The Colonist.

MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 1897.

## DEATH OF MR. LAWSON.

The death of Mr. Henry Lawson, which is announced in another column, removes one of the veterans from the sphere of Canadian journalism. Forty years of continuous and active service in its ranks, always holding an important and influential editorial place, is a record rare in its annals and represents a life of great labor and usefulness, one that has not failed in moulding public sentiment and, it is needless to say, always in a right direction. The sum of such a life work cannot easily be estimated. Apart from his editorial management of the COLONIST, which was conspicuous for its ability, good judgment and educative value, he did valuable service for Maritime Province papers, the Toronto Globe and the Montreal Herald and Star. In the Province of Prince Edward Island in pre-Confederation days, when he occupied important editorial positions, he was active and prominent in the advocacy of reform in educational matters and in the settlement of the vexed land question.

Personally, Mr. Lawson was of the sturdy type of manhood, with strong convictions, and characterized by old-fashioned honesty of purpose, qualities which not only earned for him the esteem and admiration of his friends, but entered into and dominated his professional duties. He was a man who possessed a wide range of exact information and wrote plainly and forcibly. His reasoning was clear and his conclusions sound. By long association with public men and experience in public affairs he had an intimate knowledge and a comprehensive grasp of Canadian politics in all its phases, and his judgment was rarely at fault in dealing with various and complex issues as they arose. In his relations with those in whose service he wrought he was characterized by strict fidelity and unfailing devotion to their interests, and much of the success of the COLONIST during his connection with its editorial management is due to his efforts. He maintained a high standard of journalistic ethics, and never descended to personalities or acrimonious and recriminatory discussion. His death will be generally regretted, and where his personality was not known his loss will be felt as that of one whose services to journalism were valuable. His constituency of readers was a wide and appreciative one.

## SOME CRITICS OF THE GOVERNMENT.

It is not uninteresting—it may not be without utility—to observe and analyze some of the criticisms made by a section of what is recognized as the Opposition press in the Province. Although we are not able to agree with the opinions expressed by the journalistic opponents of the Government in regard to most of the subjects which are the objects of their attacks, we see no reason to believe that such articles will injure the position which the present administration holds in the country, or weaken the support which, in the past, it has received from the electorate. At the same time the publication of such articles affords an opportunity for showing how erroneous many of them are in regard to the facts which they state, and how fallacious are the conclusions which the writers draw from their false premises.

Our attention has been particularly attracted lately to the frequent declarations by some of the newspapers published in West Kootenay, that what is known as the "Mineral Tax" is an unfair and burdensome discrimination against the mining industry as compared with the taxation imposed on other important industries in the Province. Indeed, some of the more bitter and reckless journalistic opponents of the Government allege that circumstance as a reason in itself sufficient to call for the Government's overthrow.

Do the facts of the case support such a contention or justify the charge that the policy of the Government bears unfairly on the mining industry? We think not. On the contrary, what discrimination may exist in the manner in which the mining industry is taxed, as compared with the course adopted towards the lumbering, the agricultural and other interests, is entirely in favor of the former as regards the rate at which it is required to contribute to the Provincial revenue. We admit that there has been special legislation in dealing with the taxation of mining properties. But it was directed with a view to favor and foster that industry and to lighten—not to increase—the burdens upon it. That the result aimed at has been attained will, we are confident, be seen when the financial statement for the current year is laid before the Legislature. When the subject was under discussion during the last session, the opinion was expressed by some members of the House that the result of the method of taxing the net output of the mines would be far more favorable to their owners and more unfavorable to the revenue than would be the case were the methods of taxation of mining properties similar to those adopted in regard to other interests.

