match was first mooted, the princess stipulated that nothing should be decided without her assent. The Princess now upbraids the Queen and the Prince of Wales for definitely arranging the match without her knowledge, while she was absent on the continent. In an interview with the Queen at Balmoral the Princess, while persisting in her aversion to the match, was persuaded to withdraw her active opposition, though she declined to promise to attend the wedding. The Queen, to emphasize her approval of the match, will give the Duchess of Teck, the mother of the bride, the temporary occupancy of a part of Buckingham Palace before the date of the wedding and a place in the royal carriage while driving to the Chapel Royal to attend the ceremonies. The Queen has decided that the bridesmaids shall be ten of her grandchildren, drawn from the families of the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of Connaught, Prince Henry of Battenburg, and the Duchess of Albany. The bridesmaids will wear cream-colored satin.

THOSE GOLDEN PLATES.

LYONS, N. Y., June 16.—Representatives of a syndicate of Utah Mormons are in Wayne county to acquire the Mormon hill near Palmyra, where Joseph Smith, the founder of their sect, discovered the golden plates and had the first Mormon bible printed. If they can purchase it they will erect a monument there in memory of Joseph Smith. Major Gilbert printed the editions of Smith's bible, which accompanied the party on the pilgrimage to the sacred hill, which has been fenced in by the present owner, who charges 25 cents per head to visitors. It is contemplated to start a regular pilgrimage to Mormon hill from the Western States this summer.

BAD BLOOD CURED.

GENTLEMEN,—I have used your Burdock Blood Bitters for bad blood and find it, without exception, the best purifying tonic in use. A short time ago two very large and painful boils came on the back of my neck, but B.B.B. completely drove them away.

SAMUEL BLAIN, Toronto Junction.

LAND OF EARTHQUAKES.

What Science is Doing to Lessen the Destructiveness of These Phenomena.

Professor Milne, the Earthquake Expert, Relates Incidents of the Great Shock in Japan.

Prof. John Milne, who has been for some time past in charge of the Department of Geology in Tokyo College, and who is the inventor of the latest improved seismograph or vibration indicator, was a passenger from Japan by the last Empress, and is now enjoying a few days in Vancouver prior to going East.

"There are any number of instruments invented for recording the vibration of earthquakes, railroad trains and vessels," he said in conversation with a COLONIST correspondent in the Terminal City, "but I think my own invention is the most accurate and complete. Japan, where there are no patents, has its advantages in the way of experimenting, and there I have labored for a number of years in perfecting the seismograph.

"I have spoken to General Superintendent Abbott of the C.P.R. and I think a test will be made on the Atlantic Express. The seismograph will register undue vibrations on the train while indicating the exact spot where they have occurred, so that engineers may locate precisely the dangerous roadbed and also the speed of the train. I have brought a number of photographs with me, and will make experiments before experts and the press should they desire it with my instruments.

"In Japan we have seven hundred earthquake observatories that report three times per day at Tokyo. Observation have been systematically taken for the past seventeen years, with good practical results. It has been found that the vibrations travel eight thousand feet a second, so that it is impossible to telegraph their approach, though we have an automatic signal, that responds to the earth tremblies, and instantaneously flashes an electric alarm to all the stations.

"A better knowledge of these phenomena, obtained from our scientific observations, enables us to greatly modify the effects of earth shocks. For instance, it has been demonstrated that vibrations are less severe in a pit than on the earth's surface, so that all large buildings are now built with deep basements. Mr. Pownell, consulting engineer of the Government, who will arrive in British Columbia by the next Empress, has also done invaluable service to Japan by inventing a peculiarly constructed pier for elevated railways between mountains that by laborious experiments has been found to be least affected by earthquakes. These piers are raised 110 feet high and the contour on either side is parabola.

"Just before my departure I was much gratified by witnessing a practical illustration of the excellence of these 'quake-proof arches. As we have between twenty and eighty shocks a year upon the east coast of Japan, and between 400 and 700 yearly throughout the country, there are plenty of opportunities to secure data for constant practical improvement in life-saving and property-saving appliances, and it is a demonstrated fact that the destructiveness from earthquakes has been considerably modified by our exertions.

