

The Colonist. FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 1895.

DISSOLUTION?

The question of a dissolution is being discussed with considerable earnestness in the newspapers of Eastern Canada. Singularly...

The tone of the Toronto Globe when it discusses the proposed dissolution is very different from that of a combatant assured of victory. It raises a host of objections...

Our free trade bigots find it hard to account for the progress of the United States under a very high protectionist policy, but he has hardly the face to say that the American people are wanting in sense and shrewdness...

It is astonishing how conservative a Liberal newspaper can become when it suits the purposes of its party to allow things to remain as they are for the present. But it does look a little inconsistent to see a Liberal newspaper—the leading Liberal newspaper of the Dominion—contending that the Governor-General is justified in the matter of an immediate appeal to the people...

The Liberals have been for a long time saying that the Government have lost the confidence of the people; that the people do not approve of the policy they have been pursuing, and that they condemn many of their acts. "Very well," we can imagine prominent members of the Government and of the Conservative party saying, "We do not believe that you are right. But it is easy to test the matter. Let the Governor-General dissolve Parliament and let an appeal to the people be made to find out whether or not they have lost confidence in the men composing the Government and in their policy."

But the reasoning of the Liberals is not sound, and not according to the British practice. In Great Britain the Sovereign would not dream of disregarding the advice of her ministers when they advised an appeal to the people. If Lord Rosebery asked for a dissolution to-day the Queen would not think of turning a deaf ear to his counsels, and we are very sure that if she did, the Liberals would protest loudly and indignantly. She consented to a dissolution in Mr. Gladstone's time when he had a majority of sixty-five; and, after the election, when a motion to censure Mr. Gladstone for advising the dissolution was made, it was negatived without even a division. This settled the matter for Great Britain once for all. If one is to judge by the attitude assumed by the newspapers of the two parties as the question of a dissolution is discussed, there can be no doubt but that the Conservatives are much more confident of success than their opponents. The Conservatives declare their readiness for the contest whenever it may come, while the Liberals object to an immediate appeal to the people and contend that the Governor-General should use his authority to prevent it.

A POLITICAL BIGOT.

The free traders of this Dominion are perhaps the greatest political bigots of our time. They see only one side of their subject and not always the whole of that. When listening to them one is forced to conclude that they consider those who take a different view of the trade question from the one they advocate are a pack of ignorant fools. The free trade apostle is the most arrogant of mortals. He speaks of protec-

tionists with the most supreme contempt. When we listen to him we are always reminded of those earnest old-fashioned religious controversialists who honestly believed and confidently declared that those who did not believe exactly as they believed were on the high road to destruction. The free trade bigot is most intolerant, he will not admit of reason on the other side. He apparently believes and sometimes feels that those protectionists who are not fools are knaves. He shuts his eyes to the fact that by this sweeping judgment he condemns the vast majority of the civilized world. He does not stop to think that he is one of a comparatively small sect of economists, and that almost the whole world is opposed to him and his school. He will not for a single moment admit that there are circumstances in which protection may be the best policy that a people can adopt. Great Britain, he asserts, has prospered under free trade and so would every other country if its inhabitants had only sense enough to adopt it. When asked if the people of France are all fools and if the Germans are nothing better than a pack of knaves he will not in plain and direct terms say that Frenchmen and Germans are fools and knaves; but he shows by his manner that since they are protectionists they are not in his opinion as enlightened or as honest as they ought to be. He will not for a single moment admit that there may be conditions and circumstances which make protection the best policy for France and Germany in the same way as there are conditions and circumstances which make free trade the best policy for Great Britain.

Our free trade bigot finds it hard to account for the progress of the United States under a very high protectionist policy, but he has hardly the face to say that the American people are wanting in sense and shrewdness. When cornered, however, he declares that the Americans have been prosperous in spite of protection. When he makes this statement he seems to think that he has said a very smart thing. But he forgets that according to his theories it would be an absolute impossibility for a country to get on in spite of protection, for he is ready at a moment's notice to prove to the satisfaction of every free trader in the land that protection, under any circumstances, means ruin.

