

The Weekly Times

Victoria, Friday, February 10, 1894.
THE WAY THE MONEY GOES.

The little story told by the public accounts, published in Saturday's Times, was interesting and instructive. There may have been a few innocent people who believed that when cabinet ministers go abroad, either on public or private business, that they pay the expenses of their journeys out of their own pockets. These people are now, if they read the report of the public accounts committee, undeceived.

Mr. Davies' trip to Cariboo cost the province \$500, and Mr. Davies availed himself of the opportunity to hold political meetings, at which he misrepresented the political views of a majority of the people of the province. Mr. Davies thus killed two birds with one stone. Mr. Vernon received \$160 for spending 23 days among his constituents in Okanagan district, and it may be assumed, although it does not appear on the record, that the chief commissioner had some ministerial functions to perform. The per diem allowance of \$5 is not excessive, and the only objection to the expenditure that can be offered is on the score of necessity. It was on this visit that Mr. Vernon, in company with Mr. Davies and Mr. McIntosh, of Kamloops, held several conferences with the proprietor of the Kamloops Sentinel, and when Mr. Davies made an agreement for the purchase of that paper for the sum of \$6,500. This deal, so far as we can ascertain, is the most important transaction that took place during the visit last autumn of the chief commissioner to the interior. Col. Baker, minister of education, received \$40, "ten days' travelling allowance at \$4 per day, visiting Albernitz quartz mines." This charge is also a moderate one, and the minister cannot be accused of extravagance during the journey. But was the journey taken solely in the public interest, or was this another case of the province paying a cabinet minister's expenses while he was looking after private interests? Is it not a fact that Col. Baker is indirectly interested in mining ventures in the new El Dorado? A curious feature of these revelations is that "fares" are sometimes charged against the province, and at other times, as in the case of Mr. Turner's visit to Chicago, nothing seems to have been paid for railway transportation? Does this seem to point to the fact that Mr. Turner is the only minister in possession of a railway pass, or, if all his colleagues travel "dead-head," that the minister of finance is the only one who does not "make a little on the side" by charging the province "fares" when no fares have been paid? These matters are trifling, no doubt—"straws that show how the wind blows." But they indicate the larger and wider carnival of extravagance and corruption which the Davies administration is inaugurating in every department of the public service, and which can only end, if persisted in for the life-time of another parliament, in financial disaster to the province.

A PERSONAL SQUABBLE.

In pursuance of the policy which we have always observed, of giving the use of our columns to any person—Jew or Gentile, bond or free—for the discussion of public questions, a second letter is published to-day from Mr. J. C. McLagan, of the Vancouver World, on what is considered by most people a purely personal squabble. It is a matter of supreme indifference to the Times and to Times readers whether Mr. McLagan had possession of the public accounts at Maple Ridge or not. It is really of "no consequence," as Toots would say, to know that the editor was ever in Maple Ridge in his life, or whether he knows a volume of the public accounts from a volume of the "Mammoth Weekly with the largest circulation in the world." Mr. McLagan is making so much out of the episode, and is forcing his personality so much to the front in the schoolboy controversy, that it would seem he was more concerned about getting a little free advertising than in establishing his character for veracity. The only point of any public concern in this "public accounts controversy" between Mr. Kitchen and Mr. Davies is the fact, admitted by the premier, that he had in his possession a private document for the purpose of quoting therefrom which had not been submitted to the house. According to the leader of the opposition, who is an authority on parliamentary practice, Mr. Davies had no right to use the public accounts in this surreptitious manner. The document was a private one until made public by being presented to parliament, and in taking it from the department of the minister of finance, or from the executive chamber or printing office, either with or without the consent of his colleagues, he was, to put it mildly, if not guilty of petty larceny, committing a grave impropriety, as much as it was an insult to the legislature, and one which if persisted in by the premier and his colleagues, would unquestionably lead to serious consequences in the future. That is the only issue, we submit, worthy the half column of valuable space occupied by the letter of the World; and if our esteemed contemporary will undertake in future issues to discuss that point, and that point only, we will open our whole eight pages to his pellucid pen. Otherwise, we hope that this purely personal, you're another style of controversy has come to an end.

MANITOBA'S PROTEST.