"The average earthquake vibration is from two to three per second. When they are slower than that they are not of so much danger. It is the quick, trembling motion that is the most destructive. In 1891 we had such an earthquake, and in the following month there were between 2,000 and 3,000 shocks. Valleys were compressed so that property had to be re-assessed. Neighbors' houses were moved up close together. In civilization everything was huddled. It must have been in the mountains and wild lands that the corresponding stretching out process took place. In the evening before that awful day the sun sunk as usual behind the beautiful green clad highlands; next morning the mountains looked as if they had been whitewashed, the earthquake having peeled them clean to the bare rocks. The green fields of the previous day seemed to have been plowed by some mysterious hands during the night. The devastation was dreadful. The rails of all the railway lines in Eastern Japan were twisted in fantastic shapes resembling the remnants of coiled wire, and railway ties were piled up like jack straws.

"The loss to the country during the earthquake of 1891 has been estimated at 1,000,000 yen ($700,000) per section, and it is to minimize the effects of these terrible natural visitations that this great work is going on in Japan.

"I am on my way to the World's Fair," continued Professor Milne, "and hope I will have less difficulty in procuring accommodation in the white city than I have had here. Every hotel in Vancouver seems to be crowded from cellar to garret, which necessitated my sleeping on board during the night. I suppose this is the sign of prosperity. I will be in Vancouver for the next three or four days."

TORONTO TOPICS.

TORONTO, June 16.—(Special)—It is said that owing to the refusal of the authorities of Bond Street Congregational church to accede to his request that the annual congregational conference be invited to meet in that church next year, and the suggestion made at the yearly meeting held recently that his salary be reduced, Dr. Wilde will on Sunday next announce his retirement from the pastorate of the church.

The Anglican Synod of this diocese yesterday declined to appoint delegates to the Dominion Alliance Prohibition Convention to be held next September. Several members expressed the belief that the alliance is being used for political purposes.

CABLE NEWS.

VALPARAISO, June 15.—A correspondent in Rio Grande telegraphs that frightful atrocities have been practiced by Castilhistas. Gov. Castilhistas ordered a man's throat cut because he was suspected of aiding the revalutionists. The murder was committed in the presence of the wife of the victim. A state of terror worse than prevails in Central Africa, so the correspondent telegraphs, exists in the state of Rio Grande do Sul. Barbarous punishments are inflicted on mere suspicion. The revolutionists are daily receiving new recruits, and many officers of the National Guard have deserted the Government and gone over to the rebels.

PARIS, June 16.—The condition of M. Carnot, the President, is a trifle improved to-night.

PARIS, June 16.—Several cases of cholera have been reported in Limoges. One case has already proved fatal. Six new cases and four deaths were reported to-day in Cette, and four cases and one death in Privas, the capital of the Department of Ardeche. The spread of the disease is favored by the intensely hot weather. One case of cholera was reported at Montpelier, to-day. Three deaths from the disease were reported at Frontignac, near Montpelier.

ODESSA, June 16.—Many well-to-do Germans living at Melitopol and Simferopol desiring religious liberty are about to start for Canada and the United States.

PARIS, June 16.—Charles de Lesseps has been granted a ticket of leave in accordance with the decision of the Court of Cassation in his case. He will quit the hospital and prison forthwith.

CALCUTTA, June 17.—The town of Sutcotna, on the Gulf of Cutch, and a number of neighbouring villages, have been completely destroyed by heavy rains. Five persons were killed by the lightning during the storm and three persons were drowned.

BAPTIST CONVENTION.

Meeting of the Puget Sound Baptist Association at Puyallup.

Its Proceedings—Officers Elected for the Ensuing Year, Etc., Etc.

PUYALLUP, June 16.—The Puget Sound Baptist association convened in Puyallup on Tuesday with Rev. W. F. Harper in the chair. Rev. R. McKillop was elected moderator pro. tem. and F. H. Day, secretary pro. tem. Letters were read from eighteen churches situated at Aberdeen, Brush Prairie, Centralia, Olympia, Temple, Puyallup, South Bend, Tacoma, Fern Hill, Vancouver, Willapa, Winlock, La Camas, Chehalis, Oysterville, Shelton, Toledo and Rochester. The officers elected for the following year were: Moderator, Rev. W. F. Harper, Tacoma; clerk, E. L. McLafferty, Aberdeen; treasurer, C. A. Cavender, Tacoma; auditor, D. M. Ross, Puyallup.

Verbal reports were received from 24 churches. Those reporting by letter were Napavine, Ortleg, Boisfort, Rankin, Salkum and Ilwaco.

The sermons were delivered by Rev. W. H. Shearman, Olympia, annual sermon; foreign mission sermon, Rev. W. C. Jenkins, Vancouver; home mission sermon, Rev. L. Dow Goodwin, Puyallup; educational sermon, Rev. W. F. Harper, Tacoma.