Until the detailed statements of the Minister of Finance are published it is, of course, impossible to arrive at an approximately accurate comparison of the difference in the results which arise from the adoption of the two systems of taxation. But the reports of one or two mining companies which we have seen, afford us an opportunity of getting some idea of the relative results, as regards the amount of taxation which they have to pay under the special tax on minerals with what would have been the case had the ordinary method been followed. In the case of two companies which, from the advanced stage of the development of their properties at which they have arrived, may be taken as fair examples, we find that in one case the Mineral Tax yielded about 45 per cent. and in the other about 37 per cent. of what might be considered as the amount which would be collected had the assessment been made under the ordinary system. At the same time it must not be forgotten that mining properties in their earlier stages of development escape entirely the taxation to which other classes of property in a similar condition are liable.

There is, therefore, no justification for the statements of some of our contemporaries in Kootenay. The aim of the Legislature and the Government—to foster the mining industry in its early stages—has been accomplished, although it is probable that the revenue has not come up to anticipations. We are convinced that the majority of the mine owners is perfectly satisfied with the present method of taxation and fully alive to the fact that the result is a much less contribution to the revenue than would be demanded in Washington or other States. At the same time these reiterated statements appearing in newspapers in the Province, are likely to do much injury to British Columbia, by discouraging outsiders from investing capital in an industry on which they are led to believe the incidence of taxation is unusually onerous. It is to be hoped that the newspapers which have been guilty of such misstatements will abandon a course which not only reflects on their own honesty and intelligence, but is liable to inflict serious injury on the Province.

## GREENWAY'S REWARD.

Whatever may be the final adjustment of the Manitoba school question, there is one person, who has been prominently connected with the matter, who evidently considers that he has done his part, and is now entitled to some reward. That is Mr. Greenway, the Premier of Manitoba, who has utilized the school question to the great benefit of himself and his party, even though it has been a source of trouble and anxiety, not only to his political opponents, but to the people of the whole Dominion.

But Mr. Greenway is evidently of the opinion that he has not yet completed the exploitation of the benefits which that question was to bring him. For the yielding disposition which Manitoba's Premier displayed to Mr. Laurier's "sunny ways," Mr. Greenway expects substantial recognition, and he appears to consider that no further delay should occur in securing his reward. If the reports from Ottawa be true, Mr. Greenway's demand is of a somewhat startling nature. It is said that he demands an extension of Manitoba, by cutting a good sized slice off Eastern Assiniboia and adding it to the Prairie Province, vesting all the Dominion lands in the section so transferred in the Crown for the Province of Manitoba. He also desires that all the ungranted crown lands in Manitoba be vested in the Province and that the school lands and the school funds be turned over to the Province. In short, that the Dominion should clear out of Manitoba entirely and surrender to the Provincial authorities all that is now vested in the Federal Government.

While there is no direct confirmation of this report, it is not merely not unlikely, but very probable, that it is an accurate statement of the situation. A lack of appreciation of any circumstances favorable to the interests of his own schemes or policy, or any excessive delicacy in making his wishes known, has never been supposed to be a failing of the Premier of Manitoba. Mr. Laurier may think Mr. Greenway's services "come high," but as the latter practically held the key to the premiership of Canada and to the Federal treasury, Mr. Laurier can scarcely refuse to accede to the demand of his confederate for an ample reward.

## THE PREMIER IN MONTREAL.

In his references, during his speech at the Montreal banquet, to the Manitoba school "settlement," Hon. Mr. Laurier said:

I am a Liberal of the English school, as I have often stated. I am not only a Liberal of that school, but I was born in the Catholic religion and brought up in it and I believe in liberty as Montizambert and Lacordaire believed in it. The bishops and priests—all men in a constitutional country like ours—are citizens as we are. They have the right to their opinions as we have to ours and what we ask for ourselves I am always ready to grant them. There are honest differences of opinion. Let us endeavor to understand each other and let us endeavor if possible to practice conciliation.