The memorial of the Winnipeg board of trade, presented to the finance minister a few months ago, is published in this issue of the Times. It will be found on personal to be a powerful protest against the tariff, which has done more than all

other causes combined to retard the settlement and development of our great Northwest. The business men of Winnipeg, who formulated this indictment, are clear-headed and practical, and until recently were staunch adherents of the Conservative government. They know by long and painful experience that the "national policy" has been a "national crime" against the Greater Canada that lies between Ontario and the Pacific ocean, which for years to come cannot be a manufacturing country, even to a limited extent. The memorial, consequently, enumerates the tariff burdens borne by Manitoba, the Territories and British Columbia, and the facts presented are so clear-cut and irrefragable, that we may hope that even Messrs. Earle and Prior, the apostles of Toryism and high taxation, will see the bearing they have on the position of the people of this city and province. A duty of 120 per cent. on nails is just as burdensome in British Columbia as in Manitoba, while our people object quite as strenuously as they do in the east to paying 60 per cent. duty on coal oil, especially as nearly all of this illuminant used in the province is brought from the United States. And so on through the list of high duties on the necessities of life, which run from 100 per cent. ad valorem duty down to 25 per cent. Every objection stated by the Winnipeg board of trade will apply with equal force to the state of affairs here, and in several instances the exactions of the tariff fall with greater severity upon British Columbians. Since this famous memorial was presented to Mr. Foster, Winnipeg has spoken through the ballot box, when it will be remembered, she placed on record a second and more emphatic protest against the policy of the government. The popular uprising against the tariff which was then made manifest has, we believe, extended westward, and when the opportunity arrives British Columbia and Manitoba will be found in line in this great national issue. Toryism and protection in both provinces will then die together.

It has been proposed, says the Winnipeg Free Press, to place a statue of the Hon. Alexander Mackenzie in the grounds surrounding the parliament buildings at Ottawa, and the Toronto World objects to this on the plea that Mr. Mackenzie did not occupy such a position as this would call for. Is it not rather a curious case of the province of Ontario being placed in a spot where in the course of a few years it might be surrounded by others who—well, by others who are of greater value in the Toronto World's estimation.

The death of Rev. Dr. Douglas, the Methodist divine, of Montreal, removes from the sphere of usefulness a remarkable man. Twenty-five years ago he became partially paralyzed, losing the use of his arms, and twenty years ago he became blind. He continued active work, however, in the church, and at Wesleyan College, Montreal, to the day of his death. His wife and daughter were his faithful amanuenses.

TWO DEEP SEA SHIPS.

Archer and Thermopylae Complete Their Long Voyages Their Carriages.

Two deep water vessels with which Victorians are familiar arrived in port today. They were the barks Archer and Thermopylae. The Archer made Port Angeles on Saturday night, and was towed up this morning and taken into Esquimalt harbor by the tug Lorne. The 12,000 ton vessel was chartered yesterday by Captain Lawson, the skipper, had died at sea, and the regret expressed was general. But it was a mistake. Captain Dawson, to use his own language, is still in command. The report probably grew out of the fact that two of the crew, the cook and a seaman, died on the way out and were buried at sea. The ship was 100 days from Liverpool to this port, having either calms or storms all the time. She was seen weeks off Cape Horn, and damaged some of her rigging. She is consigned to R. P. Ritchie & Co., and has cargo for Victoria merchants, the navy yard and Vancouver firms. She will discharge at Esquimalt first, and then here. The bark Thermopylae, Captain Winchester, sailed in at 7, and is alongside of the outer wharf. She is 50 days from Hong Kong with paddy for the rice mills. Her voyage was made long by a series of storms. She will discharge part of her cargo outside and then come in to the mills.

Russian Barbarities.

London, Feb. 10.—The Standard's St. Petersburg correspondent says: "The report of the commission of inquiry into conditions at the convict station at Onor, Saghalien, reveals numerous instances of merciless floggings and of floggers and arms lopped off with sabres. Cannibalism, prompted by famine, is a common occurrence. Murder followed by cannibalism is frequently committed, solely with a view to procuring execution as a termination of the misery of life. Several convicts sometimes debate before the officials for the responsibility of guilt. During 1892 almost a continuous string of convoys with mutilated corpses passed from Onor to Rykyskaya, where the officials reside. No inquiries were made, but the bodies were sent with burned. Neither of the doctors in Rykyskaya ever visited Onor. A band of convicts in 1893 were committed to the charge of an inspector who was unable to read or write, to construct a road from Onor to Rykyskaya. The soldiers fully understood the work was punished with a reduction of rations. When they were unable to work longer they were shot with revolvers, and the deaths were entered as 'from disease.' The chief author of these atrocities was the convict Bickford, a favorite of the Commandant, who created him an inspector-general, and lately recommended him for his good conduct."

