

Weekly Colonist

FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 1888.

THE FISHERIES TREATY.

It is rather extraordinary that while the press and leaders are persistently claiming that Canada's rights have been given away by the long-announced treaty at Washington, the United States press and leaders are growing that the interests of their country have been sacrificed. The St. Paul Pioneer Press, the most influential of western American newspapers, thus views the matter and it will be seen from the following that it is not far from the truth.

"A catch after a storm" is a frequent remark, and after the usual in committee yesterday had blown over without any serious damage to anyone, the business of the day proceeded with a delightful serenity that during the present session has been of rare occurrence.

"To the Crofters." As the discussion of supposed immigration of Crofters was discussed shortly after the opening of the session, it is not surprising that the attention of the members of the Opposition, and yesterday called down upon his head the righteous indignation of the hon. member for Westminster city.

"The hon. member for Comox naturally looks with suspicion and regret upon any measure that has for its object the more speedy securing of justice against delinquent crofters. From his remarks on the proposed introduction of joint crofting, it would appear that he looked upon the matter as a personal one. He appealed to the 'independence' of the government members to oppose the bill, and 'let like him,' like the members of the Opposition. This was somewhat amusing, especially as every other member of the Opposition was favorable to the passage of the bill with certain slight amendments. Mr. Bole, in his remarks, was very emphatic in his approval of the introduction of the system.

"Gentlemen in the East sometimes can be relied on to say nice things of their political opponents; on this occasion he has taught us that it would be impossible. For instance, the Ottawa Free Press, referring to Sir John Macdonald's speech in the Crofting and Hunter revival service, at Montreal, in the following terms: 'In response to an appeal to parliament to give an indication of their change of heart, after referring to his hostility to the Premier politically, expresses warm sympathy with him in this matter, concluding as follows: 'No person can be other than pleased with the interval which the venerable Premier now being held and the part he took in these services last evening. The meetings were to have concluded this week, but on request of the people, especially joined in by Sir John, Messrs. Crofting and Hunter have decided to remain longer.' Imagine the Times looking at Sir John's course in anything like a charitable light! Hypocritical it would seem to the organs of British Columbia's handful of Grits.

"We want to inform the Ottawa Free Press that the motion for a Royal Commission to enquire into the alleged treasonable utterances of Hon. Mr. Dumas is not defeated by a majority of 'one.' We would also state in the most emphatic language possible that so far from the vote being against the motion, it is in favor of the proposed bill, and the figures stand 16 to 7. Perhaps our esteemed contemporary will not make any serious objection if we acquaint him with the fact that a Select Committee of the House, the only one of the kind in the world, has been appointed to enquire into the affair; that Hon. T. B. Humphreys, who brought the charge, failed to prove his allegations, while Hon. Mr. Dumas was present prepared to prove on oath that he was fully libelled. Under such circumstances, it is not surprising that the Free Press will change its stinging headline 'Dialoys Dumas' to 'Loyal Dumas.' No more devoted servant of the Queen, no more progressive citizen, and no more estimable gentleman exists in the Dominion to-day than the honorable member for Comox, who has been so widely vilified by one who boasts the title of Honorable because he happened to be a member of the Government before Confederation, like Mr. Bunter, but who possesses none of those qualities of heart and mind which usually follow it. The surrender of the right to fish in the English sea to the representatives of the New England fishing interest, a most strenuous object. They claim that this is a right which always belonged to them, and which was guaranteed to them even by the Treaty of 1818, and that our tender it is to abandon a vital right. The surrender of the right also to fish in certain waters along the Newfoundland coast and northward in the marine league limit is common with Canadian fishermen is a vital objection which the New England men will urge against it. It is very manifest that the immediate representatives of the fishery interest will oppose the tonnage tax to the utmost. The answer will be made by the Administration that the United States can also enact a law to impose a like tax upon Canadian vessels, but this method will not be regarded by those most concerned as an equivalent. It is clear that there is to be a hot contest over the treaty. The majority of the Representatives will be very likely to unite with those who immediately represent the fishing interests, and have already announced their determined opposition. The Democrats are expected to support the treaty as an Administration measure.

"General Bove, whose acknowledged ability as a lawyer and long Congressional experience entitle his opinion to great weight, believes that the treaty of Washington of 1817 and the Halifax arbitration of the fishery question, this one is 'a surrender of the right of the United States and the vicinity and power of her people to the social influence at Washington of British aristocracy.' Here is American opinion from various high sources; contrast it with Grit opinion in Canada and you will be led to form a different opinion. In the language of a local writer, whose tendencies are widely criticized, 'God help poor Canada,' burdened, as she is, with such a load as the party of tears and lamentations—the so-called Liberals.

It is reported that Hon. Alex. Mackenzie will not take his seat owing to bad health.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

Mr. Bole gave Mr. Humphreys a well-deserved dressing down yesterday. The "third party" is not in favor with the best man in the Opposition party.

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CABLE NEWS.

The Mayor of Cork Released From Jail—Corruption at South-west Election. Contract for Carrying the Australian Mails Concluded—Alleged Negotiations with Turkey. The Raw and the Salted and Branded—Immense Appropriation for Military Purposes.

Parliamentary Notes. London, Feb. 27.—In the House of Commons this evening Sir James Ferguson, the foreign secretary, in reply to a question by Mr. Broke concerning the statement that England was negotiating with Turkey for the purchase of a fleet of coast and sea-going vessels, he said that there was no foundation for that or any other statement of the kind. The Dardanelles had been closed to England.

Mr. King Hatman, under Irish secretary, said that he was not in a position to say whether the speaker's table returns by counties showing the number of cases in Ireland had been sent to the end of December, 1887.