But when our protectionist bigot comes to speak of protection in Canada and of Canadian protectionists, he is in his element. His scorn of those of his countrymen who believe in protection is almost sublime. Yet when his hearer comes to compare him with some of those same Canadian protectionists, he can hardly see where his tremendous superiority comes in. The free trade bigot can scarcely claim to be an abler man than Sir John Macdonald or Sir John Thompson or Sir Mackenzie Bowell or Sir J. C. Abbott, or the late Hon. Thomas White or hundreds of other men who are protectionists by conviction. But the free trade bigot troubles himself with none of these considerations. His conceits and self-sufficiency are almost unbounded, and he is so intellectually nearsighted that it is impossible for him to see a fact or appreciate an argument that tells against his pet theory or that is calculated to lower himself in his own esteem. His belief in his own infallibility and in the superiority of the free trade policy to all others is not to be shaken by argument or by proof.

THE HAWAIIAN REBELLION.

Hawaiian newspapers of the 8th and the 11th contain the particulars of the rebellion which startled the islanders. The rising does not appear to have been a very formidable affair, but it has aroused an exceedingly warlike spirit in the journalistic supporters of the Government. They are very indignant and demand the punishment of those who incited the rebellion, and who are alluded to in terms of the reverse of complimentary. It is not asserted that the ex-Queen, who is called plain Mrs. Dominika, had anything to do with the insurrection, but her expatriation is suggested by the Gazette in terms sufficiently explicit.

There seems to be no doubt of the ability of the Government to stamp out the rebellion. The supporters of the Government are exceedingly vigorous and full of fight. But when the mail left very little was known of the extent of the preparations of the Royalists or of the numbers who were prepared to risk everything to restore the Queen to the throne.

The light in which the ex-Queen is regarded by the partisans of her Government may be inferred from the following passage from one of the Gazette's leading articles:—Without the native figure-head, personified in the ex-Queen, the opposition of native Hawaiians to the republic would dwindle to insignificance. Personal exchange of sentiments on a big figure in the make-up of the lower-class kanaakas. If Mrs. Dominika had had these opportunities, are we to suppose she has not improved them? Never. By her presence she has helped swell the discussion. There is no more necessity of handling her with gloves. We are making history. This history should be founded on the solid rock of justice. It is our duty to banish every being that would poison the mind of the innocent native. Strike at the fountain head and make a clean sweep.

The true character of the agitators who are agging the natives to acts of violence against the Government has again been brought to the front by the testimony given by a native, before the Marshal, during the past week. It is the old story. Natives are allowing themselves to be used as tools in the hands of disaffected whites who have personal animosity to grind; men who only aim is personal aggrandizement. The country might be relegated to commercial and financial destruction, it matters nothing to them so long as the goal set by narrow, personal desire is reached. Under the guise of the pious patriot, they work upon the sentimental instincts which run high in the rank and file of the native element. In fact, so artfully in their task performed that the

less discerning mind is misled by the true character of the two-faced politician with which it is dealing. The Gazette has no doubts as to the ultimate result of the rising. It says:—The strength of the Republic is assured. It is fully able to cope with and suppress the rebels. There is determination in the heart of every man from the chief executive to the soldier in the ranks—a determination to sweep the Hawaiian Islands clean of all armed opposition to the Republic. No leniency will be shown. The men who compose the ranks of the insurgents have been given the opportunity to enjoy the God-given rights of every law-abiding citizen. They have not improved the opportunity. What is more they have attempted to destroy the rights of others; they have taken the life of one of the staunchest men of the country—they will pay the full penalty of their crime.

THE BROOKLYN STRIKE.

This is the account which the New York Commercial Advertiser gives of the origin of the Brooklyn strike, which has grown so large and has produced such lamentable results:—If the consequences of strikes could be adjusted in something like a fair proportion to the losses involved, the present would not be so generally deplored. But when it is remembered that the business of a city of a million inhabitants is entirely paralyzed and that of the metropolis of the Western Continent seriously disturbed in order that a handful of workmen, who are employed for "trippers," to work only during "rush" hours, shall receive the same pay as the ten-hour men, the ratio of cause to effect is admittedly imperfect. It probably would be to the advantage of the public if the cars were run at the same intervals throughout the day. There is no doubt that the withdrawal of accommodations during the slack periods is a recognition of the service that is attended with inconvenience to the public, but in these contexts the public is not allowed to count for much. The companies see an opportunity to economize by suspending their service at a time when it is not greatly missed, and provided that the economy is necessitated the public submits.

