

WHERE REFORM BEGINS

The Times should not forget its good points. It ought to remember that it is the only paper in the colony which is not run by a man who is a member of the House of Commons.

Our contemporary, we think, betrays some confusion of thought in his criticism of our article on the dangerous class. It is evident that the principle of a two-class system is not what he is trying to show to be a mistake.

We said, moreover, that the men who try to use the illiterates as themselves. This our contemporary denies, and says that they are merely ignorant men.

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OUR NEGLECTED COAST

The Ottawa correspondent of the Toronto Empire, writing under date October 30th, states:— "In a recent letter to the Minister of Public Works, the president of the British Columbia Board of Trade detailed a number of alleged grievances under which the Pacific province labored through lack of departmental action.

The reform, which our contemporary would begin at the top and work downwards, it will like the other moral reform to get its start from below and the good of the earth will be the last to feel its effects.

THE GREAT COMMERCIAL TIDE

The News-Advertiser has been converted by the fog to the belief that the surest and safest means of communication between Vancouver and Victoria is by way of Nanaimo. During the ten days or so of fog, communication between Nanaimo and Vancouver has been frequent and regular, while that between Victoria and Vancouver has been slow and irregular.

The defect of the Republicans is even more disastrous than was at first reported. Republican papers admit that there is a Democratic majority in the next House of 190.

The people of the United States are evidently not pleased with the Republican policy. They do not like the new tariff. They do not believe in the Force Bill which aims to give the Federal Government control of the elections in the different States.

It is interesting to see that the disciples of Henry George invariably accuse anyone who is not in the same line as they are of being a disciple of the "unintelligible" theory.

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AN INTOLERANT MAJORITY

The majority in the legislature of the Northwest Territories are pursuing a singular course. Its members, under the leadership of Mr. Hamilton, have undertaken to bring in a bill which has already been determined, far as they can, to prevent them taking any part in the proceedings of the Assembly.

When Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Cayley and Mr. Macdonald say they have decided outside the Legislature not to permit the representatives of Red Deer, Prince Albert, Regina and Winnipeg to take any part in legislation, that they intend to vote down any and every proposition emanating from those representatives without regard to its merits, that they will cast out without discussion and by sheer strength of numbers and brute force every resolution, bill, or request proceeding from them, no matter whether the proposed measure be for the benefit of the Territories or not, they are striking a blow at popular rights and electoral rights and at the system of responsible Government such as has never before been struck in Canada.

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A PROPOSITION

The McKinley tariff is so very fully discussed in the English newspapers. The manner in which it affects Canada is commented upon in various ways.

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THE GROUNDING OF THE ABYSSINIA

To the Editor:—I, as a reader of your valuable paper, have seen the report of the steamer Abyssinia taking the ground about Vancouver, and also heard the report of the diver who examined her bottom after the accident, and I beg to state that it is impossible and impracticable to survey any iron vessel under water and testify to her being in a seaworthy condition after grounding. I know, as well as many others who are acquainted with the building and repairing of iron vessels, that they don't show their true condition until they are hoisted on the ways and very badly strained inside, even when very badly strained outside, and then they are hoisted on the ways and very badly strained inside, even when very badly strained outside, and then they are hoisted on the ways and very badly strained inside.

strained about the bottom cement and rivets, and there is a possibility that the Abyssinia will get her repairs and overhaul done somewhere else instead of Victoria, which would make a job for several classes of tradesmen and laborers, great though it was only the cargo being out and in, and the docking and redocking for examination. I may state I have seen a good deal of facilities abroad, but I can hardly say there is any better than the Victoria Albin machine shop for ship repairs.

HARBOR ENCROACHMENTS

To the Editor:—In a former letter to you under this heading, I anticipated that the attention of the authorities would be called to the question and action taken, but the encroachments mentioned are still going on, and this in the face of the notice published by the authority of the Provincial Government a short time ago, forbidding any person encroaching on the foreshore of any part of this province.

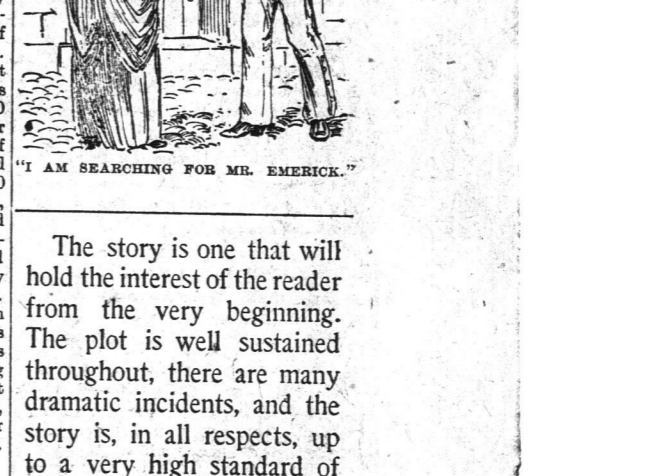
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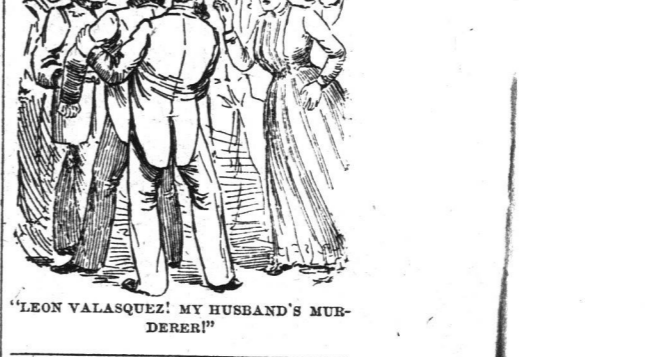
COAL MINING INDUSTRY.

To the Editor:—Editorial matter in the Nanaimo Free Press is, as a common rule, conspicuous by its absence; but the issue of that very dull paper of the 4th inst. contains a "leader" on coal mining industry of the quick medicine advertisement variety, putting up Mr. Samuel M. Robins, telling of the wonderful works he has wrought. Now, reverend father, we have four times the capital at command the company ever had before he came to Nanaimo, and with now-days an over-reliance on him, he has increased the production and sale of coal at the Nanaimo mines, coal found by him in 1884, and then less than two years ago, Mr. Robins set foot in the coal business in the matters he intends to elucidate. The figures given by the Free Press show that it is true, the capabilities of the coal seam of Vancouver Island, but surely, who is so green as to follow in the tracks of the old-time mine owners, who were struck in 1883, and then less than two years ago, Mr. Robins set foot in the coal business in the matters he intends to elucidate.

THE DEATH OF MR. WILCOX

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