The Premier argued that the Privy Council never declared that there was on the part of the Federal Government or Parliament any obligation in law, even any moral obligation to re-establish Separate schools such as existed in Manitoba before 1890, and went on to contend that the Bill introduced by the Bowell Government did not provide what was absolutely essential for the minority, because it did not give the minority a share in the public grant. He added:

Nothing will prevent me from continuing my efforts to preserve that state of society conquered by our fathers at the price of so many years and so much blood. It may be that the result of my efforts will be the Tarpeian Rock, but if that be the case I will fall, without murmur or recrimination or complaint, certain that from my tomb will rise the immortal idea for which I have always fought.

Hon. Mr. Laurier held that the Bill presented to the House by the Conservatives, which was called equal justice, "was simply capitulation." In this connection the Premier manifestly made use of a term whose meaning he either, did not realize or he utilized, for temporary effect, an expression which meant the concession of all and more than all that was demanded on behalf of the Roman Catholics. Nevertheless, he had given it to be understood that he would concede even more than the Conservative Government had offered, and it is just because he failed to realize the expectations which he had aroused and which it is now apparent he had no idea of ever realizing, that he at present finds himself the object of the condemnation of those upon whom he expected to work by what he termed "the sunny ways of conciliation."

The Liberal leader bid high for the French and Roman Catholic vote at the time of the Dominion elections, but now when the time has arrived for him to make his payments, he has found that what he offered is refused as not having the genuine ring of the currency in which he was pledged to pay. It will be remembered that when the party to which the Premier belongs attained office, upwards of twenty years ago, they made professions and promises, by which they failed to abide, and in consequence when the electors were in the ordinary constitutional manner called to pass judgment upon them, the administration which had counted on a long lease of power, was signally defeated.

## THE ALDERMANIC CANDIDATES.

As we said on Friday, there are special reasons why the civic electors should strive to secure a capable and energetic council on the present occasion. We are often told that a municipal corporation has many things in common with a joint stock company, and that the civic council is similar to the board of directors to which the shareholders entrust the management of their capital and undertaking. While there are certain essential and important differences between the two kinds of aggregations—since the joint stock company is the result of absolutely voluntary action on the part of its shareholders, while there is not the same freedom possible to the residents of a town—there is still such a similarity in some important respects that we may use the comparison to good advantage, especially at the time when the people are called upon to select their civic rulers for the ensuing year.

Assuming, therefore, for the sake of comparison, that there is considerable likeness between the ruling bodies of a civic and a commercial corporation, we may get some useful hints from the manner in which shareholders select their directors for our guidance in choosing our aldermen. Ordinarily no man would have a chance of being elected on a board of directors, unless the shareholders believed that he possessed the ability and experience essential for success in the management of their property. If he did not possess those qualifications, nothing else would ensure his election. He might speak with the tongue of an angel, but if the shareholders thought that he lacked commercial ability or common-sense his eloquence would avail him nothing. If it was thought that he sought the office for the sake of the fees attached to it, or because by occupying it he could benefit himself and his friends pecuniarily, though at the expense of the shareholders as a body, he would also fail of election. If it was notorious that he had been a failure in the management of his own private affairs, the members of the company would look askance at a man who asked them to put him in control of their property. Even if he possessed qualifications which appeared satisfactory, it would be considered as a necessary preliminary to his election as a director, that he should be able to outline the policy which he would pursue and the course he would adopt to make the corporate undertaking remunerative.

Can it be said that these ordinary precautions are taken as a rule by the electors in Victoria, and, for the matter of that, in many other places? Not at all. Look back over a series of years and call to mind the melancholy list of aldermanic failures, the monotony of them only varied when occasionally someone even worse than the usual low standard managed to secure election. The idea of the residents of the city, or of the various wards, conferring together with a view of pitching upon some fellow-citizen who possessed the desirable qualities, and then uniting in asking him to serve the city, would be considered as an extraordinary procedure. Sometimes, it is true, a requisition is circulated and receives some signatures with the view of inducing some person to become a candidate. But from the fact that there is generally some private or personal reason for such a course, there is frequently a good deal of suspicion attached to it and its comparative singularity detracts from its chance of a successful result.