THE VANCOUVER LIAR.

The Vancouver liar has been at work again. He has telegraphed to the Toronto Empire a ridiculously exaggerated account of the late floods. He tells the people of the East that the heat on the mountain heights was a few days ago 70° in the shade. His description of the Chinook winds is very funny. "Then," he says, "the Chinook winds, whose peculiarity it is to rush along the surface of the water, caught the swollen river and backed the water down over all the dykes," etc., etc. This is the first time we ever heard of the Chinook winds having any partiality for water. Not satisfied with ravaging Lulu Island and the "suburban towns," the enterprising flood-maker crosses the Gulf of Georgia and does great damage on "railroad lines on Vancouver Island," a hundred miles away. It is singular that the inhabitants of Vancouver Island were not aware either of the visitation or the damage done by the floods of his creation to their single line of railroad. The whole telegram reads like the concoction of a fool as well as a liar. It is a thousand pities that the people of Eastern Canada have to depend upon such mendacious liars for their telegraphic news from this Coast.

"GOVERNMENT OF CITIES."

There are, no doubt, many who rejoice because the Government of Cities Bill has been withdrawn. We believe that the day is not very far off when they will see and feel that they had very little cause to rejoice that the attempt to give the cities of the Province better government in 1895 failed. It will be seen that a system of city government, essentially weak and vicious, was continued because a bugaboo was made of a measure which, if put in operation, would have caused the affairs of cities to have been managed by business men on business principles.

The citizens of Victoria who experience has not taught that government by city council has been a failure must be pronounced as unteachable. That kind of government has had a fair trial here as well as elsewhere, and the results are most deplorable. We should like to know what department of the city service is carried on as it ought to be. The men who have formed the different City Councils are not so much to be blamed for this as the system under which they worked. They, as well as their fellow citizens, but in a different way, have been the victims of a bad system.

It has also been found to be the case in the United States. We see that in St. Paul government by city council was found to be intolerable, and so it was in Cincinnati. In the latter city the management of public works of all kinds was by the Legislature of the State taken out of the hands of the City Council and placed under the control of four commissioners called the Board of Administration, appointed by the Mayor. These commissioners hold office for four years and each of them is in receipt of a salary of four thousand dollars a year. The Board of Aldermen is retained, but its function is merely legislative. For this reason it is called the Board of Legislation. The management of all the executive branches of the civil service has been placed in the hands of the Board of Administration. They have control of everything that relates to street cleaning, street repairing, pavements, the preservation of the public health, markets, sewers, waterworks, engineering work, and it is their duty to suggest what new legislation is required.

This system is not identical with that which the Government of Cities Bill, if enacted, would have established, but its practical operation is pretty much the same. The Cincinnati system ensures continuity in all city work, and that is the chief end aimed at by the framers of the Government of Cities Bill. It also takes it out of the power of the aldermen to interfere with civic contracts, and it effect-

ally puts a stop to aldermanic jobbery of all kinds. This would have been one of the results of the Bill, that has been withdrawn. In Cincinnati the citizens had no power either to accept or reject the new system. After the law establishing it had passed the Legislature they had to accept it whether they liked it or not and no doubt, it was most unacceptable to a large class of the citizens of Cincinnati. But they did not declare that they had been disfranchised and that they had been deprived of their most precious rights as citizens, because the Legislature of the State had taken from their City Council powers, and very important powers, which it had up to that time exercised, and handed them over to nominated Commissioners. We do not think that the nomination of the Commissioners by the Mayor is an improvement on the Government of Cities Bill. We rather suspect that the majority of the citizens of Victoria would rather have the nomination of the Commissioners in the hands of the Government, responsible to the people of the whole Province, than in the hands of the Mayor, who, when his term of office had expired, could not be called to account for the way in which he had performed the duty. We sincerely hope that the affairs of the city will be managed by the present Council better than they have been hitherto. We believe that its members desire to perform their duties efficiently, but we do not expect much from them. The system under which they work will, we fear, hamper them and make their best intended exertions ineffectual, as it has done many of those of their predecessors. But we hope and trust that our fears will not be realized, and that the present Council will do its work so as to disappoint us not at all. If it does we will not be backward in giving it members the credit they very deserve for producing good results under very great difficulties.