Mr. Haines, postmaster-general, said that the government was in communication with the Peninsular and Oriental and other steamship companies for the conveyance of Australian mails under new provisions.

Coming to a Head. The row between Lord Salisbury and Mr. Bradlaugh over the latter's assertion that Salisbury gave his personal cheque to aid in the promotion of the meeting of the unemployed workmen in Trafalgar Square in February, 1886, with the utterance of the words 'public opinion benefits through the disorderly character of the meeting, is coming to a head. Sir Richard Crofting, a leading politician, has written to Bradlaugh suggesting that the issue be tried by consent, but without publicity, and that the matter should be referred to a committee of the House to prevent any party to the controversy from obtaining political capital through the matter.

Corrupt Practices. Tories assert that they have incoincidentally the election of Mr. Crofting, the Gladstone candidate in the division of South-west, was brought about by wholesale repaying, and an investigation into the matter is being prosecuted by the Government.

Released From Jail. The Mayor of Cork, who has been serving a term of imprisonment for interfering with police officers, was released from jail on Monday, Feb. 27, at eight o'clock. He returned to the jail in the capacity of a visiting justice.

Undiscovered Possessions. PARIS, Feb. 26.—The Le Temps says England is negotiating with Turkey for the purchase of a fleet of coast and sea-going vessels, he said that there was no foundation for that or any other statement of the kind.

Construction of a Military Post. St. Petersburg, Feb. 26.—The Novoye Vremya is authority for the statement that £200,000 has been appropriated for the construction of a military post at Libano.

A STEAMBOAT DISASTER.

Fatal Explosion on Board the Steamer Julia—Forty Persons Reported Killed. The Disaster Due to the Explosion of an Oil Tank—Timbers Blown in. All Directions. The Second Accident on Board the Ill-Fated Steamer—Warehouses on the Wharf Taken Fire.

(Special to The Colonist.) SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 27.—A dispatch from Vallejo says: As the steamer Julia was leaving here about three o'clock this afternoon, her boiler exploded. Everything above her level deck was sent flying into the air. About fifty passengers who were on board at the time were killed. No further particulars.

February 27.—The evening it is believed by many that forty fully people were killed; but it is not certain. It is ascertained that several days. Those well informed say there were sixty-seven people on board at the time of the accident, and only twenty-five could be accounted for. The dreadful disaster is due to the explosion of one of the petroleum tanks.

Blaine is Determined. An Interview With Him Cabled From Florence. He Feels Greatly Pleased Over the Freedom He Now Can Enjoy—His Family Also Rejoicing.

New York, Feb. 26.—To-morrow's World will contain a three-column interview with Blaine, cabled from Florence. Blaine distinctly asserted that under no circumstances whatever would he allow his name to be used in connection with the next presidential election. He insists on the sincerity of his withdrawal and that he had made up his mind to stay so long ago. He considers first that any man whose name has been associated with a presidential campaign was it to his party not to allow himself to be nominated, and second, he is unequal to the task of continuing a year's term of office.

Blaine and the other members of the family are most emphatic in their approval of the Red Sea arrangement. He neither hasty nor resent in his decision. Blaine will not return from the Republic until June, and until after the Republican convention. He declines to express himself on the subject of the Republican candidates in the field, but asserts that he did not retire in favor of any particular one of them. He is convinced of a Republican victory, basing his opinion in particular on the tariff question.

Mr. Blaine said in conclusion: "You have no idea what a relief it is to me to think I am now out of the canvass, and that when I come back to New York in the month of June, I shall be able to enter into the turmoil and excitement of a political canvass. I can do much quietly after the convention has passed, but I shall enjoy my life in my own way, free I hope from further criticism or comment."

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CABLE NEWS.

Debate in the House of Commons—Second Reading of the Resolutions Adopted—Vote 286 to 74. Fox, Cox, M. P., Released From Limerick Jail and Presented with an Address. A Member of the Reichsrath Assailed in His Own House by Two Strangers.

LONDON, Feb. 28.—In the House of Commons this evening Wm. L. Jackson, financial secretary of the treasury, said there was no objection under the act regarding the importation of goods bearing only letters or numbers on boxes or labels, the words "foreign make" were sufficient to assure through the custom house unless they bore the mark of an English manufacturer or trader, who could be required to produce the labels to indicate the country in which the goods originated.

W. S. Balfour, the adoption of the second rule of procedure, reducing the majority necessary to enforce closure to 100. The object of the rule, Balfour stated, was to secure the transference of business, especially between the hours of 12 and 2 P.M., when the attendance of members was small.

Henry Chaplin opposed the rule on the ground that it would be a step towards the conversion of the House into a debating chamber, and that it would not correct the real evil, namely, the want of order. He said that the rule would be a step towards the conversion of the House into a debating chamber, and that it would not correct the real evil, namely, the want of order.

Mr. Smith moved the adoption of the rule enabling the speaker to order the members of the House to retire from the House to decide upon their conduct. He said that the rule would be a step towards the conversion of the House into a debating chamber, and that it would not correct the real evil, namely, the want of order.

Count Herbert Bismarck arrived in London this morning. He is expected to stay in London for some time. He is expected to stay in London for some time. He is expected to stay in London for some time.

Italy, Austria and England have answered Russia's note, refusing their definition of Prince Ferdinand's position in Bulgaria. They consider Ferdinand's position illegal, but declines taking steps in the matter.

Paris, Feb. 28.—The continuance of the Bismarck controversy has led to his candidacy for the chamber of deputies has been moved and the ministers are detaching a suitable person to confer with him in regard to the matter.

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Advertisement for a company, mentioning 'The Victoria Weekly Colonist' and 'The Fishery Treaty'.