Then, again, how often do we secure from a candidate for the position of mayor or alderman a clear and business-like outline of what course or policy he will pursue if etected? Scarcely ever. We may get disjointed portions of a programme or an answer on some one detail as the result of an inquiry from a taxpayer at a meeting. But scarcely a candidate appears to think that he is called upon to declare a complete line of action as that he proposes to take if elected. In fact, to secure his election with as few pledges as possible, and trust to accidents or future events to guide his official course, is looked upon as a proof of electioneering skill which entitles him to the admiration of his fellow-citizens. No director could get on the board of a company in such a manner, and until our civic electors adopt like common-sense and business methods, it is not to be expected that the city will be well governed, that its affairs will be ably administered and improvements and public works carried out with that economy and success which are generally found in the career of a commercial corporation, where entirely different methods prevail in the selection of the executive from those which are in vogue in civic affairs.

## THE CONSERVATIVE POLICY.

In the despatch from our Ottawa correspondent a few days ago there was an item stating that "the Cabinet had a three hours' sitting when the question of the extension of Canadian trade was under consideration. It is proposed to take steps to develope trade with South Africa, South America and Mediterranean ports." "Is it possible?" will be the exclamation of the average reader on seeing such a statement. The fact would have been ordinary enough if related of a Conservative administration, one of the cardinal principles of the policy of which was, while preserving the home market for the native producer, to find a market abroad for his surplus stock. But the statement that a Cabinet, which includes within its ranks Sir Richard Cartwright, is considering the extension in foreign parts of Canadian trade, is something so singularly incongruous with the repeated declarations of the Liberal trade policy as to call forth expressions of incredulity. The United States market was the sole exception which Sir Richard would tolerate, and even that was only mentioned because it afforded a fine background to his bitter sarcasms on "a government which scoured the uttermost parts of the earth for the custom of a handful of reluctant buyers while there were millions anxious to deal with us across the border line." And now the naerby United States Jordan is rejected by the Trade and Commerce Namaan for the South African Abana and the South American Pharpar.

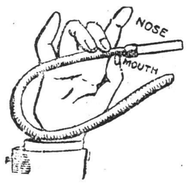
Yet Conservatives should rejoice at this new admission of the soundness of the principles upon which the policy of the party is founded. The Globe, the official organ of the Liberal Government, which both points out the line it should follow and registers its decisions, has recently ridiculed those who would propose to strip the Canadian tariff of its protectionist features. Doubtless it will as promptly and decisively applaud the action which seeks to find new outlets for Canadian industries, the possibility of whose young life is that they should find their first nourishment in the home market and thereby gain strength for efforts further afield. Imitation is the sincerest flattery, and the Conservatives are having this to the full in the manner in which their successors are following in their footsteps.

## EDITORIAL COMMENT.

In the California Legislature which is now meeting at Sacramento it has been decided in the interests of economy to reduce the number of attaches from 150 to 100. This is strongly insisted on by the rural members, who having had several bad years are most persistent in their demands for a more economical administration of the affairs of the State. There has been the usual number of women lobbying for clerkships and other positions in both houses. The feeling against their employment in politics is gradually wearing away. They make good clerks, don't get drunk and run out all night with the boys, and every year are making serious inroads in the ranks of the "push," who regard the women as interlopers into an ancient and honorable order. The fact that they have no vote has always been the greatest snag in their way to political employment, but by persistent lobbying they are are holding their own very well against the men in securing positions.

There were seven negroes lynched in Kentucky the week before Christmas. In what other country of the civilized world would such a usurpation of justice go unpunished? If, as seems probable, the miserable wretches were guilty of the crimes laid to their charge, why was it necessary for citizens to take upon themselves the hangman's office with all the brutalizing effects upon the individual that often result even from the legal execution of that office. If any of them were innocent, as some of them protested with their last breath, why should men in the name of justice incur the guilt of murder? The condition of a country where any considerable number of the populace are swayed by unreasoning and unbridled passions, must be deplorable and the condition of society, where the injured feel that they must depend upon themselves and not upon the law for redress, is in no small danger of relapsing into barbarism.