ENGLISH FREE TRADE.

The object of the Liberal Party is, in time, to give the people of Canada free trade as it exists in England. That, Mr. Laurier declares, is his "ideal"—impossible, he confesses, at present, but he hopes it may be attained some time in the future—how near or how distant he leaves his hearers to imagine or calculate for themselves. This is not very satisfactory, we must admit, to those impatient people who think that life is not long enough to permit them to wait until politicians find it convenient to perform promises which they make in this indifferent way.

Of course Mr. Laurier, when he promises to adopt English free trade, does not make any mental reservations. When the time comes, he no doubt, intends to carry out his promise in good faith and to the letter. He knows that English trade is free in labor, as well as in other things. There are no laws in England restricting immigration. The item "men and women" of any race, or from any country, has no place in the British tariff. The laborer from the East or the West is not required to pay any sum, large or small, before he is allowed to land on English soil. The English believe in free trade in labor as well as free trade in wheat and cheese and cattle. If, then, Mr. Laurier adopts British free trade for Canada, he will repeal the law which requires the Chinese laborer, before he sets foot on Canadian soil, to pay an impost of fifty dollars, or any other sum greater or smaller. A tax on labor is contrary to the spirit and the practice of English free trade, and English free trade is now the ideal of Canadian Liberals. Under Liberal rule, therefore, Chinese coolies may pour into British Columbia without let or hindrance. As there are now greater facilities of communication between Canada and China than ever there were, it is to be expected that the Chinese will, when the head money is taken off by the free-trade Liberals, avail themselves of them to a very great extent. In those happy days employers who in any part of Canada may find it convenient to employ Chinese cheap labor may obtain it without the least difficulty. There will be many both in Canada and China who will be able to supply the demand for that kind of labor on the lowest terms. This will without doubt be one of the results of the adoption of British free trade by the Liberals of this country when they get into power.

REASONS FOR NON-SETTLEMENT.

TO THE EDITOR.—Several interesting "letters" and letters have appeared lately in the COLONIST relating to the non-settlement on the lands, chiefly on the coast of the province. Many of the reasons offered may apply to older countries but not to ours. It is useless hunting for occult causes, when there is a very plain reason before our eyes, namely, the densely wooded and therefore impenetrable character of the land for agricultural purposes. Of course, after having been "cleared" the land becomes excellent as well as productive; in fact, where "woods" grow the soil is capable of producing other things, according to its nature. The dense forest deters all but a few plucky people, capable of living for a year or two on their own means, from settling on land that is all that a man with ordinary means settling in the forest will have to work some time before he will have even an acre clear and a shanty erected. The season will have passed away before he can have raised even a potato. Now in this lies the very evil. If the land were open he could save a whole season, virtually a year.

REASON FOR NON-SETTLEMENT.

A great deal is heard of government assistance towards reclaiming the lands on the borders of the Fraser and other rivers. Surely it is as advisable and would be as profitable to the government and province to reclaim the land from the forest. The reasons for both are the same, viz., to encourage settlement and production. While on these the country cannot prosper; but will continue importing commodities that can undoubtedly be produced within our borders.