Addresses were made by Rev. D. D. Proper, of Seattle, and Rev. C. C. Marston, Tacoma, on home missions; foreign missions, Rev. W. E. Prichard, Olympia; education, Rev. R. McKillop, Centralia, and Rev. Mr. Rugg, Seattle; temperance, Rev. W. H. Shearman, Olympia.

The meeting of the Women's Home and Foreign Missionary societies was presided over by Mr. L. A. Crittendon, of Centralia.

The next place of meeting will be at Chehalis, in 1894.

At the next Association, S. W. Beaver will preach the annual sermon; F. R. Van Tassel, the Foreign Mission sermon; W. F. Harper, the Home Mission sermon, and R. McKillop, the Educational sermon.

The newly elected treasurer, W. F. Harper, preached the educational sermon, which concluded the association.

GERMAN ELECTIONS.

Government in a Minority of Two—All Depends on the Second Ballots.

No Accurate Predictions Possible—"A Strong Hand Wanted to Save Germany."

BERLIN, June 18.—The returns have almost ceased coming, although reports from thirty districts are still lacking. At twelve o'clock the Army Bill parties and groups had 83 seats and the Opposition parties 85. All depends upon the second ballots. The Government has decided to exert all its influence to induce all the factions favorable to the bill to unite against the Richterists, Social Democrats and Clericals in the by-elections which will be held about one week from to-morrow. Second ballots will be necessary, it is estimated, in almost twenty districts. The returns received so far have not been completed enough to render possible accurate predictions of the result. Of the thirty-four districts from which all the figures bearing on the second ballot had been received it appears certain that the Clericals will win twenty-five; the Social Democrats, two; the National Liberals, Conservatives and Agrarians, six, and the Particularists, one. The Radical Unionists are expected to gain several more seats. Not a dispatch has been received to indicate that the Richterists have carried a constituency on the first ballot. Excepting Virchow, hardly a conspicuous deputy stood by Richter after the dissolution of the Reichstag.

The Austrian official papers hold that the results of the elections are alarming.

The Deutsche Zeitung says: "Germany can only be saved by a strong hand. It is time that Caprivi should show that the future of Germany is safe in his care."

The Socialist Deputy Klunert, who was arrested in Halle, two days ago, for inciting his hearers to theft in a campaign speech, has been liberated.

AGITATOR MERCIER.

MONTREAL, June 16.—(Special).—At the unveiling of the statute to Jacques Cartier, at St. Henri, last night, ex-Premier Mercier said everything was now conspiring to reduce the French Canadians to a condition of slaves. Their language was abolished in the Northwest, and the Roman Catholic schools were being abolished in spite of the constitution and treaties. The McCarthy movement was gaining headway and had the support of a great majority of English speaking Canadians. It was high time the French Canadians should be united. He had no longer a right to speak for any party, but no party could save them and their fate was in their own hands.

THE CHILTERN HUNDREDS.

LONDON, June 15.—John Morrough, anti-Parnellite member of Parliament for the Southeast division of Cork, has decided to retire from Parliament and has applied for the stewardship of the Chiltern Hundreds. His decision to retire is due to the dissension in the Irish party, growing out of the attitude of Mr. Sexton and the Freeman's Journal toward the Parnellite faction.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Irish Members Discontented with Gladstone's Failure to Force the Opposition.

His Financial Proposals Not Acceptable—The Situation Somewhat Threatening.

LONDON, June 17.—The members of the Irish Parliamentary Society have become so incensed at the tactics employed by the Opposition to delay the Home Rule bill, that the Government must now face open revolt by the Irish members or expedite the bill and cease accepting offensive Opposition amendments. It may be pointed out that the obstructive policy followed by the Conservatives and Liberal Unionists is identical with that followed by the Irishmen when they were in Opposition, and that the then Government found the policy of obstruction equally as aggravating as the Irish members now find it.

Murmurings of discontent were heard during the debate on clause 3 of the bill, which, after the adoption of two or three trivial amendments and the rejection of dozens of others, was finally adopted on Tuesday last. Now, when the last clause is under discussion, the Opposition proposes to submit six printed pages of amendments to the clause, the Irish members think it time for the Government to call a halt in their consideration of amendments and push the bill to its final passage.

A striking episode that occurred during last night's debate disclosed the growth of Irish hostility to the Government. An amendment was offered adding to the words "without due process of law," which occur in the provision, "that the powers of the Irish Legislature shall not extend to the making of any law affecting liberty or property." The use of the words is as old as Magna Charta, but they have not been used for a long time in England, and are better known through their use in American law.