DR. CHASE'S CATARRH CURE




CURES cold in the head in ten minutes.
CURES incipient catarrh in from one to three days.
CURES chronic catarrh, hay fever and rose fever.
Complete, with blower free.

SOLD BY ALL DEALERS
Price 25 Cents

## ROSSLAND MINES.

ROSSLAND, Jan. 8.—(Special.)—The Fisher Maiden on Four-Mile creek in the Slocan country has let a contract to rawhide 200 tons of ore to Silverton.

To-day's work in the Golden Drip on the showing in the north drift, discovered yesterday, has resulted in two feet of free milling gold ore widening out to four feet. The value has also been determined by an assay made to-day. It is an average of the four feet and ran $40 in gold. This strike places the Golden Drip among the foremost properties in the camp.

The manager of the Phoenix company, who owns the adjoining claim to the Nest Egg and Sunset on Deer Park mountain, is so well pleased that he has decided to equip the property at once with an air compressor, pump, hoist and boiler. The Phoenix is about as well developed by means of shafts as it can be without machinery and shows a strong and well defined vein, which in two of the shafts carries a good body of pay ore.

## SUGAR GRINDERS PROTEST.

KEY WEST, Fla., Jan. 8. — Advices from Havana say that a petition was presented on Tuesday last at the produce exchange by a number of merchants, requesting that the executive committee of the exchange send a dispatch to Madrid, on the authority of the wholesale and retail merchants of Havana and addressed to Premier Canovas del Castillo, protesting against the action of the Marquis of Apeztegelia and other Spanish sugar cane grinders who are agitating the question of Capt.-Gen. Weyler's recall from Cuba. These grinders claim that General Weyler does not protect their interests by not allowing them to grind, but on the contrary thus favors the insurgents plans. The signers of the petition state that they are above political corruption, and only wish that the truth may be made known. The Marquis of Apeztegelia will shortly sail for Spain. He has been summoned by Premier Canovas for a personal consultation and to prevent if possible the imminent rupture between Captain-General Weyler and the Cuban politicians of the Conservative party.

## A BRIDAL PARTY BEHIND BARS.

HAVANA, Jan. 8.—Senor Valides Pita, judge of the Belne district court of Havana, has been arrested with the secretary of the court, Senor Tranquet, charged with unlawfully marrying Jovefa Arica, a minor girl, to Bernardino Rovero, who for this purpose pretended to be dying, but who was in reality in good health, as certified to by a well known physician, Dr. Aloza de la Masa, the latter, who is an alderman, has also been arrested, and Avelino Zereolla and Manuel Ruiz, also aldermen, who were witnesses of the marriage, were taken into custody at the same time. Senor Viaz Ochote has been appointed a supreme judge to try the case, which is claimed here as being "scandalous and unprecedented." The parents of the girl, who objected to the marriage, disclosed the facts to the courts.

Subscribe for The Semi-Weekly Colonist

BESIDE THEMSELVES . . .

With Satisfaction. That's the feeling of all our customers. They pay CASH. No need of money to burn to feed well. Our prices are a procession of smile-makers and qualities ensure satisfaction.

| | |
|---|---|
| Ogilvie's Hungarian Flour | $1.45 |
| Snow Flake Flour | 1 35 |
| Vegetables, 3 tins | .25 |
| Creamery Butter | .25 |
| California Square Butter | .50 |
| Fresh Ranch Eggs | .35 |
| Potatoes, per Sac | 1.00 |
| 5 lb. Pails Jam | .50 |
| Clam Nectar | .20 |

SAMPLE OUR "T."

Dixi H. Ross & Co., Government St.

## FEWER FAILURES THIS YEAR.

NEW YORK, Jan. 8.—Bradstreet's tomorrow will say: General trade is quiet at Toronto, though merchants are hopeful of a fairly active spring trade. The mild weather and lack of snow are in part the causes of the dullness. The mild weather at Montreal has emphasized the dull season, and prospects during the next two months are not regarded as encouraging.