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It would be comparatively an easy matter for the provincial government to divide sections of forest lands, in tolerably convenient situations, into ten or twenty acre patches; so cut down and burn all the small timber on a score or two and likewise erect a small shanty. Plenty of men, with very limited means, at present in the cities or other parts of the country, would gladly avail themselves of the opportunity of occupying these

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The Third Republic of France was established in 1871, a little less than a year after the deposition of Napoleon III. The Committee of Public Defence was the supreme power in France between September 4, 1870, and August 31, 1871, when M. Thiers was elected President. M. Faure, who now occupies the President's chair, is the sixth President of the Third Republic. L. A. Thiers was the first President, Marshal MacMahon the second, Jules Grévy the third, Marie F. S. Carnot the fourth, M. Casimir-Perier the fifth, and Francois Felix Faure is the sixth. Not one of the five Presidents served the full Presidential term of seven years. M. Carnot came nearest to it. His term would have expired on the third of last December. Thiers, after holding office a little more than a year, finding his cares and anxieties too much for him, resigned. MacMahon remained in office from May 1873 to January 1879. M. Carnot was nearly six years in office. M. Carnot was President from Dec. 1887 until he was assassinated at Lyons on the 24th of June last. M. Casimir Perier was elected President on the 27th of the same month and remained in office until he resigned the other day in a huff.

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The average term of a President of the Republic of France during the last twenty-five years has been something more than four years and three-fifths. It is hard to conjecture whether the Presidency of France will be long or short. The Socialists of France are deliberately working to bring

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AGENTS—J. M. DOUGLAS & CO. and URQUHART & CO.—MONTREAL.

about a revolution. What they would put in the place of the Republic it is impossible even to guess. But before their day of triumph comes, if ever it does come, there will be a dreadful time in France. The law-abiding population will not allow the Socialists and Anarchists to have their way without making a desperate struggle for the preservation of society. It may be that the crisis will not come in M. Faure's day but that it will come sooner or later appears now to be certain. The Socialists and the Anarchists are increasing rapidly. They, as our readers have seen, have found their way into the Legislature of the Republic and have made their influence felt there, and they boast that the rural population, which has hitherto disliked and avoided them, is adopting their views. If this is true anarchy may reign in France before very long.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

With that enterprise which is just as essential to success in farming as it is in other pursuits Captain Hancock, an Oregon agriculturist, has undertaken the experiment of planting a portion of his farm with walnut and chestnut trees. These, though it will take some time for them to give a return, are quick-growing trees. Moreover, they not only produce merchantable lumber in a very few years, but during their growth to maturity produce crops from which more or less profit is realizable. For years after reaching maturity the trees continue in full bearing, and when thinned they produce—particularly the walnut trees—a considerable quantity of valuable lumber. All the time they are serving the purpose of shade trees for cattle, and when not planted so close the grass crop is an item of some importance. Walnuts, it is said, are at the present time worth more per bushel than wheat, while the lumber, which is among the most fashionable, sells at a high price. In this province the experiment might be worthy of attention, since there are many comparatively poor places where trees of these kinds could be successfully grown under conditions which are adverse to ordinary agriculture.

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HAWAII

Further Details Leader an in Banishment of pated-The Su

MINISTER OF foreign minister, called Mr. Hatch is rural ance to the govern condition of affairs that Hawaii has to deal with in thinks the rebellion provisions govern cope with the ma to find the whites arrival at Honolulu stirring up strife it that a great many fish subjects. The stion, but there is sue but to punish the offenders be E can.

The flagship Ppected make the r days and reach H The sailing of the was postponed un small passenger li part of her cargo l about 75,000 round to representatives shipment is stor hatches, so that it and landed as soon her destination.

Further particu lation say that on a native courier ply of the enemy, near On being questioned travelling for his o on him which pr Robert Wilcox th there was a pris and suggesting th capture the steame take possession of was written of unpaid whisky b born Lucas who was brought u note turned o Just how the rebel Kaia is not know that the tag will vent any such ot of the revolutiona tug will follow th Maui. In view of sufficient men on board, together blankets and amm In all, including the conspirators, 160 men in p connection with th Robert Wilcox a in hiding in the br Nuanu valley. T as they can again revolution to over tried by a Haw Sam Nowlin is a time of the revol der-in-chief of th That the rebels a almost certain as t at the head of M round by Govern Bitters cured Druggist and all disease arising from it, 90 times in 100

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