Mr. Arnold Balfour, who represents the Central Division of Leeds in the Conservative interest, and who is a brother of Rt. Hon. A. J. Balfour, the Opposition leader in the House, proposed to define the process of law by adding the words "in accordance with the settled principles and precedents of the United Kingdom." The clause, thus amended, reads: "The powers of the Irish Legislature shall not extend to the making of any laws whereby any person may be deprived of life, liberty or property, without due process of law, in accordance with the settled principles and precedents of the United Kingdom, or may be denied the equal protection of the laws, or whereby private property may be taken without just compensation."

The Government accepted the additional words, whereupon Mr. Thomas Sexton, anti-Parnellite member for North Kerry, and undoubtedly the most important member of the Irish party so far as Parliamentary knowledge is concerned, angrily opposed the addition to the clause. On the division of the House Mr. Sexton was defeated, the Conservatives combining with the Liberals who supported the amendment against the Radicals and the Irish members who opposed it. Then the storm burst.

Mr. J. J. Clancey, Parnellite member for the North division of County Dublin, denounced the Government's continuous concessions to the Opposition. The bill, he said, was already the last the Parnellites would accept, and he asked what was the object of legislation if it did not upset settled precedents.

Besides the discontent over the slowness of the discussion of the clauses of the bill, a profound disagreement has arisen concerning Mr. Gladstone's revised financial proposals. These were submitted to Messrs. Sexton and McCarthy on Wednesday last and were, at the first glance, seen by them to be unacceptable and insufficient to cover the loss through a mistake of £350,000 in the Irish excise.

Mr. Gladstone proposes to increase the taxation of the sources of Irish revenue instead of increasing Ireland's contribution to the Imperial treasury as demanded by the Irish leaders. The financial clauses so far as the continued adhesion of the Irish party to Mr. Gladstone is concerned have become the crux of the situation.

Mr. Sexton declared that the unaccountable fatuity of the government had already imperilled the measure, and it was alienating the people of Ireland. In savage accents Mr. Sexton blamed Right Hon. James Bryce, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, for permitting the words of the amendment to be dragged by the heels from the constitution of the United States and shoved into the Home Rule bill.

Mr. Bryce, it will be recalled, is the author of the "American Commonwealth," which created considerable discussion on its publication in 1888.

Other Irish members followed Mr. Sexton in opposition to the amendment, and another division was taken. The Unionists and Gladstonians again combined to defeat the Radicals and Irish members.

When the result was announced, Mr. Justin McCarthy, the leader of the Anti-Parnellites, in a short but exceedingly satirical address, suggested that Mr. Gladstone ought now to withdraw the bill.

The Unionists are of course delighted at these signs of disruptions in Mr. Gladstone's slight majority, and some of them express confidence in the ultimate defeat of the measure through the withdrawal of the Irish support. An unprejudiced view of the situation, shows, however, that the position is not nearly so bad for Home Rule as the Unionists pretend to believe. But it is true that the relations between the Irish leaders and Mr. Glasdtone have really become strained to the point of rupture.

Unless Mr. Gladstone recasts his latest proposals on fairer terms, the Irish members will withdraw that support which is essential to keep Mr. Gladstone in power. If the new financial settlement did not involve a further drain upon the Irish resources for instance, and gave the Irish exchequer a part of the customs revenue which is now assigned exclusively to the Imperial exchequer, then the last real difficulty to the passage of the bill would be solved, and the Government could go ahead and drive the measure through the House with no regard for the obstructive tactics of its enemies.

The main cause of the slowness and hesitancy of the Government is the financial trouble, and little progress may be looked for until an understanding in regard to money matters is reached between the Irish lerders and Mr. Gladstone. A section of the Radicals want a portion of the bill to be passed at this session and to let the financial proposals await adoption until the session of next year. The ministers, however, agree that the measure must be completed no matter to what length the session is protracted.

During the debate last night on Mr. R. W. Cremers' motion in favor of negotiations for an arbitration treaty between Great Britain and the United States, which motion was unanimously adopted the members of the House, became uneasy and somewhat excited in watching Mr. Gladstone manœuvring with a lighted candle in his hand among the documents on the desk. His failing eyesight and the intensity of mind he throws into everything he undertakes, combined with the pre occupation of thought, caused him some times to unconsciously bring the candle stick he had grasped in his hand, dangerously near the papers on the desk and then close to his silvery hair. He, of course, had not thought that he might set the house on fire, or that he might receive dangerous injuries by setting himself on fire, but searched diligently for the paper he wanted until Sir Edward Grey, parliamentary secretary of the Foreign Office, seized him by the arm and pointed out to him the risk he was running. Mr. Gladstone laughed heartily, but he placed the candlestick on the table, thereby relieving the anxiety that prevailed among the members, political friends and enemies alike.