NANAIMO.

Nanaimo, Feb. 9.—Miss Jennie Vincent, the young girl who eloped with Powell from Vancouver, was sent home today by the steamer Express. Chief of Police McKinnon received a dispatch from the chief at Vancouver, asking him to detain the young girl on her arrival here, but although Chief McKinnon was at the wharf when the steamer arrived he failed to find the couple. On consulting the hotel registers he discovered their whereabouts and promptly interviewed them. Powell said they were man and wife, but failed to produce the marriage certificate. The young lady, who is of a prepossessing appearance, after much persuasion, decided to place herself in the hands of the police. Powell is said to be a worthless character, living principally by gambling, and in consequence he was allowed 24 hours to get out of the city.

Theodore Davies is credited with an assurance that the much-needed government buildings in this city which the municipality and that a suitable sum will be provided when the estimates are brought down. The two solicitors who waited on the premier regarding the supreme court for Nanaimo were also assured that the bill would be introduced at the beginning of next week.

Several boys were before Magistrate Planta yesterday, charged with wilfully destroying property around the city. After a severe reprimand they were discharged.

Prof. E. Cicci, of Rome, is in the city with a view to ascertain what inducements there are for emigrants from sunny Italy.

Nanaimo, Feb. 10.—A decision in the case of Jeffrey v. Hamilton was given by Judge Harrison yesterday in favor of the defendant.

The charge against G. Cozens for practicing as a fortune teller was dismissed by Magistrate Planta yesterday. The magistrate said it was a pity men of his stamp were not compelled to contribute towards the city's finances.

The pay roll of the New Vancouver coal company to-day reached nearly \$70,000.

The new brick Presbyterian church will be formally dedicated on Sunday morning. The combined choirs of the Wallace street Methodist church and the Baptists will assist the choir of the new church.

The new brick barracks of the Salvation Army was formally opened to-day, and the land march was not only oppressive to the people but dangerous to our institutions, and to prevent this the lands should be given in reasonable quantities and to none but actual occupants; therefore be it resolved that the rights of this province and the government has by its majority in the house stilled discussion of the subject; therefore be it resolved that this meeting condemn the action of the president of the council who is the province to those of a private corporation.

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The formal opening of the new Presbyterian church took place yesterday, and the large edifice was packed. Dr. Campbell of Victoria preached the opening sermon.

The funeral of John Evans, who died on Saturday from cancer in the stomach, took place yesterday under the auspices of Golden Lodge, C. O. O. F.

Chief McKinnon made a clever capture of two thieves, Frank Barker and John Hadden, who were in the Grand Hotel to the extent of \$250 worth of goods and money. When captured skeleton keys were found in their possession which they used in their thieving. It is believed that the thieves last night. Their timely capture has saved the people of Victoria, as they were on their way to that city when captured.

A junior Rugby club has been formed in this city with A. Gibbs, secretary; R. Read, treasurer; and Stewart, captain, and J. Wilcox vice-captain. Arrangements will be made with the different junior clubs in the province to play matches.

VANCOUVER.

Vancouver, Feb. 9.—George Johnson, formerly of Victoria, a plumber, has fled, leaving a multitude of debts of all kinds. He also stole some articles such as curtains. His wife is the daughter of a Victorian.

Joseph Miller, C. P. R. bridge foreman, who was brought down yesterday from North Bend, presumably with a broken leg, died a moment after reaching the hospital, from internal injuries.

A little four-year-old boy was found deserted at the wharf last night. He gives his name as Craig, and says his mother has gone to Spuzzum.

Chief of Police McLaren has received word that G. Ward, who came from Melbourne, Australia, where he had been a member of the Argus, and who worked for a short time on the Vancouver World, has been found drowned in Winnipeg river near Rat Portage. He left Vancouver without saying anything to anybody.

John Wolfe has been arrested for assaulting Bailiff Harry Hopkirk with a pitchfork.

Vancouver, Feb. 10.—There are now 250 men seeking work in this city, but the corporation has not tools enough to employ them all at work. Proprietors of second class restaurants and boarding houses say they cannot support the men much longer without pay.

The finding of a Chilliwack fair press badge in the pocket of the man found dead at Rat Portage shows conclusively that he was George Ward, who worked for a time on the World.

Vancouver, Feb. 12.—McGillivray has made a contract with the Horseshoe placer mine company to construct 17 miles of ditching. He will put on 300 men as soon as the frost is out of the ground.

John Wolfe this morning was fined \$15 for running a motor vehicle through a bailiff who was making a seizure of some of his stock.