General trade is quiet at Halifax, the fish market being unusually depressed owing to lack of demand from the West Indies and the United States. Heavy exports of apples from the province have been without profit. There were thirty-three business failures reported from the Dominion of Canada this week, compared with 37 last week. and 53 in the first week of January, 1896.

## HUNTING ACCIDENTS ARE MANY.

LONDON Jan. 9.—The hunting season has been marked by an unprecedented number of serious accidents. Earl Dudley has been in bed for three weeks past and has cancelled all his engagements; Lords Gerard and Minto have had several ribs broker, and Ladies Gerard and O'Brien have their collar bones broken. Lord William Beresford is now out of danger. The Duke of Marlborough had a narrow escape while driving from his hunting box at Melton to the Queen meet. His horses bolted down a steep incline and the trap was overturned. The Duke escaped with a shaking up.

The weather throughout Europe continues to be of the worst descriptions. Along the riviera in Tunis and in Algeria, visitors are suffering from cold and rain, and in Great Britain there has been a steady downpour all the week. A hurricane prevails to-day over the north-east coast, and the Thames is flooding, especially around Windsor.

## AFTER MANY YEARS.

BOSTON, Mass., Jan. 9.—The Traveller to-day says: "Workmen excavating on Shea hill off Saratoga street, East Boston, exhumed this afternoon the skeleton of a full grown man which it is believed will clear away the mystery of a murder perpetrate off Needle island about thirty years ago. The police identify a button found with the skeleton, and feels certain that the bones are those of one Jacob Waite, a wealthy shipbuilder who disappeared from home with a large sum of money in his possession about the period mentioned, and whom it was believed was murdered for his money. It was suspected also that this body was buried somewhere on the hill. On the skull was an indentation which is supposed to have been made by a blunt instrument, probably a hammer.

## DENIED BY MR. HEINZE.

ROSSLAND, Jan. 9.—A special to the Miner from Trail states that F. Aug. Heinze has stated positively that there is no truth in the report that the Gooderham syndicate have bought the Trail smelter, and he adds that no negotiations or correspondence to that end has taken place. A large new electric plant is being put in at the smelter, which will furnish both power and light to the smelter and the town of Trail. Boilers and engines at the smelter will be held in reserve.

## A SOLDIER AND A MAN.

BOSTON, Jan. 8.—The funeral services over the remains of General F. A. Walker were held in Trinity church at noon to-day. Those in attendance included men of letters from all over the country, statesmen and students, who had gathered to pay their final tribute of respect to their late colleague and instructor.

## A MESSAGE TO MEN.

Proving That True Honesty and True Philantropy Still Exist.

If any man, who is weak, nervous and debilited, or who is suffering from any of the various troubles resulting from excesses or overwork, will take heart and write to me, I will send him confidentially, and *free of charge* the plan pursued by which I was completely restored to perfect health and manhood, after years of suffering from Nervous Debility, Loss of Vigor and Organic Weakness.

I have nothing to sell and therefore want no money but as I know through my own eqperience how to sympathize with such sufferers, I am glad to be able to assist any fellow being to a cure, I am well aware of the prevalence of quackery, for I myself was deceived and imposed upon until I nearly lost faith in mankind, but I rejoice to say that I am now perfectly well and happy once more and am desirous therefore to make this certain means of cure known to all. If you will write to me you can rely upon being cured and the proud satisfaction of having been of great service to one in need will be sufficient reward for my trouble. Absolute secrecy assured, Send 5c. silver to cover postage and address, Mr. Geo. G. Strong, North Rockwood, Mich.

Helen—Oh, yes; he always thought the world of me. Before we were married he used to say that he was willing to die for me.

Nellie—But he didn't.

Helen—Of course not. He was so thoughtful you know. He said that he did not dare to do it, lest I should be unable to replace the loss.—London Household Words.