CAPITAL NOTES

Preparations for the Reform Convention—A Disappointed "Green Goods" Purchaser.

Education in Canada in the Light of the Census—Soo Canal Strike.

(From our own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, June 17.—Delegates to the Reform Convention are beginning to arrive. James Sutherland, chief Opposition whip, is in town aiding the local committee to complete arrangements. About a thousand delegates are expected. When Hon. Mr. Laurier arrives on Monday he will be presented with an address by the local association.

James Reid, of Fergus, was arrested at Guelph, yesterday, for negotiating for the purchase of green goods. He made an appointment with the officers of the Ontario Government, and produced $500, for which he expected to receive $5,000 in counterfeit money.

The next Census bulletin will deal with Education in Canada. Mr. Johnson says that we compare favorably with other countries.

The strike on the Soo Canal has been settled. Contractor Ryan states that the only dispute with the stone cutters was respecting the time at which they should be paid. The firm's rule was to pay the men monthly. They wanted to receive it every second Saturday, which was granted.

TO AND FROM ALASKA.

First Call Here This Season of the "City of Topeka" and the "Queen."

Six of the Crew of the Shipwrecked Whaler "Sea Ranger" Brought Down.

Two of the Alaska steamships called in at Victoria last night for the first time this season. The Queen, Captain Carroll, put in an appearance shortly after 11 o'clock, and a few minutes later the City of Topeka was run alongside the dock. The first named is down from Alaska, the second, on her way up.

The Queen has about 120 passengers who have had the usual trip to "the land of the midnight sun." Strange as it may appear, the weather up in Alaska was delightful, a great contrast to what it has been on Puget Sound. Captain Carroll says the voyage in Alaskan waters was about as pleasant a one as he ever had, but both going up and coming down there was almost continual rain along the coast.

Six of the crew of the wrecked whaler Sea Ranger came down on the Queen and landed here. The balance of them will try to get down on the Mexico, which is now up there. All of them are in a bad way for funds for they lost everything in the wreck and, of course, have had no chance of doing much since. About the wreck itself there is nothing more to tell, no additional news being available.

When the Queen was at Sitka the U. S. revenue cruiser Hasler, was in port and the Mohican also. The U. S. lighthouse tender Columbine, Captain Richardson, was in the harbor and left on a cruise. The Victoria steam sealer Thistle, this year a supply steamer, was passed on the way down. The Queen called in at Comox and took aboard 700 tons of coal. Besides this she had a fair freight for Puget Sound ports.

The Topeka had only thirty passengers when she arrived here, and this number was increased by just four, so that she makes the "summer excursion" with very few on board. The prospects for the season's trade do not seem to be very encouraging, but may improve in the next month or two. Mail was put on board here early this morning for the U. S. boundary survey party, to be left at Skeena river. The Topeka will call in at Departure bay to take in coal. She left port a few hours after arrival, the Queen clearing for Puget Sound ports at 6 o'clock this morning.

THE BORDEN MURDERS.

SPRINGFIELD, Ohio, June 17.—Charles H. Berry, a well-known real estate man and politician, is likely to play an important part in solving the mystery which hangs over the great Borden murder at New Bedford, Mass. Last October a stranger came to this city and sought Mr. Berry, who then ran an employment agency, for work. Mr. Berry's kind treatment gained the fellow's confidence, and he confided to him that he was a criminal and had murdered the Bordens for revenge, also that he was a sailor. This sustains the theory that the murders were committed by a sailor for some wrong inflicted on his father by Mr. Borden many years ago. The fellow wanted to give himself up; but finally disappeared. Mr. Berry had forgetten the incident till he saw an account of the mysterious individual who related a similar story to a barber in Jersey, and the description given tallies with the man who called on Mr. Berry.

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 17.—Contractor George W. Dant was severly condemned by the evidence given to-day at the coroner's inquest over the remains of the Fords theatre victims, although some of those who gave testimony against his methods, spoke highly of his ability as a practical mechanic and bricklayer. The United States Government also came in for its share of condemnation for its methods of doing the work of construction.