

ESTABLISHED 1866

# THE MONETARY TIMES.

## TRADE REVIEW AND INSURANCE CHRONICLE.

With which has been incorporated the  
INTERCOLONIAL JOURNAL OF COMMERCE, of Montreal in (1869), the  
TRADE REVIEW, of the same city (in 1870) and the  
TORONTO JOURNAL OF COMMERCE.

ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING

### SUBSCRIPTION—POST PAID:

CANADIAN AND U. S. SUBSCRIBERS, . . . . .	\$2.00 Per Year.
BRITISH SUBSCRIBERS . . . . .	10s. 6d. Sterling Per Year.
SINGLE COPIES . . . . .	10 Cents.

## Book and Job Printers

PUBLISHED BY

THE MONETARY TIMES PRINTING CO. OF CANADA, Limited

EDW. TROUT, President.

ALFRED W. LAW, Sec'y-Treas.

Office: 62 Church St., Cor. Court St.

TELEPHONES:

BUSINESS AND EDITORIAL OFFICE, 1392

PRINTING DEPARTMENT, 1485

TORONTO, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1901.

### THE SITUATION.

The discussion of a fast Canadian Atlantic line has received a slight instalment in some words Mr. Hannah, of the Allan Line, let drop in presence of a reporter. Mr. Hannah thought the distance between Moville and Sydney could be made in four days, Sydney being understood as only a port of call with Montreal for the ultimate port. He professed not to know what subsidy would be required, but was sure that it would take twice as much if Sydney were made the final port, as it would if the vessels, after calling there, went on to Montreal. Mr. Hannah's views, neither accepted at this stage nor combated by the Government, give us something less than one whole side of the question of how the problem of a fast Canadian Atlantic line is to be solved.

There seems to be no doubt that there has been a small conspiracy among a few gamblers and vagabonds to capture Dawson City, and make themselves masters of whatever treasure they could find there, in and out of the banks, as well as of the Canadian gold fields of the Yukon country. Various versions of the affair have been published, but the more that is known of it the less formidable it looks. Skaguay appears to have been the centre of the movement, with adherents and sympathizers in other places, one or more of them on the Pacific coast, south of British Columbia. The latest version is that the plot originated with two American gamblers, who having been unsuccessful last winter became desperate and formed a plot ostensibly to revolutionize the Klondike government and country, and under this pretext they formed the Order of the Midnight Sun, and levied on the members \$15 a head. One of their dupes is said to have been bled to the extent of \$3,000. At one time it was said, and this may have been used as a pretence, that the object was to raise money for the fighting Boers, just as money was raised in the United States, and possibly in Canada, to aid the Irish rebellion of 1848. But little of that money went to Ireland, and none from Dawson, we may be sure, would have gone to South Africa. The conspirators were not thinking of South Africa but of how they could put money into their

own pockets. As in every conspiracy there is a traitor willing to act as a spy on his colleagues, the thing leaked out, and the premature exposure put the Yukon and the Ottawa Government on the alert, the American officials near the scene, with praiseworthy zeal, seconding the efforts of the Canadian police and other officials to frustrate the design of the would-be brigands. Whatever danger there may have been is believed to have passed. But there is wisdom in being prepared for whatever may happen.

At last the offer of the Canadian Government to send 600 more troops to South Africa has been accepted by the British Government. This we are bid not to regard as a third Canadian Contingent, though the name does not matter much, but the new aid differs from the two contingents which bore the name of Canada, in that all the expenses will be paid by the Imperial Government. The reason given for the change is that as the Canadian Parliament is not in session, a supply could not be voted. The troops will be gathered at various points all through the country, and be equipped with horses, arms and clothing, so that they will be ready to take the field in a few days after landing. The original offer now acted upon by the British Government was made by Major Merritt, last spring, directly we believe, and therefore irregularly to the Imperial authorities; the regular course being for the Canadian advisers of the crown to forward such communications to the colonial office, through the Governor-General.

Captain Bernier, who for some time had a project for sending out a Canadian expedition in search of the North Pole, is said to have got promises of \$20,000 towards the enterprise; he has now set off for England, where, report says, he expects to get \$40,000 more. Should he obtain the latter sum he will return to Canada in time for the session of the Canadian Parliament, the inference being that he will seek help in that quarter also. Let us have a Canadian North Pole expedition by all means; though as far back as the time of Queen Anne faint-hearted people thought all such attempts would lead to nothing and ought not to be repeated.

At a meeting of a delegation representing the National Sanitarium Association with the city council of Toronto, Dr. Sheard, city medical health officer, said there were "hundreds of workmen lying in their homes in Toronto, hopeless (of cure) and helpless, infecting their families, and having no institution to go to." It is discreditable to the city and to humanity that such a state of things should exist. A subsequent delegation, on the same subject, threw the blame largely on the National Sanitarium Association, who are charged with blocking the way to the relief of these suffering people. There is no institution to which the city can send incurable cases, and as they must die somewhere they are left to die at home, sometimes in the deepest distress. There was a place of refuge for such unfortunates in North Toronto, but some malignant influence got a magistrate's decision against it as a nuisance, a decision which a higher court quashed; but by the persecution the concern was so deeply injured that we do not know if it could be utilized now. Some time ago one of the officials of the National Sanitarium informed the city in writing that that institution was going to establish a free institution for incurable cases; but the promise has not been redeemed, and it seems now as if instead of their being free, the city