Seattle chamber of commerce has sent Mayor Anderson a resolution expressing thanks for the safe return of the government from their recent visit to this city.

R. C. Ferguson says the immediate result of his visit to Australia will be the immediate loading of several ships with lumber for Australian ports.

English Sperm Intestine removes all hard, soft or calloused lumps and blemishes from horses, blood spavins, curbs, splints, ring bones, swellings, stifles, sprains, sore and swollen throat, coughs, etc. Save \$50 use of one bottle. Sold by Langley & Co.

DISCUSSING POLITICS.

A Mass Meeting Held by the Working-men of Nanaimo.

MEMBERS OF LEGISLATURE SPEAK.

Affairs of the Province Well Ventilated—The Misdoings of the Government Exposed—Strong Resolutions Passed Without Dissent.

Nanaimo, Feb. 12.—A public meeting was held in the opera house on Saturday night, which was called at the instance of the Miners' Association for the purpose of discussing provincial politics.

Mr. Ralph Smith occupied the chair. The hall, which was poorly filled at the commencement of the proceedings, held a large audience later on. The following resolutions drawn up by the committee were submitted:

1. Whereas the present system of representation enables the minority to control the government power; and whereas it is only just and proper that the majority should rule; be it therefore resolved that we consider the only practical manner in which the majority can rule is by proportional representation for the entire province, by which each voter can have his ballot for the full number of members required for the provincial parliament.

2. Whereas, an important case is pending between the government of British Columbia and the E. & N. Railway company, and the premier in the same district, who is the advocate of the E. & N. Railway company against the rights of this province; and whereas the government has by its majority in the house stilled discussion of the subject; therefore be it resolved that this meeting condemn the action of the president of the council who is the province to those of a private corporation.

3. Whereas it is essential to the happiness and prosperity of the people that the public domain be distributed as widely as possible among the inhabitants, and whereas the land monopoly is not only oppressive to the people but dangerous to our institutions, and to prevent this the lands should be given in reasonable quantities and to none but actual occupants; therefore be it resolved that the rights of this province and the government has by its majority in the house stilled discussion of the subject; therefore be it resolved that this meeting condemn the action of the president of the council who is the province to those of a private corporation.

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of taxes. If the province helped to build the road it should get some value in return. The government, he had heard, was now going to borrow a mining set from Nova Scotia, as it had borrowed other laws. He went into an extensive review of the government's policy and asked the meeting to take steps to defeat it at the next election.

Mr. Sword, M. P. P., in speaking to the resolution, said they can't expect to get what they wanted until they had proper representation. He spoke of the redistribution bill passed by the Robson government and recalled the late premier's explanation that it was the best they could get at the time. It was on the strength of his promise to make a fair redistribution that Mr. Robson was elected in Westminster district. Mr. Sword corroborated the statements of Mr. Forster as to the action of the independent in going against the government.

He said the constituency he represented felt it was not safe to leave their affairs in the hands of the present government. In dealing with railroad grants he went over much the same ground covered by Mr. Forster. He hoped that all those entitled to vote would register and mentioned the names of men who had obtained from registering in order to evade the jury list.

C. C. Mackenzie, M. P. P., said some of the speakers had given their reasons for being first independents and then opponents of the government. He had made no such mistake, because he knew from the first no good could come out of that government. (Applause.) He condemned the Hon. C. E. Pooley for his action in taking a brief against the government, and was repeatedly applauded in his remarks. He maintained that the present system of lands and works administration was a fraud, and by way of illustration described the different treatment of roads that led to his property and the premier's in the same district. He denounced the laws pertaining to pre-emption of lands, which prevented a poor man leaving his land for a time while he earned sufficient funds to enable him to return and carry on the work of improvement. He hoped the government would repeatedly, and hoped the people would call the government to account at the next election and return none but opponents.

Mr. Kitchen, M. P. P., was glad to see from his hearty welcome that the poison which had been emitted by the government press had turned to its own disadvantage. He went on to say that the people of this province should have a redistribution bill that would do justice to the whole community. He dealt with the inequalities of the present system and asked if they could say the government was legislating on the majority of the votes of the constituencies. He spoke of the abuses practiced in administering the public lands, and of the impossibility of settlers getting suitable land in certain sections at a reasonable rate. He spoke of the action of the government in legislating on the majority of the votes of the constituencies. He spoke of the abuses practiced in administering the public lands, and of the impossibility of settlers getting suitable land in certain sections at a reasonable rate. 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